



The Regimental Bulletin

Phil Kearny Civil War Round Table of Northern New Jersey

Visit our website to register for all our monthly meeting presentations and updates
www.PhilKearnyCWRT.org

***** NEXT MEETING *****

Wed, January 17th @ - 7PM - Online Zoom Presentation

Survival: Medical Care during the 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaigns with Sarah K. Bierle

Volume 20 Issue 1

Jan. 17, 2024

**Officers of the
Phil Kearny CWRT**
www.PhilKearnyCWRT.org

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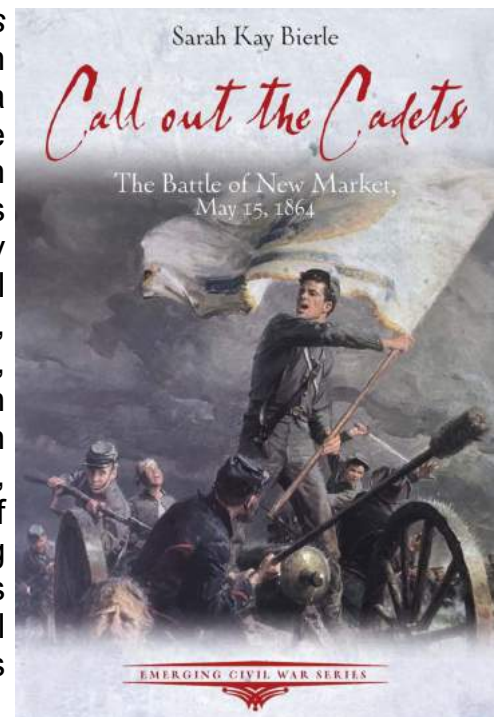
■ Memorium
Mary Bogen-Kuczek
■ Under



Sarah Kay Bierle

Sarah Kay Bierle, the author of "Call Out the Cadets: The Battle of New Market," discusses the medical care during the 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaigns. She notes that both the Union and Confederacy had developed improved systems by that point in the war to recover, transport, and care for wounded troops. She also talks about the idea of survival that is coming through in many of the primary sources and how the glory of war has faded into a grim reality, sharing contemporary diary entries from soldiers, civilians, and physicians to show the state of care during a battle and its immediate aftermath still often remained chaotic and grueling for those involved.

Sarah Kay Bierle [last name is pronounced "by-early"] graduated from Thomas Edison State University with a BA in History and works in the Education Department at American Battlefield Trust. She has spent years exploring ways to share quality historical research in ways that will inform and inspire modern audiences, including school presentations, writing, and speaking engagements. Sarah has published three historical fiction books and her first nonfiction book, *Call Out The Cadets: The Battle of New Market*, is part of the Emerging Civil War series. Ms. Bierle is managing editor of the "Emerging Civil War" blog, which hosted this talk as part of its spring symposium.



**PKCWRT
Membership
Dues are
\$25
annually**

Visit

PhilKearnycwrt.org/Membership.htm

**Your membership and
continued support
is always appreciated as it
assists with
our programs and tours**

**Send your dues to:
Norm Dykstra
77 Walray Ave
North Haledon, NJ 07508**

www.PhilKearnyCWRT.org

You must register with this new link before the meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZYrcu6qzpkpGNxXNMly2dBxgJTUcjXvGj4L#/registration>

PKCWRT 2024 Schedule

Wed, Jan 17 - 7pm
Sarah K. Bierle

Recovering the Wounded

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtduurqDivHNYm4hT2cEPbR-sPbojZT5s#/registration>

Wed, Feb 21 - 7pm
Bob Langford

Lincoln's Commanders

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUvduCtcrjsoH9L4OjipVa-tm7WgKwSGVS7o#/registration>

Wed, Mar 20 - 7pm
Jon Eric Gilot
John Brown

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvdOihpzguHNIPQY_s5fbJC1uUtPdS5Bsq#/registration

Wed, April 17 - 7pm
Larry Korczyk
The Iron Brigade

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYuf-2orTgpGd1XJ_Q5cXI3Vx0yHgZT8-Xw#/registration

Wed, May 15 - 7pm
Cecily Zander
General John Pope

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtcuChqjsuHteozl_0xlr0rIGGDLU_aOuK#/registration

