

TO ATLANTA

VALLEY CAMPAIGN

PETERSBURG

ATLANTA

Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign, May-October, 1864

Lee—now entirely on the defensive--is frustrated that Grant is still standing after Cold Harbor...

Grant moves south toward Petersburg & Richmond.

William T. Sherman is in charge of the Union West
poised in Chattanooga to drive to Atlanta.

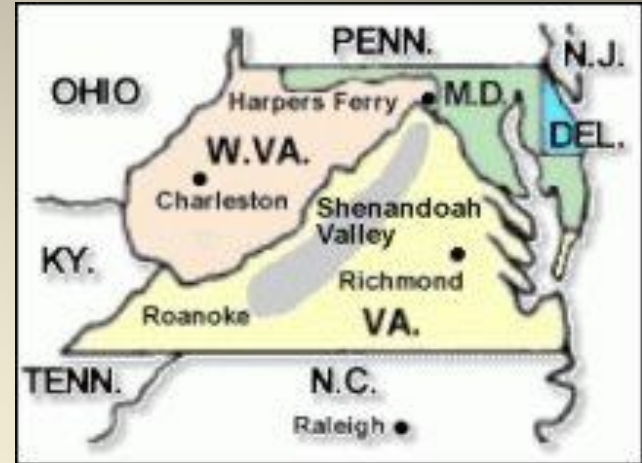
West of Richmond lies Shenandoah Valley. Lee must
fight now on two close fronts...

...one protecting Petersburg & Richmond

...another protecting the Valley

Lee chooses General Jubal Early to defend the Valley

Grant selects Philip Sheridan.



Importance of the Shenandoah.

For the Confederacy:

...“granary” or breadbasket of the South, at least up to 1863.

...emotional, regional, cultural monument to southern idealism & lifestyle.

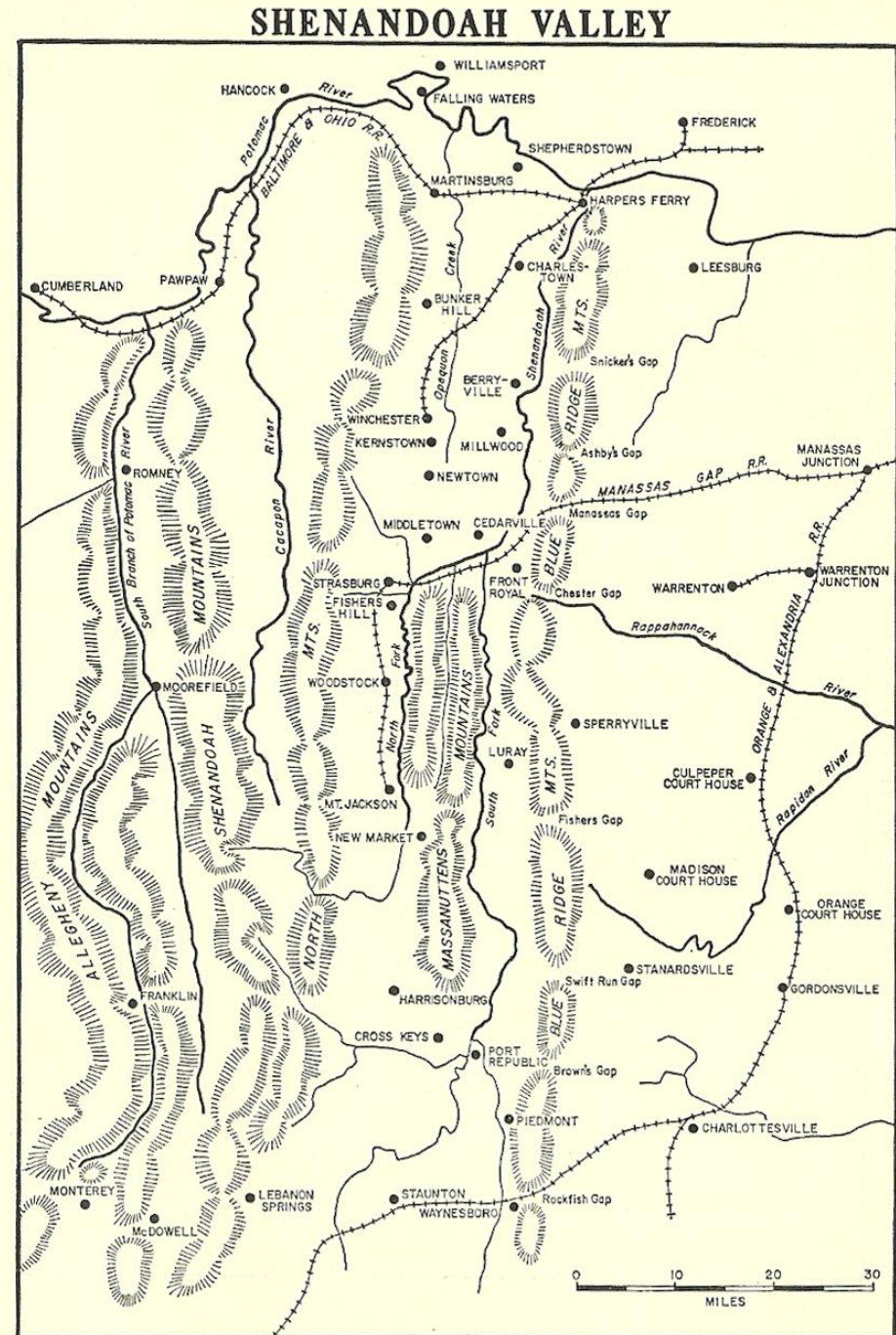
...earlier military victory of Jackson a matter of honor.

...strategic “avenue” to Washington DC.

For the Union:

...strategic “avenue” to Richmond VA.

...Sheridan’s destruction aimed at crippling Confederate supplies & morale.



Valley efforts begin near Lynchburg, May-July 1864.

May 15...USA defeated by VMI cadets.

June 5-6 USA captures Staunton VA

Jubal Early, CSA defeats Union forces June 17-18

Early then gains fame winning three more small battles with Union forces before he is halted.

July 24 Early makes a dashing run into Pennsylvania and burns Chambersburg, PA

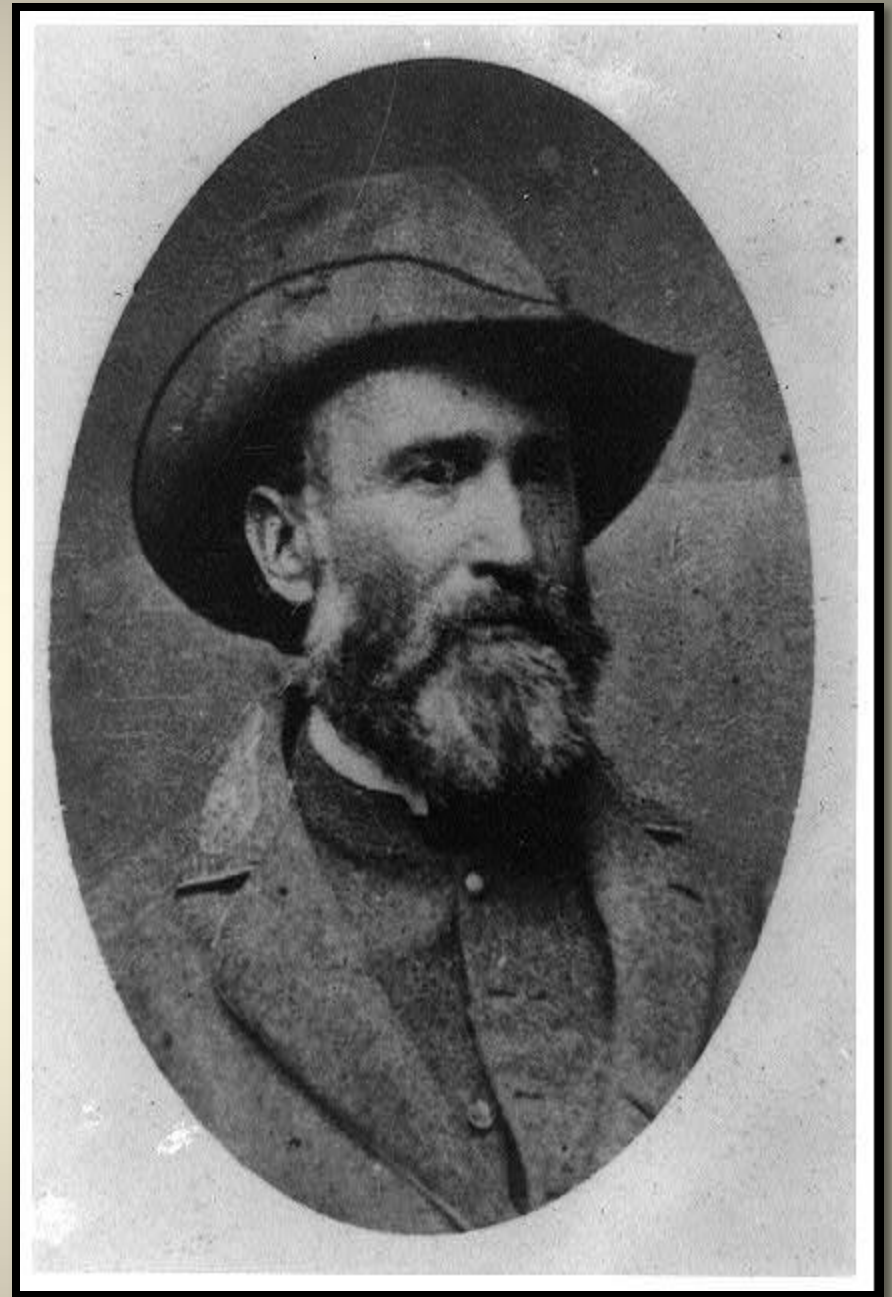
At this point in the war what would come to be known as the scorched earth policies carried out by Wm. T. Sherman, were actually started by General Hunter in Lynchburg VA. Early was incensed that Hunter had destroyed property there. Early sent his corps to Chambersburg to demand a \$500,000 payment in return. When the citizens could not pay up, Early ordered McCausland to burn the town down. Several Virginia CSA men protested to no avail.

