GETTYSBURG
HERITAGE TRAIL GUIDE

National Park Service
and
Boy Scouts of America
HIKING
THE BILLY YANK AND JOHNNY REB TRAILS

Including the required elements of the Gettysburg/Eisenhower Heritage Program for Scouting Groups.


Boy Scouts of America York-Adams Area Council #544
York, Pennsylvania

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York-Adams Area Council #544

ELEVENTH EDITION
MARCH 1998
INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Gettysburg National Military Park and Eisenhower National Historic Site. This booklet is a trail guide to hiking the two trails through Gettysburg National Military Park that are part of the Boy Scouts of America Heritage Trail Program. Though the booklet is designed for Boy Scout hiking, it is also a guide for all visitors who wish to get out and experience the battlefield from a soldier's perspective.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

This booklet is divided into four parts: 1) The Visitor Center/National Cemetery section, 2) The Billy Yank Trail section, 3) The Johnny Reb Trail section, 4) The Eisenhower NHS section.

The Billy Yank and Johnny Reb trails are guided walks around the battlefield using this booklet. The Visitor Center/National Cemetery and Eisenhower sections are question and answer exercises to qualify for those two Boy Scout patch awards.

AWARDS

The basic patch is awarded for completing the Visitor Center/National Cemetery section. The Billy Yank and Johnny Reb side segments are awarded for the two trail hikes, and the Eisenhower star patch is awarded for a visit to the Eisenhower National Historic Site and completion of the questions.

Information on the awards may be obtained from the Boy Scouts of America, York-Adams Area Council, 2139 White Street, York, PA 17404.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

While following portions of this booklet you will be walking through Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg National Cemetery, and Eisenhower National Historic Site. We ask that out of concern for the preservation of the park and other visitors the following be kept in mind:

1. Check in with a Ranger at Visitor Center, Information Desk – Secure a Park Folder and a Big Round Top trail pamphlet.

2. Hike in groups of ten or less. Each group should have at least one adult for every ten scouts. Scouts are encouraged to wear the official uniform when participating in the program.

3. Comfortable hiking shoes are a necessity. The hiking trails pass through fields and rough terrain. Portions of the trails may be wet or muddy. Carrying water is strongly urged for all year, and a necessity in the summer.

4. All hikers should stay on the paths designated by this guide and other park publications. Respect crops and livestock.

5. Safety should be considered at all times. Walk in single-file along roads. Always walk facing traffic, and stay off the road bed when possible.

6. Park regulations prohibit disturbing any natural or historic feature. Do not pick flowers, remove rocks, or otherwise damage the natural scene. For your safety and that of the objects, do not climb on cannons or monuments, or otherwise deface historic structures.

7. Building fires and the use of firearms or fireworks is prohibited.

8. Dispose of litter properly. If you carry it in – carry it out.

9. Scouts are to conduct themselves in a manner which is a credit to Scouting and the Scout Oath and Law. Visitors come to Gettysburg from all over the world, and it is important that each scout set an example by his or her conduct.

The above rules have been reviewed by all members of this group and each member pledges to abide by all regulations.

THE BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG

By the summer of 1863, the Civil War was entering its third year. North and South were fighting in nearly every southern and western state. Only the northern states had been spared the brutality and destruction of the war that was to leave over 600,000 men dead and the land scarred.

Now, in June, Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America, and his top military and civilian advisors decided to carry the war into the north. General Robert E. Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, would carry out the plan. He had tried to go north once before, but was turned back at Antietam, Maryland, in September 1862.
VISITOR CENTER/NATIONAL CEMETERY SECTION

Completion of this section meets the requirements for receiving the center portion of the Gettysburg patch.

A. Visit the National Park Service Visitor Center on Taneytown road.

1. Gettysburg National Military Park is administered by the National Park Service to preserve and protect the areas where the Civil War battle occurred. The symbol of the National Park Service is an arrowhead with a tree, mountain, and buffalo. Look for this symbol near the visitor center. What department is the National Park Service in?

2. The National Park Service administers more than 350 natural and cultural areas throughout the United States. Here at Gettysburg, the Park Service also administers the homes of the 34th President of the United States. What is the name of that park?

3. Proceed to the exhibit room near the electric map. The electric map orientation program was designed by the Rosensteel family, local Gettysburg residents. The map was purchased by the National Park Service in 1972 when the Rosensteels retired.

View the electric map program. What do the green lights stand for?

4. Preservation is one of the major purposes of the Park Service. Hundreds of cannons, monuments, artworks, and other features are preserved on the battlefield. Here in the building the Rosensteel collection of artifacts is preserved from deterioration. It is important that the historic objects not be handled or misused so they will be here for future generations. In the exhibit cases you can see examples of articles that have not survived intact because poor care was taken with them in the past. What part is missing from the flag General Pickett flew over his headquarters?