Wed, June 19 - 7pm
Stuart Sanders
Mills Springs, KY

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtcu-gpz4sH9SMeJlMrYMUiq75rtlgdNhD#/registration>

Summer Break July - August

Wed, Sept 18 - 7pm
Sean Chick

General P. T. G. Beauregard

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZWkcuaizMrGdSb595D3QbX22B4VKQIXGhU#/registration>

Wed, Oct 16 - 7pm
Vic Vignola

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrdOyujq8vGtlRG0WVwV92QTBVF0t_8oei#/registration

Fri - Sat - Sun. Nov 1 & 2
Gettysburg Trip
Gettysburg, PA

Wed, Nov 20 - 7pm
Heide Weber
Grant at Shiloh

https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqdu2sqTsoHdS2x1F20qR_x_Ugw27eIM8-#/registration

Norm Dykstra's Civil War Journeys



ON THE ROAD.....AGAIN

I recently did a 3 day get-away visit to the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center of the National Air and Space Museum in Chantilly, Virginia with my cousin's husband, John Nickel. A fascinating place in its own right, I was also able to fulfill a long-anticipated visit to the Chantilly (Ox Hill) battlefield nearby. This is the battle where General Phil Kearny was killed during a rainstorm on the night of September 1, 1862, as was General Isaac Stevens, after the Second Bull Run battle.

Only 5 out of 500 acres of the battlefield has been preserved as a small park. There is a tiny parking area next to a kiosk containing many info panels and maps explaining the conflict that took place here, and a walking path takes you to many important storyboards and a memorial section to both Generals, dedicated in 1915. Sadly, the rest of the battlefield has been covered with buildings and roads, including the actual site where Gen. Kearny was shot and killed.

There was a plan to erect two stone obelisks for the Union (6,000) and Confederate (20,000) troops who fought here but that has not been completed. Interestingly, there is a concrete "tree stump" said to mark the spot where Kearny was killed by Confederate troops, but it is now widely believed that he was shot in a cornfield 150 yards west of the park.

I am glad I had the opportunity to visit this quiet, hidden, hallowed ground in the midst of this bustling, busy suburb of Washington, DC and to pay my respects to all the men who fought here and to the Generals who led them....especially our own General Kearny. I hope you have the opportunity to visit this spot as well.

