

= Battle of Gettysburg =

The Battle of Gettysburg (local / ʃɛtɪsbʊrɡ / , with an / s / sound) was fought July 1 ? 3 , 1863 , in and around the town of Gettysburg , Pennsylvania , by Union and Confederate forces during the American Civil War . The battle involved the largest number of casualties of the entire war and is often described as the war 's turning point . Union Maj. Gen. George Meade 's Army of the Potomac defeated attacks by Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee 's Army of Northern Virginia , ending Lee 's attempt to invade the North .

After his success at Chancellorsville in Virginia in May 1863 , Lee led his army through the Shenandoah Valley to begin his second invasion of the North ? the Gettysburg Campaign . With his army in high spirits , Lee intended to shift the focus of the summer campaign from war @-@ ravaged northern Virginia and hoped to influence Northern politicians to give up their prosecution of the war by penetrating as far as Harrisburg , Pennsylvania , or even Philadelphia . Prodded by President Abraham Lincoln , Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker moved his army in pursuit , but was relieved of command just three days before the battle and replaced by Meade .

Elements of the two armies initially collided at Gettysburg on July 1 , 1863 , as Lee urgently concentrated his forces there , his objective being to engage the Union army and destroy it . Low ridges to the northwest of town were defended initially by a Union cavalry division under Brig. Gen. John Buford , and soon reinforced with two corps of Union infantry . However , two large Confederate corps assaulted them from the northwest and north , collapsing the hastily developed Union lines , sending the defenders retreating through the streets of town to the hills just to the south .

On the second day of battle , most of both armies had assembled . The Union line was laid out in a defensive formation resembling a fishhook . In the late afternoon of July 2 , Lee launched a heavy assault on the Union left flank , and fierce fighting raged at Little Round Top , the Wheatfield , Devil 's Den , and the Peach Orchard . On the Union right , Confederate demonstrations escalated into full @-@ scale assaults on Culp 's Hill and Cemetery Hill . All across the battlefield , despite significant losses , the Union defenders held their lines .

On the third day of battle , fighting resumed on Culp 's Hill , and cavalry battles raged to the east and south , but the main event was a dramatic infantry assault by 12 @, @ 500 Confederates against the center of the Union line on Cemetery Ridge , known as Pickett 's Charge . The charge was repulsed by Union rifle and artillery fire , at great loss to the Confederate army .

Lee led his army on a torturous retreat back to Virginia . Between 46 @, @ 000 and 51 @, @ 000 soldiers from both armies were casualties in the three @-@ day battle , the most costly in US history .

On November 19 , President Lincoln used the dedication ceremony for the Gettysburg National Cemetery to honor the fallen Union soldiers and redefine the purpose of the war in his historic Gettysburg Address .

= = Background = =

= = = Military situation = = =

Shortly after the Army of Northern Virginia won a major victory over the Army of the Potomac at the Battle of Chancellorsville (April 30 ? May 6 , 1863) , Robert E. Lee decided upon a second invasion of the North (the first was the unsuccessful Maryland Campaign of September 1862 , which ended in the bloody Battle of Antietam) . Such a move would upset U.S. plans for the summer campaigning season and possibly reduce the pressure on the besieged Confederate garrison at Vicksburg . The invasion would allow the Confederates to live off the bounty of the rich Northern farms while giving war @-@ ravaged Virginia a much @-@ needed rest . In addition , Lee 's 72 @, @ 000 @-@ man army could threaten Philadelphia , Baltimore , and Washington , and possibly strengthen the growing peace movement in the North .

= = = Initial movements to battle = = =

Thus , on June 3 , Lee 's army began to shift northward from Fredericksburg , Virginia . Following the death of Thomas J. " Stonewall " Jackson , Lee reorganized his two large corps into three new corps , commanded by Lt. Gen. James Longstreet (First Corps) , Lt. Gen. Richard S. Ewell (Second) , and Lt. Gen. A.P. Hill (Third) ; both Ewell and Hill , who had formerly reported to Jackson as division commanders , were new to this level of responsibility . The Cavalry Division remained under the command of Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart .

The Union Army of the Potomac , under Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker , consisted of seven infantry corps , a cavalry corps , and an Artillery Reserve , for a combined strength of more than 100 @,@ 000 men .

The first major action of the campaign took place on June 9 between cavalry forces at Brandy Station , near Culpeper , Virginia . The 9 @,@ 500 Confederate cavalymen under Stuart were surprised by Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton 's combined arms force of two cavalry divisions (8 @,@ 000 troopers) and 3 @,@ 000 infantry , but Stuart eventually repulsed the Union attack . The inconclusive battle , the largest predominantly cavalry engagement of the war , proved for the first time that the Union horse soldier was equal to his Southern counterpart .

By mid @-@ June , the Army of Northern Virginia was poised to cross the Potomac River and enter Maryland . After defeating the U.S. garrisons at Winchester and Martinsburg , Ewell 's Second Corps began crossing the river on June 15 . Hill 's and Longstreet 's corps followed on June 24 and 25 . Hooker 's army pursued , keeping between the U.S. capital and Lee 's army . The U.S. crossed the Potomac from June 25 to 27 .

Lee gave strict orders for his army to minimize any negative impacts on the civilian population . Food , horses , and other supplies were generally not seized outright , although quartermasters reimbursing Northern farmers and merchants with Confederate money were not well received . Various towns , most notably York , Pennsylvania , were required to pay indemnities in lieu of supplies , under threat of destruction . During the invasion , the Confederates seized some 40 northern African Americans . A few of them were escaped fugitive slaves , but most were freemen ; all were sent south into slavery under guard .

On June 26 , elements of Maj. Gen. Jubal Early 's division of Ewell 's Corps occupied the town of Gettysburg after chasing off newly raised Pennsylvania militia in a series of minor skirmishes . Early laid the borough under tribute but did not collect any significant supplies . Soldiers burned several railroad cars and a covered bridge , and destroyed nearby rails and telegraph lines . The following morning , Early departed for adjacent York County .

Meanwhile , in a controversial move , Lee allowed Jeb Stuart to take a portion of the army 's cavalry and ride around the east flank of the Union army . Lee 's orders gave Stuart much latitude , and both generals share the blame for the long absence of Stuart 's cavalry , as well as for the failure to assign a more active role to the cavalry left with the army . Stuart and his three best brigades were absent from the army during the crucial phase of the approach to Gettysburg and the first two days of battle . By June 29 , Lee 's army was strung out in an arc from Chambersburg (28 miles (45 km) northwest of Gettysburg) to Carlisle (30 miles (48 km) north of Gettysburg) to near Harrisburg and Wrightsville on the Susquehanna River .

