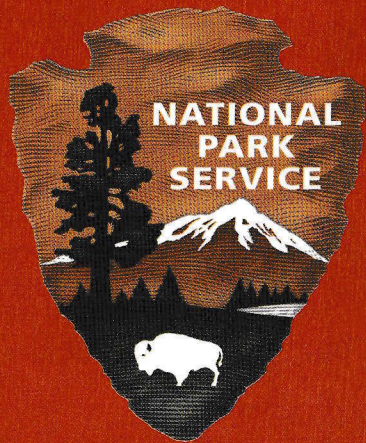


R I C H M O N D

CIVIL WAR

VISITOR CENTER

NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK



A T T R E D E G A R I R O N W O R K S

Richmond, Virginia, was at the heart of the most defining event in the history of the United States of America — the Civil War.

As the industrial center and political capital of the Confederacy, Richmond was the prize over which two mighty American armies contended in bloody battle from 1861 to 1865. Cannon boomed within earshot of the city. All residents saw their lives transformed. Wartime Richmond, swollen by government, the military, refugees, prisoners, and the wounded, lived with anxiety and hope.

Landowners outside the city saw their farms converted into battlefields. Previously unknown placenames like Cold Harbor, Gaines' Mill, Malvern Hill, and New Market Heights attained national significance for the key battles that were fought there.

The famous Tredegar Iron Works geared quickly into the industrial engine that sustained the Confederate war machine. Today the site serves as a window into the wartime transformation of Richmond.

About Your Visit

Visitor Center

Today the Tredegar Iron Works serves as the main visitor center for Richmond National Battlefield Park. The visitor center includes three floors of exhibits with unique artifacts on loan from other Civil War history institutions. A self-guided tour of the Iron Works' grounds introduces visitors to the story of Tredegar, Richmond's pivotal role in the Civil War, and the impact that this watershed event had on the city and the nation. The exhibits offer historical context for the two major military threats to Richmond: the Peninsula Campaign of 1862, and the Overland Campaign of 1864. The story of Richmond's homefront is interpreted through the use of museum exhibits and

other innovative techniques. Information is available on Richmond's other Civil War attractions. Food is available on site at the Tredegar café.

Visitors are encouraged to begin their tour of Richmond's battlefields at Tredegar where they can obtain a map and/or purchase a tape tour. Eastern National operates a bookstore which offers over 500 items for sale.

For Your Safety

While every effort is made to provide for your safety, you must remain alert and cautious. Stay on designated walkways. Be alert for ticks and other biting insects. Do not climb on the ruins or over fences. Watch for steep drop-offs. First aid assistance is available at the visitor center desk or

from park staff. Your cooperation is essential in protecting and preserving the site for your continuing enjoyment and for the enjoyment of future generations.

