

Gettysburg

National Military Park

Map and Guide



Three Days in July

On June 3, 1863, a month after his dramatic victory at Chancellorsville, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee began marching his Army of Northern Virginia westward from its



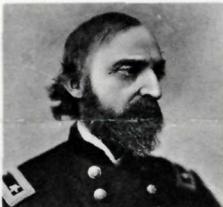
Gettysburg in 1863 as seen from Seminary Ridge.

camps around Fredericksburg, Va. As the Southerners trudged northward into Maryland and Pennsylvania, they were followed by the Union Army of the Potomac. The Northerners had seen a number of commanders come and go since the beginning of the war. During this campaign they received yet another new leader, General George G. Meade, whose appointment as commander on June 28 was to last through the end of the war.

The two armies touched by chance at Gettysburg on June 30. The main battle opened on July 1 with Confederates attacking Union troops on McPherson Ridge west of town. Though outnumbered, the Federal forces held their position until afternoon,

when they were finally overpowered and driven back to Cemetery Hill south of town. The Northerners labored long into the night over their defenses while the bulk of Meade's army arrived and took up positions.

On July 2 the battelines were drawn up in two sweeping arcs. The main portions of both armies were nearly 1 mile apart on parallel ridges: Union forces on Cemetery Ridge, Confederate forces on Seminary Ridge to the west. Lee ordered an attack against both Union flanks. James Longstreet's thrust on the Federal left overran the Peach Orchard, left the Wheatfield strewn with dead and wounded, and turned



George Gordon Meade, Union commander at Gettysburg.

the base of Little Round Top into a shambles. Farther north, Richard S. Ewell's evening attack on the Federal right at East Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill, though momentarily successful, could not be exploited to Confederate advantage.

On July 3 Lee's artillery opened a 2-hour

bombardment that for a time engaged the massed guns of both sides in a thundering duel for supremacy, but did little to soften up the Union lines on Cemetery Ridge. Then,



Robert E. Lee, Confederate commander at Gettysburg.

in a desperate attempt to recapture the partial success of the previous day, some 12,000 Confederates under Longstreet's command advanced across the open fields toward the Federal center. Only one Southerner in three retired to safety.

With the repulse of this assault, now known as Pickett's Charge, the Battle of Gettysburg was over. The Confederate army that staggered back into Virginia was physically and spiritually exhausted. Never again would Lee attempt an offensive operation of such magnitude. And Meade, though criticized for not pursuing Lee's troops, would forever be remembered as the man who won the battle that has come to be known as the "High Water Mark of the Confederacy."

The Battlefield Today

Gettysburg National Military Park encompasses more than 25 square miles in and around the town of Gettysburg. Upon these peaceful, tilled Pennsylvania fields more men fell than in any other battle fought in North America before or since. Many of the

Union soldiers who died here are buried in the National Cemetery where Abraham Lincoln delivered that simple, poignant statement of purpose—the Gettysburg Address. Parts of the battlefield look much the same today as they did at the time of the

battle. Fences, rocks, hills, cannon, and even the monuments (which were not here then, of course) offer the imaginative visitor the opportunity to ponder and try to understand what happened here.

How to See the Battlefield

By Car

Auto Tour. If you have come to Gettysburg in your car, you may tour the battlefield on your own with the Auto Tour Map on the other side of this folder. Numbered stops along the way detail significant events and places of the battle. Allow 2-3 hours.

Licensed Battlefield Guides. The best way to see the battlefield is with a guide licensed by the National Park Service. The guide will ride with you in your own car and provide a personal 2 hour tour. The fee for a car tour is \$12. Guides may also be reserved for bus tours. Inquire at the park Visitor Center for more information.

On Foot

The Gettysburg National Military Park offers many opportunities to get out of your car and see the battlefield from ground level, as the thousands of men who fought here saw it.

High Water Mark Trail. This one-mile trail begins and ends at the Cyclorama Center. The short walk will take you over the ground where the ill-fated Confederate charge of July 3 reached its peak. A free trail guide is available at the Cyclorama information desk. Part of this trail has been adapted for visually impaired visitors. A tape and player are available for free loan at the Cyclorama desk.

