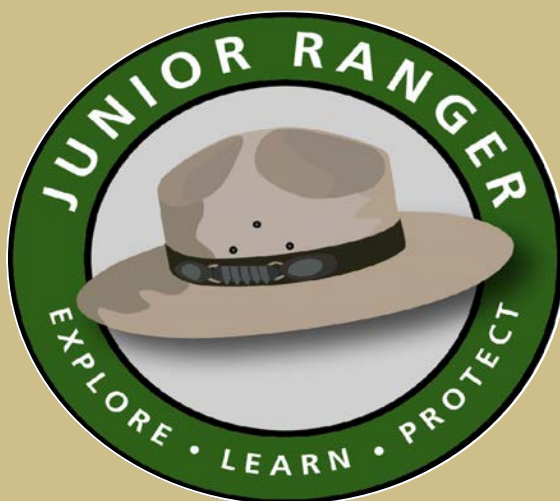


Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park



Junior Ranger Activity Book #1 Fredericksburg



www.nps.gov/frsp



FREDERICKSBURG AND SPOTSYLVANIA NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

Check off the activities as you finish them:

Section 1

- ☐ What Do You Know?
- ☐ Battle Painting
- ☐ Sunken Road
- ☐ Innis House
- ☐ Kirkland Monument
- ☐ Marye's Heights
- ☐ National Cemetery

Section 2

- ☐ Lee's Hill
- ☐ Prospect Hill

Thanks for deciding to become a Junior Ranger!

Today you will learn many things about our park.

After completing the required activities, you can become a Junior Ranger and earn a Junior Ranger patch!

How to become a Junior Ranger:

Step 1: Get a Sunken Road Trail map from the Visitor Center.

Step 2: Complete all the activities in Section 1.
(The activities in Section 2 are not required, but we encourage you to do them for extra credit!)

Step 3: Bring your completed book to the Visitor Center and have a Park Ranger or volunteer check your work.

Step 4: Receive your Junior Ranger patch!

Helpful Hints:

If you have questions, ask a Park Ranger or volunteer.

Go on a guided tour - you can get lots of answers!

There are also Junior Ranger programs at Chancellorsville, the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House!



Junior Rangers know it's important to preserve the battlefields for people today and in the future. You can help us take care of this important place by promising to:

Stay on trails and only cross earthworks by using bridges.

Be a good example and act in a safe and courteous manner.

Honor the memory of the men who fought here by treating the battlefields with respect by **not** playing ball, flying kites, or riding skateboards in the park.

Enjoy the park and leave it in a better condition than you found it.

Enjoy learning about Civil War history and share what you have learned with others.



What Do You Know?

Answer the questions below while exploring the museum exhibits at the Visitor Center.

1. In 1862, President Abraham Lincoln wrote the _____ Proclamation, which declared freedom for some enslaved people.
A. Liberation B. Emancipation C. Declaration
2. The Battle of Fredericksburg took place in what month of the year 1862?
A. November B. December C. January
3. What is the name of the river the Union army was trying to cross at Fredericksburg?
A. James B. Potomac C. Rappahannock
4. Who commanded the Confederate army at the Battle of Fredericksburg?
General Robert E. _____
5. Who commanded the Union army at the Battle of Fredericksburg?
General Ambrose _____
6. Which army had more soldiers at this battle?
A. Union B. Confederate
7. Union soldiers used _____ bridges to cross the river.
A. Stone B. Rubber C. Pontoon
8. At the Sunken Road, Confederate soldiers took shelter behind a _____ wall.
A. Brick B. Stone C. Cement
9. Which army won the Battle of Fredericksburg?
A. Union B. Confederate
10. What was the next large battle fought by these armies after Fredericksburg?
A. Chancellorsville B. Gettysburg C. Appomattox



