

Frederick County in the Civil War Walking Tour (1861-1864) Heritage Frederick (Updated 2023)

Notes to the Docent: The following script is intended to provide ample historical interpretation of the Civil War period in Frederick. There are essential concepts that every guide should convey (underlined); the remainder of the narrative should be used as appropriate. You don't need to read or memorize the script exactly, but all of a guide's commentary should be factual. There are accompanying illustrations which can be used at your discretion to aid in the storytelling at each stop.

Introduce yourself; ask participants to introduce themselves and share where they live, because where they live may shape the narrative.

Make sure the group knows this is a 90 minute walking tour that will visit sites where significant events occurred in Frederick during the Civil War. In this tour, we will explore how the Civil War transformed Frederick, making it at times both the scene of national events and drastic changes to individual lives. The tour is not chronological - we will jump around our timeline as we move from one stop to another.

Alert participants that we will be crossing streets and blocking sidewalks, so there is a need to be mindful of others.

The tour begins in the Heritage Garden or in front of Heritage Frederick (at the Docent's discretion).

Stop 1: Heritage Frederick (Introduction and Lead-Up to the Civil War)

Illustration: 1862 Lithograph of Frederick from "Harper's Weekly"

At the onset of the Civil War in 1861, Maryland was a border state in every sense and Frederick County lay at the heart of the nation's great conflict. Bordering the free state of Pennsylvania to the north, the slave state of Virginia to the south, and in close proximity to the federal capital city of Washington, DC, Frederick County was a crossroads of national significance. The National Road, the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad all passed through the county. Throughout the entirety of the Civil War, Frederick Countians experienced frequent military occupation, fighting in the streets and on farm fields, economic shortages, restrictions to freedom of movement, and divided communities and families between Union and Confederate sympathies.

The 1860 census reported the population of Frederick County to be 46,591 people, of whom 3,243 were enslaved (about 7%) and another 4,967 were free Blacks (about 11%). The population of Frederick City at the beginning of the war was approximately 8,000. Enslaved people in Frederick County experienced a variety of working and living conditions. In the city, enslaved people worked as household servants and were engaged in skilled trades. Among the hills of the northern county, enslaved people worked on small, subsistence farms where they cared for livestock, planted and harvested crops, and tended gardens. Plantation-style farms existed in the southern part of Frederick County near the Potomac River where enslaved people were engaged in growing grain and other cash crops for shipment to regional markets. Because Frederick shared a border with the free state of Pennsylvania, Frederick County slave owners frequently made manumissions wherein the enslaved person would be granted freedom after completing a required number of years of labor, which might discourage enslaved people from running away. Frederick City also had a large and vibrant free Black population which supported their own communities with schools and churches.

Between 1861 and 1865, Frederick became a center for federal military hospitals and a base of operations for each of the three Confederate invasions of the north, including the Maryland Campaign (1862), the Gettysburg Campaign (1863), and the Confederate invasion of Maryland (1864). Major battles occurred within the county in 1862 (South Mountain) and 1864 (Monocacy). As we previously learned, Frederick County's population in 1860 was around 46,600 people. In 1862, 132,000 United States and Confederate soldiers marched through Frederick County. In 1863, 165,620 soldiers from both sides marched through central Maryland to Gettysburg. During Jubal Early's raid of 1864, 19,800 soldiers engaged at the Battle of Monocacy just south of Frederick. During the 1862 Maryland Campaign, Frederick diarist Jacob Engelbrecht conveyed the scale of the military movements thusly, "This morning [September 10, 1862], the Southern Army, commenced moving westward and have continued ever since (now 10 hours) and still passing through town from the Georgetown Road. To estimate the number of men or cannon is more than I am able to do but I suppose 50 or 60 thousand men and several hundred cannon would be within bounds." Frederick Countians dealt with damaged farm fields from thousands of soldiers marching over them and depletion of local crops and resources.

The stories that follow are just a few of the many that affected the lives of Frederick's locals but also show both the impact of the war on a community and how Frederick affected the events that changed our country.

Moving west on Church Street, the next stop is in front of Winchester Hall.

2. General Hospital #4

Illustration: 1862 Interior Photograph of Evangelical Lutheran Church in use as a hospital.

The first federal military hospital in Frederick, named United States General Hospital #1, opened on August 17, 1861, barely four months after the attack against Fort Sumter that started the Civil War. General Hospital #1 occupied the Hessian Barracks, stone structures dating from the Revolutionary War on South Market Street, which later became the home of the Maryland School for the Deaf. It's about five blocks south of us. General Hospital #1 remained in use throughout the war, until September 1865.

In the wake of the Battles of South Mountain (September 14, 1862) and Antietam (September 17, 1862), a flood of 8,000 wounded soldiers from the Union and Confederate armies were brought into Frederick. As a result, the federal government created six additional general hospitals that occupied 27 buildings in Frederick City. In towns like Burkittsville and Middletown, which were closer to the battlefields, field hospitals also were established. These hospitals were set up under the direction of Major Jonathan Letterman who also organized the first successful ambulance corps, which evacuated the wounded from the battlefields and transported them to the hospitals.

One of the new hospitals was General Hospital #4, which occupied Winchester Hall, Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Methodist Episcopal Church, which stood on the site now occupied by the Church Street Parking Garage. Hiram Winchester, the principal of the Frederick Female Seminary, which was located in Winchester Hall, moved his students into the east wing while the wounded soldiers were housed in the west wing. In Evangelical Lutheran Church, a second floor was created by laying wood planks overtop the pews upon which cots were placed for recuperating soldiers.

While the federal military oversaw the operation of the general and field hospitals, local women, both white and Black, were hired to serve as nurses and matrons, attending to wounded soldiers, performing administrative tasks, and preparing meals.

General Hospital #4, along with the rest of the General Hospitals, except for #1 at the Hessian Barracks, were closed in January and February 1863. Hiram Winchester reported that the Female Seminary buildings were left in “a most wretched, filthy, and dilapidated condition.” He applied for damages for which the Federal Government paid him \$291.50. The Seminary reopened at the end of the war, though the effects of its turn as a hospital were long felt, especially in 1887 when excavations for an annex at the back of the school uncovered amputated limbs.

Additional Resources:

Henry Tisdale, a grocery store clerk from Massachusetts who became a sergeant in Company I of the 35th Massachusetts Infantry in July of 1862, was one of the soldiers treated at General Hospital #4. He was wounded in the leg at Fox’s Gap on South Mountain and first received treatment at Middletown before being moved here and he wrote about the experience in his diary:

“A rough board floor was laid over the tops of the pews. Folding iron bedsteads with mattresses, clean white sheets, pillow, blankets, and clean underclothing, hospital dressing gowns, slippers, etc. for our comfort. The church finely finished off within, well ventilated and our situation as pleasant and comfortable as could be made. A few rebel wounded were in the building. Some of the citizens showed them special attention bringing them articles of food, etc. and giving none to the others. The surgeons put a stop to this however by telling them that they must distribute to all alike or they would not be allowed to visit the hospital at all, this was much to our satisfaction.”

Lavinia Hooper, who was nine years old in 1862, vividly remembered the hospitals even as an adult:

“There were lots of wounded brought into Frederick almost every day ... And it was up to us to see that they got something decent to eat. My mother baked pies and we would take the pies up in straw baskets to the Hessian Barracks and the Lutheran Church,

which was filled with the wounded from both sides... Lots of times I can recall standing on Market Street, which was a dirt road then, and how we used to watch the wagons bringing the wounded into Frederick for us to look after. There was so much blood dripping from out the back of the wagons and falling on the dirt road, that eventually the mud became red as the wagon wheels ploughed through the streets.”

Flying on one of the flagpoles in front of Winchester Hall is the Maryland State Flag. Formally adopted in its present form in 1904, the flag is a symbol of the reconciliation between northern and southern supporters in the state. The gold and black field, drawn from the Calvert coat of arms, was a traditional emblem of Maryland from the colonial period. However, during the Civil War, Marylanders who supported or fought for the Confederate Army adopted the red and white cross botany. The first flags to place these symbols together began to appear in the 1880s during commemorations of historic anniversaries, including those of the recent Civil War.

Continue west on Church Street to the intersection with Market Street for the next stop.