5. The bookstore and electric map are operated by a non-profit organization. This organization donates all its profits to help preservation and interpretation efforts of the National Park Service. What is the name of this organization here at Gettysburg?

GETTYSBURG NATIONAL CEMETERY

Walk across the street to the Gettysburg National Cemetery.

This cemetery was created shortly after the battle as a resting place for the Union dead who fell here. Because the war was still on, the Confederate dead were considered the enemy, and no provisions were made for their burial. Confederates were placed in hastily dug and inadequate graves all over the battlefield. Not until seven years after the war were their bodies removed and sent to proper cemeteries in the south.

Immediately inside the cemetery is a brick rostrum. The rostrum was built many years after the war for speeches and ceremonies. The most famous speech ever given in the cemetery was presented by President Abraham Lincoln at the cemetery's dedication. Across from the rostrum is a memorial to the Gettysburg Address. According to the plaque on the back, what year was the park established?

Proceed towards the monument in the center of the cemetery. This is the Soldiers' National Monument. The first monument erected at Gettysburg, the
monument was placed here in 1869 to commemorate the men who fought for the Union. It also sits near the site where Lincoln delivered his address. What state erected the bronze plaque with the words of the address on it?

The soldiers killed in the battle are layed in a semicircle around the monument. Eighteen of the twenty-four Union states had men here. Each section contains men from one of those states. A large stone in front of the section lists the number of men buried in that area. There is also a section for U.S. Regulars. These are the men who were regular army soldiers and not volunteers or draftees. You can also see a large section of small stone slabs on each side. These mark the unknown soldiers. Many of the men in the state plots are also unknown by name, but these 979 men are unknown by name or state. How many men are buried in the New York section?

Today the cemetery holds not only 3722 Union dead, but also veterans of wars from the Spanish American War through the Vietnam Conflict. These men are buried in the areas other than the semi-circle.

The area where the cemetery sits was a cornfield at the time of the battle. Union gunners used the field for firing on the men in Pickett's Charge. What is the name of the battery near the rostrum?

THIS COMPLETES THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CENTER PATCH.

If you wish to earn the side patches or Eisenhower patch, continue with the other sections of the booklet.

THE BILLY YANK AND JOHNNY REB TRAILS

These two hiking trails cover areas of the battlefield where fighting occurred on the second and third days of the battle. The Billy Yank Trail traverses much of the southern and central areas. The Johnny Reb Trail covers the Culp's Hill/Spangler's Spring areas.

Logistics and unsafe pedestrian areas make it impossible to extend the trails into the northern sections of the park where the action of the first day took place.

To give hikers a better idea of what a soldier felt here at Gettysburg, the guide interprets the battle from a soldier's point of view whenever possible. The Billy Yank trail is primarily from a Union view, and the Johnny Reb from a Confederate perspective.

ALLOW SIX HOURS TO COMPLETE THE 9 MILE BILLY YANK SECTION, AND THREE HOURS FOR THE 3.5 MILE JOHNNY REB SECTION.

THE BILLY YANK HIKING TRAIL

Begin at the terrace located at the upper level (west side) door of the Cyclorama Center building. Follow the signs of the High Water Mark Trail to the point where it reaches the low earthen breastworks. At the point where you reach the breastworks there will be a large monument to the 7th Michigan regiment on your right, and the left flank marker for the 7th Michigan on your left. Turn left and follow the earthwork south. Please do not walk on the earthenwork.

As you follow the High Water Mark trail you pass through the area known as the Angle. It was here that the Battle of Gettysburg reached its climax in the action known as Pickett's Charge. We will return to this point near the end of the hike. As you head south you will walk along the low crest of Cemetery Ridge. The monuments and markers follow the line of the Union Army of the Potomac as it was on the second and third days of the battle.

Continue south across Hancock Avenue to the Pennsylvania Memorial.

PENNSYLVANIA MEMORIAL

As you walk the battlefield you will pass hundreds of monuments and markers erected by the veterans themselves. Most of them commemorate Union regiments, small groups of men numbering around 300-400. This monument is dedicated to all the men of Pennsylvania who fought here. It is also the largest monument in the park. What does this monument tell you about the Pennsylvanians who fought at Gettysburg? How many men were here? How many were killed, wounded, captured, or missing?

Dividing the total number of men by the total casualties, what were the chances a man would have been a casualty here?

Cross over Hancock Avenue to the 1st Minnesota monument (The man running with the rifle).

