

The Knapsack

Raleigh Civil War Round Table
The same rain falls on both friend and foe.

September 12th, 2022
Our 259th Issue



Volume 22
Number 9

<http://www.raleighcwrt.org>

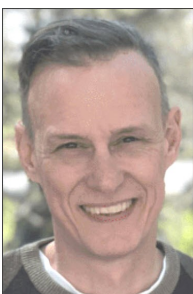
September 12th, 2022 Meeting features Ernest A. Dollar speaking on the subject of his new book *Hearts Torn Asunder: Trauma in the Civil War's Final Campaign in North Carolina*

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table's September 12th, 2022 in person/simultaneous Zoom meeting will feature Ernest A. Dollar, M.A., speaking on the subject of his new book *Hearts Torn Asunder: Trauma in the Civil War's Final Campaign in North Carolina*.

The meeting will be held at the City of Raleigh Museum, 220 Fayetteville St., in downtown Raleigh, NC. Please note that this is a change in venue and that the wearing of a mask is optional. For those unable to attend in person, a Zoom session will also be recorded simultaneously.

Please join us at 6:30 p.m. for refreshments. The program starts at 7:00 p.m. EST. This event will also be live-streamed on Zoom. A video recording will be made available on <http://www.raleighcwrt.org>, our Raleigh Civil War Round Table website, following the event.

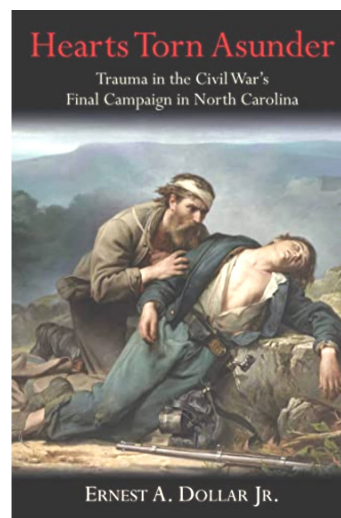
Raleigh CWRT President, Josie Walker, should have already emailed an invitation to you, including instructions and a link for joining online if you are unable to attend in person. Please contact Josie at RaleighCWRT@Yahoo.com if you have not received an invitation.



Ernest A. Dollar, Jr.,
M.A.

September's meeting will feature an in person presentation by Ernest A. Dollar, M.A., long-time friend of the Raleigh CWRT, local historian, author, and executive director of both the City of Raleigh Museum and the Dr. M. T. Pope House Museum, speaking on the subject of his new book *Hearts Torn Asunder: Trauma in the Civil War's Final Campaign in North Carolina*, published by Savas Beatie (March 28th, 2022).

Ernie's presentation is the thesis of his upcoming book, *Whipped by War: An Emotional History of the Civil War's Final Campaign*, which examines the last cam-



paign of the war, from Goldsboro to Greensboro, revealing a history shaped by traumatic experiences that left survivors little to celebrate.

Most people believe the end of the Civil War came at Appomattox with handshakes and amicable banter between Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant—an honorable ceremony amongst noble warriors. And so it has been remembered to this day. But the war did not end on April 9th, 1865. A larger and arguably more important surrender had yet to take place in North Carolina. This part of the surrender story occupies but little space in the vast annals of Civil War literature, and as Ernie ably explains, the lens of modern science may reveal why.

(Continued on p. 2)

Raleigh CWRT Membership Dues Should Be Submitted by September 15th

Your membership dues are used to pay the following:

- rent at the NC Museum of History
- our speakers' expenses
- our web site, and
- other expenses of running the Round Table.

Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$10 for teachers. Student membership is free. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20. Dues should be submitted to Griff Bartlett, Treasurer, 908 Kinsdale Drive, Raleigh, NC 27615-1117 by **Sept. 15th** each year.

The war's final campaign in North Carolina began on April 10th, 1865, one day after Lee's surrender. More than 120,000 Union and Confederate soldiers were still in the field bringing war with them as they moved across the state's verdant heartland. General William T. Sherman was still out to destroy the South's ability and moral stamina to make war. His unstoppable Union troops faced General Joseph E. Johnston's demoralized but still dangerous Confederate Army of Tennessee. Thousands of paroled Rebels, desperate, distraught, and destitute, added to the chaos by streaming into the state from Virginia. Grief-stricken civilians, struggling to survive in a collapsing world, were caught in the middle. The collision of these groups formed a perfect storm long ignored by those wielding pens.

Hearts Torn Asunder . . . explores the psychological experience of these soldiers and civilians during the chaotic closing weeks of the war. Their letters, diaries, and accounts reveal just how deeply the killing, suffering, and loss had hurt and impacted these people by the spring of 1865. Ernie deftly recounts the experiences of men, women, and children who endured intense emotional, physical, and moral stress during the war's dramatic climax. Their emotional, irrational, and often uncontrollable reactions mirror symptoms associated with trauma victims today, all of which combined to shape memory of the war's end.

Once the armies left North Carolina after the surrender, their stories faded with each passing year. Neither side looked back and believed there was much that was honorable to celebrate. *Hearts Torn Asunder* . . . recounts at a very personal level what happened during those closing days that made a memory so painful that few wanted to celebrate, but none could forget.

A native of Durham, NC, Ernest A. Dollar, Jr. graduated from UNC-Greensboro in 1993 with a B.A. in History and a B.F.A. in Design. He attained an M.A. in Public History from NC State in 2006. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve/NC National Guard from 1993-1999, and has been a living historian since 1992.