In a dispute over the use of the forces defending the Harpers Ferry garrison , Hooker offered his resignation , and Abraham Lincoln and General @-@ in @-@ Chief Henry W. Halleck , who were looking for an excuse to get rid of him , immediately accepted . They replaced Hooker early on the morning of June 28 with Maj. Gen. George Gordon Meade , then commander of the V Corps .

On June 29 , when Lee learned that the Army of the Potomac had crossed the Potomac River , he ordered a concentration of his forces around Cashtown , located at the eastern base of South Mountain and eight miles (13 km) west of Gettysburg . On June 30 , while part of Hill 's Corps was in Cashtown , one of Hill 's brigades , North Carolinians under Brig. Gen. J. Johnston Pettigrew , ventured toward Gettysburg . In his memoirs , Maj. Gen. Henry Heth , Pettigrew 's division commander , claimed that he sent Pettigrew to search for supplies in town ? especially shoes .

When Pettigrew 's troops approached Gettysburg on June 30 , they noticed Union cavalry under Brig. Gen. John Buford arriving south of town , and Pettigrew returned to Cashtown without engaging them . When Pettigrew told Hill and Heth what he had seen , neither general believed that there was a substantial U.S. force in or near the town , suspecting that it had been only Pennsylvania militia . Despite General Lee 's order to avoid a general engagement until his entire army was concentrated , Hill decided to mount a significant reconnaissance in force the following morning to determine the size and strength of the enemy force in his front . Around 5 a.m. on Wednesday , July 1 , two brigades of Heth 's division advanced to Gettysburg .

= = Opposing forces = =

= = = Union = = =

The Army of the Potomac , initially under Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker (Maj. Gen. George G. Meade replaced Hooker in command on June 28) , consisted of more than 100 @, @ 000 men in the following organization :

I Corps , commanded by Maj. Gen. John F. Reynolds , with divisions commanded by Brig. Gen. James S. Wadsworth , Brig. Gen. John C. Robinson , and Maj. Gen. Abner Doubleday .

II Corps , commanded by Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock , with divisions commanded by Brig. Gens . John C. Caldwell , John Gibbon , and Alexander Hays .

III Corps , commanded by Maj. Gen. Daniel E. Sickles , with divisions commanded by Maj. Gen. David B. Birney and Maj. Gen. Andrew A. Humphreys .

V Corps , commanded by Maj. Gen. George Sykes (George G. Meade until June 28) , with divisions commanded by Brig. Gens . James Barnes , Romeyn B. Ayres , and Samuel W. Crawford .

VI Corps , commanded by Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick , with divisions commanded by Brig. Gen. Horatio G. Wright , Brig. Gen. Albion P. Howe , and Maj. Gen. John Newton .

XI Corps , commanded by Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard , with divisions commanded by Brig. Gen. Francis C. Barlow , Brig. Gen. Adolph von Steinwehr , and Maj. Gen. Carl Schurz .

XII Corps , commanded by Maj. Gen. Henry W. Slocum , with divisions commanded by Brig. Gens . Alpheus S. Williams and John W. Geary .

Cavalry Corps , commanded by Maj. Gen. Alfred Pleasonton , with divisions commanded by Brig. Gens . John Buford , David McM . Gregg , and H. Judson Kilpatrick .

Artillery Reserve , commanded by Brig. Gen. Robert O. Tyler . (The preeminent artillery officer at Gettysburg was Brig. Gen. Henry J. Hunt , chief of artillery on Meade 's staff .)

During the advance on Gettysburg , Maj. Gen. Reynolds was in operational command of the left , or advanced , wing of the Army , consisting of the I , III , and XI Corps . Note that many other Union units (not part of the Army of the Potomac) were actively involved in the Gettysburg Campaign , but not directly involved in the Battle of Gettysburg . These included portions of the Union IV Corps , the militia and state troops of the Department of the Susquehanna , and various garrisons , including that at Harpers Ferry .

= = = Confederate = = =

In reaction to the death of Lt. Gen. Thomas J. " Stonewall " Jackson after Chancellorsville , Lee reorganized his Army of Northern Virginia (75 @, @ 000 men) from two infantry corps into three .

First Corps , commanded by Lt. Gen. James Longstreet , with divisions commanded by Maj. Gens . Lafayette McLaws , George E. Pickett , and John Bell Hood .

Second Corps , commanded by Lt. Gen. Richard S. Ewell , with divisions commanded by Maj. Gens . Jubal A. Early , Edward " Allegheny " Johnson , and Robert E. Rodes .

Third Corps , commanded by Lt. Gen. A.P. Hill , with divisions commanded by Maj. Gens . Richard H. Anderson , Henry Heth , and W. Dorsey Pender .

Cavalry division , commanded by Maj. Gen. J.E.B. Stuart , with brigades commanded by Brig. Gens . Wade Hampton , Fitzhugh Lee , Beverly H. Robertson , Albert G. Jenkins , William E. " Grumble " Jones , and John D. Imboden , and Col. John R. Chambliss .

= = First day of battle = =

= = = Herr Ridge , McPherson Ridge and Seminary Ridge = = =

Anticipating that the Confederates would march on Gettysburg from the west on the morning of July 1 , Buford laid out his defenses on three ridges west of the town : Herr Ridge , McPherson Ridge and Seminary Ridge . These were appropriate terrain for a delaying action by his small cavalry division against superior Confederate infantry forces , meant to buy time awaiting the arrival of Union infantrymen who could occupy the strong defensive positions south of town at Cemetery Hill , Cemetery Ridge , and Culp 's Hill . Buford understood that if the Confederates could gain control of these heights , Meade 's army would have difficulty dislodging them .

Heth 's division advanced with two brigades forward , commanded by Brig. Gens . James J. Archer and Joseph R. Davis . They proceeded easterly in columns along the Chambersburg Pike . Three miles (5 km) west of town , about 7 : 30 a.m. on July 1 , the two brigades met light resistance from vedettes of Union cavalry , and deployed into line . According to lore , the Union soldier to fire the first shot of the battle was Lt. Marcellus Jones . In 1886 Lt. Jones returned to Gettysburg to mark the spot where he fired the first shot with a monument . Eventually , Heth 's men reached dismounted troopers of Col. William Gamble 's cavalry brigade , who raised determined resistance and delaying tactics from behind fence posts with fire from their breechloading carbines . Still , by 10 : 20 a.m. , the Confederates had pushed the Union cavalrymen east to McPherson Ridge , when the vanguard of the I Corps (Maj. Gen. John F. Reynolds) finally arrived .

