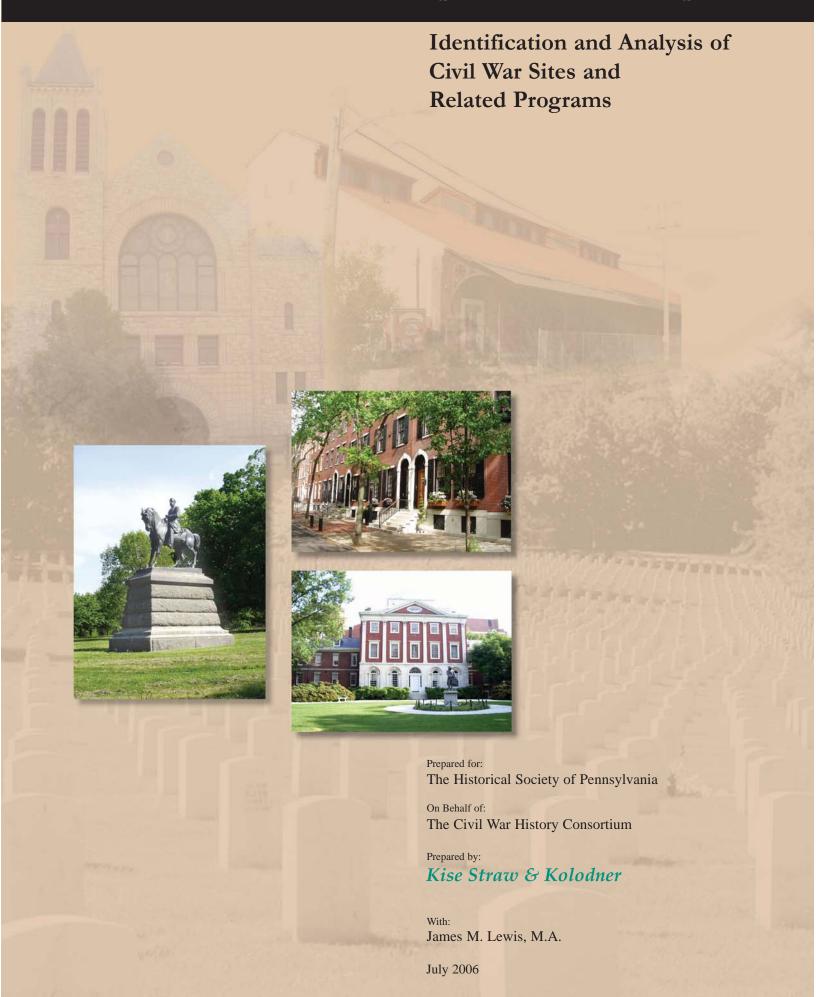
## Toward a Redefinition of Philadelphia's Historical Perspective



## TOWARD A REDEFINITION OF PHILADELPHIA'S HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

# IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS OF CIVIL WAR SITES AND RELATED PROGRAMS

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With

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Heritage tourism related to the Civil War is most often associated with battlefields such as Gettysburg or Manassas; however, there is a growing interest in life beyond the battlefield. During the Civil War era, Philadelphia was the second largest city in North America, and the nation's center of commerce and industry. Family, business and social ties connected Philadelphia to the south, while advocates of abolition and women's suffrage continued to place the city at the fore of progressive movements. Philadelphia occupied a unique position as a critical segment of the national infrastructure and as a "border city" with both abolition sympathies and strong economic and family ties to the south. Thus, the city and its assets, reflecting the activities, events, and experiences of Philadelphians in the Civil War era, provide a unique opportunity to relate a comprehensive story about what was happening away from the battlefield, on the home front.

Recognizing Philadelphia's unique assets and the potential for expanding the city's historical interpretation and heritage tourism interest, the mission of the Civil War History Consortium is to "preserve, link and promote the stories, collections and sites that reveal the Philadelphia region's crucial roles in the United States' search for liberty and unity during the Civil War era, providing meaningful and engaging heritage and educational experiences and stimulating community and economic development." To that end, the Consortium has developed a strategic plan to identify related physical and intellectual resources, identify and involve key stakeholders, determine the market for Civil War-related tourism, and sustain the Civil War heritage program. For the purposes of this report, a resource should be interpreted to include sites, buildings, landscapes, historical markers, collected cultural material, artifacts, and other relevant physical resource types.

This report addresses the Year One objectives of the Programmatic and Site Research segment of the Consortium's strategic plan, focusing on the City of Philadelphia. This includes the identification of known and potential Civil War-related resources, as well as the identification and assessment of existing Civil War-related programmatic offerings at historic sites, universities, and other locations. Accomplishment of these Year One objectives forms a baseline of data about Philadelphia's Civil War heritage tourism assets and stakeholder interest, while exploring similar heritage tourism initiatives in other cities. This report focuses on Philadelphia's current and potential heritage tourism assets. The focus of study was the period from approximately 1830 through 1876, encompassing relevant pre- and post-war matters.

A preliminary research phase was conducted to determine the primary significant historical themes related to Philadelphia's Civil War history; these themes provided the framework for the identification and analysis of resources and programming. (For the purposes of this report, the term Civil War should be interpreted to include the era prior to and after the war.) Secondary sources, scholar interviews and site staff interviews formed the primary research base. The location, condition and integrity of all resources were verified in the field, and all resources were mapped in ArcGIS (ArcMAP), a geographic information system, for use in this study and in future research endeavors. The mapping reveals clusters of resources by geography, historical theme, or other search criteria.

Of the physical resources identified, approximately 60% have been demolished. The remaining 40% have varying degrees of significance, integrity, and potential for public accessibility. Commemorative resources dominate; however, all historic themes are represented, including Industry/Manufacturing, Military, Medicine,

Politics and Abolition/Underground Railroad, among others. Several of the best examples of remaining resources are already interpreted or offering programs related to the Civil War and its significant historical themes; however, other resources with potential merit are not interpreted. The investigation of physical resources highlights a need for additional research, particularly regarding the post-war years, as well as a need to protect and preserve those resources related to the Civil War that retain significance and integrity, whether or not those resources are interpreted or offering programs to the public.

The analysis of existing programs in Philadelphia related to the Civil War revealed that, given the vast numbers of archives, libraries, museums, and other institutions in Philadelphia, the city's Civil War history is currently under-represented. Philadelphia possesses a rich antebellum history due to its citizens' involvement in issues leading up to the Civil War; the city had a large African-American population; and the city held strong ties to both northern and southern causes during the war. These stories are largely unexplored in currently available programming; this is especially evident when comparing current programs with the key historical themes related to Philadelphia in the Civil War. The breadth and depth of subjects such as politics, benevolent societies and minorities' experiences remain largely unexplored.

There is a tremendous potential for heritage tourism in Philadelphia related to the City's mid-nineteenth-century past. Even with ongoing interpretation at several exceptional resources, there remains a greater story to tell and a diminishing number of architectural resources that express the aesthetic and feeling of the era. With further research, planning, coordination and advocacy, Philadelphia's Civil War story can be brought to the fore of public awareness, providing a continuum of Philadelphia's considerable history and heritage, bridging the colonial era and the present.

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#### I. INTRODUCTION

In anticipation of the sesquicentennial anniversary of the American Civil War, the Civil War History Consortium is preparing the groundwork for the interpretation and celebration of Philadelphia's - and the region's - role in the Civil War, including significant pre- and post-war topics. The mission of the Civil War History Consortium is to "preserve, link and promote the stories, collections and resources that reveal the Philadelphia region's crucial roles in the United States' search for liberty and unity during the Civil War era, providing meaningful and engaging heritage and educational experiences and stimulating community and economic development." To that end, the Consortium has developed a strategic plan to identify resources, identify and involve key stakeholders, determine the market for Civil War-related tourism, and sustain the Civil War heritage program.

The Consortium's initiative is important to broaden the public's understanding of Philadelphia's role in the Civil War, as well as to illuminate the continuum of the city's history beyond the Revolutionary War period. Philadelphia is uniquely poised to provide insight into the activities at the home front during the war. As the second largest city on the continent at the time, with a strong industrial and commercial base, the city was well positioned to provide the necessary support and supplies to troops while maintaining some semblance of daily life. The city's location near the southern states and large number of southern sympathizers created a dynamic and often conflict-ridden discourse, particularly given the local support of more progressive movements such as abolitionism and women's suffrage. Heritage tourism related to the Civil War is most often associated with battlefields such as Gettysburg or Manassas; however, there is a growing interest in life beyond the battlefield. Philadelphia's Civil War assets, and the interpretation of those assets and associated history, respond to this increasing interest in the home front, and are anticipated to form the basis of a new heritage tourism initiative focused on the Civil War in conjunction with the sesquicentennial celebration of the war.

Any foray into the realm of cultural (or heritage) tourism and promotion requires a complete knowledge and understanding of the resources that are the basis for attracting tourists and local visitors. This report addresses the Year One objectives of the Programmatic and Site Research segment of the Consortium's strategic plan. It is the first phase of a multi-year effort that will focus on the identification of resources within the City of Philadelphia. This includes the identification of physical Civil War resources, as well as the identification and assessment of related programmatic offerings. For the purposes of this report, the term "Civil War" should be interpreted to include the era prior to and after the war, as defined below. Furthermore, a



Portico Row, Spruce Street

"resource" should be interpreted to include sites, buildings, landscapes, historical markers, collected cultural material, artifacts, and other relevant physical resource types. This project is focused within the city in order to concentrate on a defined geographic area and to take advantage of ongoing mapping and research initiatives

associated with the Consortium and the Philadelphia GeoHistory Network, among others. Ultimately, the Consortium's work will expand to include the surrounding five-county region, while continuing research within the city itself. An important aspect of this project was to establish and test the methodology for investigations, to provide insight and direction for future project phases.

The focus of study was the period from approximately 1830 through 1876, encompassing important pre- and post-War subjects, such as the growth of the abolitionist movement and the Underground Railroad prior to the war, and Philadelphia's growing industrial might and sense of self in the postwar period, culminating in the Centennial Exposition of 1876. This report will describe the significant historical themes related to the period of study (Chapter II, Significant Historical Themes), as well as the methodology and analysis regarding the search for Civil War resources and related programming in Philadelphia (Chapters III and IV, respectively). An analysis of the potential for heritage tourism targeting identified resources, as well as recommendations for future efforts, is provided in Chapter V (Conclusions and Recommendations). Chapter VI, Bibliography, notes the sources consulted during the course of this project.

#### II. SIGNIFICANT HISTORICAL THEMES

It is important to establish a historical context in order to determine the likely types of resources that may exist that illustrate the significance of the Civil War period. Kise Straw & Kolodner (KSK) used secondary source materials, including books, journal articles, and websites, to identify important themes in Philadelphia's Civil War-era history. The firm also interviewed historians, authors, and cultural resource specialists familiar with Philadelphia and the Civil War period to verify the breadth and applicability of the identified historical themes. The period of investigation extended from approximately 1830-1876, encompassing the pre- and post-war trends and topics that effected and/or were affected by the American Civil War.

Philadelphia experienced the Civil War quite remotely; no battles were fought in the city, and no property was lost due to war-related activities. Regardless of their remove, Philadelphians were intimately tied to the war, and it had a lasting impact on the city. Although support for the war waxed and waned in the city, citizens mobilized into action on a variety of fronts. The following paragraphs summarize major historical themes related to the Civil War in Philadelphia.

- Abolition/Underground Railroad This theme explores the ways in which Philadelphians of various ethnic, religious and socio-economic backgrounds were active in the fight against slavery, both publicly and privately. Philadelphia was the home of many free blacks and prominent abolitionists, and documented abolitionist activities date back to the seventeenth century, with an anti-slavery protest in Germantown in 1688. It was also a major destination and stop along the Underground Railroad, a tenuous path followed by many slaves on their way to freedom in the North. Some consider Philadelphia "a center of the 19th-century American movement to abolish slavery," especially considering that Pennsylvania was one of the first states to outlaw slavery.¹ One of the most enduring antislavery groups in the nation, the Pennsylvania Abolition Society, was founded in Philadelphia.² Related resources include documented Underground Railroad stops, the homes of prominent abolitionists and African-American community leaders, and meeting places for these groups, such as churches and private homes.
- Benevolent Societies Philadelphians had a long tradition of supporting their own; aid societies for widows and orphans were commonplace. But, as a result of "wartime prosperity and military recruitment," the needy population in Philadelphia shifted to include fewer skilled workers and young men, and increasing numbers of women. As a result, the city experienced a reshaping in the dispersal of aid to reach out to this wider population.<sup>3</sup> This included aid to those inconvenienced by the war, as well as those already downtrodden before military actions began. Fortunately, because the city already had aid organizations in place, "although the war created new causes, it did not require new organizational solutions." New, smaller organizations were founded, but followed organization patterns similar to the benevolent societies that came before

Avi Decter, Johnson House National Historic Landmark Nomination Form. February 23, 1997, 11-12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Decter, 12. This group continues to exist, and its mission has evolved and now focuses on improving the condition of African Americans in the United States.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> J. Matthew Gallman, Mastering Wartime: A Social History of Philadelphia During the Civil War (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1990), 122-123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Gallman, 124.

them. The Sanitary Commission Fair (Great Central Fair) in 1864 was the first time that a benevolent society utilized a large-scale event as a way to raise support and funds. Related resources include support organizations such as the Union League and the Volunteer Refreshment saloons, and the locations of organizations that provided employment and local aid during the war years.

