

Sites on the Civil War Discovery Trail



WEST VIRGINIA RESULTS: 16 SITES LISTED

- **Belle Boyd House and Civil War Museum and Archives**
- **Bulltown Historic Area**
- **Camp Allegheny**
- **Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park**
- **Cheat Summit Fort**
- **Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park**
- **Grafton National Cemetery**
- **Harpers Ferry National Historical Park**
- **Jackson's Mill Historic Area**
- **Jenkins Plantation Museum**
- **Lewisburg National Register Historic District/Greenbrier County Visitor Center**
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- **Philippi Historic District**
- **Rich Mountain Battlefield Civil War Site**
- **Shepherdstown Historic District**
- **West Virginia Independence Hall Museum**
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Belle Boyd House and Civil War Museum and Archives

**Belle Boyd House/ Civil War Museum of the Lower Shenandoah Valley
126 East Race Street
Martinsburg, WV 25401
304-267-4713
Website: www.bchs.org/**

Come inside the Belle Boyd House! On the right of the entry hall is the original ball room decorated in a Victorian style, as it would have been in the late 1800's. This is the only room in the house decorated as living quarters. Meetings, receptions, and seminars take place here. Through the door on the far side of the room, step into the Ben Boyd store. This space was originally built by Benjamin Boyd in 1850 to house the General Store that he ran for five years. To the left of the entry hall is the First Parlor. Here, the society generally curates items related to the Civil War in Berkeley County. In the second parlor as well as the original kitchen, we have long term rotating collections on display.

Belle Boyd, West Virginia's best-known Civil War spy, lived in this house. Belle endorsed the Confederate cause, even shooting a Yankee soldier. She supplied information to Stonewall Jackson about enemy activities and was imprisoned twice. Also on-site is the Civil War Museum of the Lower Shenandoah Valley and the Berkeley County Museum. The Archives and Research Center offers facilities to research the local Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan areas.

Bulltown Historic Area

**2550 South Main Street
Burnsville, WV 26335
Website: gotowv.com/company/bulltown-historic-district/
Web Page: www.lrh.usace.army.mil/projects/lakes/bus/bulltown/**

The Battle of Bulltown occurred at the site of fortifications on a knoll overlooking a key covered bridge that once crossed the Little Kanawha River along the Weston-Gauley Turnpike. The highway was the artery for transportation in central West Virginia, connecting the northern and southern portions of the state. Had Confederate commander (and Stonewall Jackson's cousin) Col. William L. "Mudwall" Jackson's assault on Bulltown been successful, he would have cut communications between troops in northern West Virginia and the Kanawha Valley, creating an opportunity to march on Wheeling, the center of Union support in West Virginia.

At the site are fortifications dug to protect the fort, the burial site of seven unknown Confederate soldiers, intact sections of the turnpike, and the Cunningham House. The Cunningham House sheltered supporters of the Confederacy at the time of the Civil War. Today it serves as the center of Historic Bulltown Village, including farm buildings, two relocated log homes, and the log St. Michael's Church that date from before the Civil War.

Camp Allegheny

c/o Monongahela National Forest, 200 Sycamore Street

Elkins, WV 26241

304-636-1800

Website: gotowv.com/company/camp-allegheny-1861-1862/

www.fs.fed.us/r9/mnf

Established by Confederate forces in the summer of 1861 to control the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike, this camp, at 4,400 feet about sea level, was one of the highest of the Civil War. Although Confederate Gen. Edward Johnson's troops won the battle against Union forces under the command of Gen. R.H. Milroy, the loss of men because of the harsh winter climate and the logistical nightmare of keeping the camp supplied contributed to the decision to abandon it in April 1862.

From I-81 at Staunton, take U.S. 250 west to just beyond the Virginia-West Virginia line; turn left at County Road 3, and take a right at the T. Go 2 more miles. Note: Road is sometimes closed due to snow; call (304) 636-1800 for road information.

Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park

1194 Carnifex Ferry Road

Summersville, WV 26651

304-872-0825

Website: www.carnifexferrybattlefieldstatepark.com/

Nestled on the rim of the Gauley River Canyon near Summersville, Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park is an important Civil War battle site. On September 10, 1861, Union troops led by Brig. Gen. William S. Rosecrans engaged the Confederates and forced them to evacuate an entrenched position on the Henry Patterson farm, which overlooked Carnifex Ferry. The Confederate commander, Brig. Gen. John B. Floyd, retreated across the ferry to the south side of the Gauley River and on eastward to Meadow Bluff near Lewisburg. This Civil War battle represented failure of a Confederate drive to regain control of the Kanawha Valley. As a result the movement for West Virginia statehood proceeded without serious threat from the Confederates.