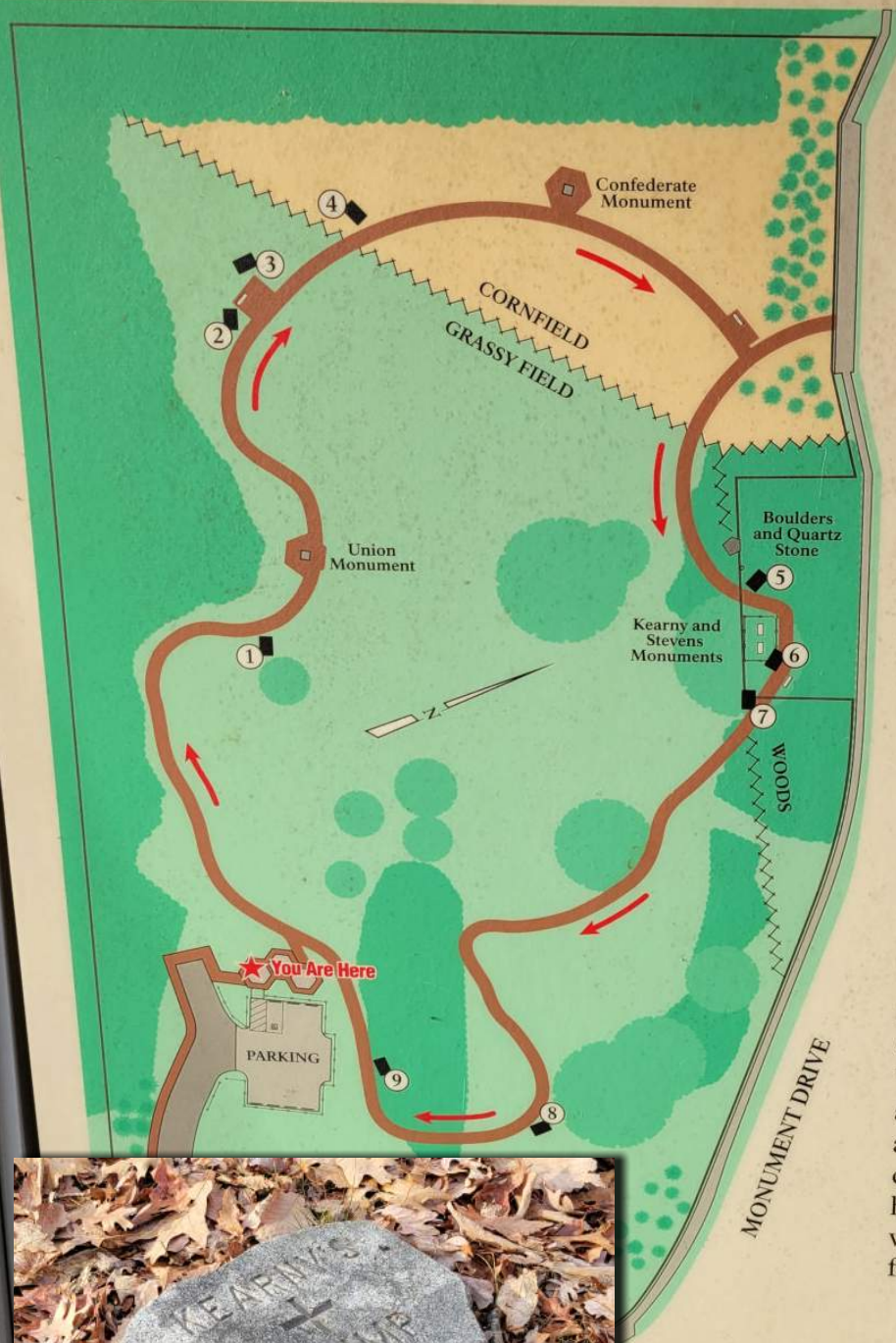
Photos by Norm Dykstra on the following pages

Saturday, Dec 7th 2024
PKCWRT Holiday Party
Bistro 107, Moonachie, NJ
Speaker TBD

Phil Kearny CWRT
Joe Truglio, President
15 Tuscany Circle Manchester, NJ 08759
Joseph.Truglio@comcast.net

Regimental Bulletin Editor
Jim Madden
JMadden@PhilKearnyCWRT.org

Ox Hill Battlefield Park & Interpretive Trail



This small park is the last remnant of Fairfax County's only major Civil War battlefield. The Battle of Ox Hill, also known as the "Battle of Chantilly," lasted but a few hours on the afternoon of September 1, 1862. Here, some 6,000 Union troops encountered and attacked about 17,000 Confederates of General Stonewall Jackson. It was a "beastly, comfortless conflict" fought during a ferocious thunderstorm.

As darkness fell and the fighting ceased, hundreds of soldiers lay dead and more than a thousand were wounded or missing. Two of the most promising generals in the Union army, Isaac Stevens and Philip Kearny, were among the slain. The bloody stalemate frustrated the Confederate attempt to intercept and destroy General John Pope's Union army as it retreated toward Washington following the Battle of Second Manassas (Bull Run).

Interpretive Trail

Follow the loop trail through this surviving portion of the battlefield. Visit the wayside markers labeled 1-9 and learn how the battle progressed and its aftermath. Read soldiers' descriptions of the action, discover how generals Stevens and Kearny fell, view the monuments and learn the fate of the wounded.