In 1991, Ernie took an interest in the little-known Battle of Morrisville. He researched the last weeks of the Civil War and organized efforts to preserve the remaining parts of the Morrisville battlefield. That work led to the erection of a roadside marker in 1999, and the incorporation of a battlefield park in the town's master development plan. In 2008, Ernie published a photographic history of Morrisville.

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During the sesquicentennial commemoration of the Civil War, he tirelessly presented programs and led

tour groups, educating citizens about their local Civil War heritage. Ernie also spoke about the surrender of Raleigh and Morrisville on the Raleigh CWRT's documentary film about the end of the war in North Carolina.

Ernie has worked in several historic parks in both North and South Carolina, including as executive director of the Preservation Society of Chapel Hill. He currently serves as executive director of the City of Raleigh Museum, located in the Briggs Hardware Building on Fayetteville Street in the heart of downtown Raleigh. Ernie is also executive director of the Dr. M. T. Pope House Museum, the only African-American house museum in the state of NC.

Ernie gave a presentation to the Raleigh CWRT in March 2013, where he focused on how the end of the Civil War was viewed in North Carolina and how post traumatic stress disorder shaped the way soldiers and civilians remembered, and sometimes forgot, this tumultuous period of time.

Ernie was the recipient of the 2016 Gatton Award, presented by the Raleigh CWRT in recognition for his many endeavors related to Civil War education and preservation including diligent research into the last weeks of the war and leading the efforts to preserve remaining portions of the Morrisville Station battlefield. The group also acknowledged Ernie's many public history activities including the executive directorships already mentioned.

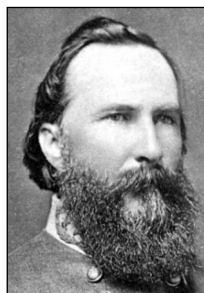
Most recently, Ernie participated in a four-member symposium on reconstruction in North Carolina at the June 2017 meeting of the Raleigh CWRT. His topic covered the post Civil War period in the city of Raleigh. Ernie lives in Durham with his wife, Suzie, and their sons Elijah and Kilby.

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Lieutenant General James Longstreet: Seniority Rank 1

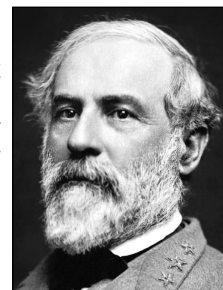
Part 2B of a 20-Part Series by Bob Graesser, Editor

As described in the Part 1 introduction, of 19 Confederate Lieutenant Generals ([Table 1](#), p. 3.), sixteen were graduates of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, NY. The other three were either political appointees or had accumulated enough wealth to recruit, outfit, and maintain their own military unit.



*Lt. Gen.
James Longstreet*

This Part 2B continues to examine the career of Lt. Gen. James Longstreet, Gen. Robert E. Lee's "*Old War Horse*". It begins at the point where Lee takes over command of the Army of Northern VA following the wounding of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston in front of Richmond at the end of May 1862 during the Battle of Seven Pines (aka Battle of Fair Oaks).



*Gen.
Robert E. Lee*

Table 1: Confederate Lt. Generals Ordered by Seniority

Name	Lt. Gen. Seniority	Date of Rank	Date Confirmed	Birth	Death	Class of	Class Rank	Class Size
James Longstreet	1st	1862-10-09	1862-10-11	1821-01-08	1904-01-02	1842	54th	55
E. Kirby Smith	2nd	1862-10-09	1862-10-11	1824-05-16	1893-03-28	1845	25th	41
Leonidas Polk	3rd	1862-10-10	1862-10-11	1806-04-10	1864-06-14	1827	8th	37
Theophilus H.	4th	1862-10-10	1862-10-11	1804-11-13	1880-06-21	1829	44th	46
William J. Hardee	5th	1862-10-10	1862-10-11	1815-10-12	1873-11-06	1838	26th	45
Stonewall Jackson	6th	1862-10-10	1862-10-11	1824-01-21	1863-05-10	1846	17th	59
John C. Pemberton	7th	1862-10-09	1862-10-13	1814-08-10	1881-07-13	1837	27th	50
Richard S. Ewell	8th	1863-05-23	1864-02-02	1817-02-08	1872-01-25	1840	13th	42
Ambrose Powell Hill	9th	1863-05-24	1864-01-15	1825-11-09	1865-04-02	1847	15th	48
Daniel Harvey Hill	10th	1863-07-11	Withdrawn	1821-07-12	1889-09-24	1842	28th	56
John Bell Hood	11th	1863-09-20	1864-02-04	1831-06-01	1879-08-30	1853	44th	52
Richard Taylor	12th	1864-04-08	1864-05-16	1826-01-27	1879-04-12	NA,	NA	38
Jubal Early	13th	1864-05-31	1864-05-31	1816-11-03	1894-03-02	1837	18th	50
Richard H.	14th	1864-05-31	1864-05-31	1821-10-07	1879-06-26	1842	40th	56
Alexander P.	15th	1864-06-23	1864-06-23	1821-10-02	1908-08-30	1842	12th	56
Stephen D. Lee	16th	1864-06-23	1865-03-16	1833-09-22	1908-05-28	1854	17th	46
Simon B. Buckner	17th	1864-09-20	1865-01-17	1823-04-01	1914-01-08	1844	11th	25
Wade Hampton III	18th	1865-02-14	1865-02-14	1818-03-28	1902-04-11	NA,	NA	42
Nathan B. Forrest	19th	1865-02-28	1865-03-02	1821-07-13	1877-10-29	NA,	NA	39

Note: In the "Class of" column, "NA" means "did not attend West Point". The associated year indicates what Class the individual would have been in based on starting at age 18. Lt. Generals are listed in order by seniority. Thus, James Longstreet ranked #1 in seniority among the Lt. Generals but ranked the lowest in his West Point class, 54th, as compared to the other Lt. Generals.

