

Entrance Hall

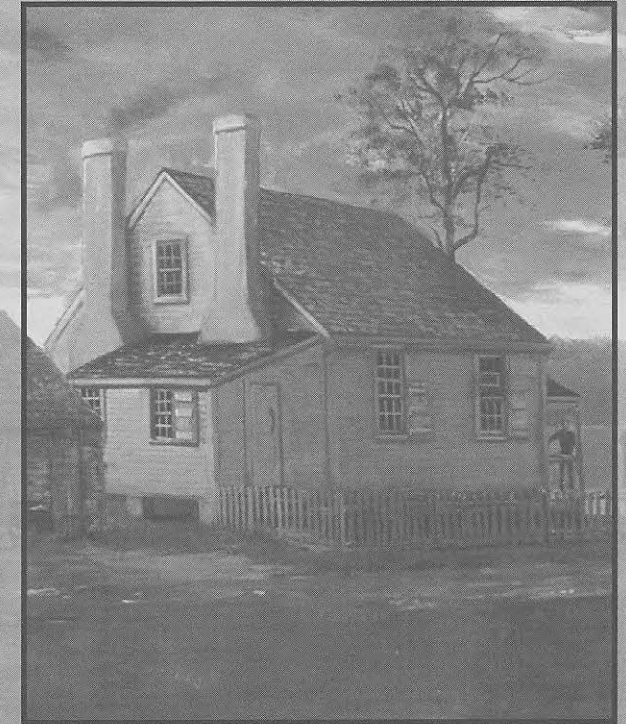
After a 27-mile ambulance ride, Jackson's aides carried "Stonewall" through this hallway to a room prepared for him by the Chandlers. Jackson endured the long journey remarkably well. Despite the ordeal, he remembered his manners, apologizing to Mr. Chandler for being unable to shake hands with his host.

Jedediah Hotchkiss, Jackson's topographical engineer, had helped ease his commander's trip by preceding the ambulance with a crew of "pioneers" who removed obstructions from the rough country roads. While treading the wide boards of the Chandler office, Hotchkiss grieved the death of James Keith Boswell, a fellow staff officer killed by the same volley that felled Jackson.

Other losses from the Battle of Chancellorsville touched Jackson and those dear to him. General Elisha Franklin Paxton, a neighbor and friend of the Jacksons during their years in Lexington, Virginia, was killed at Chancellorsville on May 3, while leading Jackson's old Stonewall Brigade. Just moments before the doctors allowed Mrs. Jackson to see her wounded husband, she learned of Paxton's death. She had hardly recovered from this shock when she was escorted to her husband's side. There she discovered that he had taken a turn for the worse. Dr. McGuire diagnosed pneumonia; Jackson's condition had become critical.

Death Room

The Chandlers prepared this room using the same bed frame and one of the same blankets exhibited today. They also added the clock on the mantel to make the room look more homelike and cheerful, but furnishings could not dictate the mood of the room. Three days after his wounding, Jackson began exhibiting symptoms of pneumonia. Despite the efforts of the five doctors, nothing seemed to bring him relief. Jackson observed, "I see by the number of physicians that you think my condition dangerous, but I thank God, if it is His will, that I am ready to go." On Sunday, May 10, 1863, the doctors lost all hope of Jackson's recovery, and the general was notified of his condition. But while Jackson grew physically weaker, he remained spiritually strong. "It is the Lord's Day; my wish is fulfilled," he said. "I have always desired to die on Sunday." Jackson realized that desire at 3:15 p.m. As his grieving wife and others looked on, the delirious general began barking out commands as if he was once again on the field of battle. Suddenly his voice fell silent. "Presently," wrote McGuire, "a smile of ineffable sweetness spread itself over his pale face, and he said quietly, and with an expression, as if of relief, 'Let us cross over the river, and rest under the shade of the trees.'"



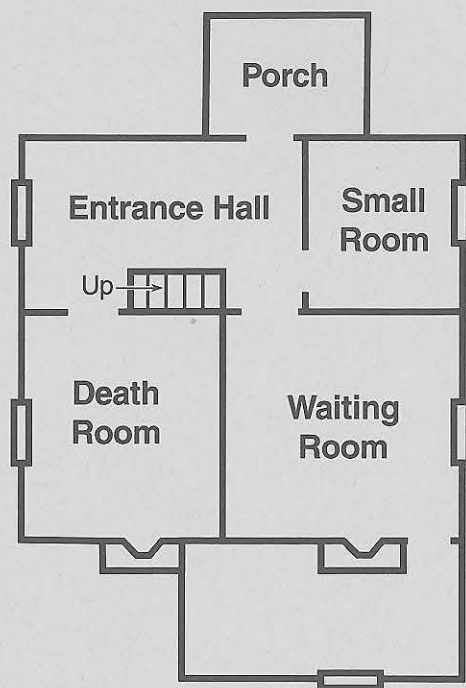
"Stonewall" Jackson Shrine

**Where the Confederate
General Died**

*B*orn in what is now the state of West Virginia, in the town of Clarksburg, Thomas Jonathan Jackson possessed a strong military background at the outbreak of the Civil War. His training at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, recognition as a hero in the Mexican War, and his experience as an instructor at the Virginia Military Institute justified Jackson's rank of brigadier general at the first major battle of the Civil War, near Manassas, Virginia. Upon that field, General Barnard E. Bee proclaimed, "There is Jackson standing like a stone wall!" and a legend as well as a nickname was born.