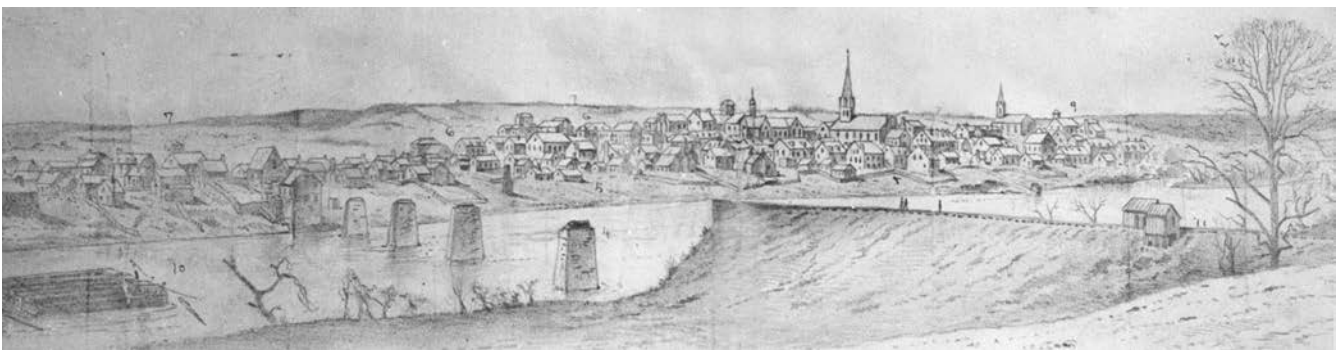
Battle Painting

Exit the rear door of the Visitor Center, turn right, and walk to the large painting.

Take a close look at it and check off the following items as you find them:

- ☐ Where you are standing right now
(the Visitor Center building was not here in 1862, but there was a small house)
- ☐ Rappahannock River
(the Union army crossed this river by building pontoon bridges)
- ☐ Pontoon Bridges (there are 6 on this painting)
- ☐ Chatham (this was a Union headquarters and hospital during the battle)
- ☐ Confederate soldiers behind a stone wall (along the Sunken Road)
- ☐ Confederate cannons on Marye's Heights (that is the hill behind you)
- ☐ Telegraph Hill (General Lee watched the battle from here)
- ☐ Union cannons lined up along the river
(those cannons could fire cannonballs all the way to the Sunken Road!)
- ☐ Union soldiers marching across open fields
(they were attacking the Sunken Road)
- ☐ Canal Ditch (Union soldiers had to cross this when they attacked)

Do you think the city of Fredericksburg is larger today than it was in 1862? Why?



The Sunken Road



Leave the Visitor Center and use the Sunken Road Trail Map to walk this part of the battlefield (the trail starts at the sign in the corner of the parking lot).

Read the signs along the way. **STOP** when you get to the sign about the Irish Brigade. Think about the following question and write your answer in the space.

Why did the Union army keep attacking this stone wall?

Continue walking down the road, but **STOP** when you get to the Cobb monument.

Now ... try to imagine that you were here during the battle in 1862
(at the bottom of this page is a picture of what it looked like)

What would you see? What would you hear? What would you smell?

How would you feel?

Why would you feel that way?

Would you want to be a Union soldier or a Confederate soldier? Why?