Article Sources

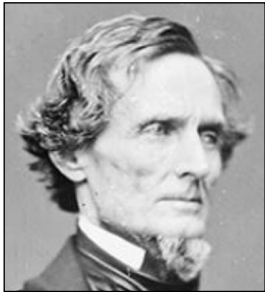
- [Battle of Antietam: Staff Ride Guide](#) by Ted Ballard. Center of Military History, United States Army, Washington, D.C. (2008).
- [Confederate Struggle for Command: General James Longstreet and the First Corps](#) by Alexander Mendoza. Texas A&M University Press College Station (Sept. 1st, 2008), 1st ed. (Illus. ed.), ISBN-10: 1-60344-052-6; ISBN-13: 978-1-60344-052-3
- [ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM: Civil War Artillery](#) by Michael A. Martorelli. Virginia Center for Civil War Studies at Virginia Tech (2010-2022).
- [First Corps, Army of Northern Virginia](#). Military Wiki.
- [From Manassas to Appomattox: Memoirs of the Civil War in America](#) (1896) by James Longstreet, Lieutenant-General Confederate Army. Andesite Press (Aug. 8th, 2015), Illus. ed., ISBN-10: 1298490715; ISBN-13: 978-1298490711. Also available for free online reading at <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=Perseus%3Atext%3A2001.05.0027%3Achapter%3D14>).
- [General James Longstreet: The Confederacy's Most Controversial Soldier: A Biography](#) by Jeffrey D. Wert. Simon & Schuster (Nov. 1st, 1993), 1st ed., 1st

printing, ISBN-10: 0671709216; ISBN-13: 978-0671709211.

- [James Longstreet: From the Peninsula to Maryland: Longstreet's role in the summer of 1862](#). National Park Service.
- [Lieutenant General James Longstreet: Innovative Military Strategist: The Most Misunderstood Civil War General](#) by F. Gregory Toretta. Casemate (May 9th, 2022), ISBN-10: 1636241174; ISBN-13: 978-1636241173.
- [Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies in the War of the Rebellion](#). This link takes one to the Archives Library Information Center of the U.S. National Archives. Located here is an index describing the contents of each series of the Official Records. It provides the series/volume, serial number, and serial set volume. Armed with this information, one can find digitized photocopies of each page of each volume available online at [Catalog Record: The War of the Rebellion : a compilation of... | Hathitrust Digital Library](#).
- [Recollections of a Confederate Staff Officer](#) by G. Moxley Sorrel. Aurelius Publishing (July 4th, 2016), ASIN: B01101W0GM.

A Change in Leadership

As Gen. Robert E. Lee took over the reins of the Army of Northern Virginia, subordinates such as Longstreet had their doubts. As Longstreet stated in his memoirs, although Lee was especially distinguished as a military engineer in the Mexican-American War, “officers of the line are not apt to look to the staff in choosing leaders of soldiers, either in tactics or strategy. There were, therefore, some misgivings as to the power and skill for field service of the new commander.”



Confederate Pres.
Jefferson Davis

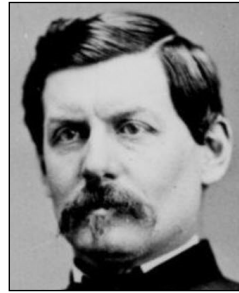
Lee, on the other hand, had a better initial impression of Longstreet. Four days after their first meeting, Lee wrote to President Davis: “Longstreet is a Capital Soldier. His recommendations hitherto have been good, & I have confidence in him.” A close military and personal kinship started between Lee and Longstreet as witnessed by Maj. Moxley Sorrel, Longstreet’s adjutant-general: “Longstreet was second in command and it soon became apparent that he was to be quite close to Lee.”

After Lee completed the withdrawal of the Confederate forces into their Richmond defenses, he had his troops spend the month of June 1862 improving those defenses by entrenching to such an extent that his men began to refer to him as the “King of Spades”.



Maj. Moxley Sorrel

Despite claiming victory at Seven Pines, Union Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan was shaken by the large number of casualties within his Army of the Potomac, writing to his wife “Victory has no charms for me when purchased at such cost.” Having failed to reach Richmond from the northeast, he repositioned his army so that all but the V Corps was located south of →



Maj. Gen. George
B. McClellan

the Chickahominy River. Although he continued to plan for a siege and the capture of Richmond, Lee would soon demonstrate that McClellan had lost the strategic initiative.

While McClellan had his Union troops sitting passively in the outskirts of Richmond over the next three-and-a-half weeks, Lee made good use of this time by embarking on a reorganization of the Army of Northern VA. He broke up and reassigned some brigades, he nominated replacements for dead and wounded officers, and removed several poorly performing brigadiers.

