CIVILIVAR CENTENNIAL MAP OF

WASHINGTON





Pennsylvania Avenue looking east from Treasury

CIVIL WAR WASHINGTON

It is easy to forget, as you drive through modern Washington or walk about its streets, that the capital was once an embattled city and one of the principal objectives of a long and terrible war.

At the time of the Civil War Washington was, of course, much smaller in area and population. It extended roughly from the Potomac River and Georgetown to the Eastern Branch, as the Anacostia River was then called, and was bounded on the north by Boundary Street, now Florida Avenue.

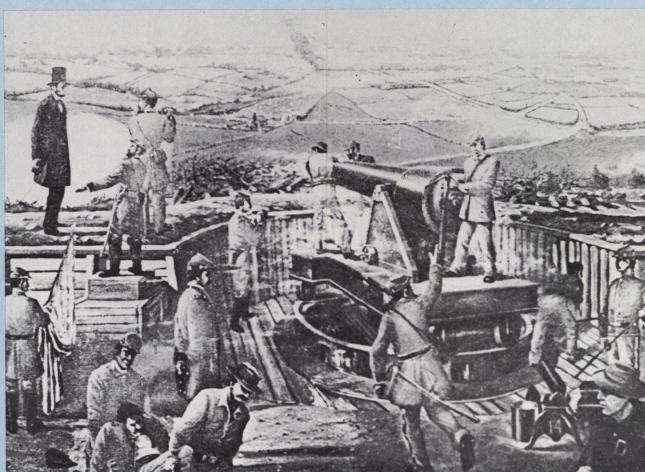
The city as a whole presented an unfinished appearance, with the few major public buildings widely scattered. Streets were unpaved or poorly so, and along them stood a variety of homes, shops, hotels and markets. Yet a hundred years ago Washington was not only the center of government and politics, but the headquarters of the Union effort in the Civil War. Military camps, hospitals, arsenals and forts were located in and around the city. Wagons, shipping and rail lines, laden with supplies for the military, together with the constant presence of troops, served to remind Washington that it was only a few miles from much of the severest fighting of the War. From time to time

the very existence of the capital city was threatened.

Today interesting and significant reminders of this period in Washington remain, in some cases but little changed. Many of these are shown on your maps—the principal public buildings, bridges and forts of Civil War Days, together with later memorials to men

and events of that period, are indicated with brief

Within a two hundred mile radius of Washington lie almost all of the famous battlefields of the Civil War in the East. To the south are found Fredericksburg, Richmond and Petersburg, with the scenes of the battles of the Wilderness, Chancellorsville and Spotsylvania Court House close to Fredericksburg. To the east of U.S. Route #1 are found the locations of the battles of the Peninsular campaigns; Appomattox Court House lies to the west of Richmond, not far from Lynchburg. West and south of Washington are the nearby sites of the battles of Manassas (Bull Run) and many lesser encounters, and the Shenandoah Valley. To the northwest is Harper's Ferry and a few miles away the scene of the battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg, Maryland). To the north is Gettysburg.



President Lincoln under fire at Fort Stevens.

WASHINGTON AREA

Legend Number 1
Fort Washington, Maryland (Park'

Originally built in 1809, destroyed in the War of 1812, Fort Washington was later rebuilt and was the only fort defending Washington when the Civil War began. It is located on Md. side of Potomac, approximately ten miles south of the city

(Legend Numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28)

The Civil War Forts

The spring of 1861 found war approaching and the Capital of the United States without effective defenses. Capital of the United States without effective defenses. With Confederate Virginia just across the Potomac it was clear that large scale defenses would have to be constructed, particularly in light of Union military setbacks in the summer of 1861. Records show that between 1861 and 1865 a massive ring of forts, batteries and trenches was built around the entire perimeter of the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas of Virginia and Manyland. areas of Virginia and Maryland.

Today public parks scattered throughout Washington are located on the sites of a number of these Civil Warforts, and bear their names, as do streets or areas of the city. In many cases it is still possible to see the outlines of their earthworks much as they were a hundred years ago. The structure of one-Fort Stevenshas been partially rebuilt, giving a clear idea of its appearance during the War.