Heritage Trail. These 9 and 3.5-mile hikes are used by the Boy Scouts of America as part of their Heritage Trails Program. Ask at the Visitor Center.

Big Round Top Loop Trail. This 1-mile trail will take you through the natural hardwood forest of the area. The trail takes about an hour to walk and begins at the Big Round Top parking area.

Granite Farm. The Granite Farm is located at the southern part of the park, near Big Round Top. This farm was the home of the Snyder family during the battle. The restored farmstead may be reached by a ½ mile trail from the Big Round Top parking area.

Visiting the Park

Visitor Center

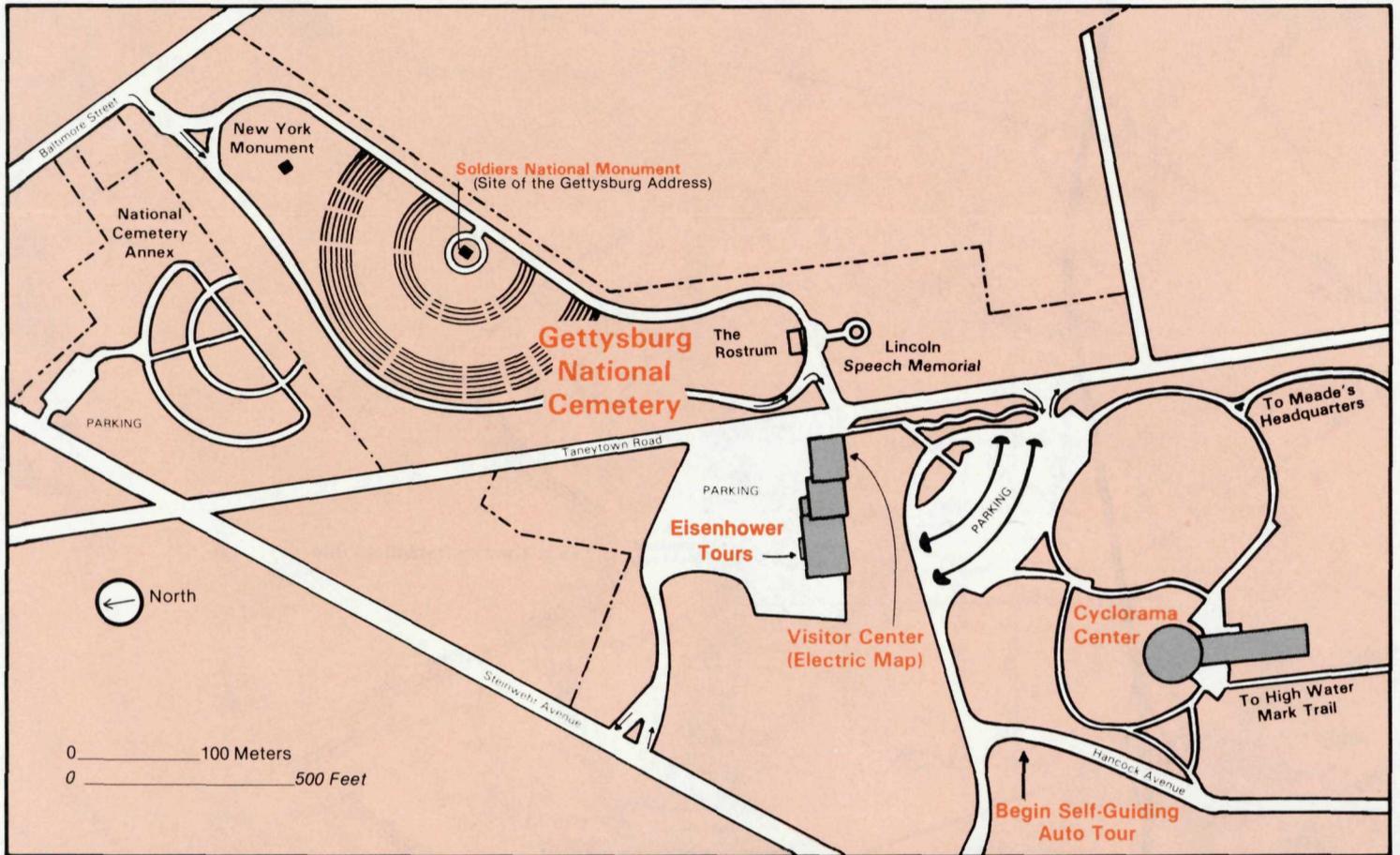
Begin your visit here. The Visitor Center has orientation information, current events schedules, a large collection of Civil War artifacts, and licensed guides. The Electric Map orientation program will prepare you for your tour of the battlefield. A fee is charged for the Electric Map.

