

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

76-35
152-5001
VLR- 8-15-89
NRHA- 11-16-89

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Louisiana Brigade Winter Camp
other names/site number: "Camp Carondelet"

2. Location

street & number: Birmingham Dr. and Chardon Ct. not for publication
city, town: Manassas Park vicinity
state: Virginia code: VA county: Prince William code: 150 zip code: 22111

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> objects
			<input type="checkbox"/> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
Civil War Properties, Prince William County, VA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. ___ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register. _____
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. ___ See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions):

Defense: military facility

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions):

Landscape: forest

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions): n/a

Material (enter categories from instructions): n/a

foundation:
walls:

roof:
other:

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHAEOLOGY
Military

HISTORIC - NON-ABORIGINAL

Period of Significance:

1861-1865

Significant Dates:

1861-1862

Cultural Affiliation: n/a

Significant Person: n/a

Architect/Builder: n/a

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: DHL

221 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: 7.8

UTM References:

A /18/ /2.89.340/ /42.92.960/
Zone Easting Northing
C / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

B / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing
D / / / / / /
Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description:

The Louisiana Camp is located atop a low, northwest-southeast trending ridge. The ridge begins to climb in elevation where the semi-maintained dirt road that goes into Union Mill Park and Birmingham Drive meet. There is a metal gate at this location. The site begins approximately 200 feet up the gate. From this point, in a northwest-southeast direction, the site is approximately 850 feet in length and in a northeast-southwest direction, the site is about 400 feet in width.

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries encompass the the features associated with the camp.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Jan Townsend, County Archaeologist
organization: Prince William County, Planning Office
street & number: 1 County Complex Court
city or town: Prince William

date: June 1989
telephone: (703) 335-6830
state: VA zip code: 22192

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 7 Page: 1

Property Type: Battles of 1st and 2nd Manassas

Summary Description

In 1861-1862 Camp Carondelet served as winter quarters for the Louisiana Brigade, which consisted of the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th infantry regiments; the First Louisiana Battalion Infantry (Wheat's Special Battalion); and Bowyer's artillery from Virginia. The camp is located about 2.5 miles east of Manassas and 1 mile south of Bull Run and is approximately eight acres in size. It is owned by the city of Manassas Park. Intact features include more than twenty-five obvious huts (evidenced by low, rectangular, earthen mounds and remnants of collapsed chimneys) arranged in linear patterns; at least fifty features that are believed to have been huts; numerous depressions where soldiers probably obtained clay for hut and chimney construction and threw trash; remnants of several roads; rifle pits; and a bottle dump. The huts were built in December 1861 on part of what had been called Camp Wigfall. They measured about sixteen feet by twelve feet in size and were constructed of logs, well-daubed, and had substantial fireplaces. In March 1862 the log huts were burned by Confederate soldiers before their withdrawal to the Rappahannock River. The integrity of Camp Carondelet is very good despite some road grading through the site, logging activity, and relic hunting.

Description

Louisiana troops constructed and occupied this Civil War military camp during the winter of 1861-62. Since the site's discovery in the 1960s, relic hunters have found many of the distinctive Louisiana state buttons with their emblem of a pelican. The camp is commonly known as the Louisiana Camp. When it was being mapped [see the enclosed map], a bottle base was found on the surface of the ground with New Orleans embossed on it. Because the Louisianians only built huts during the winter and only spent one winter in Prince William County, the site must date to the winter of 1861-62.

Except for the Washington Artillery Battalion, all of the Louisiana units in Northern Virginia were brigaded together in October 1861. On December 17, 1861, the Louisiana Brigade left Camp Florida, near Centreville, and moved to their new camp named Camp Carondelet. A

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 7 Page: 2

recorder for Company G of the 7th Louisiana Regiment noted that Camp Carondelet was on ground formerly called Camp Wigfall (during the summer of 1861). The Louisiana troops began building winter huts just before Christmas and completed them in mid-January 1862. In February 1862, Camp Carondelet was the scene of that winter's Grand Military Ball (Ratcliffe 1978:116).

Camp Carondelet is approximately 2.5 miles east northeast of Manassas and 1 mile south of Bull Run. Because Bull Run makes a sharp southerly turn in this area, the camp is also about one-half mile west of Bull Run. Russia Branch is approximately one mile to west of the camp. The camp is near the end of Birmingham Road. The property is owned by the city of Manassas Park. The ruins of Camp Carondelet are in a forest of mixed hardwoods. There is relatively little underbrush. The topography consists primarily of low, long ridges. The terrain becomes very steep as one approaches Bull Run and Russia Branch.

In size, the site is approximately 850 feet on a northwest-southeast axis and 400 feet on a northeast-southwest axis (about eight acres). Twenty-five fairly obvious hut sites, evidenced by low, rectangular, earthen mounds, were mapped. Of these, twenty-one are probably single huts and four are double huts. In addition, there are fifty-three mapped features believed to be chimneys. Chimney features are mounds, usually about one to two feet above ground level, that are formed by bricks and/or large, flat rocks covered by dirt. It is believed that most of these chimneys represent the location of hut sites whose walls are more difficult to discern. If this is the case, then the camp includes approximately seventy-five huts. There are also a number of large depressions at the camp. Many are probably what remains of the holes dug by the Civil War soldiers when they were getting clay for their chimneys and huts. The depressions at the very southern extent of the camp (refer to the enclosed map) are believed to have been rifle pits. Some of the large depressions may have been dug by relic hunters, but for the most part their excavations are smaller than a yard in diameter. Holes dug by the soldiers also served as trash pits. What seems to be a Civil War bottle dump (wine bottles primarily) is located along the northern edge of the camp.

A semi-maintained road crosses the southwest side of the site. Portions of huts were obviously destroyed when it was constructed.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 7 Page: 3

What appears to have been an old logging road cuts into the middle of the camp from the existing road.

Timber was being cut for winter cabins on Christmas day (Handerson 1962:36). On January 19, 1862, Henry Handerson, the bookkeeper for the 9th Louisiana Regiment, wrote his father that "we have erected log cabins, which, when well daubed and finished with large fireplaces, render us as warm as we could desire" (1962:92). (Refer to attached photograph.) The men of the Washington Artillery Battery (the one Louisiana unit brigaded separately) are known to have been supplied with planks for roofing, window sashes, glass, door knobs and even locks (Owens 1964:68). In all likelihood, the other Louisiana regiments obtained similar building supplies. W. G. Ogden, of the 7th Louisiana regiment, in a letter to his father said "the extreme cold here brought out all the house building knowledge our Regiment possessed. With astonishing rapidity the La. Regiments have felled almost all the trees for miles around (quoted in Jones 1987:24) According to Jones (1978:24), the huts were about sixteen feet by twelve feet in size.