Legend Number 7 The Summer White House In Soldier's Home Grounds
In the spacious grounds of Soldiers Home (founded
in 1851) stands Anderson Cottage, which President In 1851) stands Anderson Cottage, which President Lincoln used as a summer residence to escape the muggy heat of the low-lying area around the White House. At the time of the Civil War, Soldier's Home was outside the city limits, and during much of the War he frequently "commuted"—on horseback or by carriage—between Anderson Cottage and the White House.

Battleground National Cemetery
6625 Georgia Avenue, N.W. Shortly after the battle of Fort Stevens, Battleground National Cemetery was established nearby, where forty Union soldiers who died in the defense of the capital are buried. Monuments honoring the men of the units which participated in the battle were later erected here.

Legend Number 11 Fort Stevens (Park) Piney Branch Road (13th Street) and Quackenbos Street, N.W.

Although Washington was frequently threatened with attack during the course of the Civil War, it was at Fort Stevens that an actual attack on the city took place in 1864. Fort Stevens was a key fort in the Washington ring. It guarded the northern approaches to the capital, in particular the main road leading from Maryland on the north, known as the Seventh Street Road. It was here, on July 11 and 12, 1864, that Confederate General Jubal Early concentrated his daring attack. He had come swiftly up from Virginia,

crossed the Potomac, and threatened the city from the Maryland suburbs to the north.

The Washington forts at this particular time were poorly manned. Union reinforcements—including elements of the Sixth Corps—arrived from Virginia in time to defend the Capital. After two days of skirmliching and fighting in the area of Foot Staven the ishing and fighting in the area of Fort Stevens the Confederate forces withdrew back across the Potomac into Virginia. General Horatio Wright commanded the

The battle of Fort Stevens was watched by President Lincoln, who exposed himself to Confederate fire by standing on the parapets, to the great concern of government dignitaries and officers who were with him; a plaque in Fort Stevens marks this event.

egend Number 13 The Custis-Lee Mansion: The Robert E. Lee Memorial

Closely linked with both the founders of our country and the Civil War, this beautiful old home (Arlington House) was built between 1802 and 1817 by George Washington's foster son (Martha Washington's grand-son)—George Washington Parke Custis. In 1831 the Custis' daughter, Mary Ann Randolph Custis, mar-ried Lieutenant Robert E. Lee. Arlington House later became the home of the Lee's, and it was here in April, 1861 that Colonel Robert E. Lee rejected command of the Union Army and reached his decision to serve with

the Union Army and reached his decision to serve with the forces of Virginia and the Confederacy.

During the War the area was occupied by Union troops as a part of the defenses of Washington, and a portion of the grounds became Arlington National Cemetery in 1864.

Legend Number 17
Balloon Launching Site

Glebe Road and Wilson Blvd., Arlington Records show that from this site a Union observation balloon was launched very early in the Civil War to spot Confederate artillery emplacements in the surrounding countryside.

Legend Number 21
Confederate Marker, Silver Spring, Md.
Georgia Ave. and Grace Church Road

In a churchyard, on Georgia Avenue, a marker paying tribute to the memory of seventeen unknown Confederate dead who fell in the battle of Fort Stevens

Legend No. 26
Arlington National Cemetery
Established during the Civil War (1864), in Arlington Cemetery—among the graves of the heroic dead of other wars—are found the graves of many of those who served with the Union forces in the War. A Temple of Fame and Arch-way Pillars at the several entrances to the Cemetery honor the more famous Union Generals.

Confederate dead also lie buried in Arlington and

a bronze memorial honors their memory. The statue is located at Jackson Circle and is surrounded by the graves of those who wore the gray.

Legend Numbers 29, 34 Alexandria, Virginia

This historical city was a busy port and center of activity before the Revolutionary War. It is closely associated not only with George Washington and other early patriots, but also with Robert E. Lee. Christ Church (Columbus and Cameron Streets), built between 1767 and 1773, was where both Washington and

Lee attended worship.