Cyclorama Center

The Cyclorama is a large (356 ft. x 26 ft.) painting of Pickett's Charge. Completed by the artist Paul Philippoteaux in 1884, the painting is displayed with a dramatic sound and light show. The Cyclorama Center also has tour information and exhibits. A fee is charged to view the painting.

Park Rangers

Park Rangers are available to help you plan your visit, present conducted talks and programs, and answer questions. Rangers also provide first aid and enforce park regulations. You can find a ranger at the Visitor Center, Cyclorama Center, and throughout the park.



The best place to begin your tour of the battlefield is the park Visitor Center, shown on the map above.

The Cyclorama Center and the National Cemetery are both only a short walk away.

Gettysburg National Cemetery

When the armies marched away from Gettysburg on July 5, 1863, they left more than 51,000 casualties, including 6,000 dead. Most of the dead lay in hasty and inadequate graves; some had not been buried at all. This situation so distressed Pennsylvania's Governor Andrew Curtin, that he commissioned a drive to establish a proper burial ground for the Union dead. Within 4 months of the battle reinterment began on 17 acres of ground that were to become the Gettysburg National Cemetery. Today the cemetery is the final resting place of 3,722 Union dead from the battle as well as U.S. veterans from the Spanish-American War through the Vietnam conflict.

The Gettysburg Address

The Gettysburg National Cemetery was dedicated on November 19, 1863. The principal speaker, Edward Everett, was a renowned orator and delivered a well-received 2-hour speech. He was followed by President Abraham Lincoln, whose short address was to become one of the masterpieces of the English language.

The Gettysburg Address contains 272 words and took about two minutes to deliver. Contrary to popular belief, Lincoln did not write the speech on the back of an envelope on the way to Gettysburg. Actually he took great pains in its formulation. He wrote the first draft in Washington shortly before November 18 and revised it at the home of

David Wills in Gettysburg sometime before the dedication.

The second draft, written entirely in ink on two pages of the same paper used for part of the first draft, reflects Lincoln's first revision of the address and, except for the words "under God," constitutes the text of the speech he delivered at the dedication ceremony. Although the exact origin of this draft cannot be determined, evidence suggests that Lincoln wrote it shortly after his return to Washington.

A total of five drafts are known to exist in Lincoln's own handwriting.

Eisenhower National Historic Site

Located adjacent to the battlefield is the farm and retirement home of President and Mrs. Dwight Eisenhower. Due to critical space limitations in the Eisenhower home and the lack of onsite parking, all visits to the site are conducted through a reservation/shuttlebus system and begin at the Tour Information Center at the lower end of Gettysburg National Military Park Visitor Center. Only a limited number of tours are available each day and tickets are distributed on a first-come first-served basis. Tickets are free but there is a small fee for the concession-operated shuttlebus.



For More Information

Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site are administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Address all inquiries to the Superintendent, Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg, PA 17325. Information on nearby accommodations, restaurants, and attractions may be obtained from the Gettysburg Travel Council, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

An accessibility guide to the park for handicapped visitors is available free from any ranger.

Published by Eastern National Park and Monument Association in cooperation with the National Park Service.

