

## Second Manassas Battlefield: A Driving Tour

This 16-mile driving tour is designed to cover 11 sites that figured prominently in the second battle. Each description is keyed by number to the modern map of the battlefield at right.

**Caution:** Two heavily traveled highways divide the park. U.S. 29 follows the historical roadbed of the Warrenton Turnpike, an important commercial highway before the war and which played a major part in both battles. The Sudley Road (Va. 234) crosses the turnpike at the Stone House. Use caution in driving across or turning onto and off of these highways.

**1 Battery Heights** In the late afternoon of August 28, 1862, Stonewall Jackson ordered his troops to attack a Union column as it marched past on the Warrenton Turnpike in front of the hidden Confederate position north of the road. As the lead elements of Gen. Rufus King's Union division emerged from the woods to the west, Jackson pushed his infantry forward from the distant ridge into this open field. King's troops swung to meet this attack and for one-and-a-half hours the two lines fought resolutely, in some places only 80 yards apart. In that short time this opening struggle of the Second Battle of Manassas inflicted casualties amounting to almost one-third of the 7,000 men engaged.

**2 Stone House** Convinced that Jackson was isolated, Pope ordered his columns to converge upon and attack the Confederates. He was sure he could destroy Jackson before Lee and Longstreet intervened. During the fighting on August 30, Pope made his headquarters directly behind this house. The house served as a field hospital during First and Second Manassas.

**3 Matthews Hill** On August 29, Pope's army found Jackson's troops behind the cuts and fills of an unfinished railroad grade west of here. Throughout the day the fields across the road were awash with Union soldiers forming for assaults against the Confederates. Jackson's line was strained, but remained unbroken. Union artillery batteries took position along the ridge across the road, while Pope's headquarters were established on Buck Hill south of here.

**4 Sudley** Throughout the day on August 29, Federal troops made several unsuccessful attempts to smash through the extreme left of Jackson's line, positioned on the knoll just west of here. While the fighting raged here, far to the south

across the Warrenton Turnpike, Longstreet's troops arrived on the battlefield and, unknown to Pope, deployed on Jackson's right flank, overlapping the exposed Union left. Lee urged Longstreet to attack, but "Old Pete" demurred. The time was just not right, he said.

**5 Unfinished Railroad** Jackson's line covered a front of about one and one-half miles, extending from near the Sudley Church to a point three-quarters of a mile southwest of here. The center of his line rested in this area. The focal point of Jackson's position was the bed of the unfinished railroad. The grade is still visible running into the woods on both sides of the road.

**6 Deep Cut** The morning of August 30 passed quietly. Just before noon, erroneously concluding the Confederates were retreating, Pope ordered his army forward in "pursuit." The pursuit, however, was short-lived. Pope found that Lee had gone nowhere. Amazingly, Pope ordered yet another attack against Jackson's line. More than 5,000 troops under Gen. Fitz-John Porter moved forward across the road into the field and crashed into Jackson's line in the area around the "Deep Cut." There the Southerners held firmly, and Porter's column was hurled back in a bloody repulse. A trail of about one-third of a mile begins at the road and traces the footsteps of Porter's gallant troops.

**7 Groveton** The small, white frame L. Dogan House is all that remains of the wartime village of Groveton and one of only three Civil War-era houses remaining in the park. Nearby Groveton Confederate Cemetery contains the remains of more than 260 Confederate soldiers. The identity of only a handful is known.

**8 New York Monuments** On the afternoon of August 30, seeing the Union lines in disarray following the repulse of Porter, Longstreet pushed his massive columns forward and staggered the Union left flank. A brief, futile stand on this ridge by the 5th and 10th New York Regiments ended in slaughter. In five minutes the 5th New York lost 123 men killed, the greatest loss of life in any single infantry regiment in any battle of the Civil War.

