

SS8H6b

Key Events of the **Civil War**



Standards

SS8H6 The student will analyze the impact of the Civil War and Reconstruction on Georgia.

b. State the importance of key events of the Civil War; include Antietam, the Emancipation Proclamation, Gettysburg, Chickamauga, the Union blockade of Georgia's coast, Sherman's Atlanta Campaign, Sherman's March to the Sea, and Andersonville.

SS8H6b

Key Events of the
Civil War

Fort Sumter

- The Civil War began on April 12, 1861, when Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter.
 - Fort Sumter was a Union fort in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina.
- The Union forces inside Fort Sumter were already low on ammunition and food, so they surrendered the next day.
- Nobody was killed during the actual battle; however, one person was killed in a 50-gun salute to the flag.

Fort Sumter, South Carolina – Before the Civil War



Union Blockade

- Union leaders soon adopted General Winfield Scott's *Anaconda Plan*, which called for a naval blockade of Southern ports.
- Union ships lined the southern coast and would not let any Confederate ships in or out.
- Occasionally, blockade runners snuck through and were able to make it to Europe to trade for supplies.

Anaconda Plan, 1861



Whitworth Rifles in defense of Charleston.

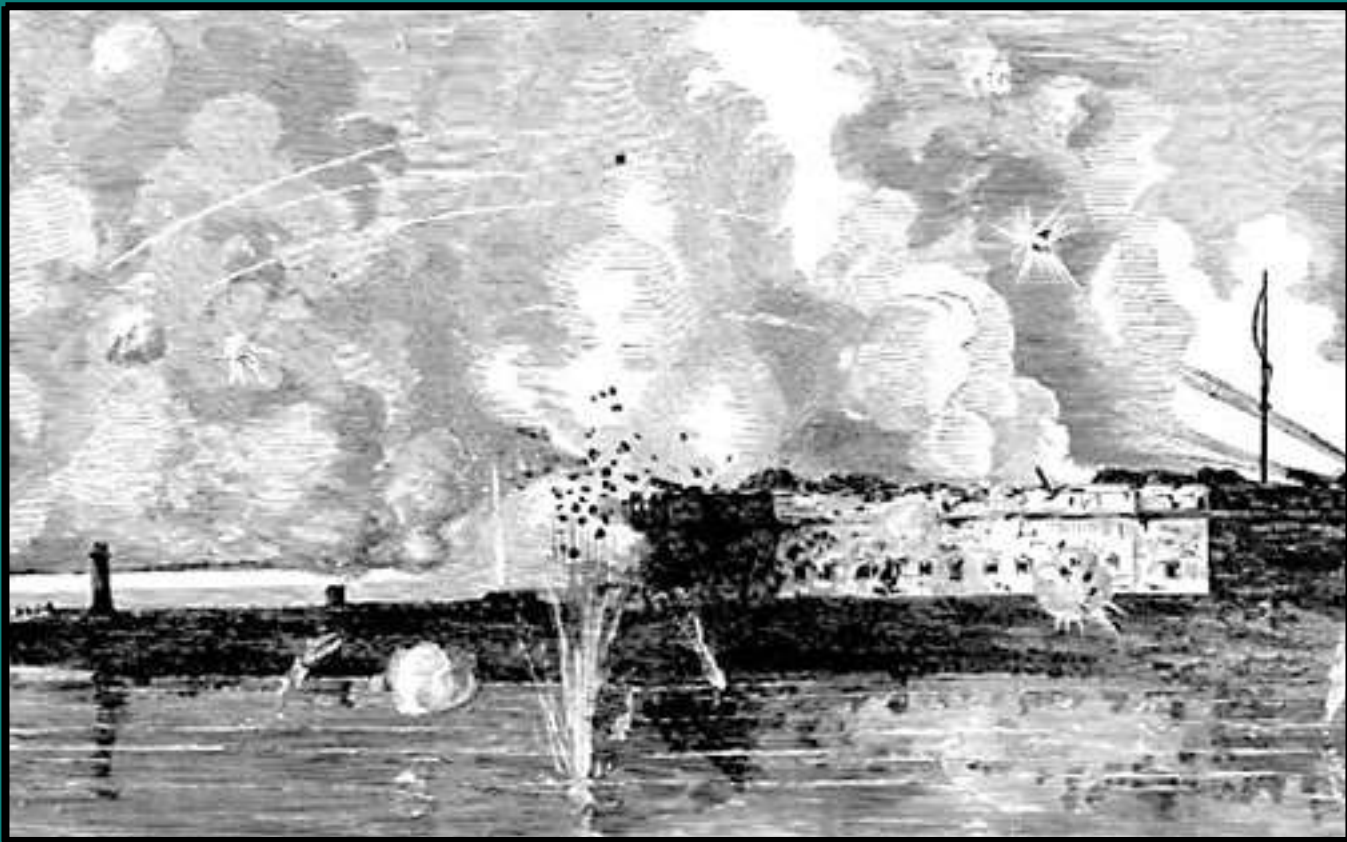




Union Battleship
off of Georgia's
Coast

Union Blockade

- In April 1862, Union soldiers landed on Tybee Island and captured Fort Pulaski, the fort protecting Savannah.
- Once the brick fort was obliterated, the North was able to blockade the important port of Savannah.
- Hardly any Confederate ship could make it in or out of Georgia.