James Cooper Nisbet, an officer with the 21st Georgia regiment, commented in his memoirs that when building the winter camps, the Confederacy used the old United States Army regulations. Wm. Miller Owen, of the Washington Artillery Battalion of New Orleans described the layout of his battalion's camp near Centreville in the following manner "the winter camp [Waltonville] was laid out with great regularity, each company having its street, only instead of canvas tents, log huts were substituted" (1964:68). Owens added that "the officers had double cabins at right angles with the streets. In front of the camp were the stables for our horses, a double line running across the whole front of the camp. These had plank roofs, and the sides were filled in with brush, to temper the wind to the animals. In front of it all, our guns were parked, snugly under tarpaulins to protect them from snow and rain" (1964:69).

The latrines of the Louisiana camps were dug about 200 yards from the main camp and consisted of an open ditch, which had a fresh layer of dirt thrown over it every morning (Jones 1987:25). A major road is believed to have been located just to the south of the site shown on the enclosed map; it would have been to the west of present-day Birmingham Road. In addition, what may have been a road during the Civil War is near the northeast corner of the camp.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 7 Page: 4

This road is a large feature that is very flat in the center with shallow trenches defining it on both sides. Its beginning and end are vague. Perhaps it is a stables area. Archaeological study could determine this.

Along with the rest of the Confederate army, in March 1862 the Louisiana brigade was ordered to withdraw to a more defensible position near Richmond. "By the day of the evacuation, small mounds of items lay scattered around the men's quarters as each soldier attempted to stuff his knapsack and blanket roll with the numerous little conveniences he felt he could not live without. Early on March 9, the Tigers [the Louisiana brigade] torched their cherished winter huts and served as rear guard when the army headed south in a cold, drizzling rain" (Jones 1987:65). Charcoal is a common sight in the relic hunter's excavations. Partially melted glass is also common.

Within Brigadier General Taylor's Louisiana brigade there were six units, the 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th infantry regiments, the First Louisiana Battalion Infantry (Wheat's Special Battalion) and Bowyer's artillery from Virginia. According to knowledgeable individuals, Wheat's Battalion camp (locally referred to as Tiger Hill) is located to the southeast of the Louisiana Camp. The Louisiana Camp was home to the 6th, 7th, 8th and/or 9th infantry regiments. Based on the number of huts and an estimated 10 to 12 persons per hut, the Louisiana Camp was probably occupied by one or, more likely, two or three of the above Louisiana regiments. There is rumor of another Louisiana camp in the vicinity, but its location has not been determined. It is also possible that all of the chimneys were not identifiable in the field and that there are many more huts than indicated by the mapped chimney features. Archaeological investigations and documentary research could answer the question of specifically which regiments were at this camp.

Georgia troops, most likely the 21st Georgia Infantry, were camped a few hundred yards to the northwest of the Louisiana Camp. A Georgia cemetery with about twenty-five individuals is located along the southeastern border of the Georgia camp. A Mississippi camp is located to the north of the Louisiana and Georgia camps. As noted above, Wheat's Battalion camp is reported to be on a ridge to the southeast of the Louisiana Camp.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 7 Page: 5

The integrity of the Louisiana Camp is very good in spite of road construction, some logging activity, and relic hunting. The most significant disturbance has occurred as a result of relic hunting. Many of the chimneys have been dug into. Relic hunters pick up intense signals at these features because soldiers often tossed debris, including metal items, into them. Corners of some of the huts have also been dug, perhaps because nails are concentrated in these areas. Typically, when a signal for metal is heard, the relic hunter will dig a hole straight down until the metal item is found. In general glass and items other than buttons, buckles, bullets, etc. are ignored. Huts adjacent to the road have been dug into the most. Huts in the northeast part of the site, on the other hand, are in excellent condition. The double huts are in good condition. Most of the chimney features are probably associated with intact subsurface remains of huts. Based on the relic hunters' excavations, the subsurface deposits can extend to a depth of three feet; one to two feet is more common, however.

During late winter and early spring 1988 when the camp was mapped, an unusual form of relic hunting was being carried out at several of the hut sites. The individual(s) were never observed, only the results. The digger was stripping the dirt away in large, horizontal plains, rather than digging narrow, deep holes. Bottles from the Louisiana camp area reportedly became available at that time. Presumably, bottles were this digger's focus. This type of excavation if carried on over the next few years could significantly impact the site's integrity.

Until recently, the most immediate threat to the site was development. Manassas Park had plans to develop the camp area after it and the surrounding 390 acres were annexed to the city from the county. As part of the annexation agreement, however, Manassas Park has agreed to set aside the Louisiana Camp, as it is defined in the National Register nomination report, and a nearby Georgia troop cemetery, which is not part of the nomination. All of the camp will be protected. Manassas Park has a locked gate at the junction of Birmingham Road and the road that goes across the site. In addition, if relic hunters are observed on the property, they are told to leave by rangers who occasionally patrol the area. The Louisiana Camp is just south of Union Mills Park.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 8 Page: 1

Summary Significance Statement

Despite being called "wharf rats from New Orleans" and "the lowest scrapplings of the Mississippi," the Louisiana military units played key roles in most of the major Civil War campaigns and had highly respectable military records at the close of the war. Because of their fierce fighting style, after the Battle of First Manassas, the Louisiana troops were considered heroes and commonly referred to as the "Tigers." Almost one-third of the soldiers in the Louisiana brigade located in Northern Virginia were foreign-born and about one-third were born in states other than Louisiana. While the Louisiana brigade was camped at Camp Carondelet, Brigadier General Richard Taylor, son of former president Zachary Taylor, was in command. Although they were quartered a short distance away from Camp Carondelet, Major Roberdeau Wheat, leader of Wheat's Battalion (the 1st Special Battalion) and one of the most colorful heroes of First Manassas, and his men were part of Taylor's brigade. Colonel Harry T. Hays, who would later become one of Lee's premier generals, commanded the 7th Louisiana Regiment until the summer of 1862, at which time he was promoted to brigadier general of the Louisiana brigade. For the remainder of the war the brigade was called Hays Brigade. The Louisiana brigade also had the dubious distinction of carrying out the first executions of Confederate soldiers. On the orders of General Taylor, Michael O'Brien and Dennis Corcoran, of Wheat's Battalion, were executed for disorderly conduct in December 1861.

Research done for the preparation of this document has already yielded information on how the Confederate troops were organized and where they camped after the Battle of First Manassas. Camp Carondelet, known to have been the location of the 1862 Grand Military Ball, was believed to have been in Centreville. Archival research proved otherwise. This Louisiana camp is Camp Carondelet. Additional historical research and archaeological study can provide answers to questions related to the following research topics: technology of warfare, sociology of warfare, ideology of warfare, logistics of warfare, archaeological site formation, and artifact studies. In addition, because of good preservation, much of the camp can be reconstructed to appear as it did during its occupation. Even without physical reconstruction, the lay person can still get a sense of what the camp must have looked like. This

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8 Page: 2

is the only camp in the county's inventory for which this claim can be made.

