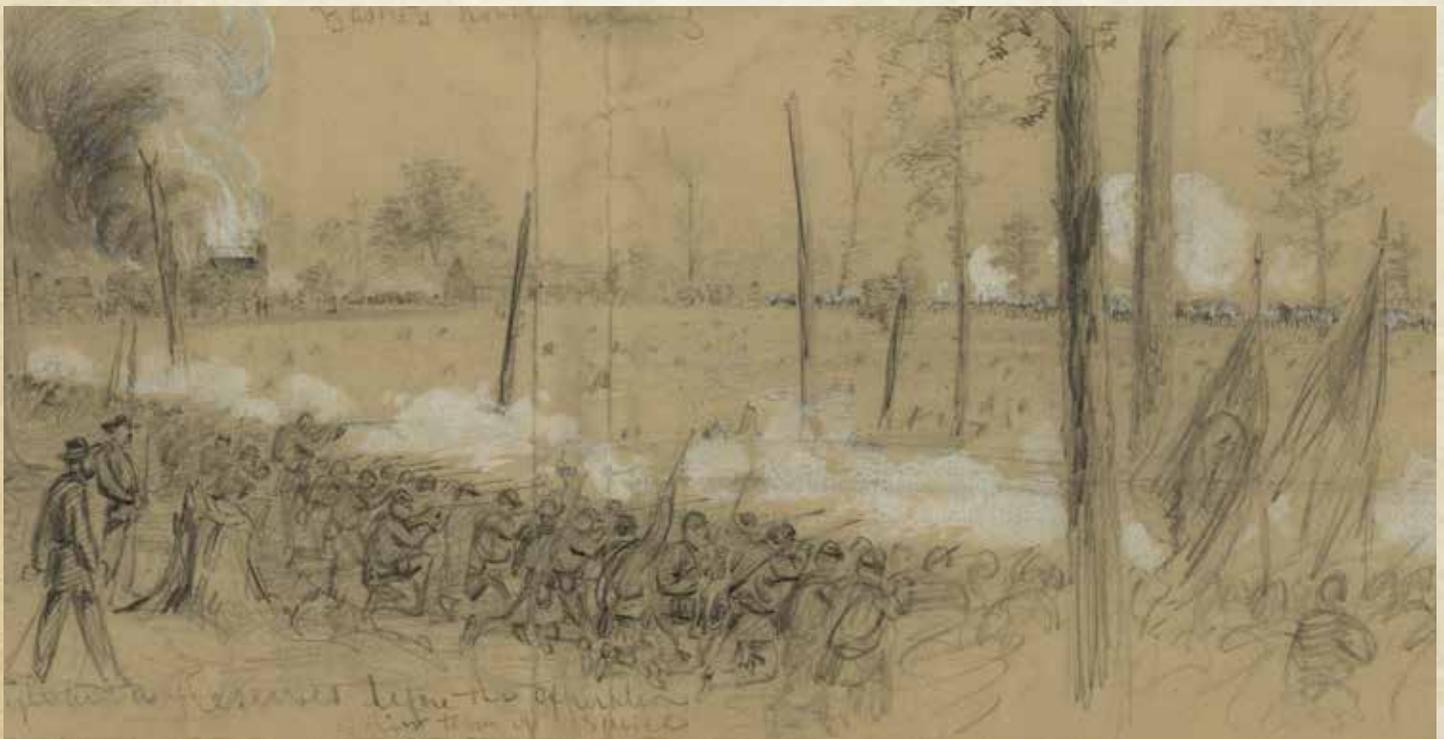




MAY - JUNE 1864 THE OVERLAND CAMPAIGN

BATTLE OF TOTOPOTOMOY CREEK BATTLE OF COLD HARBOR

Visitor Guide to Richmond's 1864 / 2014 Sesquicentennial Commemoration



ONTORICHMOND.COM

ON TO RICHMOND! 2011-2015

CIVIL WAR & EMANCIPATION 150TH

TAKE THE JOURNEY.
VISIT ONTORICHMOND.COM
OR CALL 1-888-RICHMOND.

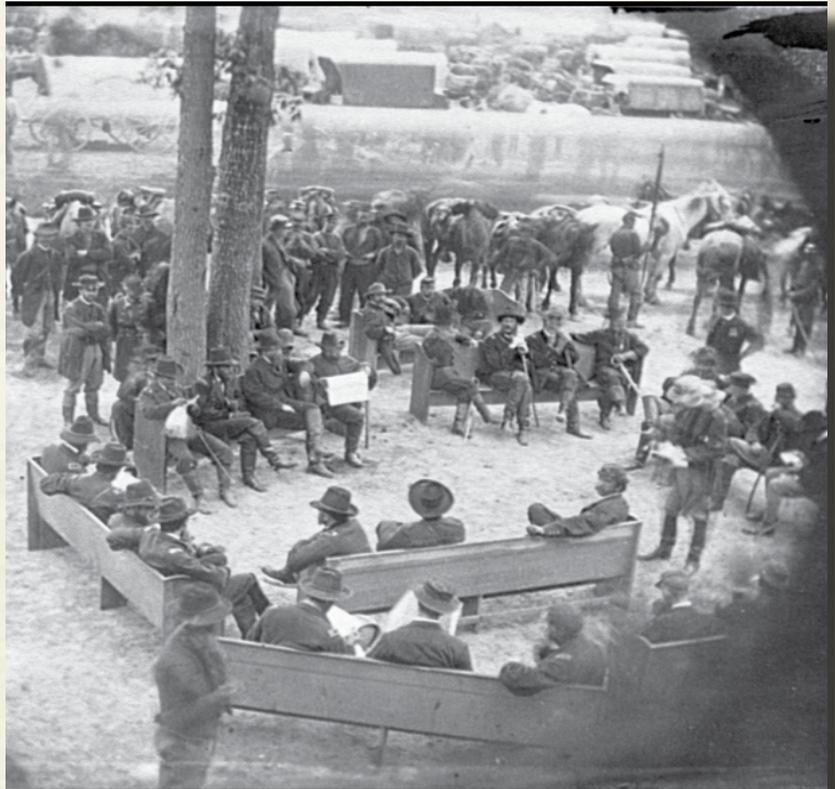


“We must destroy this army of Grant’s before he gets to James River. If he gets there, it will become a siege, and then it will be a mere question of time.”

Gen. Jubal A. Early, quoting R. E. Lee

By 1864, the war had changed dramatically in scope and purpose, but its outcome remained in doubt. Across the South, Union armies had made great territorial gains. In Virginia, however, Robert E. Lee’s Confederate Army of Northern Virginia still stood defiant—the Confederacy’s hopes for independence rode largely on the shoulders of Lee’s army. Lee’s success in 1862 and 1863 challenged the will of the Northern public to continue the war. He knew, and the world knew, that more victories in 1864 would threaten the re-election of Republican President Lincoln and bring to power in the North a Democratic party more inclined toward a negotiated peace—and Southern independence.

Abraham Lincoln’s antidote for Lee was a plain-looking soldier who had been unknown to the world four years before: the new General-in-Chief of all Union armies, Ulysses S. Grant. Practical, unpretentious, and direct, Grant promised to “hammer continuously” against Lee and his army until, he said, “there should be nothing left to him.”



Massaponax Church, Va. “Council of War”: Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, Gen. George G. Meade, Assistant Secretary of War Charles A. Dana, and numerous staff officers (Library of Congress)

“Whatever happens, there will be no turning back...”

Gen. Ulysses S. Grant

The hammering began in May 1864, as Union armies advanced along a 2,000-mile front. In Virginia, Grant—traveling with the Army of the Potomac—simply refused to accept the verdict of battle. Though confronted always and stopped often by Lee, Grant (unlike his predecessors) refused to retreat. Instead, the Union army maneuvered through Virginia, battering Lee’s at the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, North Anna, Totopotomoy Creek, Cold Harbor, and then moved southward.