3. Kemp Hall

Maryland’s precarious position as a state of deeply divided loyalties between the Union and the Confederacy reached a fever pitch in the spring of 1861 when neighboring Virginia voters approved the state’s secession ordinance. As a border state, all eyes turned to Maryland as the next potential state to secede from the Union. After a pro-Confederate mob in Baltimore attacked Union soldiers in the Sixth Massachusetts Volunteers who were en route to Washington, DC, to answer President Lincoln’s call for 75,000 troops to fight for preserving the Union. Soon, Annapolis, the state capital, was under federal military occupation.

Maryland’s pro-union governor, Thomas Holliday Hicks, bowed to pressure to call a special session of the General Assembly in April 1861, but moved the meeting out of Annapolis, where the population strongly favored the Confederate cause, and brought the legislature to Frederick, which had a stronger Union sympathizing population. On April 26, 1861, legislators convened in the Frederick County Courthouse, but due to cramped conditions quickly moved their meetings to this building, known as Kemp Hall, which was a parsonage and meeting hall owned by the German Reformed Church. The following day, President Lincoln suspended the writ of habeas corpus and placed Maryland under military law. That opened the door to arrest and imprison southern-supporting individuals without giving them access to a trial, judge, or claim of unlawful detainment.

Throughout the summer months, the legislators continued to meet off and on in the city and a bill and resolution calling for secession was raised but failed since many of the pro-Southern delegates did not believe Maryland had a right to secede. The General Assembly adjourned in August to reconvene for a vote on September 17, 1861.

Before they returned to session, Frederick was placed under martial law which meant that people had to obtain a pass from the Provost Marshall in order to enter or leave the city. 26 arrests were made, including 9 members of the legislature who were pro-secession. Among the local Confederate sympathizers to be arrested were Col. Alexander Baird Hanson and his son, George, who lived in the building where Heritage Frederick's Museum of Frederick County History is now located. Before a vote on secession could be held, the assembly halted its special session for lack of a quorum.

Frederick remained under military occupation mostly by Union forces but occasionally by Confederate soldiers throughout the course of the war. Kemp Hall was used as a federal army supply storehouse where uniforms and food were kept. A bakery was established at the corner of North Market and Third Streets in December 1861 to provide food for the army. Up to 5,000 loaves of bread were baked per day and distributed to supply up to 20,000 soldiers.

Cross Market Street, then cross Church Street and continue west to the steps in front of Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ.

4. Evangelical Reformed Church and the Provost Marshal's Headquarters

Illustration: 1855 Sasche Lithograph showing the original Wilson house

When the military selected buildings to be converted to hospitals, the sanctuary of Evangelical Reformed Church was reserved to be used for religious services of the city's various protestant congregations who were displaced from their own buildings. The Rev. Daniel Zacharias, pastor of Evangelical Reformed Church, was a strong Union supporter. On Sunday, September 7, 1862, Confederate General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson attended evening service here, led by Rev. Zacharias. Also in attendance at this service was Catherine Markell, a resident of West Patrick Street, who recorded in her diary that "General T.J. Jackson attended church at night with Captain [Henry Kyd] Douglass – sat in William Bantz's pew, the second back of ours. Dr. Zacharias prayed for the President of United States!" After the war, Captain Douglass

commented that Jackson and the rest of the Confederate soldiers in attendance at the service did not seem to take offense. Jackson was even supposed to have complimented Dr. Zacharias' sermon, though he later admitted to having fallen asleep during the service.

Next door to Evangelical Reformed Church stood the unfinished residence of John J. Wilson, begun around 1849. In July 1862, when the Federal army evacuated a hospital in Winchester, Virginia, soldiers were moved into Wilson's house which became a temporary field hospital. Two days before the Battle of Antietam on September 15, 1862, the Quartermaster Department of the United States Army rented Wilson's house to be the headquarters for the Provost Marshal. As we noted at Kemp Hall, Frederick was placed under martial law in 1861 and the Provost Marshal was the military officer tasked with keeping order over the city during occupation. The Provost Marshal commanded a military police corps that ensured soldiers were not harassing or stealing from civilians. They also issued passes allowing citizens and soldiers to enter or reenter the city.

At the end of the war, the house was returned to John J. Wilson in a ruinous condition. Wilson filed a claim against the United States Government for payment to repair the damages incurred during the military occupation. In 1870, Wilson sold the property to the Evangelical Reformed Church. In 1887, the Wilson House was demolished and a new parsonage was built on the site.

Continue west on Church Street, cross Court Street, and bring the group to the fountain in the center of the Court Square in front of City Hall.

5. Frederick County Court Square (City Hall)

Illustration: 1861 Rally Poster for Anti-Secession Gathering at the Court Green.

In 1861, the Frederick County Courthouse occupied this square, a structure that dated back to 1785. The Court Square hosted gatherings of Frederick's deeply divided citizenry throughout the spring of 1861. On March 25, 1861, a large public meeting was convened at the square to rally Fredericktonians against "the political heresy of secession." At the same time, Col. Bradley Tyler Johnson, who lived just a few doors from the square at the corner of Second and Court Streets, began recruiting local southern sympathizers to join the Confederate Army. Johnson led this regiment to Baltimore during the riots in April 1861 as local Confederate sympathizers attempted to prevent Union troops from moving through the city. Johnson and his men then returned to Frederick to post guard when the Maryland General Assembly convened for their

special session. In April 1861, the first meeting of the Special Session of the Maryland General Assembly occurred in the courthouse before they relocated to Kemp Hall. On May 7, 1861, the Brengel Home Guard, a pro-Union militia, was formed at the court square.

The following morning, flames were spotted emerging from the cupola on top of the courthouse. Despite the quick response of the Independent Fire Company, the courthouse was consumed and destroyed by the fire. When the fire company attempted to connect their hoses to the fire hydrants at the square, they found that the water source had been blocked. Col. Johnson and the local Confederate militia left Frederick the following day on May 9, 1861. Both Union and Confederate sympathizers blamed each other for the fire.

The county court convened at the City Hall (a building on North Market Street which now houses Brewer's Alley restaurant) while the ruins of the old courthouse were cleared and construction began on the present structure. When completed in 1866, the new Frederick County Courthouse was designed to be fireproof.

Bradley Tyler Johnson spent the duration of the war leading Confederate soldiers in battle, rising to the rank of Brigadier General. He was engaged at the Battles of Front Royal, First Winchester, the Peninsula Campaign, and Cedar Mountain. After the war, Johnson served in the Virginia State Senate and later practiced law in Baltimore.

Two former governors of Maryland, each Frederick County natives, became leading voices on either side of the conflict. Enoch Louis Lowe (governor from 1851 to 1854) rallied Marylanders from Frederick to Baltimore to join the Confederate Army and openly criticized the current governor, Thomas Holliday Hicks, for bowing to the pressures of Lincoln and the Federal Government. Lowe eventually moved to Richmond where he advised President Jefferson Davis and General Robert E. Lee in advance of the latter's invasion of Maryland in September 1862. Meanwhile, Francis Thomas (governor from 1842 to 1845) traveled throughout Western Maryland giving speeches in support of the Union and recruiting regiments for the First Maryland Infantry, a unit which became known as the Potomac Home Brigade. Many Frederick Countians fought in this unit and spent much of their service protecting the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad as well as the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal from repeated Confederate raids.

Cross the Court Green to Council Street toward Record Street.

6. Ramsey House (119 Record Street)

Illustration: Picture of General George L. Hartsuff.

While wounded soldiers were admitted to field and general hospitals, ranking officers often were given board in private houses while they recovered from their wounds. This was the case for Brigadier General George L. Hartsuff after he was shot through his hip bone while leading a brigade of Union soldiers near the East Woods during the Battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862. General Hartsuff stayed in this building, which was the home of Mrs. Ellen Ramsey. Hartsuff's wound was thought to be mortal, but after a lengthy recuperation he recovered and returned to commanding his brigade, retiring in 1871 at the rank of Major General.