In fact, there is only one other camp in Northern Virginia that is comparable in terms of preservation and interpretive potential. It is called Camp Measles by relic hunters and is very different in appearance.

Historical Background

The Louisiana Tigers have been referred to as "wharf rats from New Orleans," the "lowest scrappings of the Mississippi," and the "premier shock troops of the Army of Northern Virginia" (Jones 1987:xi,xii). Initially, the name "Tiger" was associated with one unit of Major Roberdeau Wheat's 1st Special Battalion, the Tiger Rifles. As the reputation of the Louisiana troops spread, however, the name "Tiger" came to be applied to all of the Louisiana troops in Lee's army. "The fierce reputation of the Tigers was well earned, for Louisiana probably had a higher percentage of criminals, drunkards, and deserters in its commands than any other Confederate state" (Jones 1987:xxii,xiii). In spite of this, the Tigers played key roles in the most important military campaigns of the war, including First Manassas, and "emerged from the Civil War with one of the most respected military records" (ibid.:xiii).

At the time of the Civil War, Louisiana had the largest percentage of foreigners (11%) of any state and most were Irish (Jones 1987:5). Military leaders made a special effort to enlist these foreigners in the military, and this is reflected in the makeup of the troops stationed in northern Virginia. Taken together, records (see Jones 1987:238-244) of the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th regiments show that, of those giving place of birth, 1,453 were born in Louisiana, 1,260 were born in other states, 1,012 were born Ireland, and 422 were born in one of over twenty-two other countries.

After the bombing of Fort Sumter, Louisiana quickly formed regiments and battalions. Of these, the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Louisiana Volunteers and Wheat's Battalion were assigned to the Potomac District in northern Virginia. The 6th Louisiana regiment was known as the Irish Brigade and was made up of mostly New Orleans Irish laborers. Of the Tiger regiments, the 6th had the "highest known percentage of foreign-born members (54%) and desertions and oaths [of allegiance]" (27%) (Jones 1987:238). The

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 8 Page: 3

majority of the regiment's companies were from New Orleans. Colonel Isaac G. Seymour, a Yale University graduate, former mayor of Macon, Georgia, veteran of the Indian and Mexican wars, and a newspaper editor, was the regiment's first commander (ibid.:6). He was killed on June 27, 1862, at Gaines's Mill (ibid.:238). The regiment's total enrollment during the war was 1,146 (ibid.)

The 7th Louisiana Regiment, or the Pelican Regiment, had a total enrollment during the war of 1,077 (Jones 1987:240). It was composed of mostly clerks, laborers, and farmers, and many of its members belonged to the prestigious Pickwick Club of New Orleans (ibid.) Six of the ten companies were from New Orleans. Despite the high percentage of foreign-born members, the 7th had a relatively low percentage of desertions. Colonel Harry T. Hays was the regiment's first commander. He was promoted to brigadier general in July 1862. General Taylor, the Louisiana brigade commander, had high praise for this regiment (ibid.).

The 8th Louisiana Volunteers had a total enrollment of 1,321 members and was composed of primarily farmers and laborers (Jones 1987:241). The companies of this regiment were from all over Louisiana, but the Creoles "were the most conspicuous element of the command because of their language, lively music, and dancing" (ibid). Henry B. Kelley was elected colonel of this regiment and remained with it until April 1863.

The 9th Louisiana Volunteers, which was composed almost entirely of North Louisiana farmers, had a total enrollment of 1,474 (Jones 1987:242-243). Richard Taylor, the son of President Zachary Taylor, brother of Jefferson Davis's first wife, and a graduate of Yale University, was the regiment's first commander (Warner 1959:299). In October 1861 Taylor was promoted to brigadier general in command of the entire Louisiana brigade. Lieutenant Colonel E. G. Randolph then took over command of the regiment (Jones 1987:243). Three brigadier generals were promoted from the 9th Louisiana regiment. Of the Louisiana regiments in Virginia, the 9th had the highest death rate and was the only one that had more men die from disease than in battle (ibid.).

The 1st Special Battalion, Louisiana Infantry (commonly called Wheat's Battalion) was literally and figuratively the most colorful of the Louisiana troops in northern Virginia. The Battalion had a total enrollment of 416, and Major Roberdeau Wheat was the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8 Page: 4

battalion's first commander. Wheat, who had been a military officer in the Mexican War, was a lawyer and soldier of fortune at the time the Civil War broke out. The specific ethnic makeup of the battalion is unreported. It is known that of the companies, the Catahoula Guerrillas were mostly planter's sons; the Walker Guards were soldiers of fortune and most had fought under William Walker in Nicaragua; the Perret Guards were gamblers and the Tiger Rifles had many criminals in its ranks (Jones 1987: 5,249). Wheat's Battalion was infamous and "so villainous was the reputation of this battalion that every commander desired to be rid of it" (Taylor 1879:24).

The Tiger Rifles and one other company in the battalion, wore the very distinctive Zouave uniform, which had originated in North Africa with the French military. The uniform consisted of very baggy trousers, a sash, and an open-cut jacket with trim (Thomas 1980a:3). The Tiger Rifles modified the traditional Zouave uniform. "Instead of the regulation red trouser of the Zouave, they manufactured their trousers of blue and white striped material similar to mattress ticking. They also substituted the red shirt of the Mexican War Mississippi rifleman for the blue vest of the Zouaves" (Thomas 1980:3). The Tiger Rifles also wore hatbands that bore slogans such as "Lincoln's Life or a Tiger's Death," "Tiger on the Leap," and "Tiger in Search of Abe" (Jones 1987:4, *ibid.*). Needless to say, these Tigers were conspicuous.

The 6th, 7th, and 8th regiments and Wheat's Battalion were in the Manassas area by mid-July 1861. At the time of the battles of Blackburn's Ford (July 18) and First Manassas (July 21), the 6th Louisiana was in the Second Brigade of the Provisional Army of the Confederate States, which was commanded by Brigadier General R. S. Ewell. The 5th Alabama Regiment, the 6th Alabama Regiment, the Washington Artillery of New Orleans, and four companies of cavalry were also in Ewell's Brigade (U.S. Government 1880:469, 537, 944). Wheat's Battalion was in the Fifth Brigade, which was commanded by Colonel S. St. George Cocke and included the 8th, 18th, 19th, 28th, and 49th Virginia regiments (*ibid.*:469). The 7th and 8th Louisiana infantries were officially unbrigaded at the time of the battles (*ibid.*:470), and the 9th Louisiana regiment was still on its way to Manassas.

