

SYLLABUS: THE CIVIL WAR IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY PART ONE 1861-1863

LESSON

NO DESCRIPTION

1 Background, the Valley of Virginia and its importance to the Confederate War Effort. A quick review of the principal cities and towns in the Valley that will be important to the war: Winchester, Staunton, Lexington, Waynesboro, New Market, Front Royal, Harper's Ferry

Early War events: John Brown's Raid on Harper's Ferry, 1859. 1861: Confederate forces seize Harper's Ferry and take the arsenal's machinery south to produce weapons for the Confederacy. Union forces commanded by Gen. Robert Patterson do not prevent Gen. Johnson from transferring the bulk of his army to Manassas to achieve a Confederate Victory in July, 1862.

Although Leesburg and Ball's Bluff are not in the Valley, the debacle at Balls Bluff is part of the story.

2 Biographical sketches of Union and Confederate leaders

Thomas Jonathan Jackson Nathan Banks

Richard S. Ewell James Shields

Turner Ashby John C. Fremont

3 Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign: The first battle of Kernstown, March 23, 1862.

Jackson's army is defeated. The defeat holds thousands of Union soldiers in the valley and Washington who could have joined McClelland's army before Richmond

4 Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign: The Battle of McDowell; Jackson foils Union plan to attack his army from the east and west by defeating Gen. Fremont's army at McDowell

5 Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign: Ewell joins with Jackson, Jackson captures Front Royal and almost destroys Banks' Army at Winchester on May 25, 1862.

6 Jackson's 1862 Valley Campaign Jackson retires up the Valley and defeats Fremont at Cross Keys and then defeats Shields at Port Republic.

7 Analysis and importance of Jackson's Valley Campaign: What Confederate objectives were achieved, what were not. How did Jackson's victories affect the 7 days battle before Richmond?

8 Movie Shenandoah starring James Stewart part 1

9 Movie Shenandoah part 2

August-September 1862: Lee uses the Shenandoah Valley as an avenue of approach to his invasion of Maryland. Jackson and A.P. Hill commence the siege of Harper's Ferry,

capturing 16,000 Union soldiers. Lee's withdrawal and the Battle of Shepardstown.

10 October 1862- June 1863: The north end of the valley is occupied by Union forces commanded by Gen. Milroy. Milroy builds a fort at Winchester. In June 1863, Gen. Ewell's corps drives Milroy out of Winchester.

11 June-October 1863: After Gettysburg, the Valley district under Gen. Imboden is quiescent. Union forces are occupied with the Rappahannock Station operation and the Mine Run Offensive in November 1863.
Evaluation of control of the northern end of the Valley.

SYLLABUS: THE CIVIL WAR IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY PART TWO 1864-1865

LESSON

NO DESCRIPTION

1 U.S. Grant appointed commanding General all U.S. Forces. Grant's plan for winning the war requires Union forces in the Valley to drive Confederates out of the grain basket of the Confederacy

2 Franz Sigel takes command of Union forces in the Valley and organizes The

command into a field army.

3. Sigel's advance up the Valley and the Battle of New Market, May 15, 1864. Movie Field of Lost Shoes Part One

4 Movie Field of Lost Shoes Part Two. Sigel retires north to Winchester and Martinsburg.

5 Sigel relieved by David Hunter, Hunter's raid on Lynchburg Part one
Battle of Piedmont, burning VMI

6 Hunter's raid on Lynchburg Part 2. Confusion before Lynchburg-Hunter's army retreats over the Allegheny mountains

7 Jubal Early takes the initiative, commences a raid on Washington, marches down the Valley to cross over into Maryland, Battle of Monocacy and Ft. Stevens.

8 Sheridan appointed commander Army of the Shenandoah. Hunter is relieved. Sheridan spars with Early through August, 1864

9 Battle of Winchester September 19, 1864. Early defeated and retires to Fisher's Hill, Early driven off Fisher's Hill September 21, 1864.

10 Battle of Cedar Creek. Early surprises non forces in camp. Panic and near defeat. Sheridan rallies troops and repels Early's forces.

11 Denouement; Early's remnants retreat to Waynesboro. Sheridan's forces are reduced to one large division and Sheridan returns to Grant. Summary of the War in the Shenandoah Valley.