North of the pike , Davis gained a temporary success against Brig. Gen. Lysander Cutler 's brigade but was repulsed with heavy losses in an action around an unfinished railroad bed cut in the ridge . South of the pike , Archer 's brigade assaulted through Herbst (also known as McPherson 's) Woods . The U.S. Iron Brigade under Brig. Gen. Solomon Meredith enjoyed initial success against Archer , capturing several hundred men , including Archer himself .

General Reynolds was shot and killed early in the fighting while directing troop and artillery placements just to the east of the woods . Shelby Foote wrote that the Union cause lost a man considered by many to be " the best general in the army . " Maj. Gen. Abner Doubleday assumed command . Fighting in the Chambersburg Pike area lasted until about 12 : 30 p.m. It resumed around 2 : 30 p.m. , when Heth 's entire division engaged , adding the brigades of Pettigrew and Col. John M. Brockenbrough .

As Pettigrew 's North Carolina Brigade came on line , they flanked the 19th Indiana and drove the Iron Brigade back . The 26th North Carolina (the largest regiment in the army with 839 men) lost heavily , leaving the first day 's fight with around 212 men . By the end of the three @-@ day battle , they had about 152 men standing , the highest casualty percentage for one battle of any regiment , North or South . Slowly the Iron Brigade was pushed out of the woods toward Seminary Ridge . Hill added Maj. Gen. William Dorsey Pender 's division to the assault , and the I Corps was driven back through the grounds of the Lutheran Seminary and Gettysburg streets .

As the fighting to the west proceeded , two divisions of Ewell 's Second Corps , marching west toward Cashtown in accordance with Lee 's order for the army to concentrate in that vicinity , turned south on the Carlisle and Harrisburg roads toward Gettysburg , while the Union XI Corps (Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard) raced north on the Baltimore Pike and Taneytown Road . By early afternoon , the U.S. line ran in a semicircle west , north , and northeast of Gettysburg .

However , the U.S. did not have enough troops ; Cutler , who was deployed north of the Chambersburg Pike , had his right flank in the air . The leftmost division of the XI Corps was unable to deploy in time to strengthen the line , so Doubleday was forced to throw in reserve brigades to salvage his line .

Around 2 p.m. , the Confederate Second Corps divisions of Maj. Gens . Robert E. Rodes and Jubal Early assaulted and out @-@ flanked the Union I and XI Corps positions north and northwest of town . The Confederate brigades of Col. Edward A. O 'Neal and Brig. Gen. Alfred Iverson suffered severe losses assaulting the I Corps division of Brig. Gen. John C. Robinson south of Oak Hill . Early 's division profited from a blunder by Brig. Gen. Francis C. Barlow , when he advanced his XI Corps division to Blocher 's Knoll (directly north of town and now known as Barlow 's Knoll) ; this represented a salient in the corps line , susceptible to attack from multiple sides , and Early 's troops overran Barlow 's division , which constituted the right flank of the Union Army 's position . Barlow was wounded and captured in the attack .

As U.S. positions collapsed both north and west of town , Gen. Howard ordered a retreat to the high ground south of town at Cemetery Hill , where he had left the division of Brig. Gen. Adolph von Steinwehr in reserve . Maj. Gen. Winfield S. Hancock assumed command of the battlefield , sent by Meade when he heard that Reynolds had been killed . Hancock , commander of the II Corps and Meade 's most trusted subordinate , was ordered to take command of the field and to determine whether Gettysburg was an appropriate place for a major battle . Hancock told Howard , " I think this the strongest position by nature upon which to fight a battle that I ever saw . " When Howard agreed , Hancock concluded the discussion : " Very well , sir , I select this as the battle @-@ field . " Hancock 's determination had a morale @-@ boosting effect on the retreating Union soldiers , but he played no direct tactical role on the first day .

General Lee understood the defensive potential to the Union if they held this high ground . He sent orders to Ewell that Cemetery Hill be taken " if practicable . " Ewell , who had previously served under Stonewall Jackson , a general well known for issuing peremptory orders , determined such an assault was not practicable and , thus , did not attempt it ; this decision is considered by historians to be a great missed opportunity .

The first day at Gettysburg , more significant than simply a prelude to the bloody second and third days , ranks as the 23rd biggest battle of the war by number of troops engaged . About one quarter of Meade 's army (22 @,@ 000 men) and one third of Lee 's army (27 @,@ 000) were engaged .

= = Second day of battle = =

= = = Plans and movement to battle = = =

Throughout the evening of July 1 and morning of July 2 , most of the remaining infantry of both armies arrived on the field , including the Union II , III , V , VI , and XII Corps . Longstreet 's third division , commanded by Maj. Gen. George Pickett , had begun the march from Chambersburg early in the morning ; it did not arrive until late on July 2 .

The Union line ran from Culp 's Hill southeast of the town , northwest to Cemetery Hill just south of town , then south for nearly two miles (3 km) along Cemetery Ridge , terminating just north of Little Round Top . Most of the XII Corps was on Culp 's Hill ; the remnants of I and XI Corps defended Cemetery Hill ; II Corps covered most of the northern half of Cemetery Ridge ; and III Corps was ordered to take up a position to its flank . The shape of the Union line is popularly described as a " fishhook " formation . The Confederate line paralleled the Union line about a mile (1 @,@ 600 m) to the west on Seminary Ridge , ran east through the town , then curved southeast to a point opposite Culp 's Hill . Thus , the Union army had interior lines , while the Confederate line was nearly five miles (8 km) long .

Lee 's battle plan for July 2 called for Longstreet 's First Corps to position itself stealthily to attack the Union left flank , facing northeast astraddle the Emmitsburg Road , and to roll up the U.S.line. The attack sequence was to begin with Maj. Gens . John Bell Hood 's and Lafayette McLaws 's divisions , followed by Maj. Gen. Richard H. Anderson 's division of Hill 's Third Corps . The progressive en echelon sequence of this attack would prevent Meade from shifting troops from his center to bolster his left . At the same time , Maj. Gen. Edward " Allegheny " Johnson 's and Jubal Early 's Second Corps divisions were to make a demonstration against Culp 's and Cemetery Hills (

again , to prevent the shifting of U.S. troops) , and to turn the demonstration into a full @-@ scale attack if a favorable opportunity presented itself .