The serendipitous promotion of Lee would have a profound effect on the war. On June 24th, 1862, McClellan’s massive Army of the Potomac was within 6 miles of the Confederate capital of Richmond. Union soldiers could hear church bells ringing in the city. Within 90 days, however, Lee would do the following:

- 1) orchestrate the Seven Days Battles of June 25th through July 1st, 1862, driving the Union Army back to the James River, thus saving the Confederate capital
- 2) compel McClellan to leave the Peninsula for the safety of Washington City
- 3) soundly defeat Maj. Gen. John Pope’s Army of VA at the Second Battle of Bull Run, and
- 4) move the battle lines to within 20 miles of the Union capital in Washington City

It would take almost two more years before the Union Army again got that close to Richmond, and almost three years before it finally captured it. But where did James Longstreet figure into all of this?

Seven Days Battles (Peninsula Campaign)

Throughout the Seven Days Battles, Longstreet had operational command of nearly half of Lee’s army—15 brigades—as it drove McClellan back down the Peninsula. Longstreet participated directly in three of the seven battles: Gaines Mill, Glendale, and Malvern Hill. In these, Longstreet performed aggressively and quite well in his new, larger command.

Seq. No.	Army	Campaign	Date(s)	Longstreet’s					CSA Outcome
				Rank	Command	Superior	No. of Troops	Casualties	
5	CSA Army of Northern Virginia	Seven Days	06-27-1862	Maj. Gen.	Right Wing	Gen. Robert E. Lee	~27,000	~5%	Victory

Note: Figures for “No. of Troops” and “Casualties” are often hard to nail down as evidenced by disagreements among authors. This is especially true for Confederate records, since most of their official records were destroyed by fire just before government officials fled Richmond at the close of the War. Embers from these fires may have contributed to the conflagration which gutted Richmond during that frantic week in early April, 1865. This editor uses the single tilde (“~”) to mean →

“approximately”, “about”, or “of the same order of magnitude” when he finds conflicting data. In some cases, extrapolation or interpolation is used to come up with an estimate. If a number is not preceded by “~”, but ends in two or more zeros, it is probable that the original source data was rounded off as an estimate. Finally, to emphasize the bloody nature of Civil War combat, this editor limits casualties to “killed + wounded”, omitting “missing” or “captured”.

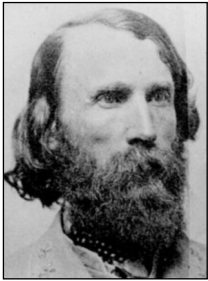


Brig. Gen. John Fitz Porter

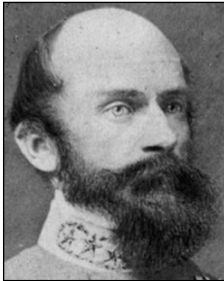
The Battle of Gaines Mill (aka Battle of Chickahominy River) took place on June 27th, 1862, as the third of the Seven Days Battles of McClellan's Peninsula Campaign. It followed the inconclusive Battle of Beaver Dam Creek (aka Battle of Mechanicsville) the previous day. Lee renewed his attacks against the right flank of the Union Army relatively isolated on the northern side of the Chickahominy River. There, Brig. Gen. Fitz John

Porter's V Corps, the largest of McClellan's five Corps, had established a strong defensive line behind Boat-swain's Swamp.

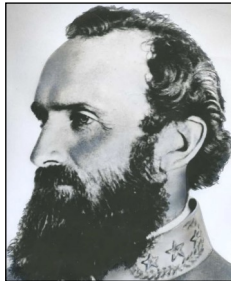
Here, Lee's force launched the largest Confederate attack of the war, about 57,000 men in six divisions. Porter's reinforced V Corps of 34,000 men held fast for the afternoon as the Confederates attacked in a disjointed manner, first with the division of Maj. Gen. A.P. Hill, then Maj. Gen. Richard S. Ewell, both suffering heavy casualties. The arrival of Maj. Gen. Stonewall Jack-



Maj. Gen. A.P. Hill



Maj. Gen. Richard S. Ewell



Maj. Gen. Stonewall Jackson

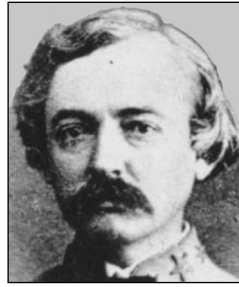
son's command was delayed, preventing the full concentration of Confederate force before Porter received some reinforcements from the VI Corps.

Longstreet maneuvered three brigades into position to the right of A. P. Hill's division and attacked at about 4 p.m. in the area of the Watt House, a key defensive position. Maj. Gen. William H.C. Whiting's division of →

6. Battle of Glendale (aka Battle of Frayser's Farm)

				Longstreet's					CSA Outcome
Seq. No.	Army	Campaign	Date(s)	Rank	Command	Superior	No. of Troops	Casualties	
6	CSA Army of Northern Virginia	Seven Days	06-30-1862	Maj. Gen.	Right Wing	Gen. Robert E. Lee	~20,000	>25%	Draw

On the afternoon of June 30th, three Confederate divisions converged on the retreating Union army near the crossroads at Glendale. Longstreet and A.P. Hill penetrated the Federal defenses, routing the Pennsylvania Reserve division of Brig. Gen. George A. McCall and other brigades near the Frayser farm. Union counterattacks by the divisions of Brig. Gens. Joseph Hooker and Phillip Kearny saved the Union line of retreat along the Willis Church Road, although McCall was captured.



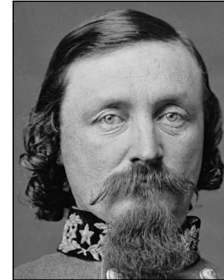
Maj. Gen. William H.C. Whiting

Jackson's command arrived to throw weight behind Longstreet's attacks. Despite their efforts, Porter's embattled Federals continued to repulse every attack.