The grinding experience left soldiers on both sides exhausted and bewildered. In less than two months of fighting—from the Rapidan to Petersburg—nearly 85,000 men fell killed, wounded, or captured. In the early summer of 1864, the Civil War became a whirlwind, rushing southward through Virginia and the Confederacy. That divided nation and the world watched intently, for that spring and summer the final course of the war would be set.

1864 TIMELINE | 2014 EVENTS

May 4-6, 1864: Battle of the Wilderness | Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania NMP

The first clash between Grant and Lee took place amidst the thickets and undergrowth of the Wilderness. The battle ended in a stalemate but, unlike his predecessors, Grant pressed on and turned his army south.

May 8-21, 1864: Battle of Spotsylvania Court House | Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania NMP

Near the vital crossroads at Spotsylvania Court House, the two armies engaged in the war’s most intense hand-to-hand close combat. After almost two weeks, Grant abandoned the field on May 21 and continued south.

May 11, 1864: Battle of Yellow Tavern | Page 14

Gen. Philip Sheridan’s cavalry conducted a raid south towards Richmond, in part to challenge Confederate Gen. J.E.B. Stuart, who blocked the Union force at Yellow Tavern north of Richmond. The Confederates were outnumbered, outgunned, and Stuart was mortally wounded during the battle.

May 23-26, 1864: Battle of North Anna | Pages 4 and 14

The four-day battle on both sides of the North Anna River was possibly Lee’s last real opportunity to defeat the Union Army. Illness kept Lee from directing

his forces on the field and taking advantage of his army’s strong position. Again, Grant was able to slip away and move his army south and east.

May 29-31, 1864: Battle of Totopotomoy Creek | Pages 6 - 7

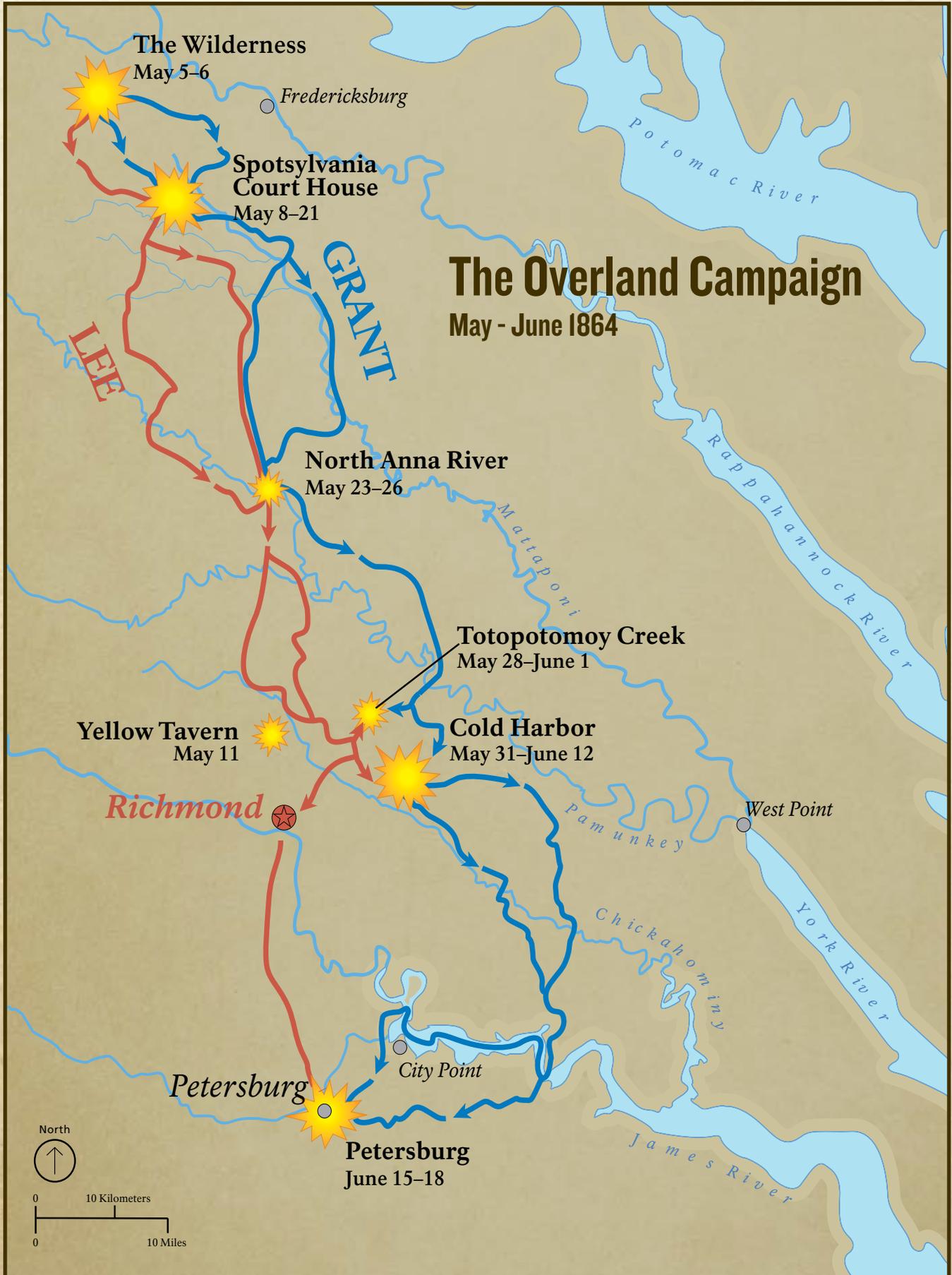
After North Anna, Grant endeavored to push on towards Richmond, which meant crossing a significant obstacle: Totopotomoy Creek. Along a line that included Rural Plains, the home of the Shelton family, the Union army made several gains, but after three days, Grant disengaged and maneuvered his army towards the key crossroads at Old Cold Harbor.

May 31-June 12, 1864: Battle of Cold Harbor | Pages 8 - 13

Grant mistook Lee’s apathy on the North Anna as a sign of demoralization among the Confederates and became convinced that one final blow would shatter Lee’s army. At Cold Harbor, he put this theory to the test with tragic results. From Cold Harbor, Grant took his army south of the James River towards Petersburg.

June 15-18: Initial Assaults at Petersburg | Petersburg National Battlefield

Although Union forces greatly outnumbered the few Confederates defending Petersburg, they were loathe to assault fortified positions, overlearning the lessons of Cold Harbor. The armies began what would become a ten-month siege.



The Overland Campaign Reverberations

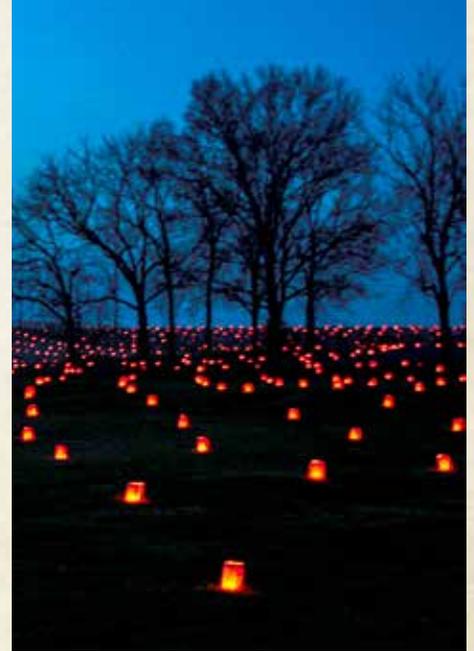
A National Park Service Sesquicentennial Signature Event | Saturday, May 24

Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park Richmond National Battlefield Park Petersburg National Battlefield

By telegraph and letter, by railroad and newspapers, word of Virginia's deadly spring reverberated across America. The loss of men in Virginia constituted a deep wound to communities near and far: Bangor, Natchez, Dearborn, Litchfield, Charleston, Wilmington. These places and hundreds more reckoned with the loss of men who would never come home—most of them buried today as unknowns on Virginia's fields.