Grant was now alarmed as Early was winning both battles and support. Chambersburg was not far from Washington DC and Early directly threaten the Union capitol.

Jubal A. Early was a lawyer and a former Whig who had at first opposed secession.

Angry at Lincoln, he later raised two units and fought with honor in early campaigns.

His biggest fight would be at the Valley campaigns.



Grant did not have many officers to pick from—but he selected Gen. Philip Sheridan to go and stop Early.

Sheridan was bold and daring—but Grant warned him to be cautious since Early was close to Washington and the federal elections were around the corner.

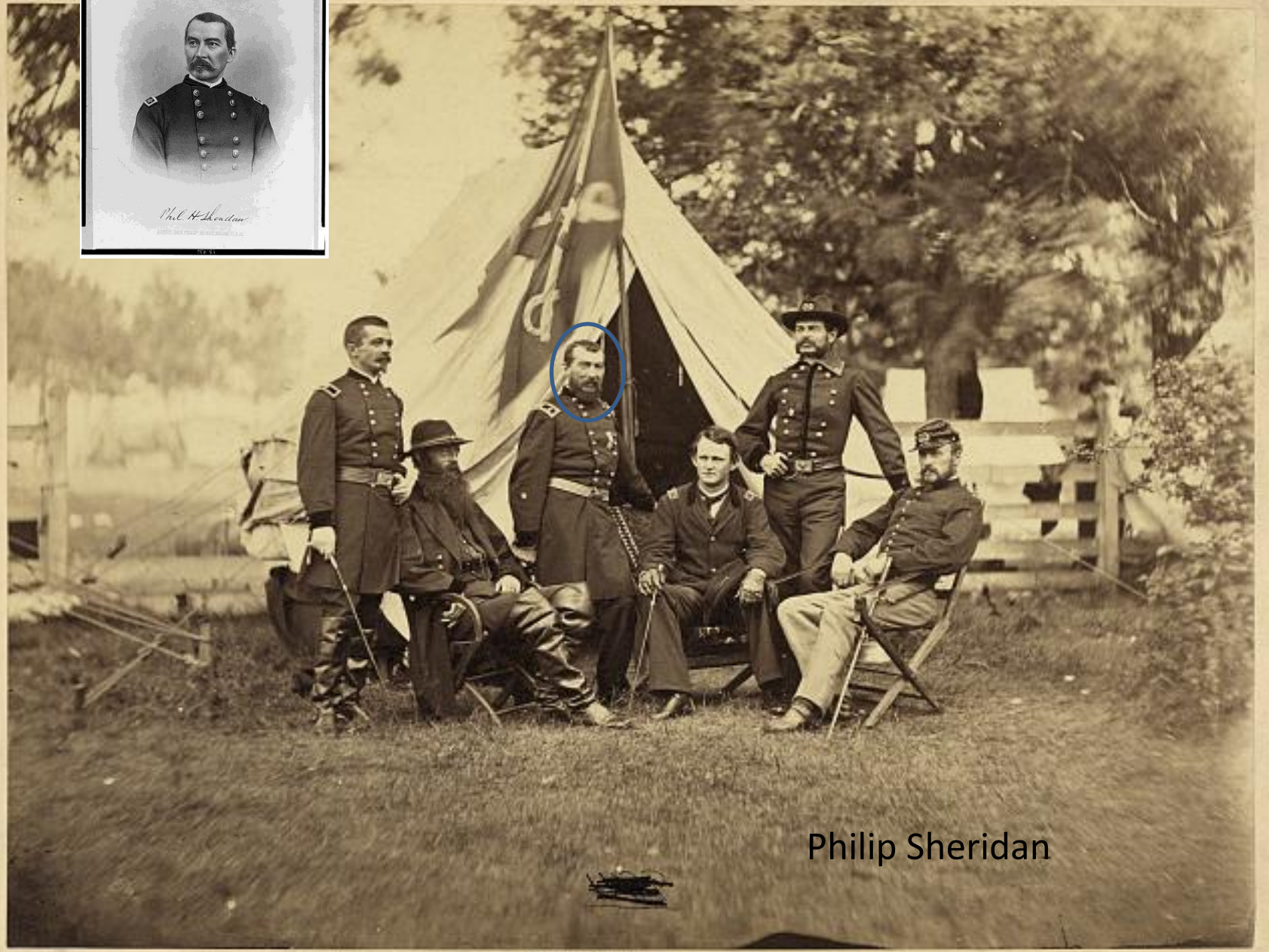
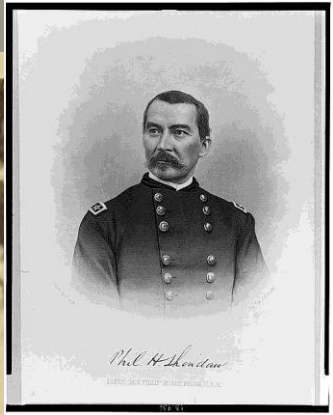
In two early battles Sheridan was stopped cold.

September 19, at Winchester, VA Sheridan won a major conflict. With a superior force (40,000) Sheridan lost 5,000 men defeating Early's smaller force of 12,000 and inflicting 3,600 casualties.

Winchester, VA changed hands 72 times during the Civil War!!

For 30 days Sheridan then began to destroy property and supplies as he went. He relentlessly chased Early and Early was defeated at Fisher's Hill and Tom's Brook. At Tom's Brooke Union officers gleefully bragged they captured "everything on wheels".

Then came the Battle of Cedar Creek (Opequon) October 19,



Philip Sheridan

October 19, 1864, Cedar Creek, (Opequon Creek)

Early struck out to raid and destroy Union rail lines, and Sheridan used his attack to move against Winchester.

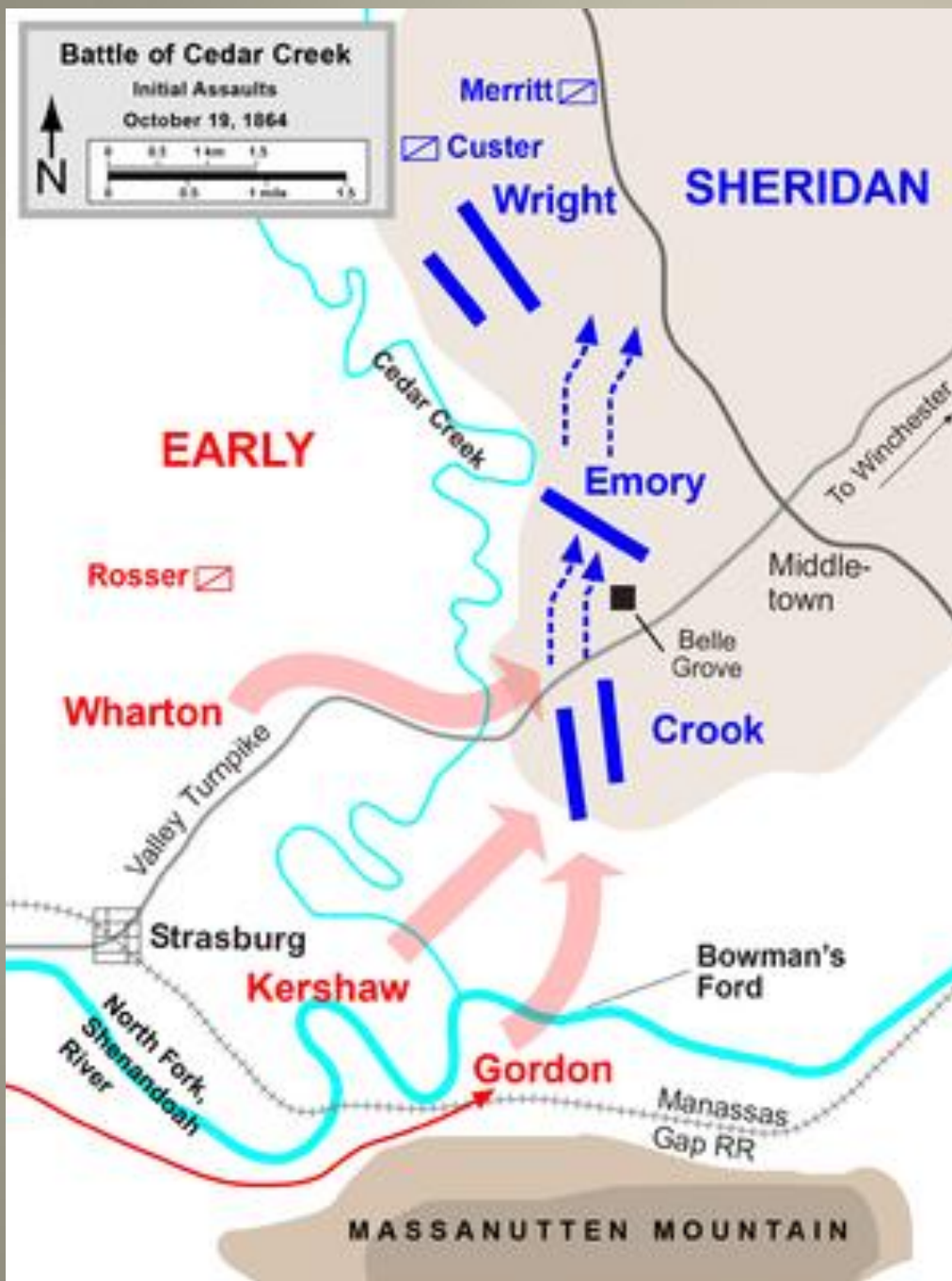
The most decisive battle in the Valley Campaign—ended Early's career; ended Southern dominance of the Valley; and ended the Campaign.