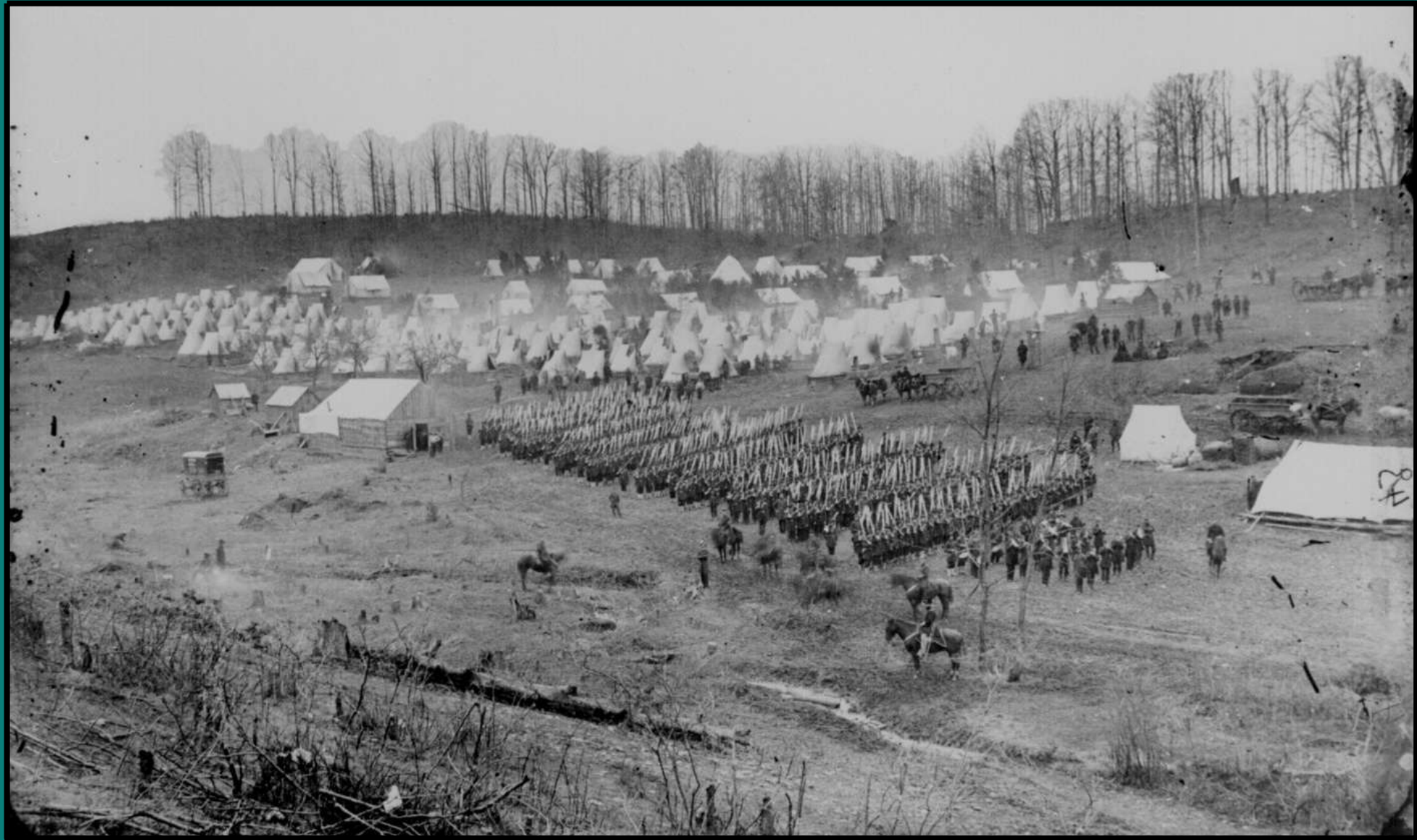


Fort Pulaski Bombardment

Antietam

- Confederate General Robert E. Lee wanted to bring the war to the North.
- The Battle of Antietam took place on September 17, 1862, between Antietam Creek and Sharpsburg, Maryland.
- It was the bloodiest one-day battle of the Civil War—over 26,000 soldiers were killed, wounded, or went missing that day.

