Historic Loudoun County Scavenger Hunt





The Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association

Historic Loudoun County Scavenger Hunt A History Expedition in the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area

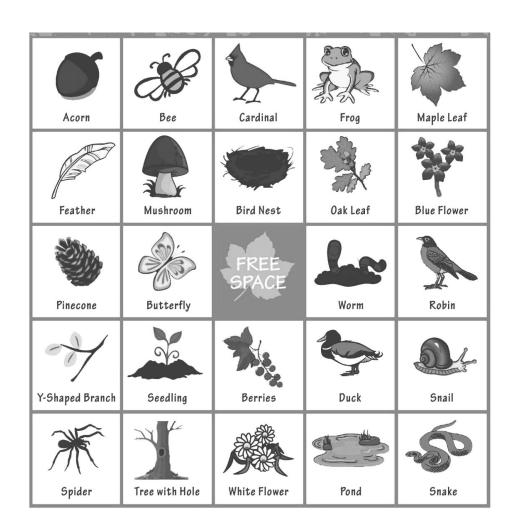
Loudoun County is in the heart of the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area and is one of Virginia's most historic and scenic counties. This scavenger hunt takes in a sampling of the best the county has to offer.

How to do the Scavenger Hunt:

- 1. Choose a day to go exploring with your parents. You will need most of that day. We suggest you bring a picnic. There are several good sites to have one, or, you can buy one.
- 2. You will need a phone with GPS or print the scavenger hunt map from PiedmontHeritageArea.org.
- 3. Complete the tour answering the questions as you go.
- 4. To qualify for a shirt you must complete your own scavenger hunt. Additional copies can be printed from our web site.
- 5. You may wish to look over the scavenger hunt before you go. If you have any questions, call the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area at (540) 687-6681 Monday through Friday 9:00-5:00 p.m.
- 7. Send the completed scavenger hunt with its Honor Pledge and the completed information form in the back of the booklet to: Director of Education Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association PO Box 1497, Middleburg, VA 20118

The Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area helps both visitors and residents recognize, appreciate, and help preserve our region's history. The 1,800 square-mile Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area was recognized by the State of Virginia in 1995 and includes parts of Loudoun, Fauquier, Prince William, Clarke and Warren counties. With its distinctive local architecture, handsome farms, historical villages and miles of country roads situated at the foot of the world-famous Blue Ridge Mountains, it is a region worth loving and preserving.

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What was	your	favorite	stop?	Why
	•		•	

What are your top 3 favorite things to learn about?

Hunts and Stops: To earn your t-shirt, you must complete the

'Leesburg on Foot' scavenger cluster, plus two others.		
Leesburg on Foot		
Virginia Quakers		
 The Civil War in Loudoun		
 Eastern Loudoun		
Honor Pledge		
Nature Bingo		

Leesburg On Foot



Park in the Leesburg Public Parking Deck 25 W Market St. Leesburg 20176

Loudoun County Courthouse
 E Market St., Leesburg VA 20178

Walking from the deck, turn right on Market St. At the corner, cross King Street, then turn left to follow King St. There is an entrance to the courthouse green through the wrought iron fence. The historic courthouse sits in the green, facing King St.

There has been a courthouse here since the 1760s. This one was built to replace an earlier one in 1894. During the Revolutionary War, militia units drilled and camped on the Courthouse green where you are now standing. In 1776 an Englishman named Nicholas Cresswell, who was staying in Leesburg, described the American soldiers as "A set of dirty, ragged people, badly clothed, badly disciplined and badly armed."

There is a Revolutionary War memorial on the left side of the Courthouse. When was it erected?

Honor Pledge: I actually took the tours for which I have given answers. I saw these sites, and answered these questions during my visit(s). I did not get or copy the answers from anyone else. The answers here are my own work.		
Name:		
Signature:		
If under 17, Parent's Signature:		
If a Student, Your School:		
If a Student, Your Teacher:		
Date:		
Your Mailing Address:		
E-Mail Address:		
Telephone (in case we have questions):		
Shirt Size (options: Youth M, L; Adult S, M, L, XL)		
Additional shirts ordered @ \$15.00 each:		
Number Size(s)		

Form continues on back

Congratulations!