- Commemoration Commemoration of the Civil War began almost as soon as the war ended. This theme explores the ways in which people remember people and places associated with the Civil War in Philadelphia. Resource types include monuments, tablets, and plaques all forms of memorialization. Cemeteries are also included in this category, as places of commemoration and remembrance. Groups such as local Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) posts are also included here as they represent a continuity of commemoration unique to this time period and this war. Libraries and museums that house Civil War collections and research materials are included in this theme, because they serve as repositories for Civil War history.<sup>5</sup>
- Industry/Manufacturing Philadelphia was a center of industry and manufacturing, "boom[ing] during the years 1830 to 1860." This theme explores how Philadelphia



Continental Hotel Plaque at 9th and Chestnut streets

businesses supported the government and the war effort through production contracts for ammunition, clothing, and other supplies for troops. The war effort benefited from the expansion of Philadelphia industries prior to the war, and wartime contracts helped maintain Philadelphia's manufacturing sector through the war years. The use of government contracts to provide services and supplies to the military was one of the many lasting effects of the Civil War.<sup>7</sup> In addition, the theme explores important pre- and post-war industries in Philadelphia, and their changing relationships with the south as a source of new materials and post-production markets, as well as the diminishment or growth of industries due to the war. Related resources include business locations of primary military production contractors, as well as the locations of other important pre- and post-war industries.

• Medicine - According to some counts, almost 157,000 members of the military were treated at hospitals in Philadelphia.<sup>8</sup> The severely wounded were first treated in the field, and then transported by train to Philadelphia for more advanced and on-going treatment, similar to procedures followed in current conflicts. The medical community in Philadelphia supported the war effort by expanding existing hospitals and erecting new ones, turning churches into medical

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Cynthia Little completed an exhaustive survey of archives in the region with Civil War-related collections for the Civil War History Consortium in 2003. The themes used in her study are similar to those here, and include medicine, Afro American, Lincoln in Philadelphia, Military Memorabilia, Home Front, and Monuments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Sam Bass Warner, The Private City: Philadelphia in Three Periods of its Growth (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968), 50.

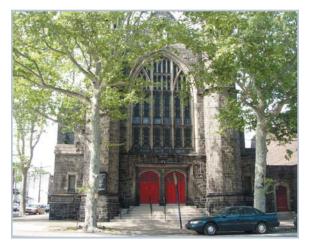
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Gallman, 240.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Russell Weigley, ed., *Philadelphia: A 300-Year History* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1982), 402.

facilities, and treating patients in unusual locations, such as manufacturing businesses, armories and the buildings of benevolent organizations - all very important since disease was actually more threatening to a soldier than battle. The expansion of existing hospitals and the treatment of war wounded at military hospitals, instead of at the battleground, proved to be a lasting legacy of the war. Additionally, the field of neurology made advances due to injuries seen during the war. The Great Central Fair for the U.S. Sanitary Commission raised money to support and provide soldiers with basic necessities and needed medical supplies. Resources in this category include the locations of Civil War hospitals and medical facilities and the homes of prominent Philadelphia medical personnel.

- Military Although there were no battles fought within the city limits, Philadelphians directly participated in the war effort. The Union military relied heavily on the city as a source for men, storage, and supplies; between 80,000 and 100,000 citizens of Philadelphia served in the army, a large percentage considering a wartime population of about 300,000 males.<sup>9</sup> The city was ideally located close enough for ease of transport, yet far enough from the battlefield for many activities, including commercial and industrial activities, to continue unabated. This theme explores the many ways Philadelphians became involved in the military effort, and how the city reacted when the battle moved closer and into Pennsylvania. Related resources include recruitment centers, encampment site, and arsenals.
- The Minority Experience Not all Philadelphians experienced the Civil War in the same way. In twenty-first-century America, we increasingly consider the cultural identity of minority groups and their perception of and relationship to the world around them. This theme explores how various minority groups participated in and perceived the Civil War, the War's preceding years, and the Reconstruction period. Major minority groups include women, Quakers, African Americans and immigrants. For example, Quakers played a unique role in the years preceding and during the war by actively participating in the abolition movement while honoring their pacifist beliefs by generally not taking up arms in the conflict. While not able to officially serve in the military,

women played a major role in the war effort, becoming nurses participating in benevolent societies, and finding new opportunities to contribute as community leaders and workers in a city with a diminished male population. Issues surrounding slavery have framed social and constitutional debates since the inception of the United States. Understanding the experience and perceptions of African Americans, both free and enslaved, in the years surrounding and during the Civil War is critical to the interpretation of



First African Presbyterian Church, 42nd Street and Girard Avenue

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Gallman, 11.

African American history in the United States, and the history of this country as a whole. The abolition and women's suffrage movements were intimately tied; figures such as Lucretia Mott and Robert Purvisadvocated for both causes.

Minority groups participated in the larger benevolent organizations, and formed their own societies in order to participate in the war effort. Related resources include meeting places, locations of minority communities during the Civil War, and the location of archival collections that maintain records of minority groups and their wartime experiences. Since members of minority groups were also involved in the other major historical themes, these resources may overlap.

- Politics This theme explores the political climate in Philadelphia during the Civil War. The war came on the heels of a major reorganization of the city; the Consolidation Act of 1854 formally incorporated portions of west, north, and south Philadelphia into the city we know today. The region's strong ties to the south via family, industry, and markets led to variety of political opinions and movements. Following Abraham Lincoln's address to the city in 1861, many citizens seemed to recognize that even "if Philadelphians disliked blacks and sympathized with the South, they also felt great pride in their city as the birthplace of the noble Declaration, the flag, and the Constitution. To abandon the Union without a struggle would be to abandon all that inheritance. As the birthplace of the American nation, the city could do no other than defend the nation."10 Philadelphia's reputation as a "border city" eventually gave way to its position as a strong Northern city supporting the Union. Physical resources related to the Politics theme may include sites of Presidential visits, political speech locations, and newspaper offices/presses, as they were the primary vehicle for spreading news and information and gave a daily voice to political parties and figures. The homes of important political figures and those who sought change through political means, are also included, as well as meeting places for political parties and groups.
- Transportation The movement of troops and supplies was unprecedented during the Civil War due to the presence of railroads, which had not been present during previous wars on American soil. This theme explores the primary routes and modes of transportation in Philadelphia during the Civil War, tracing the trajectory of their significance before, during, and after the war. Related resources include railroad routes, passenger and freight stations, turnpike roads, and navigable waterways.

Although not a historical theme, a category called "Architecture" was added to include those distinctive neighborhoods, historic districts and streetscapes that were present during the Civil War era. These resources illustrate the architectural character of the community during this period, and they may or may not be related to other significant historical themes related to the Civil War. Two additional important themes - the experience of women during the war and the contributions of religion and religious organizations - are not treated separately. In the case of women, the theme is woven through many threads but is rarely the dominant theme for any given resource. In the case of religion, the resources are represented as they contribute to the Abolition, Minority Experience, and Benevolent Societies themes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Weigley, ed., 394.

#### III. CIVIL WAR RESOURCES IN PHILADELPHIA

#### METHODOLOGY

#### Research to Identify Known/Potential Resources

Once the historic themes outlined in Chapter II were identified, the project team began to identify historical resources associated with the Civil War, utilizing contextual information, previous documentation, and scholar interviews. Sources consulted in this phase of the project included the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's (PHMC) database of sites and districts that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the public art database of the Fairmount Park Art Association, the City of Philadelphia's Register of Historic Places database, the Mural Arts Program database, as well as numerous published works. Key sources were books by Taylor, Sauers, Keels, and Gallman. (A complete list of sources can be found in Chapter VI, Sources Consulted.) Interviews with scholars in the field of the Civil War and Philadelphia history, and people knowledgeable about Philadelphia's historic resources and cultural tourism, were also conducted. These interviews verified the comprehensiveness of the identified historical themes, and provided information about potential resources not found in the literature search. (For a list of interview subjects, see **Appendix A**).

KSK utilized the georeferenced 1860 Hexamer & Locher Maps of the City of Philadelphia provided by PACSCL/GPGN, courtesy of the Free Library of Philadelphia, the map's owner, to confirm locations of identified resources. Issues related to large file sizes and insufficient processing speeds rendered the search for precise resource within the digital document very difficult and time consuming. The firm turned to more traditional map research, viewing hard copies of historic maps, to confirm a number of resource locations, particularly those of hotels, industries, cemeteries, churches and other resources that had written names on the maps. The historic maps consulted included the Smedley map of 1862, Hexamer map of 1867, and Jones Atlas of 1874.

In addition to verifying locations of identified resources, the firm compared the Hexamer & Locher Atlas to current base mapping in order to identify those areas of the city that were developed at the time of the Civil War. As a result of this analysis, some basic assumptions were made about where additional potential resources may be located and, in the case of neighborhoods and streetscapes, what areas may retain integrity from the Civil War.

#### Resource Mapping

KSK entered the information gathered from secondary source materials and interviews into a geographic information system (GIS), noting the geographic location of all identified resources related to the Civil War in Philadelphia, as well as site-related information.<sup>11</sup> Parcel data and street centerlines available from the City of Philadelphia provided accurate, up-to-date base mapping; aerial photographs (available from Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission) further grounded the data, and provided initial indications regarding the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> A program called ArcGIS, which is a geographic information system, was used to map resources and house data related to each resource. This program, and other similar programs, offers a way to manage data as it relates to geographic locations on the earth's surface.

presence or absence of identified resources. A point (dot) was placed on a map, indicating the historic location of an identified resource. For those resources that are historic districts or otherwise consist of more than one property, a single point was placed in the approximate center of the resource. For resources on large parcels, such as cemeteries, the point was placed at the entrance to the facility. The use of a single point feature, rather than using polygons to illustrate districts or other large resources, or using lines to indicate linear resources such as railroads, allows the data to be consistent and maintains a simple and regular set of attributes in the supporting data set. Although not always representative of the full extent of a resource, the project team felt that the presence of basic location information and ease of accessing additional information about the resources were more critical at this time.

Each point is related to a data table containing various attributes for each resource, such as the site name, specific address (where available), resource type, thematic association and whether the resource is open to the public. Many resources are known by more than one name; an additional field ("Known\_Also") was added to the data table to allow for more comprehensive name-based searches of the data. Many resources are also related to more than one of the significant historical themes. In these cases, the themes were combined in one field with the primary thematic affiliation appearing first in the list. A list of all field names with attribute data in the GIS appears in **Appendix B**.

#### Field Verification

Upon the completion of the initial resource mapping, small maps of the resources were printed for field verification. Approximate resource locations, aerial photographs and street names were included on these maps, and the accompanying attribute data were also printed for use in the field. Project staff then walked or drove to the site of each of the identified resources. The field verification included confirming the actual location of a resource, whether it was still extant, its condition, historic integrity, and whether it was interpreted for the public or offered public programs. A standard mark-up system was developed to identify findings on the field maps and data tables, allowing for consistent updating of data upon return to the office.

The field verification process also provided an opportunity to view a large portion of the city, particularly the areas that were built out during the study period, ending in 1876. The project team was able to observe the general architectural character of these places, and discern whether specific streetscapes reflective of the Civil War remain.

#### Analysis and Documentation

Research, resource mapping and field verification all contributed to the analysis of data for this project. Field information was entered into GIS, documenting the current status of each resource. The use of GIS allowed a comprehensive display of overall resource distribution, distribution of resources that remain intact by theme or resource type, among other criteria. These are the primary criteria for analysis for the purposes of this report. This baseline of data will provide the foundation for recommendations of potential resource linkages and tourism segments and recommendations for future project phases. At the conclusion of investigations, a GIS shapefile will be provided to the client for their use. This data will provide a baseline for future investigations about known and potential resources in Philadelphia and the surrounding region. The data may also be linked to the Philadelphia Architects and Buildings (PAB) website for public use. public use. The GIS attribute data was also exported to an Access database for more detailed analysis of the numbers, types, and associations of the identified resources.

#### FIELD OBSERVATIONS

The overarching observations made during the field verification effort confirmed the immense diversity of character in Philadelphia, as well as the dynamic nature of the city. Philadelphia is rich in culture, is socially and economically diverse, and contains a wide variety of building types and styles. The consolidation of the city in 1854 brought together some very distinct communities, at the time connected to Philadelphia by turnpike and railroad. The areas between these communities have generally been densely developed, reflecting the continued growth of the city's population into the first half of the twentieth century.

The dynamic nature of the city is reflected in the built environment, in terms of what has been altered, what has been lost, and what is currently preserved. Major infrastructure projects, such as the construction of highways and public housing, have destroyed large areas of the Philadelphia's historic fabric. Those areas that remain intact have largely undergone changes to accommodate changing uses of buildings and character of neighborhoods over the decades. For example, storefronts have been altered or converted; storefronts have been added to residences; and mill buildings have become condominiums. Though many historic resources continue to be well used, often the historic character of those buildings has been compromised along the way.

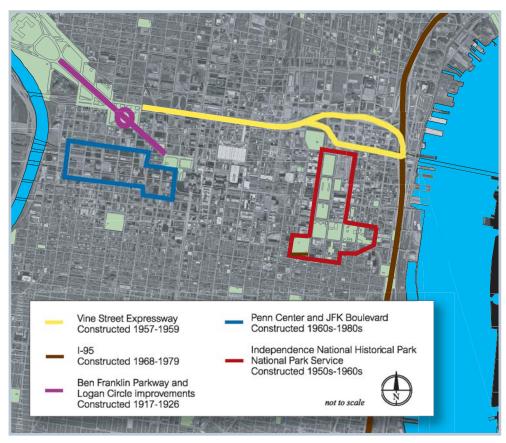
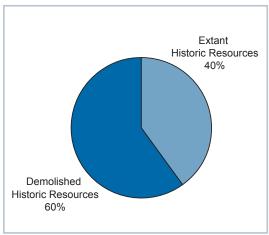


Figure 1. Major projects causing the removal of historic resources in Center City.