Union Camp



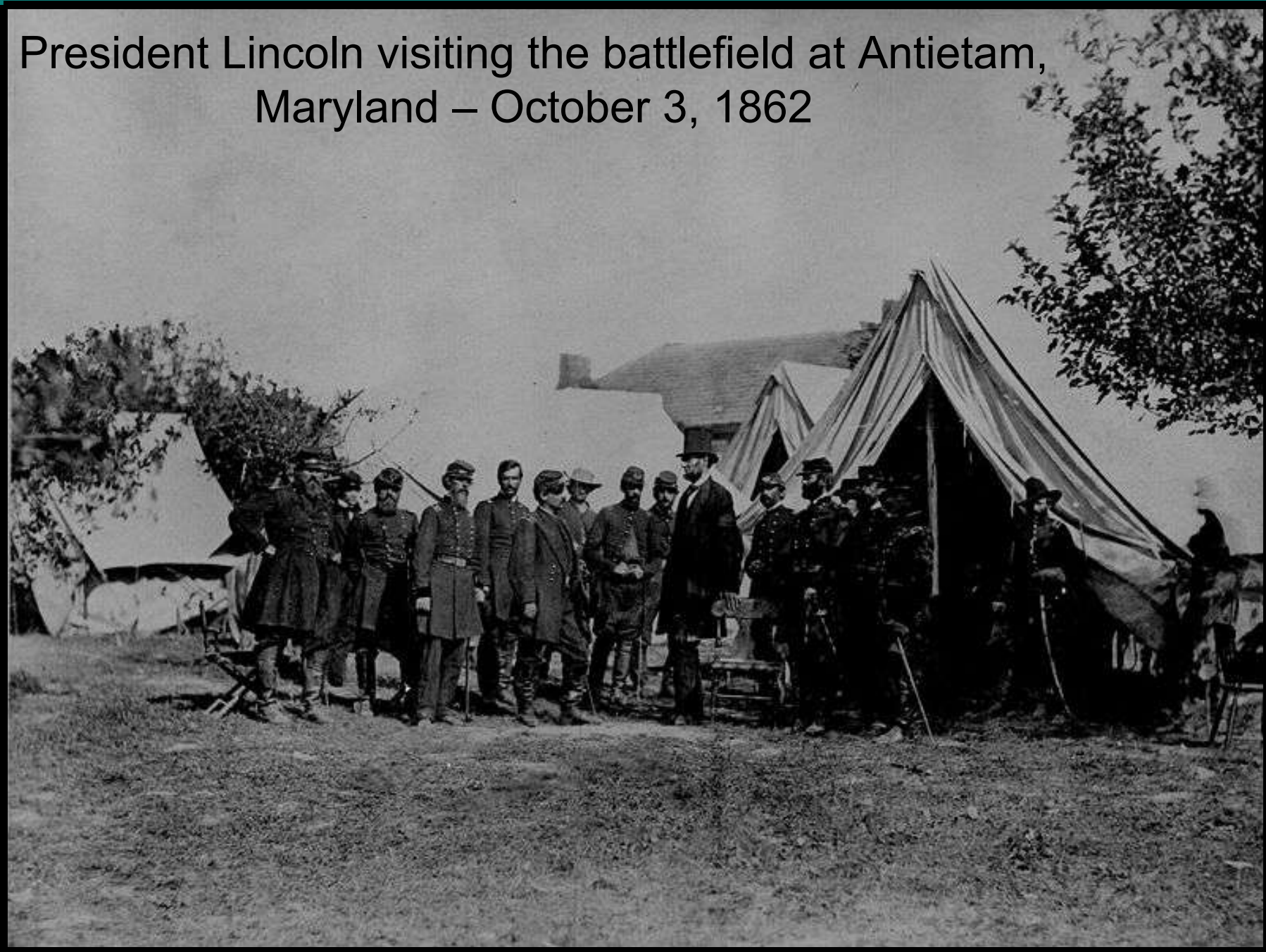
Confederate Camp



Antietam

- The battle ended in a draw; however, General Lee decided to withdraw from Maryland and return to Virginia.
- Lincoln claimed this a victory for the Union, and gained much needed support from Northerners who had blamed the president for previous losses.

President Lincoln visiting the battlefield at Antietam,
Maryland – October 3, 1862



Emancipation Proclamation

- After the Battle of Antietam, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.
- This freed all slaves in states fighting against the Union.
- Lincoln's proclamation shifted the focus of the Civil War – it was now a fight for freedom.



FREEDOM TO SLAVES!

Whereas, the President of the United States did, on the first day of the present month issue his *Proclamation* declaring "that, all persons held as Slaves in certain designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free," and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the Military and naval authorities thereof, would recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons. And Whereas, the County of Frederick is included in the territory designated by the Proclamation of the President, in which the Slaves should become free, I therefore hereby notify the citizens of the city of Winchester, and of said County, of said Proclamation, and of my intention to maintain and enforce the same,

I expect all citizens to yield a ready compliance with the Proclamation of the Chief Executive, and I admonish all persons disposed to resist its peaceful enforcement, that upon manifesting such disposition by acts, they will be regarded as rebels in arms against the lawful authority of the Federal Government and dealt with accordingly.

All persons liberated by said Proclamation are admonished to abstain from all violence, and immediatly betake themselves to useful occupations.

The officers of this command are admonished and ordered to act in accordance with said proclamation and to yield their ready co-operation in its enforcement.