You've Reached the end of the Scavenger Hunt

We hope you have enjoyed this scavenger hunt, and found some places you would like to visit again to show someone else. You've explored one of Virginia's most historic and most scenic counties. Be sure to sign your Honor Pledge and fill out the form to get your t-shirt. The Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area Association offers Scavenger Hunts for other counties in the Heritage Area.

Go to our website to download a printable version or contact us at (540) 687-6681 to have another scavenger hunt mailed to you. We also offer driving tours that take you along major routes in the Heritage Area. There is always something interesting to see and do in the Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area!

Complete the opposite page, then cut it out and mail to:

VA Piedmont Heritage Area Association

P. O. Box 1497 Middleburg VA 20118

2. McCabe's Ordinary

4 Loudoun St. SE, Leesburg, VA, 20175

Head South (left) on King Street. Proceed one block and turn left on Loudoun St. Walk toward the large stone house on the left, a little beyond the intersection. The intersection you walked across at the stoplight was once Leesburg's main corner.

Loudoun Street was one of the old main roads from Alexandria to Winchester. King Street-named when Virginia was still a colony of the English crown- was the main north-south road in Loudoun. It was called the Carolina Road.

McCabe's Ordinary, also known as the Patterson House, was once Leesburg's best-known tavern. It offered food, drink, and a place to stay for man and horse at a regular or "ordinary" rate. Taverns were called Ordinaries because of this. Travelers had to share rooms and even beds with strangers, especially during busy times in town. McCabe's Ordinary was built around 1785 There are drawings in the stairwell on the third floor that probably were drawn when the hero of the American Revolution, the Marquis de Lafayette, visited Leesburg in 1825. The town was mobbed with 10,000 people that day; Presidents Monroe and John Quincy Adams came with Lafayette!

Spot it: A small square porch supported by columns is called a "portico". Porticos were popular in the late 1800's and were often built onto older buildings. You can see at least one other portico from where you are standing at McCabe's Ordinary.

3. Mt. Zion Church Cemetery 209 Old Waterford Rd., Leesburg VA 20176 Facing McCabe's Ordinary, head West (left) on Loudoun St. Walk two blocks and then turn right on Liberty Street. Proceed three blocks. You will

pass Market Street, Cornwall Street, and North Street. The church cemetery will be on your left, enter through the fence gate.

*As you proceed to the cemetery, you will pass the Loudoun Museum and historic silversmith shop along Loudoun St. We recommend visiting if you have time today!

This is the cemetery for Mount Zion Church in Leesburg, a historical black church. In 1860, about 30% of Loudoun's population was enslaved. At the outbreak of the Civil War, the majority of soldiers went to war for the Confederate States, but other Loudouners fought for the Union, the United States of America. Among them were a number of free black men and freedom seekers– individuals who were enslaved and ran away for their freedom. When the Civil War ended in 1865, soldiers came home. Confederate veterans were hailed as heroes, but veterans of color were often treated as second class citizens. Around 60 years later, members of Mt. Zion Church again went to war, this time in the Great War, World War One.

Find the grave of a Union veteran and a WWI veteran in this cemetery. Write the name and birth and death dates of a WWI veteran below.

4. Old Leesburg Presbyterian Church.
207 W Market St., Leesburg VA 20176
Proceed South on Liberty Street for two blocks. Cross Market Street then turn right along Market Street and proceed to the brick church.

This is Leesburg's oldest standing church, it is more than 200 years old. Walk into the cemetery to your right, where some of the town's oldest graves are. You can look in the windows to see the inside of the church. Notice the balconies: in the opening months of the Civil War, Leesburg was filled with Confederate soldiers. Most of them thought that this Presbyterian Church had the prettiest girls! The soldiers had a good view of the pretty girls from this balcony.

What year was the church built?

4. Arcola United Methodist Church 24757 Evergreen Mills Rd, Sterling, VA 20166

Turn left onto Belmont Ridge Road. Travel about six miles, then turn left to stay on Belmont Ridge Road. Drive another three miles, then turn left onto Arcola Mills Dr. In a half mile, turn right into the Arcola United Methodist Church parking lot. Park in the "Food Pantry" parking area immediately on your right.