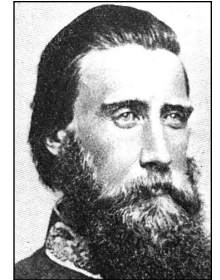
Around dusk at 7:00 p.m. Lee was finally able to get his generals to work together. Confederate attackers, consisting of upwards of 32,000 men in sixteen brigades, surged forward all along the Federal lines. For his part, Longstreet, renewing his efforts at the Watt House, sent in Anderson, Hood, and Pickett with five of his six



Maj. Gen. Richard H. Anderson



Maj. Gen. George Pickett



Maj. Gen. John Bell Hood

brigades. As a result, his troops were finally able to break through the Union line, but with Confederate losses of over 1,000 casualties.

The Federals abandoned their defenses and began streaming to the rear. Only darkness saved them from complete disaster. During the night, Porter's men trudged south across the Chickahominy, burning the bridges behind them. Gaines' Mill had been an intense battle, the largest of the Seven Days and the only clear-cut Confederate tactical victory of the Peninsula Campaign. As an interesting sidenote in American aeronautical history, Gaines' Mill is the first instance where observation balloons were being used by both sides at the same time.

Gaines' Mill would lead to a series of Federal rearguard actions as McClellan moved his army toward the James River to the safety and resupply of navy vessels there, all hopes of taking Richmond now dashed.



Brig. Gen. George A. McCall

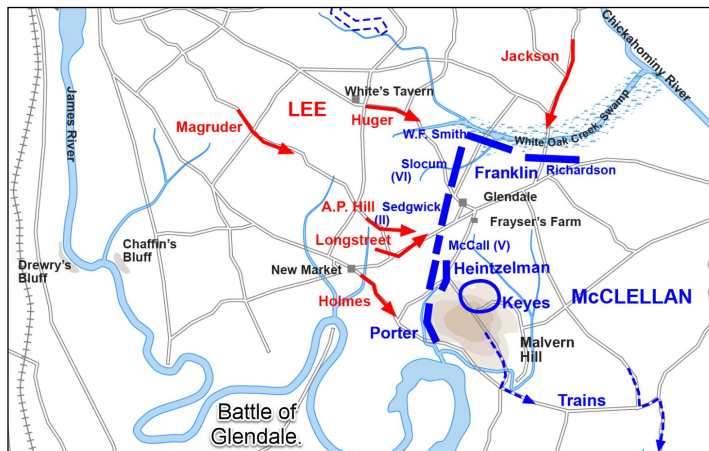


Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker



Maj. Gen. Philip Kearny

The battle at Glendale would be Lee's best chance to cut off the Union army from the James River. That night, McClellan pulled the Union army back to a strong position on Malvern Hill, where the fighting would continue the next day.



Map by Hal Jespersen, www.posix.com/CW

7. Battle of Malvern Hill

Seq. No.	Army	Campaign	Date(s)	Rank	Command	Longstreet's			CSA Outcome
						Superior	No. of Troops	Casualties	
7	CSA Army of Northern Virginia	Seven Days	07-01-1862	Maj. Gen.	Right Wing	Gen. Robert E. Lee	~15,000	~21%	Resounding Defeat

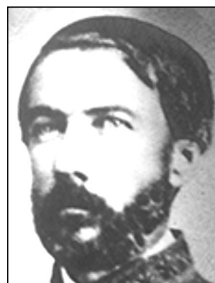
Malvern Hill was the final battle of the Seven Days Battles, taking place on a 130-foot elevation of land known as Malvern Hill, near the Confederate capital of Richmond, Virginia and just one-to-two miles from the James River. Including inactive reserves, more than fifty thousand soldiers from each side took part, using more than two hundred cannon and three warships.

Following the Battle of Glendale, Union Army of the Potomac commander Maj. Gen. George McClellan, tired of the fighting withdrawal, boarded the ironclad USS Galena and sailed down the James River to inspect Harrison's Landing, which he intended as safe haven for his army. In doing so, McClellan delegated overall tactical command to Brig. Gen. Porter, commanding the V Corps.

In turn, Porter preemptively had his V Corps continue their retreat and take up defensive positions on Malvern Hill on the evening of June 30th. He had seen how the hill's strength lay not in its height, but rather in its fields of fire. Gently sloping open fields lay in front of the Union position, forcing any Confederate attacks against the hill to travel across that barren ground.

In the meantime, Lee ordered his Confederate forces to follow in pursuit. Because Longstreet's and A.P. Hill's soldiers were exhausted from the previous day's battle at Glendale in which they bore the brunt of the fighting, Lee directed that they were to serve as the reserve.

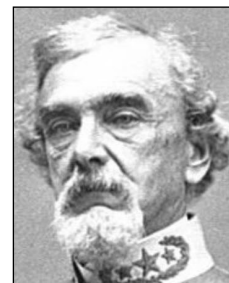
The main attack on Malvern Hill was to be made by Jackson on the left and by Maj. Gen. John B. Magruder on the right. Their commands would be reinforced with additional troops. Maj. Gen. Daniel H. Hill's division would join Jackson's command while Huger's division would join Magruder's command.



Maj. Gen. Daniel H. Hill



Maj. Gen. John B. Magruder



Maj. Gen. Benjamin Huger

As Lee and Longstreet rode together on horseback along the road from Glendale to Malvern Hill on the morning of July 1st, Lee confided that he was feeling sick that morning, and he asked Longstreet to help him lead the army that day and substitute for him if necessary.

