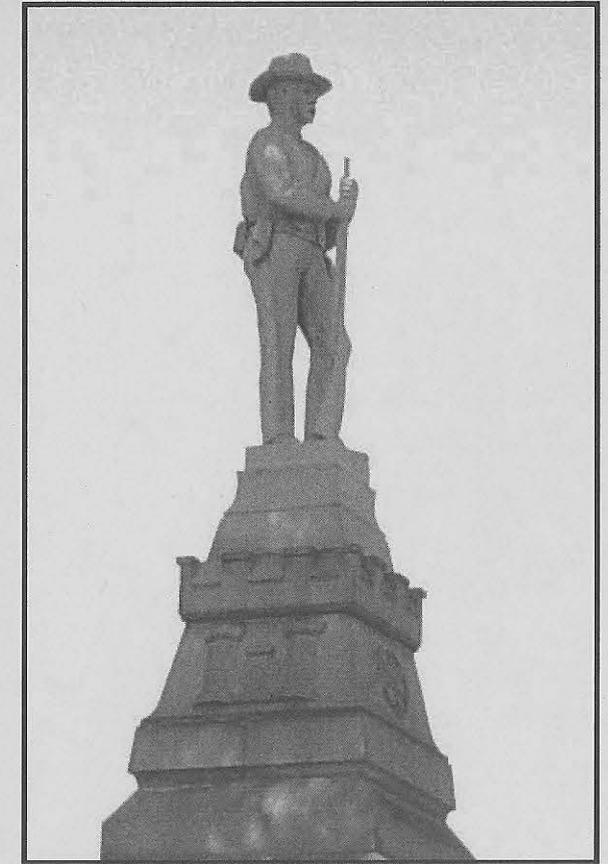


Spotsylvania Confederate monument

Spotsylvania Confederate Cemetery

When the Civil War ended, the remains of 4,000 Confederate soldiers lay scattered throughout Spotsylvania County. Six hundred of these soldiers were buried in the vicinity of Spotsylvania Court House, victims of the fierce fighting that had raged around the town in May 1864. Local women, concerned about these unattended graves, formed the Spotsylvania Memorial Association. In 1866 they established a Confederate cemetery on five acres of land one-half mile northeast of the town. They hired local businessman Joseph Sanford to collect and bury the remains. Sanford did so, identifying the soldiers and interring them in sections based on their state. Headstones provided by the Federal Government in 1931 mark the graves. In the center of the cemetery stands a granite shaft crowned by the figure of a Confederate soldier who maintains a silent vigil over the dead.

To reach Spotsylvania Confederate Cemetery, travel from the Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center south on Lafayette Boulevard and Route 208 for about nine miles. The cemetery stands on the left side of the road 0.7 miles past the Spotsylvania Battlefield tour road exit. A large gate marks the cemetery entrance. The grounds are open daily, from dawn until dusk. A published roster of identified graves is available for review at the Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center in Fredericksburg and at the Spotsylvania County tourism office at the junction of Route 208 and Route 613 at the Town of Spotsylvania Courthouse.



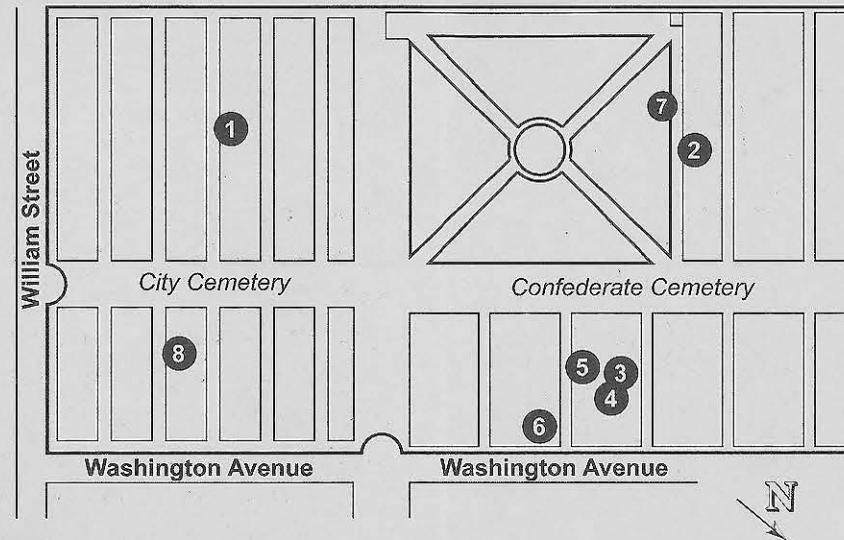
Confederate Cemeteries

Fredericksburg Confederate Cemetery

The Fredericksburg City Cemetery and Confederate Cemetery are situated at the corner of William Street and Washington Avenue, surrounded by a common brick wall. More than 3,300 Southern soldiers lie buried there amid quiet, peaceful surroundings; 2,184 of them are unknown. Among the interments are a Union officer who won the Medal of Honor, a member of “Stonewall” Jackson’s staff, and six Confederate generals.

The Ladies Memorial Association, a group of Fredericksburg women, purchased land for a Confederate cemetery in 1867. It had organized one year earlier for the purpose of caring for the graves of the Confederate dead on the battlefields. The Association reinterred soldiers on land adjoining the Fredericksburg City Cemetery. In time, headstones supplied by various Southern states replaced the original cedar posts. The ladies erected a monument of a Confederate soldier amid the graves in 1884.

The cemetery is open daily, with entry through the gates on Washington Avenue. A map of the sections is displayed near the entrance. A roster listing the Confederate interments may be consulted at the Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center on Lafayette Boulevard. The Ladies Memorial Association continues to care for the cemetery. Each year it holds a Memorial Day observance there.



Notable Burials

- 1 General Seth Barton** commanded a Southern brigade at Vicksburg, Mississippi, and later in Virginia. Captured at Sailor’s Creek in 1865, he returned to his hometown of Fredericksburg and was buried in the City Cemetery in 1900.
- 2 General Daniel Ruggles** was born in Massachusetts, but he married a Virginian and owned a house in Fredericksburg. When the war began, Ruggles commanded Confederate troops along the Rappahannock River. Later he transferred to Tennessee and fought at Shiloh.
- 3 General Carter Stevenson** was born in Fredericksburg in 1817. He commanded a Confederate division at Vicksburg, Chattanooga, and other battlefields in the West.
- 4 General Henry Sibley** commanded Confederate troops at the battle of Glorieta Pass, New Mexico, but he is better known as the designer of the Sibley tent, a conical structure widely used by both armies early in the war.
- 5 General Abner Perrin** led an Alabama brigade in Lee’s army. He died at Spotsylvania’s “Bloody Angle” after telling subordinates, “I shall come out of this fight a live major general or a dead brigadier.”
- 6 General Dabney Maury** fought gallantly at Iuka and Corinth, Mississippi, before taking command of the Confederate forces at Mobile, Alabama. He died in Illinois in 1900, but his body was taken back to Fredericksburg, the town of his birth.
- 7 Captain Keith Boswell** was an engineer on “Stonewall” Jackson’s staff. He was shot through the heart on May 2, 1863, at Chancellorsville, dying in the same volley that mortally wounded his chief.
- 8 General David Wheeler**, a Union officer, won the Medal of Honor for his actions at the Battle of Salem Church in 1863. After the war, he married a Southern girl and moved to Fredericksburg.