You are standing near the old town of Arcola, or Gum Spring. The building in front of you, now a food pantry, was built as a Methodist Church in 1853. However, church history suggests that before the 1853 church, an older log church stood in Arcola since the 1740's. Back then, it was a 'Free' church, meaning that several different Christian faiths used the same building. They would often divide up church services by week. For example, on the first Sunday of the month, an Anglican minister would speak, then on the second Sunday of the month a Methodist preacher would speak, then perhaps a Baptist minister, etc. Like today, churches were where important events like funerals and weddings took place. In 1795 a farm manager and Revolutionary War veteran named John Prichard married Anna Smarr at the Free church, with a traveling Methodist minister named John Littlejohn. John Littlejohn became an important official in Loudoun County, serving as a justice of the peace and as sheriff. During the War of 1812 when the British burned the White House, President James Madison entrusted John Littlejohn with documents from the National Archives- including the Declaration of Independence! Littlejohn hid the documents in the county seat at Leesburg.

3. Belmont Slave Cemetery Freedom Trail Rd, Ashburn, VA 20147

Leaving the Nature Center, turn right onto Cascades Pkwy. Then take the next left onto Nokes Blvd. Stay left to remain on Nokes Blvd/Gloucester Pkwy. Stay on Gloucester Pkwy for six miles, then turn right onto Belmont Ridge Rd. In a half mile, turn right onto Freedom Trail Rd. There is a small parking area and foot trail.

This land was once part of a large plantation called Belmont. The original plantation house is now Belmont Country club, and the land that was once filled with wheat fields is now filled with houses, schools, and shops. While the plantation was active, dozens of enslaved workers toiled in the hot sun and through freezing winters. They did not live in stately brick mansions, instead they lived in simple wooden sheds. The windows had no glass and the floors had no rugs. Generations of people lived on this land. Sometimes their brothers, sisters, mothers, or fathers were sold and never seen again. When they died, the bodies of the enslaved people from Belmont and nearby Coton were brought here for burial. The cemetery was forgotten or ignored for many years. Steps are now being taken to learn more about the people buried here, and to preserve this area for future generations.

When was the Journey to Freedom trail built?

What is the name of the Eagle Scout who helped build it?

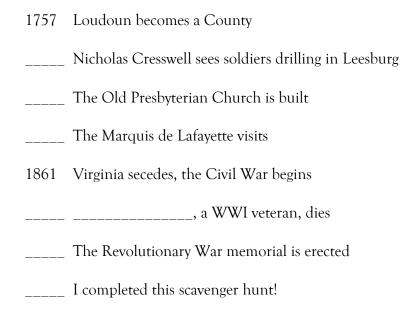
Look for it: Graves are marked with simple field stones on the ground. Enslaved people did not have money for engraved headstones, and they usually didn't know how to write so they couldn't carve the stones for their loved ones. At least 80 people are buried here, but we may never know exactly who they are.

You can a map of historic cemeteries if you Google search "Loudoun cemeteries and burial grounds"

To return to the parking deck:

Facing the Presbyterian Church, turn left and walk along Market Street for two blocks. The entrance to the deck is just past Tally Ho Theater.

Leesburg Timeline: Fill in the dates:





This is what a Union Civil War headstone looks like. James Gaskins served in Company I of the 39th Regiment, United States Colored Troops. He is buried at Mount Zion cemetery, Leesburg. For more about the Civil War, and to see Confederate burials, see the Civil War in Loudoun portion of this booklet!

Virginia Quakers



A 19th century engraving of Friends quietly praying during a Meeting.

"Quaker" is a nickname often given to members of the Religious Society of Friends, a Christian denomination that began in the 1650s. Quakers came to the American colonies for a better life, but were thrown out of the Massachusetts Bay Colony for their beliefs. Many Friends settled in Pennsylvania, and beginning in the 1700s they moved south into Virginia as their families and farms grew. They were peaceful but very strict. They didn't have pastors, priests, rabbis, or imams. Instead they preached to each other. They had to live simply, wear plain clothes, no cursing, no gambling, etc. Several Quaker villages sprang up in Loudoun in the late 1700's, including Waterford, Lincoln, and Unison, which you will visit now!