★ THE BATTLE OF OX HILL ★

The Death of General Kearny



Gen. Philip Kearny, USA
Photograph taken at Washington, D.C.,
March 1862

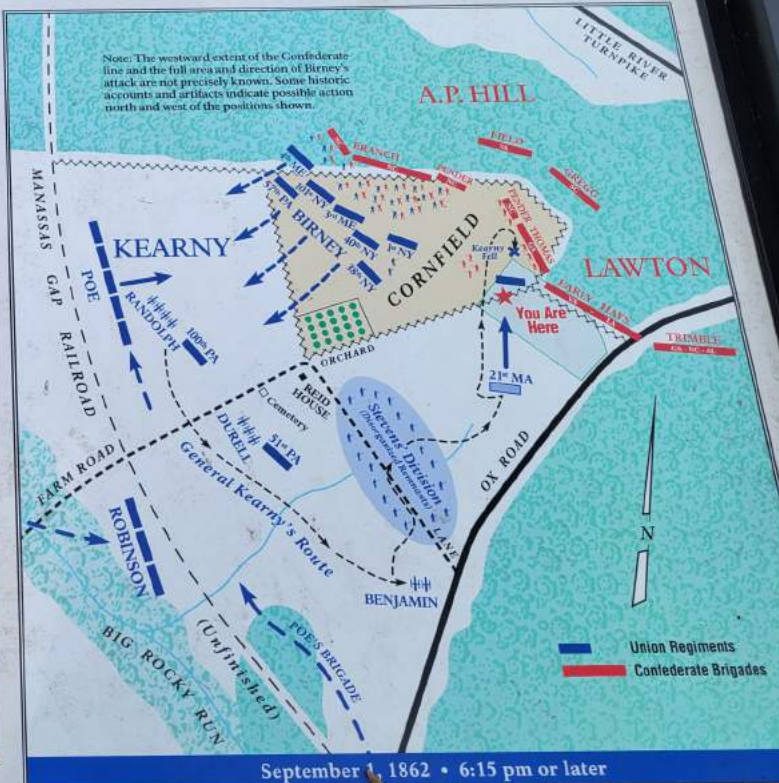
the two captives, Kearny responded impetuously, "Damn you and your prisoners!" Putting spurs to his horse, he galloped forward in the rain to reconnoiter. Entirely alone and wearing an India rubber cloak over his uniform, the one-armed general rode into the cornfield. Within 60 yards he encountered the line of the 49th Georgia. Realizing his mistake, Kearny wheeled around to flee.

In an instant there were cries of "That's a Yankee officer!" "Surrender!" "Halt!" "Shoot him!" Kearny threw himself forward and dug in his spurs, but a dozen muskets flashed in the growing darkness. Kearny was shot from his horse and died instantly in the muddy cornfield.

As a rainy darkness enveloped the battlefield, Major General Philip Kearny rode eastward to investigate the reported gap in the Union line. Reining up in the pasture, Kearny became alarmed that Stevens' division had abandoned that part of the field after being repulsed.

Finding the remnants of the 21st Massachusetts, Kearny immediately ordered them into the cornfield to protect Birney's flank. They protested that their ammunition was wet and the cornfield was full of rebels. Kearny vehemently disagreed. Under threats and denunciations, the regiment advanced as ordered but soon halted under fire after capturing two skirmishers from the 49th Georgia.

Incensed at this delay, Kearny prodded the regiment forward, saying they were firing on their own men and that no rebels were in the cornfield. When shown



Death of General Philip Kearny, September 1, 1862.
From The Century Magazine, ca. 1880s

The next morning, General Robert E. Lee sent Kearny's body to the Union lines under a flag of truce.
The Death of General Kearny, Painting by Julian Scott, 1884

Phil Kearny Civil War Round Table Holiday Party December 2, 2023

With Author and Historian Bob Crickenberger on Point Lookout Prison, MD.