Initial Stage:

Early marched three columns of men at night toward Cedar Creek. He struck hard the morning of the 19th with Sheridan's main force away at Winchester. The initial victory was Confederate—and Early's troops were so elated they began to pick over the Union supplies.

But Sheridan forced marched his main force back to the Creek and easily repulsed an afternoon attack.

Last Stage: Emory's Corps counterattacked along with Bgr. General George Custer's cavalry. Custer's men broke the Confederate line and the Union victory was complete. USA forces captured 43 cannon and Guns along with a cache of supplies.



This was the field of battle until around 3pm—when Sheridan's General William Emory & General George Armstrong Custer would counter attack.

In a telling comment on the war—Confederates quickly gave up rather than fight futility.

Battle of 3rd Winchester



Sept 19th

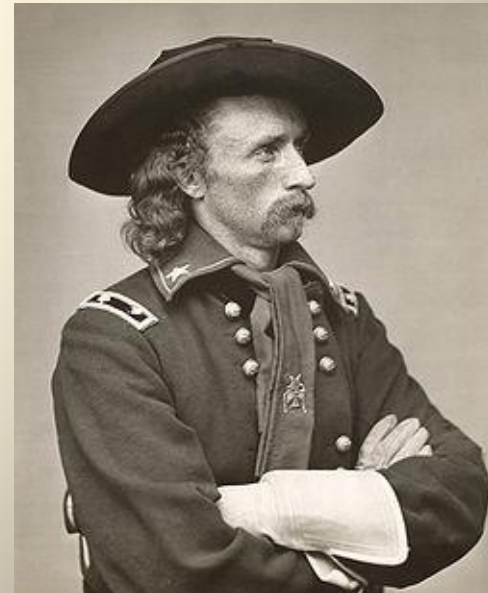
W.P.W.

Corcoran corps storming the fort. Battle of
Opequon - 2nd battle of Winchester

Custer's Cavalry attack the afternoon of October 1864



George Armstrong Custer would graduate last in his class from West Point; but he distinguished himself from the First Bull Run to Appomattox Court House where he witnessed Lee's surrender.



5th Michigan charging at Cedar Creek



Aftermath of Cedar Creek

.. Ended Southern control of the Valley, of critical food supplies, and of railroads in the area.

..Became a psychological blow to the Confederate cause.

..Nearly ended the career of a rising Southern star..

Early would go to Lee's defense at Petersburg by December
And when he was easily defeated at Waynesboro in March
1865, Lee removed him from command.

..AND, coming only 20 days before the Presidential Election of 1864—
Sheridan's victory (along with the September 1, 1864 fall of Atlanta)
made sure that Lincoln was re-elected.

The siege of Petersburg

...one of the longest sieges of the war—9 Months, June 9, 1864 to March 25, 1865

...Grant moved boldly toward Petersburg with superior numbers of men.

He initially tried two frontal attacks and both were repulsed.

By the end of June he ordered his men to dig in ...they would eventually build 30 miles of trenches nearly stretching from Petersburg to Richmond.

Throughout the siege Grant would have at least 67,000 men and his army swelled to 125,000. Lee averaged less than 52,000 men.

Six Stages

After the initial attack...

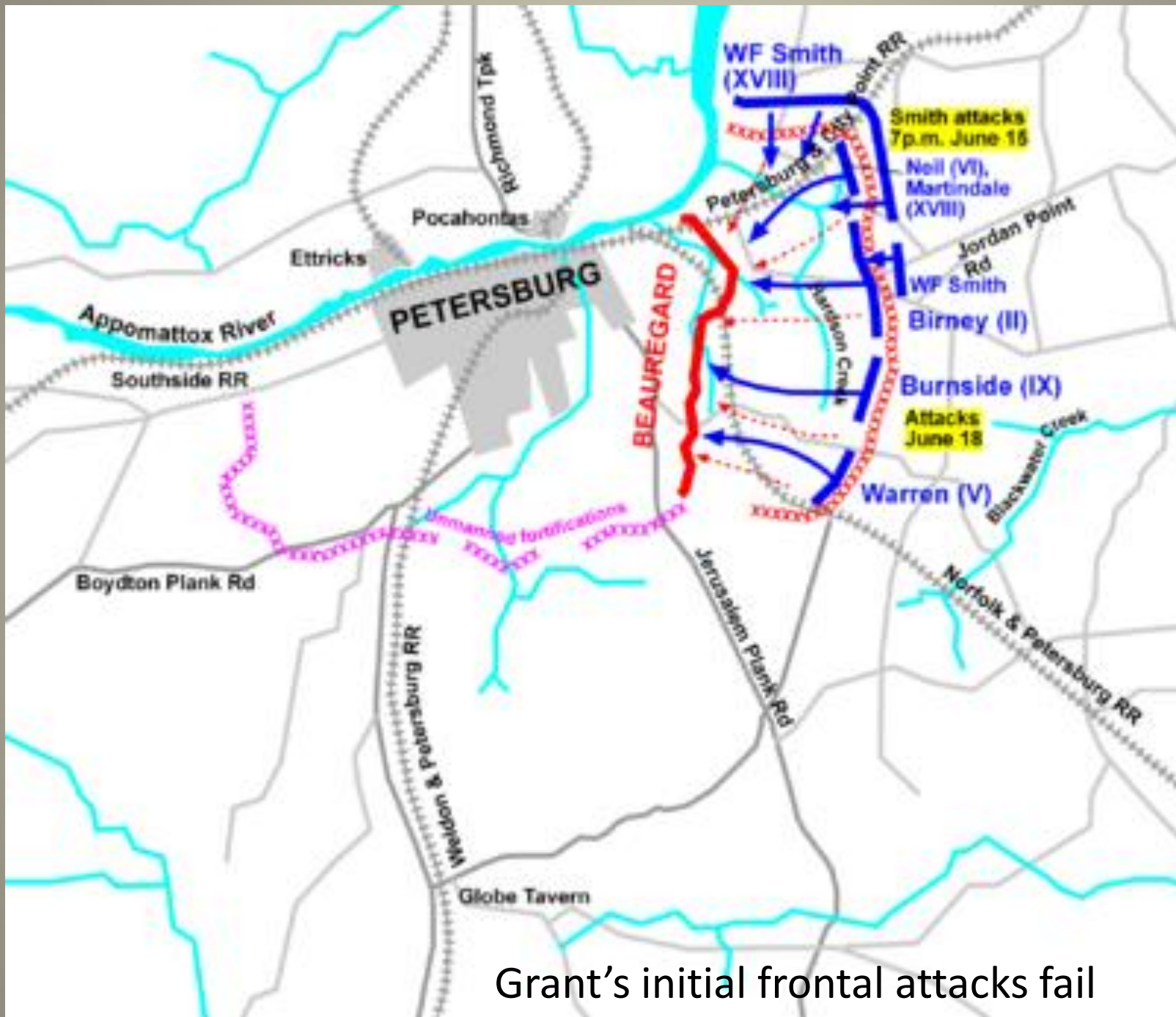
Grant tried to capture railroad lines feeding Lee's troops...

Then Grant ordered an ill conceived raid on railroads...