FIRST MINNESOTA MONUMENT

You are a private in the 1st Minnesota regiment. You are a long way from home. To get here you may have traveled part of the way on trains or boats, but mostly you walked. When you arrive at Gettysburg your small regiment of less than 400 men is the only one from Minnesota. You have been assigned to hold this part of the Union line on July 2. To your right is the end of the II Corps line. To your left and in front of you is the right end of the III Corps line. It is your duty to fill the gap and prevent the Confederates from attacking through the hole and splitting the Union line. The air is full of smoke, noise from cannons and rifles, and the concussions of exploding shells. Suddenly you rush forward into the smoke and Confederate bullets. You can barely see where you are going but can tell that men are falling all around you. In only a few minutes time your job is over and you rest. You have successfully held the line, but at a great cost. When you arrive at roll call the next morning you find that 65% of your fellow Minnesotans did not come back.

From the monument proceed directly west to the post and rail fence. Turn left and follow the fence south to United States Avenue. At the road turn right and head west. Watch for cars as you travel this and other park roads.

UNITED STATES AVENUE

On the afternoon of July 2, General Dan Sickles decided to advance his men from Cemetery Ridge up to the Emmitsburg Road. As you walk down United States Avenue you follow the same path taken by many of these men as they moved to their new position. This road, however, was not here then. As you walk the park keep in mind that any roads called "Avenue" were built after the battle.

Across from the Trostle farm there is an upright cannon set as a marker. Upright cannons mark the locations of headquarters. Whose headquarters was this and what corps did he command?

Continue along United States Avenue to Sickles Avenue. Turn left and follow Sickles Avenue to Wheatfield Road.

SICKLES AVENUE

As you walk along Sickles Avenue you are following the line of General Sickles' 3rd Corps as it was placed after moving from Cemetery Ridge. The Confederates are only a short distance away along the line of trees near Seminary Ridge to your right. Now, at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon Confederates attack. You cannot hold this dangerously exposed position, and you begin to fall back.

Turn left and follow the Wheatfield road back towards Cemetery Ridge.
WHEATFIELD ROAD BATTERIES

As you walk along Wheatfield Road stop and look at the batteries you are passing on the left. These are the positions of some of these batteries before they were forced to retreat. Notice the different types of guns. The 5th Massachusetts has 3" Ordnance rifles painted black. Farther down the road the 9th Massachusetts Battery has 12-pounder Napoleon cannons. These bronze guns would have been kept shiny in battle, but turn green in the open weather.

ACTION FRONT WAYSIDE AND 9TH MASSACHUSETTS BATTERY

As a member of the 9th Massachusetts battery you fight to make an orderly retreat and save your guns. You are under murderous fire from the advancing southerners, but it is important that you do not allow your cannons to be captured. Rapidly you and your fellow men ram powder and ammunition into the guns, fire, sponge them out, reload and fire again. Retreat is difficult. The guns and carriages weigh nearly a ton each and cannot be easily moved. It would take too long to hitch the horses to the guns, and if you did, you would not be able to fire them. Your only recourse is to move them by hand and retreat with your guns firing. The recoil of the cannons moves them back a few feet each time they are fired. Frenziedly you load and fire as you slowly move back to safer ground. You do not succeed in holding the Rebels back, but you do manage to save some of your guns.

Continue along Wheatfield Road (which was here in 1863) until you reach a metal sign on the right side of the road which says "Wheatfield." Turn right and cross the field at the sign. Please respect any crops.

WHEATFIELD

Look around you. This small open field looks calm and peaceful now, but imagine how it looked late in the afternoon of July 2, 1863. As a Union soldier you came across this field earlier in the day, moving west as the III Corps advanced. A few hours later you crossed it back east, falling under southern pressure. You regrouped and pushed west again. Soon the field became a bloody whirlpool as men from both sides struggled back and forth from all directions. What had been the healthy wheat crop of George Rose was now a field of death. In less than two hours the field is so covered with the dead and dying, it is difficult to walk across it without stepping on a man. Yet neither side gained anything from its capture. At dusk you venture out to look for a lost friend. Maybe you find him, maybe you don't.

On the other side of the Wheatfield you will come out to the intersection of Sickles Avenue and Detrobland Avenue. Go south on Detrobland. You will immediately pass a marker for the Second Brigade on your left. This is called a "Brigade marker". You pass many of them as you travel the battlefield. They were erected by the War Department near the turn of the century. They describe the actions of individual brigades. How many regiments were in this brigade? Near the top is the symbol of the 5th Union Corps. It is called a Maltese cross. Draw it here.