While he was recovering at Mrs. Ramsey's house, General Hartsuff received a visit from President Abraham Lincoln on October 4, 1862. Three days earlier, President Lincoln and a courtage of advisors left Washington, DC, to visit the Antietam battlefield barely two weeks after the single bloodiest day in U.S. military history. Over three days, Lincoln toured the battlefield, met with troops, and tried unsuccessfully to convince Major General George B. McClellan to pursue the Confederate Army in a campaign into Virginia. McClellan's refusal to push his exhausted army into another immediate campaign resulted in President Lincoln's decision to remove him from command of the Union army. Of greater consequence was Lincoln's announcement of the forthcoming Emancipation Proclamation that would free enslaved people in the Confederate states, effective January 1, 1863. On advice from his Secretary of State, William Seward, Lincoln had waited for a decisive Union victory to make this historic announcement.

After leaving Antietam, President Lincoln traveled to Frederick where he visited with General Hartsuff before boarding a train to return to Washington, DC. While the President was at Mrs. Ramsey's house, a crowd gathered outside on Record Street. Upon exiting the house, President Lincoln briefly addressed the crowd:

"In my present position, it is hardly proper for me to make speeches. Every word is so closely noted that it will not do to make trivial ones, and I cannot be expected to be prepared to make a matured one just now. If I were as I have been most of my life, I might perhaps, talk amusing to you for half an hour, and it wouldn't hurt anybody; but as it is, I can only return my sincere thanks for the compliment paid our cause and our common country."

Additional Resources:

General Hartsuff had previously survived two near-death experiences before his injury on the Antietam battlefield. While fighting in the Seminole War near Fort Myers, Florida, in 1855, Hartsuff was shot and left for dead in a swamp. He hid and kept only his head above water for a day before he was rescued. On September 8, 1860, Hartsuff was aboard the steamship *Lady Elgin* on Lake Michigan when it collided with another ship and sank, killing 300 people. Hartsuff survived by holding onto a wood plank until he was rescued.

The congregation of Frederick's Presbyterian Church, visible just across Second Street, found themselves without a minister in the fall of 1862. The Rev. John B. Ross had just started serving the congregation in 1861, but his southern sympathies soon placed him in opposition to the majority of his church's members. He resigned in October 1862, by which time the Presbyterian Church had been occupied by wounded soldiers as part of General Hospital #3. An account of President Lincoln's visit to General Hartsuff at the Ramsey House and his subsequent speech to the crowd gathered outside was recorded in the journal of Charles F. Johnson, a Union soldier from New York who was recovering in the Presbyterian Church.

Walk east on Council Street toward Court Street.

7. Shriver House (Corner of Council and Court Streets)

Illustration: Photograph of Robert Gould Shaw.

The buildings at 114 and 116 North Court Street were the home of Col. Edward Shriver during the Civil War. Col. Shriver quickly dispatched the Frederick companies of the Maryland Militia on October 16, 1859 to go to Harpers Ferry to confront John Brown and his raiders at the United States Arsenal.

His two eldest daughters, Anna and Mary, entertained Lieutenant (later Colonel) Robert Gould Shaw. Shaw, then attached with the 2nd Massachusetts Infantry, came to Frederick in December 1861 after spending several months in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia and Montgomery County, Maryland. Shaw and his men stayed at Camp Hicks (named for Maryland Governor Thomas Holliday Hicks) just outside of Frederick. He wrote in a letter to his family at home about his afternoon with Anna and Mary Shriver:

“Yesterday I went into Frederick to see Capt Mudge who has been ill for about 3 weeks. I found him much better & was coming out, not having any acquaintances to visit when I fell in with Copeland & it turned out to be a fortunate rencontre for me. He took me to a house where I was presented to two young ladies & we shortly sallied forth all together & after picking up Mrs. Copeland, another lady & Capt. Savage, we repaired to a bowling alley where we had a perfectly jolly time all the afternoon. We then took a walk, after which we went home to the house of the afore-mentioned young ladies, & took tea. In the evening there was a great deal of playing on the piano & chorus singing, in which latter we all howled, & made as much noise as we could. I can’t describe to you my sensations at sitting once more in a nice parlor & seeing real ladies with petticoats about. I had hardly realized before that for 5 months we had been living like gypsies & seeing only men, I had really not spoken to a lady since we left New York. These two are daughters of Genl Shriver, a Union man here, who was very active in helping break up the Maryland legislature 2 months ago. One of them is a very nice girl indeed, I should think, if one can judge on so short an acquaintance. She sings very well too.”

Shaw went on to be remembered for his command of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, the second Black regiment formed in the United States Army, a story told in the 1989 film *Glory*. In May 1863, General Order Number 143 of the U.S. War Department established the Bureau of Colored Troops and recruiting of Black soldiers began. By August 1863, 200 free Blacks from Frederick and Carroll Counties were recruited to serve in the United States Colored Troops. Among them was Daniel Thompson, who was born enslaved near Libertytown and was owned by James Pearce. Before he could enlist, Thompson had to be manumitted by Pearce. This was because the Emancipation Proclamation had not covered Maryland since it only applied to states which had seceded from the Union. Slavery in Maryland was not abolished until November 1864 when the state ratified a new constitution.

At the age of 30 and newly freed, Daniel Thompson enlisted at the Provost Office here in Frederick into the 4th Regiment of the United States Colored Infantry, which participated in battles and operations in Maryland, North Carolina, and Virginia (Bermuda Hundred – May 1864, Siege of Petersburg, Dutch Gap, Chapin’s Farm, and Fort Fisher – Jan. 1865). Thompson served until May 4, 1866 and mustered out as a Corporal.

Turn right and follow South Court Street, crossing Church Street, and stopping at the intersection with West Patrick Street.

8. City Hotel (Corner of Court and Patrick Streets)

Illustration: Picture of General Custer in his uniform.

On June 27, 1863, Col. Alfred Pleasanton, the commanding officer of the Cavalry of the Army of the Potomac, established his headquarters in the City Hotel, which stood on the site of the later Francis Scott Key Hotel on West Patrick Street. Among Col. Pleasanton's staff included George Armstrong Custer. Custer had been to Frederick the previous year during the Maryland Campaign while serving as an aide-de-camp to the commander of the Army of the Potomac, George McClellan. On June 26, 1863, Custer accompanied Pleasanton across the Potomac River at Edward's Ferry. For nearly two weeks, the Union army had been moving steadily northward. From their camps opposite Fredericksburg to Northern Virginia and now to Maryland the Federals were screening the city of Washington from the Confederate army, operating somewhere to the north and west. These movements occurred in the weeks leading up to the Battle of Gettysburg.

While the Union Army was encamped around Frederick, several leadership changes were made. General George Meade received command of the Army of the Potomac, replacing General Joseph Hooker. The same day, Custer received his promotion to the rank of Brigadier General. The promotion was confirmed the following day on June 29 and Custer was given command of a brigade of four regiments of cavalry from Michigan.

Custer's orderly, Joseph Fought, later recorded his conversation with Custer, stating:

"When he found me he had the paper in his hand and said 'I have been made a Brigadier General.'

'The deuce you have' I said.

'Yes' he said...I shook hands with him. Nobody knew it was going to happen. It was a great surprise.

He said 'How I am going to get something to show my rank?'"

Fought immediately set about trying to locate two stars which he found and delivered to the new Brigadier. To display his rank and set him apart on the battlefield, Custer adopted a uniform reminiscent of the cavaliers of old. James Kidd of the 6th Michigan Cavalry, described Custer a couple of days after his promotion:

“He was clad in a suit of black velvet, elaborately trimmed with gold lace, which ran down the outer seams of his trousers and almost covered the sleeves of his cavalry jacket. The wide collar of a blue navy shirt was turned down over the collar of his velvet jacket, and a necktie of brilliant crimson was tied in a graceful knot at the throat, the long ends falling carelessly in front. The double rows of buttons on his breast were arranged in groups of twos, indicating the rank of Brigadier General. A soft, black hat which wide brim adorned with a gilt cord and rosette encircling a silver star, was worn turned down on one side giving him a rakish air....a sword and belt, gilt spurs and top boots completed his unique outfit.”

General Custer had plenty of tailors to visit and have his uniform altered before he rode north with his men to the Battle of Gettysburg, including Wilson Boyd, a merchant tailor who operated out of the central hotel, and Ephraim Albaugh, John Simmons, and Seth Nichols, whose tailor shops were located in the first two blocks of West Patrick Street near the City Hotel.