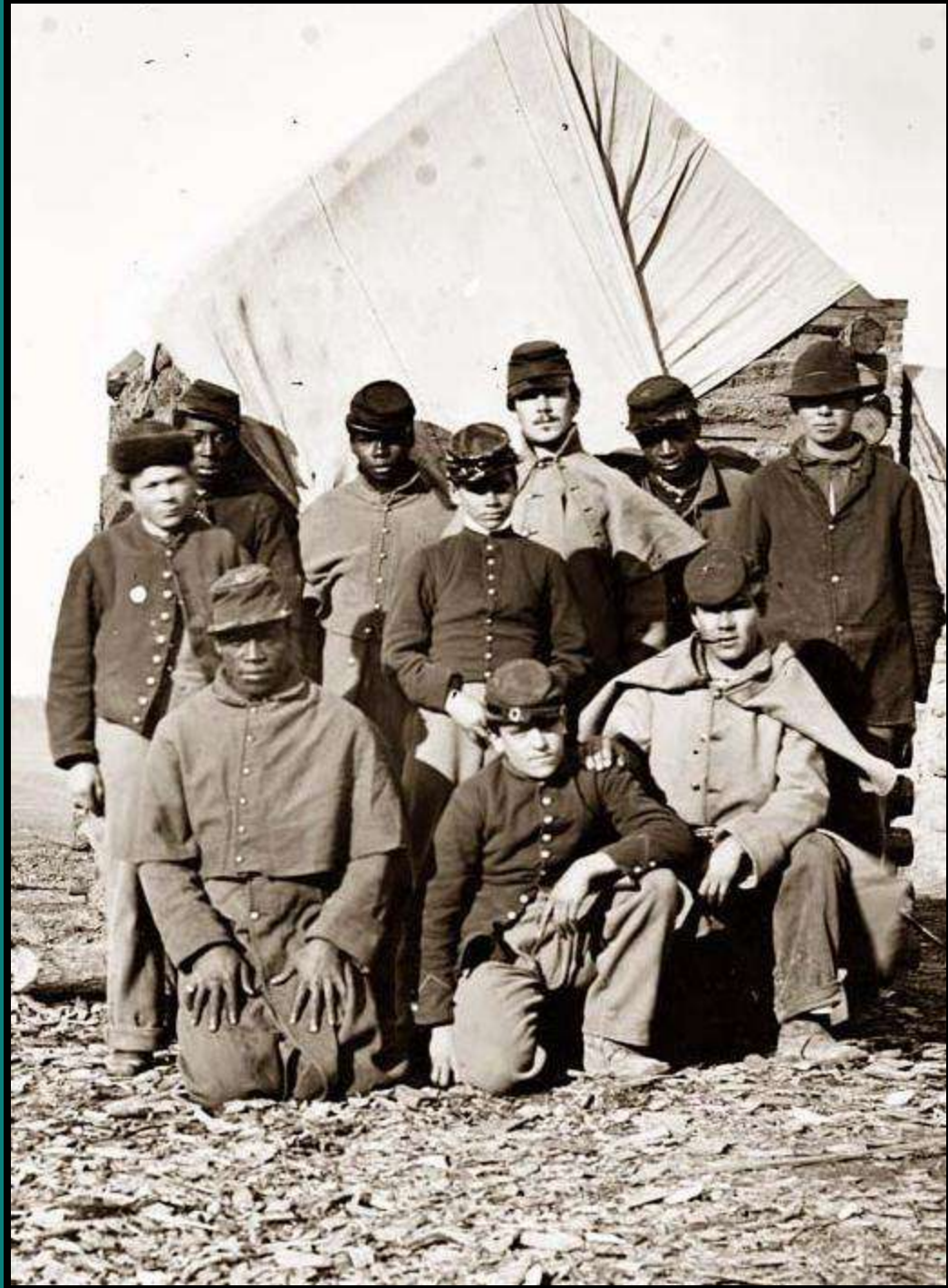
R. H. Milroy,
Brig. Gen'l Commanding.

Jan. 5th, 1863.

Emancipation Proclamation

- The order promised that the Union military would enforce the proclamation, and invited former slaves to join the Union army.
- Many African Americans enlisted and fought bravely, aware that they were fighting for the freedom of their people.

Many fugitive slaves fled to the Union Army. They were officially freed with the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.



Gettysburg

- The Battle at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania on July 1-3, 1863, was the turning point of the war.
- Confederate forces under Lee once again tried to invade the North, but they were stopped.
- The larger Union Army overwhelmed Lee's troops and won the battle.
- This Union victory left the South with no chance of winning the war.



Confederate
Soldiers
Outside
Gettysburg

Gettysburg

- Both sides experienced major losses of life -- more than 51,000 soldiers died on the battlefield.
- Due to the loss of a large portion of Lee's men, the South never invaded the North again.
- After this battle, the North began to put constant pressure on the South and was eventually able to invade and capture the Southern states.

Mortars during the Civil War



Gettysburg

- Afterwards, President Lincoln made a speech at a ceremony dedicating the site as a cemetery.
- The Gettysburg Address lasted only three minutes, but it is regarded as one of the most inspiring speeches in American history.
- In the speech, Lincoln said that the Civil War was to preserve a government “of the people, by the people, and for the people”.

The only confirmed photo of Lincoln at Gettysburg



Chickamauga

- Georgia was free from major battles during the first few years of the Civil War.
- In 1863, close to 58,000 Union troops moved into northwest Georgia where they battled the Confederate Army along Chickamauga Creek.
- The battle resulted in both sides losing over 16,000 men, and forced the Union Army to retreat back to Tennessee.