Gettysburg

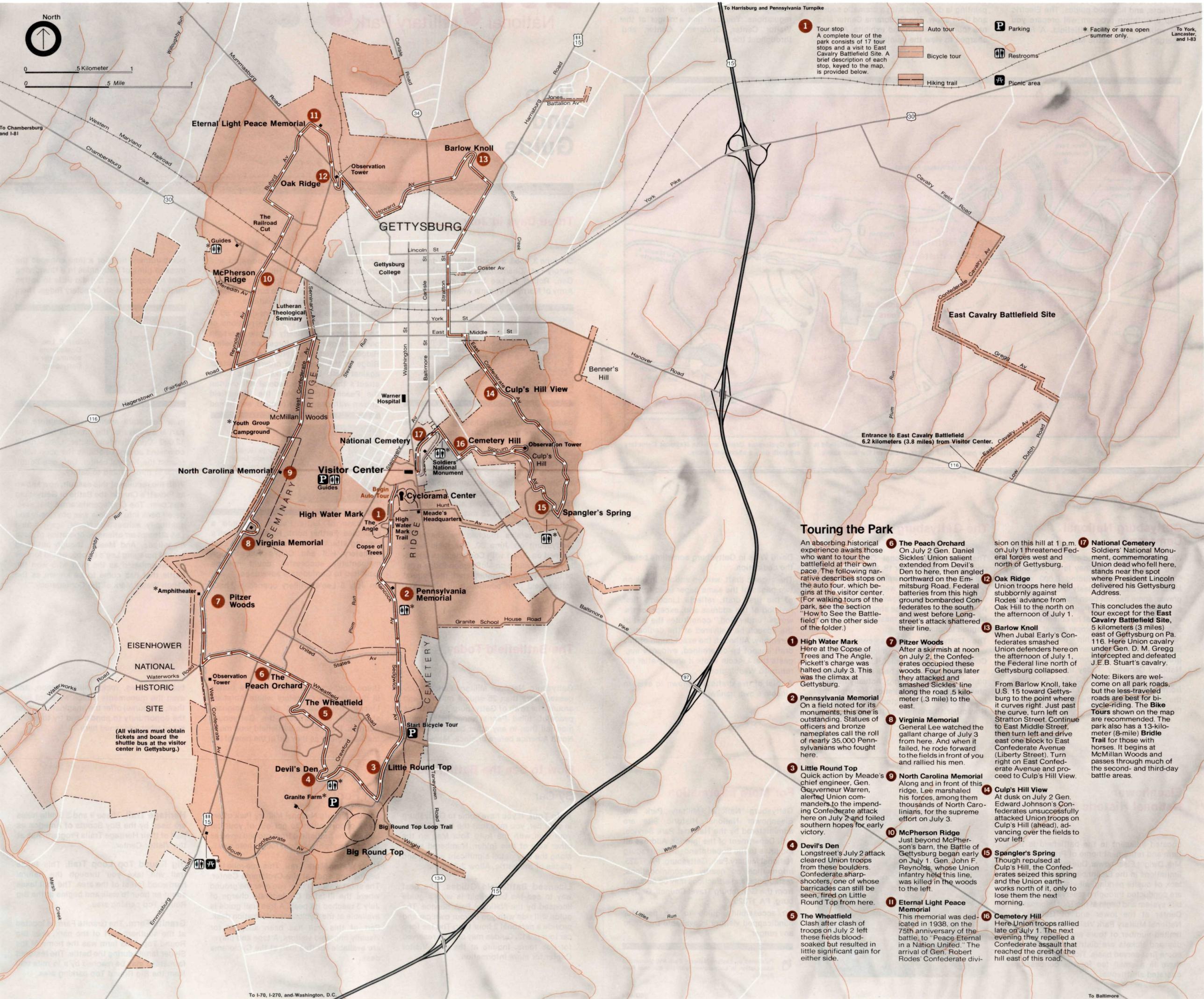
Regulations and Safety Tips

Use extreme caution driving the park roads, especially where they intersect with heavily traveled highways. Please obey the posted speed limits and be cautious at blind curves and on one-way roads. Bikers should keep to the

right with the flow of traffic. Park in designated areas or on the avenues, not on the grass. Do not climb on cannon and monuments. Pets must be leashed and attended at all times. They may not be taken

into the visitor center or Cyclorama Center or crowded areas. Running and climbing youngsters frequently fall and injure themselves, so parents are urged to closely supervise their children.