Cross Patrick Street towards the Frederick County Courthouse, turn right and head west on Patrick Street, stopping just before you reach the West Patrick Street Parking Garage.

9. Bend of West Patrick Street

In late June of 1863 there was a clash here at the bend on Patrick Street between a detachment of the Confederate 1st Maryland Cavalry and Cole’s Cavalry, a federal battalion (note: Cole’s Cavalry got its name from its commander, Fredericktonian Major Henry A. Cole). During the first skirmish the Confederates were able to drive out the Union cavalry and capture over a dozen men. Not about to let that stand, the next day Cole’s Cavalry pushed the Confederates west through Patrick Street and past the homes of two local diarists who recorded the event.

Jacob Engelbrecht wrote:

“They came near enough to fire at the hindmost and shot at least 20 or 30 rounds ... I happened to be at the bend just as they came by full speed firing as fast as they could. Towards evening the Rebels were reinforced by 150 cavalry but remained at the west end of town.”

Luckily, Engelbrecht was unharmed during the engagement while the soldiers were shooting around him.

Meanwhile Catherine Markell, a pro-southern sympathizer whose home was here at the bend also wrote about the incident.

“Attended church and Sunday School. Soldiers skirmishing in street in front of our house. School dismissed in haste here, we could [not] get into Patrick Street for the skirmishing. A confederate soldier, Mr. Carter of Virginia, wounded by one of Cole’s men, Captain Sturgis Davis of Baltimore, Lieutenant Riley (Chaplain) of Winchester, Virginia and Lieutenant William Dorsey of New Market, Maryland here.”

While all of this was happening John Babcock, a Bureau of Military Information official, was assigned to Frederick. (note: Babcock had been a member of Alan Pinkerton’s unit during the Antietam campaign and was third in command at the Bureau by June of 1863) When the advance units of General Lee’s Army had entered Frederick, southern sympathizers in the city alerted them to their suspicions about John Babcock. He had been seen with James Greenwood of West Virginia, a known Union spy.

On this site (now the Frederick County Courthouse) was the Central House Hotel, “a notorious rebel hole” and the day of the skirmish Babcock was recognized here while carrying his official papers. Attempting to escape but trapped among the crowd that had gathered to watch the soldiers, Babcock was forced to slip through the group of onlookers while ripping up his documents. He was able to lose the people following him and escape to “a private home in a remote part of the town.” The next day Babcock took a railroad handcar and made his way past the pickets that had been set up by the Confederates to Baltimore where he was able to send a telegram to his chief reporting that the main body of Lee’s Army of Northern Virginia had

crossed the Potomac River at Shepherdstown. This was the first news that the rebels were marching north rather than east.

Continue west on Patrick Street, stopping at the Carroll Creek Bridge.

10. Barbara Fritchie House

Illustrations: Confederate Soldiers marching through Frederick and Barbara Fritchie

Few people loom as large in Frederick's Civil War memory as the woman who lived in the dwelling that originally stood on this site. Born in 1766 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Barbara Hauer moved with her family to Frederick shortly before the Revolutionary War. She married John Caspar Fritchie, a glove maker, in 1806.

In 1863, Massachusetts poet and abolitionist John Greenleaf Whittier, published a collection of poems entitled *In War Time*, which included "Barbara Fritchie." The poem described Fritchie taking her United States flag and waving it from the upstairs window of her house in the face of the passing Confederate Army. When threatened with being shot if she did not remove her flag, Whittier wrote that Fritchie proclaimed "shoot if you must this old gray head, but spare your country's flag." Frederick's place in Civil War history was immortalized in the poem and Barbara Fritchie became a Union heroine for her alleged act of defiance in the face of the Confederate Army. From the moment of its publication, the veracity of the Fritchie story was challenged, many citing her advanced age (she died little more than two months after the Confederate Army marched through Frederick in September, 1862), others noting the route taken by soldiers in the city did not pass Fritchie's house.

Two other similar incidents were alleged to have occurred around the same time as the Fritchie tale. Just a few doors west on Patrick Street, Mary Quantrell, a mother of six children and school teacher, hung a United States flag on her house that was ripped down by a passing Confederate soldier. Either one of Mary's daughters or a student in her school produced another flag which Mary displayed, only to have it torn down again. Confederate General A.P. Hill, witnessing the incident, admonished his soldier and moved on. Later that day, Nancy Crouse, a resident of Middletown, was flying a flag from her upstairs window. When Confederate soldiers threatened to tear it down, she took the flag from her window and draped it over herself, at which point the soldier aimed a revolver at her until she surrendered her flag.

Family members, neighbors, and other witnesses contested that the fame Whittier gave to Barbara Fritchie rightfully belonged to either Mary Quantrell or Nancy Crouse. Nevertheless, the patriotism of Frederick County women defying the invading Confederate Army became the subject of literature, art, film, and a boon to Frederick's tourism economy in the early-twentieth century. The original Barbara Fritchie house was destroyed by a flood and the present reconstruction was completed in 1927 and was operated as a museum for many years.

Take the Carroll Creek Promenade next to the Fritchie House and follow it to Market Street, crossing Court Street along the way. Upon reaching Market Street, turn right and head south to the intersection of South Market Street and All Saints Street.

Optional story to share during the walk between the Fritchie House and the B&O Train

Station:

Illustration: Photograph of Col. P. Regis de Trobriand

Among the Army of the Potomac that followed Meade to Gettysburg was Colonel P. Regis de Trobriand who was head of the Third Brigade, 1st Division, Union III Corps. He records what the city was like when they marched into town in late June, 1863.

“All the houses were draped; all the women were at the windows, waving their handkerchiefs; all the men were at their doors waving their hats. In the middle of the principal street a pretty child, ten or twelve years of age, had left a group collected on the sill of a house of modest appearance. Her mother had just given her a large bouquet, pointing me out with her hand. The little girl came bravely forward in front of the horses, holding towards me her little arms full of flowers. I leaned from my saddle to receive the fragrant present, and she said, with a rosy smile, “Good Luck to you, General!” I thanked her to the best of my ability. I would have liked to have embraced the little messenger with her happy wishes, but the march could not halt for so small an affair. When she rejoined her family, running along, I turned to kiss my hand to her in adieu. She nodded her head, and, blushing, hid it in her mother's bosom. “Well” said I, “that little girl ought to bring me good fortune.”

The little girl, who probably met him on Market Street, did indeed bring Trobriand good fortune. He saw his first real action of the war when his brigade went into the infamous Wheatfield at Gettysburg on July 2. His men held off Confederate Major General John Bell Hood's Division for most of the day before being reinforced and despite suffering heavy casualties (note:

Trobriand's Brigade lost 490 men – a third of his men and a quarter of all the casualties the 1st Division of the III Corps suffered at Gettysburg) But even with the massive losses Trobriand made it through the Battle of Gettysburg unhurt.

Trobriand was born in France, the son of a baron who had been a general in Napoleon Bonaparte's army, in a family with a long tradition of military service. Trobriand completed a baccalaureate at the College of Saint-Louis in Paris, followed by studying law. He wrote poetry and prose, publishing his first novel, *Gentlemen of the West* in 1840 in Paris. Trobriand became an expert swordsman who fought a number of duels.

In 1841, to answer a dare, Trobriand emigrated to the United States at the age of 25 and immediately became popular as a bon vivant with the social elite of New York City. He published his second novel, *The Rebel*, in New York in 1841.

He married heiress Mary Mason Jones, whom he met in New York, where her father Isaac Jones was a wealthy banker; their wedding was in Paris. After they lived in Venice for a time, socializing with the local nobility, they returned to the United States. They took up permanent residence in New York. They had two daughters, Marie-Caroline and Beatrice.

11. B&O Railroad Station and the United States Hotel

Illustration: Engraving of President Lincoln speaking from the train in front of the station.

This was a busy intersection in Frederick during the Civil War. One block east on All Saints Street was the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad's freight depot, which was surrounded by warehouses that the military used to store supplies before they were deployed to the front lines. The building on the southeast corner of the intersection is the old Baltimore and Ohio Railroad passenger depot. On October 4, 1862, President Lincoln addressed a crowd assembled outside the station as he boarded a train to return to Washington, DC, after his visit to the Antietam Battlefield.

