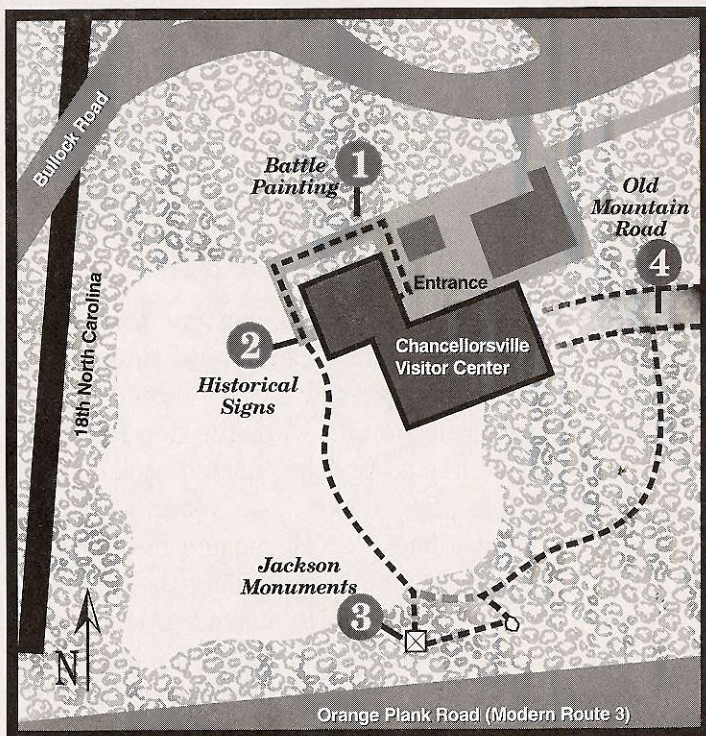


was a single shot fired . . . in an instant it was taken up and . . . a volley as if from a regiment was fired.”

Spurred by the belief that the returning Confederates were Union cavalymen charging their line, Lane’s men had fired into the darkness, striking Jackson and two of the nine men who were riding beside him. A short distance away, on the Plank Road, bullets from the same volley ripped through A.P. Hill’s staff, killing or injuring four men.

When Robert E. Lee learned of Jackson’s wounding, he exclaimed, “Any victory is dearly bought that deprives us of the services of General Jackson even for a short time.”



The Aftermath

Bullets had struck Jackson not once, but three times. One bullet lodged in his right palm while two others struck his left arm. Couriers and aides carried the wounded general to a field hospital at Wilderness Tavern, four miles to the rear. At two o’clock in the morning, doctors removed the general’s mangled arm. (A chaplain later buried the limb at nearby Ellwood Plantation.) Learning of Jackson’s operation, Lee commented, “He has lost his left arm, but I have lost my right arm.”

The presence of Union cavalry behind Confederate lines required that Jackson be moved to a place of greater safety. On May 4 he was lifted onto an ambulance and carried twenty-seven miles to Guinea Station. He was put to bed in the office of Thomas Coleman Chandler’s plantation “Fairfield” (pictured below). There, six days later, with his wife and infant daughter at this side, Jackson died of pneumonia. A man of action, his last words were ones of repose: “Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees.” He is buried in Lexington, Virginia.



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The Wounding of “Stonewall” Jackson

A Walking Tour

In the midst of his great victory over Union general Joseph Hooker, Confederate commander Robert E. Lee suffered an irreparable loss. On the night of May 2, 1863, during the Battle of Chancellorsville, his dynamic subordinate Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson was mortally wounded by friendly fire. This short walking tour will guide you through the area where that momentous event occurred. The tour begins at the large battlefield painting in front of the Chancellorsville Visitor Center.

Tour Stop 1

The Battle Painting

On May 1 Hooker entrenched around Chancellorsville, waiting for the heavily outnumbered Confederates to launch a frontal attack. Faced with seemingly overwhelming odds, Lee and Jackson instead developed a daring plan to attack the vulnerable right flank of the Union army, which stretched along the Plank Road (modern Route 3). Early the next morning, Jackson and the 28,000 gray-clad soldiers who comprised his Second Corps began a maneuver that would culminate in both a dazzling Confederate victory and a Southern tragedy.

Snaking through the dense woods of the Wilderness, the column covered a twelve-mile route that eventually led it north to the Orange Turnpike. In the early evening of May 2, Jackson smashed into the unsuspecting troops of the Union Eleventh Corps, two miles to your left. Outnumbered and outflanked, the Northerners gave way. In just over two hours of fighting the Confederates drove them back more than two miles, into the woods to your right as you face the battle painting.

► *Follow the brick path to the left and around the visitor center to the signs at stop 2.*

Tour Stop 2

Historical Markers

Jackson's attack had been a great success, but the aggressive general was not completely satisfied. Hoping to cut off Hooker's line of retreat, Jackson urged his men forward despite the growing darkness and late hour. In order for the attack to continue, Jackson needed to deploy fresh troops; his Confederates had become tangled in the thickets.

The North Carolina brigade of General James Lane moved up the Plank Road to form the new Confederate line. Lane's men were on edge as they moved into position; they knew that Union troops were in the immediate area, but the Northerners' exact location remained a mystery. North of the Plank Road, Lane's line crossed the Bullock Road, which is visible to your right-front as you face the sign. Covering this portion of the line was the 18th North Carolina regiment. A volley from the 18th led to Jackson's wounding just moments later.

► *Follow the trail to Stop 3.*

Tour Stop 3

Jackson Monument

Several markers commemorate Jackson at Chancellorsville. The first was the unmarked quartz boulder, which is located on the path to your left. It was placed here sometime between 1876 and 1883 by former Confederates, including the Reverend Beverley Tucker Lacy and James Power Smith, two men who had served on the general's staff. Then in 1888 the "Stonewall" Jackson Monument Association erected the granite monument inscribed with the

general's name.

These stones mark the area where Jackson was first tended, rather than where he was wounded. When the 18th North Carolina fired on Jackson's party, the general's horse bolted into the woods. Near this spot Captain Richard E. Wilbourn of the Signal Corps seized the animal's bridle and eased Jackson to the ground. He and division commander General A.P. Hill cut open the sleeve of Jackson's coat and applied handkerchiefs to his wounds to stop the bleeding.

► *Follow the path to the quartz boulder and turn left. Turn right onto the woodchip path and follow it to Stop 4.*

Tour Stop 4

Old Mountain Road

You are now standing on the trace of the Old Mountain Road, the road on which Jackson was riding when he was injured. Accompanied by aides and couriers, Jackson scouted in front of his main line, hoping to determine the new Union position. Private David Kyle served as Jackson's guide through the tangled woods. He described the path taken by their party:

"We went down that old Mountain road some four hundred yards when we came in hearing of the Federals We stayed there I should judge from two to four minutes when the Gen Jackson turned his horse around and started back up the road we had come down When we were about halfway back . . . He turned his horse's head toward the south and facing the front of our own line of Battle. He started to leave the old Mountain road and just as his horse's front feet had cleared the edge of the road whilst his hind feet was still on the edge of the bank there