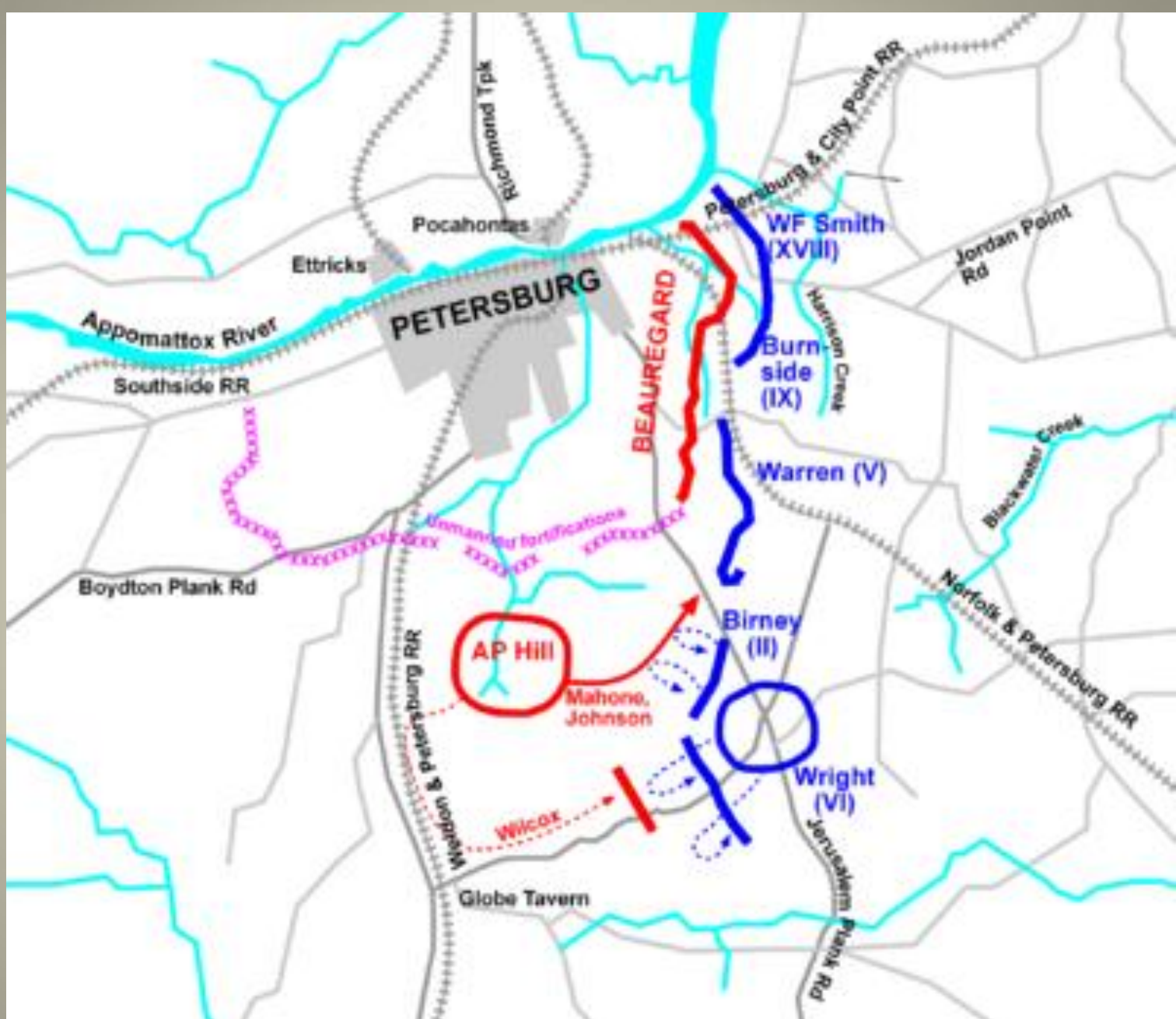
Followed by a series of skirmishes in August and an all out offensive in September...

By October Grant far outnumbered Lee's & the fighting moved to threaten Richmond...

In March Lee desperately attempts a breakout through Fort Stedman—Union losses are only 1,044; but Lee's casualties number 4,100.



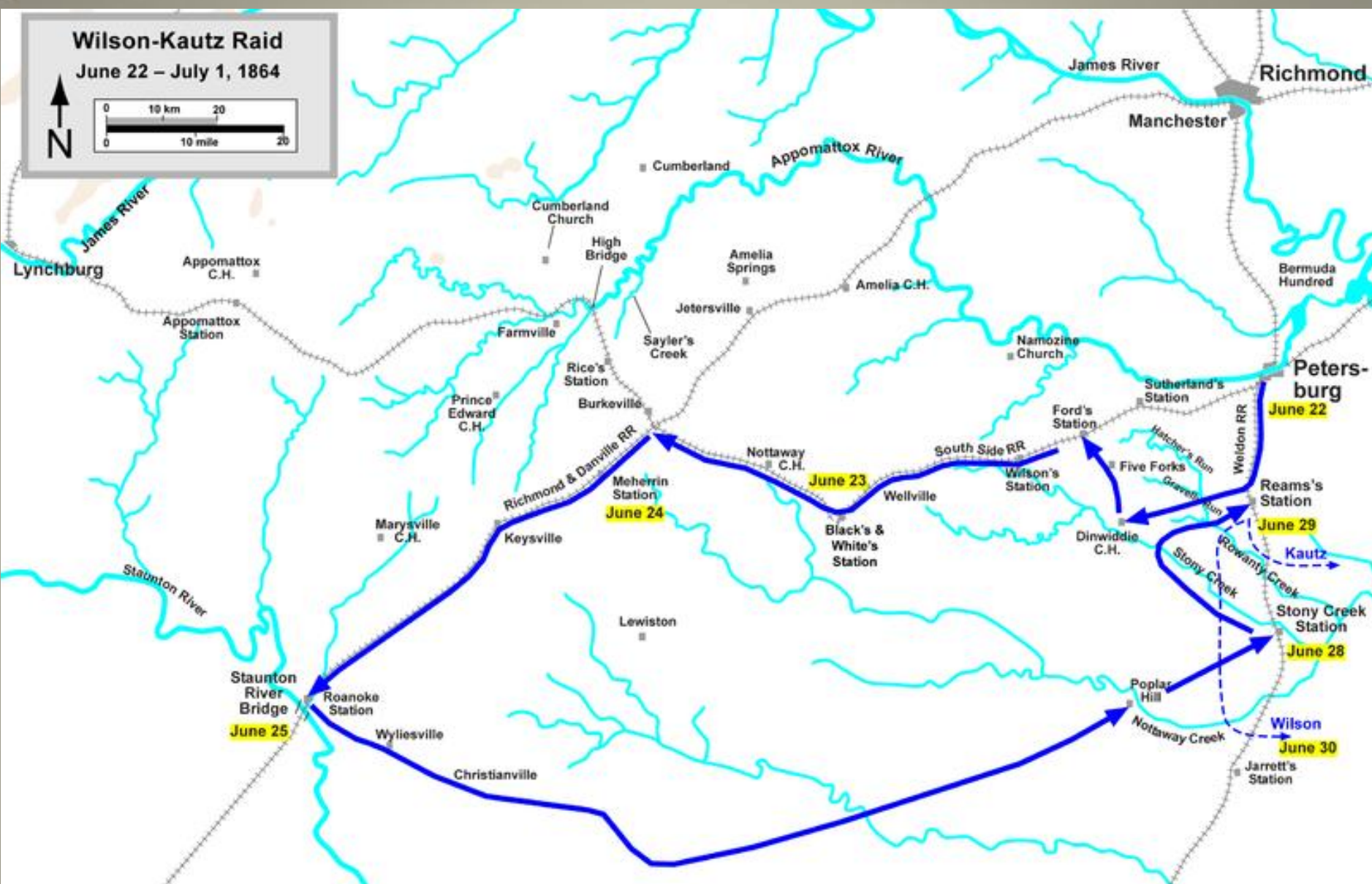
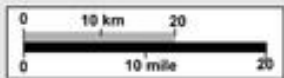
Grant's initial frontal attacks fail