The United States Hotel stood opposite Market Street from the train station. In the aftermath of the Battles of South Mountain and Antietam, the hotel was used as a hospital, part of General Hospital #2. Meanwhile, Norman and Anna Maria Harding, the owners of the hotel, converted their kitchens to prepare food for the soldiers. Reopened to guests by February 1863, the United States Hotel was again occupied by the military in June as the headquarters of Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker in the build-up to the Battle of Gettysburg. Before he left Frederick, Hooker

resigned his command and was replaced by George Meade who led the army north to Pennsylvania. After the battle, Meade returned to Frederick and the headquarters at the United States Hotel where he remained until July 14, 1863 when the last of General Lee's army crossed the Potomac River back into Virginia.

The last Confederate invasion of Frederick occurred roughly a year later in June 1864. While General Grant and the bulk of the Union Army laid siege to Petersburg and were closing in on Richmond, General Lee sent General Jubal Early north through the Shenandoah Valley and instructed him to invade Maryland and turn east towards Washington, DC, destroying as much of the B&O Railroad and the C&O Canal as possible along the way. On July 7, 1864, Early's army began moving into Frederick County. After demanding 8,000 rations and \$1,500.00 ransom for the town of Middletown, Early occupied Frederick on July 9th and made a much larger demand. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen received Early's demand of \$200,000.00, with specifications that a percentage of the total could be paid in military supplies kept at the warehouses one block east near the B&O Freight Depot. A letter sent by the city leaders expressing the hardship paying the ransom would place on the residents of Frederick failed to sway Early to decrease his demands. Unwilling to let the Confederates take any of the Federal military stores in the city, the Mayor and Board of Alderman apportioned the \$200,000.00 between the five banks in Frederick and agreed to pay the full amount in cash. The city leaders requested Early provide them with a receipt acknowledging the payment of the ransom, which he did. That documentation was invoked on the evening of July 9th when a small Confederate raiding party attempted to take supplies from the warehouses at the depot but were stopped by city residents.

Turn around and head north on Market Street, passing the Carroll Creek Promenade, and ending at the Citizens Ballroom on the Square Corner.

12. Square Corner

We conclude our tour through Frederick's Civil War history at the literal crossroads that witnessed major troop movements and campaigns during the conflict. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers passed by this intersection during all three of the Confederate incursions into the north during the war. In 1862, Confederate forces occupied the city as they prepared to advance on Harpers Ferry. Once a copy of General Lee's orders was found in a field near the Monocacy River and delivered to Union Gen. McClellan, the Union Army quickly marched out of Frederick

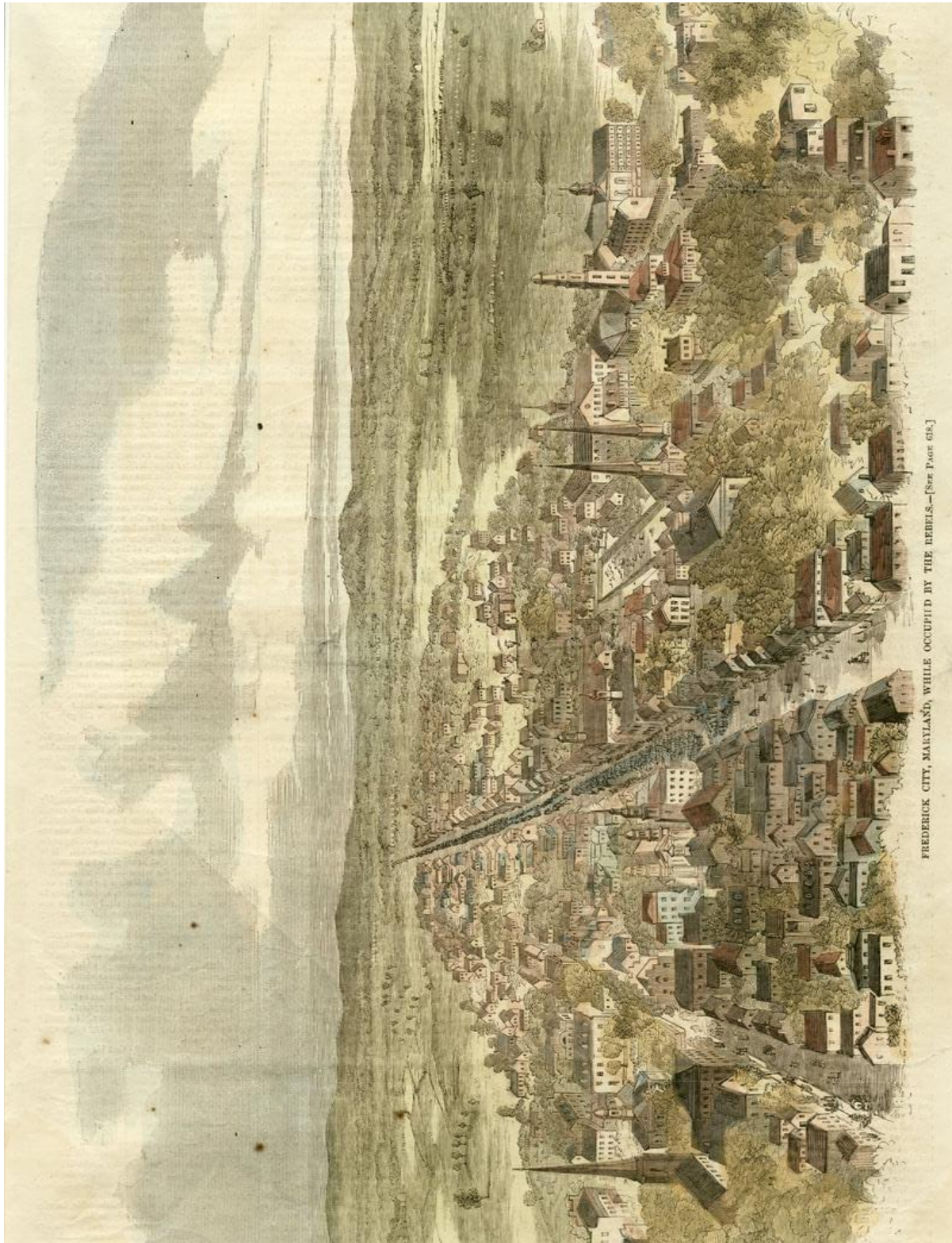
and headed west to confront Lee, resulting in the Battles of South Mountain, Harpers Ferry, and Antietam. In 1863, Frederick again became a key staging point for the Union Army as they advanced north to meet the Confederates at Gettysburg.

The third and final Confederate invasion of the north swept through Frederick County in the summer of 1864. After levying ransoms on Hagerstown, Middletown, and Frederick, Early met the opposing force consisting of Union soldiers hastily assembled at Baltimore and led towards Frederick by Gen. Lew Wallace. The battle took place on July 9, 1864 at Monocacy Junction, the strategic point where the B&O and the Georgetown Pike crossed the Monocacy River. Outnumbered nearly two to one by the Confederates, the Union soldiers were eventually forced into retreat. Before giving up their position at the junction, Gen. Wallace ordered the covered bridge which carried the pike across the river burned to prevent its use by the Confederates. The Battle of Monocacy delayed Jubal Early's advance, buying enough time for Union forces to strengthen the defenses around Washington, DC. Gen. Early was pushed back by the Union forces at Fort Stevens on the city's perimeter, thus ending his Maryland raid. For this reason, the Battle of Monocacy is remembered as "the Battle that Saved Washington."