On July 18 the Federal army attacked the Confederate units positioned at Blackburn's Ford. Instead of retreating as the Union

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 8 Page: 5

generals hoped, General Beauregard, commander of the Confederate army choose to stand and fight. General James Longstreet, whose troops were engaged in the intense battle, called on Jubel Early to bring in reinforcements. Early responded with the 7th and 24th Virginia Volunteers and 7th Louisiana. The 7th arrived just as the Federals were forcing a crossing of Bull Run and wounded Confederate soldiers were trying to escaped to safety behind the line of battle. Early deployed the Louisiana regiment out front and sent them down the hill towards the run with the Virginia troops following. "Hay's men [the 7th Louisiana] arrived at the stream 'just in time to save the day'" (Jones 1987:49). According to General Beauregard (U.S. Government 1880: 443-444), there was not "one yard of intrenchments nor one rifle pit" to shelter the men and the 7th took up position "under a heavy fire of musketry with promising steadiness." Eventually the Union troops were forced to pull back, and Early deployed troops to the north side of Bull Run so that they could give the alarm if the Federals returned. At the end of the day, there were ten dead and fifteen wounded Tigers. (Jones 1987:48-51). The Louisianians were proud of their conduct during what they called "The Battle of Bull Run."

After the fight at Blackburn's Ford, General McDowell, commander of the Union army, decided to shift his main attack to the Confederate left flank, which was in the direction of Sudley Church. On the morning of July 21, 1861, the day of the Battle of First Manassas, Wheat's Battalion and the 4th South Carolina Volunteers were holding the Confederate's left. Having been signaled the Union army's route of attack, Wheat's Battalion moved forward to meet the Union soldiers streaming south from Sudley Ford. Wheat's goal was to slow the Union advance until other Confederate troops could arrive and take up position. The 2d Rhode Island was the first Federal unit to appear, and "for crucial minutes the Louisianians and Rhode Island brigades fought alone, their battle lines surging back and forth across the rolling hills" (Jones 1987:51). The 4th South Carolinians soon arrived to give Wheat's Battalion support. As the Confederates were being pushed back by the oncoming Union troops, Major Wheat was hit by a ball, which enter his upstretched arm, tore through his lung, and then exited his body. Although they were under heavy fire and a couple were killed trying to carry away their major, Wheat's men managed to get him to safety.

The Louisianians and the South Carolinians did succeed in slowing the advancing thirteen thousand men of the Union army. With Wheat

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8 Page: 6

wounded, however, the battalion dissolved, and his men went on to fight alone or with other companies for the remainder of the battle. Newspaper accounts claim that the Tiger Rifles and the Catahoula Guerrillas threw down their rifles and charged the Union line with just their knives. Whether true or not, the legend of knife-wielding Tigers was born. (Jones 1987:52-53)

As the Battle of First Manassas raged, the 7th Louisiana, which was still with Jubal Early's brigade, marched back and forth between the fords across Bull Run to stop any Union advances in those areas. In the afternoon, Early's troops were ordered to the main Manassas battlefield, which was several miles away. They arrived at about 3:00 p.m. In order to provide some relief on the Confederate front, Early's troops were instructed to attack the Union's right flank. The 7th Virginia was placed in front, with the 7th Louisiana and 13th Mississippi following. With the rebel yell, these units swarmed over the hill towards the Union soldiers. The right flank of McDowell's battle line dissolved, and the rest of the line soon followed. With the Union army in retreat, the men of the 7th Louisiana set about collecting items discarded by the Union soldiers. Colonel Hays, commander of the 7th Louisiana, found and kept an elegant set of china, which was probably left by one of the northern picnickers who had come to watch the battle. (Jones 1987:53-54)

The Louisianians, and especially Major Wheat, were considered heroes after the battle. Although the surgeons pronounced that he would die from his wound, Wheat went on to make a full recovery. Several of the 7th's companies and all of the 6th and 8th were outraged because they had been detailed to guard supplies and serve as reserves instead of being placed on the battle line. The 9th Louisiana, under Richard Taylor's command, arrived on the battlefield just as the battle ended. The 9th had spent the previous twenty-four hours trying to get to Manassas in time for the impending battle. They were slowed, however, by a locomotive that had to be pushed up the steeper grades between Richmond and Manassas. (ibid.)

By the end of August 1861, with the exception of the Washington Artillery, all of the Louisiana troops were brigaded together in the 8th Brigade. Jones (1987:55) and Taylor (1879:22) state that General W. H. T. Walker of Georgia was put in command of the brigade. United States records indicate that Col. J. G. Seymour

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 8 Page: 7

commanded the brigade, at least initially (U.S. Government 1881:825). The brigade was then camped near Centreville (Jones 1987:43; Handerson 1962:36).

General Walker left in October, and much to the dismay of the other regimental commanders, Richard Taylor of the 9th Louisiana regiment was promoted to brigade commander. Of all the 7th's regiment leaders, Taylor, who was the son of Zachary Taylor and Jefferson Davis's brother-in-law, had the least amount of military experience. Despite their protests, Taylor became brigadier general of the brigade in late October.

Several times during late summer and early fall of 1861, the Confederate army reorganized its divisions. By January 1862, however, the Louisiana brigade was in the Forth Division of the Army of the Potomac. Major General E. Kirby Smith commanded the division according to the official records (U.S. Government 1881:1030). Jones (1987:63), on the other hand, states that Richard S. Ewell commanded the division after the Battle of First Manassas. A deserter's report in January 1862 and an invitation to a grand military ball in February 1862 indicate that Smith was the division commander (U.S. Government 1881:737, Ratcliffe 1978:116).

The division included two other brigades--Elzey's and Trimble's. According to the official record, Brigadier General Elzey's brigade included the 1st Maryland, 3rd Tennessee, 13th Virginia, 16th (probably suppose to be the 10th) Virginia infantry regiments, and the Baltimore Light Artillery. Brigadier General Trimble's brigade (formerly Crittendon's brigade) was composed of the 15th Alabama, 21st Georgia, 16th Mississippi, and 21st North Carolina infantry regiments, and Courtney's artillery, which was from Virginia.

A short time before Christmas, the Louisiana troops moved their camp from Centreville to a "position east of Manassas Junction and proceeded to build winter-quarters in the shape of rough but comfortable log-cabins" (Handerson 1962:36). It took a month to construct the cabins. Presumably, the regiments brought along their numerous camp followers who had traveled with the brigade from Louisiana. Some of the Louisiana regiments, and in particular Wheat's Battalion, brought women with them. Some served as washer women, nurses, and cooks. Slaves, no doubt, were also with the regiments.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8 Page: 8

The monotony of camp life set in for some and others thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Most soldiers had to participate in drill (Handerson 1962:93), and some had to go on picket duty. The 9th Louisiana is known to have had picket duty during the latter half of January. Their duty station was about seven miles east of camp and along the Occoquan River. Picket duty lasted for six days and during that time they had no tents or even semipermanent shelters. Most of the winter, however, was spent in camp. Captain Samuel D. Buck of the 13th Virginia Infantry [who was in the same division as the Louisiana brigade and perhaps camped nearby] wrote of soldiers' pastimes during the winter months:

Some of us built huts of logs while others spent the winter in tents and were comparatively comfortable.

