

**Project Example:
Civil War Battlefield Research
First Day at Chancellorsville**

Spotsylvania County,
Virginia

Project Team Members:
Cultural Resources, Inc.

Key Project Personnel:
Dane Magoon
Sara Ferland

Firm's Responsibilities:
Cultural Landscape
Inventory;
Phase I Survey of
Trail System;
Phase I-Level Survey for
Civil War Reenactment
Activity Areas;
Architectural
Reconnaissance

Client Contact:
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Completion Date:
2008

Total Project Costs:
\$38,078.00

In 2007 and 2008, Cultural Resources, Inc. conducted a series of cultural resource investigations for the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) at the First Day at Chancellorsville (FDAC) battlefield park property, located in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. The scopes of work were developed in consultation with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) and the American Battlefield Preservation Program (ABPP). All reports produced through these efforts were reviewed and formally approved by CWPT, VDHR, and ABPP.



The work was focused upon three tasks: 1. the creation of a low-impact pedestrian trail network, 2. the pre-event examination of activity areas associated with a 2008 Civil War reenactment event, and 3. the creation of a cultural landscape inventory (CLI) for the battlefield landscape.

A Phase I survey was conducted for the 2.3-mile trail network, using GIS and GPS units to plot the trail location across the battlefield and record the location of archaeological survey work. The field effort included systematic metal detector survey and systematic shovel testing.

The field survey for the Civil War reenactment included Phase I-level shovel testing and metal detector survey within designated reenactment activity areas, such as artillery positions, battle engagement areas, and encampment locations.

The CLI examined the battlefield as a cultural landscape and also focused on pre- and post-war landscape features. As part of this effort, an architectural reconnaissance study was conducted for all standing buildings and structures located within the FDAC parcel.