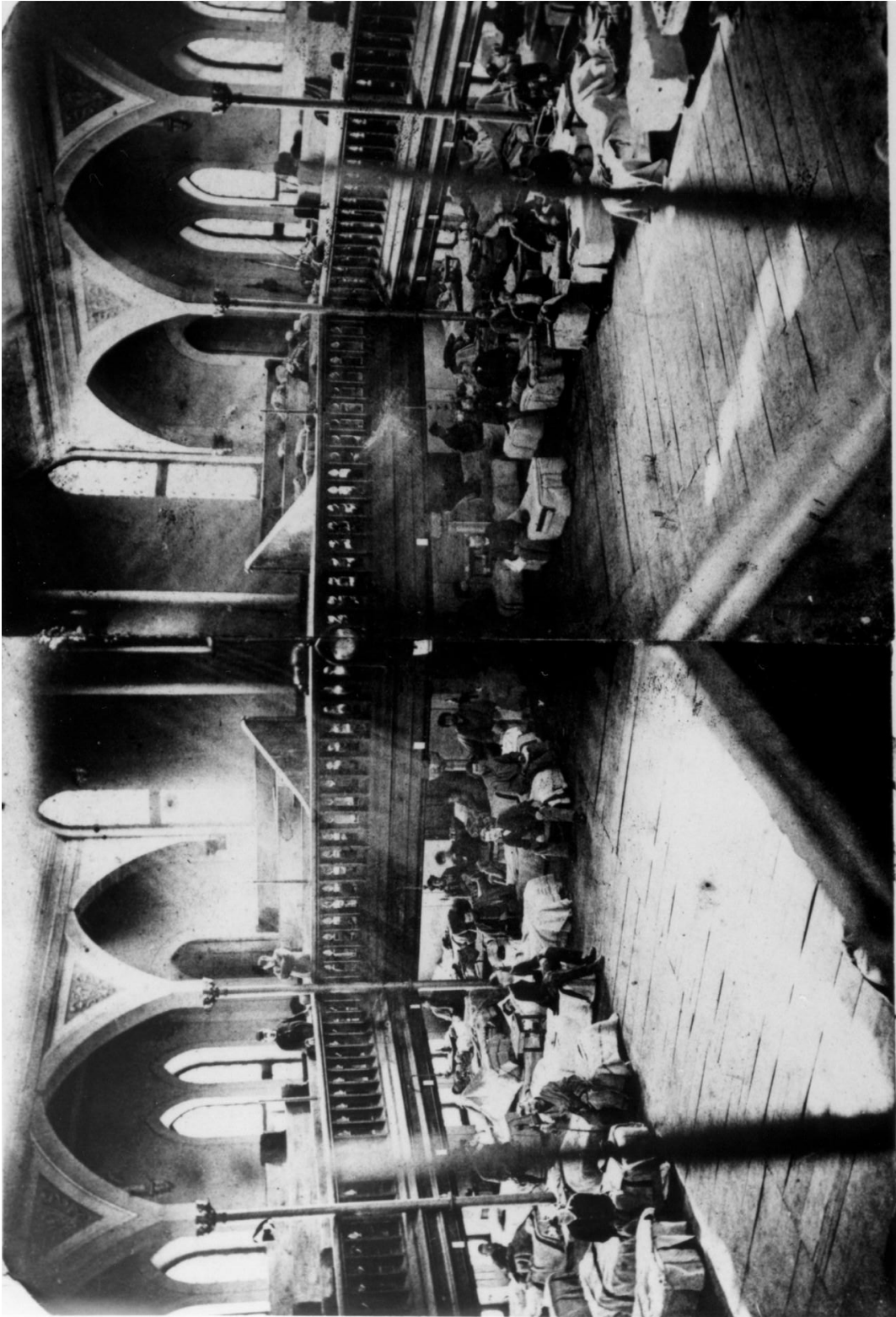
The legacy of Frederick's role in the Civil War was felt long after the end of the conflict. In 1951, the City Government of Frederick made the final payment to the Citizens National Bank for the ransom money that had been loaned by the city's banks in 1864 to pay the ransom to Gen. Jubal Early. By the time the ransom debt had been repaid, the total cost was estimated at \$600,000.00 with the interest that had accrued over 87 years. Attempts to recover the ransom money were made through repeated claims filed against the Federal Government beginning in the 1890s and continuing over the next century. None of these claims resulted in the ransom money being repaid to the city.

If you are interested in exploring more of Frederick's Civil War history, the Square Corner is an excellent orientation point. Monocacy National Battlefield is about 3 miles south on MD-355. One block east on Patrick Street is the National Museum of Civil War Medicine. Gettysburg National Military Park is about 35 miles to the north, and the Battlefields of South Mountain and Antietam are 18 and 25 miles west, respectively.

Stop 1 Illustration: Frederick, Maryland (looking north) in September 1862 depicted in a lithograph appearing in *Harper's Weekly*.



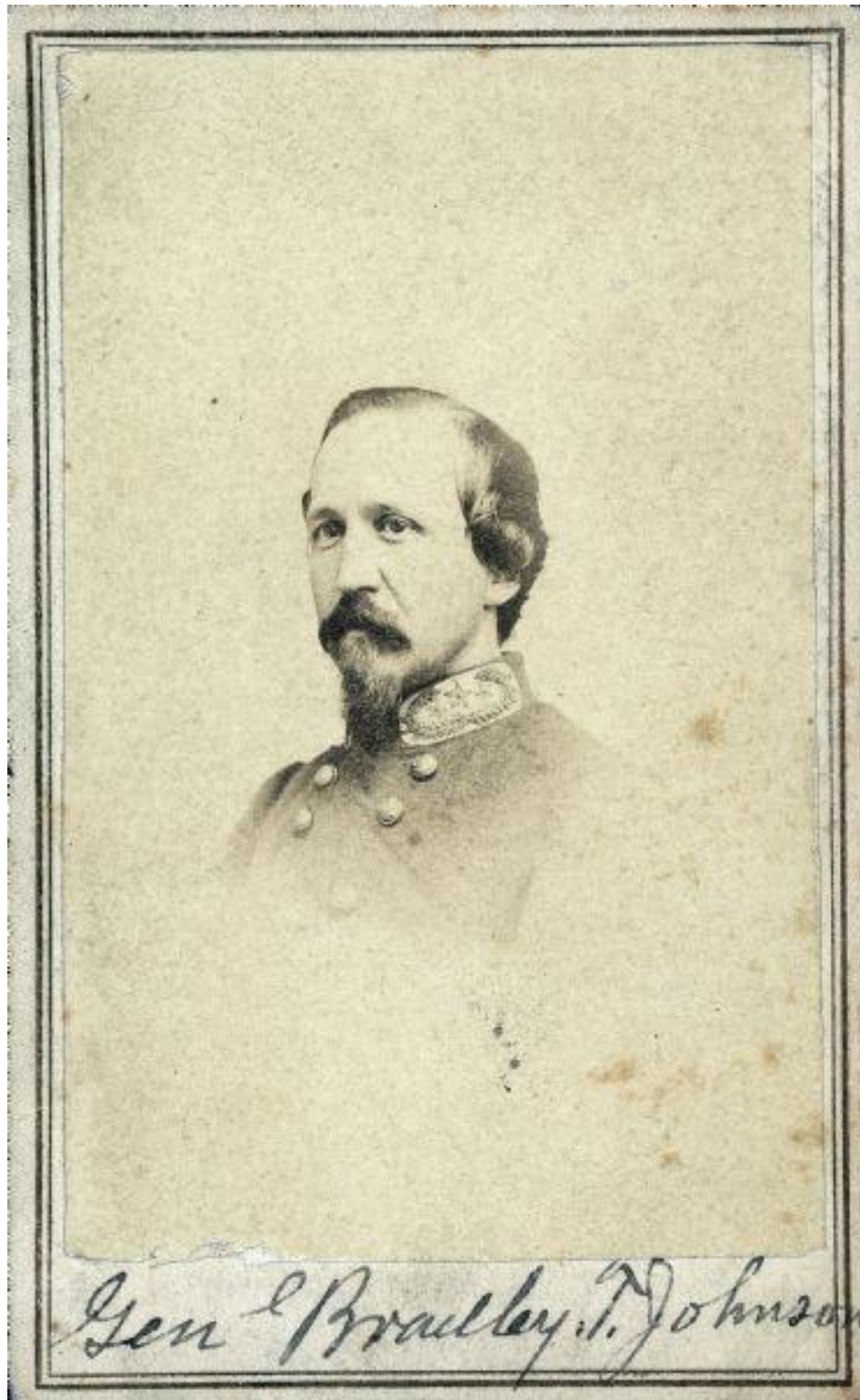
Stop 2 Illustration: Photograph of the interior of Evangelical Lutheran Church during its occupancy as part of General Hospital #4 in 1862.



Stop 4 Illustration: Lithograph showing Evangelical Reformed Church and John J. Wilson's house, the site of the Provost Marshal's headquarters during the Civil War, drawn in 1854 by Edward Sacshe & Co. of Baltimore.