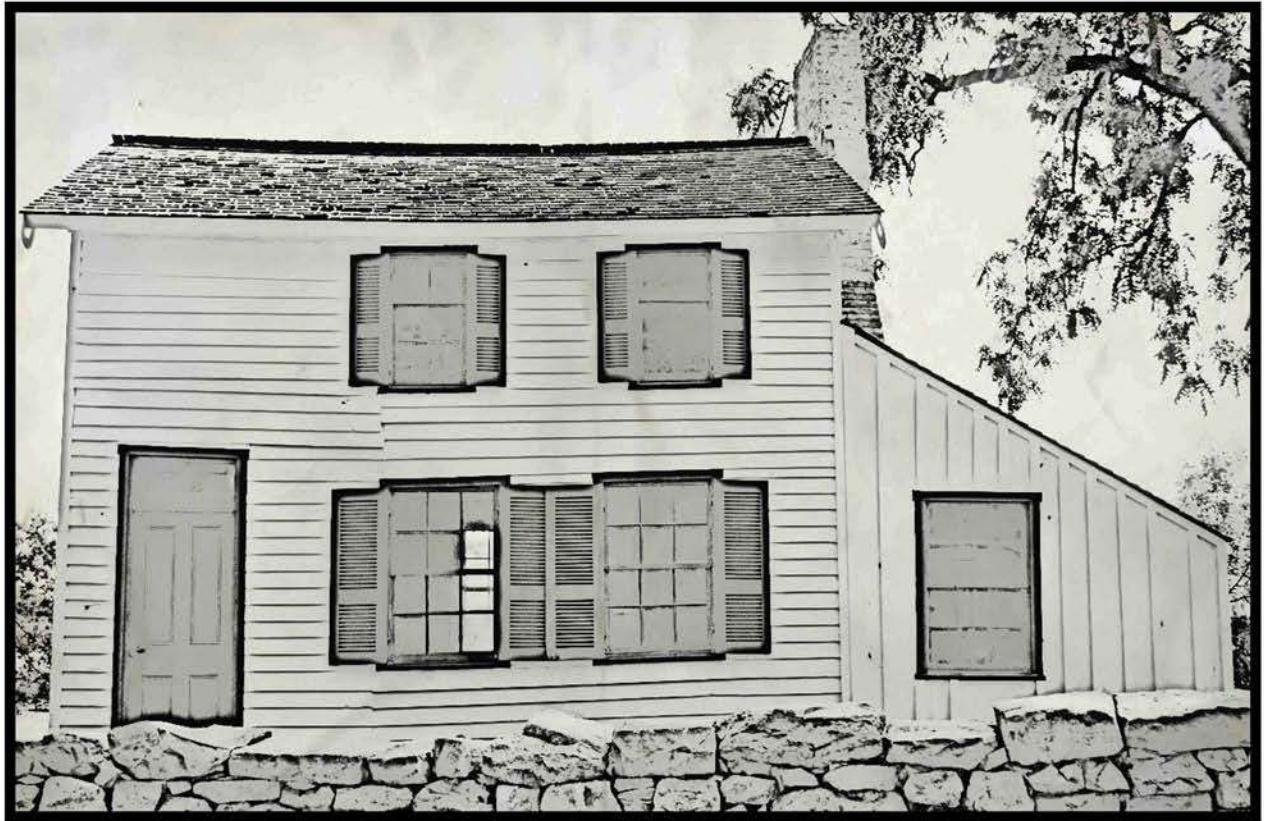
Innis House

Along the Sunken Road, you will see a house that was here during the battle. If you look closely, you may notice some holes in the walls.

What do you think made those holes? _____

Most of the holes in the Innis House have been fixed. But when the battle was over, there were hundreds of holes in the house.

Draw more holes on the picture below to show what you think the Innis House would have looked like right after the Battle of Fredericksburg.



Do you think the family that lived in the Innis House stayed there during the battle? Why?

Where do you think they might have gone?

What would you do if a battle was fought at your house?



A family returns to their home in Fredericksburg after the battle.

Kirkland Monument

Near the Innis House, you will see this monument →
Follow the path that leads to the monument and read the sign.
After reading the sign, answer these questions:



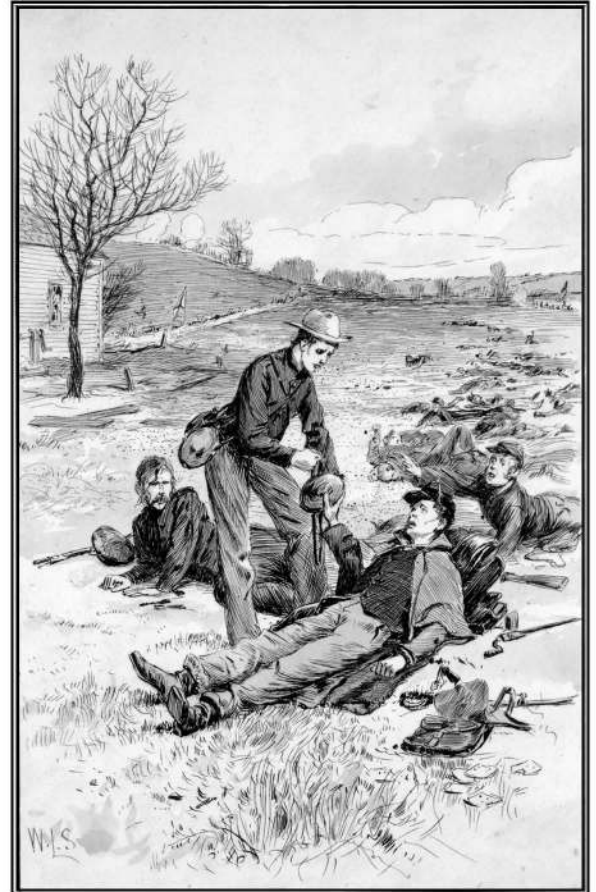
Why do you think Richard Kirkland did this?