Second Street School Second Street, Waterford VA, 20197

From Leesburg: Head west on E. Market Street for about a mile, then use the right lane to merge onto Rt 7 West. After 2 miles take the Rt 9 exit towards Hillsboro. In 1/2 mile turn right onto Route 662/Clarke's Gap Rd. Drive 2.4 miles, then turn left onto Factory St. Factory St. becomes 2nd Street. The school will be the small white building on your left. Park carefully on the side of the road.

2. Lanesville Heritage Area

Keep walking down Old Vestal's Gap Road for about a half mile. You will see historic buildings on each side of the road. First visit the Lanesvville House, then continue down the trail a short way to the two story schoolhouse.

Lanesville House

This white two story house is named for the Lane family who owned this land in the 1700's. By about 1800 Keturah Lane and her husband John Keene built this house along Vestal's Gap Road and ran a farm. We know that enslaved people lived on this property along with the Keenes. Looking at the front of the house, the oldest part is the front portion and the two fireplaces. Many other sections were built onto the original home over time. Around one side of the house you can see the upstairs "sleeping porch". Sleeping porches were very popular during hot summer days in the 1800s when the inside of the house could get stuffy. Read the interpretive panels around the house.

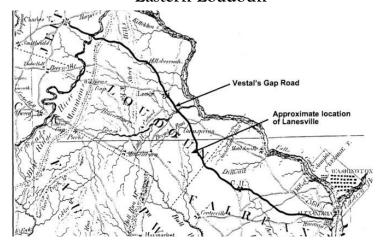
Besides being a house, what other uses has this building served? Name at least two

The Schoolhouse

In the 1700s and 1800s, children were taught basic reading and writing by their parents, by paid tutors, or at expensive academies. Enslaved people weren't allowed to learn to read or write at all. After the Civil War, many communities built one room schoolhouses like this one. This is Eastern Loudoun's oldest standing schoolhouse, built in 1870. All grades were taught together in one classroom, and the teacher lived upstairs. Students had to bring firewood or coal for the classroom stove in the winter time, and there was no indoor bathroom.

At the door to the schoolhouse there is a tall post stuck in the ground. What is on top of the post? What do you think it is used for?

Eastern Loudoun



Claude Moore Park Nature Center
 21544 Old Vestals Gap Rd, Sterling, VA 20164
 *Note, you need to enter through the Nature Center entrance, not

end of the parking lot. You will see interpretive signs on the trail.

the Community Center entrance. From Leesburg, drive East on E Market Street out of town. Market St. becomes Route 7. Drive for about six miles, then Take the VA-1794 S/ Cascades Pkwy exit toward Sterling. Drive about a half mile on Cascades Pkwy, then turn left onto Old Vestals Gap Road. As you drive in you will see the parking lot and welcome area. Walk along the old road trail at the

You are walking along one of the last prehistoric artifacts in Loudoun County. For hundreds, perhaps thousands of years before European settlers came to this area, this pathway was a road for American Indians. They used this path to hunt, to follow herds of animals, and to make war on each others' tribes. And before the American Indians, animals like deer and buffalo traveled on this route to get from the fields of the Piedmont all the way to the Blue Ridge and Shenandoah Valley to the west. Now much of the road is paved over or abandoned, but here you can add your footprints to a truly historic place.

What famous American marched through here in the 1700s?

This school was built just after the Civil War (1867) by the U.S. Government's "Freedman's Bureau" to educate freed slaves. The first teacher was Sarah Steer, a Quaker woman who lived here in Waterford. She taught all grades from first grade through eighth grade, and at night she taught the adults too! Remember, before the Civil War, enslaved people weren't allowed to learn to read or write. Loudoun once had over 80 one-room schools; several are still standing. Today, the Waterford Foundation runs a living history school program here.

Look through the schoolhouse windows, what is in the very middle of the school's only classroom? What is it used for?

The Old Mill of Waterford
 Main Street, Waterford, VA, 20197

Continue down 2nd St., then turn left onto Main St. This is the main historic block of Waterford. The large brick mill will be on the left side of the road at the end of the block. Please park carefully.

Waterford Mill was built in 1831. On the left side of the mill you will see the rusted remains of the old millwheel which ground wheat and corn into flour. Quakers, white planters, and even some free black farmers would bring their crops here. You can tell that the area was rich farmland by how big and sturdy this mill is! Mills were an important part of this community for nearly two hundred years. Walk around the right side of the mill.