In those areas where historic fabric does remain, in some very visible instances, Philadelphia has narrowly defined its period of historical association, selecting a colonial appearance and interpretation by eliminating resources that reflect other time periods. In the creation of Independence National Historical Park, for example, numerous Civil War-related resources were torn down in order to create open spaces and highlight the Colonial-era resources in the area. Society Hill's renaissance and redevelopment in the 1950s and 1960s also contributed to this lack of resources related to the Civil War; homes associated with significant colonial individuals were preserved over those that were not known to be associated with the colonial era. The modernization of Philadelphia, especially in those areas west of Broad Street, has also contributed to the lack of Civil War resources - former small-scale commercial blocks of the 1860s have been replaced by skyscrapers and widened roadways. The construction of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge, the Vine Street Expressway, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway, and I-95 has also created gaps in the architectural record of the city.

#### RESOURCE CHARACTERISTICS

A total of 483 resources were identified during the literature search and interview phases of this project. Of those, approximately 60% (292 resources) were found to have been demolished. Approximately 9% (46 resources) are listed in the National Register of Historic Places or have been designated National Historic Landmarks.<sup>12</sup> All resources identified in this study are listed in **Appendix C**.<sup>13</sup>



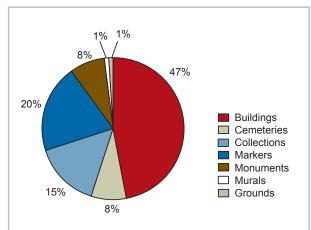


Figure 2. Status of known resources

Figure 3. Distribution of existing resources by resource type

The 191 resources that remain (40% of the total resources identified) were categorized by resource types. These included buildings, collections, historical markers, monuments, cemeteries, grounds, and murals.<sup>14</sup> The majority of those resources that were still present in the city were buildings, such as the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows building at 12th and Spruce streets, and the Union League of Philadelphia, at Broad and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Additional properties have likely been determined eligible for the National Register, however for the purposes of this investigation, only those resources that have been listed in the Register were specified.

<sup>13</sup> Those sites that had no specific location information in the literature and were not found in the field during this phase are listed in Appendix D. The Civil War History Consortium will encourage additional primary source research to locate these remaining sites.

<sup>14 &</sup>quot;Grounds" generally refers to properties with landscaped areas or other aspects of the property (non-cemetery) that are associated with a building or the theme. The entire mural database of the Philadelphia Mural Arts program was not searched. Although the database is now searchable online by theme, not all of the murals have photographs or full descriptions attached. Additional research in this area and contact with the Mural Arts Program staff may identify additional mural resources associated with the Civil War or Civil War-related individuals and themes.

Sansom streets. Nineteen percent of the resources remaining are historical markers placed by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Monuments, cemeteries, and collections each represent about 10% of the resources, and grounds and murals are only about 1% each of the total number of resources from the Civil War that remain in Philadelphia. Certainly, numerous buildings remain from this period of the city's history, however they are not known to be historically significant or architecturally representative of the era for the purposes of heritage tourism.

Resources were also categorized by the Civil War theme(s) to which they are related. Of the total number of resources identified, the three largest categories were Industry/Manufacturing, Military, and Commemoration (which includes markers, cemeteries, collections and monuments). Although Philadelphia is known as a place where important advances in medicine occurred during this time, only 6% of the resources identified (28 total) in the city were medicine-related. This includes hospital locations, industrial buildings where hospitals were temporarily located, and the known homes of prominent physicians. Of those resources that remain, the greatest number is commemorative, and these represent 55% of the total. Industrial resources, such as the Dobson Mills and individual manufacturing locations, represent 15% of resources still extant in the city.

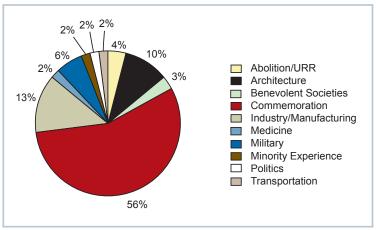


Figure 4. Distribution of existing resources by primary historical theme. Note: "Commemoration" includes historical markers.

The data were also examined to determine the percentage of retention of Civil War-related resources per theme. Of the 129 identified commemorative resources, 108 remain, for a total of 84%. This is largely because of the nature of commemorative resources: cemeteries and monuments tend to be located in places with low development pressures, collections are in stable repositories, and there are numerous markers in the city that provide information on the Civil War and related topics. Prominent individuals like General George Meade, and important political events, such as the site of a speech by Abraham Lincoln, have been commemorated with markers. Although a seemingly disproportionate number of transportation resources seem to have survived (80%), it is important to note that only five resources were identified. Research was unable to provide locations for the various passenger terminals and related transportation properties that were most likely present during the Civil War; however, additional research would likely identify these resources. It is not expected that many will remain, other than the rail right-of-ways. Similarly, 100% of the resources identified under the "Architecture" theme have been retained. These resources were selected as representative districts or buildings because they retain the quality and character of the era, and most are National Register-listed. They may not have a direct connection with significant Civil War people or events; however, they were retained in the data because they have largely maintained their architectural character from the Civil War period.

#### Geographic Distribution

The majority of resources culled from the literature search were located in the area traditionally known as Center City Philadelphia, particularly east of Broad Street. This is consistent with the nature of the city at the time; this area was the hub of commerce, trade, power and influence in the city. A variety of themes are represented in this dense area, including Military, Industry/Manufacturing, Politics, and Medicine. Some examples include Pennsylvania Hospital, the shops of Samuel R. Phillips, and the Musical Fund Hall - the location of the first Republican National Convention in 1856 (see **Figure 5** on page 13).

Several individual resources are located in outlying areas of the city, and these are overwhelmingly cemeteries. The cemeteries were purposely sited in sparsely settled areas, away from Center City. Encampments were similarly located due to the need for large parcels of available land. Small clusters appear in long-established neighborhoods, such as Germantown and Kensington. With the exception of a few commemorative resources and one historic site, no resources associated with the Civil War identified in the literature were located in the areas of South Philadelphia (below Tasker Street), the Northeast, and Southwest Philadelphia.

An examination of the locations of resources that remain in existence show that most of the outlying resources remain, most likely due to the large number of cemeteries. However, the majority of resources in North Philadelphia and numerous resources in Center City have been demolished since the nineteenth century (see **Figure 6** on page 14).

#### Resources by Theme

Resources were categorized by their relationship to historical themes. In some instances, a resource was related to more than one theme. In that case, the resource was assigned primary and secondary historical themes. For the purposes of the discussion below, the resources were included in the numbers for each theme with which they were related. For instance, historical markers were counted under Commemoration as well as the historical theme they commemorated, such as Abolition/Underground Railroad or Medicine. Catherine Street Hospital is one example. This hospital was housed in the House of Industry, a thriving benevolent organization at the time. The Catherine Street Hospital is represented in the numbers for both Medicine and Benevolent Societies.

A significant number of resources identified are historical markers, most of which are placed at or near the original location of related resources. Although important to the interpretation of history for the public, the most successful tourism models are based on the resources themselves rather than historical markers, which often provide a more incidental experience.

• Abolition/Underground Railroad -Of the 31 resources identified with this theme, 13 are markers, ten resources have been demolished, and three of the eight remaining resources



Johnson House, 6303 Germantown Avenue

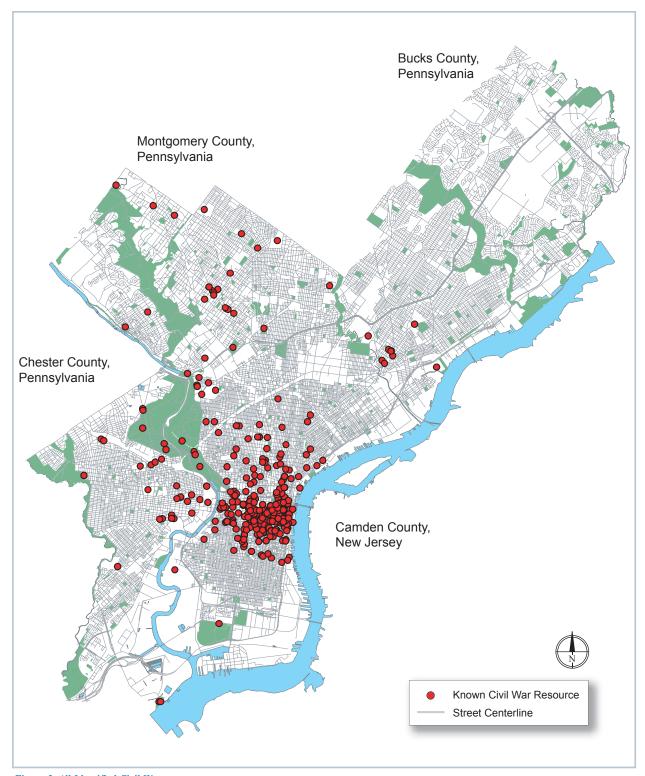


Figure 5. All Identified Civil War resources.

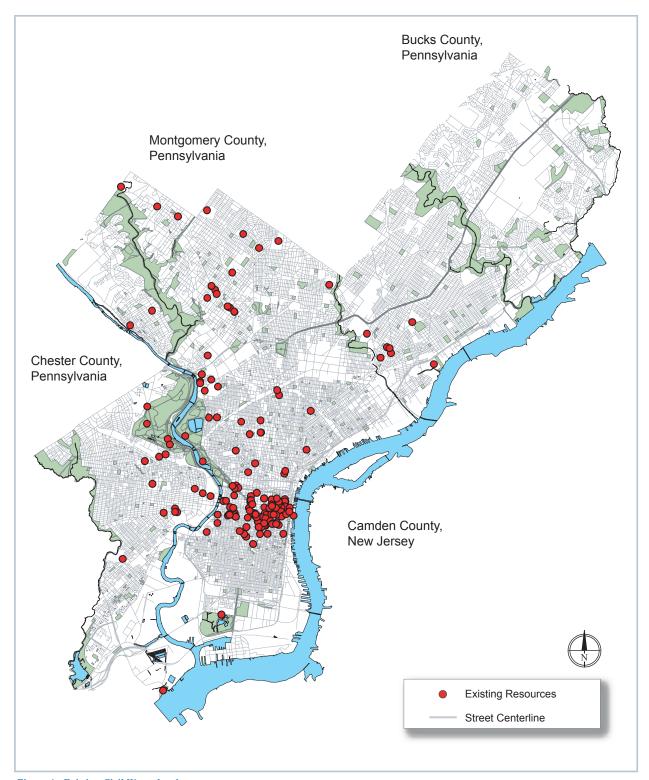


Figure 6. Existing Civil War-related resources.

are somehow interpreted or open to the public. The Johnson House in Germantown and Mother Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church in Center City are both National Historic Landmarks. Most of the markers are located in the area between 3rd and 11th streets and Lombard and Bainbridge streets; this was historically an African American community, and the presence of markers in this area highlights an aspect of the neighborhood's past that is no longer evident. Other resources that retain high integrity include the Historic Germantown Mennonite Church (near the Johnson House) and the Francis Cope House at the Awbury Arboretum, also in Germantown. The Campbell African American Methodist Episcopal Church in Frankford also retains high integrity. The Central Presbyterian Church, on Lombard Street, is currently proposed for renovation for residential use. Although primary sources such as Still and Seibert were useful for contextual information on the Abolition/Underground Railroad movement neither provided specific location information on the numerous likely associated resources (see Figure 7 on page 16).

• Benevolent Societies - Benevolent societies are largely represented by the offices where these organizations were located, as well as the site of the Sanitary Commission Fair (Logan Square). Given the number of these societies that were active at the time, the physical resources related to this theme are underrepresented in the literature. Twenty-two resources were noted in the literature survey, including society offices, homes for children and soldiers, and schools. Only nine resources remain, two of which are markers and two are collections. Two



Pennsylvania Hall marker, 6th Street between Race and Vine

are schools, both listed in the National Register (University of the Arts, formerly the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, and the Adelphi School - now occupied by an architect's office). The home of the Union League, which provided support to troops and their families, is also listed in the National Register. As previously noted, access to the Union League is currently limited due to its status as a private club, as is access to the U.S. Naval Home. The Naval Home is currently being rehabilitated to residential use, and new townhouses also occupy the site; the site will not be open to the public. The Union League is currently developing a Heritage Center with direct access off of South Broad Street, which will become open to the public on a regular basis in 2008/2009, and will be open to the public for tours in the near term in association with an art exhibit at the site (see **Figure 8** on page 17).

• Commemoration - The commemoration theme includes a range of resources, including historical markers, cemeteries, public art, plaques, museums, and archives. (All historical markers were assigned to the Commemoration theme.) A number of cemeteries around the city contain the Civil War dead, and several have sections set aside for the military. Other cemeteries, such as Fair Hill and Leverington, contain the remains of those related to the abolition movement, as well

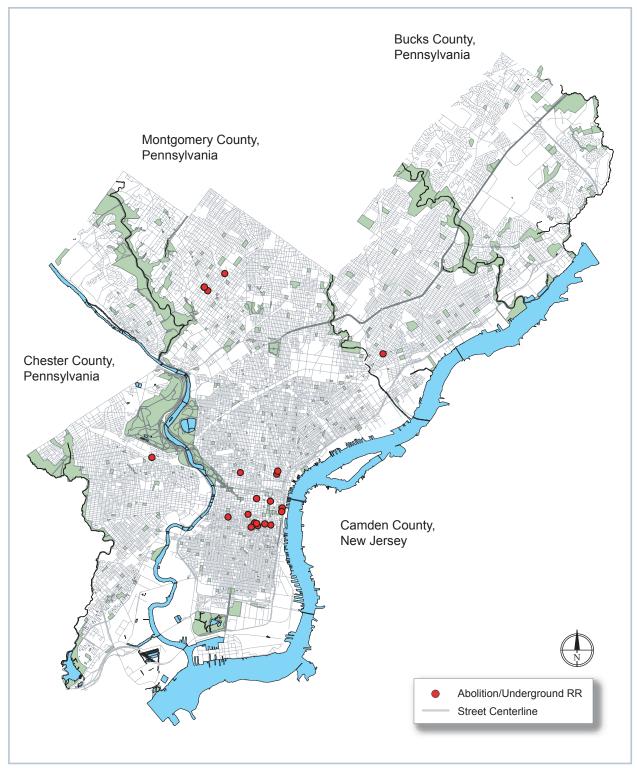


Figure 7. Existing Abolition/Underground Railroad resources.