One who has never been in an army or seen camp life would be surprised at the pleasures and comforts the men were surrounded with as well as the many ways they found in which to pass their idle time. Cards were the principle source of amusement. Chess was sometimes played. Papers and books were sought for-men [sic] in camp will read anything. (quoted in Thomas 1980a:4).

According to Wm. Miller Owen (1964:66) of the Washington Artillery, who was at Camp Waltonville, "almost daily we mounted, and made visits to different headquarters; and it is safe to say there never was such a sociable and agreeable set of officers and men assembled together as those of the army that fought at Manassas." Even though liquor was strictly forbidden for the enlisted men, the Louisiana regiments had no problems getting it. They even helped supply the 21st Georgia, which was probably camped just to the northwest of Taylor's Brigade. According to the Georgia officer, "Taylor's Louisiana Brigade of our division being mostly city or river men, 'knew the ropes' and could get it [liquor] from Richmond. Our men could not" (Nesbit 1963:25-26).

Food was plentiful that first winter of the war, and the Louisianians fared better than most. They had a store house of special foods and drinks and "lived high on the hog while they were in communication with New Orleans" (Moore 1961:55). (New Orleans fell in April 1862.) Because of this abundance, officers and enlisted men fixed elaborate dinners and entertained often. Major Wheat was famous for his gourmet meals (Jones 1987:29). Brigadier

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8 Page: 9

General Taylor gave "a splendid Christmas dinner for all his officers [except Major Wheat]" (Moore 1961:56). The Louisianians also held a grand ball in honor of General Richard Ewell after the Louisiana brigade was placed in his division (ibid.:55). In all likelihood, this was the grand military ball held at Camp Carondelet in late February 1862 (Ratcliffe 1978:116).

In spite of all the entertaining and card playing, camp life could also be harsh. Because they were confined to their huts during severe weather, the men were exposed to many contagious diseases, and the unsanitary conditions contributed to other illnesses. Pneumonia, mumps, measles, typhoid, and dysentery were common. As a result, in spite of the population numbers given, all of the military units were usually undermanned.

Fighting was a common activity. For some unreported reason, there was "bad blood" between the Wheat's Battalion and the 1st Kentucky Regiment, and these two units were often involved in brawls. (Thomas 1980:4). James Cooper Nisbet of the 21st Georgia described an incident that took place on a snowy day. Apparently, a group of 21st Georgia men took some bottles of whiskey from Wheat's men, who responded by starting a fight. Nisbet, a company commander, stopped it, but not before Wheat's men were very bloodied. Instead of thanking Nisbet, Wheat's men announced as they were leaving that "Wheat's Battalion kin [sic] clean up the whole damn Twenty-First Georgia any time" (quoted in Thomas 1980:5). Nisbet's comment was "They were Irish and, of course, loved a scrap" (ibid.).

Another incident took place in the fall that had more tragic results. During Wheat's absence in November and while the Louisiana-troops were still in the Centreville area, some members of the Tiger Rifles became very drunk and unruly and tried to rescue a few of their comrades from the guardhouse. An officer, who attempted to maintain order, was severely beaten, and members of the 7th Louisiana had to be brought in to stop the Tigers's rampage. The two ringleaders, Michael O'Brien and Dennis Corcoran, were arrested. A military court found them guilty and sentenced them to death by a firing squad. Brigadier General Taylor decided that the executioners should come from their own company. Major Wheat strongly opposed this sentence and the use of his men to carry it out. Taylor refused to relent and even positioned the 8th Louisiana regiment with loaded guns behind the executioners so that they could shoot the firing squad if the squad refused the order to

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 8 Page: 10

fire. The execution was carried out in Centreville on December 9, 1861, and O'Brien and Corcoran were buried nearby. (Taylor 1879:24-25, Thomas 1980a:5-6) In 1979, to make way for a development, their remains were dug up and reinterred at St. John's Episcopal Church in Centreville.

O'Brien and Corcoran were the first Confederates to be executed in the Civil War. Wheat continued to believe that the sentence was too extreme and went to great lengths to get General Johnston, the commander of the Potomac Army, to admit as much, which he eventually did (Moore 1961). The relationship between Wheat and Taylor was strained, which is probably why Wheat's Battalion had picket duty away from camp on Christmas, the day of Taylor's 'splendid' dinner for his officers.

On Saturday, March 8, 1862, the Louisiana brigade torched their huts and many of their possessions and began the long march towards Richmond.

Research Topics

The Louisiana Brigade camp is associated with the property type "Battles of 1st and 2nd Manassas." It is being nominated under Criterion D. The remains of the camp have a degree of integrity sufficient for addressing the following research topics: chronology and events of the period of time between November 1861 and April 1862, technology of warfare, sociology of warfare, ideology of warfare, logistics of warfare, archaeological site formation, and artifact studies. Each of these research topics, as they pertain to the Louisiana Camp, will be briefly illustrated below.

Simply researching the Louisiana Camp has already yielded additional information on how the Confederate troops were organized after the Battle of First Manassas and where they were camped. Camp Carondelet has been found. Archaeological study can provide the data needed to determine how many and which Louisiana regiments were in the camp. Archaeological remains, especially in the form of bullets and weaponry, will provide considerable data on the technology of warfare during the initial phase of the Civil War. Information on the general level of technology during the 1860s can also be produced.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 8 Page: 11

The Louisiana Camp is particularly interesting for its potential to yield information on the sociology of warfare during the Civil War. As indicated above, each of the Louisiana regiments had a large percentage of foreign-born members. This should be reflected in differential patterning of personal items (e.g., types of crosses) that were lost at the site. Differences in hut size already suggest that social structure, in the form of officer versus enlisted man, is represented in the patterning of the archaeological remains at the Louisiana Camp. Archaeological investigation should produce considerable information not only on the interaction of officers and enlisted men but also on the relationship between the soldiers and camp followers, including women and slaves. Data on social organization should be readily available. The types and patterning of structures, for example, will reflect the kinds and physical organization of activities associated with a military camp.

The most obvious way in which the ideology of warfare can be addressed is in terms of the physical organization of the camp (i.e., intra-site patterning). The layout of the camp should illustrate how military camps were supposed to look during the early 1860s when warfare was still noble and exciting, especially if the Confederates were still using the U.S. Army's regulations. Data from the Louisiana Camp can provide very interesting data on logistics. Not only did the Louisiana regiments participate in the supply system of the Confederate army, but during their stay at Camp Carondelet, they also appear to have had their own efficient supply route to and from New Orleans.