Read the history signs on the patio, when did this mill stop milling?

3. Goose Creek Friends Meeting 18204 Lincoln Rd, Purcellville, VA 20132

Retrace your route back up Second St., onto Factory St., and then turn right onto Clarke's Gap Rd out of town. Take the next right onto Rt. 704, Hamilton Station Rd. Continue for 4 miles, then turn right onto Rt. 7 Business, W. Colonial Hwy. Follow Colonial Hwy for 2 miles. At the roundabout, take the 3rd exit onto William T. Druhan Jr. Blvd. After about a mile, turn left onto Lincoln Rd. Drive another mile, and the meeting house will be on your left. Please park on the right side of the road.

Before you cross the street, visit the small building at the end of the parking area. This the original Friends Meeting House, the oldest one still standing in Loudoun. Some of the first settlers of Loudoun, Quakers believe greatly in human equality, living a simple life, and not making war. They did not believe in slavery. Several Friends from Loudoun were kicked out of the Meeting (church) for fighting in the Revolutionary War and Civil War, and for becoming enslavers. You could also be removed from the Meeting if you married someone who was not a Quaker. There are still active members of the Religious Society of Friends. For the next question, read the bronze plaque.

When was this meeting house built? When was the newer (but still old) and larger brick meeting house across the street built to replace it?

Cross the street to the brick meeting house—go up on the porch. This is a Quaker meeting that is nearing 200 years of continual services and is still used. Be sure to look in the windows.

3. National Sporting Library & Museum 102 The Plains Rd., Middleburg, VA, 20117

Leaving the parking lot, take the 3rd exit in the circle to head West on Rt. 50. At the second circle, take the first exit to stay straight. At the third circle, take the second exit to stay straight on Rt. 50. Drive about six miles, then turn left onto The Plains Rd. The National Sporting Library and Museum will be the first building on your right. You may park in the front circle or around the back. As you face The Plains Rd., there is a Civil War Trails sign on the right near some trees. Read the marker.

In late June 1863, the area that you just drove on Rt. 50 was the scene of bloody cavalry battles as Union soldiers pushed west towards the Blue Ridge Mountains to find out what General Lee's Confederate Army was up to. Lee's cavalry commander, JEB Stuart, fought battles near Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville to slow them down. Thousands of soldiers from both sides were involved in the fighting, making it the largest Civil War fight in Loudoun County. Thanks to Stuart's tactics, General Lee slipped across the Blue Ridge and marched north without the Union knowing what he was up to. From there Lee made his way into Maryland and Pennsylvania, leading to the great battle at Gettysburg.

Walk back to the front circle and visit the large bronze horse sculpture.

What does this sculpture memorialize?

Who sculpted it?

Want to know more about the Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville? Go to PiedmontHeritage.org, and look for the driving tour "Raised from Obscurity: A Driving Tour of the Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville"

2. Mount Zion Church 40309 John Mosby Hwy, Aldie, VA, 20105

Take Ball's Bluff Rd. out of the park, turn right onto Battlefield Pkwy, then take the next left onto the Rt 15 bypass. Drive 3.5 miles, then use the right lane to merge onto Rt. 15 South towards Warrenton. Stay on Rt. 15 for 10 miles. At the first traffic circle, take the 3rd exit to Rt 50 East. At the second traffic circle, stay straight on Rt. 50 East. At the third traffic circle, take the first right turn into the parking lot of Mount Zion Church.

Built in 1851, this Baptist Church was the site of a Confederate Mosby's Rangers attack on Union cavalry while they were watering their horses just east of the church on July 6, 1864. The "Yankees" had been searching for Mosby. Mosby's men had a cannon, and after firing a few rounds, they charged on horseback. Union casualties were heavy; two-thirds of their force was killed, captured or wounded. Mosby lost only two men with a few wounded. Read the interpretive signs for the details of the fight, look in the church windows, and look about the cemetery.



The cemetery includes the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers, as well as veterans of other wars. Confederate burials across the South are often marked with a small iron cross, called the Southern Cross of Honor.

How many of these crosses do you see in the cemetery?