Each death challenged the fortitude of a family, the fabric of a community, the will of a nation.

On Memorial Day weekend 2014, the National Park Service will join with a few representative communities across America to remember the struggle of those days of 1864. We will remember not just on the battlefields themselves, but in the communities that received the doleful news of that spring. The struggle of everyday Americans against loss, deprivation, and discouragement helped determine that fate of our Nation in 1864. The *Reverberations* program will once again reconnect American communities to the fields where their sons often gave all, and recognize a great and oft-forgotten struggle touched with both virtue and pain.



Cold Harbor Battlefield (parking at Fairmount Church, 6502 Creighton Road, Mechanicsville 23111)

- 8:00 p.m. - Richmond National Battlefield Park and Hanover County Boy Scouts will illuminate more than 3,500 luminaries on the battlefield to remember and recognize the more than 3,500 lives lost during the Battle of Cold Harbor. At any time in the evening, visitors will be able to walk at their own pace amongst the luminaries along the two-mile paved park road. The walk should take approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Flashlights are permitted but not encouraged.

Litchfield, Connecticut – American Legion Post 27 and on the Town Green

Litchfield was the home of the 2nd Connecticut Heavy Artillery, which suffered terrible losses in its first battle at Cold Harbor.

- 11:00 a.m. - Activities at American Legion Post 27 include a living history camp and presentations, and a tour of Civil War sites in the area. 418 Bantam Road, Litchfield, 06759
- 6:00 p.m.
- 7:30 p.m. An illumination will be held on the town green where the men assembled to leave for Virginia. Names of the 141 men killed on June 1 at Cold Harbor will be read by descendants. West & North Streets, Litchfield 06759

Charleston, South Carolina – Fort Moultrie National Monument

Charleston sent several units to fight in Virginia, and many figured prominently at Cold Harbor.

Fort Moultrie National Monument in Charleston will be the scene of several activities, including a guest speaker and a children's program about soldier life during the day. That evening luminaries will represent each South Carolina unit that was part of the Army of Northern Virginia in the Overland Campaign. Citadel History Professor Kyle Sinisi will be a featured speaker. 1214 Middle Street, Sullivan's Island 29482 | www.nps.gov/fosu

Commemorating the Battle of North Anna

Also on May 24, 2014, in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of North Anna, Hanover County will dedicate the expansion of its North Anna Battlefield Park, including new trails and interpretive signs. The day will feature the commemoration of the battle, dedication of the park including the newly added 90 acres and three miles of new trails, the unveiling of a new Civil War Trails marker, tours, living history, artillery demonstrations, exhibits, and the Virginia Sesquicentennial HistoryMobile.

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
North Anna Battlefield Park, 11576 Verdon Road, Doswell 23047

1864 / 2014 Events — Richmond

During 2014, the Richmond region is commemorating this momentous period in our nation's history...at the times and in the places where it happened. Join us for a wide range of activities – living history demonstrations, NPS ranger-led walking tours of the battlefield landscapes, lectures, and multimedia presentations.

This guide covers events in the Richmond area through the end of the Overland Campaign in June. Separate NPS guides cover Overland events in the Fredericksburg and Petersburg areas, and events commemorating the siege of Petersburg and Richmond will be covered in a second Richmond/Petersburg guide later in the year.

Special Programs and Tours...

Battlefield Events...

Partner Events and Fall 1864

Things to Know / Safety Information...

Schedule-at-a-Glance...

This page

Pages 6 - 13

Page 14

Page 15

Back Cover

All events are free unless otherwise indicated.

Visit www.nps.gov/rich for updated information.

1864 / 2014 Sesquicentennial Evening Program Series

Wednesday, May 7, 5:30 p.m. – Virginia Historical Society

The Spring of 1864: A Season of Hope for the United States and the Confederacy

Gary W. Gallagher, Professor of Civil War History, University of Virginia

Many consider the summer of 1863 to be the Civil War's great turning point, after which the Confederacy stood no chance of achieving independence. In fact, citizens in both the United States and the Confederacy entered the spring of 1864 with hopes for a favorable outcome of the war. This lecture will assess opinion inside and outside the armies as the campaigning season approached in April, highlighting the importance of U. S. Grant and R. E. Lee to expectations in their respective nations. It will also underscore the importance of engaging contemporary evidence, rather than retrospective accounts, if we are to understand historical events.

A partnership event cosponsored by the National Park Service and the Virginia Historical Society



Sunday, June 29, 8:30 p.m. – Historic Tredegar

Voices from the Storm: The 1864 Overland Campaign

Special outdoor multimedia program at the Tredegar Iron Works created from the images, voices, and music of the people who lived 150 years ago to tell the story of the Overland Campaign.

A partnership event cosponsored by the National Park Service and the American Civil War Museum

Special Anniversary Bus Tours

Friday, May 23, 12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Battle of North Anna

National Park Service historian Robert E.L. Krick leads an afternoon bus tour of the key North Anna sites that will include a visit to the Jericho Mill portion of the battlefield, on the 150th anniversary of the action. Tour will meet at the Cold Harbor Visitor Center (5515 Anderson-Wright Drive, Mechanicsville, 23111). Cost: \$30. Reservations: 804-335-8100.

Wednesday, May 28, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Battle of Haw's Shop

National Park Service alumnus Mike Andrus leads a day-long tour covering Grant's and Lee's movements from the North Anna River to Totopotomoy Creek. Stops include cavalry actions at Hanover Court House, Pamunkey River Crossings, Pollard's Farm and Haw's Shop. Tour will meet at the Chimborazo Visitor Center, (3215 E Broad St, Richmond, 23223). Cost: \$30. Reservations: 804-335-8100.

Friday, May 30, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

May 30 Anniversary

National Park Service historian Robert E.L. Krick leads a morning tour visiting key sites on the precise 150th anniversary of their day of fame. Tour will include Bethesda Church battlefield, Polegreen Church, Matadequin Creek battlefield, and exterior visits to two privately owned Civil War era homes. Tour will meet at the Hanover County Government Center (7497 County Complex Rd., Hanover, 23069). Cost: \$25. Reservations: 804-335-8100.

Saturday, June 14, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Grant's Army moves from Cold Harbor to Petersburg

NPS historians from Richmond NBP and Petersburg NB lead a day-long tour following the path of the Union army as it moved from the trenches of Cold Harbor to the outskirts of Petersburg, June 12-15, 1864. Tour will meet at the Cold Harbor Visitor Center (5515 Anderson-Wright Drive, Mechanicsville, 23111). Cost: \$40. Reservations: 804-335-8100.

Battle of Totopotomoy Creek



"Genl. Barlow in front of the rebel works. 12 miles from Richmond" The Battle of Totopotomoy Creek -- sketch by Alfred Waud (*Library of Congress*)

Thursday, May 29

- 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. **Shelton House open to the public**
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Meet the Author** — Donald C. Pfan, co-author of *No Turning Back: A Guide to the 1864 Overland Campaign, from the Wilderness to Cold Harbor, May 4-June 13, 1864*. Pfan, a retired NPS historian, will be available to sign copies of the new book.
- 3:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. **An Overview of the Battle of Totopotomoy Creek** — Brief overview tours will explore the story of Battle of Totopotomoy Creek, especially actions that took place at Rural Plains.
- 7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. **Defiant Sheltons: The Story of a Virginia Family Caught Between the Lines** — Explore the story of the Shelton household as the armies arrived on their doorstep and their home became a military outpost and target during three days of battle along Totopotomoy Creek.