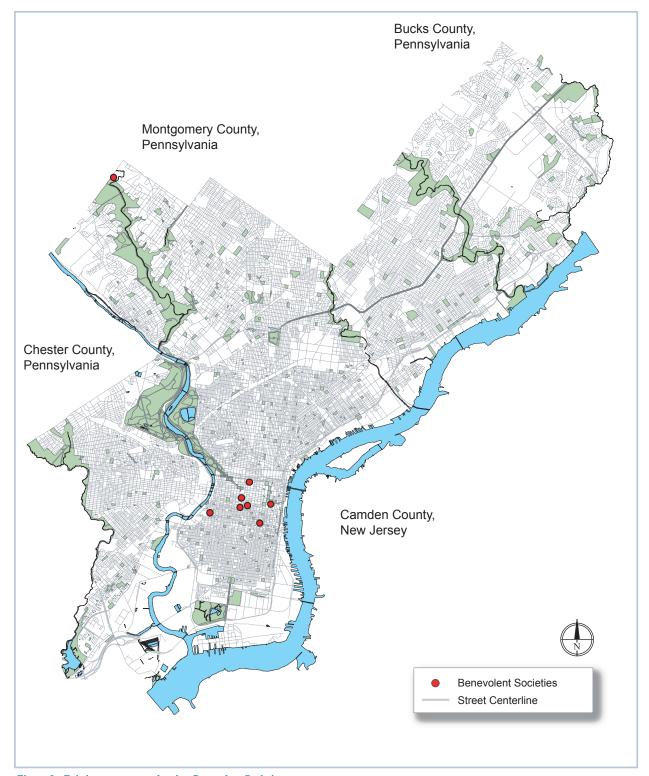


Figure 8. Existing resources related to Benevolent Societies.

as other significant people of the era. Cemeteries are generally located near the outskirts of Philadelphia, where large parcels of land were easiest to obtain. Public art in the form of monuments and sculpture is largely located in Fairmount Park, particularly along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway and in East and West Fairmount Park. In addition, a number of Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) posts dotted the city, offering its membership camaraderie, solace and celebration in the wake of the war. Of the 20 locations identified, only four survive, with varying degrees of integrity. The best example now contains the GAR Civil War Museum; the property is listed in the National Register. Thirty-eight historical markers related to the Civil War and related significant themes are located throughout the city, and nineteen collections contain artifacts, photographs, manuscripts and



Francis McIlvain House, 1924 Arch Street

archival materials that record and interpret this period.<sup>15</sup> There are 129 total resources in this category, of which 108 remain. Most of the resources that no longer exist were GAR posts (see **Figures 9 and 10** on pages 19 and 20).

Industry/Manufacturing - Of the historical themes identified in this study, the industry and manufacturing sector is most heavily represented in terms of remaining resources. These resources include several small manufacturing enterprises that had contracts with the government to supply the troops with items such as canteens, blankets, shoes, weaponry, and tent poles. Others, such as the gas works, provided general infrastructure to the city. Manufacturers were overwhelmingly located in the central portion of the city, east of Broad Street, and stretching northeast into Kensington. Water-powered mills along the Schuylkill River were the most obvious exception. Most facilities likely utilized the Delaware River and railroads to ship their products. The literature search revealed 140 resources related to industry and manufacturing, most of which were businesses that had received government



William P. Wilstach produced insignia, sabers and swords at this location in Old City.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> See Little's survey for a full description of Civil War-related repositories and the contents of their collections.

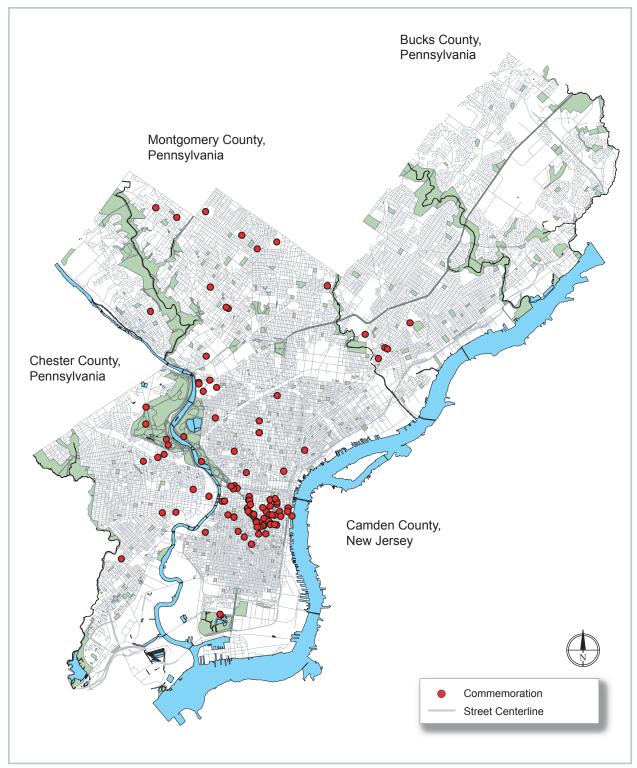


Figure 9. Existing commemorative resources, including all resource types, such as markers, collections and monuments.

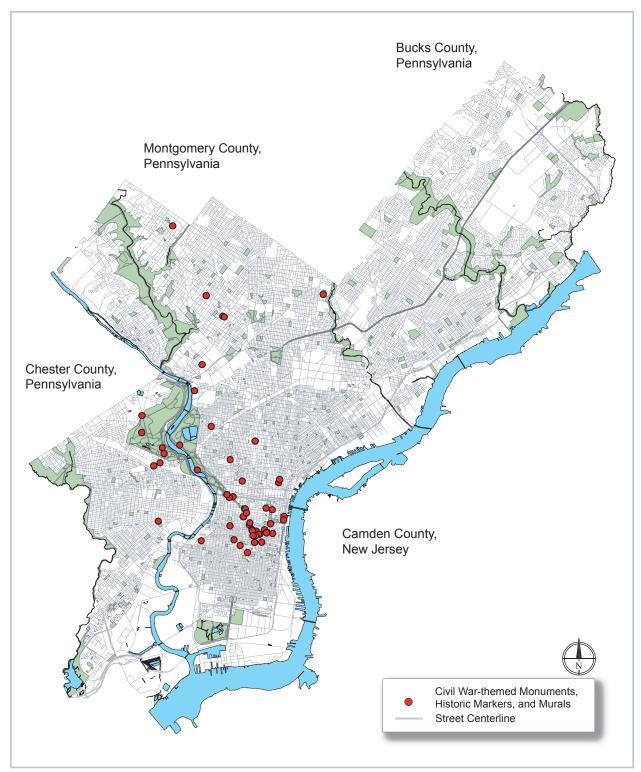


Figure 10. Historical markers, monuments and murals.

contracts to supply goods for the troops during the war. Of these resources, only 25 (18%) survive. These are mostly clustered in the Old City neighborhood, and they include the former William P. Wilstach operation at 38 N. 3rd Street and Brooks & Company at 41 N. 3rd Street. The size and character of these buildings reflect the scale of manufacturing operations in the mid-nineteenth century, although they have been largely converted to other uses such as residential and retail. The site of the former Samuel R. Philips Company at 30 South 7th Street retains high integrity on the exterior, and has been converted to retail use at the ground floor. Most remaining resources do not exhibit this degree of architectural integrity. (see **Figure 11** on page 22).

Medicine - Resources related to the Medicine theme include hospitals, both those built as hospitals and those buildings pressed into service as hospitals during the war. Medical facilities were generally located in proximity to one of the railroads that traversed the city. Of the 28 resources with significance in the area of medicine, only six physical resources remain, and one of these is a collection (College of Physicians Library). The Pennsylvania Hospital and Episcopal General Hospital remain in use as hospitals, the former as part of the University of Pennsylvania Health



Christian Street Hospital marker with parking lot that now occupies the site.

System, and the latter as part of the Temple University Health System. The Kirkbride Hospital, formerly a mental health facility associated with the Pennsylvania Hospital, still houses a mental health facility, in addition to a Head Start program and other services. Other hospitals dedicated to military use during the War have been demolished, as have the buildings that were converted for hospital use at the time (including a meeting hall, church, and tavern). Markers note the location of several of these sites. Although the physical integrity has been somewhat diminished by the evolution of the remaining buildings, they generally retain some features that lend to interpretation. Pennsylvania Hospital and the College of Physicians library allow visitors (the latter currently by appointment) and interpret the history of their site and collections (see Figure 12 on page 23).

• Military - A number of Military-related resources were identified in the literature search. These resources include museums, armories, and the homes of major military figures; however, the figures are dominated by Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) posts and regiment recruitment locations. Of the 128 resources identified in the literature primarily related to the military theme, only 11 (9%) survive. GAR posts and recruitment locations fared the worst in this category; very few are known to survive. Numerous resources were demolished to make way for Independence Mall in the 1960s. Encampment sites have long since been developed for housing and other uses. Major military resources, such as the old Navy Yard, have been supplanted by newer facilities and the original torn down. Some of these facilities live on in other capacities. The Frankford Arsenal

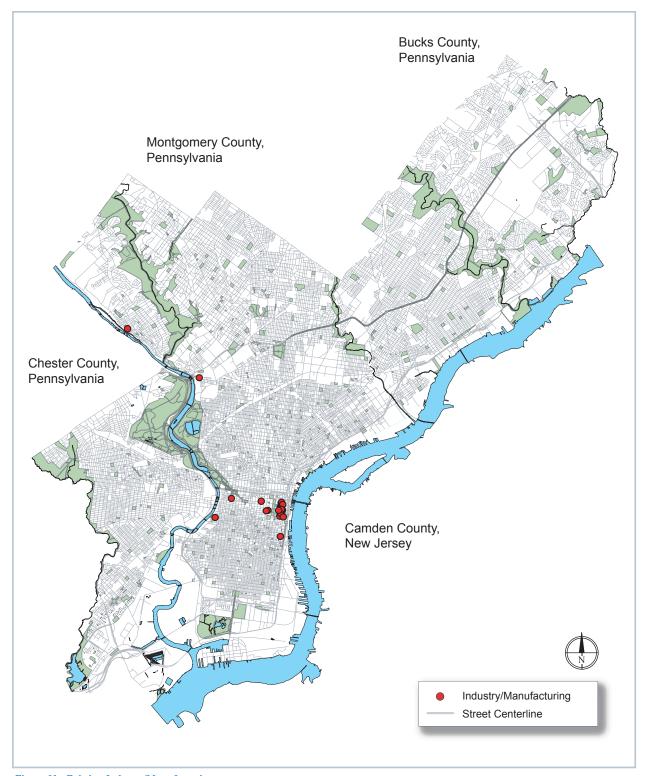


Figure 11. Existing Industry/Manufacturing resources.

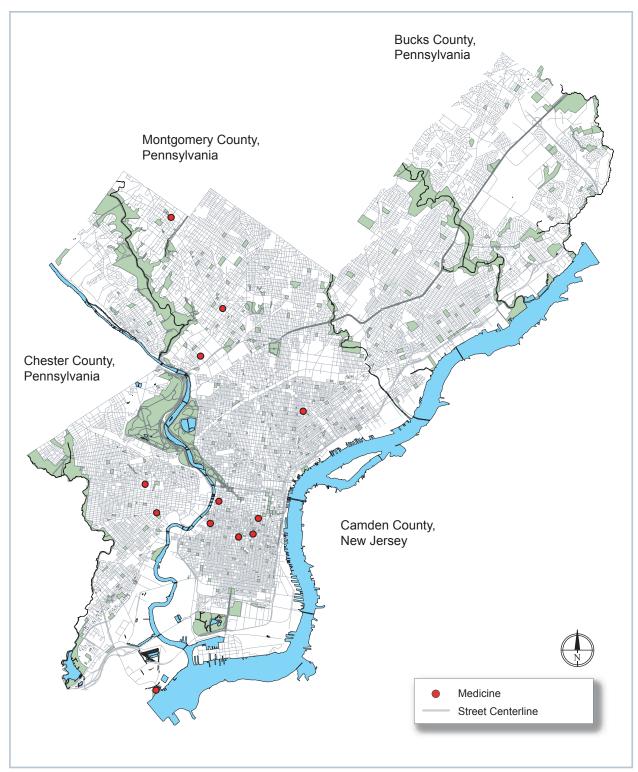


Figure 12. Existing resources related to Medicine.

example; this facility an currently houses the Arsenal Business and a charter Independence Hall and Fort Mifflin are listed in the National Register, and are open for public visitation. opportunity may exist Independence Hall to expand its interpretation and public education to cover aspects of the Civil War in Philadelphia. A recent amendment to the National Register nomination for Independence National Historical Park focuses on the Underground Railroad Anti-Slavery movement as



General George Meade's House with marker, 1836 Spruce Street

it relates to the resources in the Park. Two armories remain in use, and several other resources have been converted to residential or commercial use. The 23rd Street Armory contains the collections of the First City Troop Cavalry; however, public access is limited. The Pennsylvania Railroad office at 3rd Street was used as a troop enlistment location. Similar to other businesses at the time, this resource adapted to include the enlistment center, illustrating the interconnectedness of historical themes for the purposes of this study (Transportation and Military), but also illustrating the mixed-use aspect of the city, both within and among buildings (see **Figure 13** on page 25).