Do you think what he did was unusual? Why?

Would you risk your life to help your enemy?

Who would you risk your life for?

What would you have done in this situation?



Preservation

Near the Kirkland Monument, you will see a stone wall built into an embankment.
This part of the wall is original - it's same that was here 150 years ago during the battle!
Do you think this is special? Why? Is it important to save things like this?



Marye's Heights

LOOK for the trail signs and make your way up to the top of the hill by walking through the brown wooden gate and up the paved path.

Upon reaching the top of the hill, follow the rubber mulch trail along the crest. When you come to a bend in the trail, read the sign there.

Continue walking on the rubberized trail until you reach the cannons. Stop and read the signs there.

Now you need to **LOOK** at the picture on the back of this book. It shows what the battle would have looked like from where you are standing. What is the biggest difference between what you see on the picture and what you see today?



Behind the cannons is a small cemetery with a brick wall and an iron gate.

Walk to this cemetery and when you reach it, **LOOK** closely at the white columns at the entrance gate. One of them has a large dent in it. The dent was made by a cannonball that hit the column during the battle!

You may open the iron gate (**push hard!**) and walk inside the cemetery.

Why do you think it is important that we remember these men today?



A black and white portrait of a man in a military uniform, likely a soldier or officer, wearing a cap and a high-collared jacket. The portrait is oval-shaped and framed by a double-line border.

A black and white portrait of a young man with short, dark hair, looking slightly to the right. He is wearing a dark military uniform with a high collar and a striped tie. The portrait is enclosed in an oval frame with a double-line border.

Abram Pollock
Ohio
Grave # 3039

Lee's Hill



Drive to Tour Stop #3.

Take the path to the top of the hill (it is steep, but not very long).

** If you have binoculars, take them with you!*



When you get to the top, read the signs and take a good look around at the view.

Can you find a large American flag flying at the top of a pole in the distance to your left? That is the flag on the hill in the National Cemetery!



Why do you think General Lee came here during the battle?

Why do you think cannons were put here during the battle?

While General Lee was watching the battle from here, he said:

"It is well that war is so terrible, or we would grow too fond of it."

What do you think he ment when he said this?



Find the sign with a sketch of the view from this hill during the battle (the artist's name is Frank Vizetelly).

Look closely at this sketch and notice what is different today.

Are there more trees here now or in 1862?

What do you think the white puffs of smoke are?

Can you see the Union cannons lined up in the distance?

What else do you see in the sketch?



Prospect Hill

Drive to Stop #6 on the battlefield and park in the lot at the end of Lee Drive. Walk over to the signs near the wooden fence and read them.

Now turn left and walk along the line of trenches (so the railroad is on your right).

While doing this, **PLEASE DO NOT WALK ON THE TRENCHES** (when people walk on these, it wears them down).

Why do you think it is important that these trenches last for a long time?

Keep walking until you can see a pyramid made out of rocks on the other side of the railroad tracks. This is called the Meade Pyramid (named after Union General George Meade). It marks the spot where Union troops from Pennsylvania entered the woods and attacked the Confederates.



Painting by Keith Rocco, www.keithrocco.com

Breakthrough!

Unlike at the Sunken Road, where the Union soldiers never reached the stone wall, here at Prospect Hill the Union troops made it all the way to the top of this hill and into the Confederate trenches. How do you think the Union troops felt?

But eventually the Confederates were able to push the Union troops off this hill. How do you think the Union troops felt then?

How could the Union army have won this battle?



To learn more about the National Park Service's Junior Ranger program, visit: www.nps.gov/webrangers.com

The painting below shows what the Fredericksburg battlefield would have looked like on December 13th, 1862. (painting by Mark Churms)