Look for it: The church has door on the front and on the sides. Enslaved people and free black Americans weren't allowed to sit with the rest of the churchgoers. They had to enter through the side doors, go upstairs, and sit in the upstairs balcony. In a similar way, enslaved and black churchgoers weren't allowed to be buried in the cemetery next to white people. You might notice simple stones on the ground outside the left wall of the cemetery. This is where enslaved people are buried. They did not have money for engraved headstones, so we do not know the names of people buried here.

4. South Fork Cemetery South Fork Cemetery, Middleburg, VA, 20117*

*Google maps will recognize this destination

From the parking lot, turn right onto Lincoln Rd., then take the next right onto Chappelle Hill Rd. This road becomes Telegraph Springs Road, stay on it for 3.8 miles. At Snickersville Turnpike (Rt 734), turn right and then immediately left onto St. Louis Rd. (Rt 611). Travel about 1.5 miles, then turn right onto Unison Rd. Unison Rd. After 3 miles, look for a forested driveway on the right side of the road. If you reach Quaker Ln. you've gone too far.

Quakers usually had the reputation of being virtuous, quiet members of society. Here near Unison, the South Fork Friends had a different reputation. Horse racing, gambling, even dancing were pastimes of these rowdy Quakers, which cause headaches for their parent church, the Goose Creek Meeting. One unfortunate young man was even reprimanded for stealing his neighbor's watermelons! The Meeting House that was once here was sold in 1868 and was eventually demolished. The cemetery remains, and you may walk around inside.

Find the gravestone of someone born before 1800. What is their name?



Meeting houses usually look plain both inside and out

The Civil War in Loudoun



Union soldiers flee down Ball's Bluff into the river. Many soldiers drowned, and some bodies floated all the way into Washington D.C.

1. Ball's Bluff Battlefield Park

Ball's Bluff Rd NE, Leesburg VA, 20176

From Leesburg, drive North on King St. About a mile north of the Courthouse, turn right onto Battlefield Pkwy. Drive another mile, then turn left onto Ball's Bluff Rd. The parking lot will be about a half mile down the road. Proceed on foot along the White blazed trail to read about the battle and answer the questions.

On the night of October 20th, 1861, a Union patrol made up of inexperienced soldiers found what they thought was an unguarded Confederate camp. It would actually turn out to be a row of maple trees resembling the shape of Army tents. On the basis of the faulty intelligence, Union General Charles Stone ordered a raid on the supposed camp at dawn. Colonel Devens of the 15th Massachusetts advanced to find no camp but chose to stay while he waited for new orders. Confederate Brigade Commander Nathan Evans came from the Leesburg area with soldiers from Virginia and Mississippi. They fought skirmishes, or small fights, through the morning. Devens kept hoping for reinforcements from Colonel Edward Baker.

Colonel Edward Baker was overall command of Union forces on the bluff and would arrive across from Harrison's Island around 10 AM to find what he considered an inadequate number of boats in the Maryland channel of the Potomac River. The army needed boats to get soldiers and cannons across the river. He chose to stay on the Maryland side of the river supervising the movement of boats for several more hours.

After his third and largest skirmish Devens was frustrated, fearing the growing Confederate force in his front. Devens retreated to his supports on the top of the bluff. As Devens arrived, Baker finally joined him. On their right, skirmishers atop high ground held off all attempted Confederate attacks from that side. While continuous fighting took place on the Union right throughout the late afternoon, the real focus of Confederate attacks was on the Union left. About 4:30 PM, during one of those numerous Confederate attacks on the left, Baker was killed.

After Baker's death, the senior Union officer on the field, Colonel Milton Cogswell, took over command and attempted a breakout from the bluff to the open country a mile beyond. He failed, so Union troops retreated to the four boats that had been shuttling troops all day. Soon after the retreat was ordered, Virginia and Mississippi troops attacked toward the bluff, driving the remaining Union soldiers down steep slopes to the river bank. All four boats were sunk, and soldiers attempting to swim to the island were shot from above or drowned in the swift current. A few managed to swim to safety. Those remaining on the floodplain surrendered that night, capping off the costly Union defeat at Ball's Bluff.

Edward Baker was a Colonel, what other position did he hold?

How many US soldiers died in this battle?

How many Confederate?