Follow Detrobland past the 110th Pennsylvania monument until you see a metal "Detrobland Avenue" sign on your right. Turn left opposite the sign and go down the path through the woods. Continue across Brook Avenue and south on the trail. It will eventually begin to turn left. You will cross Plum Run where an old culvert lies in the creek. Continue to the restroom and water fountain.

WATER FOUNTAIN

By now a drink of water probably tastes pretty good, especially if it is the summer. You have walked about ½ of the trail. How much water have you seen along the way? There are not many streams in this area, and even less water in the summer. During the battle men often left their heavy and cumbersome canteens behind. It was not unusual for a man to be wounded and left on a field for hours without water before anyone found him. Imagine yourself on this hike with no water.

From the water fountain continue along the dirt road to the paved road, Warren Avenue. Turn right and follow Warren a few dozen yards until you see an entry gate in the fence on the left. Enter the gate and begin up the face of Little Round Top.

DEVIL'S DEN & BLOODY RUN

Turn around and look back at the large group of boulders known as Devil's Den. On July 2 the Confederates pushed the Union out of these boulders and up the line of Plum Run to the north. Fierce fighting and numerous casualties were to give the small creek the nickname "Bloody Run." Ironically, Devil's Den had its name long before the battle.

Continue to the crest of Little Round Top.

140th NEW YORK REGIMENT

Stop at the monument to the 44th and 12th New York regiments. These regiments along with the 140th were part of the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Division of the 5th Corps. Here, on the afternoon of July 2, you are a soldier in the 140th New York. It is late in the day. You have spent most of it in a forced march from Maryland in order to reach the field of battle. You have not yet done any fighting. Now, suddenly, you are ordered to repulse a Confederate attack on this hill. No sooner do you rush in from the north side, but a regiment of southerners are coming up the south side directly towards you. It is important that this hill not be captured. With the hill in their possession, the Confederates would be able to place their cannons in a position to fire on the entire Union line. You rush down the hill, yelling and firing into the oncoming Rebels. You are scared, excited, confused. Some of your friends do not even have time to load their rifles and charge with empty muskets. You rush headlong into a group of men from Texas and beat back the southern attack. The wooded area is so thick with fighting it becomes known as Hell's Kitchen. In the fighting sharpshooters in Devil's Den pick off men standing on Little Round Top. Many of your comrades fall. One of the men killed is your commander, Colonel Patrick O'Rorke. Later, after the war, you return to the hill where he fell and erect a monument to him and your regiment. What are the four words on the top of the 140th NY monument that the men left described their regiment?

You may spend as much time as you like viewing the exhibits on Little Round Top. It is easy to see why it was important to hold this hill. Cross the road and follow the path to the 20th Maine monument.

20th MAINE

Here you reach the very end of the nearly two-mile long Union line. The other end was near Spangler's Spring. As a member of this regiment on July 2, your job was to hold at all cost. If the Confederates could get around or past you they would be able to attack the Union line from the rear, a big advantage. What do you think it was like to know that this responsibility rested upon your small group of men? The 20th Maine participated in fierce fighting, but did their job and held their position.
Descend the path to the parking area. Cross the road and walk about 50 feet to the east. You will see a small hiking trail sign directing you into the woods. Follow this path to the point where it connects with the Big Round Top nature trail and take the left fork.

**BIG ROUND TOP**

The trail goes around Big Round Top. This hill, though larger than Little Round Top, was not as valuable during the battle. As you can see, it is covered with trees; too many trees to make it useful for cannon. Local farmers had cleared Little Round Top for wood a few months before the battle. Today the National Park Service maintains the park to look as much as it did in 1863 as possible. Thus Little Round Top is still cleared. As you walk around Big Round Top follow the self-guided nature trail pamphlet. This will tell the story of some of the natural elements of the Gettysburg area. You will follow stop numbers 6 through 17.

When you reach the trail end you will be on South Confederate Avenue at the Big Round Top parking area. Cross the road and turn left. Walk down hill until you reach a short section of Virginia worm fence. This is the trail head to the Granite Farm. Turn right and follow the trail to the Granite Farm.

**THE GRANITE FARM**

This is what a typical Gettysburg area farm looked like in 1863. The Battle of Gettysburg, like all battles in all wars, was fought on farms. In towns, and in and around homes. As a Union soldier you are one of many who came here to help prevent the Confederates from successfully invading the north and to help protect the peaceful life of people like the Slyders who owned this farm. Part of the fighting took place right across this farm. After the battle you and your regiment find this farm deserted by the Slyders who had gone to relatives for safety. You occupy this farm and use it for your own needs. You eat all the food you can find, kill some of the livestock, break many household goods, and steal others. How do you feel about this? Since you may have come from a farm much like this, you know what kind of hard work it takes to run a farm. Yet this behavior was not uncommon. What does that say about war? When the Slyders returned they found their crops ruined, their home a wreck, and dead men buried near the house. They found they could not make the farm profitable again and were forced to move away.