Jackson's military feats had elevated him to near-mythical proportions in both North and South, when in the midst of one of his most brilliant maneuvers he was mistakenly shot by his own men on the night of May 2, 1863, at the Battle of Chancellorsville. Confederate army commander Robert E. Lee decided that his indispensable and most capable subordinate should recuperate at a safe place well behind friendly lines. Doctors moved Jackson to Guinea Station, intending to evacuate him to Richmond by railroad. Union cavalry, however, had cut the rail line, compelling Jackson and his party to wait near Guinea Station until the line was restored.

The "Stonewall" Jackson Shrine is the plantation office build-



ing where General Jackson spent the final six days of his life. The office was one of several outbuildings on Thomas C. Chandler's 740-acre plantation, "Fairfield." The Chandler family used the unpretentious frame structure for recreation as well as for work. Chandler kept records in the office, and one of his sons once practiced medicine there, but with three of the Chandler boys away serving in the Confederate army, the building no longer witnessed its antebellum level of activity.

The office stood bare, except for a few items in storage, when Jackson's ambulance arrived. Chandler offered his house to Jackson and other Confederate wounded, but Jackson's attendants chose instead the quiet privacy of the outbuilding as the best place for the general to rest. Once Confederate authorities regained control of the rail line, Jackson would board a train at Guinea Station and resume his trip to Richmond.

Today the office is the only plantation building remaining. The Chandler house burned after the Civil War, and its shell was dismantled in the early 1900s. Established as an historic "shrine," the office underwent restorations in the 1920s and 1960s. It still retains about 45% of its original fabric. The National Park Service has augmented some of the items used during Jackson's stay with other pieces from the era, along with a few reproductions, to recreate the scene of those tragic last days of his life.

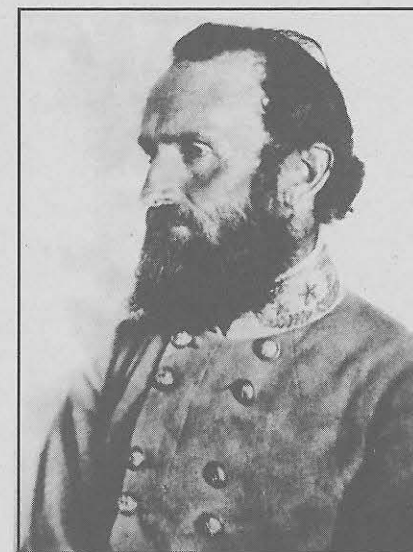
Waiting Room

Jackson's doctors and staff officers both worked and relaxed in this room during the general's stay. Five different physicians examined Jackson, and these men probably discussed their conclusions here over cups of coffee. Chief among the surgeons was Dr. Hunter McGuire. McGuire had amputated Jackson's wounded left arm at a field hospital near Chancellorsville early on May 3. Jackson's chaplain, Beverley Tucker Lacy, then buried the useless limb at Ellwood, a nearby plantation. Lacy comforted the pious Jackson, holding devotions with him daily at Chandler's office. Lacy kept General Lee apprized of the wounded man's condition. At one point, in speaking of Jackson, Lee told Lacy: "He has lost his left arm, but I have lost my right arm."

Small Room

Mrs. Jackson and baby daughter Julia arrived at Guinea Station on May 7. No space remained in the office, this small room probably housing the baggage for Jackson and his entourage, so the general's wife and child found lodging in the Chandler home.

Mrs. Jackson spent most of her time, however, at her husband's bedside in the office. She had met her husband at Guinea Station just three weeks earlier during a rare visit to the army. She had not seen her husband for more than a year prior to that. She wrote that the nine-day visit was all the more joyful because of "the additional charm and the attraction of the lovely child that God had given us."



To provide a keepsake of the happy occasion, Mrs. Jackson persuaded her husband to sit for a photograph (left). While Jackson posed at his headquarters, eight miles north of Guinea Station, a strong breeze blew across his face, causing him to frown. The men who served under Jackson preferred this picture of their general to all others, but Mary Anna Jackson never shared that opinion. It lent "a sternness to his countenance that was not natural," she wrote. Unbeknownst to any eyes viewing the newly developed image, it would be the last photograph of Jackson ever taken.