Friday, May 30 - Education Day

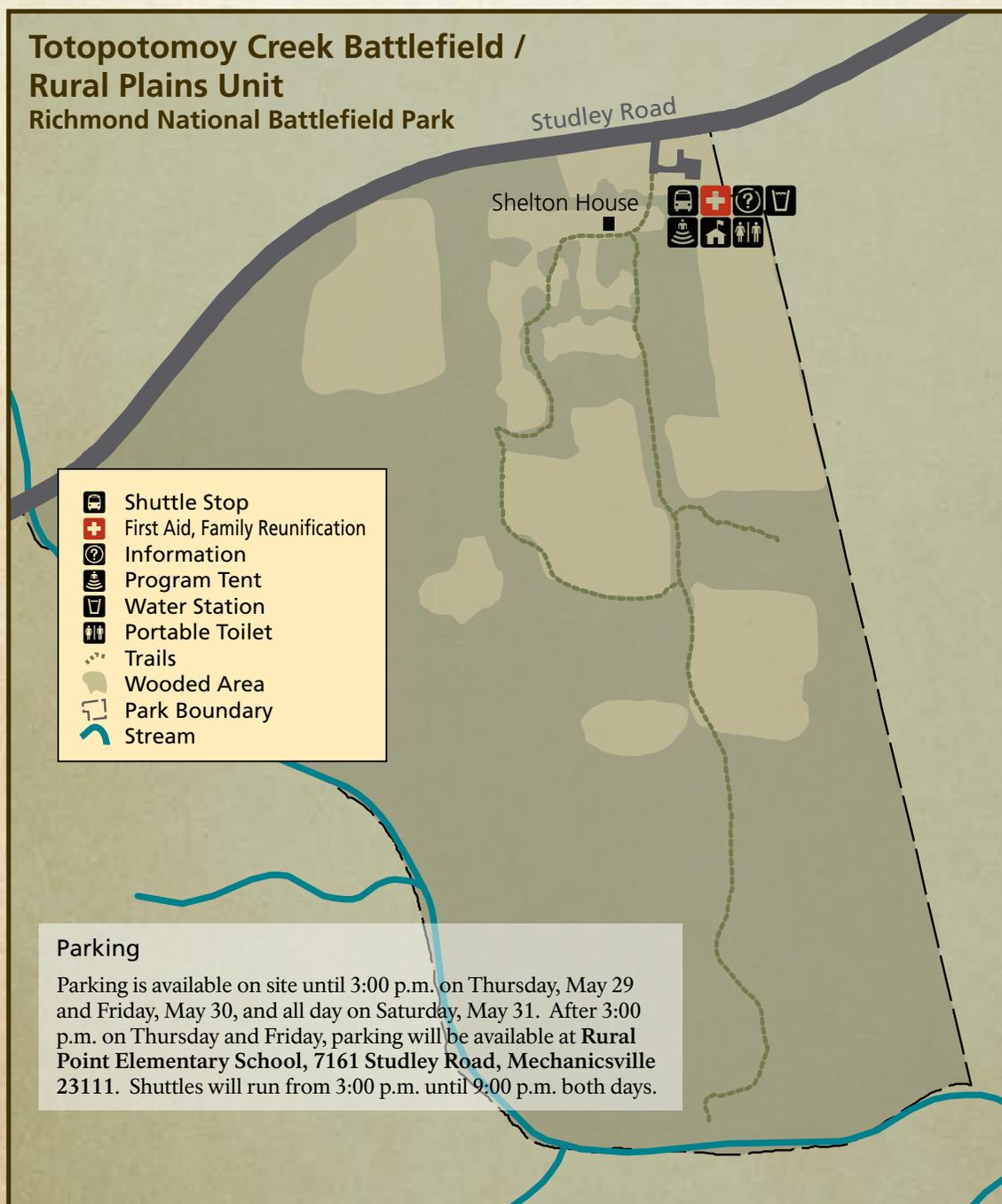
- 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Education Day Activities** — Small student groups will rotate through history stations manned by NPS Rangers and living history units, explore the historic site, and learn about the Battle of Totopotomoy Creek and the Shelton family. To reserve a spot or for more information on SOL curriculum fulfillments, please contact Candace Hart, Education Assistant, at 804-771-2018 or candace_hart@nps.gov.
- 9:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. **Shelton House open to the public**
- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Hidden Treasures of Rural Plains** — Temporary exhibit exploring what the National Park Service has discovered about the Shelton House and Rural Plains and the restoration work underway on the site.
- 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Meet the Authors** — Dr. Robert Bluford Jr., author of *The Battle of Totopotomoy Creek: Polegreen Church and the Prelude to Cold Harbor*; David R. Ruth and Robert M. Dunkerly, co-authors of *No Turning Back: A Guide to the 1864 Overland Campaign, from the Wilderness to Cold Harbor, May 4-June 13, 1864*; Phill Greenwalt, co-author of *Hurricane From the Heavens: The Battle of Cold Harbor*.
- 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. **An Overview of the Battle of Totopotomoy Creek** — Brief overview tours will explore the story of Battle of Totopotomoy Creek, especially actions that took place at Rural Plains.
- 6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **The Battle of Totopotomoy Creek: Prelude to Cold Harbor** — Dr. Robert Bluford Jr., author of a new book on the Battle of Totopotomoy Creek, will discuss the battle that immediately preceded the Battle of Cold Harbor.
- 6:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. **Action Along Totopotomoy Creek on May 30, 1864** — Kicking off with artillery fire, this ranger-led tour will explore the action along the Totopotomoy on May 30, 1864, at the time and in the place where it happened, including the Confederate artillery assault on the Shelton House at Rural Plains, which served as a Union signal station. Please note that this tour is lengthy and will travel over rough and uneven terrain not suitable for strollers and scooters. Water bottles and comfortable shoes are recommended.



The Shelton House at Rural Plains (*NPS Photo*)

Saturday, May 31

- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Shelton House open to the public**
- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Hidden Treasures of Rural Plains** — Temporary exhibit exploring what the National Park Service has discovered about the Shelton House and Rural Plains and the restoration work underway on the site.
- 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **“In the Footsteps of Robert Robertson”** — Lt. Robert Robertson of the 93rd New York Infantry served near the Shelton House during the Battle of Totopotomoy Creek and was seriously wounded on May 31. He recorded in his diary his experience at Rural Plains during the fighting along the Totopotomoy. This ranger-led tour will explore Lt. Robertson’s experience at the time and in the place where his story unfolded. Please note that this tour is lengthy and will travel over rough and uneven terrain not suitable for strollers and scooters. Water bottles and comfortable shoes are recommended.
- Hourly from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **An Overview of the Battle of Totopotomoy Creek** — Brief overview tours throughout the afternoon will explore the story of Battle of Totopotomoy Creek, especially actions that took place at Rural Plains.



Battle of Cold Harbor

Saturday, May 31

Ongoing all day

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- **Visitor orientation and interpretation** near the shuttle stop in front of the visitor center.
- **Interactive family and children’s activities**, including History Hunt at Cold Harbor, Britain’s Toy Soldiers, and Junior Ranger. The children’s activity area is in the wooded area behind the visitor center.
- U.S. Postal Service Cold Harbor **Stamp Cancellation Station** in front of the visitor center.
- **An Overview of the Battle of Cold Harbor** — Brief walking tours will explore the story of Battle of Cold Harbor and its impact on the course of the Civil War. Tours depart from the visitor center at the bottom of the hour throughout the day.
- **Beyond the Park Boundary: Opening Actions of the Battle of Cold Harbor** — These free 45-minute bus tours will explore sites connected with the first two days of the battle east of the park. These will be “windshield” tours departing at the top of each hour from the visitor center area.
- **“Visit the Past” Camp Tours** — These tours will explore the armies’ camps and aspects of the period, including brief stops looking at life for soldiers and command staff in camp, Civil War-era photography, engineers, and music. Tours alternate hourly between the Confederate and Union camps.
- **Fields of Fire: Infantry Tactics in 1864 / Cannon’s Roar: Artillery at Cold Harbor** — These demonstration programs will focus on infantry tactics and the use of artillery at Cold Harbor. They will take place in the field behind the visitor center at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Cold Harbor: A Soldier’s Perspective — Interactive tour exploring the fighting at Cold Harbor through discussions of the diaries and letters left by participating soldiers. Tour will begin at the edge of the wood line directly across the field behind the visitor center.