According to the monument in the garden, what two companies fought on this farm? Note that there is no state name this time. These men were part of the regular U.S. Army. They were not volunteers and draftees like most of the Union men. U.S. regulars made up less than 15% of the nearly 93,000 members of the Army of the Potomac.

Proceed down the gravel road past the farm. In season, there is a small portable toilet about 50 yards from the house. The gravel road bears left past a trailer. You will pass an intersection with the horse trail. Continue up the gravel road, to the Emmitsburg road. Carefully cross and follow the hiking trail signs to the right. Proceed north on West Confederate Ave.

You will pass into an open area and by pass the observation tower. To your left is the Eisenhower National Historic Site. You can get a nice view of the Site from the top of the tower. As you cross Millers Road, turn right and cross to the east side of Confederate Avenue. You will be at the Mississippi Monument.

**THE CONFEDERATE LINE**

You now tread upon land no Union soldier saw on July 3rd. This is the southern line, near the right end of General James Longstreet's division. Immediately in front of you are men from the 12th Tennessee, 1st Tennessee, and 11th Tennessee. The cannon you see here are placed in approximately the same location as cannons during the battle. As are all the cannons in the park. Gettysburg is regarded as a great Union victory. To many it was the last high point for the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia. It is not surprising that many Southern states did not want to erect monuments here. In fact, early War Department regulations made it difficult for Southerners to erect monuments to their regiments. Many years after the war, when most of the anger was gone, Southern states began to erect monuments at Gettysburg. Instead of regimental monuments as the north has, the Southern monuments are to entire states.

Today all the Confederate states have monuments at Gettysburg. The last one, Tennessee, was dedicated in 1982. On the southeast side of the monument, signed on the Mississippi monument and read the year it was dedicated.

Continue along the east side of the road until you reach the Deering's Battalion marker. Cross to the west side of the road and enter the amphitheater parking area. Follow the path north to the drinking fountain.

At the west side of the amphitheater building you will see signs for the hiking and bridle trails. Follow this trail north. You will follow the western boundary of the park. Continue along this path until you reach the Virginia Memorial. There will be a short path to the right which will lead you out to Confederate Avenue near the Virginia Memorial.

**VIRGINIA MEMORIAL**

Virginia had more men at Gettysburg than any other Southern state. Their monument is a tribute to both the common soldiers who fought here, and their commander, General Robert E. Lee. By the morning of July 3, General Lee had been frustrated by two days of heavy fighting resulting in large losses of men. Yet the Confederates held no advantage over the North. Lee had spent a lot of time and risked his men and supplies to make this trip into the North. He had to win this battle or retreat back to the South. He was much too short on supplies and men to simply back out and continue the invasion. He decided the best course of action would be a direct frontal assault on the center of the Union line. Lee chose General James Longstreet to command the attack. Today we call the assault Pickett's Charge, after General George Pickett, whose men made the farthest advance in the attack.

**PICKETT'S CHARGE**

It will take approximately ½ to one hour to walk across the fields of Pickett's Charge. If it is a hot sunny day make sure you have a hat and water. Please stay on the designated trail and do not damage any crops or harass livestock. Follow the hiking trail signs.

As you emerge from the woods a line of some 12,000 men also emerges to your left and right, a line nearly a mile long. Shoulder to shoulder in perfect alignment you begin your march toward Cemetery Ridge nearly a mile away. Your flags are unfurled, waving in the breeze. A two-hour cannonade had filled the fields with smoke before you began, but the fields are now clear. It is a hot day with a few clouds in the sky. You have not been in any fighting in this battle and are well rested.

The beautiful scene is suddenly shattered as the Union cannon on Cemetery Ridge and Little Round Top open fire. Soon the field is covered with the blinding, choking smoke of battle. Your ears are filled with the whistle and concussion of shells and the screams of wounded men. Still you march on. Buglers and drummers sound the calls to continue and you watch for your flag or commander on his horse to keep you in the right direction.

"While charging down towards Cemetery Ridge we passed Will Adams, a gallant soldier of my regiment. He looked into my face and said, 'Colonel, I'm hit.' I shall
never forget his appealing look, and the confidence in me which it seemed to evidence.