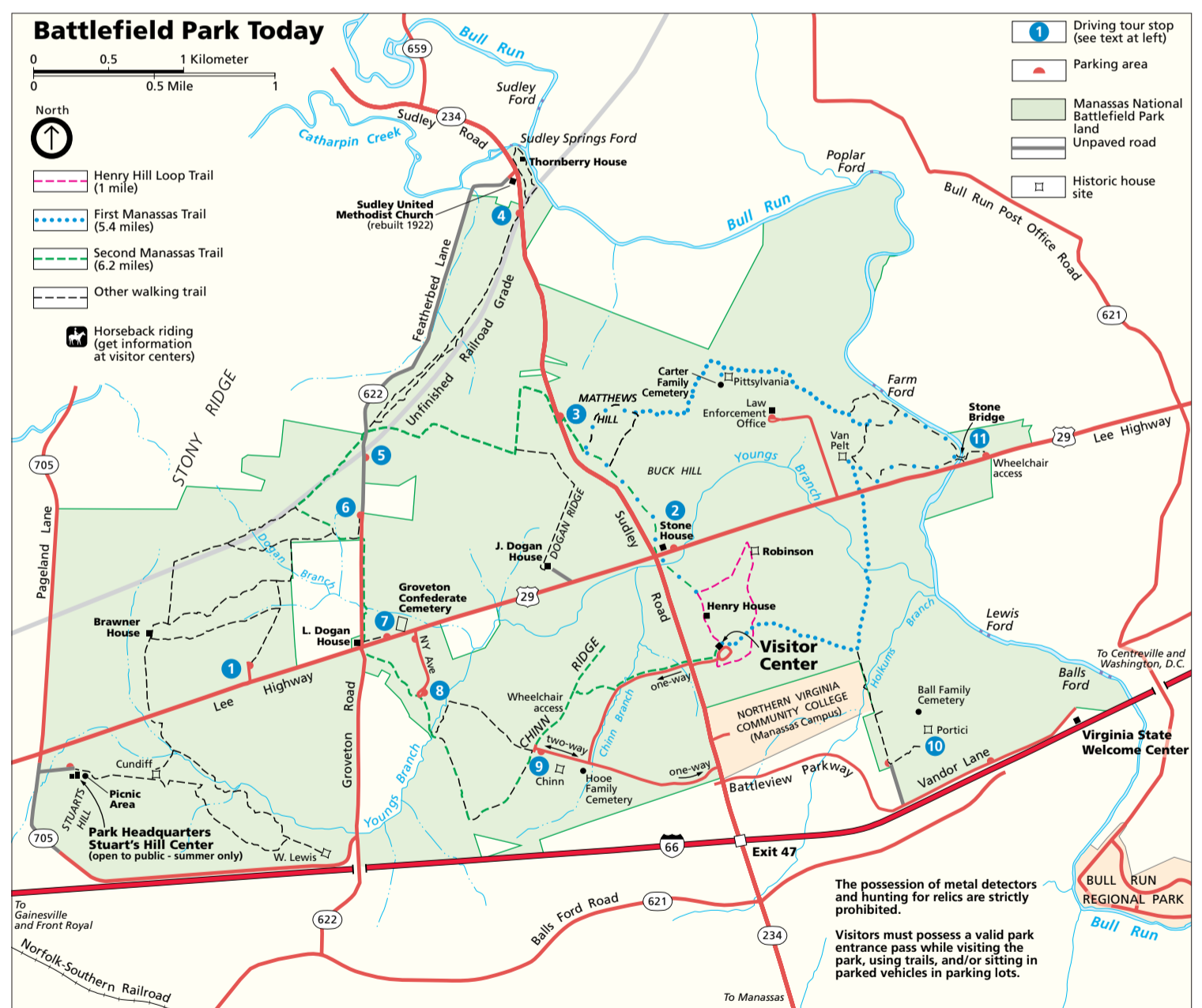
**9 Chinn Ridge** Stretched along this ridge, Union troops desperately struggled on August 30 to delay Longstreet's counterattack upon Pope's

vulnerable left flank long enough for Pope to form a rearguard on Henry Hill. The stone foundation is all that remains of Hazel Plain, the house of Benjamin Chinn. A trail leads to the boulder marker for Col. Fletcher Webster, eldest son of Sen. Daniel Webster, killed leading the 12th Massachusetts Infantry into battle.

*From tour stop 9 turn right on Va. 234. At the traffic light, turn left on Battleview Parkway and follow signs to tour stop 10.*

**10 Portici** The plantation house of Francis Lewis stood atop the ridge to the east. Massive brick chimneys flanked the frame house, which had served as Confederate headquarters during the First Battle of Manassas. On August 30, 1862, during the Second Battle of Manassas, Union and Confederate cavalry clashed on these fields. The house was destroyed by fire in late 1862.

**11 Stone Bridge** Finally, under cover of darkness, the defeated Union army withdrew across Bull Run in this vicinity toward Centreville and the Washington defenses beyond. Lee's bold and brilliant Second Manassas campaign opened the way for the South's first invasion of the north and possible European recognition of the Confederate government.



The possession of metal detectors and hunting for relics are strictly prohibited. Visitors must possess a valid park entrance pass while visiting the park, using trails, and/or sitting in parked vehicles in parking lots.