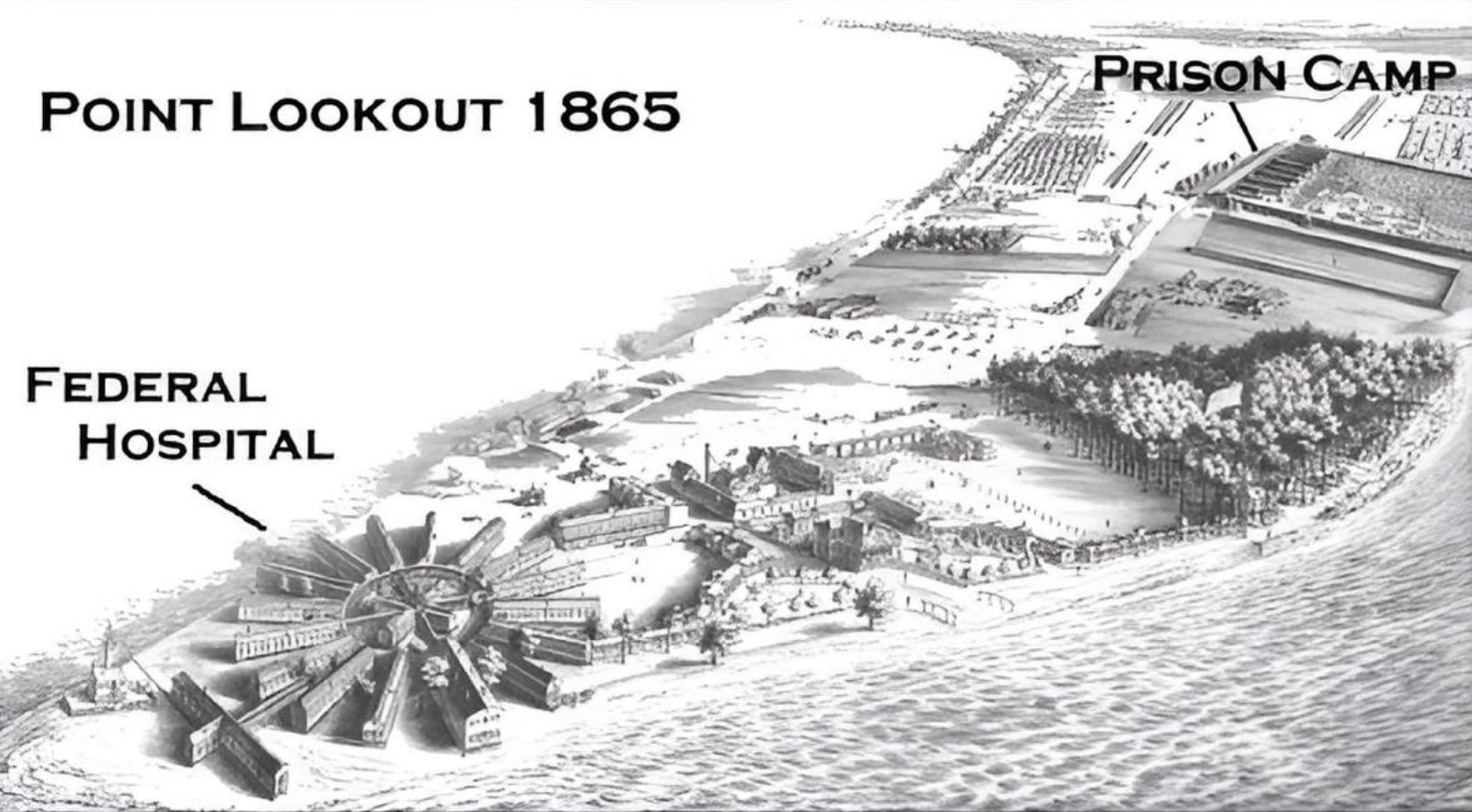
**A special Thank You to
Bob Lineburg for his generous gifts
to the PKCWRT members in attendance.**

Photos by Pat Dykstra and Jim Madden

POINT LOOKOUT 1865

FEDERAL
HOSPITAL

PRISON CAMP



Point Lookout Prison Camp Union Barracks reconstructed Point Lookout State Park, Scotland, Maryland

Local Address

10510 Point Lookout Road Scotland, Maryland 20687
(UTM 18s 383669, 4212001)

Emergency and 24-Hour Contact Info

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE	911
FOR PARK INFORMATION OR ASSISTANCE, CALL THE PARK RANGER	DUTY RANGER 301-872-5688
FOR 24-HOUR ASSISTANCE OR TO REPORT A VIOLATION	410-260-8888 OR
CALL NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE	1-800-825-7275



The Natural Resources Police (NRP) is the primary law enforcement agency for Maryland State Parks.

Civil War Fort #3

Officially designated by the Army Corps of Engineers as "Fort #3", this earthen redoubt is the only remaining fort of three that were constructed here at Point Lookout during the Civil War. Logistically, the fort is 60 yards square and was constructed as a "six gun" (cannon) fort. It featured a cannon platform in each of its corners and one double-ramp for two guns on its Northern wall. Each fort could house a "company" of 100 infantrymen (3 officers, 5 sergeants, 8 corporals and 84 privates).