By the time you reach the middle of the field almost half of the men are no longer with you. Many lie dead or wounded, some are lost in the smoke, and a few have simply quit and retreated. Through the smoke you occasionally spot the flash of cannons firing from Little Round Top as their cannonballs crash into the side of your line. Because they hit your line lengthwise, rolling up the line of men, the cannon fire is more deadly than from those straight ahead.

"... a solid shot from Little Round Top struck the right of my company's line and killed a dozen men. One of them was cut completely in two."

As you reach the fence along the Emmitsburg Road a new type of fire joins the shot shell and rifle bullets you are already receiving: canister. Like giant shotgun shells, the Union cannons are blasting thousands of iron balls about the size of golf balls, designed to kill and wound men at close range. The fence adds another problem since you must climb over it. During the few seconds that it takes to get over the fence, you become even a better target for Union rifles.

"I tried to crawl through a fence and heard the shot striking ping-pong on the rails around me. My head got caught between two rails, and I recall the horror of the thought that I might be killed and left hanging there dead. So I jumped over the fence and came on."

Now you have reached your goal. You have crossed the road and begin up the slope of Cemetery Ridge. The Union soldiers lie, kneel, and stand along the low stone walls ahead, pouring rifle and cannon fire into your ranks. Up to this point few of you have fired back. Think of what it takes to load and fire a muzzle-loading rifle. You pull out a paper cartridge, tear it open, pour in the bullet and powder, pull out the ramrod, ram the bullet, replace the ramrod, remove an explosive cap from its cartridge, place it on the firing mechanism, aim, shoot, then do the whole thing again. It is not a procedure that can be easily performed while marching.

The entire march so far had been one of receiving fire, with very little given back. Suddenly you are ordered to charge the remaining few dozen yards to the wall.

"After getting within forty yards of the stone fence (not a shot had been fired by the Confederates up to this time) there came an order all along the line to charge, and we did charge, and just beyond that stone wall rose up the Yankee infantry and poured into our ranks such murderous fire no human tongue can describe."

"At last you are over the stone wall, but only a couple hundred or so men have made it with you. You are caught up in a swirling mass of men, smoke, and noise. You begin fighting with rocks, fists, rifle butts, anything that you can use, except bayonets. Rarely is a bayonet used in battle. Bayonets look flashy on parade and in paintings, but are unpopular among soldiers. Many men were heard to say that they never knew if they had actually killed anyone with their rifles, and did not want to know. Killing is an unpleasant thing to do. But when you stab a person with a bayonet, there is no doubt about it. Of the 32,000 men killed and wounded at Gettysburg, less than ten suffered bayonet wounds."

The fighting at the corner of the wall called "The Angle" continues a few furious minutes, but the outcome is decided. The overwhelming number of Union men is too much for you and your fellow Virginians. Many of you are captured as the rest fall wounded or manage to find their way back to Seminary Ridge. The attack is a failure.

THE ANGLE

Turn around and look back across the field. Your viewpoint from here as a Union private would have been completely different from the Southerner's you just experienced.

The morning of July 3 had been quiet here. You could hear some fighting off on Culp's Hill, but here it was peaceful. Then at about 1:00 a signal cannon in the Peach Orchard fired two shots. Immediately the entire southern line erupted with the thunder of more than 150 cannons. There are few places to hide up here, but fortunately the Confederates were firing a little long and most of the shells were landing on the other side of the crest. All you could do was lie here and wait.

Then as suddenly as the cannonade began, it ended. As the smoke cleared what a sight you saw. All along the ridge the Confederates came out of the trees and up the swales into view. They held their fire for a few moments until you remembered they were coming to kill you. You ran with fire with your rifle as the Union cannons again blast away. It seems no matter how much you fire the Rebels keep coming. The line of men in brown and gray uniforms is visible through the holes in the drifting smoke as they cross the Emmitsburg Road and head up the hill. When the fighting reaches the wall you are in the thick of it. When the struggle ends, it is your side that cheers.

Of the 12,000 men who began the attack, only about 4000 make it back unscathed. The rest were killed, wounded, captured, or missing. The entire assault took only 50 minutes. Failure of the attack ended the Battle of Gettysburg. Only a cavalry engagement a few miles to the east remained before the Confederates began their retreat to Virginia. The ground you stand on is regarded by many as the coldest the South ever came in the Civil War and becomes known as the "High Water Mark" of the Confederacy.

From the Angle follow the High Water Mark trail back past the statue of General Meade to the fork. Take the right fork down the hill to the Leister house.

LEISTER HOUSE

Here in this small house General Meade and his top officers met on the night of July 2 to decide their action for the next day. Their decision to "stay and fight it out" led to the repulse of Pickett's Charge and the Union victory at Gettysburg. An exhibit regarding this meeting is located in the Visitor Center.