The Minority Experience - The Minority Experience theme was challenging to quantify, although the topic is of clear interest to scholars and tourists. Twenty-five resources related to the experiences of minorities during the Civil War were identified in the literature; of these, 16 are markers, three are collections, and two have been demolished. Resources identified under this historical theme primarily consist of churches and institutions serving African Americans, such as the Institute for Colored Youth at 9th and Bainbridge streets. Founded by a Quaker philanthropist, the Institute is now known as the Cheney University of Pennsylvania, located in Delaware County. The University is the oldest of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities in America. This is but one example of the relationship between Quakers and African Americans in the early nineteenth century. The Charles L. Blockson Afro American Collection at Temple University is a significant collection of written materials and artifacts related to the Black experience in the United States and the Caribbean. The experience of other minority groups is not well represented; however, there are hints of their presence. For example, the Louisa May Alcott marker illustrates the connection between the women's suffrage and abolition movements. The occupants of Fair Hill cemetery, including the likes of Robert Purvis and Lucretia Mott, as well as their membership in the Pennsylvania Abolition Society and Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society, also illustrate this interconnectedness. Although clearly related to the Quaker experience during the era, specific Quaker meetinghouses were not identified as locations with Civil War significance in the literature. It is assumed that further research would reveal resources related to the experience of various minority groups in this era; however, this document does not speculate the degree to which those resources might survive or their level of significance (see Figure 14 on page 26).

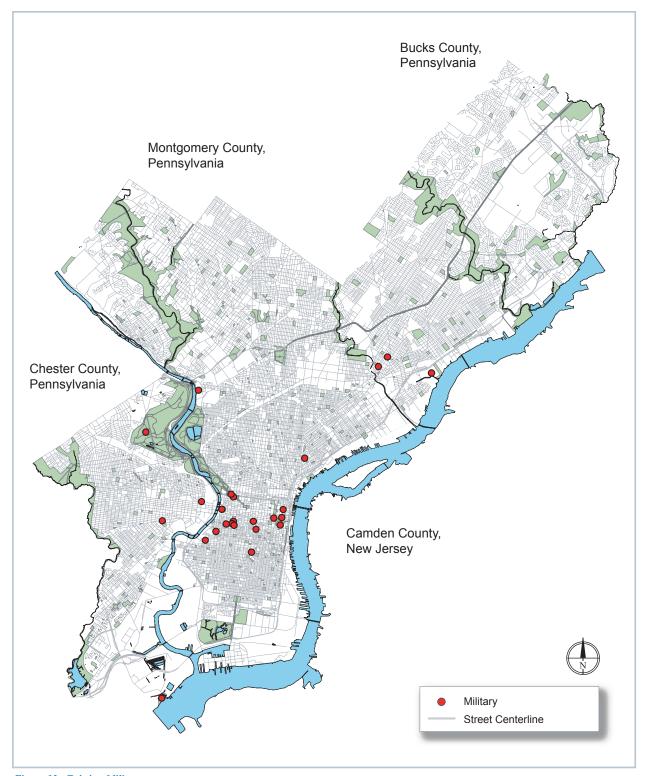


Figure 13. Existing Military resources.

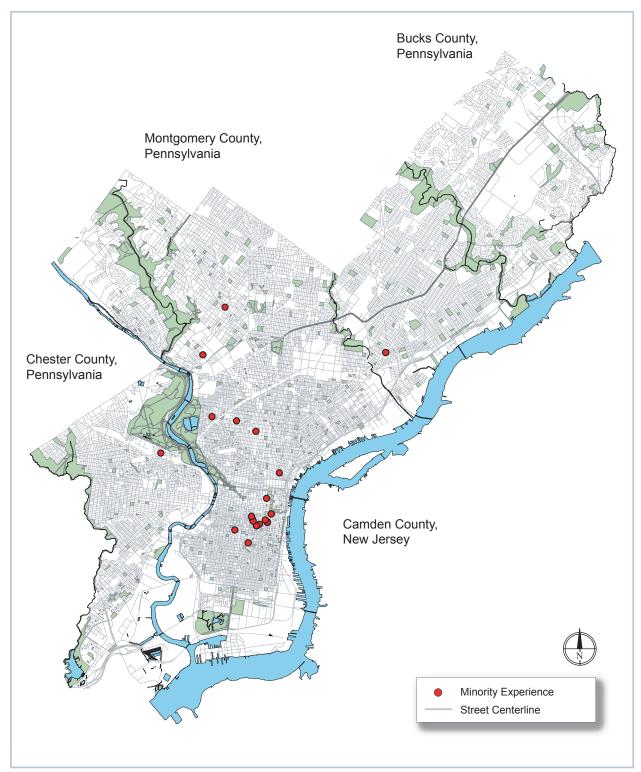


Figure 14. Existing Minority Experience resources.

• Politics - Thirteen resources related to the Politics theme were identified in the literature search. Of these, five have been demolished, including the Continental Hotel in Old City where Abraham Lincoln gave an address from the balcony. (A plaque on the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, which currently occupies the site, commemorates the occasion.) Two of the remaining resources, City Hall and the Matthew Quay House, were either not completed within the study period (City Hall) or were not occupied by the significant person (Quay) during the



Musical Fund Hall, Locust Street

study period. Remaining resources include the Union League, at Broad Street, and Independence Square, the Musical Fund Hall, and the Public Ledger Building in the vicinity of Old City. The Union League retains its significant historic building as well as collections regarding the organization's history and related historical information and works of art. Because the League is a private club, access to the building is limited; however, collections can be accessed by appointment. As previously mentioned, the creation of a Heritage Center at the League is under way, and it is planned to open for regular public use in 2008/2009. The Musical Fund Hall has been converted to condominiums, and the Public Ledger Building houses a restaurant at the first floor and condominiums above. As part of Independence National Historical Park, Independence Square and Independence Hall may provide the most accessible resource related to Philadelphia's Civil War political history. Additional primary source research would be required to determine the locations of significant newspaper offices or properties associated with significant political figures of the day. It should be noted that meeting places of political parties and groups were not identified during the course of this project (see Figure 15 on page 28).

• Transportation - Nearly 10 railroad lines served Philadelphia at the time of the Civil War, crossing the city east to west, and also running north and south to the suburbs and beyond. The lines generally ran in the roadway, similar to trolley lines still in use today. Coal from the interior of Pennsylvania reached the wharves of the Delaware River at Port Richmond, and goods and troops could be transported to the front from many points. Both the U.S. Arsenal, near the Schuylkill River, and U.S. Navy Yard, adjacent to the Delaware River, were accessible via water or rail. Railroads no longer circulate at grade through Philadelphia, with the exception of a freight line along portions of Delaware Avenue. The three existing resources identified that were related to transportation include only one freight depot, at Broad and Washington streets, and the mansion of Matthew Baird, the owner of Baird Locomotive Works. This freight depot currently serves as a food distribution center. A marker commemorates the Philadelphia & Columbia Railroad, which became a part of the Pennsylvania Railroad. As the home of a railroad

<sup>16</sup> A redevelopment plan will soon be launched for the large parcel at the corner of Washington and Broad streets, sponsored by the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation (PIDC), which owns the property. The proposed use of the site is currently unknown.

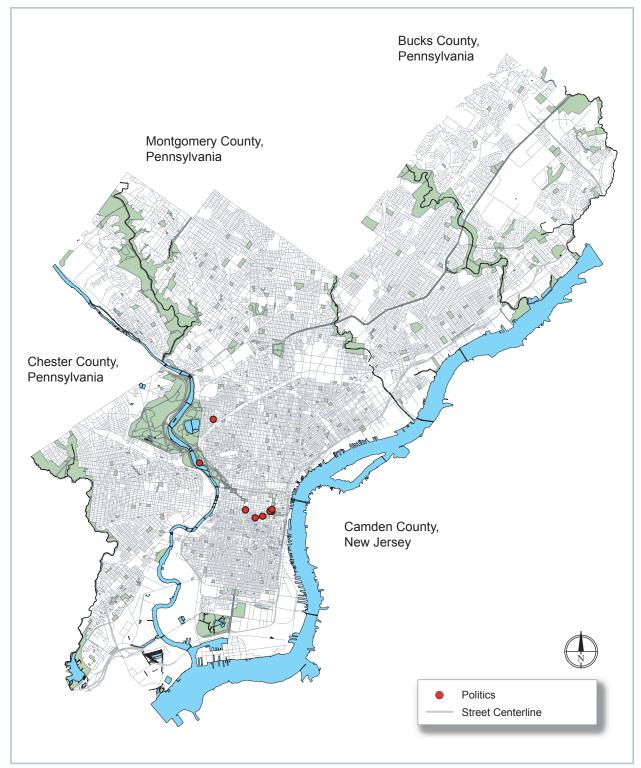


Figure 15. Existing resources related to Politics

owner, the Matthew Baird Mansion may not provide a substantial visitor connection to the transportation networks in existence at the time. However, the freight depot may provide an opportunity to discuss Philadelphia's transportation network, as well as related themes such as Military, Medicine, and Industry/Manufacturing. All of these themes were related to transportation, whether through the movement of goods or people. Although a passenger depot, hospital, churches and other facilities formerly surrounded this site, the historical context is largely gone (see **Figure 16 and 17** on pages 30 and 31).

• Architecture - Although not a significant historical theme associated with the Civil War, architecture and the built environment are very powerful reminders and interpreters of time and place. A review of National Register-listed properties in Philadelphia found several individual resources and historic districts that dated to the study period and retained their integrity. Where these resources were not significant for their association with a historical theme identified above, they were assigned solely to the "Architecture" category in order to locate those places that retain their architectural integrity and convey a sense of the mid-nineteenth century. Examples of these works include individual resources such as the Wagner Free Institute of Science in North Philadelphia, the Ebenezer Maxwell Mansion in Germantown, and the Francis McIlvain House in Center City. Historic Districts include the Schuylkill Historic District, Woodland Terrace, and Portico Row. The number, character and location of these resources may lend themselves to an architectural tour (see Figure 18 on page 32).

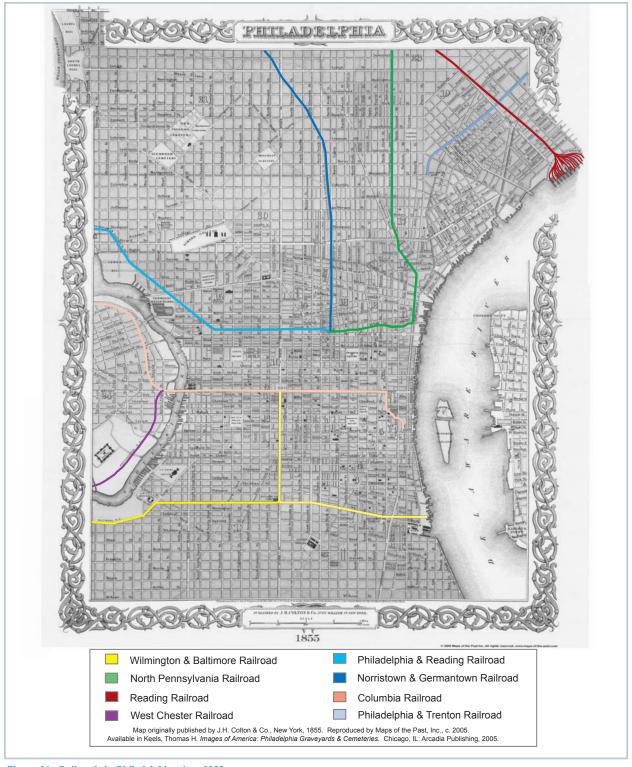


Figure 16. Railroads in Philadelphia, circa 1855.

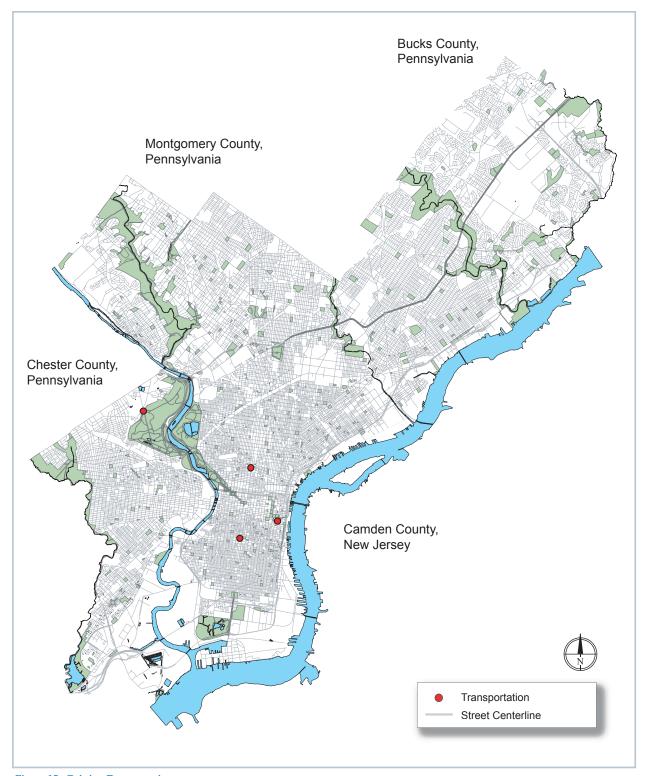


Figure 17. Existing Transportation resources.