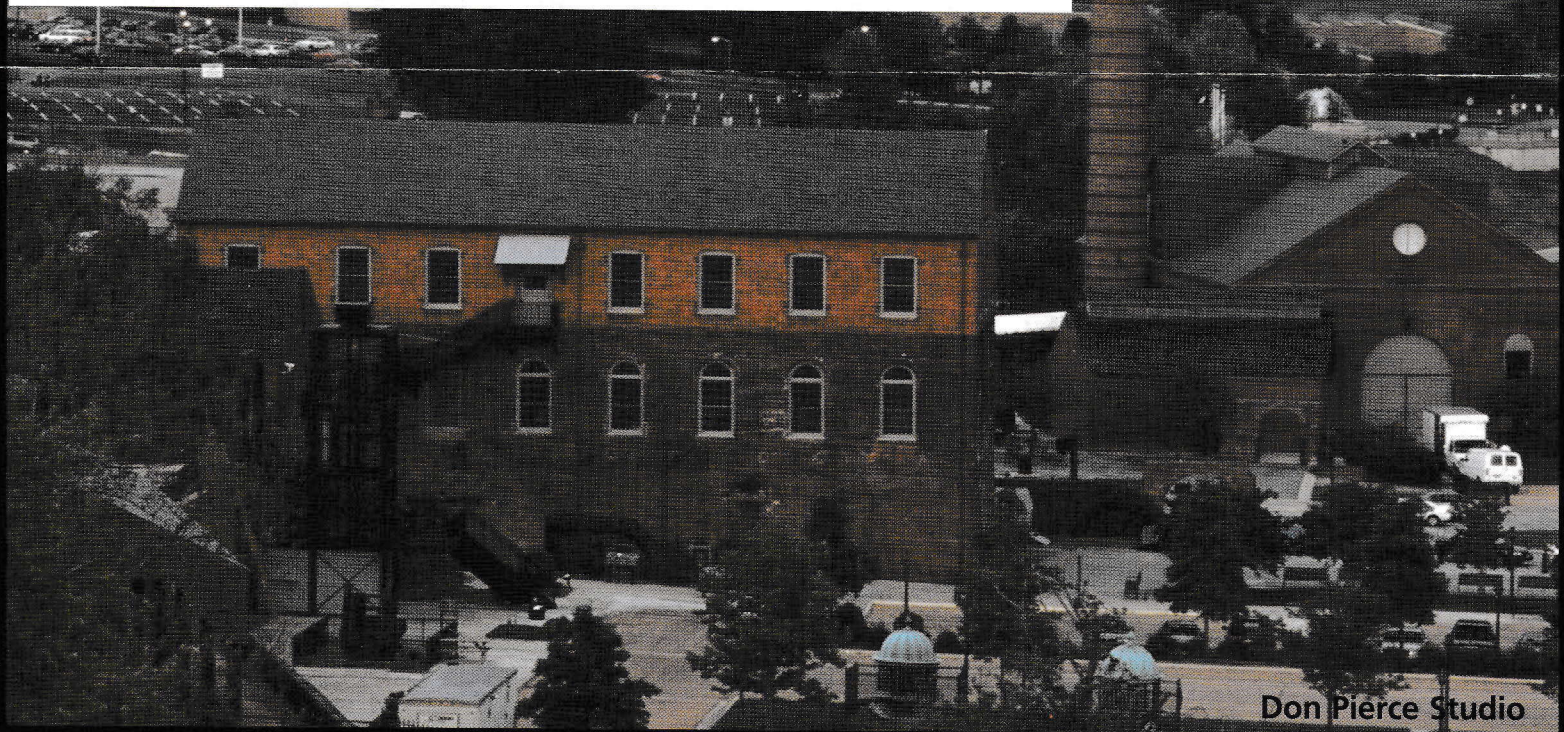
Accessibility

The visitor center and grounds of the Iron Works are completely accessible for visitors with disabilities.

Information

Additional information about the park and the Tredegar site can be found at www.nps.gov/rich on the Internet, or write to the Superintendent, Richmond National Battlefield Park, 3215 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23223.

Tredegar Iron Works today, as seen from Lee Bridge. Pattern building on the left, 1861 gun foundry building with large chimney in right background.



The Tredegar Story

Introduction: Seeds of Southern Industry

In 1861 the Southern Confederacy had high hopes for victory but limited industrial capacity. The new nation did have the Tredegar Iron Works in Richmond to provide the basic industry needed to start the Confederate war effort. Founded in 1837, Virginia-born Joseph Reid Anderson bought the works in 1848. Determined to develop Southern industry, Anderson expanded Tredegar into one of the largest iron works in the country. By the eve of the Civil War, Tredegar stood ready to provide the South with the means to produce the materials of war.

As you follow this guide through the grounds please take time to read the wayside exhibits available along the way.

Stop One—The Power of Water

Starting from the entrance of the Visitor Center, follow the brown gravel path to the fence at the back of the property. You will be standing by a wayside exhibit entitled "Rutherford's Mill."

Power supplied by the James River and Kanawha Canal made industrial development possible at the Tredegar site. The mill race to your left brought water from the canal, which ran behind the brick wall, to power milling operations on this site. The Iron Works started here with the Spike Mill and Rolling Mill, both established in 1837 when the Tredegar Company was incorporated. The Spike Mill stood beside the mill race along the brick wall. The Rolling Mill stood to the left along both sides of the mill race and extended down to the Carpenter Shop. Both produced primarily railroad items such as spikes and rails.

Stop Two—Labor of Many Hands

Follow the path to your left. You may either take the stairs or follow the path around to the top of the hill to the building frame near the back wall.

Anderson could not have developed his business without the many workers who labored at Tredegar. By 1861, the Iron Works employed approximately 800 skilled and unskilled laborers, both black and

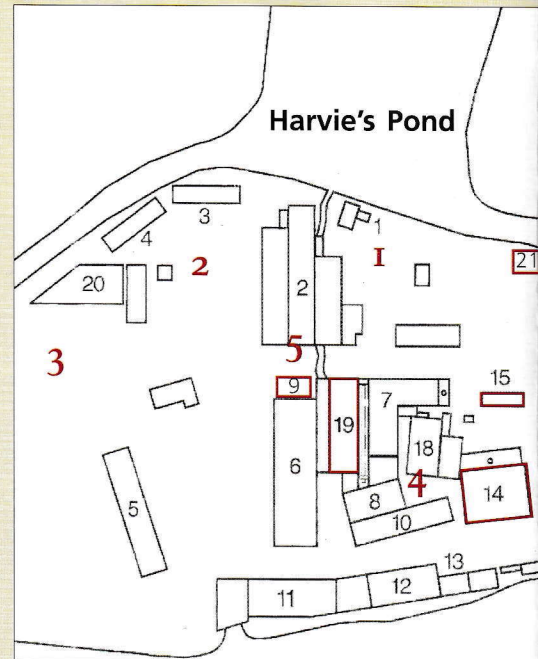
white, free and slave. The reconstructed frame iron housing Tredegar provided for its workers. The company gave the workers some control over its workforce.