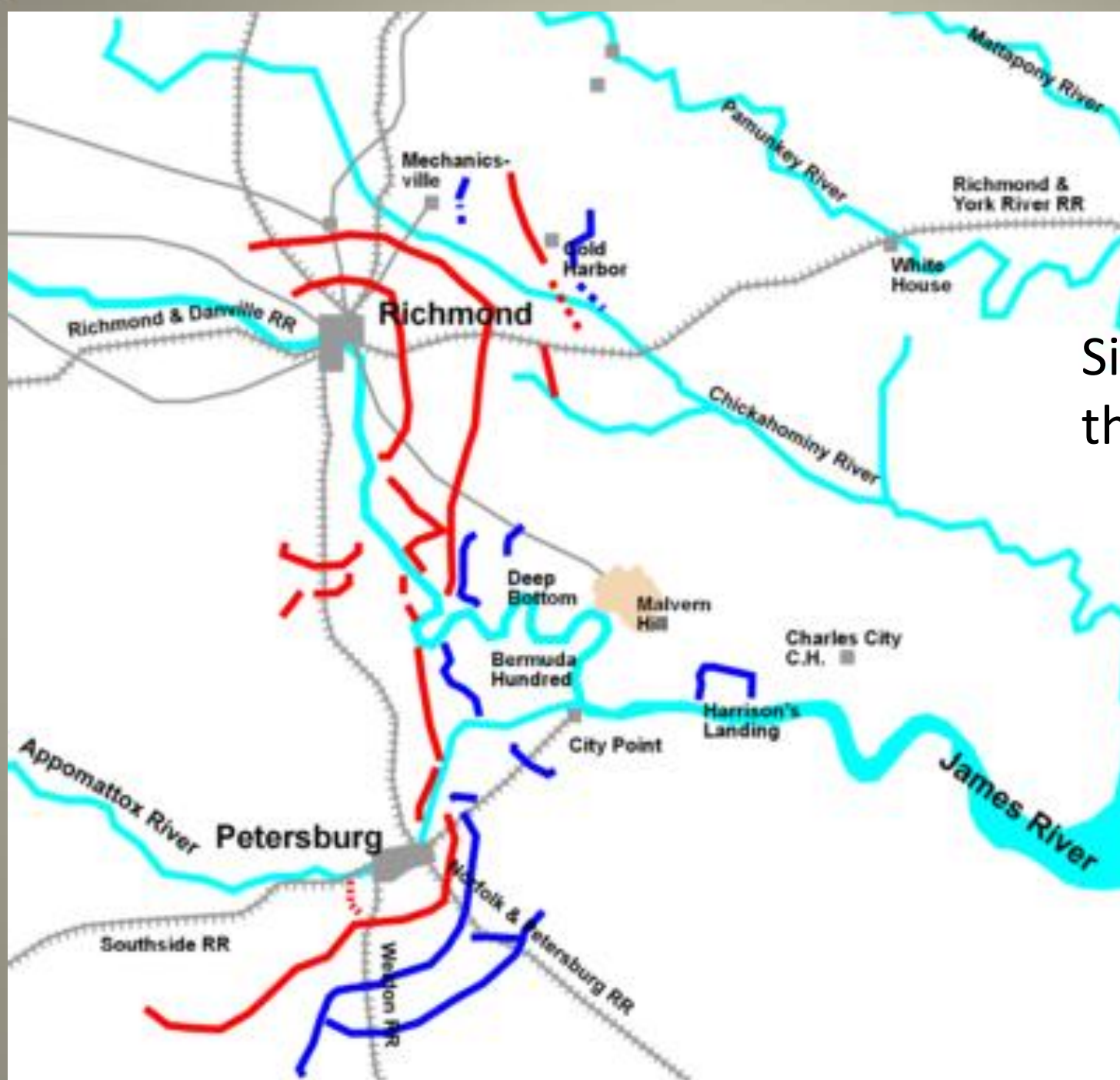
June 21-22 Grant's men are pushed away again—A.P. Hill to the rescue again.

Wilson-Kautz Raid

June 22 – July 1, 1864



B. Gen James H. Wilson and August Kautz were ordered to swing south and destroy railroads. They destroyed only about 60 miles, which were easily repaired, at a cost of 1,445 lives.



Siege lines near the end.

What should Lee do?

...he asked Lt. Gen John Gordon for advice and Gordon told Lee bluntly that the CSA should sue for peace...if terms were bad, move south to aid in the fight against Sherman.

Lee himself assessed the decision...

...from a "moral and political" viewpoint, Richmond's fall would be "a serious calamity...."

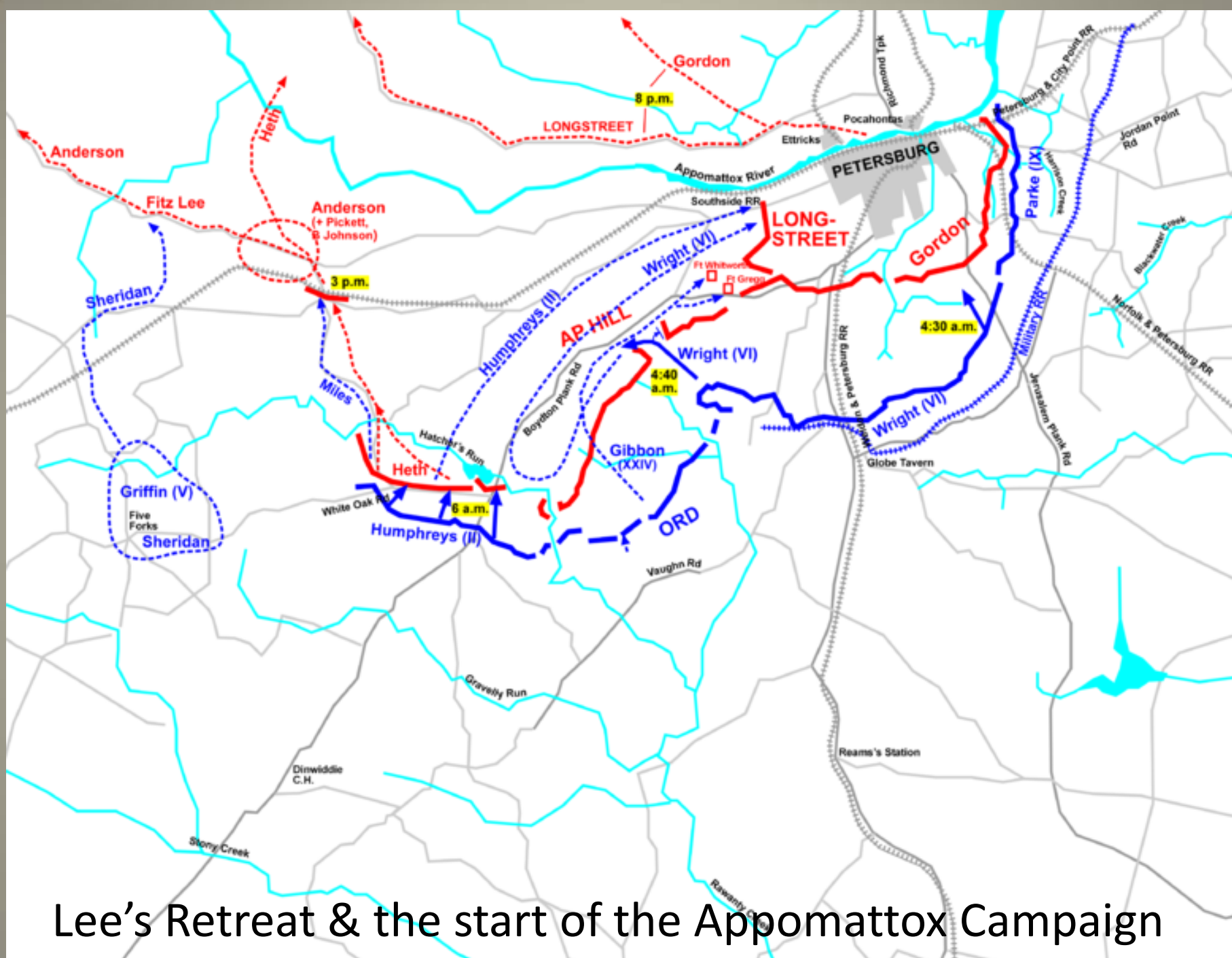
Richmond had been a sleepy regional hub, but had become a center of intrigue, of hospitals, of politics, hotels, and brothels. The city teemed with soldiers and civilians. They had seen near defeat before—but always Lee had saved them.

President Davis had sent his family out of the City 30 days earlier, and he had asked Lee to consider plans for moving the capital.

On Sat, April 1, 1865, the hero of Cedar Creek, Gen Sheridan overran Lee's weak flank at Five Forks...Lee sent the following:

I advise that all preparation be made for leaving Richmond tonight.

--General Lee's telegram to President Jefferson Davis



Lee's Retreat & the start of the Appomattox Campaign

The Fall of Richmond:

"All that Sabbath day the trains came and went, wagons, vehicles, and horsemen rumbled and dashed to and fro, and, in the evening, ominous groups of ruffians - more or less in liquor - began to make their appearance on the principal thoroughfares of the city. At night came on pillage and rioting took place."



Lincoln in Richmond—sympathetic view



FORWARD LINCOLN BEING FORTHWITH CALLED, MARCH 6, AND THE ENTHUSIASTIC GREETING OF THE DELIVERED.—FROM A SKETCH BY GEE WOODS, LONDON, J. BRIDGES.

Grant's order to Sherman.....

“...move against Johnston's army, to break it up, and to get into the interior of the enemy's country as far as you can, inflicting all the damage you can against their war resources....”

Atlanta

May 7, 1864 to September 1, 1864

General William T. Sherman and James B. McPherson, USA

General Joseph E. Johnston and John B. Hood, CSA

USA will lose 3,641; and CSA will lose 8,499

Stages...