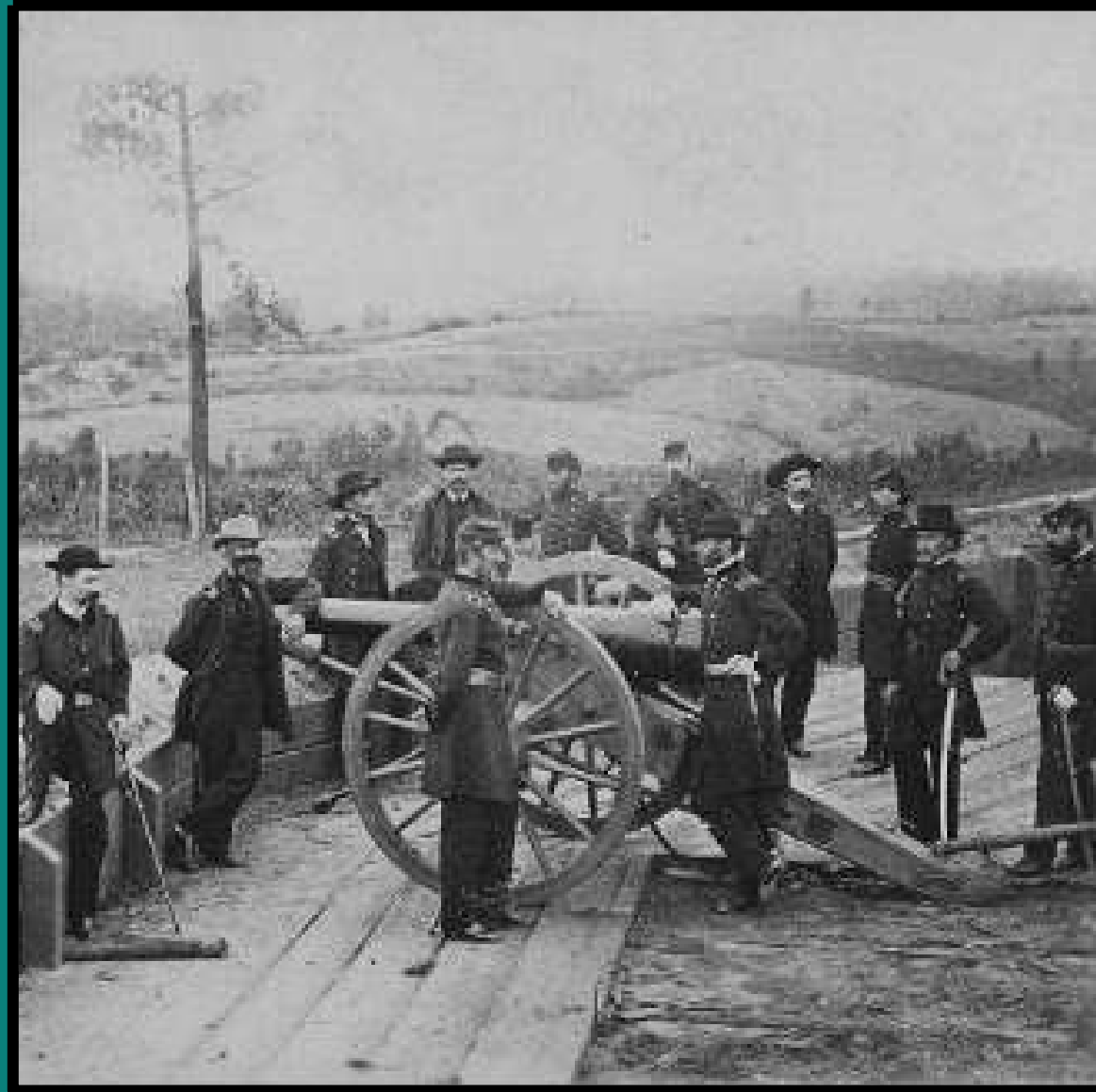
Battle of Chickamauga



Atlanta Campaign

- In 1864, General William Tecumseh Sherman moved his Union Army south from Tennessee to Atlanta.
- They fought Confederate soldiers along the way, leaving a path of destruction and chaos.
- On September 2, 1864, Sherman's troops captured Atlanta and set the city on fire.