The Louisiana Camp can provide data on the formation of archaeological sites. When the camp was built and occupied is known. What happened to the site when it was abandoned is known, and it should be fairly simple to reconstruct the land uses that have occurred since the Civil War. In other words, in identifying and evaluating the cultural and natural processes that have produced the site as it is today, very important parameters can be controlled. When dealing with site formation, the archaeologist is rarely afforded this quality of data. What is learned at the Louisiana Camp can then be applied to understanding site formation at other sites.

Relic hunter accounts indicate that the Louisiana Camp has already produced many unusual and valuable artifacts. Fortunately, until

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 8 Page: 12

recently, their attentions have been focused on buckles, buttons, and bullets. The nonmetal artifacts have been and still are invisible to the metal detector. The camp dates to the early part of the war when the soldiers still had the possessions that they brought with them from home. When the army had to withdraw toward Richmond numerous military and nonmilitary items had to be left behind. A large percentage of these items should still be in the ground. When compared to later Civil War camps, artifacts from this camp, and other camps of the same period, should be greater in number and variety. The probability of finding museum-quality artifacts is also higher.

In addition to having archaeological deposits that can provide valuable information related to the above research topics, the Louisiana Camp has another very important quality. Because so many of its features are above ground and obvious, it would be relatively simple to reconstruct the camp as it appeared in 1861-62. Even without physical reconstruction, the lay person, with the aid of a few interpretive tools, will be able to recognize the physical layout of the camp and get a sense of what camp life must have been like. This is the only camp in the county's inventory for which this latter claim can be made.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number: 9 Page: 1

- Bartlett, Napier
1964 Military Record of Louisiana. Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, LA.
- Booth, Andrew B. (Compiler)
1920 Records of Louisiana Confederate Soldiers and Louisiana Confederate Commands. 3 volumes. no publisher, New Orleans, LA.
- Handerson, Henry E.
1962 Yankee in Gray: The Civil War Memoirs of Henry E. Handerson. The Press of Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH.
- Jones, Terry L.
1987 Lee's Tigers. Louisiana State University Press, New Orleans, LA.
- Moore, Alison
1961 The Louisiana Tigers or The Two Louisiana Brigades of the Army of Northern Virginia, 1861- 1865. Ortlieb Press, Inc., Baton Rouge, LA.
- Nisbet, James Cooper
1963 Four Years on the Firing Line. McCowat - Mercer, Press Inc., Jackson, TN. Reprint of 1914 publication.
- Owen, Wm. Miller
1964 In Camp and Battle with the Washington Artillery of New Orleans. Pelican Publishing Company, New Orleans, LA. Reprint of 1885 publication.
- Ratcliffe, R. Jackson
1978 This Was Prince William. Potomac Press, Leesburg, VA.
- Taylor, Richard
1879 Destruction and Reconstruction: Personal Experiences of the Late War. D. Appleton and Company, New York, NY.
- Thomas, Michael R.
1980a "Confederate Firing Squad at Centreville: First Military Executions in the Army of Northern Virginia," Northern Virginia Heritage 2(2):3-6.
1980b "Unearthing the Tigers' Graves," Northern Virginia Heritage 2(2):7-8.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number: 9 Page: 2

U.S. Government

1880 The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the
Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series
I-Volume II. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

1881 The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the
Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series
I-Volume V. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Warner, Ezra J.

1981 Generals in Grey: Lives of the Confederate
Commanders. Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, LA.
Reprint of 1959 publication.