During the Civil War the Alexandria area came under the control of Union troops, and a number of forts were located within its present boundaries.

Legend Number 30
Chain Bridge
A wooden bridge across the Potomac located on the site of the Chain Bridge of today.

Legend Number 31
Benning's Bridge
Benning's Bridge crossed the Eastern Branch (Ana-

costia River) at the location of the Benning Road

Legend Number 32 Falls Church, Virginia

This community gets its name from its principal historical structure—the Falls Church. The first church building was constructed on the site in 1734, while the present structure was built in 1768. George Wash-

on the civil War the Village lay in the path of almost continuous military activity. Union forts guarding the approaches to Washington were nearby—Fort Buffalo at what is now known as "Seven Corners." Mosby and his raiders were well acquainted with the town. The Church is said to have been used by Union troops as a stable for part of the war.

Legend Number 33
Town of Fairfax, Virginia

The county seat of historic Fairfax County, the Town solocated in the heart of that area of Virginia near Washington where almost continuous skirmishes and troop movements took place during the Civil War. A few miles beyond are Bull Run Battlefields and the

scenes of many lesser encounters.

In June, 1861, near the old Courthouse, one of the first casualties of the War occurred in a skirmish. Not far away stands a house, now the Rectory of Truro Episcopal Church, which was occupied in March, 1863 by the Union Brigadier General Edwin Stoughton. Ranger John S. Mosby, and his men worked their way through the Union lines and captured the General. The house used by General Longstreet for his head-

The Aqueduct Bridge

This bridge was actually an aqueduct, carrying a spur of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal across the Potomac, from where the canal continued on toward Alexandria. It was utilized as a regular bridge during the War. Its foundations are still visible in the River beside Key Bridge.

Ft. Ethan Allen
Glebe Road, Va., at James Madison School. Trenches well preserved.



THE OLD CITY

(Legend Number 1)

At the opening of the Civil War the most striking feature of the Capitol was its lack of a completed dome. Portions of the entire building were still under construction, and the dome was in the process of being replaced by the one with which we are all so familiar. Thus during much of the War period scaffoldings, with a crane projecting upward from the base of the dome, were the dominant sight of the Washington skyline. Before the War ended, however, the dome with its

(Legend Numbers 2, 10, 37)
Abraham Lincoln Memorial and Statues

In Washington the great Lincoln Memorial and two statues honor the memory of the Civil War president.

The Memorial is familiar to all; less known, perhaps, are the statues of President Lincoln freeing the slaves (Lincoln Park, East Capitol Street at 11th, N.E.) and in front of the old Washington Courthouse and City Hall (5th and Indiana Avenue, N.W.).

(Legend Number 3)

The Navy Yard By the time of the Civil War the Navy Yard, located on the Eastern Branch, already had a long and illustrious history. Founded in 1799, rebuilt after its destruction in the War of 1812, it has served as a ship building and repair center, and in the development and manufacture of ordnance.

During the War the Navy Yard played a significant part in the building and maintenance of the Union Navy. It was here, too, that those implicated in the assassination of President Lincoln were temporarily held aboard ship, as was the body of John Wilkes

(Legend Number 4) Old Arsenal and Penetentiary

Fort Lesley J. McNair It was here, within the grounds of what is today Fort McNair, that the conspirators in President Lincoln's assassination plot were imprisoned. At the time of the Civil War it was an arsenal and a jail. Parts of the original buildings may still be seen.

(Legend Number 5)
George G. Meade Statue

Union Square (3rd St. S.W., at the Mall) (Birthplace: Spain [of American parents]; 1815-1872) Union general who served extensively in the Virginia campaigns; noted for his command of Union troops at the battle of Gettysburg.