...Sherman pushes Johnston south from Chattanooga through Dalton, Resaca, and Cassville, GA

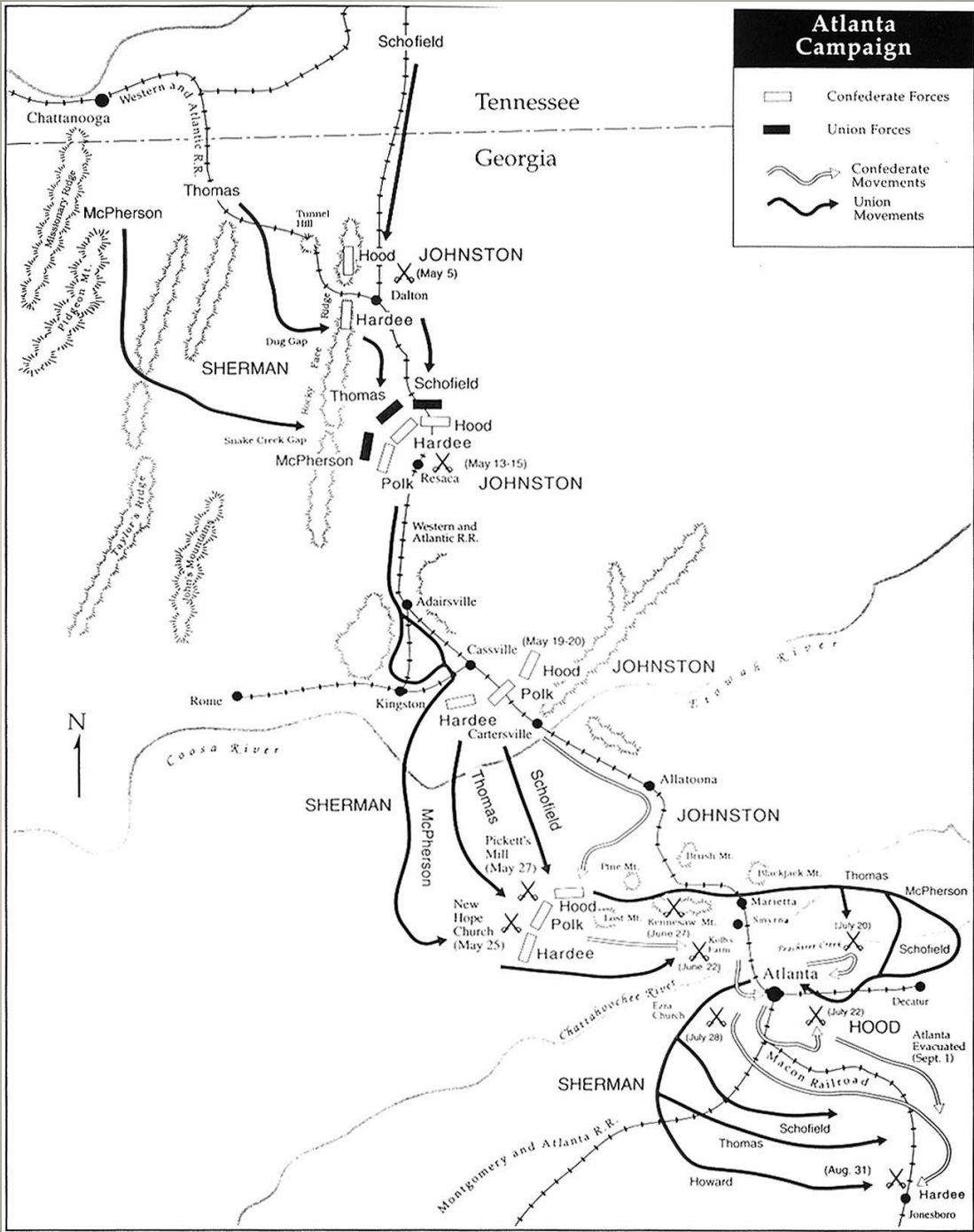
...Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, 27 June 1864

...Battles for Atlanta (east and north) 20-28 July, 1864 (Hood now commanding, CSA)

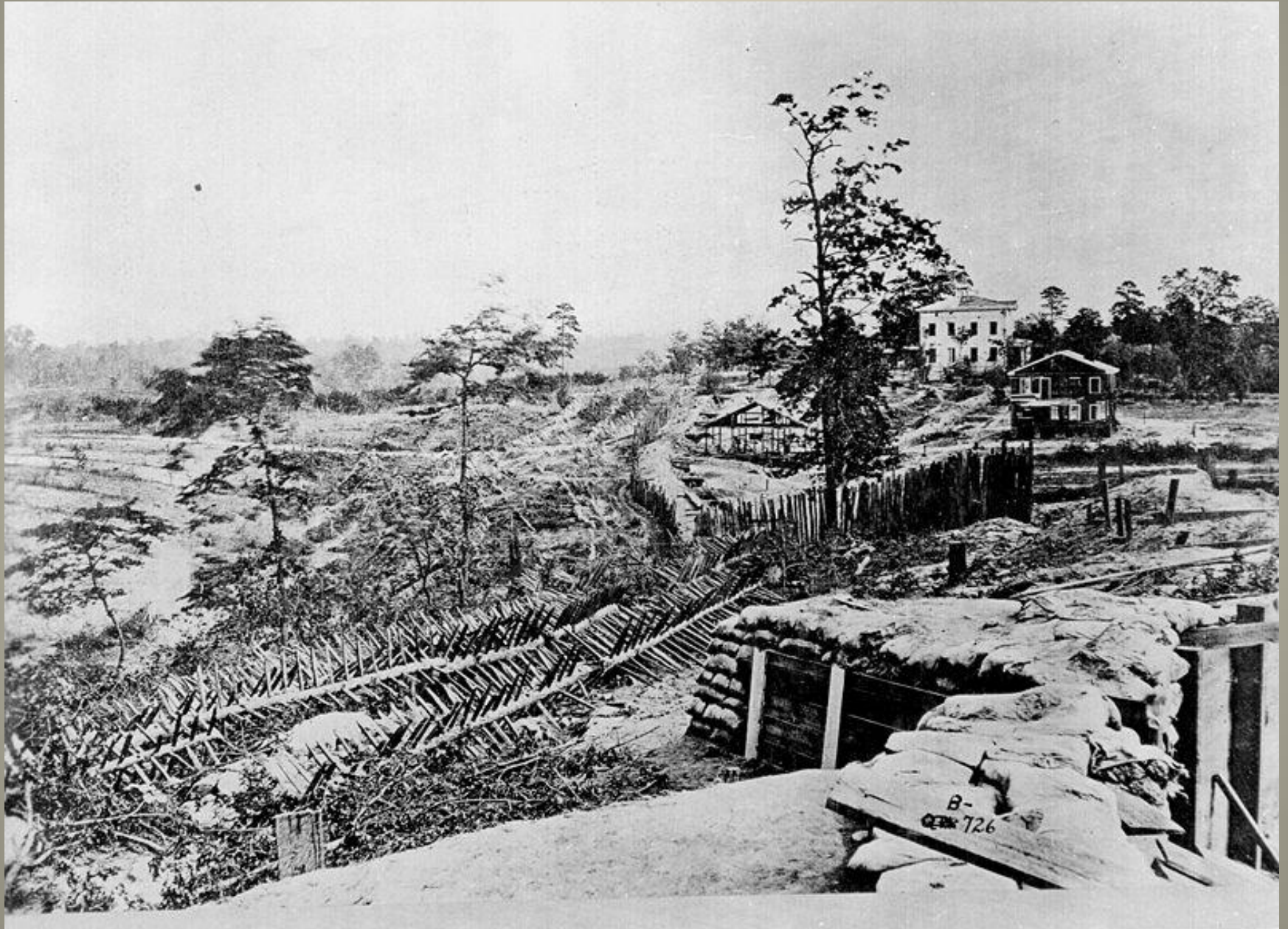
...USA capture of rail supply lines south of the city 31 August 1864