Go out the north side path from the house and follow it to the east side of the Cyclorama Building. Complete the trail by viewing the Cyclorama painting.

Question: The Cyclorama was painted many years after the war, and is a romantic depiction of the battle. What differences can you see in the painting from the way the fighting really would have looked?

Sample answers: No smoke, fewer men, too many bayonets, buildings in the wrong places, etc.

THE JOHNNY REB HIKING TRAIL

Begin at the front of the Visitor Center.

Walk through the National Cemetery using the pedestrian road. Continue through the cemetery to the east gate. Carefully cross the Baltimore Pike and continue to the statue of General Winfield S. Hancock (the one on the right).

CEMETERY HILL

From here you can look out over the west side of Cemetery Hill to Culp's Hill. These areas were fought over on July 2 and the morning of July 3. Imagine you are a Confederate soldier while you are on this hike. Most of you are a long way from home. (Though some Confederates were from right here in Gettysburg.) You have marched a long time to get here. The summer has been a typical hot and humid one, food is often scarce, and the local people are not cooperative. You are constantly reminded that you are an invading army on unfamiliar soil. Quite a difference from the two years of fighting in Virginia and Maryland.

Follow the stone wall down to road on the east (Wainwright Avenue). Stop at the 41st New York monument.
CLOSE ORDER FIGHTING

In the Civil War men had to stay very close together to fight effectively. Two reasons why this was important: 1) the clumsy and cumbersome operation of rifles; and 2) without radios or other modern communication devices, everyone had to stay in sight of the commander so he could provide accurate direction. To see what this is like you will be a small company of men.

Begin the Company I, your moving through these woods. Starting here at the Company I marker, you soon find yourself on a road that leads to the right. Wait for you to face downhill. First send a scout to find the best route. While waiting for him you may look around for the objective. You must follow the road in this manner, otherwise you will be picked off at a time by the enemy. Forward march.

If you have trouble doing this now, imagine executing this kind of maneuver in the dark, with the air full of smoke and noise, and men shooting at you. Of course most of a soldier's life was spent in camp learning to march.

When you reach the Union entrenchments on your left, you will be at a road. As you walk down the road you pass the Union entrenchments on your left. When you reach the intersection near the statue of General Meade, continue on the road to the left. Stay left at all intersections. You will follow the Union breastworks all the way to Spangler's Spring. The road curves to the left up a hill, you will pass the monument to 2nd Maryland regiment.

SECOND MARYLAND REGIMENT MONUMENT

You may have noticed that although you are now imagining to be a Confederate soldier, you have been seeing only Union monuments. This is the only Confederate regimental monument at Gettysburg. The War Department, which operated this park until 1933, believed that monuments should only be placed where a unit was lined up for battle. The soldiers preferred to have their monuments where they actually did their fighting. Since most of the battle consisted of Confederate attacks, it turned out that most of the fighting was on Union lines, so the monuments were appropriate. The Southerners, on the other hand, did not want monuments to their rear, for it is only at this time that the Yankees break through the Union lines, away from their actual fighting, so refused to erect any. This monument remains as the only one, although every Southern state now has a state monument somewhere on the field. Maryland, although a Union state, had men on both sides.

Continue along this road. When you reach Spangler's Spring, turn left and follow the road north. There will be a large open meadow on your right. Where the meadow reaches the trees along the road there is a stone wall and a marker for Smith's Brigade. Stop here.

SMITH'S BRIGADE AND SPANGLER MEADOW

Kneel down behind this stone wall and face the meadow. Across the field you can see small monuments to the 2nd Massachusetts and 27th Indiana regiments. Those are the positions occupied by the Union on the morning of July 3. You are a private in Smith's Brigade of the Confederate Army.

The field erupts with smoke and the hail of bullets as the Union men attack across the meadow. They want to dislodge you from this position and recapture the meadow. You have the advantage of the stone wall to protect you as you load and fire your rifle over and over. It is hard to see but you know you're hitting men. You can hear their screams. Bullets whiz over your head as you try to keep low. It is not easy to stay down and load your rifle. Soon your position begins to show its worth as Yankees drop in the open grass. After about twenty minutes it is all over. The Northerners retreat to their lines and count their dead.
and wounded. You feel great to have won the fight, but the calls of the wounded and dying men in the meadow torture your ears. You wish you could help them but there is nothing you can do. Killing is not something you like. According to the brigade marker, how many men in your unit were killed and wounded?

Cross over the wall and follow the road to the monuments of the 2nd Massachusetts and 27th Indiana. Compare your dead and wounded to those of these two units.