Lee 's plan , however , was based on faulty intelligence , exacerbated by Stuart 's continued absence from the battlefield . Instead of moving beyond the U.S. left and attacking their flank , Longstreet 's left division , under McLaws , would face Maj. Gen. Daniel Sickles 's III Corps directly in their path . Sickles had been dissatisfied with the position assigned him on the southern end of Cemetery Ridge . Seeing higher ground more favorable to artillery positions a half mile (800 m) to the west , he advanced his corps ? without orders ? to the slightly higher ground along the Emmitsburg Road . The new line ran from Devil 's Den , northwest to the Sherfy farm 's Peach Orchard , then northeast along the Emmitsburg Road to south of the Codori farm . This created an untenable salient at the Peach Orchard ; Brig. Gen. Andrew A. Humphreys 's division (in position along the Emmitsburg Road) and Maj. Gen. David B. Birney 's division (to the south) were subject to attacks from two sides and were spread out over a longer front than their small corps could defend effectively .

Longstreet 's attack was to be made as early as practicable ; however , Longstreet got permission from Lee to await the arrival of one of his brigades , and while marching to the assigned position , his men came within sight of a Union signal station on Little Round Top . Countermarching to avoid detection wasted much time , and Hood 's and McLaws 's divisions did not launch their attacks until just after 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. , respectively .

= = = Attacks on the Union left flank = = =

As Longstreet 's divisions slammed into the Union III Corps , Meade was forced to send 20 @,@ 000 reinforcements in the form of the entire V Corps , Brig. Gen. John C. Caldwell 's division of the II Corps , most of the XII Corps , and small portions of the newly arrived VI Corps . The Confederate assault deviated from Lee 's plan since Hood 's division moved more to the east than intended , losing its alignment with the Emmitsburg Road , attacking Devil 's Den and Little Round Top . McLaws , coming in on Hood 's left , drove multiple attacks into the thinly stretched III Corps in the Wheatfield and overwhelmed them in Sherfy 's Peach Orchard . McLaws 's attack eventually reached Plum Run Valley (the " Valley of Death ") before being beaten back by the Pennsylvania Reserves division of the V Corps , moving down from Little Round Top . The III Corps was virtually destroyed as a combat unit in this battle , and Sickles 's leg was amputated after it was shattered by a cannonball . Caldwell 's division was destroyed piecemeal in the Wheatfield . Anderson 's division , coming from McLaws 's left and starting forward around 6 p.m. , reached the crest of Cemetery Ridge , but it could not hold the position in the face of counterattacks from the II Corps , including an almost suicidal bayonet charge by the small 1st Minnesota regiment against a Confederate brigade , ordered in desperation by Hancock to buy time for reinforcements to arrive .

As fighting raged in the Wheatfield and Devil 's Den , Col. Strong Vincent of V Corps had a precarious hold on Little Round Top , an important hill at the extreme left of the Union line . His brigade of four relatively small regiments was able to resist repeated assaults by Brig. Gen. Evander M. Law 's brigade of Hood 's division . Meade 's chief engineer , Brig. Gen. Gouverneur K. Warren , had realized the importance of this position , and dispatched Vincent 's brigade , an artillery battery , and the 140th New York to occupy Little Round Top mere minutes before Hood 's troops arrived . The defense of Little Round Top with a bayonet charge by the 20th Maine , initiated by Lt. Holman S. Melcher , was one of the most fabled episodes in the Civil War and propelled Col. Joshua L. Chamberlain into prominence after the war .

= = = Attacks on the Union right flank = = =

About 7 : 00 p.m. , the Second Corps ' attack by Johnson 's division on Culp 's Hill got off to a late start . Most of the hill 's defenders , the Union XII Corps , had been sent to the left to defend against Longstreet 's attacks , and the only portion of the corps remaining on the hill was a brigade of New Yorkers under Brig. Gen. George S. Greene . Because of Greene 's insistence on constructing

strong defensive works , and with reinforcements from the I and XI Corps , Greene 's men held off the Confederate attackers , although the Southerners did capture a portion of the abandoned U.S. works on the lower part of Culp 's Hill .

Just at dark , two of Jubal Early 's brigades attacked the Union XI Corps positions on East Cemetery Hill where Col. Andrew L. Harris of the 2nd Brigade , 1st Division , came under a withering attack , losing half his men ; however , Early failed to support his brigades in their attack , and Ewell 's remaining division , that of Maj. Gen. Robert E. Rodes , failed to aid Early 's attack by moving against Cemetery Hill from the west . The Union army 's interior lines enabled its commanders to shift troops quickly to critical areas , and with reinforcements from II Corps , the U.S. troops retained possession of East Cemetery Hill , and Early 's brigades were forced to withdraw .

Jeb Stuart and his three cavalry brigades arrived in Gettysburg around noon but had no role in the second day 's battle . Brig. Gen. Wade Hampton 's brigade fought a minor engagement with newly promoted 23 @-@ year @-@ old Brig. Gen. George Armstrong Custer 's Michigan cavalry near Hunterstown to the northeast of Gettysburg .

= = Third day of battle = =

= = = Lee 's plan = = =

General Lee wished to renew the attack on Friday , July 3 , using the same basic plan as the previous day : Longstreet would attack the U.S. left , while Ewell attacked Culp 's Hill . However , before Longstreet was ready , Union XII Corps troops started a dawn artillery bombardment against the Confederates on Culp 's Hill in an effort to regain a portion of their lost works . The Confederates attacked , and the second fight for Culp 's Hill ended around 11 a.m. Harry Pfanz judged that , after some seven hours of bitter combat , " the Union line was intact and held more strongly than before . "

Lee was forced to change his plans . Longstreet would command Pickett 's Virginia division of his own First Corps , plus six brigades from Hill 's Corps , in an attack on the U.S. II Corps position at the right center of the Union line on Cemetery Ridge . Prior to the attack , all the artillery the Confederacy could bring to bear on the U.S. positions would bombard and weaken the enemy 's line .

= = = The largest artillery bombardment of the war = = =

Around 1 p.m. , from 150 to 170 Confederate guns began an artillery bombardment that was probably the largest of the war . In order to save valuable ammunition for the infantry attack that they knew would follow , the Army of the Potomac 's artillery , under the command of Brig. Gen. Henry Jackson Hunt , at first did not return the enemy 's fire . After waiting about 15 minutes , about 80 U.S. cannons added to the din . The Army of Northern Virginia was critically low on artillery ammunition , and the cannonade did not significantly affect the Union position .