Located off Route 129 approximately 5 miles west of U.S. Route 19 near Summersville. U.S. Route 19 is a north-south connection between I-77 and I-79

Cheat Summit Fort

County Route 43/4
Monongahela National Forest
Valley Head, WV 26294

304-636-1800

Website: gotowv.com/company/cheat-summit-fort/
www.fs.fed/us/r9/mnf

Gen. George B. McClellan ordered this pit-and-parapet fort to be built in 1861 under the command of Gen. R.H. Milroy to secure the Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike and protect the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. The Confederate failure to take the fort in September 1861 was central in the failure of Robert E. Lee's western Virginia campaign.

From I-79 near Weston, take U.S. 33 east to Elkins, then U.S. 250 south to just before Cheat Bridge. Turn right at the sign and right again at the T. Go about 1 mile to the top. Note: Road is sometimes closed due to snow; call (304) 636-1800 for road information.

Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park

683 Droop Park Road
Hillsboro, WV 24946
304-653-4254
Website: www.droopmountainbattlefield.com/

Droop Mountain Battlefield is the site of one of West Virginia's largest and last important Civil War battles. The battle was fought on November 6, 1863 between the Union army of Gen. William Averell and the Confederate army of Gen. John Echols. Echols's army was pushed south into Virginia and never regained control of southeastern West Virginia.

Take I-64 to Lewisburg; travel north on U.S. Route 219 for 27 miles.

Fort Mulligan

Petersburg, West Virginia 26847
Website: www.grantcountypress.com/ft_mulligan

Fort Mulligan, built in 1863, survives on the outskirts of the town of Petersburg, West Virginia on high ground commanding the local road network and the South Branch of the Potomac River. Some of the defensive works, remains of winter camp cabins and bombproofs are still visible. A walking trail, monument, rail fence signage and parking lot are the result of a partnership of the South Branch Valley Civil War Society and others.

Grafton National Cemetery

431 Walnut Street
304-265-2044
Grafton, WV 26354

Website: www.cem.va.gov/CEM/cems/nchp/grafton.asp

Grafton was established in 1867 by Congressional legislation to offer a final resting place for the men who died during the Civil War. Burials were removed from other cemeteries to make Grafton the final resting place for 2,133 soldiers, including 664 unknown soldiers. Grafton is notably the site of the grave of the first casualty of land engagement of the Civil War, Pvt. T. Bailey Brown.

From I-79 take exit 124 (Jerry Dove Drive/Route 279E) then take Route 50 east for fourteen miles

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

485 Fillmore St.
Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425
Website: www.nps.gov/hafe/index.htm

Harpers Ferry is the site of abolitionist John Brown's 1859 raid on the First Federal Arsenal. The now National Historic Park changed hands eight times during the war. It became the base of operations for Union invasions into the Shenandoah Valley and Stonewall Jackson achieved his most brilliant victory here in September 1862 when he captured 12,500 Union soldiers.

From Washington take I-270 north to I-70 to west Route 340. From Gettysburg take Maryland Route 15 south to Route 15 south to Route 340 west. From Shenandoah Valley take I-81 north to West Virginia 51 east. From Baltimore take I-70 west to Route 340 west.

Jackson's Mill Historic Area

WVU Jackson's Mill
160 WVU Jackson Mill
Weston, WV 26452, USA
Website: <https://jacksonsmill.wvu.edu/heritage-education>

The Jackson's Mill Museum is the midpoint of a historic area representing the life of Gen. Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson. Greatly influenced by his Uncle Cummins, who raised him after the death of his

parents, young Tom developed much of his character by building and working in this mill. Also featured are an operating grist-mill, general store, blacksmith shop, barn, and one-room cabin.

From I-79 take exit 99. Turn west on U.S. Route 33 toward Weston, go 4 miles to the fourth stoplight, and turn right on U.S. Route 19 north. After 5 miles turn left onto Jackson's Mill Road. Jackson's Mill will be 2.5 miles on the right.

Jenkins Plantation Museum

8814 Ohio River Road

Lessage, West Virginia 25537

304-762-1059

Website: www.wvculture.org/Test/test/JenkinsMod.html

Jenkins Plantation was the home of Confederate Brig. Gen. Albert Gallatin Jenkins. Jenkins led the Eighth Virginia Cavalry and served in the United State and Confederate Congresses. Jenkins was wounded at Gettysburg, but recovered and continued to serve the Confederacy. He was mortally wounded at the Battle of Cloyd's Mountain in May of 1864. His family home, on what was once a 4,400-acre slave plantation, has been restored to mid-nineteenth-century appearance.