About this time, they came across D.H. Hill, whose division was moving up in preparation for the attack. The Rev. L.W. Allen, a member of D.H. Hill's staff who had been raised in the area and was familiar with the ground where the Union forces planned to make a stand, had told Hill that Malvern Hill was well-suited for defense, and McClellan's military engineers would know how to fortify the position.

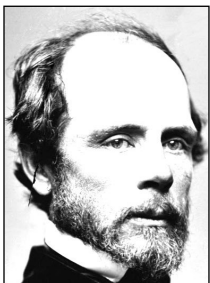
Seeing Lee and Longstreet, Hill passed this information about the terrain at Malvern Hill on to them. "If Gen. McClellan is there in strength, we had better let him alone," Hill said. As Lee was taking this in, Longstreet dismissed it, saying, "Don't get scared now that we have got him whipped." Longstreet was optimistic that one more fight would be more than McClellan's forces could take. Hill had a more cautious attitude but decided not to argue the point. What effect this would have had on Lee

if Longstreet had agreed with Hill or kept his mouth shut, we will never know.

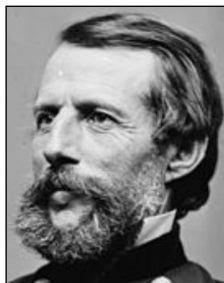
Malvern Hill, itself, lay on the north bank of the James River, about one-to-two miles away from the Union gunboats, whose mortars provided a psychological sense of protection, even though their over-the-horizon aim was as likely to hit Union troops as it was to hit Confederate troops. This support role situation was reminiscent to that of the Union gunboats at Pittsburg Landing on the Tennessee River at the Battle of Shiloh.

McClellan had ordered that the hilltop be armed to the teeth with artillery batteries totaling 40 cannon lined up wheel-to-wheel to cover the open swaths of gently inclined fields that fronted the 900 yard-wide crest of the hill and funneled to it.

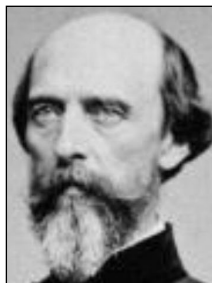
McClellan finally had all five of his Union Corps together in the same spot for the first time during the Seven Days Battles with about 85,000 troops under Porter's command. To secure Malvern Hill, Porter borrowed Brig. Gen. Darius Couch's First Division of Brig. Gen. Erasmus Keyes's IV Corps. Brig. Gen. George Morrell's First Division of Porter's V Corps was positioned on the northwest side of Malvern Hill, while Couch's division was deployed on the northeast side of the hill. Together, Morrell and Couch had 17,800 men to oppose the Confederate attack coming from the north.



Brig. Gen. Darius Couch



Brig. Gen. Erasmus Keyes

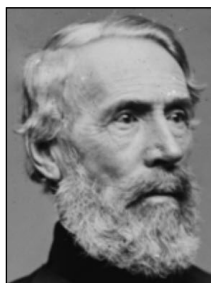


Brig. Gen. George Morrell

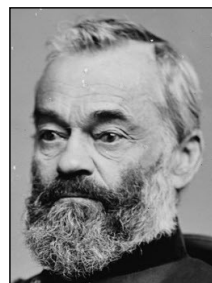
Facing west and covering the River Road was Brig. Gen. George Sykes's Second Division of the V Corps, which was supported by 37 guns packed tightly together to prevent a Confederate advance along the River Road. Brig. Gen. George McCall's Third Division of the V Corps was stationed on the rear of Malvern Hill as a reserve. The reserve was further strengthened by four brigades detached from Brig. Gen. Edwin Sumner's II Corps and Brig. Gen. Samuel Heintzelman's III Corps, as well as a battery of heavy artillery that belonged to McClellan's siege train.



Brig. Gen. George Sykes



Brig. Gen. Edwin Sumner



Brig. Gen. Sam. Heintzelman



Brig. Gen. William Franklin

McClellan diverted elements of three Corps to guard the Federals' right (east) flank. Consequently, they saw no action. Facing east and deployed between Western Run and Turkey Island Creek from north to south were the rest of the Corps of Heintzelman and Sumner, and also Brig. Gen. William Franklin's VI Corps. Brig. Gen. John Peck's Second Division of Keyes's IV Corps was situated between Turkey Island Creek and the James River. Thus, even with all his troops in one place, McClellan did not utilize his whole army.

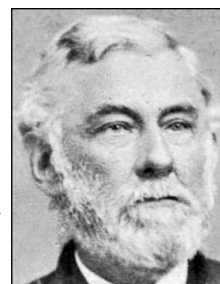


Brig. Gen. John Peck

On the Confederate side, preparations were hindered by several mishaps. It was a shortcoming of the Confederate high command that Lee didn't have a more precise map showing more of the secondary roads on the peninsula. Because of the bad maps and faulty local guides, Magruder initially marched in the wrong direction and, eventually, ended up being three hours late for the battle. An excess of caution delayed Huger.

The battle, itself, occurred in stages on July 1st. Lee believed a sustained artillery barrage could weaken the Union position before his infantry attacked. Taking advantage of high ground north of Malvern Hill, Lee ordered the placement of two "grand batteries"—massive arrays of his artillery—in support of the left and right wings of his army. Lee believed fire from these massed cannon would converge on the Union center and weaken the Yankees' ability to resist the force of the infantry assault that was to follow.