Atlanta Campaign

- Confederate Forces
- Union Forces
- Confederate Movements
- Union Movements

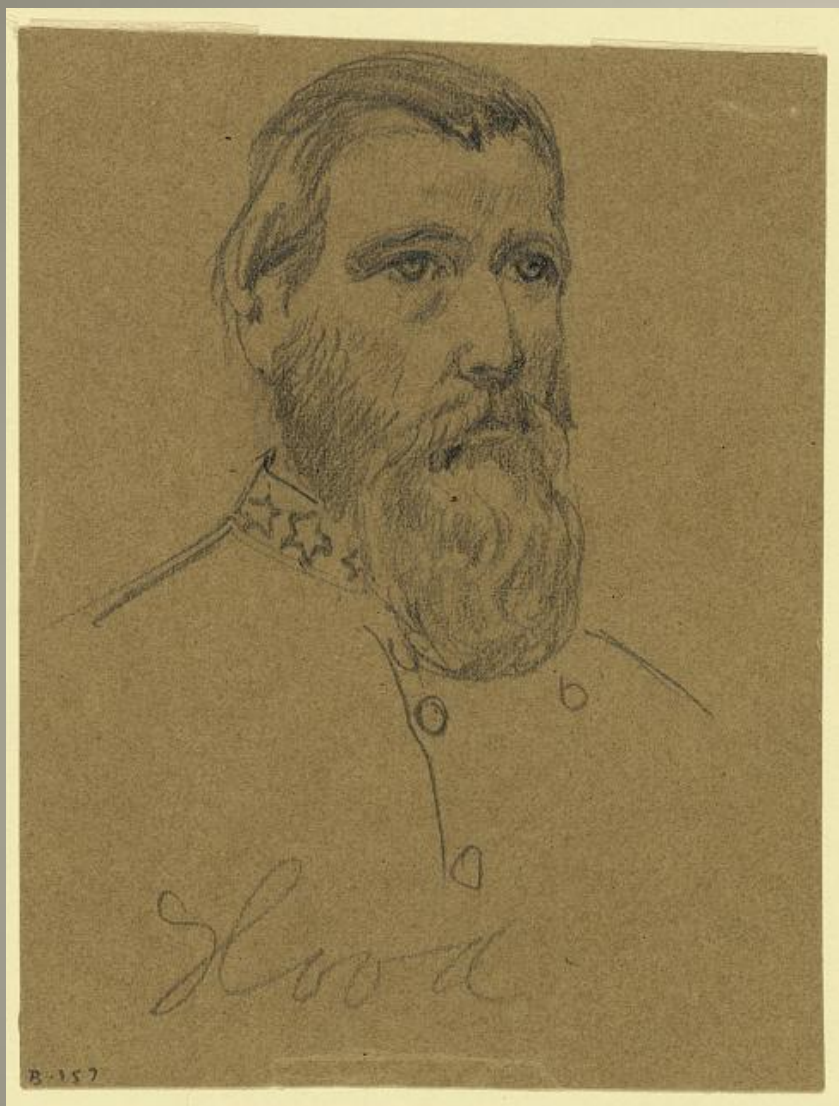


Defensive Palisades around Atlanta



Battle for Atlanta





John B. Hood, CSA



William T. Sherman, USA

Siege of Atlanta



SIEGE OF ATLANTA.

FAC-SIMILE PRINT BY S. MANSFIELD & CO.

Shelled Atlanta home



HDQRS. MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSISSIPPI,

In the Field, Atlanta, Ga., September 7, 1864.

General HOOD, *Commanding Confederate Army:*

GENERAL: I have deemed it to the interest of the United States that the citizens now residing in Atlanta should remove, those who prefer it to go south and the rest north.

Atlanta in Ruins



Death of McPherson



DESIGNED BY BENJAMIN W. FREDERICKS - JULY 23RD 1864. PART OF THE CONFEDERATE ARMY.

REPRODUCED BY THE CURTIS & ILLINOIS ART ASSOCIATION, N.Y. 10 APRIL 1914, PHOTODUPLICATIONS, U.S.A.

BATTLE OF ATLANTA

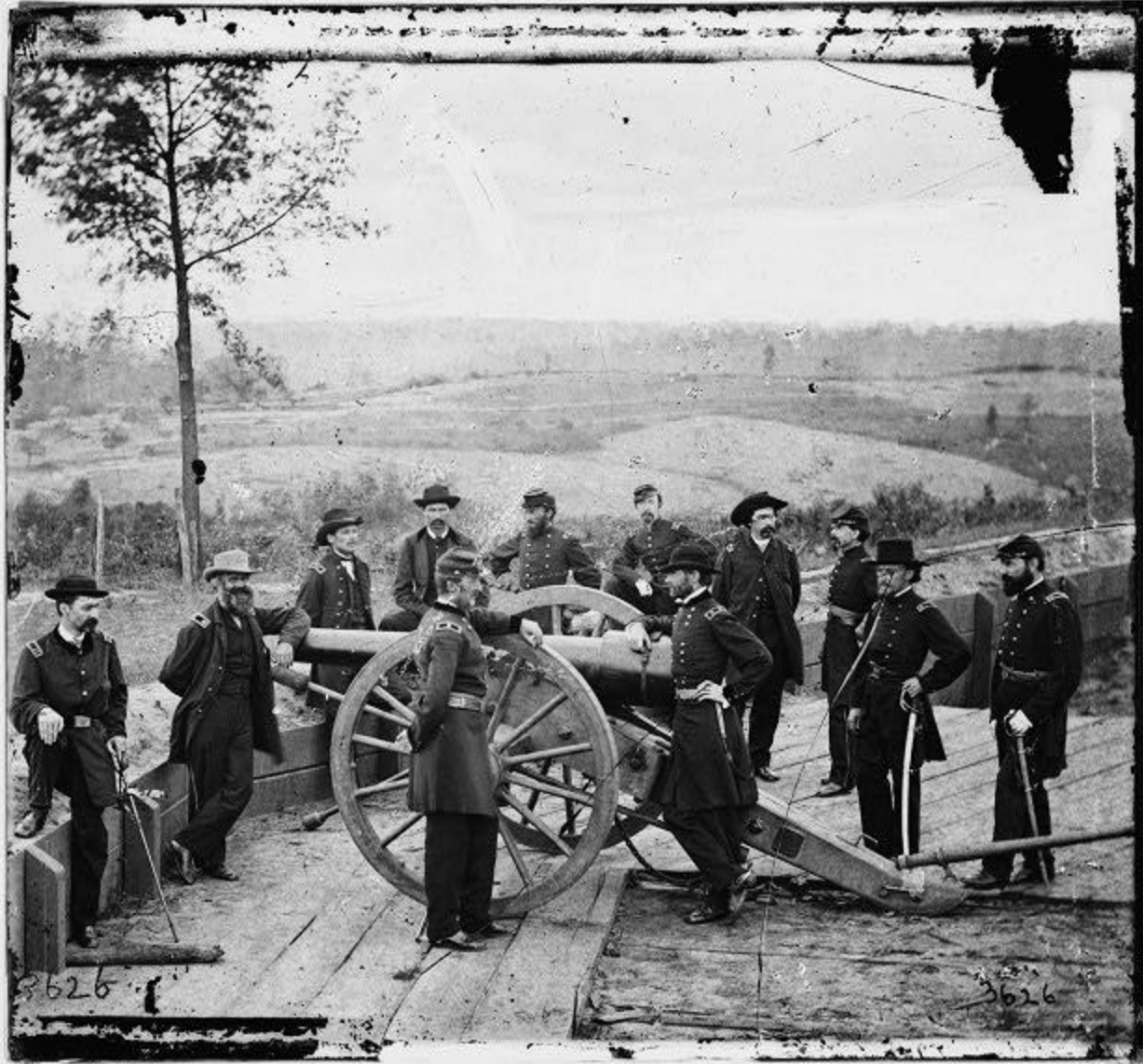
Atlanta Under Occupation—local newspaper



