

Interpreting Civil War History as it Happened in Fairfax County: A Brochure and Interpretive Markers

9/4/20 D-R-A-F-T

I.

The Civil War Sesquicentennial Brochure
Conflict and Courage in Fairfax County/ Sites and Stories of the Civil War
Published and Distributed by *Visit Fairfax*
as part of Virginia Heritage Tourism initiatives marking the 150th Anniversary of
the Civil War - 2011-2015

This publication, in digital form, is included in the Report Addenda. Though now it can be described as an artifact of sorts, it provides a visual and interpretive context to the history of the Civil War years in Fairfax County. The map graphic that centers the publication confirms that no area of the county was excluded from the chaos, trauma, and destruction of war. The sites identified, and the events noted, reveal the combatants, both Union and Confederate, foraged, camped, marched, clashed, fought, and suffered both victory and defeat here. Noted too is the plight of County residents whose alliances were divided, Union or Confederate. The message still inherent, though some narrative expressions would be reconsidered today, is that Fairfax County during the Civil War was a crossroads of war.

2.

Interpretive Markers

The Refined Scope of this Report, as determined through discussion with County leaders, calls for the inclusion of all interpretive markers that have as their subject any aspect of the Civil War. Because interpretive markers serve to identify event locations, describe the actions that occurred and, most often, the personages involved, their purpose is educational, rather than memorial. The full inventory of these interpretive markers, located throughout the county, verifies the position of Fairfax County as a crossroads of war. The markers' data, including types, ownership, locations, and narrative content, is included in the Report Addenda.