General Sherman & His Officers in Atlanta



Atlanta's Peachtree Street after Sherman



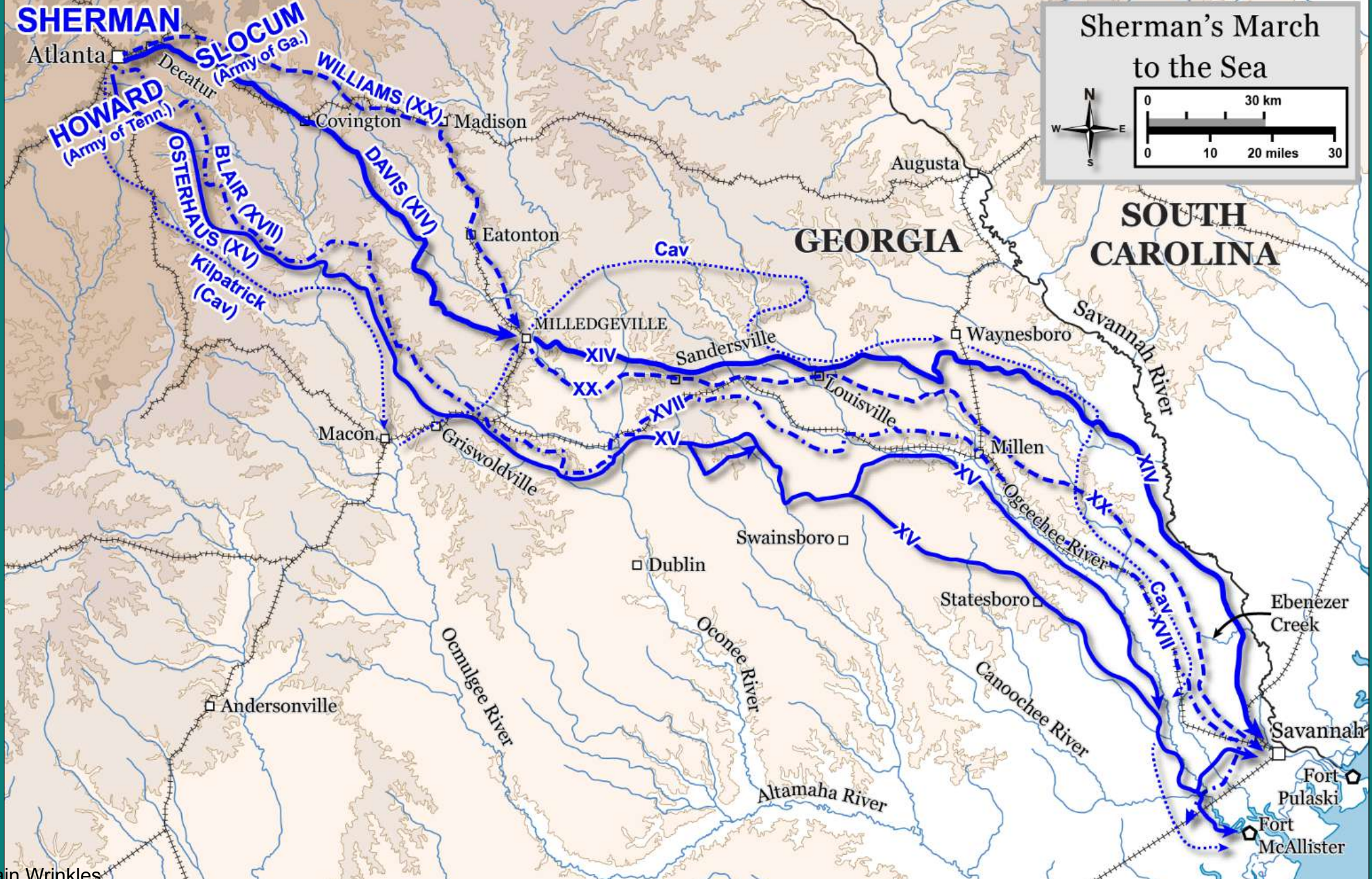
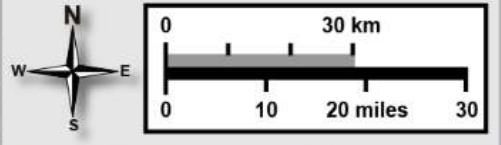
Destroyed Train Roundhouse in Atlanta