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Grant’s Greatest Regret? Myths and Realities of the June 3rd Assault — A ranger-led battlefield tour examining the historical memory, mythology, and reality of the famous June 3rd, 1864 Union assault at Cold Harbor. Tour will meet along the park tour road near the Confederate living history camps.

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Leadership Divided: Grant, Meade, and Lee in the Overland Campaign — Lecture/talk with historian and author Gordon Rhea will contrast the leadership styles and challenges faced by commanders on both sides during the Overland Campaign. Program will take place in the lecture tent.

12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Not War But Murder? Not Murder, but War?: The Battle of Cold Harbor as a Moral Debate — A ranger-led battlefield tour exploring worth and justness during a time of “hard warfare”. Tour will begin at the cannon behind the visitor center.

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meet the Author — Daniel Davis, co-author of *Hurricane From the Heavens: The Battle of Cold Harbor*, will be available to sign copies of the new book. In visitor center area.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The Military’s Use of Music in the Civil War with the Fort McHenry Guard Fife and Drum Corps. In the lecture tent.

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Rapid Entrenching at Cold Harbor, 1864 — This tour with NPS historian and fortifications specialist David Lowe will explore the extraordinary entrenching that took place at Cold Harbor. Tour will begin near the visitor center.

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Meet the Author — Gordon C. Rhea, author of the highly acclaimed series of volumes on the battles at the Wilderness, Spotsylvania Court House, Yellow Tavern, North Anna, and Cold Harbor. In visitor center area.

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The African American Experience: Slaves and Freedmen in Hanover County — An overview of slave life and culture in the area during the war and the extraordinary story of the successful escape by a Hanover County enslaved family, beginning in 1862 and ending as the armies concentrated in the area in May and June 1864. Program will take place in the lecture tent.

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Popular Music from the Civil War Era — A concert by the Fort McHenry Guard Fife and Drum Corps in the field behind the visitor center.

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

“The Battle of Cold Harbor” with featured speaker Gordon Rhea — Exactly 150 years after the Battle of Cold Harbor began, historian and author Gordon Rhea will explore its impact on the course of the Overland Campaign and the war itself. Program will take place in the field behind the visitor center.

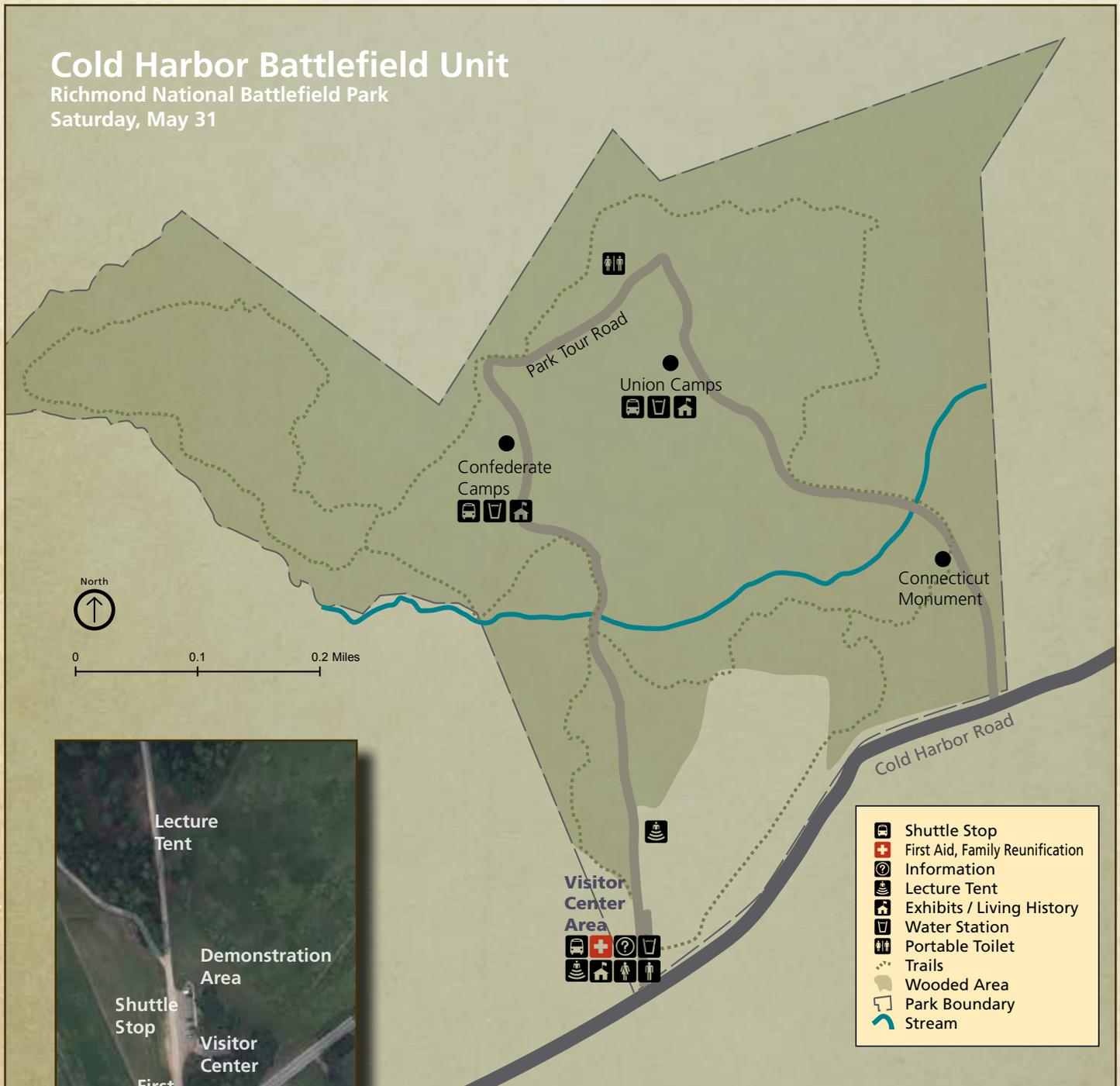
8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Candlelight Tours of the Cold Harbor Battlefield | Civil War Era music with Southern Horizon — Enjoy music as the stars come out, or join park rangers for guided candlelight tours through the Cold Harbor battlefield. Beginning at 8:15 p.m., visitors can walk the battlefield and visit with volunteers portraying Union and Confederate soldiers and private citizens. The candlelight tour is appropriate for all ages. Programs begin near the visitor center.

Cold Harbor Battlefield Unit

Richmond National Battlefield Park

Saturday, May 31



Visitor Center Area

Parking

Due to the park's limited parking, general visitor parking for all events at Cold Harbor on May 31 will be at **Fairmount Church, 6502 Creighton Rd, Mechanicsville 23111**, which is about 5-10 minutes from the park. Shuttles will transport visitors to the park and along the park tour road which will be closed to public vehicular traffic. However, ADA-accessible parking will be available opposite the visitor center in the park.