Continue up the road. Stay to the left at the intersection. You are on Colgrove Avenue. As this road rounds the curve you are at the very opposite end of the Union line from the 20th Maine on Little Round Top. Stay to the left at the intersection, it will begin to curve to the left. When you return to Carman Avenue, near the Third Brigade marker, turn left and return to Spangler’s Spring.

SPANGLER’S SPRING

During the Battle of Gettysburg there were 162,000 men and at least 31,000 mules and horses present by July 3. These men and animals put a great strain on the water supplies of the area. Only about 2400 people lived in the town of Gettysburg. Spangler’s Spring was one of many springs that supplied the thirsty armies. Legends have arisen about soldiers sharing water here, but there are no accounts of this actually happening. Both sides did use this spring as the ground changed hands.

Follow the road to the left past the spring. Stop at the monument to the 147th Pennsylvania regiment. Cross the road to the large boulder which says “Pardee Field.”

PARDEE FIELD

On the afternoon of July 2 Confederates launched an attack against the southern end of the Union line near Little Round Top and the Wheatfield. In order to save his position, General Meade ordered most of the Union troops on Culp’s Hill and Spangler’s Spring to go to the assistance of General Sickle’s III Corps. As a Confederate soldier you and your comrades occupied many of the abandoned Union entrenchments in this area. An attempt to capture the crest of Culp’s Hill failed, however. The next morning, as the Union troops returned, they launched attacks against your new positions and drove you out. By 11:00 you found yourself all the way back at Rock Creek where you began.

According to the official report of General John Geary, what time did Colonel Ane Pardee lead his Union soldiers across this field to counterattack on the morning of July 3?

Later that afternoon Lee launched the attack known as Pickett’s Charge. By evening you and your friends knew that attack had failed, and the Battle of Gettysburg was lost. What had begun as a bold dream of invading the North and moving the war closer to a Confederate victory was now over. On July 4 you joined your friends in a long, slow, and painful retreat home to the south. What do you think if felt like to be on the Southern side after this battle?

Follow this road to the next intersection. Turn left and keep left at General Geary’s statue. When you reach the end of Williams Avenue turn left again towards the Baltimore Pike. DO NOT CROSS THE ROAD HERE. Stay on the grass on this side of the Baltimore Pike and turn right. Walk up the hill staying on the grass and off the road.

CEMETERY GATE HOUSE AND THE BALTIMORE PIKE

The Baltimore Pike was the primary road used by the Union Army when they marched up to Gettysburg. It also served as their major supply line and the road was filled with supply and support wagons during the battle. The Confederates wanted to capture this hill to cut this supply line. The large brick building with the arch is called the Cemetery Gate House. The gate house was here in 1863 and served as a landmark during the fighting. The family who lived in it had to give up the house for the use of Union officers, and later for treating wounded men. The Evergreen Cemetery was here before the battle and gave Cemetery Hill its name.

Carefully cross the road at the crest of the hill, near the gate house. Turn right and follow the side walk down to the National Cemetery. Return through the cemetery to the visitor center.

EISENHOWER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE SECTION

Dwight David Eisenhower had been in service to his country since his acceptance as a cadet at West Point in 1911. In his years of service he moved dozens of times, and never knew the pleasure of a place he could call home. Finally in 1951 he and his wife Mamie chose a farm at Gettysburg to be their home.

While Ike was ready for his move to Gettysburg, the country was not. In 1952 Dwight Eisenhower became the 34th President of the United States. During his years in the Presidency, Eisenhower frequently came to his new farm on weekends, for holidays, and when he needed a rest from the Washington pressure. It wasn’t until his retirement in 1961 that he could finally move in and enjoy the farm.

Today you can visit the home of the President preserved as Eisenhower National Historic Site. The home and farm reflect the life of the man who was well loved by the American public and respected by the world for his role in World War II.

All visits to the farm start at the Eisenhower Tour Information Center located at the Visitor Center. There is a fee charged to visit the farm. By viewing the slide program, listening to the tape on the bus, and reading the park folder and exhibits, you can answer these questions.

1. Dwight Eisenhower lived in Gettysburg twice in his life. Why was he here the first time?

2. What kind of cattle did Eisenhower raise?

3. What years was Dwight Eisenhower President of the United States?

4. Why was this home once called the “temporary White House”?

5. Which room in the house was Ike and Mamie’s favorite?
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or Unit # ______ of ____________________________ (City) has completed

items initialed and are entitled to Gettysburg patches, ______________

Johnny Reb segments and ______________ Billy Yank segments or both

segments ______________.

Signed: ____________________________ (Leader)

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