Stop 5 Illustration: Photograph of Brigadier General William Bradley Tyler Johnson.



TO THE PEOPLE OF FRED'K. COUNTY.

FELLOW-CITIZENS,

The wide-spread prevalence of the political heresy of Secession which has resulted in the withdrawal of seven States from that Union which for nearly a century has been our pride and boast, demands our instant action, so that our silence may not be misconstrued and that our example may afford moral aid and encouragement to the loyal & patriotic men who still cling to their Country with unabated love and fidelity.

Notwithstanding the many grievances of which the South justly complains, and against which none has juster cause for remonstrance than the State of Maryland, we hold that *Secession is no remedy* for these evils, but on the contrary, is an intolerable aggravation of and an addition to them.

We hold that in a government of laws, the first duty of every citizen is obedience. That whatever injustice or wrong may be perpetrated, in a free government where the largest exercise of liberty compatible with the stability of government and the security of the people is guaranteed to every individual, no such wrong or injustice can be permanent, but that a fair and candid appeal to the honesty and intelligence of the people of the whole country, will inevitably result in a full and cordial recognition of all our constitutional rights and the removal of all our existing grounds of complaint.

We hold that the temporary and accidental triumph of the Republican Party in the election of a President, while the real and substantial power of the government remained in the hands of their opponents, was no such overwhelming calamity as to compel or justify the dissolution of this Confederacy; the total abandonment of our rights and privileges in the Union and the renunciation of the glorious heritage bequeathed to us by our Revolutionary ancestors.

We hold that the remedy for all these things is to be found, not in Secession, but at the ballot-box, and we feel justified in believing that there is already a returning sense of justice on the part of our Northern brethren.

Therefore, the undersigned earnestly invite their fellow-citizens of Frederick County, who stand by the Union of these States and oppose Secession for any past or present cause, to unite with them in

MASS CONVENTION

AT THE COURT HOUSE, IN THE CITY OF FREDERICK AT 10 O'CLOCK,
ON TUESDAY, THE 26TH DAY OF MARCH, 1861

to form a Union Organization in this County and to take steps for holding a Union State Convention at an early day thereafter.

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Jacob Bear | Otho Norris | Jacob Sahn | Ephraim Creager | Lewis H. Bennett, | Daniel S. Loy, |
| R. Potts | J D Getzendanner | Jacob Reifsnider | Spencer C Jones | P. Jefferson Hawman, | William Dean, |
| L. J. Brengle | Ulysses Hobbs | Charles E Mealey | Grafton W Elliott | Lloyd Dorsey, | W. H. C. Dean, |
| John Loats | Charles Cole | Charles W Haller | John Poole | Robert Shafer, | Josiah Harrison, |
| Chas E Trail | J A Simmons | Frederick Main | Frederick Kehler | George W. Summers, | Harrison Conley, |
| Wm P Maulsby | Frederick Keefer | Geo C Johnson | Jacob Detre | Henry C. Steiner, | Nicholas T. Haller, |
| James Cooper | Christian Steiner | Charles Mautz | Wilson R Boyd | John J. Kantner, | L M. Englebrecht, |
| Frederick Schley | Charles Lease | E Y Goldsborough | Erasmus West | Lawrence Bentz, | James W. Phebus, |
| Grayson Eichelberger | James T Smith | Samuel R Hogg | L V Schoil | Daniel A. Staley, | C Getzendanner, |
| James Whitehill | D C Winebrenner | Jacob Fox | G R Kephart | Anthony Kimmel, | John T. Martin, |
| Edward Shriver | James Hopwood | David Weaver | Daniel H Rohr | Francis T. Rhodes, | Henry Lorentz, |
| Adam Wolfe | Barney Fisher | Wm Johnston | George K Birely | George W. Derr, | William Lorentz, |
| Nicholas Whitmore | James Hergeshimer | Edward Trail | D W Brooks | Isaac P. Suman, | John Routzahn, |
| Wm D Reese | Zephaniah Harrison | W G Moran | John Lyeth | George W. L. Bartgis | Mathias Abalt, |
| J W L Carty | A Gault | Daniel Haller | I W Suman | John Wilson | John Sifford, |
| Basil Norris | Edward Buekey | George Englebrecht | C T Albaugh | George Gittinger | Geo T. Williard, |
| W Tyler, Sr | Thos M Holbrunner | Thomas M Markell | John T Schley | James Bruner | Thomas Hooper, |
| Jacob Mark ell | John Mackechney | William T Haller | Isaiah Mealey | H. K. Hilton | John Cramer, |
| R Y Stokes | Edward Sinn | John E Sifford | John Sanner | Michael Englebrecht, | James W. Troou, |
| John Schreiner | Val S Brunner | John Goldsborough | George S Groshon | William Glessner, | J George Sinn, |
| R H Maegill | Wm G Cole | George F Webster | John H Mumford | George Kantner, | J. R. Marken, |
| P E Storm | Tobias Haller | G W Delaplaine | Robert Boone, | A. H. Hunt, | John Hooper, |
| W B Tyler | Jacob Himmell | Daniel Sweadner | David Boyd, Sr., | Thos. T. Cromwell, | William Hooper, |
| Francis Markell | John J Woodward | E Albaugh | Levi Vanfossen, | W. R. Sanderson, | James Hooper, |
| P M Englebrecht | L M Schaeffer | George W. Ulrich | Dennis Scholl, | W. J. Lynn Smith, | W. H. R. Kelty, |
| George Markell | Wm G Schaeffer | Abraham Haff | William H. Brish, | Simon Parsons, | O. F. Butler, |
| Lewis Markell | M Keefer | Charles E Albaugh | Isacher Himbury, | Frederick Shiptey, | Gideon Bantz, |
| Emanuel Mantz | T J McGill | D T Ronner | William Higgins, | Abraham Kemp, | David Kenega, |
| John Ramsburgh, | George Salmon, | Andrew Boyd, | Richard T. Dixon | George M. Tyler, | Upton Buhman, |
| Jacob Knauff, | Jonathan T. Wilson, | Hiram H. Mullen | Lewis H. Dill, | Maurice Albaugh, | W. L. Hays, |
| George A. Abbott, | William H. James, | John H. Abbott, | John J. Suman, | William T. Duvall, | A. E. Smith, |
| John McPherson, | Wm. B. Tabler, | W. Lochner, | Fairfax Schley, | Grafton Fout, | Charles W. Eader, |
| Saml. B. Preston, | Wm. T. Gittings, | R. G. McPherson, | Hiram M. Nusz, | George Metzger, | Jacob Leilich, |
| Dewalt Willard, | Isaac Keller, | William Stokes, | John T. Martin, | Adam Custard, | Michael H. Haller, |
| Samuel Carmack, | Wm. T. Preston, | B. A. Cunningham, | N. D. Hauer, | G. W. Dertzbaugh, | John Stimmel, |
| J. McPherson, | W James Williamson, | John H. Keller, | John S. Burucker, | T. E. Getzendanner, | Charles W. Miller, |
| Sebast'n Ramsburg, | Wm. H. Derr, | James M. Harding, | John Fable, | Charles W. Miller, | John H. Young, |
| Jacob Grove, | John M. Ebert, | Henry M. Nixdorf, | G. P. Ramsburg, | Benjamin Routzahn, | B. G. Fitzbugh, |
| Jacob Riehl, | William H. Grove, | Henry B. Fessler, | John T. Moore, | J. H. F. Schindler, | George D. Miller, |
| John T. Green, | David K. Schaeffer, | Samuel B. Ebert, | Mason R. Marsh, | Samuel Haller, | A. P. Kessler, |
| Hiram Schissler, | Charles H Keufer, | Chas E. Campbell, | Lewis Medtard, | George W. Custard, | William H. Rice, |
| Philip Cramer, | George W Cramer, | Philip H Sinn, | Edward Young, | N. H. Pitts, | Henry A. Cole, |
| | | | | | George Hoskins, |
| | | | | | T. M. Morgan, jr. |

Printed at the Office of "The Maryland Union" Frederick, Md. [March 19, 1861.]