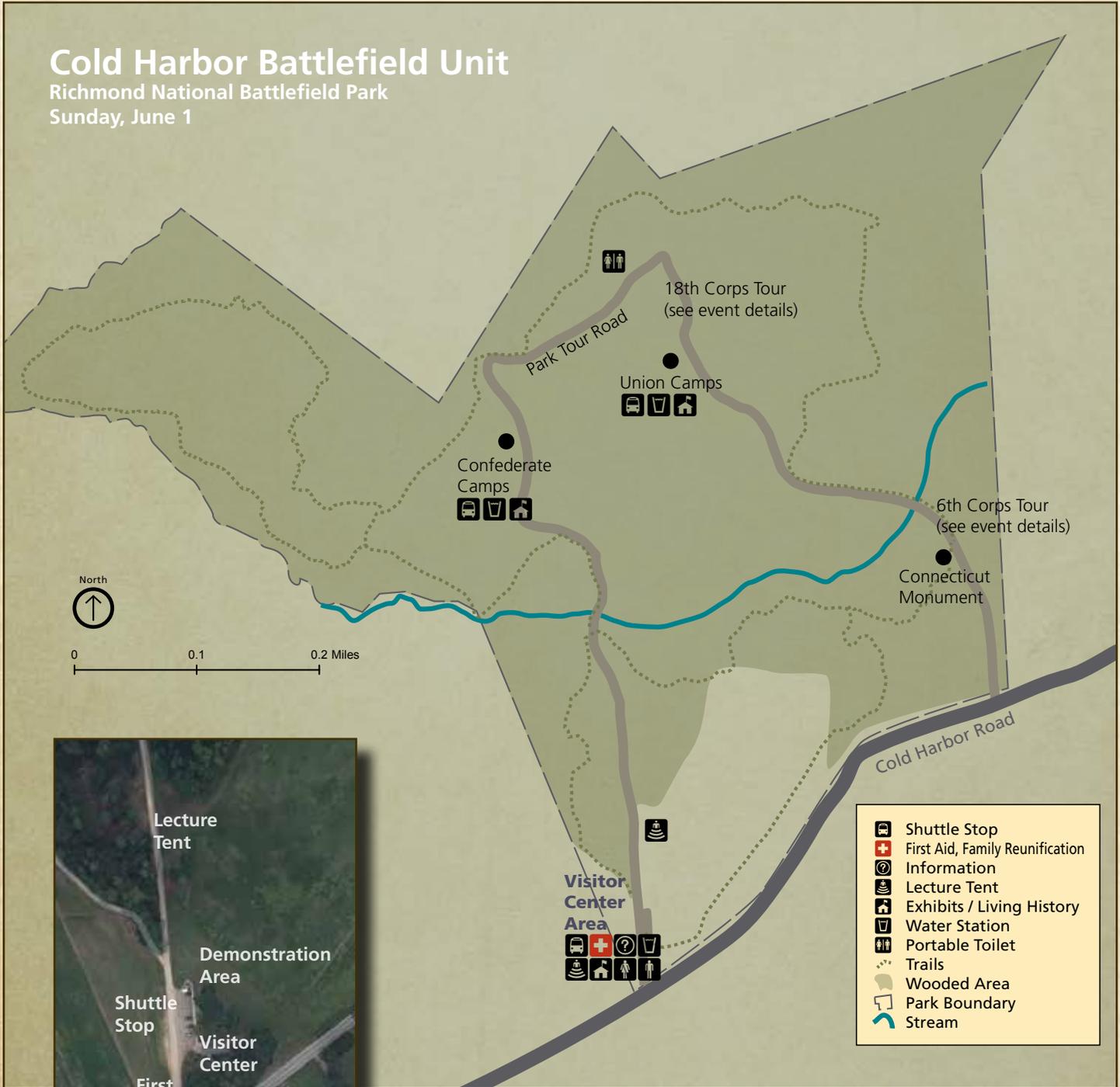
Battle of Cold Harbor

Sunday, June 1

- Ongoing all day
- **Visitor orientation and interpretation** near the shuttle stop in front of the visitor center
 - **Interactive family and children’s activities**, including History Hunt at Cold Harbor, Britain’s Toy Soldiers, and Junior Ranger. The children’s activity area is behind the visitor center.
- 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- U.S. Postal Service Cold Harbor **Stamp Cancellation Station** in front of the visitor center.
- 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- Battle near Beulah Church on the morning of June 1, 1864** — Historian and author Gordon Rhea will discuss the attack of Confederate infantry against Federal cavalry positions near Old Cold Harbor and Beulah Church on the 150th anniversary of the event. Note that this program is outside of the park. Parking will be on property owned by the Richmond Battlefields Association near the intersection of Beulah Church Road and Glenharbor Lane, Mechanicsville 23111.
- 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- Operations around Polegreen Church, June 1, 1864** — Historian and author Gordon Rhea will explore military operations around Polegreen Church, which was destroyed as fighting raged along Totopotomoy Creek and in the Cold Harbor area. Program offered by the Polegreen Church Foundation at the historic site near the intersection of Rural Point Road and Heatherwood Drive, Mechanicsville 23116.
- 1:30 p.m.
- “Visit the Past” Camp Tour** — This tour will explore the armies’ camps and aspects of the period, including brief stops looking at life for soldiers and command staff in camp, Civil War-era photography, engineers, and music. Tour begins at Confederate camp.
- 1:30 p.m.
- Fields of Fire: Infantry Tactics in 1864 / Cannon’s Roar: Artillery at Cold Harbor** — This demonstration program will focus on infantry tactics and the use of artillery at Cold Harbor.
- 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.
- Beyond the Park Boundary: Opening Actions of the Battle of Cold Harbor** — This free 45-minute bus tour will explore sites connected with the first two days of the battle east of the park. This “windshield” tour will depart from the visitor center area.
- 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Cold Harbor: A Soldier’s Perspective** — Interactive tour exploring the fighting at Cold Harbor through discussions of the diaries and letters left by participating soldiers. Tour will begin at the edge of the wood line directly across the field behind the visitor center.
- 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- An Overview of the Battle of Cold Harbor** — This brief walking tour will explore the story of Battle of Cold Harbor and its impact on the course of the Civil War. Tour departs from the visitor center.
- 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- The Military’s Use of Music in the Civil War** with the Fort McHenry Guard Fife and Drum Corps. In the lecture tent.
- 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- The Union Breakthrough on June 1** — Ranger-led walking tours exploring the Union breakthrough attack on the evening of June 1, 1864, at the time and in the places where the action occurred. Two simultaneous tours will explore the line of attack, one following the 18th Corps and the other the 6th Corps. Both tours will repeat.
- **18th Corps Tour** — This tour will follow in the footsteps of the Union attack on June 1, exploring seldom-seen ground and earthworks. Heavy fighting here earned one Union officer a Medal of Honor.
Please allow at least 45 minutes to get from the visitor center or the Fairmount Church parking area to the tour starting point outside of the park. Access to the tour starting point will be through a wooded area along the park road, just north of the Union living history camps (please see map at right). Parking shuttles will transport visitors to this point or visitors can walk to it from the visitor center. Rangers and volunteers will provide direction from there to the tour starting point outside of the park. Please note that this tour is lengthy and will travel over rough and uneven terrain not suitable for strollers and scooters. Water bottles and comfortable shoes are recommended.
 - **6th Corps Tour** — This tour will retrace the costly assaults that broke through lines held by North Carolinians on June 1, including the story of the devastating toll felt by the 2nd Connecticut Heavy Artillery, and will explore rarely seen parts of the battlefield.
Please allow at least 30 minutes to get from the visitor center or the Fairmount Church parking area to the tour starting point near the 2nd Connecticut monument (please see map at right). Parking shuttles will transport visitors to this point or visitors can walk to it from the visitor center. Rangers and volunteers will provide direction from there to the tour starting point. Please note that this tour is lengthy and will travel over rough and uneven terrain not suitable for strollers and scooters. Water bottles and comfortable shoes are recommended.