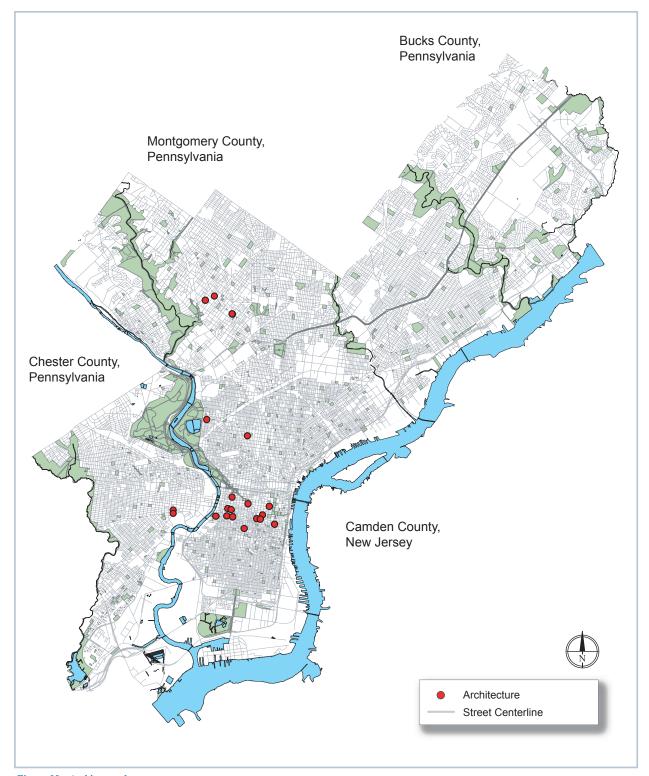


Figure 18. Architectural resources.

## IV. CIVIL WAR RELATED PROGRAMS IN PHILADELPHIA

# METHODOLOGY

The second major aspect of this project was to identify Civil War-related programmatic and educational offerings at institutions in Philadelphia.<sup>17</sup> After identifying these programs, the available programs were assessed to determine the breadth and depth of Civil War education and interpretation in Philadelphia. This section identifies the range of available programs and compares them with Philadelphia's important Civil War historical themes to determine whether and to what depth the major themes are interpreted for the public. The Civil War History Consortium ("the Consortium") is concerned with not only the history of the conflict itself, but also the broader Civil War era, encompassing the antebellum period as far back as 1830, the history of abolition and antislavery efforts, and the Reconstruction period.

For the purposes of this assignment, "programming" was defined broadly, with the most important level of programming being active institutional efforts to interpret the Civil War themes to the public. This took a variety of forms, including discussion groups, interactive activities, lectures, reenactments, and tours. Finding institutions that actively seek to engage the public and involve them in various activities was the most challenging task; many institutions provide programmatic assets without soliciting the active participation of the public. Programming was also defined to include current, past, or planned prominent displays, exhibits, activities or events on Civil War themes. Many institutions do not specifically promote education about the Civil War, but do present modest recognition of the subject within the larger context of the mid-nineteenth century. Finally, programming included institutions offering archival and documentary resources for researchers interested in this time period. Researching in archives is a form of programming for those with a scholarly interest in this period, despite research's apparent lack of appeal to the general public. The Civil War is the most popular of all aspects of American history from a consumer perspective. This does not, however, translate into a keen desire to conduct scholarly research. Educational opportunity investigations focused on programs available at institutions of higher education.

Research was conducted in three phases: the consultation of secondary source material, Internet research, and phone interviews. The three phases were not discrete and often overlapped with one another. Various secondary sources available on the history of Philadelphia and Philadelphia's involvement in the Civil War were consulted in order to identify key resources that might have a link to or interest in commemorating Civil War history in Philadelphia, and also to identify the nature of Philadelphia's link to not only the Civil War, but also to the national debate on questions surrounding secession during the antebellum era. Similar to the resource research portion of the project, Weigley, Taylor, and Sauer were the main secondary resources utilized. Sauer's guide provided references to different resources that were still extant in Philadelphia as well as institutions in Philadelphia that are currently attempting, in part or in whole, to interpret the Civil War.

Internet research relied upon three main sources. First, information provided by secondary sources was used to search for relevant institutions and resources that might provide information regarding Civil War-related programming. Second, internet search engines were used, typing in "Philadelphia" in conjunction with a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Research lead to some facilities outside of the City of Philadelphia that may be critical in interpreting the Philadelphia story; however, the accompanying list is by no means exhaustive of the resources available outside the city. Many other institutions and facilities should be included in future research efforts.

number of other key words including "Civil War," "museums," and "tours," in order to garner as many hits as possible for websites related to the Civil War. This method yielded some resources directly related to the Civil War, and provided information on resources and institutions that were directly related to programming and other resources that paid more attention to the broad spectrum of tourist attractions available in Philadelphia. In the latter case, each site that looked as if its mission might relate to the Civil War was investigated, either by visiting its website or conducting a phone interview. Finally, maps of Philadelphia were used to identify additional Civil War resources.

In the telephone interview phase, subjects were drawn from several sources. First, telephone contact was made with administrators and staff members at the various institutions identified during the Internet and secondary source research phases. Calls were restricted to non-Civil War Consortium members in order to make the most efficient use of research time. (Information regarding Consortium members provided by the Executive Director supplied ample information regarding these organizations.) These calls served two purposes: first, to clarify and gather additional information from specific institutions; and second, to determine whether other institutions actually included the Civil War in their programming efforts. In the course of the phone interviews and Internet research, over 60 institutions with the potential for interpreting the Civil War were identified. This group was later distilled down to 36 institutions that offer Civil War programming in Philadelphia in some form (see **Appendix F**). This list does not include various organizations not located at a specific cultural or educational institution, such as the Juneteenth Celebration Committee or the few tours currently in place. However, these are important, and should be recognized in future iterations of this research and/or in the identification of relevant supplemental resources.

An effort was also made to contact various experts at universities and colleges in and around the Philadelphia region, including historians at local universities and colleges specializing in either Civil War history or African-American history. Many of those academics were able to provide additional information regarding Civil War programming in Philadelphia. Phone interviews were also conducted with select individuals recommended by the Consortium; these included professionals engaged in heritage tourism and interpretation in Philadelphia. The final phase of this research was conducting interviews with a group of subjects previously interviewed by The Melior Group, who was involved in the stakeholder identification and interview phase of this project, in order to look more closely into their knowledge of specific programs offered by institutions in Philadelphia.

## RESULTS

At the completion of all phases of research, 36 different institutions were identified that offer some sort of programmatic interpretation of the Civil War. While there is some overlap, these institutions generally include: 20 different Philadelphia-area museums and historical societies; four different sites geared towards tourists interested in the city's history; two historically African-American churches; two cemeteries; five library collections; six archival collections; three institutions of higher learning; and one house museum.

Of these institutions, 22 offer at least minimal exhibition space to interpreting themes related to the Civil War; 18 institutions offer guided tours of their facilities; 14 institutions offer educational programs to the public; and 16 institutions make their archives available to the public. Philadelphia's major higher education institutions offer courses in American history of the Civil War, and a few offer Philadelphia history courses. Often, a full course is dedicated to the Civil War. Especially notable are Manor College, a Philadelphia-area two-year college, which has recently convened classes on the Civil War under the aegis of its Civil War Institute, sponsored by the Delaware Valley Civil War Roundtable. Manor College offers classes on topics related

to the Civil War for interested students, leading to a certificate. In addition, an interdisciplinary group at Temple University called the Temple Civil War and Emancipation Programs has been working to promote Civil War education in Philadelphia with a heavy emphasis on African American history. The group has sponsored talks, presentations, tours, trips and student involvement in reenactment. The group recently sponsored their third annual Underground Railroad and Black History conference entitled "City of Brotherly Love at War: Philadelphia's Contribution to Freedom."

In reviewing the statistics, it may appear that these institutions provide a wealth of programmatic opportunities to the public in regard to the Civil War. However, when one considers the vast numbers of archives, libraries, museums, and other institutions in Philadelphia, the city's rich antebellum history due to its citizens' involvement in issues leading up to the Civil War, the city's large African-American population, and the strong ties of the city to both northern and southern causes during the war, Philadelphia's Civil War history is currently under-represented. This is especially evident when comparing current programmatic offerings with the eight identified key themes in Philadelphia's Civil War history.

Abolition/Underground Railroad - Philadelphia's programmatic offerings related to abolition and slavery are both plentiful and disappointing at the same time. Philadelphia was the center of abolitionist activity during the antebellum period and boasted the largest and most vibrant free black community in the United States at the time. This theme is ripe for interpretation and programming, and in some ways, the city's institutions have seized this significant opportunity. One of the nation's oldest African-American churches, Mother Bethel, is still active, and there is a museum on the site that interprets the history of African-Americans in Philadelphia. The Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum has adjusted its mission to allow for a discussion of not only the War, but also issues of emancipation and slavery, and to explore their link to the war's inception. The Johnson House Historic Site is dedicated to maintaining and understanding the house's link to the Underground Railroad and interpreting its rich history for the public through activities and programs. The National Park Service has sought to recognize the history of the Underground Railroad through its Network to Freedom program, which is preparing a tour of resources associated with the Underground Railroad and slavery in Philadelphia. There are also several archival collections that would be of great use to those who are interested in abolition and slavery. Both Haverford

College and Swarthmore College are repositories for records of Quaker groups in Philadelphia. Temple University houses the collection of scholar Charles Blockson, who has completed extensive work documenting Underground Railroad sites and other sites of importance to African-American history in Philadelphia. The Historical Society of Pennsylvania houses the papers of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society and William Still, African-American active Underground Railroad work during the nineteenth century.



African American Museum in Philadelphia at 7th and Arch streets

Despite all of these assets, Philadelphia's programmatic offerings in this area are not as robust as they could be. First, outside of Mother Bethel Church, few institutions attempt to interpret the antebellum history of the African-American community in Philadelphia. A number of those interviewed acknowledge this deficiency in Philadelphia's programmatic offerings and are taking steps to remedy this lack. (The African American Museum, in particular, is in the planning stages for the creation of two permanent galleries interpreting the full range of the African American experience in Philadelphia from the late 18th through late 19th centuries The Johnson House Historic Site, additionally, is expanding its interpretation of its abolitionist and Underground Railroad heritage significantly.) Second, there is little discussion of the large role played by Quakers in the abolitionist movement during the antebellum period at any of Philadelphia's institutions, an impression confirmed by Christopher Densmore, curator of the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College. While the Johnson House Historic Site emphasizes the family's Quaker faith, and there is some evidence the staff at sites such as the Arch Street Meetinghouse are prepared to discuss the site's link to abolitionism when they perceive an interest on the part of visitors, there is no concentrated effort on the part of many institutions in Philadelphia to interpret the relationship between the Quakers and the abolition movement. In short, the city offers some interpretation regarding the city's history relative to abolition and slavery, but it can offer so much more.

Commemoration - Philadelphia has a number of commemorative structures and monuments that were erected in order to honor those who participated in the Civil War struggle. Fairmount Park, in particular, has a large collection of statues and monuments. Two cemeteries in the city also contain important, if often overlooked, Civil War commemorative structures. A Union general is buried in Christ Church Burial Grounds, but his grave attracts little attention. It should be noted that tour staff at Christ Church are dedicated to correcting that



Galusha Pennypacker Memorial, Logan Square.

oversight and expanding the institution's focus beyond the Revolutionary War period. At Laurel Hill Cemetery, the staff has gone to great lengths to not only acknowledge the fact that major participants in the Civil War are buried here, but also to create related programs to engage interested members of the community. The Fair Hill Burial Ground is also working toward additional activities related to that site.

• Industry/Manufacturing - This is another area in which the city's resources do not adequately reflect the city's legacy. The city was an important center of manufacturing during the war, yet for the most part this theme is unexplored. Philadelphia boasts dozens of house museums, many of which were inhabited by influential captains of industry and manufacturing. However, none mention these manufacturers' contributions to the Union cause in the Civil War. One such example of this is Cliveden, which housed the Chew family for

generations. Although the family was heavily involved in producing clothes for the Union Army, there is limited interpretation of this in current programmatic offerings. Hopefully, as the staff of these house museums work to broaden the scope of their institutions' interpretative programs, more Civil War history can be included. Elfreth's Alley, a Philadelphia neighborhood that predates the Civil War, intends to expand its interpretation of neighborhood's history. moment, the efforts of the site's director are limited due to space and



John C. Fuller property at 40 S. 3rd Street; the firm produced buttons and sashes for the government during the Civil War.

staffing constraints; in the future, Elfreth's Alley may address its links to the Civil War history of the area and, in doing so, touch upon the subject of the city's link to manufacturing.

There are Medicine several institutions whose programmatic reflect offerings the city's contributions to the medical treatment of soldiers during the Civil War. One such institution is the Mütter Museum at the College of Physicians, which presents an extensive exhibit on the treatment of wounded soldiers during the Civil War. The College of Physicians has also displayed a work with other willingness to organizations to present educational programs, such as a recent program on the health of black soldiers during the



Pennsylvania Hospital, view from Pine Street

Civil War. The Chestnut Hill Historical Society has an exhibit on the Chestnut Hill Hospital site (formerly the Mower U.S. Army General Hospital), as well as archival documentation pertaining to that site. In this aspect, although not all relevant aspects of Civil War medical history are interpreted at once, accessible resources and programming are available for interested visitors to the city.

• Military - There are a multitude of institutions devoted to not only interpreting the larger picture of military history during the Civil War, but also to interpreting the role of Philadelphia's local units. Surprisingly, despite the fact that Philadelphia was not the location of a major engagement during the war, this might be one of the strengths of Philadelphia's offerings in regard to Civil War programming. One site that excels in offering programming to the public is Fort Mifflin. In addition to offering tours to the public of the military installation, the site also offers

hands-on programs that allow students to experience what it was like to live and work as a Civil War soldier and the kind of medical treatment they would have received if wounded.