Around 1:00 p.m., both sides opened an artillery duel. The Confederate fire from the left grand battery was largely ineffective, due to logistical problems faced by Jackson. He was only able to find three of the ten batteries from his command. As to the 14 batteries in the reserve artillery under the command of Brig. Gen. William Pendleton, he couldn't be found and without his permission, none of his batteries could be released. Such were the constraints resulting from the stilted hierarchy of the Confederate command structure.



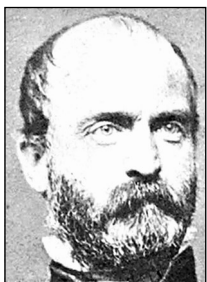
Brig. Gen. William Pendleton

As for the right grand battery, availability was never an issue. Magruder had as many as 16 batteries under his direct control plus six more attached to Huger's division. This totaled 22 batteries, each with four to six guns. While it would have been impossible to fit them all on the available ridge, it certainly could have accommodated more than one battery at a time. That the available batteries were only wheeled into position one at a time, was a failure whose responsibility rested with Magruder.

The paucity of Confederate batteries allowed the mass of

batteries on Malvern Hill to quickly silence the Confederate guns, which had been deployed piecemeal. With the Confederate guns no longer a major factor, Yankee gunners directed their attention to the lines of gray-clad infantry advancing up the slopes of Malvern Hill, thus dominating the battle.

During the course of four hours following the artillery duel, such as it was, there occurred a series of blunders in planning and communication triggered by unclear orders from Lee and less-than-stellar actions by Maj. Gens. Magruder and D.H. Hill, respectively.



Brig. Gen. Lewis Armistead

These resulted in the launch of an unsuccessful minor charge by Confederate Brig. Gen. Lewis Armistead. This was followed by three additional frontal infantry assaults across hundreds of yards of open ground unsupported by Confederate artillery and directed toward firmly entrenched Union infantry and artillery defenses. As a result, the Union forces inflicted heavy casualties at each phase, with the effectiveness of the Federal artillery being the deciding factor, as attack after attack was repulsed. The result was a tactical Union victory.

One could make the point that the following year's Battle of Cold Harbor was to the Union as the Battle of Malvern Hill was to the Confederates.

Ultimately, the responsibility for the debacle at Malvern Hill belonged to Lee. He had issued vague orders and relied on faulty intelligence from more than one source. Lee's complaint, which was a recurring theme throughout the Seven Days Campaign, was that his subordinates failed to carry out his orders in a timely manner. Following the battle, Magruder and Huger were transferred out of the Army of Northern Virginia.

Lee's army at Malvern Hill suffered roughly 5,500 casualties, while McClellan's suffered about 3,200 casualties. Once the battle was over, McClellan ordered his army to retreat again under cover of darkness. It pulled back to the safety of their supply base at Harrison's Landing, twelve miles away, where it entrenched and was able to rely on a flotilla of gunboats for additional firepower.

Thus, the Seven Days ended with McClellan's army in relative safety next to the James River, having suffered almost 16,000 casualties during the retreat. Lee's army, which had been on the offensive during the Seven Days, lost over 20,000.

Despite his losses, the Confederate press heralded Lee as the savior of Richmond. In stark contrast, McClellan was accused of being absent from the battlefield, a harsh criticism that haunted him when he ran for president in 1864.

Despite the Union army's victory, the Battle of Malvern Hill did little to alter the outcome of McClellan's Peninsula Campaign. He managed to keep his army at Harrison's Landing for an additional six weeks while he

The Knapsack (REVISED)

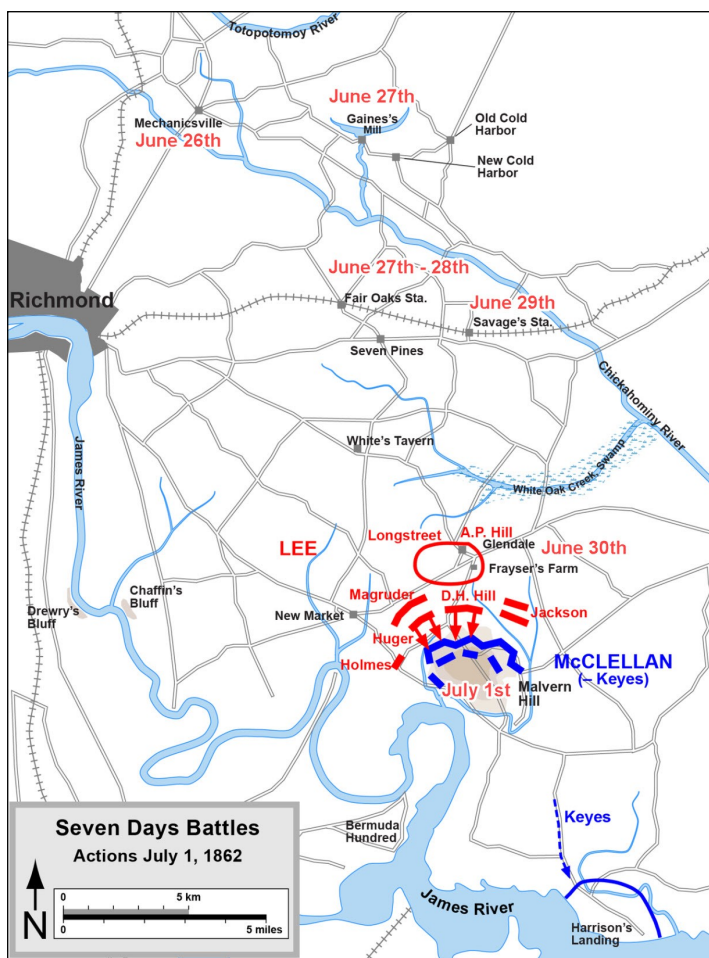


Maj. Gen. John Pope

pleaded with Washington City for more troops and mulled over the possibility of another advance on Richmond. On Aug. 3rd, McClellan received orders to return his army by ship to Alexandria, Virginia. Despite his protests, McClellan's army was to unite with Maj. Gen. John Pope's newly constituted Army of Virginia. In less than a month, Pope would meet with disaster at the hands of Lee and his lieutenants.