Before proceeding to the next stop take a moment to look down at your right for a view of the old canal bed.

Stop Three—Sharing Power

From the workers housing unit, continue on the path to the black locomotive.

To make full use of the available energy provided by the canal, other milling operations that harnessed the water power were added. You are standing near the site of the Elevator, built in 1854.



Tredegar Time Line

Mills develop at site

1800

Tredegar incorporated; Iron Works begin production of railroad items.

1837

J. R. Anderson appointed agent for the Iron Works.

1841

Works supply cannon for U.S. forts; produce 900 guns through 1860.

1845

White workers replaced by enslaved and free blacks following strike.

1847

Anderson purchases the Tredegar Iron Works.

1848

Tredegar becomes largest iron producer in South. Flour mill built on site of current visitor center.

1857

Tredegar n...

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In front of you represents the type of convenient on-site housing also gave

walk to the top of the platform to

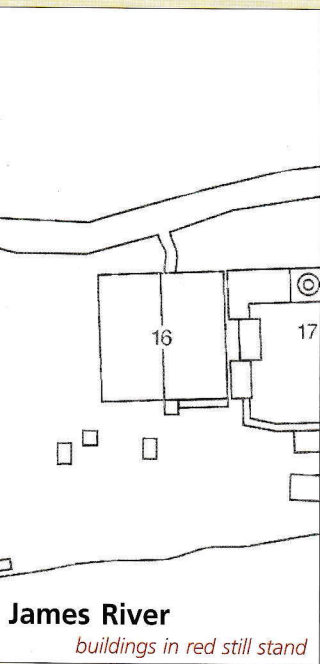
as it follows the brick wall to the large

by the canal, the site was shared with power to run their milling Crenshaw Warehouse and Grain

Stop Four—The Forge of War

Either proceed down the stairs then along the rail fence or follow the path down the hill to take the stairs or elevator to the lower level. Walk around the front of the visitor center building to stand in the courtyard.

As you stand in the courtyard facing the building that is now the visitor center you are in the heart of the industrial complex that fueled the Confederate war effort. The visitor center building was the Crenshaw Woolen Mill, which burned in 1863. Next to it stood the Old Gun Foundry (1836-37). To the right is the reconstructed 1861 Gun Foundry. During the Civil War, Tredegar covered an area of nearly five acres, and operations continued day and night to meet the demands of the Confederacy for artillery, ammunition and other war-related materials. Despite shortages in iron and manpower during the war, Tredegar produced almost 1100 field and siege cannon, as well as the armor plating for several southern warships, including the *C.S.S. Virginia*.



Tredegar Iron Works (c. 1863-65)

1. Spike Mill
2. Rolling Mill
- 3-5. Worker Housing
6. Locomotive Shop
7. Old Foundry
8. Boring Mill
9. Carpenter Shop (c. 1915)
10. Machine Shop
11. Boiler Shop
12. Blacksmith Shop
13. Brass Foundry and Office
14. 1861 Gun Foundry
15. Office
16. Armory Rolling Mill
17. Confederate States Armory
18. Carwheel Foundry
19. Woolen Factory, burned 1863 (rebuilt as Tredegar Pattern building, current visitor center)
20. Warehouse and Grain Elevator
21. Company Store (c. 1868)

Stop Five—Rebirth

Take the stairs or elevator to the Lincoln Statue near the entrance to the visitor center.

The statue of Abraham Lincoln, installed in 2003, depicts the president who displayed unshakeable determination to preserve the Union. A reunited country ensured that America's unsurpassed industrial capacity would propel the nation to international prominence following the Civil War. Tredegar escaped destruction to play an important role in rebuilding the devastated South after 1865. Tredegar never cast cannon after the war. Markets for railroad products and contracts for cast iron artillery projectiles kept the firm profitable through both world wars. The Tredegar plant closed in 1957 when it was unable to diversify its foundry production to meet the new demand for steel railroad components. The site is now owned by Ethyl Corporation which continues to serve as a model steward of this historic landmark, a symbol of American ingenuity and industrial progress.

uces 1099
ion and naval armor
plating.

Armed workers stop
mobs intent on burning
Tredegar.

Firm becomes
Tredegar Company.
Black and white
workers receive equal
pay.

National depression
causes major cut backs
in production at
Tredegar.

New generation of
artillery earns Tredegar
lucrative shell contracts
in both world wars.

Tredegar operations on
the James close.
Albemarle/Ethyl Corp.
purchase property.

Gun foundry restored
1972, site leased to
Riverfront Dev. Corp.
1997, Civil War Visitor
Center opens 2000.

—1865

1865

1867

1873

1903-1945

1957

1972-2000