Stop 6 Illustration: Photograph of Major General George L. Hartsuff



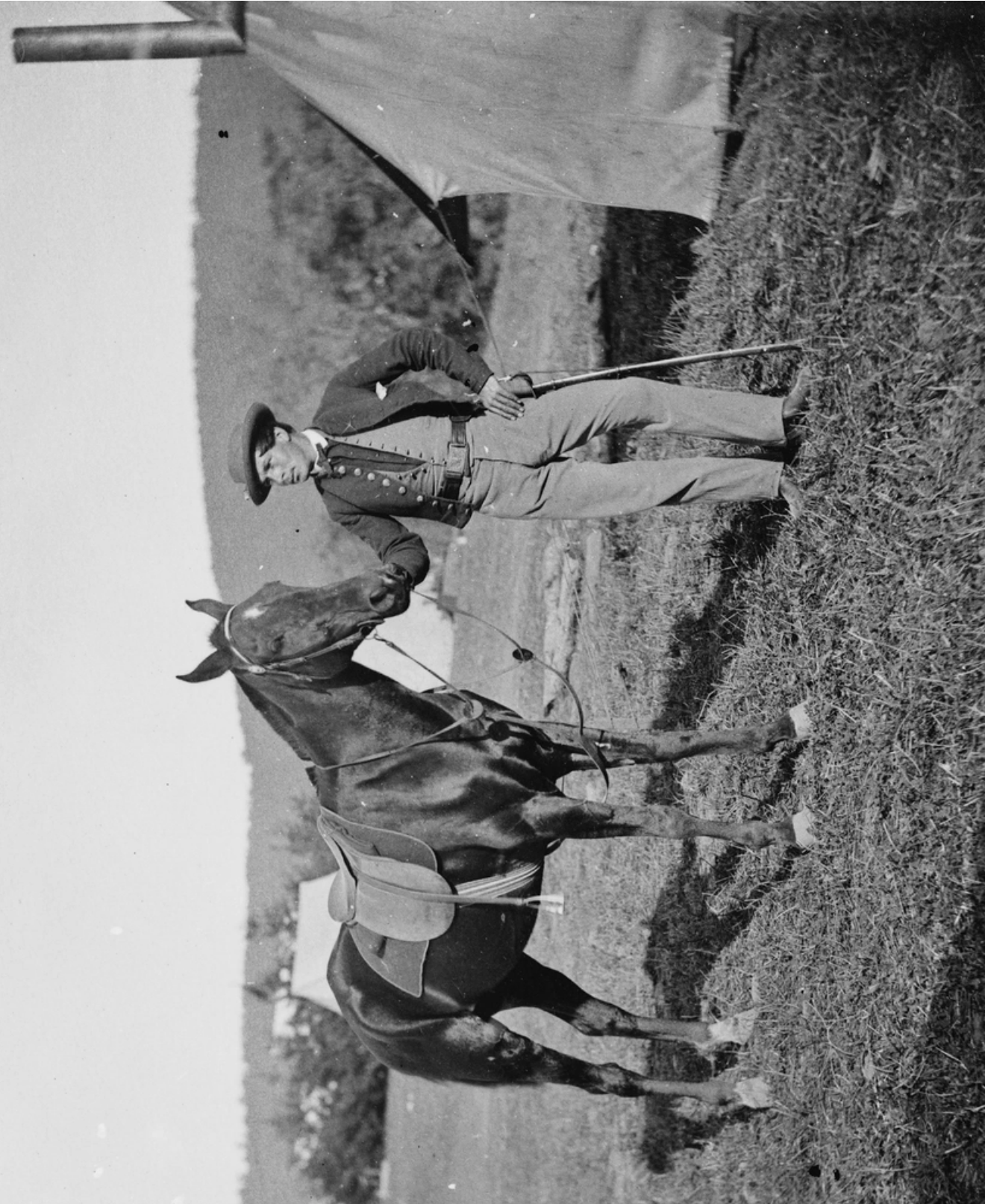
Stop 7 Illustration: Photograph of Colonel Robert Gould Shaw



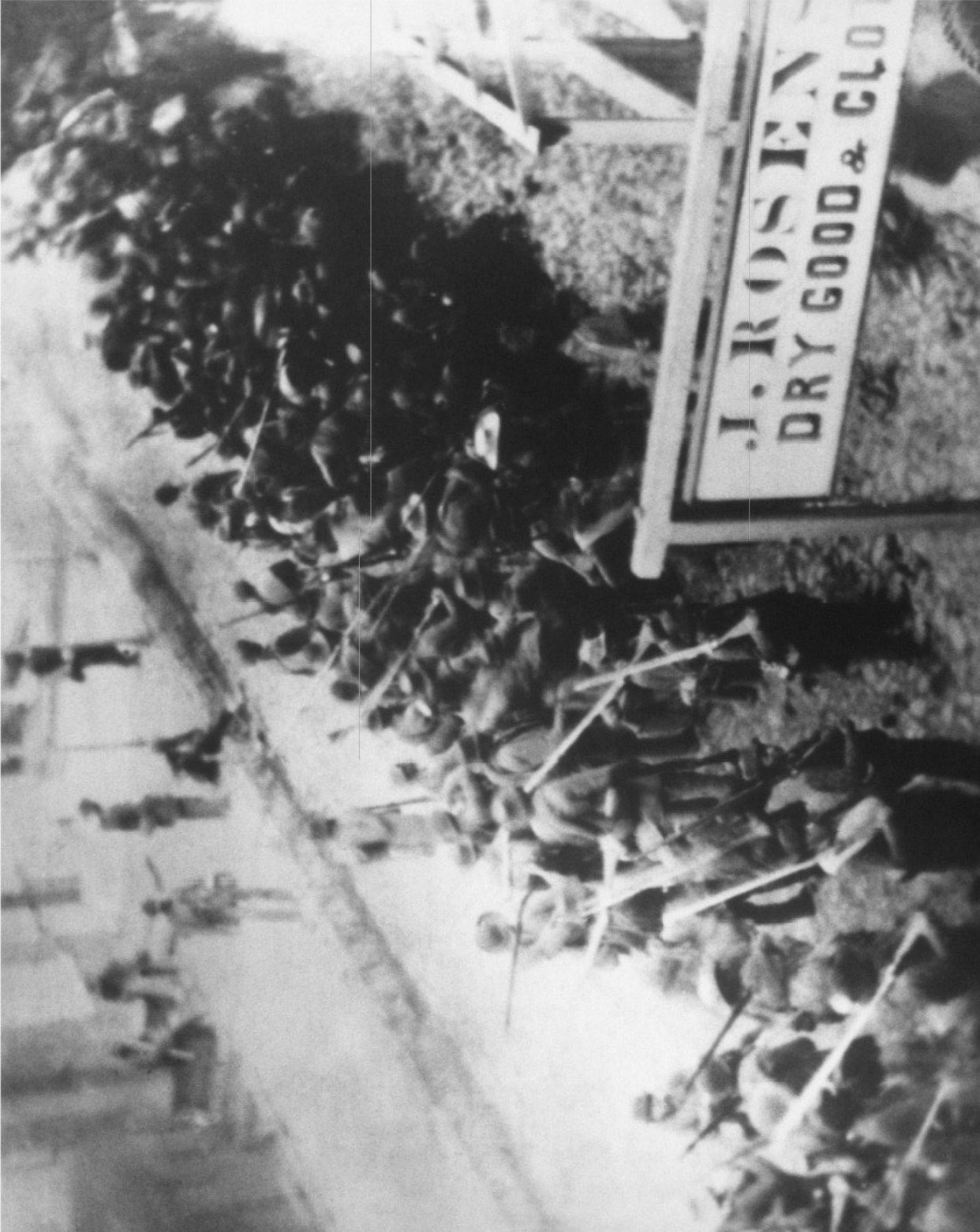
Stop 8 Illustration: Photograph of Major General George Armstrong Custer and Major General Alfred Pleasanton in autumn 1863.



Stop 9 Illustration: John Babcock, Bureau of Military Information Officer



Stop 10 Illustration: Confederate Army marching through Frederick



Stop 10 Illustration: Barbara Fritchie



Optional Story Illustration: Photograph of Major General P. Regis de Trobriand



Stop 11 Illustration: President Lincoln addresses crowd from the train at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station, published by *Harpers Weekly* in October 1862