All historic sites, structures, and exhibits, as well as all plants, animals, and minerals, must be left undisturbed. Relic collecting or possession of metal detectors within the park is not allowed. Please picnic in designated areas.



Touring the Park

An absorbing historical experience awaits those who want to tour the battlefield at their own pace. The following narrative describes stops on the auto tour, which begins at the visitor center. (For walking tours of the park, see the section "How to See the Battlefield" on the other side of the folder.)

- 1 High Water Mark**
Here at the Copse of Trees and The Angle, Pickett's charge was halted on July 3. This was the climax at Gettysburg.
- 2 Pennsylvania Memorial**
On a field noted for its monuments, this one is outstanding. Statues of officers and bronze nameplates call the roll of nearly 35,000 Pennsylvanians who fought here.
- 3 Little Round Top**
Quick action by Meade's chief engineer, Gen. Gouverneur Warren, alerted Union commanders to the impending Confederate attack here on July 2 and foiled southern hopes for early victory.
- 4 Devil's Den**
Longstreet's July 2 attack cleared Union troops from these boulders. Confederate sharpshooters, one of whose barricades can still be seen, fired on Little Round Top from here.
- 5 The Wheatfield**
Clash after clash of troops on July 2 left these fields blood-soaked but resulted in little significant gain for either side.

- 6 The Peach Orchard**
On July 2 Gen. Daniel Sickles' Union salient extended from Devil's Den to here, then angled northward on the Emmitsburg Road. Federal batteries from this high ground bombarded Confederates to the south and west before Longstreet's attack shattered their line.
- 7 Pitzer Woods**
After a skirmish at noon on July 2, the Confederates occupied these woods. Four hours later they attacked and smashed Sickles' line along the road .5 kilometer (.3 mile) to the east.
- 8 Virginia Memorial**
General Lee watched the gallant charge of July 3 from here. And when it failed, he rode forward to the fields in front of you and rallied his men.
- 9 North Carolina Memorial**
Along and in front of this ridge, Lee marshaled his forces, among them thousands of North Carolinians, for the supreme effort on July 3.
- 10 McPherson Ridge**
Just beyond McPherson's barn, the Battle of Gettysburg began early on July 1. Gen. John F. Reynolds, whose Union infantry held this line, was killed in the woods to the left.
- 11 Eternal Light Peace Memorial**
This memorial was dedicated in 1938, on the 75th anniversary of the battle, to "Peace Eternal in a Nation United." The arrival of Gen. Robert Rodes' Confederate divi-

- 12 Oak Ridge**
Union troops here held stubbornly against Rodes' advance from Oak Hill to the north on the afternoon of July 1.
- 13 Barlow Knoll**
When Jubal Early's Confederates smashed Union defenders here on the afternoon of July 1, the Federal line north of Gettysburg collapsed.
- 14 Culp's Hill View**
At dusk on July 2 Gen. Edward Johnson's Confederates unsuccessfully attacked Union troops on Culp's Hill (ahead), advancing over the fields to your left.
- 15 Spangler's Spring**
Though repulsed at Culp's Hill, the Confederates seized this spring and the Union earthworks north of it, only to lose them the next morning.
- 16 Cemetery Hill**
Here Union troops rallied late on July 1. The next evening they repelled a Confederate assault that reached the crest of the hill east of this road.

- 17 National Cemetery**
Soldiers' National Monument, commemorating Union dead who fell here, stands near the spot where President Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address.
- This concludes the auto tour except for the **East Cavalry Battlefield Site**, 5 kilometers (3 miles) east of Gettysburg on Pa. 116. Here Union cavalry under Gen. D. M. Gregg intercepted and defeated J.E.B. Stuart's cavalry.
- Note: Bikers are welcome on all park roads, but the less-traveled roads are best for bicycle-riding. The **Bike Tours** shown on the map are recommended. The park also has a 13-kilometer (8-mile) **Bride Trail** for those with horses. It begins at McMillan Woods and passes through much of the second- and third-day battle areas.