Longstreet had quickly won General Lee's trust with his performance at the battles of Glendale and, the following day, Malvern Hill. General Lee said shortly after Seven Days, "Longstreet was the staff in my right hand." He had been established as Lee's principal lieutenant. Lee reorganized the Army of Northern Virginia after Seven Days, increasing Longstreet's command from six brigades to 28. Longstreet took command of the Right Wing (later to become known as the First Corps) and Jackson was given command of the Left Wing.

As Lee became convinced that McClellan would not resume his threat against Richmond, he moved north for his northern Virginia campaign and the Maryland campaign. We will continue examining Longstreet's military career within the scope of these campaigns in part 3 next month.



Map by Hal Jespersen, www.posix.com/CW

The above map is annotated with the dates of the Seven Days Battles and shows the relative positions of the opposing armies at the Battle of Malvern Hill on July 1st, 1862.

News of the RCWRT



Upcoming 2022 RCWRT Meetings

For the Sept. 12th meeting, we met in person with a simultaneous Zoom cast at the City of Raleigh Museum, located at 220 Fayetteville St. in downtown Raleigh, NC.

Date	Speaker(s)	Topic
Sept. 12 th , 2022	Ernie Dollar, M.A.	Hearts Torn Asunder: Trauma in the Civil War's Final Campaign in North Carolina
Oct. 10 th , 2022	Chris J. Hartley	His book: "I Owe the Southern Confederacy a Debt: The Life of George Stoneman"
Nov. 14 th , 2022	Tom Elmore	The Burning of Columbia, SC, Feb. 17 th , 1865
Dec. 12 th , 2022	Holiday Party	The Borden House in Fletcher Park, Raleigh at 6:30 PM. Admission is free; members are invited to bring a favorite dish; guests are welcome. https://raleighnc.gov/borden-building-and-fred-fletcher-amphitheater



Help Save 52 Hallowed Acres at Three VA Battlefields

We have the opportunity to purchase and permanently protect 52 acres of prime VA Civil War battlefield land in Manassas, Reams Station, and Cumberland Church (Farmville).

The total transaction value is just over a million dollars, but if just \$145,000 is raised in the next 45 days, your donation will be multiplied by a \$7-to-\$1 match.

Second Manassas Battlefield

This 3-acre tract is at the heart of the 1862 battlefield of Second Manassas, very near the famous "Deep Cut" where Confederates under Lt. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson, out of ammunition after repeated Union assaults, resorted to throwing rocks at the attacking Federals.

Reams Station Battlefield

Another 3-acre tract, Reams Station was a key stop on the Weldon Railroad, the last remaining line bringing supplies to Lee's army at Petersburg in 1864. This put Reams Station right in the crosshairs of the Federals. Here, Lee defeated Union Gen. Hancock's II Corps to the tune of 40% casualties.

Cumberland Church (Farmville)

A 46-acre parcel, this was one of the last battles, fought just two days before the April 9, 1865 surrender at Appomattox.

For details, and to donate, visit the American Battlefield Trust website at <https://www.battlefields.org/give/save-battlefields/help-save-52-hallowed-acres-three-virginia-battlefields> or phone (800) 298-7878.



The Knapsack

is the official newsletter of the RCWRT and is published around the 1st of each month.

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Bob Graesser, Editor

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Readers are encouraged to submit photos, events, & articles for publication to Bob Graesser, Editor
(RaleighCWRT@yahoo.com; 919-244-9041)

RCWRT Board of Directors (2020-22)

Name	Position
Josie Walker	President / Program Committee
Ted Kunstling	Past President
Johnny Wood	Vice President / Program Committee
Griff Bartlett	Secretary / Treasurer
Open Position	Program Committee
Bob Graesser	Knapsack Newsletter Editor / Webmaster
Lloyd Townsend	Member
Open Position	Member

Paying Memberships / Total Members: 136 / 167

A New Member Joined the RCWRT in August 2022:
Rick Roeder of Raleigh, NC — welcome Rick!

Raleigh CWRT Board of Directors Election Slate 2022-24

President	Charlie Knight
Treasurer	Griff Bartlett
Communications	Bob Graesser
Board member	Jessica Hoover
Board member	Ted Kunstling
Board member	Lynda Turbeville
Board member	Josie Walker (through end of 2022)

The Raleigh Civil War Round Table was formed on March 12th, 2001 and is a 501(c)(3) "tax exempt organization."

We meet on the second Monday of each month (except this Dec.). This month, in a change of venue, we are meeting in person at the City of Raleigh Museum, 220 Fayetteville St. in downtown, Raleigh, NC starting at 6:30 p.m. to allow 30 min. for mingling.

Annual membership dues are \$30 (individual and family) and \$10 for teachers. Student membership is free. Half-year memberships are available March through May for \$20. Dues should be submitted to Griff Bartlett, Treasurer, 908 Kinsdale Drive, Ra-

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