= = = Pickett 's Charge = = =

Around 3 p.m. , the cannon fire subsided , and 12 @,@ 500 Southern soldiers stepped from the ridgeline and advanced the three @-@ quarters of a mile (1 @,@ 200 m) to Cemetery Ridge in what is known to history as " Pickett 's Charge " . As the Confederates approached , there was fierce flanking artillery fire from Union positions on Cemetery Hill and north of Little Round Top , and musket and canister fire from Hancock 's II Corps . In the Union center , the commander of artillery had held fire during the Confederate bombardment (in order to save it for the infantry assault , which Meade had correctly predicted the day before) , leading Southern commanders to believe the Northern cannon batteries had been knocked out . However , they opened fire on the Confederate infantry during their approach with devastating results . Nearly one half of the attackers did not

return to their own lines . Although the U.S. line wavered and broke temporarily at a jog called the " Angle " in a low stone fence , just north of a patch of vegetation called the Copse of Trees , reinforcements rushed into the breach , and the Confederate attack was repulsed . The farthest advance of Brig. Gen. Lewis A. Armistead 's brigade of Maj. Gen. George Pickett 's division at the Angle is referred to as the " High @-@ water mark of the Confederacy " , arguably representing the closest the South ever came to its goal of achieving independence from the Union via military victory . Union and Confederate soldiers locked in hand @-@ to @-@ hand combat , attacking with their rifles , bayonets , rocks and even their bare hands . Armistead ordered his Confederates to turn two captured cannons against Union troops , but discovered that there was no ammunition left , the last double canister shots having been used against the charging Confederates . Armistead was shortly after wounded three times .

There were two significant cavalry engagements on July 3 . Stuart was sent to guard the Confederate left flank and was to be prepared to exploit any success the infantry might achieve on Cemetery Hill by flanking the U.S. right and hitting their trains and lines of communications . Three miles (5 km) east of Gettysburg , in what is now called " East Cavalry Field " (not shown on the accompanying map , but between the York and Hanover Roads) , Stuart 's forces collided with U.S. cavalry : Brig. Gen. David McMurtre Gregg 's division and Brig. Gen. Custer 's brigade . A lengthy mounted battle , including hand @-@ to @-@ hand sabre combat , ensued . Custer 's charge , leading the 1st Michigan Cavalry , blunted the attack by Wade Hampton 's brigade , blocking Stuart from achieving his objectives in the U.S. rear . Meanwhile , after hearing news of the day 's victory , Brig. Gen. Judson Kilpatrick launched a cavalry attack against the infantry positions of Longstreet 's Corps southwest of Big Round Top . Brig. Gen. Elon J. Farnsworth protested against the futility of such a move , but obeyed orders . Farnsworth was killed in the attack , and his brigade suffered significant losses .

= = Aftermath = =

= = = Casualties = = =

The two armies suffered between 46 @,@ 000 and 51 @,@ 000 casualties . Union casualties were 23 @,@ 055 (3 @,@ 155 killed , 14 @,@ 531 wounded , 5 @,@ 369 captured or missing) , while Confederate casualties are more difficult to estimate . Many authors have referred to as many as 28 @,@ 000 Confederate casualties , and Busey and Martin 's more recent 2005 work , *Regimental Strengths and Losses at Gettysburg* , documents 23 @,@ 231 (4 @,@ 708 killed , 12 @,@ 693 wounded , 5 @,@ 830 captured or missing) . Nearly a third of Lee 's general officers were killed , wounded , or captured . The casualties for both sides during the entire campaign were 57 @,@ 225 .

The following tables summarize casualties by corps for the Union and Confederate forces during the three @-@ day battle .

Bruce Catton wrote , " The town of Gettysburg looked as if some universal moving day had been interrupted by catastrophe . " But there was only one documented civilian death during the battle : Ginnie Wade (also widely known as Jennie) , 20 years old , was hit by a stray bullet that passed through her kitchen in town while she was making bread . Nearly 8 @,@ 000 had been killed outright ; these bodies , lying in the hot summer sun , needed to be buried quickly . Over 3 @,@ 000 horse carcasses were burned in a series of piles south of town ; townsfolk became violently ill from the stench .

= = = Confederate retreat = = =

The armies stared at one another in a heavy rain across the bloody fields on July 4 , the same day that the Vicksburg garrison surrendered to Maj. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant . Lee had reformed his lines into a defensive position on Seminary Ridge the night of July 3 , evacuating the town of Gettysburg .

The Confederates remained on the battlefield , hoping that Meade would attack , but the cautious Union commander decided against the risk , a decision for which he would later be criticized . Both armies began to collect their remaining wounded and bury some of the dead . A proposal by Lee for a prisoner exchange was rejected by Meade .

Lee started his Army of Northern Virginia in motion late the evening of July 4 towards Fairfield and Chambersburg . Cavalry under Brig. Gen. John D. Imboden was entrusted to escort the miles @-@ long wagon train of supplies and wounded men that Lee wanted to take back to Virginia with him , using the route through Cashtown and Hagerstown to Williamsport , Maryland . Meade 's army followed , although the pursuit was half @-@ spirited . The recently rain @-@ swollen Potomac trapped Lee 's army on the north bank of the river for a time , but when the Union troops finally caught up , the Confederates had forded the river . The rear @-@ guard action at Falling Waters on July 14 added some more names to the long casualty lists , including General Pettigrew , who was mortally wounded .

In a brief letter to Maj. Gen. Henry W. Halleck written on July 7 , Lincoln remarked on the two major Union victories at Gettysburg and Vicksburg . He continued :

Now , if Gen. Meade can complete his work so gloriously prosecuted thus far , by the literal or substantial destruction of Lee 's army , the rebellion will be over .

Halleck then relayed the contents of Lincoln 's letter to Meade in a telegram . Despite repeated pleas from Lincoln and Halleck , which continued over the next week , Meade did not pursue Lee 's army aggressively enough to destroy it before it crossed back over the Potomac River to safety in the South . The campaign continued into Virginia with light engagements until July 23 , in the minor Battle of Manassas Gap , after which Meade abandoned any attempts at pursuit and the two armies took up positions across from each other on the Rappahannock River .