From I-64 take the Barboursville exit, 18. Take Merritts Creek Road north, following signs toward Route 2. Turn right on West Virginia 2, travel north 10.4 miles. Jenkins Plantation Museum is on the left.

Lewisburg National Register Historic District/Greenbrier County Visitor Center

200 West Washington Street

Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901

Website: <https://greenbrierwv.com/>

Lewisburg was the site of a Civil War battle on May 23, 1862, when Union forces attempted to sever railroad communications between Virginia and Tennessee. There is a Confederate cemetery in town, a library used as a hospital with Confederate graffiti on the walls, a church with a cannonball hole, another church that served as a Confederate morgue, and a monument to the Confederate dead.

From I-64 take exit 169. Travel south on U.S. 219 for 1.5 miles; the visitors center will be on your right.

Philippi Covered Bridge

108 North Main Street
Philippi, West Virginia 26416
Website: www.philippi.org/bridge

The bridge was on the site of the first land battle of the Civil War on June 3, 1861. During this battle Union troops took command of the bridge and used it as a barracks.

From I-79 take exit 115; follow Route 20 south to Route 57 east and take U.S. Route 119 north to Philippi (22 miles from exit 155).

Philippi Historic District

108 North Main Street
Philippi, WV 26416
Website: <http://www.philippi.org/citysite/>

Philippi, West Virginia, was the site of the first land battle of the Civil War on June 3, 1861. It was the site of the first amputation of the Civil War caused by enemy fire. Philippi is home to many historic sites, as well as a historical museum containing Civil War-era artifacts.

From I-79 take exit 115. Follow Route 20 south to Route 57 east and take U.S. Route 119 north to Philippi (22 miles from exit 115).

Rich Mountain Battlefield Civil War Site

4 Court Street
Beverly, West Virginia 26253
Website: www.richmountain.org/

Rich Mountain Battlefield Civil War Site includes the battle site, Confederate Camp Garnett, and connecting section of the old Staunton-Parkersburg Turnpike. On July 11, 1861, Union troops under Gen. George B. McClellan routed Confederates holding the pass over Rich Mountain. This victory led to General McClellan's appointment to command the Army of the Potomac. It also gave the Union control of northwestern Virginia, allowing the formation of the state of West Virginia two years later. Visitors are strongly encouraged to go to the visitors center in Beverly for directions and information before proceeding to the battle site at the top of the mountain.

From I-79 take exit 99 at Weston. Take U.S. Route 33 east to Elkins, then U.S. Route 219/250 south to Beverly. Turn west in Beverly onto Rich Mountain Road and follow road 5 miles up the mountain to battlefield. Camp Garnett is 1.5 miles farther. Note: Road is sometimes closed due to snow. Call ahead and check local weather information.

Shepherdstown Historic District

West German Street

Shepherdstown, West Virginia 25443

Website: <http://shepherdstownbattlefield.org/battle-of-shepherdstown/>

In the wake of the Battle of Antietam, the town became one vast Confederate hospital, with public and private buildings in town serving as military hospitals for the wounded. On September 20, 1862, the last significant battle of the Maryland campaign occurred at Boteler's Ford, about a mile down the Potomac River from Shepherdstown. Elmwood Cemetery, on the outskirts of town, has a Confederate section; most of those buried there were casualties of the 1862 Maryland campaign. Henry Kyd Douglas, a staff officer of Stonewall Jackson's, is among them.

From I-81 south take exit 16E. Take Route 9 east to Route 45 east, 8 miles to Shepherdstown. From I-81 north take exit 12. Take Route 45 east to Route 9 east, 7 miles to Kearneysville. Go left on Route 480 (at Kearneysville), 4 miles to Shepherdstown.

West Virginia Independence Hall Museum

1528 Market Street

Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Website: www.wvculture.org/museum/WVIHmod.html

Nearly six years before President Lincoln signed the proclamation making West Virginia the thirty-fifth state in the Union, construction had begun on the Wheeling Custom House, headquarters for federal offices for the Western District of Virginia. Its completion, coinciding with the beginning of the Civil War, provided a facility for heated political discussions and constitutional conventions that led to eventual statehood for West Virginia in 1863.

Here, issues dividing many Virginians - slavery being one of many - were debated, compromised and shaped into the skeleton of statehood. Serving as the Restored Government of Virginia (aligned with the Union) from 1861-1863, it is appropriately known today as West Virginia Independence Hall.

Located on the corner of 16th and Market Streets. From I-70 take Exit 1A South on Main Street to 16th, turn left and go one block. Parking is available behind the building.