Philadelphia also boasts two museums, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Museum and Library and the Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum, which not only offer exhibits and programs but can also boast a dedicated and knowledgeable professional staff. The collections at both institutions will prove to be a draw to those interested in the material culture of the Civil War.

There are several constraints on access to military history collections in Philadelphia. Many public institutions are constrained by funding, space and staffing limitations, and are therefore open only on a limited basis to the public. Additionally, the bulk of the city's military history collections reside in private hands. Several institutions with private collections are, for the most part, closed to the public. Two such institutions are affiliated with military units (the First Troop City Cavalry and the 103rd Engineer Battalion), both of which are in need



First Troop City Cavalry, 23rd Street Armory

of support to help maintain their collections and make them available to researchers. Another institution whose Civil War collection is largely unavailable to the public is the Union League of Philadelphia, which is a private club. All three collections are associated with local Philadelphia units and represent the Military aspect of Civil War history rather well. Unfortunately, the public currently has very little access to them. The Union League is currently developing programs and procedures to afford the public regular access to the building and its collections.

A number of reenactment groups are active in portraying Philadelphia's Civil War troops. For example, the 3rd U.S. Colored Troops participate in ceremonial activities throughout the city, and several other groups reenact battle engagements and troop movements in Bucks County and Chester County each year. Although located just outside of the city, this aspect of interpretation involves many city-based participants and attracts spectators from throughout the region.

• The Minority Experience - Philadelphia's diverse population provides both an audience and an opportunity for telling the Civil War story of minority populations. African-Americans are, of course, a critical part of the story, but there are many other groups who made contributions and have stories to tell about that era in American history. Some institutions in Philadelphia have begun to think about how the constituencies that they represent were affected by the Civil War. At the American Swedish Historical Museum, there is an exhibit on John Ericsson, the designer of the Union's first ironclad ship. The National American Jewish Museum had at one time an exhibit on the participation of Jewish Americans in the Civil War, and hopes to include another such exhibit when the museum is expanded. The Beth Mikveh synagogue has several people

buried in its graveyard that were active in anti-slavery efforts. The museum at the Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church is dedicated to the interpretation of the African-American role in the war. While the efforts of these institutions are praiseworthy, further work in this direction by the city's institutions is needed to interpret the role of minority groups in this period, and would serve to deepen the offerings of present institutions. Including other groups such as Quakers and other religious denominations, women, and immigrant communities would also broaden our understanding of the experience of the war, particularly on the home front.

- **Politics** One area in which the city's offerings are woefully deficient is that of Civil War politics. No institutions provide an opportunity for the discussion or interpretation of Philadelphia's political scene during the war. Philadelphia provides a unique opportunity to tell an interesting story. In his essay about the Civil War history of Philadelphia, Russell Weigley writes that after early Union losses, "enthusiasm faded everywhere of course, but in Philadelphia it gave way to especially bitter dissension, as the city's traditional sympathy for the South and antipathy for the black man once again clouded its dedication to the Union."18 Many prominent Philadelphians were active in their opposition to the war, including Pierce Butler (ex-husband of the famous abolitionist Fanny Kemble), who was arrested for disloyalty, Charles John Biddle, who told one person that, "the repugnance to Negro equality is as strong in the middle states as it is in the South," and Charles Ingersoll, grandson of a signer of the Constitution, who was arrested by the federal provost marshal for his vocal dissent to Lincoln's wartime policy.<sup>19</sup> Civil War politics are currently mentioned in only two known public programs or displays. A brief discussion of Abraham Lincoln's visit to the city in the aftermath of his victory in the election of 1860 can be found at Independence Hall within Independence National Historical Park. Additionally, the Constitution Center discusses the issues of dissent in its exploration of how Lincoln dealt with constitutional restraints on executive power during the war; however, this discussion is on a national rather than a local level. Overall, there is little acknowledgement of this intriguing aspect of Civil War history in Philadelphia, and little effort to make it available to the public through programming.
- Transportation There are no programmatic offerings that focus on transportation in Philadelphia during the Civil War. The city did serve as a railroad hub for the transportation of troops and supplies to Civil War battlefields, but there are no discussions on this topic. This may be due to the fact that Philadelphia does not have a museum dedicated to either the history of transportation or the history of railroads in its metropolitan area. A possible source of information is the Independence Seaport Museum at Penn's Landing, which covers the maritime history of Philadelphia, but the general focus of this museum related to the Civil War is military history. Although the effective transportation of goods, equipment and troops through Philadelphia is an important historical theme, it may be one that holds less interest for the general public. This topic could be explored together with other themes such as Industry/Manufacturing or Military history. In addition, specialty venues such as the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania in Strasburg, Lancaster County, may explore these issues in some depth appropriate to their audience.

<sup>18</sup> Weigley, "The Border City in Civil War 1854-1865" in Philadelphia: A 300-Year History (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1982), 402.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., 402-405.



## V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of this study was to identify physical resources and programs associated with significant historical themes related to the Civil War in Philadelphia, and to assess the potential for heritage tourism associated with those resources. With respect to programming, the findings are mixed. There are very clear strengths and weaknesses in current programming, and distinct opportunities exist for expanding the interpretation of the Civil War in Philadelphia. While documentary research suggested a large number of physical Civil War resources in the city, field investigations revealed the loss of many of these resources - approximately 60% (see Figures 2, 5 and 6). The findings regarding the investigation of Civil War physical resources and interpretive programming are discussed in detail below. A summary of the potential for heritage tourism based on existing resources and recommendations for future efforts provides the conclusion.

## RESOURCES

#### Found and Lost

Documentary research to identify physical resources related to the Civil War in Philadelphia revealed a wealth of resources related to the significant historical themes - over 600 physical resources were identified in the literature.<sup>20</sup> Of these, 483 had clearly discernable locations, or were able to be located through map and city directory research. Most numerous were recruiting facilities, GAR posts, and businesses with government supply contracts during the war, followed by commemorative resources. These commemorative resources, such as cemeteries, monuments, and collections, include a proliferation of historical markers, many of which are placed at the location of historic resources that are now demolished. The large number of commemorative resources suggests that the fascination with the American Civil War, and commemoration of that war and its participants, has been ongoing and often palpable since the end of the war in 1865. The field verification of resource locations, however, showed that only 40% of the 483 located resources survive.

Demolition for private development and public infrastructure projects, such as the construction of highways and public housing, have destroyed large swaths of Philadelphia's historic fabric. The block north of Girard Avenue, between 11th and 12th streets, once contained one of General Meade's homes, a Quartermaster's house, Richardson & Oberman (manufacturers of Gallaghers carbines), and a GAR post. All have been replaced by a housing development. Those areas of the city that remain intact have often been altered to a degree to accommodate changing uses. This can be seen in Germantown and Old City. Storefronts have been altered or converted, and storefronts have been added to residences. In the Manayunk vicinity, mill buildings have become condominiums or restaurants, such as Dobson Mills and the former Krook's Mill (now Manayunk Brewery and Restaurant). Though many historic resources continue to survive, often the historic character of those buildings has been compromised along the way.

<sup>20</sup> Approximately 100 of these sites did not have addresses or other specific location information in the literature and were not subsequently located. The Civil War History Consortium plans to encourage additional primary source research to identify the historic locations of the most significant of these resources. A list of resources with unknown locations is included in Appendix B.

Given the scope of the project, the team largely relied upon secondary source materials to identify historic resources. Although a large number of potential resources were identified, research revealed the relative scarcity of scholarship on post-Civil War topics. The search for resources was to include the period through the Reconstruction era (approximately 1876 in Philadelphia); however, little information was found to detail the important post-war activities and attitudes of this period. Therefore, sites related to specific post-war trends were generally not identified.



215 S. 9th Street. This property is the only remaining building in the William Strickland Home Row, a seven-building National Register listed historic district.

## Remaining Resources

Of the 483 located resources, field investigations revealed that only 190 survive. Forty-five individual resources and historic districts are listed in the National Register or are designated National Historic Landmarks. The resources were categorized by resource type as well as their related themes. The resource types include buildings (47%), historical markers (20%), collections (15%), monuments (8%), cemeteries (8%), grounds (1%), and murals (1%). In a few cases, collections reside in buildings that date to the Civil War, such as the collections at the Union League, Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum, and the Athenaeum of Philadelphia.

The historical themes were all represented, some much more than others. The majority of resources were related to the Industry/Manufacturing (13%), Military (6%), and Commemoration (56%) themes (See Figure 4). Commemorative resources are made up of historical markers, monuments, cemeteries, collections and similar resources, while other themes are generally represented by buildings and historical markers. The remaining resources were distributed among the historic themes as follows: Abolition/Underground Railroad (4%), Benevolent Societies (3%), Medicine (2%), The Minority Experience (2%), Politics (2%), and Transportation (2%). Resources that were classified under "Architecture" comprise 10% of resources.

Although a number of resources have been destroyed in Center City, this area continues to retain the highest concentration of resources, followed by Germantown (see Figures 5 and 6). A number of additional resources are located in North and West Philadelphia; however, these resources are fairly dispersed and do not appear to form a specific cluster. North Philadelphia has also experienced an extensive loss of resources. Cemeteries and former encampment sites are generally located on the outskirts of the city, primarily in the northwestern portions and also adjacent to the Schuylkill River around Laurel Hill cemetery.

Most remaining resources are not interpreted or otherwise open to the public, particularly the buildings. They are generally in private ownership, and often contain residential and/or commercial uses. Based on the information gathered during the course of this project, it appears that the most significant of the existing resources are already recognized or utilized for interpretive purposes. Resources such as the Johnson House and Fort Mifflin, both active well before and during the Civil War, offer interpretation at the site. Given the longevity of the historic use of these resources, the interpretive possibilities span a broad period of

Philadelphia's history. In other instances, buildings that were not present during the Civil War house significant collections and programs. Resources such as the 23rd Street Armory (housing the First City Troop Cavalry Museum) and Mother Bethel AME Church provide interpretation of associated aspects of Civil War history; however, these buildings did not exist during that period.<sup>21</sup> Sites such as the American Swedish Historical Museum illustrate Philadelphia's ability to interpret an array of diverse experiences of the Civil War.

### **Potential Opportunities**

Given the resource types remaining, and the historical themes represented among those types, there is an opportunity to utilize the built environment to assist in the interpretation of the Civil War in Philadelphia. Resources could be utilized as bus or walking tour stops with no access to the resources or, with substantial investment, as locations for exhibits and other interpretive programs. While there are several resources related to particular historical themes that provide interpretation or an interpretable location for a significant Civil War historical theme (such as Pennsylvania Hospital's interpretation and collections about Medicine), some themes appear to lack a suitable physical historic resource that is related to a theme that will adequately convey those stories. For example, although the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows functioned as a benevolent society, and the U.S. Naval Home provided a home for pensioners, current use and lack of access by the general public make these facilities less than ideal places to interpret the history of benevolent societies in Philadelphia and their considerable role in advancing the care of soldiers and citizens during and after the war.

Philadelphia's story in the period prior to, during and following the Civil War does not consist of compartmental vignettes. Although discrete historical themes were identified for the purposes of this study, often these themes overlap, as do the significant people, organizations and physical resources related to those themes. Given the integrated nature of the story, there are significant opportunities for combining the interpretation of various themes within single sites. For example, the Independence Hall/Independence National Historical Park is preparing to broaden their interpretation model to include discussion of the Civil War and events related to the site. A recent amendment to the National Register nomination for Independence National Historical Park focuses on the Underground Railroad and Anti-Slavery movement as it relates to the resources in the Park. This document may serve as the basis for expanding or redefining the interpretive framework at the Park. This could also be tied to nearby resources such as the National Constitution Center, which, in its exploration of slavery, women's suffrage, and other constitutional issues, clearly touches on relevant topics. The Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum is exploring the link between the abolition and women's suffrage movements.

Historic resources not currently utilized for interpretation also exhibit a potential for integrated interpretation. The Transportation theme provides a link to several other themes, such as Military, Medicine, and Industry/Manufacturing. The movement of goods and persons was critical to supply the front, remove troops from the battle zone, and continue the operation of the city. All of these themes, and more, could be interpreted in a historic space such as the former Pennsylvania, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad freight depot at the northwest corner of Broad and Washington streets. Although currently a food distribution center, the resource provides an authentic architectural backdrop for a large interior space accommodating exhibits and programs. Another advantage is easy access to the site by car or public transportation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Richard Allen and his church did have a presence at this site at 6th and Lombard streets since the early nineteenth century; the present building was constructed circa 1890. The 23rd Street Armory was constructed circa 1901.

Similar opportunities may exist in Old City. The former industrial/manufacturing buildings at 41 North 3rd Street (formerly Brooks & Co.), 38 North 3rd Street (formerly William P. Wilstach & Co.) or the former Pennsylvania Railroad Company offices at 238 South 3rd (now residential) have medium to high architectural integrity on the exterior, and are associated with major historical themes. The location of these properties in Old City places them near subway and bus lines and major arterial roadways; the area also has the advantage of being near other well-established sites. A disadvantage of the properties in Old City is that the buildings are currently privately owned and actively used, and Old City boasts some of the most expensive real estate rates in the city.



Former Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad freight depot at Broad and Washington streets.

## **PROGRAMS**

It is evident that the programmatic offerings at Philadelphia institutions reflect a stronger heritage tourism link to the Revolutionary War than to the Civil War. However, the city is not short of history or material to work with in accurately presenting Civil War history. Nor is there a shortage of people willing to undertake the work or who have a passion for the topic. Philadelphia played an important role in American history from the colonial days through the early Republic era, and played a pivotal role through the nineteenth century, as well. This aspect of the city's history should be recognized and emphasized.