Cold Harbor Battlefield Unit

Richmond National Battlefield Park
Sunday, June 1



- Shuttle Stop
- First Aid, Family Reunification
- Information
- Lecture Tent
- Exhibits / Living History
- Water Station
- Portable Toilet
- Trails
- Wooded Area
- Park Boundary
- Stream

Parking

Until 12:30 p.m. on June 1, parking will be available within the park near the visitor center. After 12:30 p.m., general visitor parking will be at **Fairmount Church, 6502 Creighton Rd, Mechanicsville 23111**. Shuttles will transport visitors to the park and along the park tour road which will be closed to public vehicular traffic. However, ADA-accessible parking will be available opposite the visitor center in the park.

For specific information about parking and shuttles for the afternoon tours, please see the event listing at left.

Battle of Cold Harbor

Tuesday, June 3



Cold Harbor -- June 3, 1864.

A sketch by Alfred Waud of the 164th New York Volunteers charging (part of the Union 2nd Corps). From the reverse side of the sketch: "McMahons regiment is in Gibbons division wears a Zouave uniform dark green the colonels last words were "Now boys we've got em" 7 bullets reached him and he fell over the rifle pit dead". (Library of Congress)

5:30 a.m. –
7:45 a.m.
and
9:00 a.m. –
11:15 a.m.

The Morning Attack of the Union 2nd and 18th Corps — Two simultaneous early-morning tours -- and rare opportunities -- to explore lands outside of the park boundary where the 2nd and 18th Corps attacks took place in the early morning of June 3, 1864.

- **18th Corps:** This tour will begin on lands north and east of the park and will follow the path of the 12th New Hampshire and 25th Massachusetts, who never stood a chance against entrenched Confederates.
- **2nd Corps:** The tour will revisit a landscape where Union and Confederate armies had fought two years before. Beginning on private property east of the park's Gaines' Mill unit, this tour will explore the site of the only Union breakthrough on this tragic day.

Both tours will repeat later in the morning. Shuttles will transport visitors from the Fairmount Church parking area to the starting points for the two tours. Seating is limited. All shuttles for both tours will depart the parking area (please see "Parking" below) promptly 30 minutes before the tours begin and will return visitors to the parking area at the end of the tour. Please note that these tours are lengthy and will travel over rough and uneven terrain not suitable for strollers and scooters. Water bottles and comfortable shoes are strongly recommended.

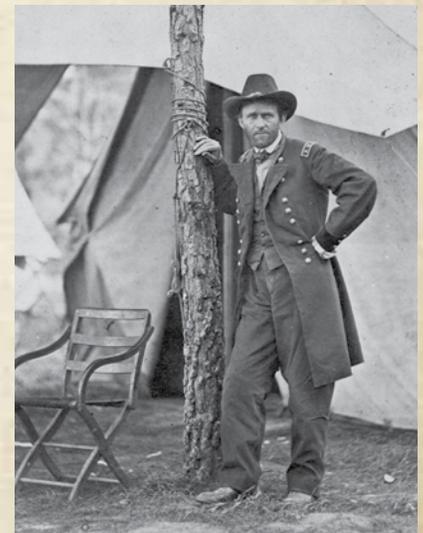
12:00 p.m. –
5:00 p.m.

An Overview of the Battle of Cold Harbor — Brief walking tours throughout the afternoon will explore the story of Battle of Cold Harbor and its impact on the course of the Civil War. Tours depart the visitor center area at the top of each hour.

6:30 p.m. –
8:00 p.m.

The Battle of Cold Harbor and its Role in Civil War Memory

An evening ceremonial program will commemorate the Battle of Cold Harbor with remarks by Dr. James I. "Bud" Robertson, Jr., Professor Emeritus at Virginia Tech; Paul A. Leveno, President and CEO of the Virginia Historical Society; and David Adams, Teacher of History at Richmond Community High School and a member of a family that since before the Civil War has lived on and farmed land that became a battlefield twice -- in June 1862 and again in June 1864. After the formal program, rangers will provide interpreted talks about the events that occurred at that time of the evening, exactly 150 years earlier.



Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at his headquarters in Cold Harbor, Virginia (Library of Congress)

Parking

Parking for all programs at Cold Harbor on June 3 will be at **Fairmount Church, 6502 Creighton Rd, Mechanicsville 23111**. Shuttles will transport visitors to the park. Please see event listing above for specific details.

Saturday, June 7

Sketches of David C. Holmes

David C. Holmes, a printer by profession, arrived at Cold Harbor with the 20th Michigan Infantry. The young sergeant, whose self-portrait is below, sketched his surroundings in a notebook, capturing on-the-spot views of the Cold Harbor battlefield. On June 7, after completing a sketch of one of his comrades behind the breastworks, Holmes went out on the skirmish line and was killed. He is buried in the Cold Harbor National Cemetery. (Courtesy Steve Hartzheim)



- 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Misery in the Trenches: The Soldiers' Ordeal at Cold Harbor** — This ranger-led tour will explore the soldiers' experiences of living, fighting, and dying in the trenches during the two weeks that the armies were at Cold Harbor.
- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Aftermath of Cold Harbor** — Ranger-led program looking at aftermath of Cold Harbor, the stories of the men who fought, died, and were buried at Cold Harbor and ultimately reinterred at national and southern cemeteries.



Cold Harbor, Va. April 1865. African Americans collecting bones of soldiers killed in battle. (Library of Congress)

Parking

Parking for all programs at Cold Harbor on June 7 will be within the park near the visitor center at 5515 Anderson-Wright Drive, Mechanicsville 23111.

Additional Partner Events

Please check www.nps.gov/rich for updated information about these and other partner events.

Bermuda Hundred Reenactment | Saturday, April 26 - Sunday, April 27

On Saturday and Sunday, April 26-27, the Chesterfield County Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Committee will present a unique immersion event to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Bermuda Hundred Campaign. visitchesterfieldva.com/bh150/

Battle of Yellow Tavern Bus Tour | Saturday, May 11

Come see and hear about this all important cavalry engagement just north of the City of Richmond where Gen. Stuart made his last stand. Tour is part of the Yellow Tavern sesquicentennial weekend. Tour will take you on the route Sheridan and his raiders traveled on the way to the battlefield. Information: 652-3411. \$20. Preregistration required. For more information, call (804) 652-3411 or visit www.henricohistoricalsociety.org.

Commemorating the Battle of North Anna | Saturday, May 24

In recognition of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of North Anna, Hanover County will dedicate the expansion of its North Anna Battlefield Park, including new trails and interpretive signs. The day will feature the commemoration of the battle, dedication of the park including the newly added 90 acres and three miles of new trails, the unveiling of a new Civil War Trails marker, tours, living history, artillery demonstrations, exhibits, and the Virginia Sesquicentennial HistoryMobile. 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. North Anna Battlefield Park, 11576 Verdon Road, Doswell 23047

Polegreen's Civil War Sesquicentennial Weekend | Saturday, May 31 to Sunday, June 1

One hundred and fifty years ago on these dates, the historic Polegreen church was destroyed. One version of its demise includes the Richmond Howitzers, who on June 1, 1864 were forced to fire on the church after Union sharpshooters claimed its position. The public is invited to visit the Church site, which figured prominently in the Civil War story of Rural Plains and offers interpretation about these events. Saturday's events will include tours, archeological digs with professionals from the James River Institute for Archaeology, crafts, and more. Sunday's events will include a 10:00 am talk by Gordon Rhea, and an 11:30 am presentation by archaeologist Nick Lucchetti. Archeology, tours, and crafts will continue throughout the day. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. Hosted by the Polegreen Church Foundation. www.historicpolegreen.org

The Siege of Petersburg and Richmond

Save the dates and please check www.nps.gov/rich for updated information about these events taking place later in 2014.