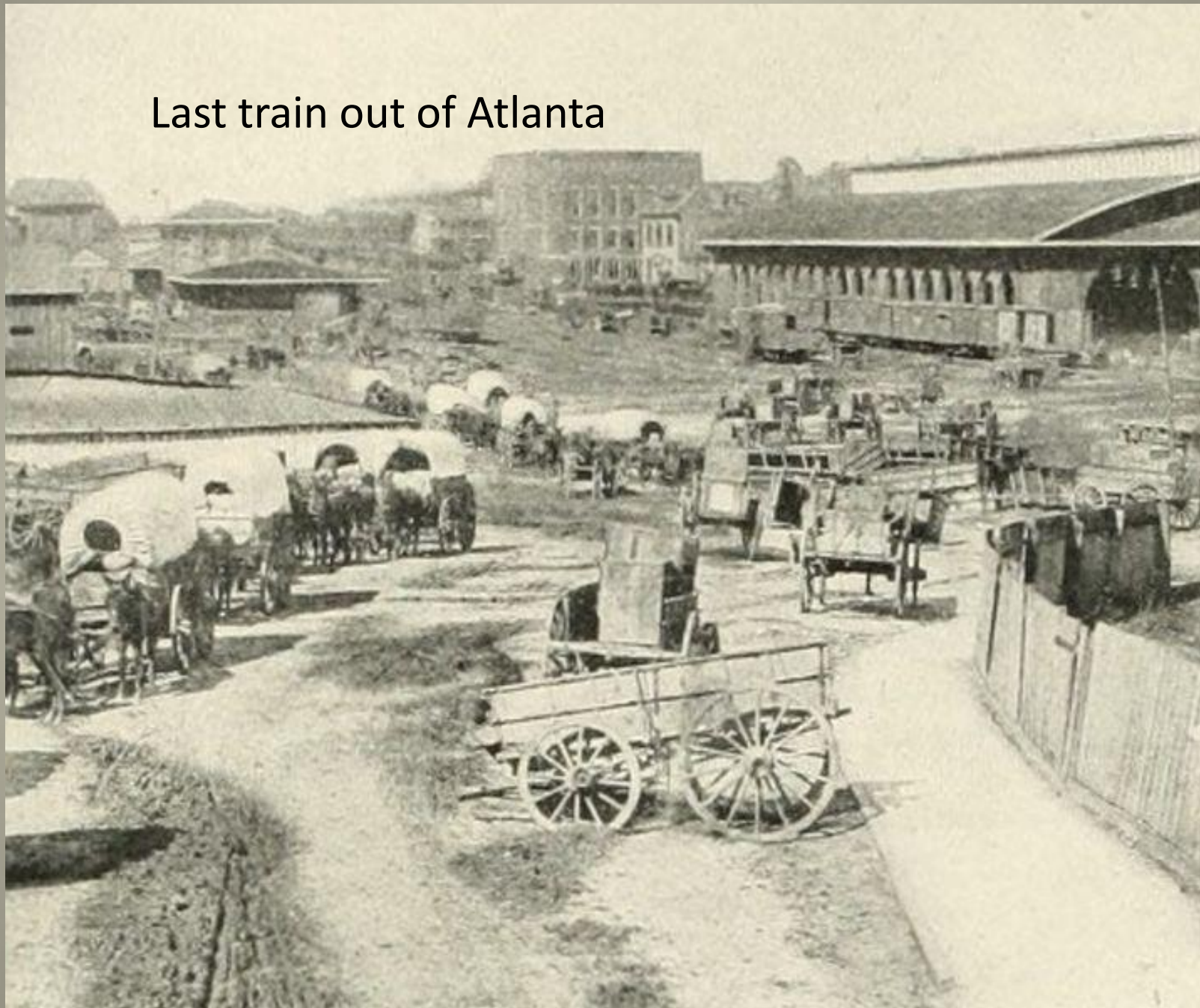
Federal camp on Decatur Street



Sherman admiring Atlanta defenses



Last train out of Atlanta



DATES	ENAGAEMENTS	DATES	ENGAGEMENTS	DATES	LINCOLN
ATLANTA		PETERSBURG/RICHMOND			
5/7/1864	DALTON, GA				
5/15/1864	RESACA, GA				
6/27/1864	CASSVILLE, GA	6/15/1865	FIRST FRONTAL ATTACK		
6/27/1864	BATTLE KENNESAW MNT.	6/21-22/1864	MORE ATTACKS		
6/20-28/1864	ATLANTA	6/21 TO 7/1/1864	WILSON KAUTZ RAIDS		
8/31/1864	JONESBORO				
9/1/1864	ATLANTA FALLS	9/30/1864	NEW MARKET HIEGHTS	8/NOV/1864	LINCOLN DEFEATS McCLELLAN BY 10%
		3/25/1865	CSA BREAKOUT FAILS	3/4/1865	LINCOLN'S SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS
		4/2/1865	CSA RETREAT BEGINS		
				4/14/1865	LINCOLN SHOT
				12/18/1865	13 th Amend.

The Union election of 1864.....referendum on the war and on emancipation

...Republicans solidly behind Lincoln and war effort, September news encouraging,
Radicals hoped for amendments to end slavery--

...Anti-war Democrats, peace Democrats, and others split

...Democrats nominate George B. McClellan, former Union Commander
McClellan openly dismisses the “peace” notion, but accepts the nomination
They remain bitterly split between “war” & “peace”

...Grant reports from the field that Southerners are hoping McClellan wins

...CSA Vice President talks of peace, as “soon as McClellan takes office....”

VOTE

Electoral count: Lincoln 212 McClellan 3

Popular count: Lincoln 2,218,388 McClellan 1,812,207

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

Abraham Lincoln, *Second Inaugural Address*, March 4, 1865

Sherman orders the burning of all public and government buildings in Atlanta. His men become over-eager, and many private homes are destroyed as well.

By mid November he has completed the destruction of all military munitions and operations...

Sherman's March to the Sea, Nov 15-Dec. 21, 1864. Stages:

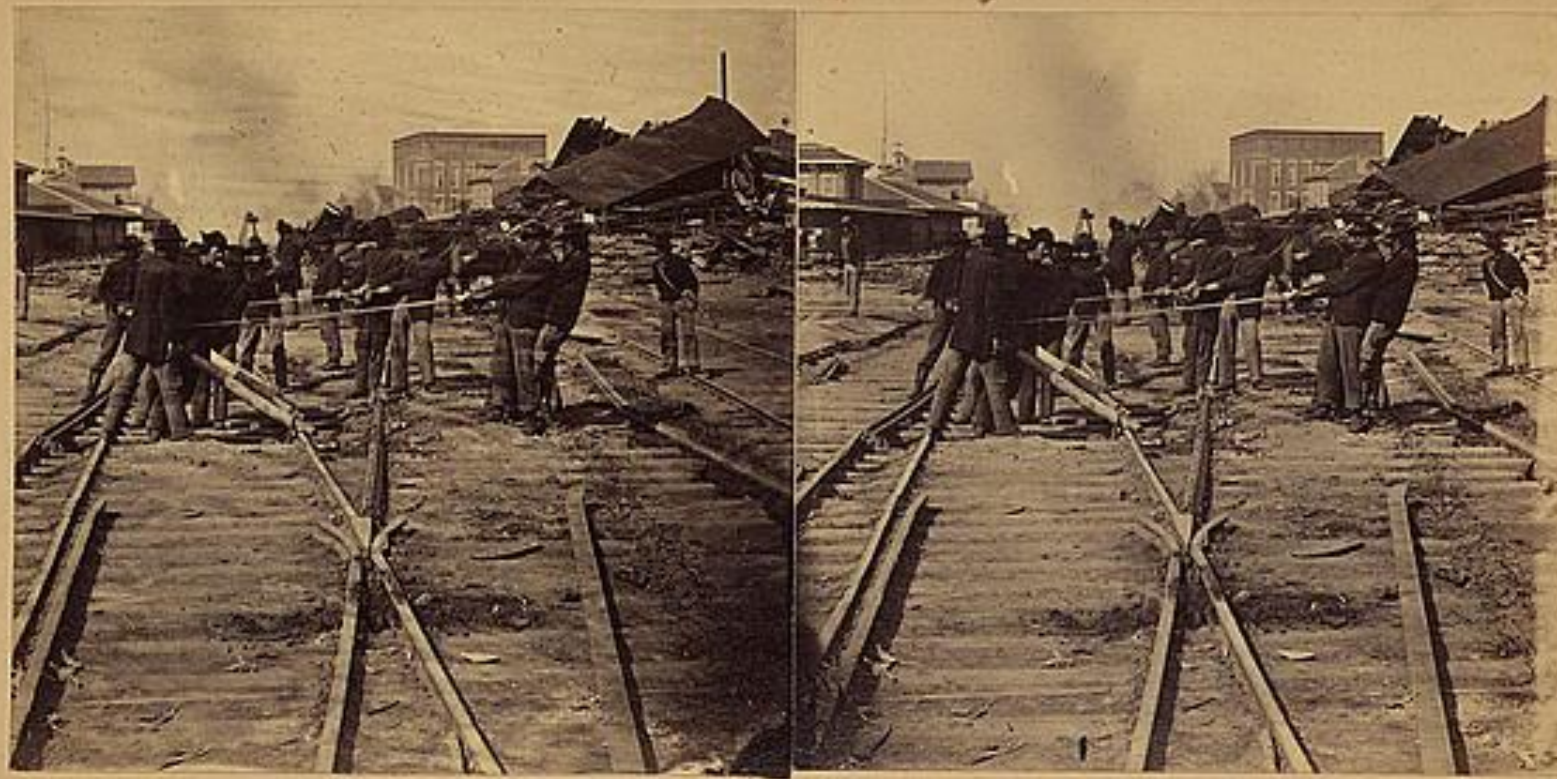
...marches erratically to deceive Confederates..and uses two wings...

...orders troops to forage off the land....

...splitting his army fools many and the Confederates wrongly guess his objective is Macon.

..marched virtually unopposed to Savannah...tearing up railroads and collecting contrabands.

Destroying track





Sherman's March to the Sea

Excerpts from Special Field order 120

...forage liberally...meat of any kind...vegetables...whatever is needed....

...corps commanders may destroy houses, mills, gins (if inhabitants resist)....

...horses, mules, wagons...the cavalry may appropriate freely....

...commanders may leave a written description, but no receipt, leaving a portion for maintenance....

...Negroes who are able bodied may be taken along



"IS ALL DEM YANKEES DAT'S PASSING?"

One of the most amusing as well as most striking features of SHERMAN'S march through Georgia was the utter amazement of the people, black and white, of the hitherto unvisited regions through which the army passed, at the immense numbers of the "Yankees." Our Artist sends us a portrait from life of one of the "colored population," who watched, hour after hour, the endless column of Blue-Coats cheerily filing by the plantation, from which, probably, she was never ten miles in her life, and finally broke out: "Is all dem Yankees dat's passing?" Another exclaimed, to a daughter of her master, "Law! Miss HATTIE, jest look dar in de road: dem Yankees like so many blackbirds!"

No good estimate survives,
But more than 30,000 freed slaves leave their confines and simply follow Sherman to the Sea.

This stereotyped drawing features the story to a national audience.

To deal with the large numbers of former slaves; Sherman issued his Special Field Orders, No. 15. The orders provided for the settlement of 40,000 freed slaves and black refugees on land expropriated from white landowners in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

Thirteenth Amendment.

Prohibits Slavery.....

It was passed by the Senate on April 8, 1864, passed by the House on January 31, 1865, and adopted on December 6, 1865. It was then declared in the proclamation of Secretary of State William H. Seward on December 18. It was the first of the Reconstruction Amendments.

Conclusions: A year of Decision

...the South lost the symbolic and supply-rich Shenandoah

...the Battle for Petersburg became a siege

...and Lee was forced to abandon the Confederate capitol

...Atlanta falls..then Sherman takes Savannah, foraging as he goes

..on the good news Lincoln is easily re-elected