(Legend Number 6) Ulysses S. Grant Memorial Union Square (1st St. S.W., at the Mall)
(Birthplace: Ohio; 1822-1885. President of the United

States, 1869-1877) This famous massive Memorial honors the memory of General Grant, outstanding Union military leader and Commander-in-Chief of all the Union Armies and the men who served with him

(Legend Numbers 7, 8, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 41) Area of the White House and the Mall Although the building of the "President's House" was begun in 1792, it was not actually occupied until

1800. In 1814 it was burned by British troops in the War of 1812 and three years were required to rebuild the original structure. Since that time it has been enlarged by the addition of porticos and space for offices. During the Civil War the "White House" and the surrounding area presented a very different appearance from that of today. The well-kept lawns and parks and most of the nearby government buildings did not exist. The President's Park, surrounding the White House, lay mainly unlandscaped and extended for many acres unbroken by paved streets. An old canal, which linked the Potomac with the Eastern Branch, ran approximately where Constitution Avenue is today. Nearby stood the *Treasury Building* on what is now Fifteenth Street, as yet incomplete, while the State Department occupied a small building next door and

to the north of it. On what is now the Seventeenth Street side of the White House stood buildings used outstanding on the Mall was the incompleted shaft of the Washington Monument. Although the cornerstone had been laid on July 4, 1848, by 1854 only 154 feet of its total height had been completed, and for many years it so remained. Thus during the Civil War Monument stood at only a fraction of its present 555 feet. Beef cattle for the use of Union troops grazed and were slaughtered on the unimproved grounds at its base.

Nearer the Capitol, on the unfinished Mall a familiar sight of today stood out virtually alone—the unmistakable brick towers of the Smithsonian Institution, which had been founded in 1846.

(Legend Number 9)
John Ericsson Statue West Potomac Park (Birthplace: Sweden; 1803-1889)

Swedish-born inventor, noted for his marine and ordnance engineering. Ericsson developed the armored warship during the Civil War, the most noted of which was the "Monitor." This ironclad engaged the "Merrimac" (C.S.S. Virginia) off Hampton Roads, Virginia, in March, 1862, and forced its withdrawal.

(Legend Number 12)
Grand Army of the Republic—Stephenson Memorial
7th and C Sts., N.W This monument honors both the association of Union veterans—the Grand Army of the Republic—and its principal founder, Benjamin F. Stephenson, M.D.

(Legend Number 13) Winfield S. Hancock Statue

7th and Penna Ave., N.W. (Birthplace: Pennsylvania; 1824-1886) Union General who served in many campaigns in the East; severely wounded at Gettysburg. Democratic candidate for President in 1880; defeated by Garfield.

(Legend Number 14)
The National Archives

The Library of Congress These two repositories of documents of national significance hold much of great interest to students of the Civil War. It is here that many of the original documents, pictures and detailed accounts of the entire War period may be found.

William T. Sherman Statue

President's Park (South of Treasury Bldg.) (Birthplace: Ohio; 1820-1891)
Union general noted for his aggressive campaigning in the Mississippi Valley, the capture of Atlanta and the march through Georgia and the Carolinas.

(Legend Numbers 21, 39)
The Bridges (also see Washington Area Map)
At the time of the Civil War there were five major permanent bridges in Washington-three across the Potomac and two across the Eastern Branch. Those which crossed the Potomac became vital points in the defenses of the city and were guarded by troops, and

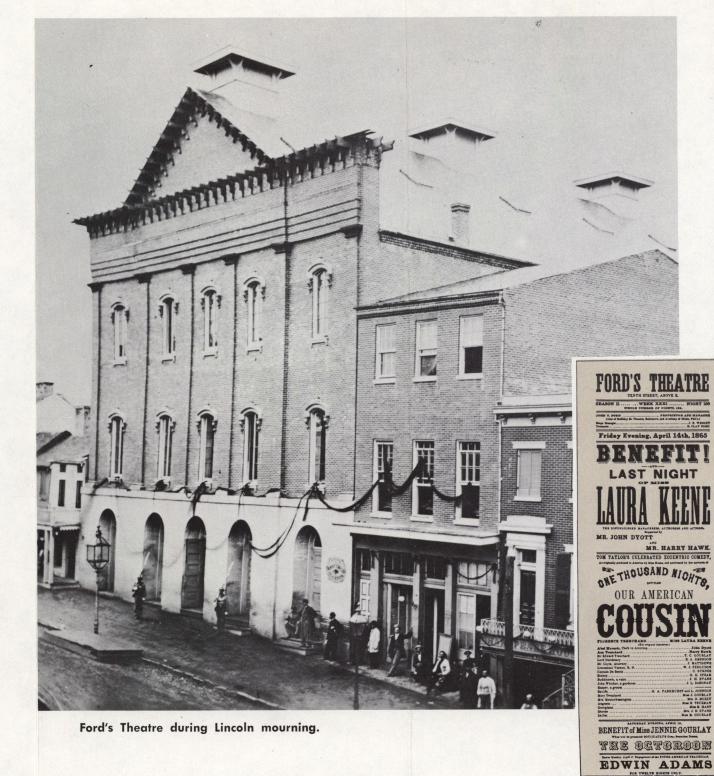
forts and batteries strategically located on both sides of the river. The Navy Yard Bridge: One of the two bridges across the Eastern Branch, located approximately at the site of the present Anacostia (11th Street, S.E.)