LOUISIANA CAMP 1861/1862



CIVIL WAR ROAD

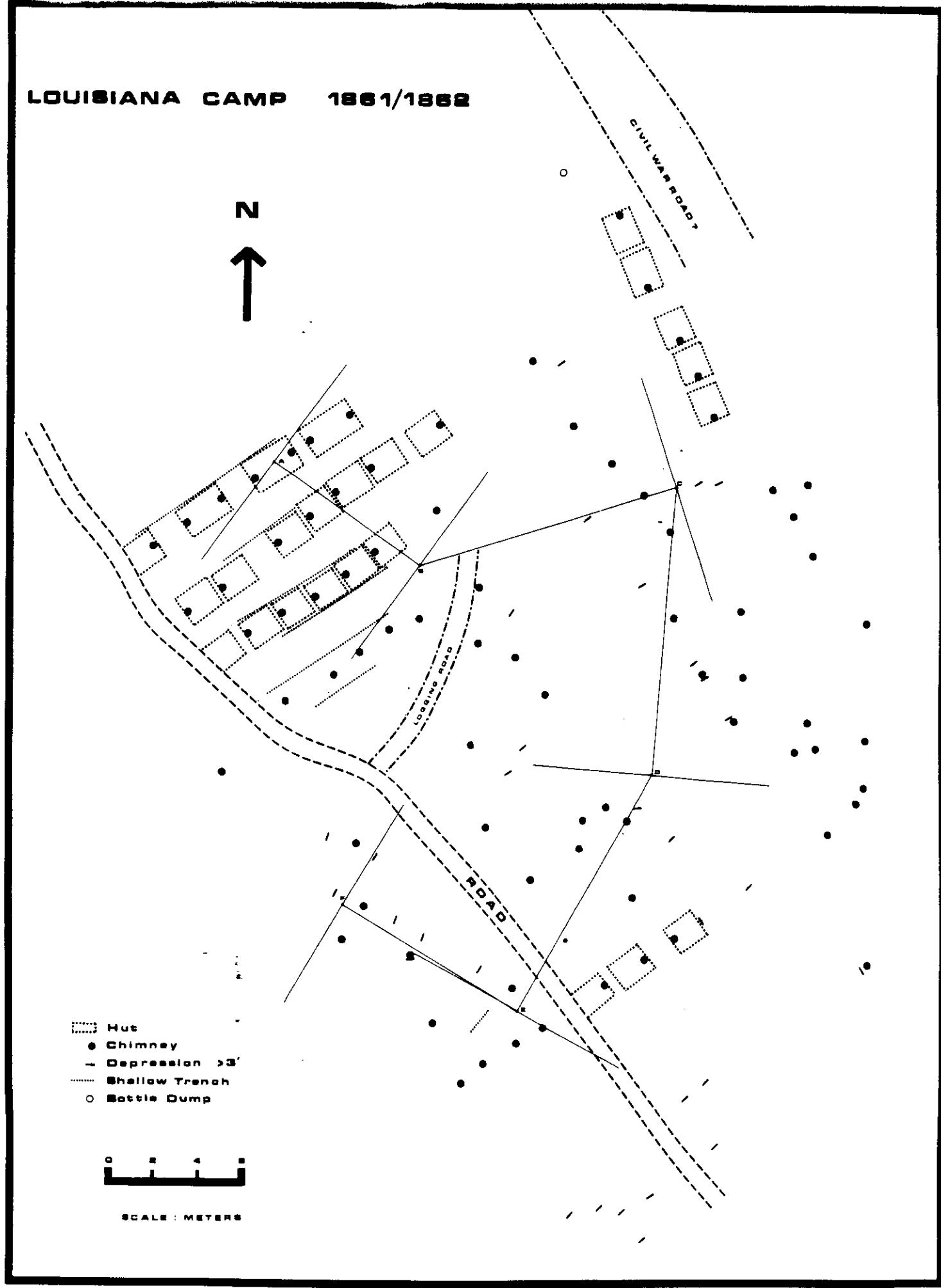
LOGGING ROAD

ROAD

-  Hut
-  Chimney
-  Depression >3'
-  Shallow Trench
-  Bottle Dump



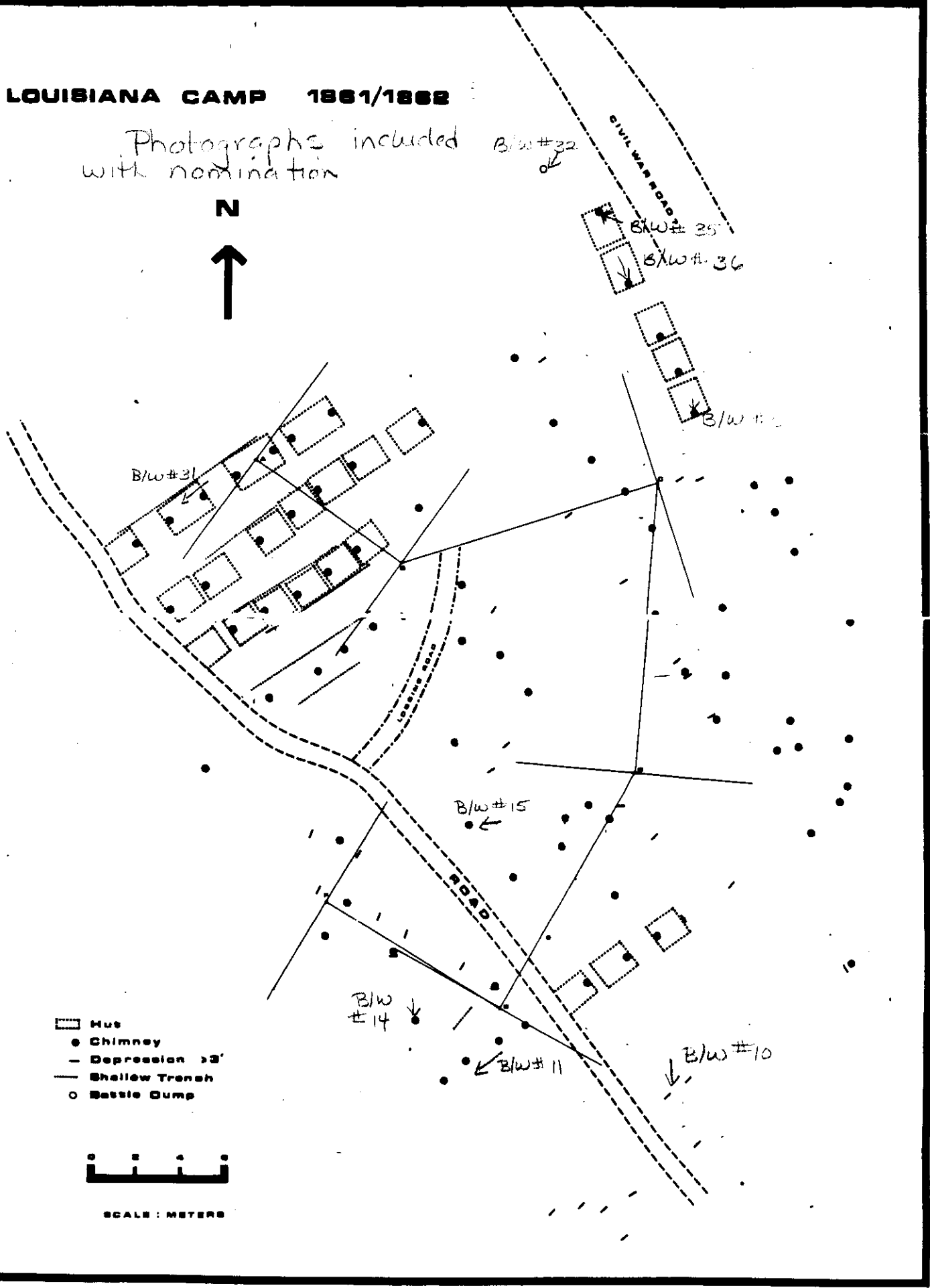
SCALE: METERS

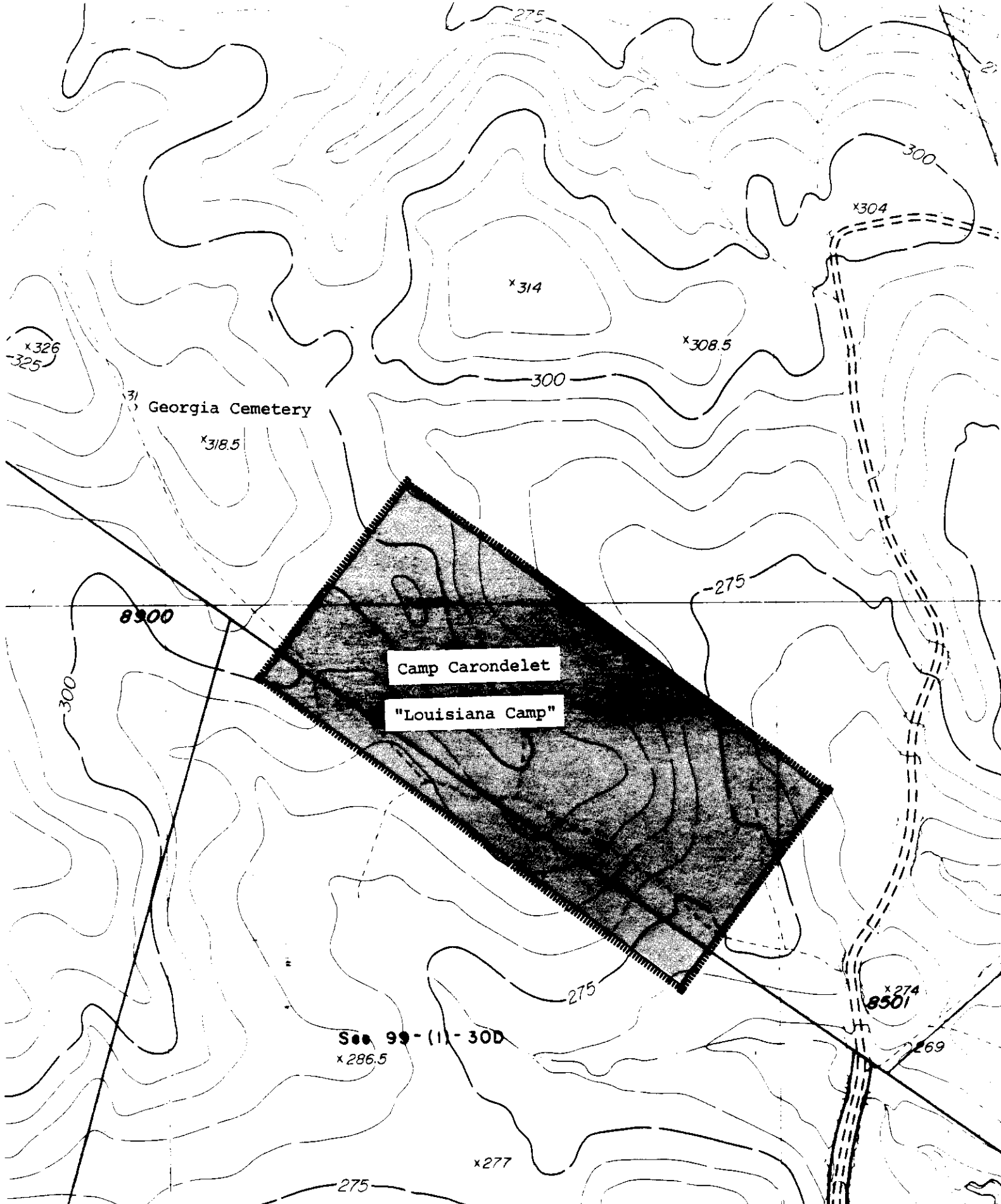


LOUISIANA CAMP 1861/1862

Photographs included
with nomination

N





8900

Camp Carondelet
"Louisiana Camp"

Sec. 99 - (1) - 30D
x286.5

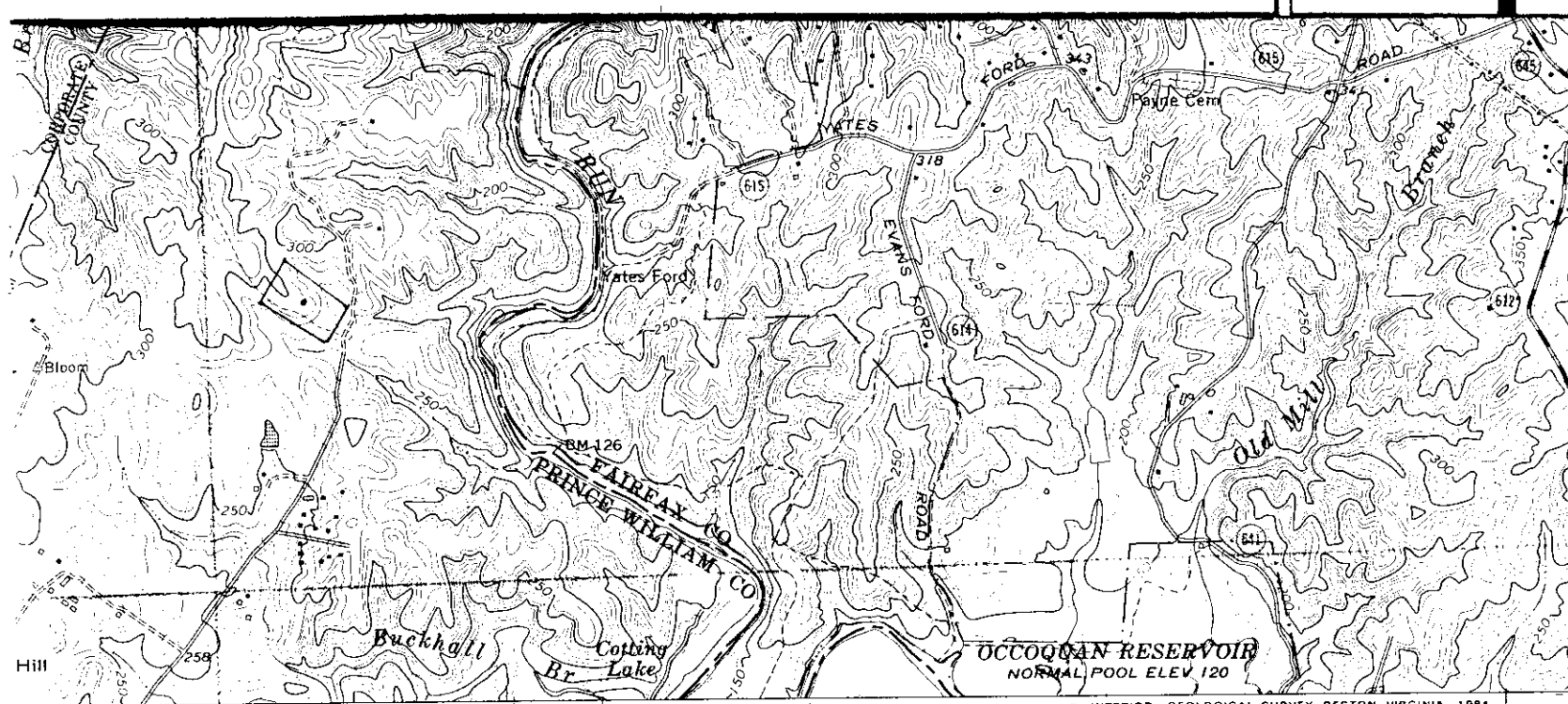
x274
8501



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

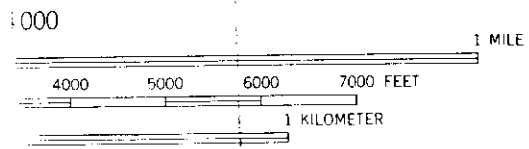


MATCH SHEET 99N



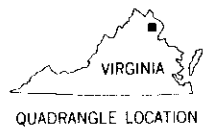
Louisiana Brigade
Winter Camp
Zone 18
Easting: 2.89.340
Northing: 42.92.760

4292000 N. 38° 45' 77° 22' 30" 292 293000m E



VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 1:50,000 SCALE, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
 1:50,000 SCALE, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903
 ADDITIONAL SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1981 and other sources. This information not field checked
 Map edited 1983
 Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Heavy-duty Light-duty
 Medium-duty Unimproved dirt
 Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route

MANASSAS, VA.
 38077-G4-TF-024

1966
 PHOTOREVISED 1983
 DMA 5561 IV SW - SERIES V834

(OCCOQUAN)
 5561 III NE