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(S.F. Po-5D, \*12C.P.C.R.W.G-11B)\*#9D

## In Shenandoah Valley

# Famous battle to be refought



travel log

Iris Sanderson Jones  
contributing travel editor

## A Cape Breton bargain

I love to bring home trinkets when I travel, but sometimes I go too far. That, at least, is the opinion of those who have seen my latest trinket: a 20-by-8-foot cloth map of the world.

I found it tucked to the side of a barn at a flea market in Baddeck, Nova Scotia, and I couldn't resist it. First, the setting. Baddeck is the town on Cape Breton Island where Alexander Graham Bell and his family spent the last 30 summers of his life. He perfected his hydrofoil plane and did many other important flight experiments on this stretch of blue water cupped between low hills. He is buried there.

WE DROVE to Baddeck to visit the Alexander Graham Bell Museum, run by the Canadian government. We had a question that the guide couldn't answer, so she sent us looking for the museum director.

It was a Sunday, and the director wasn't in his office, but that doesn't bother anybody in a small town. "You'll find him manning a booth at the flea market just down the street in a field opposite the Red and White Store," she said.

We found the Red and White store and the flea market. There were lots of little tables and a few brass beds to give it color in the sun, but my eyes were fixed on the side of

the barn which stood in the middle of the field.

There on the barn wall, used as a colorful backdrop for one of the tables, was a huge cloth map of the world. At the top it read "Go Ye Into All the World and Preach the Gospel."

My husband knew he was in trouble as soon as he heard me breathing heavily. "No travel writer should have to live without that map!" I said.

I went down across the field with my eyes fixed on that multicolored map. It was printed in 1805 by the Methodist Episcopal Church, a missionary map.

The world is divided into many colors to identify the various religions of the world. The largest color patches were grey. Grey is for heathens.

There were 75 million people in the United States when that map was printed.

I marched right past the brass beds, the tables of chipped china cups and the old books. "Is that map for sale?" I said, trying not to sound too interested.

"Yes, ma'am."

"How much?" I said, holding my breath.

"Ten dollars."

So I paid my ten dollars, hauled it home and hung it on my den wall.

By Iris Sanderson Jones  
special writer

**N**EW MARKET, VA.: It was a spring day in 1864 when the Corps of Cadets of the Virginia Military Institute marched down the Valley Pike towards the Battle of New Market.

The cadets — 16 and 17-year-old boys — suffered severe casualties but helped the Confederate Army defeat the union forces in one of the Civil War's memorable battles.

That battle will be re-enacted here May 10, one of many Civil War re-enactments that occur every year in the United States.

The museum that memorializes the conflict has made a valiant effort to show an objective overall view of the War between the States.

That is not a bad achievement, considering that New Market Battlefield Park is in the very heart of Confederate country here in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

Reactivated Civil War units from 15 states will send 470 Confederates and 349 Union forces on to the field of honor, which grows bright green between the old Bushong farmhouse and the contemporary Hall of Valor.

THE SHENANDOAH Valley played an important role in the Civil War. Its agricultural riches made it the bread basket of the Confederacy. Here, Stonewall Jackson and his troops continually diverted and defeated Union forces intent on capturing the Confederate stronghold at Richmond.

Federal troops had been sent south to cut a railway line when confronted by Confederate forces under Major General John C. Breckinridge. His soldiers were joined by a most unusual army: the entire cadet corps of VMI, boys too young to fit very well into their buttoned grey uniforms.

It was May 15, 1864, when the 257 cadets joined Breckinridge's more seasoned troops in the Battle of New Market; 57 of the cadets were wounded, 10 of them fatally. The re-enactment, which occurs here every year on the Sunday before May 15, re-lives and honors that battle.



Soldiers prepare to fire their cannon in this replica of a battle scene at the New Market Battlefield Park in Virginia.

It begins with a volley of Union cannon fire from the top of Bushong Hill. Confederate cannons answered from their downhill position near the barn. Advance pickets explored the hill, the infantry pushed them back. The Union forces charged downhill to the fence and were repulsed.

Finally, with the cadets joined in the battle, Confederate uniforms surged uphill. Present-day VMI cadets, in authentic 19th century uniforms, climb on their captured Union cannon and wave the flag.

THE BATTLE OF New Market has been won again for the confederates.

A visit to the Hall of Valor helps to put it in perspective.

The Bushong Farm and the lush green battlefield fit perfectly into the misty rural landscape here in the valley, but the Hall of Valor makes a contemporary skyline that is surprising in this land of old stone and clapboard houses.

The hall contains miniature battle scenes and other modern exhibits that give 20th century visitors a detailed look into that 19th century world in which the battle occurred.

A photo of 17-year-old Thomas Garland Jefferson, a private in Company B, greets you at the entrance. Jefferson died in Bushong Farmhouse two

days after the Battle of New Market and is buried beneath a sculpture created on the VMI campus in Lexington by another New Market cadet, Esekial Moses.

An Israeli artist created the dramatic 28-foot stained glass window that draws you into the museum with scenes of the battle and a Confederate flag glowing softly center-left.

In the New Market Room, the boys themselves are featured, along with mementos, such as a letter that reads: "Dear Pa, I write you a few lines to let you know that I was wounded. I was in the battle here yesterday."

An award-winning 12-minute film follows the cadets from the classroom into battle. You come out of the dark filming room into a passageway where curved glass windows overlook the battlefield itself.

REAL PEOPLE are on the battlefield during the re-enactment, but you can imagine it easily enough at any time of year as you stare through this glass 'time machine' across green fields to the white clapboard farmhouse with its split rail fence.

For information, contact New Market Battlefield Park, Box 1864, New Market, Virginia 22844.

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