= = = Union reaction to the news of the victory = = =

The news of the Union victory electrified the North . A headline in The Philadelphia Inquirer proclaimed " VICTORY ! WATERLOO ECLIPSED ! " New York diarist George Templeton Strong wrote :

The results of this victory are priceless The charm of Robert E. Lee 's invincibility is broken . The Army of the Potomac has at last found a general that can handle it , and has stood nobly up to its terrible work in spite of its long disheartening list of hard @-@ fought failures Copperheads are palsied and dumb for the moment at least Government is strengthened four @-@ fold at home and abroad .

However , the Union enthusiasm soon dissipated as the public realized that Lee 's army had escaped destruction and the war would continue . Lincoln complained to Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles that " Our army held the war in the hollow of their hand and they would not close it ! " Brig. Gen. Alexander S. Webb wrote to his father on July 17 , stating that such Washington politicians as " Chase , Seward and others , " disgusted with Meade , " write to me that Lee really won that Battle ! "

= = = Effect on the Confederacy = = =

In fact , the Confederates had lost militarily and also politically . During the final hours of the battle , Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens was approaching the Union lines at Norfolk , Virginia , under a flag of truce . Although his formal instructions from Confederate President Jefferson Davis had limited his powers to negotiate on prisoner exchanges and other procedural matters , historian James M. McPherson speculates that he had informal goals of presenting peace overtures . Davis had hoped that Stephens would reach Washington from the south while Lee 's victorious army was marching toward it from the north . President Lincoln , upon hearing of the Gettysburg results , refused Stephens 's request to pass through the lines . Furthermore , when the news reached London , any lingering hopes of European recognition of the Confederacy were finally abandoned . Henry Adams wrote , " The disasters of the rebels are unredeemed by even any hope

of success . It is now conceded that all idea of intervention is at an end . "

The immediate reaction of the Southern military and public sectors was that Gettysburg was a setback , not a disaster . The sentiment was that Lee had been successful on July 1 and had fought a valiant battle on July 2 ? 3 , but could not dislodge the Union Army from the strong defensive position to which it fled . The Confederates successfully stood their ground on July 4 and withdrew only after they realized Meade would not attack them . The withdrawal to the Potomac that could have been a disaster was handled masterfully . Furthermore , the Army of the Potomac had been kept away from Virginia farmlands for the summer and all predicted that Meade would be too timid to threaten them for the rest of the year . Lee himself had a positive view of the campaign , writing to his wife that the army had returned " rather sooner than I had originally contemplated , but having accomplished what I proposed on leaving the Rappahannock , viz . , relieving the Valley of the presence of the enemy and drawing his Army north of the Potomac . " He was quoted as saying to Maj. John Seddon , brother of the Confederate secretary of war , " Sir , we did whip them at Gettysburg , and it will be seen for the next six months that that army will be as quiet as a sucking dove . " Some Southern publications , such as the Charleston Mercury , criticized Lee 's actions in the campaign and on August 8 he offered his resignation to President Davis , who quickly rejected it .

Gettysburg became a postbellum focus of the " Lost Cause " , a movement by writers such as Edward A. Pollard and Jubal Early to explain the reasons for the Confederate defeat in the war . A fundamental premise of their argument was that the South was doomed because of the overwhelming advantage in manpower and industrial might possessed by the North . However , they claim it also suffered because Robert E. Lee , who up until this time had been almost invincible , was betrayed by the failures of some of his key subordinates at Gettysburg : Ewell , for failing to seize Cemetery Hill on July 1 ; Stuart , for depriving the army of cavalry intelligence for a key part of the campaign ; and especially Longstreet , for failing to attack on July 2 as early and as forcefully as Lee had originally intended . In this view , Gettysburg was seen as a great lost opportunity , in which a decisive victory by Lee could have meant the end of the war in the Confederacy 's favor .

= = = Gettysburg Address = = =

The ravages of war were still evident in Gettysburg more than four months later when , on November 19 , the Soldiers ' National Cemetery was dedicated . During this ceremony , President Abraham Lincoln honored the fallen and redefined the purpose of the war in his historic Gettysburg Address .

= = Historical assessment = =

= = = Decisive victory controversies = = =

The nature of the result of the Battle of Gettysburg has been the subject of controversy for years . Although not seen as overwhelmingly significant at the time , particularly since the war continued for almost two years , in retrospect it has often been cited as the " turning point " , usually in combination with the fall of Vicksburg the following day . This is based on the observation that after Gettysburg Lee 's army conducted no more strategic offensives ? his army merely reacted to the initiative of Ulysses S. Grant in 1864 and 1865 ? and by the speculative viewpoint of the Lost Cause writers that a Confederate victory at Gettysburg might have resulted in the end of the war .

It is currently a widely held view that Gettysburg was a decisive victory for the Union , but the term is considered imprecise . It is inarguable that Lee 's offensive on July 3 was turned back decisively and his campaign in Pennsylvania was terminated prematurely (although the Confederates at the time argued that this was a temporary setback and that the goals of the campaign were largely met) . However , when the more common definition of " decisive victory " is intended ? an indisputable military victory of a battle that determines or significantly influences the ultimate result of a conflict ?

historians are divided . For example , David J. Eicher called Gettysburg a " strategic loss for the Confederacy " and James M. McPherson wrote that " Lee and his men would go on to earn further laurels . But they never again possessed the power and reputation they carried into Pennsylvania those palmy summer days of 1863 . "

However , Herman Hattaway and Archer Jones wrote that the " strategic impact of the Battle of Gettysburg was ... fairly limited . " Steven E. Woodworth wrote that " Gettysburg proved only the near impossibility of decisive action in the Eastern theater . " Edwin Coddington pointed out the heavy toll on the Army of the Potomac and that " after the battle Meade no longer possessed a truly effective instrument for the accomplishments of his task . The army needed a thorough reorganization with new commanders and fresh troops , but these changes were not made until Grant appeared on the scene in March 1864 . " Joseph T. Glatthaar wrote that " Lost opportunities and near successes plagued the Army of Northern Virginia during its Northern invasion , " yet after Gettysburg , " without the distractions of duty as an invading force , without the breakdown of discipline , the Army of Northern Virginia [remained] an extremely formidable force . " Ed Bearss wrote , " Lee 's invasion of the North had been a costly failure . Nevertheless , at best the Army of the Potomac had simply preserved the strategic stalemate in the Eastern Theater ... "

Peter Carmichael refers to the military context for the armies , the " horrendous losses at Chancellorsville and Gettysburg , which effectively destroyed Lee 's offensive capacity , " implying that these cumulative losses were not the result of a single battle . Thomas Goss , writing in the U.S. Army 's Military Review journal on the definition of " decisive " and the application of that description to Gettysburg , concludes : " For all that was decided and accomplished , the Battle of Gettysburg fails to earn the label ' decisive battle ' . " The military historian John Keegan agrees . Gettysburg was a landmark battle , the largest of the war and it would not be surpassed . The Union had restored to it the belief in certain victory , and the loss dispirited the Confederacy . If " not exactly a decisive battle " , Gettysburg was the end of Confederate use of Northern Virginia as a military buffer zone , the setting for Grant 's Overland Campaign .