Construction on the three forts began July 26, 1864. At the time of construction, prisoners outnumbered guards 28 to 1, creating a situation conducive to mass prisoner breakout. A main function of these three forts was to provide refuge and protection for Union guards in the event of the fears of a breakout becoming a reality. The forts could also act as defensive positions if Point Lookout was ever under attack from Confederate forces.

State Parks Depend on Volunteers!

This area of Point Lookout is managed with help from volunteers at the Point Lookout State Park.

The construction of the three forts continued until May 3, 1865, when official orders were received to cease all work. Even though the three forts were operational, they were never fully completed as planned. Examples of Fort #3's reconstructed buildings would have been seen in the other two forts (Forts #1 and #2) as well as the series of "circle forts" that had surrounded and protected Washington D.C. during the Civil War.

Fort #1 was armed with four 12-lb Napoleons while Fort #2 had three 12-lb Howitzers and one 4 1/2 inch rifled cannon. Fort #3 was never armed. As you will see upon entering the fort, the interior was made up of four basic buildings: two officer's quarters (located along the North wall), an enlisted man's barracks (located along the East wall), a guardhouse (located in the South-eastern corner) and a powder magazine (located along the West wall).

Have a suggestion? Please contact Department of Natural Resources Customer Service...

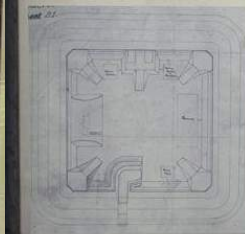
Redoubt #3

Standing before you is Redoubt #3, a Union fortification on the peninsula. The redoubt was designed to resist attack from Confederate forces as well as to prevent breakouts from prisoners of war held at Camp Hoffman.

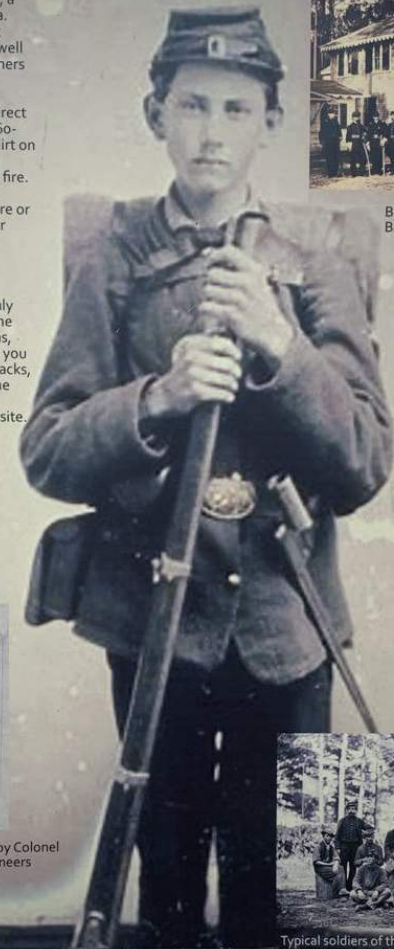
To defend against artillery fire or direct infantry assaults, the redoubt had 60-yard square earthen walls. Loose dirt on the outside slowed attackers while hardened interiors resisted cannon fire. At the rear, an L-shaped passage protected the gates from cannon fire or a battering ram. A dry moat further delayed the enemy.

Visiting the Redoubt

Today, the earthen walls are the only original vestiges of Redoubt #3. The other structures are reconstructions, based on archival drawings. Inside you can visit the officers' quarters, barracks, guardhouse, and storage areas. The Friends of Point Lookout are key partners in preserving this historic site.



Plans of Redoubts 2 and 3 as drawn by Colonel Henry Brewerton, U.S. Corps of Engineers February 20, 1865



Point Lookout State Park



Brigadier General James Barnes & Staff.



Typical soldiers of the guard force

Defense Strategies

Fort #1 (Central Fort)

A four-gun redoubt was constructed in the center of the peninsula to provide a cross-fire with the other two forts and a deterrent from a break-out of prisoners from the prison pen. Fort #1 was manned during the war.