Events at Petersburg National Battlefield | Wednesday, July 30 - Saturday, August 2 (and additional dates)

www.nps.gov/pete

NPS Commemoration of the Battles of Fort Harrison and New Market Heights | Saturday, September 27 - Tuesday, September 30

Henrico County's Reenactment of the Battle of New Market Heights | Saturday, September 27 - Sunday, September 28

Hosted by Henrico County Recreation & Parks -- civilwarhenrico.com

Lodging, Dining, Other Attractions

For lodging and other visitor information, visit www.VisitRichmondVA.org.

Groups

Please call the park at 804-226-1981 or the host of a partner event above for information about group reservations.

Acknowledgements

Richmond National Battlefield Park is deeply grateful to the following partners for their support and work to make these commemoration events possible:

American Civil War Center
American Legion Post 27, Litchfield,
Connecticut
Chesterfield County
Civil War Trust
Eastern National
Fairmount Christian Church
Gravel Hill Community Center

Future of Richmond's Past
Hanover County
Henrico County
Museum of the Confederacy
Polegreen Church Foundation
Richmond Regional Tourism
Rural Plains Foundation
Virginia Historical Society

Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National
Military Park
Petersburg National Battlefield
Fort Sumter National Monument

STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY...

Plan your visit thoughtfully to ensure that you are comfortable, safe, and well-prepared.

Weather:

Check weather forecasts before departing. Most of the events in this guide take place outdoors. Richmond area weather in spring can vary and change. Summer days can be extremely warm. Please dress accordingly – wear loose clothing, bring a hat, and choose comfortable, sturdy shoes for walking on uneven battlefield terrain. Bring and wear sunscreen.

Water and Food:

Bottled water will not be sold in the park, but free water stations will be available for refilling personal water bottles and canteens. Please plan to bring a water bottle with you. Souvenir water bottles will also be available for purchase.

In most cases, food will not be available for purchase; however, visitors are welcome to bring lunches and snacks during these special events only. Please dispose of litter and recycling in the provided containers.

Roads and Trails:

Please stay on designated trails and note special event signs on roadways and trails.

Insects:

Richmond's battlefields contain mosquitoes and a variety of ticks. Knowing tick safety protocols is very important for one's health. Some ticks are carriers of blood-borne pathogens, which can be transmitted when the tick is embedded in its host. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and Lyme Disease can be prevented with the right precautions. Check yourself, your children, and all clothing for ticks.

Facilities and Accessibility:

All events will provide accessible parking facilities. Most events and programs are fully accessible. However, several walking/hiking tours take place over long distances and uneven and rough terrain. They are indicated in the event descriptions. Outdoor events will offer portable restrooms that are accessible.

Pets:

Pets on leashes are allowed within Richmond National Battlefield Park units as long as they remain outdoors. Service animals only are allowed inside park buildings.

Seating:

Some limited seating will be provided for programs and events that are stationary and expected to last longer than 20 minutes. If you are planning to be in the park for an extended period of time, consider bringing a blanket or chair that is easy to transport. Keep in mind that most events will be reached via a shuttle system, so it is a good idea to plan carefully what to bring.

Eastern National

The printing of this guide was made possible by Eastern National, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit cooperating association. Cooperating associations are recognized by Congress as a means to assist the educational and interpretive mission of the National Park Service, and they provide educational materials in retail outlets located in national parks. Eastern National currently assists more than 150 national parks across the country. At this year's weekend events, Eastern National will provide visitors with the opportunity to purchase books, commemorative items, and other educational materials. Purchases help support Richmond National Battlefield Park's interpretive programs and special events.

Richmond National Battlefield Park

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

3215 E. Broad Street
Richmond, Virginia 23223
804-226-1981

www.nps.gov/rich

1864 / 2014 SESQUICENTENNIAL SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE | RICHMOND

This calendar includes events taking place throughout central Virginia from late April through July. Events taking place in the Richmond area have page numbers in this guide where more details can be found. Details for events taking place in Fredericksburg and Petersburg may be found in guides available through the other two parks.				Park Alpha Code Key: FRSP = Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park (www.nps.gov/frsp) RICH = Richmond National Battlefield Park (www.nps.gov/rich) PETE = Petersburg National Battlefield (www.nps.gov/pete)		26 April Bermuda Hundred Reenactment (Chesterfield Co Parks & Rec)	
27 April	28	29	30	1 May	2	3	
Bermuda Hundred Reenactment (Chesterfield Co Parks & Rec)					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-day bus tour with Gordon Rhea (Friends of Wilderness Battlefield) banquet and talk by Gordon Rhea (Central Virginia Battlefields Trust) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRSP/RICH/PETE: Overland Commemoration Ceremony (at FRSP) FRSP: Wilderness and Spotsylvania Commemoration 2-day bus tour with Gordon Rhea (Friends of Wilderness Battlefield) Wilderness and Spotsylvania Reenactment (Spotsylvania Co Economic Development and Tourism) 	
4 May	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRSP: Wilderness and Spotsylvania Commemoration Wilderness and Spotsylvania Reenactment (Spotsylvania Co Economic Development and Tourism) 	FRSP: Wilderness Commemoration	FRSP: Wilderness Commemoration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RICH: "The Spring of 1864: A Season of Hope for the United States and the Confederacy" – Gary Gallagher Lecture at the Virginia Historical Society (page 5) Canoe trip to the Rapidan River fords (Friends of Wilderness Battlefield) 	FRSP: Spotsylvania commemoration	FRSP: "City of Hospitals, Fredericksburg" talk by John Hennessy	FRSP: Spotsylvania commemoration	
11 May	12	13	14	15	16	17	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRSP: Spotsylvania commemoration Bus tour – Yellow Tavern (Henrico Rec & Parks) (page 14) 	FRSP: Spotsylvania commemoration					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> "A Celebration of Freedom: Fighting for Freedom and Firesides" (FRSP, regional 150th committee and 23rd United States Colored Troops) FRSP: Spotsylvania commemoration 	
18 May	19	20	21	22	23	24	
FRSP: Spotsylvania commemoration					RICH: Battle of North Anna -- bus tour (page 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRSP/RICH/PETE: Reverberations Simultaneous Luminary Program (page 4) North Anna trail dedication and programs (Hanover Parks & Rec) 	
25 May	26	27	28	29	30	31	
			RICH: Battle of Haw's Shop -- bus tour (page 5)	RICH: Totopotomoy Creek commemoration at Rural Plains (page 6)	RICH: Totopotomoy Creek commemoration at Rural Plains (page 6) RICH: Operations at Totopotomoy Creek -- bus tour (page 6)	RICH: Totopotomoy Creek commemoration at Rural Plains (page 6) RICH: Cold Harbor commemoration (page 8)	
1 June	2	3	4	5	6	7	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RICH: Cold Harbor commemoration (page 10) Commemorative programs at Historic Polegreen Church (pages 8 and 14) 		RICH: Cold Harbor commemoration (page 12)				RICH: Cold Harbor commemoration (page 13)	
8 June	9	10	11	12	13	14	
						RICH/PETE: Grant's Army moves from Cold Harbor to the James River -- bus tour (page 5) PETE: commemoration of initial Union assault	
No Sesquicentennial programs between June 14 and June 29							
29 June	No Sesquicentennial programs between June 29 and July 26					26 July	
FRSP/RICH/PETE: "Voices from the Storm" – at Historic Tredegar in partnership with the ACWM (page 5)						RICH: African-American Experience in 1864 (with Gravel Hill Community Center, Civil War Trust, Richmond Battlefield Association)	
27 July	28	29	30	31	August 1	2	
			PETE: Commemoration of the Battle of the Crater		PETE: Panel Presentation – The Crater	PETE: Battle of the Crater – commemorative programs	