= = = Lee vs. Meade = = =

Prior to Gettysburg , Robert E. Lee had established a reputation as an almost invincible general , achieving stunning victories against superior numbers ? although usually at the cost of high casualties to his army ? during the Seven Days , the Northern Virginia Campaign (including the Second Battle of Bull Run) , Fredericksburg , and Chancellorsville . Only the Maryland Campaign , with its tactically inconclusive Battle of Antietam , had been less than successful . Therefore , historians have attempted to explain how Lee 's winning streak was interrupted so dramatically at Gettysburg . Although the issue is tainted by attempts to portray history and Lee 's reputation in a manner supporting different partisan goals , the major factors in Lee 's loss arguably can be attributed to : (1) his overconfidence in the invincibility of his men ; (2) the performance of his subordinates , and his management thereof ; (3) his failing health , and (4) the performance of his opponent , George G. Meade , and the Army of the Potomac .

Throughout the campaign , Lee was influenced by the belief that his men were invincible ; most of Lee 's experiences with the Army of Northern Virginia had convinced him of this , including the great victory at Chancellorsville in early May and the rout of the Union troops at Gettysburg on July 1 . Since morale plays an important role in military victory when other factors are equal , Lee did not want to dampen his army 's desire to fight and resisted suggestions , principally by Longstreet , to withdraw from the recently captured Gettysburg to select a ground more favorable to his army . War correspondent Peter W. Alexander wrote that Lee " acted , probably , under the impression that his troops were able to carry any position however formidable . If such was the case , he committed an error , such however as the ablest commanders will sometimes fall into . " Lee himself concurred with this judgment , writing to President Davis , " No blame can be attached to the army for its failure to accomplish what was projected by me , nor should it be censured for the unreasonable expectations of the public ? I am alone to blame , in perhaps expecting too much of its prowess and valor . "

The most controversial assessments of the battle involve the performance of Lee 's subordinates . The dominant theme of the Lost Cause writers and many other historians is that Lee 's senior generals failed him in crucial ways , directly causing the loss of the battle ; the alternative viewpoint is that Lee did not manage his subordinates adequately , and did not thereby compensate for their shortcomings . Two of his corps commanders ? Richard S. Ewell and A.P. Hill ? had only recently been promoted and were not fully accustomed to Lee 's style of command , in which he provided only general objectives and guidance to their former commander , Stonewall Jackson ; Jackson translated these into detailed , specific orders to his division commanders . All four of Lee 's principal commanders received criticism during the campaign and battle :

James Longstreet suffered most severely from the wrath of the Lost Cause authors , not the least because he directly criticized Lee in postbellum writings and became a Republican after the war . His critics accuse him of attacking much later than Lee intended on July 2 , squandering a chance to hit the Union Army before its defensive positions had firmed up . They also question his lack of motivation to attack strongly on July 2 and 3 because he had argued that the army should have maneuvered to a place where it would force Meade to attack them . The alternative view is that Lee was in close contact with Longstreet during the battle , agreed to delays on the morning of July 2 , and never criticized Longstreet 's performance . (There is also considerable speculation about what an attack might have looked like before Dan Sickles moved the III Corps toward the Peach Orchard .)

J.E.B. Stuart deprived Lee of cavalry intelligence during a good part of the campaign by taking his three best brigades on a path away from the army 's . This arguably led to Lee 's surprise at Hooker 's vigorous pursuit ; the meeting engagement on July 1 that escalated into the full battle prematurely ; and it also prevented Lee from understanding the full disposition of the enemy on July 2 . The disagreements regarding Stuart 's culpability for the situation originate in the relatively vague orders issued by Lee , but most modern historians agree that both generals were responsible to some extent for the failure of the cavalry 's mission early in the campaign .

Richard S. Ewell has been universally criticized for failing to seize the high ground on the afternoon of July 1 . Once again the disagreement centers on Lee 's orders , which provided general guidance for Ewell to act " if practicable . " Many historians speculate that Stonewall Jackson , if he had survived Chancellorsville , would have aggressively seized Culp 's Hill , rendering Cemetery Hill indefensible , and changing the entire complexion of the battle . A differently worded order from Lee might have made the difference with this subordinate .

A.P. Hill has received some criticism for his ineffective performance . His actions caused the battle to begin and then escalate on July 1 , despite Lee 's orders not to bring on a general engagement (although historians point out that Hill kept Lee well informed of his actions during the day) . However , Hill 's illness minimized his personal involvement in the remainder of the battle , and Lee took the explicit step of removing troops from Hill 's corps and giving them to Longstreet for Pickett 's Charge .

In addition to Hill 's illness , Lee 's performance was affected by heart troubles , which would eventually lead to his death in 1870 ; he had been diagnosed with pericarditis by his staff physicians in March 1863 , though modern doctors believe he had in fact suffered a heart attack . He wrote to Jefferson Davis that his physical condition prevented him from offering full supervision in the field , and said , " I am so dull that in making use of the eyes of others I am frequently misled . "

As a final factor , Lee faced a new and formidable opponent in George G. Meade , and the Army of the Potomac fought well on its home territory . Although new to his army command , Meade deployed his forces relatively effectively ; relied on strong subordinates such as Winfield S. Hancock to make decisions where and when they were needed ; took great advantage of defensive positions ; nimbly shifted defensive resources on interior lines to parry strong threats ; and , unlike some of his predecessors , stood his ground throughout the battle in the face of fierce Confederate attacks . Lee was quoted before the battle as saying Meade " would commit no blunders on my front and if I make one ... will make haste to take advantage of it . " That prediction proved to be correct at Gettysburg . Stephen Sears wrote , " The fact of the matter is that George G. Meade , unexpectedly and against all odds , thoroughly outgeneraled Robert E. Lee at Gettysburg . " Edwin B. Coddington wrote that

the soldiers of the Army of the Potomac received a " sense of triumph which grew into an imperishable faith in [themselves] . The men knew what they could do under an extremely competent general ; one of lesser ability and courage could well have lost the battle . "