Fort #2 (Fort Lincoln)

Located on the Chesapeake Bay side of the Point, Fort Lincoln was a six-gun redoubt. It protected the main approach to Point Lookout from the north. Its location provided a cross-fire with Fort #1 against outside attack and prisoner breakout. Fort Lincoln defended the eastern shoreline from any waterborne attack. Fort Lincoln was manned during the war.

Fort #3

Like Fort Lincoln, Fort #3 was designed as a six-gun fort. The construction of Fort #3 began late and was never completed. It was never manned and did not have cannons mounted.

The walls of all three forts were approximately 8-feet high and were surrounded by a 15-foot deep by 20-foot wide dry moat. The forts were laid out at a diagonal across ranging from northeast to southwest to afford a defensive cross-fire across Point Lookout.

Imagine defending this isolated peninsula during the Civil War. There were threats from within (from thousands of prisoners) and from without (by Confederate soldiers trying to free their comrades or gain territory). What's more, a pro-Southern population surrounded the Point.

To meet the challenge, Union strategists devised a complex defense plan. They built three forts, a series of rifle pits, and a gun battery, positioning them to catch enemies in a murderous cross-fire. These defenses, bolstered by navy gunboats offshore, made Point Lookout virtually unassailable with the weapons of the day.

Point Lookout State Park
Maryland Park Service



Fort #1 →
Fort #2 →
(Fort Lincoln)
← Fort #3



Union Guard

Point Lookout Prison Camp Union Barracks reconstructed Redoubt #3 Point Lookout State Park, Scotland Maryland



An Old Friend Needs Our Help

Recently a message went out within the Civil War Community looking to assist our friend, author and historian Eric Wittenberg.

Many members will remember he was our guest speaker for the PKCWRT Holiday Party in Dec 2021. Eric and his wife Susan, came all the way in from Columbus, Ohio to speak about Union General John Buford's life, his role at Gettysburg and his tragic death of Typhoid Fever in Dec 1863.

Unfortunately, Eric and his wife are going through a rough patch and could use our help.

Many have already assisted and for those interested here is the message and link to help.

Please consider helping our friend Eric as well as Susan during their difficult time.



Eric Wittenberg with Norm Dykstra and Joe Truglio being present a certificate of appreciation and Phil Kearny Civil War Round Table tote bag at the PKCWRT Holiday Party Dec 2021.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/please-consider-helping-eric-and-susan-wittenberg>

Please Help Eric Wittenberg Fight Cancer!

Help our friends Eric and Susan Wittenberg meet their unexpected, catastrophic medical expenses.

For those of you who did not know, Eric was recently hospitalized in dire condition and then diagnosed with aggressive, stage four diffuse large cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma which has metastasised. An offshoot of this was a pelvis with multiple fractures caused by the cancer. Because of the damage to his pelvis Eric is confined to a wheelchair until it is determined that he is able to undergo surgery to repair the damage.

This sudden health crisis came about as Susan is awaiting two knee replacement surgeries as well as surgery to repair a torn triceps and rotator cuff. In both of their cases this will require physical therapy, and periods of time where in-home help will be required to meet their recovery needs until Susan is able to care for Eric without help. In the meantime, they have had to suddenly purchase medical equipment, make their home wheelchair-accessible, and convert their dining room into a temporary shower, among other things. This has exhausted their savings.



Funds donated will be used to help pay the uncovered portion of medical bills, the cost of medical equipment, and to help convert their home to more easily be used by both of them while they navigate this health crisis. Any unused funds will be donated to others in similar need.

For over 30 years Eric, with Susan by his side, has by his leadership, scholarship, and professional expertise led the charge to preserve countless acres of land so vital to the study and understanding of the history of our country. This is an opportunity for us to rally around our great friends and help them in their time of need.



Phil Kearny Civil War Round Table

Membership Form

Dues are \$25 a year

Please send a check or money order payable to:

The Phil Kearny Round Table

% Norm Dykstra

*77 Walray, North Haledon, NJ 07508 email:
Normandy1@verizon.net*

Name: _____

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Email: _____

Favorite Civil War Battlefield: _____

Favorite Civil War Book/Author: _____

Favorite Civil War General: _____