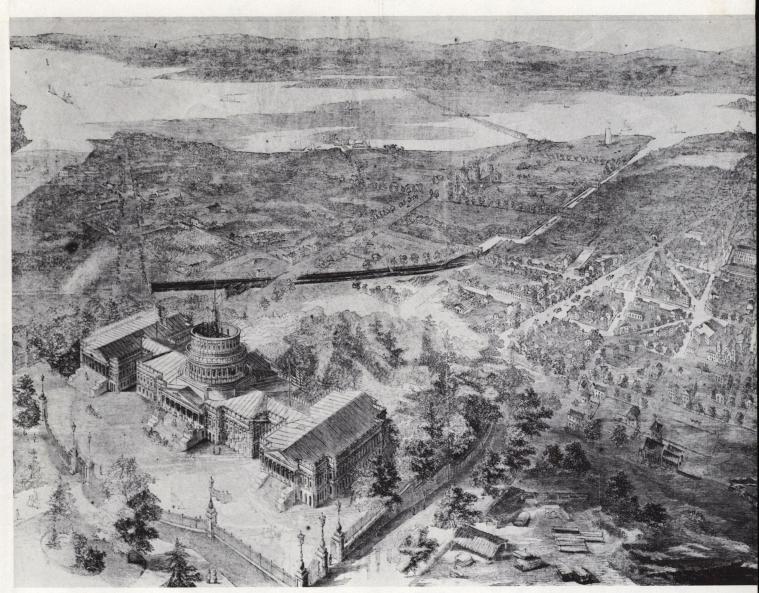
The Long Bridge: This bridge crossed the Potomac close to the site of the Fourteenth Street Bridges of today.

(Legend Numbers 22, 23) The Patent Office Old General Post Office F Street at 7th, N.W. The Patent Office was one of the principal government buildings of Washington at the time of the Civil War; it stood opposite the General Post Office of that



Chain Bridge across Potomac.





Balloon view of Washington.

(Legend Number 24) David G. Farragut Statue Farragut Square (17th and I Sts., N.W.)

(Birthplace: Tennessee; 1801-1870)
Admiral and naval hero famed for his leadership of Union naval forces in the capture of New Orleans and the battle of Mobile Bay.

(Legend Number 25) Winfield Scott Statue Scott Circle (Birthplace: Virginia; 1786-1866)

General Scott fought in the War of 1812, Indian Wars and lead the United States forces in the Mexican War. He was in command of Union forces at the opening of the Civil War, but soon was succeeded by Gen. McClellan.

(Legend Number 26) James B. McPherson Statue McPherson Square (15th and I Sts., N.W.) (Birthplace: Ohio; 1828-1864)

Highly respected Union general who served in the Western campaign. Killed in 1864 in the battle for

(Legend Number 27) The House Where Lincoln Died

Atlanta

516 Tenth Street, N.W. Directly across the street from Ford's Theater stands the house where President Lincoln was carried from the theater. It is a small brick row house, and was the home of William Petersen. Here President Lincoln died at 7:22 in the morning of April 15, 1865.

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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, 1865