It is ironic that Philadelphia's main weaknesses in the programmatic interpretation of the Civil War are in the areas in which it played such a key role. As stated in Chapter IV, there is very little offered relating to the manufacturing history of Philadelphia during that period or relating to its role as a transportation center for the war effort. There is also not much provided about those who were active in either those activities or dissension politics during the Civil War. While there are attempts to offer some programs about the city's connection to slavery as well as abolition activities during the antebellum era, current offerings are inadequate to truly represent the city's history and legacy in this area. The real strong points of the programs offered about the history of the Civil War in Philadelphia are in their interpretation of the War's military history, medical history and its commemorative resources. One area that shows real potential for growth is that of the experience of minorities during the war.

Many of the greatest Philadelphia-area resources for Civil War programs are not institutions themselves; rather, they are organizations and groups of people who are not always bound together by professional affiliation or a tangible physical space. A number of groups in the city are devoted to presenting the history of the Civil War to both residents and visitors. These groups and organizations may prove to be the greatest asset to the Consortium in its attempt to promote Philadelphia's link to the Civil War. These groups include the various reenactors who gather every year at Neshaminy Park to reenact Civil War battles, the General Meade Society, the Civil War Roundtable groups, and the Temple University faculty who have organized the Temple Civil War and Emancipation Programs group. In the area of African-American history, the Juneteenth celebration

planning committee also seems to do much work in the Philadelphia community in promoting not only the commemoration of that day, but also providing lessons about African-American history.

For the most part, programmatic offerings on the Civil War within Philadelphia are confined to organizations that are already involved with the Civil War History Consortium. Therefore, the Consortium has an opportunity to shape the way the Civil War is presented and interpreted. Many institutions have a story that they can tell, but do not for one reason or another. One of the most critical and potentially productive tasks for the Consortium is acting as an advocate and a guide for how institutions can step outside the Revolutionary War paradigm in order to tell other stories. By working with institutions, scholars, and organizations, the Consortium can help to create new programs and new ways of telling the story of the Civil War in Philadelphia. Without encouragement from the Consortium, as well as tangible assistance, these stories may never be told. As a result, not only will key elements of Philadelphia's Civil War story be lost, but the city will remain an untapped resource for those with an intense interest in the Civil War period of American history and in understanding the ongoing struggle for freedom among an increasingly diverse population in America.

## POTENTIAL FOR HERITAGE TOURISM

There is no question that Philadelphia's role in the Civil War, and what was happening here in the years preceding the war and in its aftermath, is a critical era in the City and the nation's history. The question then becomes whether that story is currently interpreted to its full potential and, if not, to determine what resources should be utilized to convey that story. A question that arose repeatedly in scholar interviews and other project discussions was "What is the story that you want to tell, and what is the best way to tell it given the resources that you have?" Answering this question will be an ongoing process throughout the development of a full Civil War heritage tourism plan for the City and/or region. Should the tools to convey the story be newly interpreted historic resources, exhibits or



Swann Fountain at Logan Square, the site of the Sanitary Commission Fair.

tours? Should the operations or interpretation of existing resources be expanded? Or a combination of these and potentially other strategies? Just as important is the question, "What will the market bear?" While the resolution of all of these questions is beyond the scope of this investigation, the contents of this study will hopefully provide a starting point for considering the current status and opportunities for conveying this aspect of Philadelphia's past.

A certain degree of heritage tourism related to Philadelphia's Civil War story is already ongoing. Key resources are interpreted and open to the public. The Greater Philadelphia Tourism and Marketing Corporation sponsors a very successful tour program highlighting resources related to the Underground Railroad. At this juncture, it is unclear whether more resources such as museums and interpreted buildings are needed in order to more expansively tell this important story. Indeed, while there may be a place for the full interpretation of new resources for each historical theme, a more effective effort might entail expanding interpretation at existing sites

or combining the interpretation of several themes (independently or as part of a larger unifying topic) at one location. A Civil War heritage tourism strategy in Philadelphia should capitalize on the unique and interesting array of existing programs and interpreted sites and resources.

There are certain nodes of activity that are evident in the research. Understandably, Center City is the area most densely populated with resources that are related to the historical themes defined in this study, particularly east of Broad Street. This reflects the area's longevity as the literal and figurative heart of the city. Germantown also contains several resources of interest, a number of which are related



The Union League, South Broad Street

to the Abolition/Underground Railroad theme. Monuments and sculpture are primarily located in Fairmount Park, including along the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Tours of historic sites and commemorative resources could be organized by theme, resource type or geography, or a combination thereof. For example a cemetery tour might encompass Laurel Hill, Fair Hill or Mount Moriah, or could be concentrated in the northwestern portion of the city where Ivy Hill, Chelten Hills, and the National Cemetery at Philadelphia are located (see Figure 9). A geographic focus on Old City could cover nearly all of the themes identified in this study, from Politics, to Transportation, the Military and Industry/Manufacturing (see Figure 6). An architectural tour of Center City, viewing buildings and streetscapes reminiscent of the period, could be anchored by visits to sites that interpret the history of the era, such as the African American Museum, Civil War and Underground Railroad Museum, or Mother Bethel AME Church (see Figure 18).

The degree of access to geographic areas and the concentration of resources may be a key consideration. Although Old City is primarily perceived as a colonial-era neighborhood, the colonial-era buildings that are still there also existed during the Civil War. Given the concentration of resources in Old City, and the number of tourists visiting the Liberty Bell and other nearby attractions, there is a ready market for Civil War-related tourism in this area. This location also provides an opportunity for visitors to learn about the various aspects and layers of history, and experience the historical continuum, as they explore the built environment.

An issue that should be explored relative to existing resources and program locations is access. Some sites with existing collections are only open to the public on a limited basis. Should heritage tourism be pursued, it is critical to capitalize and improve upon existing resources. This effort may include providing support so that sites can be open to the public on a regular and predictable basis. Although a private club, the Union League is currently exploring a long-term plan for regular public access to the League House and a proposed Heritage Center (to open circa 2008). An upcoming art exhibit at the League, with provisions for public access to the exhibit and tours of the building, should provide insight into the challenges and opportunities of opening a private facility to the public. Shared marketing opportunities and event scheduling may also draw visitors.

A cursory count of tourist-ready sites in Philadelphia that are related to the Civil War but that may not have Civil War-related programming at this time reveals approximately 45 such sites.<sup>22</sup> These resources should be encouraged to increase and/or broaden Civil War programming or interpretation and develop a marketing strategy to promote these assets to visitors. Furthermore, these sites should explore and utilize ties to other related, existing, high-profiles sites, both near and far, such as the National Constitution Center and the Gettysburg Battlefield. Capitalizing on existing physical sites, interpretation, staffing and tourism infrastructure may provide the groundwork for future heritage tourism initiatives related to the Civil War in Philadelphia.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Future project phases are planned to explore resources and programs in the region surrounding Philadelphia. Initiatives will eventually be linked to related statewide programs and events celebrating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Based on the methodology of this study and project outcomes, and the consideration of the results of concurrent companion studies, there are several recommendations that may prove useful to the conduct of future phases of work, as well as to further inform and expand upon the findings of this document.

## Identify Goals

The Civil War History Consortium had previously prepared a Strategic Plan for the exploration, development and sustenance of a Civil War heritage tourism program. This round of studies began the exploration of resources and identification of stakeholders and potential market, as well as the identification of examples of other heritage tourism programs to learn from. The Consortium should consider the results of this study and companion studies by The Melior Group and Urban Partners to guide the organization's goal setting and identification of next steps. Although the next steps may fit within the original framework of the Strategic Plan, the direction, order and/or focus may shift as a result of the first year studies.

### Future Interviews

Regarding project methodology, assistance should be given to interview subjects in order for them to fully prepare for the interview. It was suggested that a list of questions be sent prior to the interview to prompt reflection on the topic and gain a more informative interview result. An alternative may be to provide a list of questions for written response in the form of a survey questionnaire. A wider audience may be reached in this fashion with minimal cost.

### • Future Research

It was hoped that the research conducted for this study would illustrate the trajectory of industry, transportation and other trends; however the scope of this project and nature of the key secondary sources utilized did not provide the full story that was anticipated. Further research may provide the additional context desired to tell a more complete and compelling story, particularly regarding the Reconstruction years. Not much has been published about this period in Philadelphia's history, particularly in readily available secondary sources. Further investigation in this area should illuminate how the city and its citizens reacted to the end of the war and the trajectory of the significant historical themes in the aftermath. For example, what happened to Philadelphia's industrial base? Were ties to southern suppliers and markets renewed? Did the city continue to follow the Republican Party in national elections or did political favor change, and why? To what degree were

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> The criteria for what is considered "tourist ready" are generally those sites that are able to accept tourists/ visitors on a regular basis and have some relationship to Civil War history in Philadelphia. Criteria will continue to be refined and will assist in the prioritization of the Consortium's focus on existing and potential resources.

residents active in the Abolition movement compelled to continue their works in the Civil Rights and Women's Suffrage movements? And to what degree do these matter for interpretation purposes? Although the themes explored in this study are fairly distinct, it would also be worthwhile to explore the depth of integration of the historical themes in terms of interpretation possibilities and expressing "the Big Picture." Research should also consider the interests of the visiting public, which is currently focused on the abolition movement and the activities of African Americans and women on the home front. Additional research will inform programming and interpretation, as well as marketing and the development of visitor interest to get people to the sites and programs offered.

The search for physical resources related to the Civil War should examine the City of Philadelphia's Register of Historic Places. This database was not easily searchable online by theme, dates of construction, or other large-scale means; a full exploration of this source may reveal additional resources. The Philadelphia Mural Arts Program catalogue of murals should also be explored further. Murals are a major recent form of commemoration, and these resources could be the focus of a tour or an addition to other potential tours. The "Underground Railroad" mural at 908 Chestnut (demolished) and "Underground" at 2902 Germantown Avenue are two examples. There may be interest in creating additional murals commemorating the larger story of Philadelphians in the Civil War.

While research for this study lead to some facilities outside the City limits, they are not included in this study. Research beyond the city boundaries will undoubtedly reveal many other institutions and facilities that should be included in future research efforts.

#### Capitalize on Consumer Interest

A short-term plan should be developed, focusing on existing tourist-ready sites and assets, to capitalize on high consumer interest in Civil War history, as demonstrated in The Melior Group's findings in their companion study of the Civil War heritage tourism market in Philadelphia.<sup>23</sup> Cultivating existing sites and interpretable themes would provide an initial point of contact with visitors, and additional research and site exploration will likely allow for future interpretation opportunities and give visitors reasons to return.

# • Explore Integrated Interpretive Strategies

A heritage tourism strategy should consider combining themes in interpretive strategies and locations where it makes sense to do so. It may not be feasible or desirable to launch a museum or other resource dedicated to each significant historical theme identified in this study. A combined approach may make the most sense to conserve financial resources, satisfy market considerations, as well as provide a comprehensive, thoughtful and thorough experience to the visitor. A website exploring all related themes may provide a launching point to explore historic sites, archives, and other existing and potential resources in Philadelphia. A Civil War heritage tourism strategy in Philadelphia should capitalize on the unique and interesting array of existing programs and interpreted sites and resources. Interpretive strategies should respond to consumer interests while providing opportunities to explore related topics in depth through other means. While all significant Civil War themes in Philadelphia can be covered within the context of a broader story, tools such as reading lists, web links, and cross-promotion of other sites may deepen the public's understanding of history while

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> The Consortium and project staff recognize the differences in the historical themes and topics of interest identified in this and The Melior Group's studies. While the KSK study explored several topics of significant historical importance, The Melior Group attempted to define those topics that were of the most interest to potential visitors. The Consortium will consider both aspects when determining next steps as a result of the studies conducted in this round of work.

encouraging heritage tourism. Linking efforts with sites across the region, such as Gettysburg or sites in Chester County presents opportunities not only for marketing and increasing visitorship, but also for increasing visitors' understanding of the depth of history and its wide topical and geographic implications.

#### • Preservation of Resources

Lastly, the resource identification and field verification processes highlighted the need for preservation of remaining physical assets, particularly in instances where the building or site retains high integrity and has a noteworthy association with significant events, persons, period architecture or historical trends. Nomination of a property to the National Register of Historic Places alone does not protect historic buildings. Local designation and active stewardship and advocacy are far more effective tools to preserve the important historical and architectural legacy of this city.

In the mid-nineteenth century, Philadelphia occupied an exceptional position, physically and emotionally, as a transitional zone between the American North and South, as a critical component of the national infrastructure, and as a place away from the battle but never far from the fight. Thus, the city and its assets, reflecting the activities, events, and experiences of Philadelphians in the Civil War era, provide a unique opportunity to relate a comprehensive story about what was happening away from the battlefield, on the home front. The findings of The Melior Group's companion study illustrate a very strong interest in these topics on the part of potential visitors. Furthermore, visitors value experiencing historic destinations - learning about history at actual places that were present during the event and retain integrity and resonance.

In conclusion, there is a tremendous potential for heritage tourism in Philadelphia related to the City's mid-nineteenth-century past. Even with ongoing interpretation at several exceptional sites, there remains a greater story to tell and a diminishing number of architectural resources that express the aesthetic, feeling, and association with the period. With further research, planning, coordination and advocacy, Philadelphia's Civil War story can be brought to the fore of public awareness, providing a continuum of Philadelphia's considerable history and heritage, bridging the colonial era and the present.



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\* A number of organizations' websites were also consulted during the research. These web addresses can be found in the "Notes" field of the GIS data included in Appendix C.

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