Meade had his own detractors as well . Similar to the situation with Lee , Meade suffered partisan attacks about his performance at Gettysburg , but he had the misfortune of experiencing them in person . Supporters of his predecessor , Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker , lambasted Meade before the U.S. Congress 's Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War , where Radical Republicans suspected that Meade was a Copperhead and tried in vain to relieve him from command . Daniel E. Sickles and Daniel Butterfield accused Meade of planning to retreat from Gettysburg during the battle . Most politicians , including Lincoln , criticized Meade for what they considered to be his half @-@ hearted pursuit of Lee after the battle . A number of Meade 's most competent subordinates ? Winfield S. Hancock , John Gibbon , Gouverneur K. Warren , and Henry J. Hunt , all heroes of the battle ? defended Meade in print , but Meade was embittered by the overall experience .

= = Battlefield preservation = =

Today , the Gettysburg National Cemetery and Gettysburg National Military Park are maintained by the U.S. National Park Service as two of the nation 's most revered historical landmarks . Although Gettysburg is one of the best known of all Civil War battlefields , it too faces threats to its preservation and interpretation . Many historically significant locations on the battlefield lie outside the boundaries of Gettysburg National Military Park and are vulnerable to residential or commercial development .

On July 20 , 2009 , a Comfort Inn and Suites opened on Cemetery Hill , adjacent to Evergreen Cemetery , just one of many modern edifices infringing on the historic field . The Baltimore Pike corridor attracts development that concerns preservationists .

Some preservation successes have emerged in recent years . Two proposals to open a casino at Gettysburg were defeated in 2006 and most recently in 2011 , when public pressure forced the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to reject the proposed gambling hub at the intersection of Routes 15 and 30 , near East Cavalry Field . The Civil War Trust also successfully purchased and transferred 95 acres at the former site of the Gettysburg Country Club to the control of the U.S. Department of the Interior in 2011 .

Less than half of the over 11 @,@ 500 acres on the old Gettysburg Battlefield have been preserved for posterity thus far . The Civil War Trust has preserved 815 acres around the site , some of which is now part of the 4 @,@ 998 acres of Gettysburg National Military Park .

= = Commemoration in U.S. postage and coinage = =

During the Civil War Centennial , the U.S. Post Office issued five postage stamps commemorating the 100th anniversaries of famous battles , as they occurred over a four @-@ year period , beginning with the Battle of Fort Sumter Centennial issue of 1961 . The Battle of Shiloh commemorative stamp was issued in 1962 , the Battle of Gettysburg in 1963 , the Battle of the Wilderness in 1964 , and the Appomattox Centennial commemorative stamp in 1965 .

A commemorative half dollar for the battle was produced in 1936 . As was typical for the period , mintage was very low , just 26 @,@ 928 . On January 24 , 2011 , the America the Beautiful quarters released a 25 @-@ cent coin commemorating Gettysburg National Military Park and the Battle of Gettysburg . The reverse side of the coin depicts the monument on Cemetery Ridge to the 72nd Pennsylvania Infantry .

= = In popular culture = =

Film records survive of two Gettysburg reunions , held on the battlefield . At the 50th anniversary (1913) , veterans re @-@ enacted Pickett 's Charge in a spirit of reconciliation , a meeting that carried great emotional force for both sides . At the 75th anniversary (1938) , 2500 veterans

attended , and there was a ceremonial mass hand @-@ shake across a stone wall . This was recorded on sound film , and some Confederates can be heard giving the Rebel Yell .

Iced Earth 's three @-@ part song cycle " Gettysburg " , published in 2004 , dramatizes the battle .

The Battle of Gettysburg was depicted in the 1993 film Gettysburg , based on Michael Shaara 's 1974 novel The Killer Angels . The film and novel focused primarily on the actions of Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain , John Buford , Robert E. Lee , and James Longstreet during the battle . The first day focused on Buford 's cavalry defense , the second day on Chamberlain 's defense at Little Round Top , and the third day on Pickett 's Charge .

The south winning the Battle of Gettysburg is a popular premise for a point of divergence in American Civil War alternate histories . Here are some examples which either depict or make significant reference to an alternate Battle of Gettysburg (sometimes simply inserting fantasy or sci @-@ fi elements in an account of the battle) :

Novels : Bring the Jubilee by Ward Moore ; If the South Had Won the Civil War by Mackinlay Kantor ; Civil War Trilogy (Gettysburg , Grant Comes East , Never Call Retreat) by Newt Gingrich , William R. Forstchen , and Albert S. Hanser ; Stonewall Jackson at Gettysburg by Douglas Lee Gibboney ; By Force of Arms by Billy Bennett . Also : Harry Turtledove 's Southern Victory series has an analogous battle taking place at Camp Hill , another southeast Pennsylvania town .

Short fiction : " If Lee Had NOT Won the Battle of Gettysburg " by Winston Churchill in If It Had Happened Otherwise and If , or History Rewritten , " Sidewise in Time " by Murray Leinster in various collections , " A Hard Day for Mother " by William R. Forstchen in Alternate Generals 1 , " An Old Man 's Summer " by Esther Friesner also in AG 1 , " If the Lost Order Hadn 't Been Lost " by James M. McPherson in What If ? and What Ifs ? of American History , " East of Appomattox " by Lee Allred in Alternate Generals 3 . Also : In " Maureen Birnbaum on the Art of War " (tribute to Horseclans) within George Alec Effinger 's sword and sorcery spoof Maureen Birnbaum , Barbarian Swordsperson , two armies in a post @-@ apocalyptic world fight a battle at the Gettysburg site sometime in our distant future .

Film and television : The Time Tunnel episode 25 " The Death Merchant , " Twin Peaks Season 2 (as a play within a play acted out by characters in the 1990s) , C.S.A. : The Confederate States of America , Abraham Lincoln : Vampire Hunter .

Ultimate General : Gettysburg is a tactical battle simulator video game released in October 2014 that allows the user to lead thousands of soldiers in the Battle of Gettysburg . It was developed by Game Labs and designed by the creator of " DarthMod " (a series of mods that improve AI in the Total War games) and one of the most celebrated modders in the Total War modding community .

= = = Memoirs and primary sources = = =

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