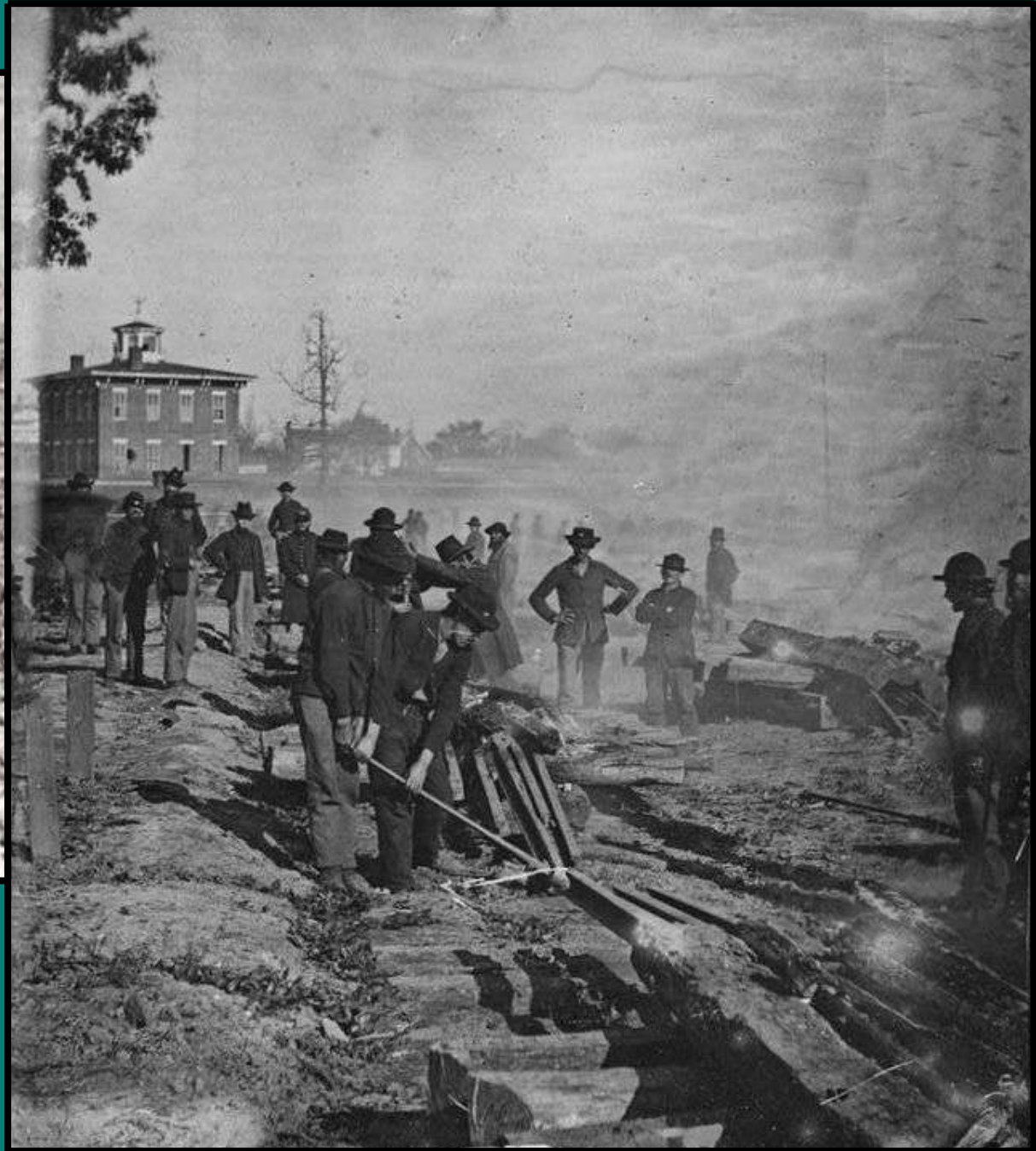


March to the Sea

- In November 1864, Sherman began his march through Georgia from Atlanta to Savannah.
 - His troops destroyed many towns and plantations along the way.
- Sherman's "March to the Sea" cut Confederate supply lines and crushed the spirit of the Confederate army.
 - They captured Savannah on December 21, 1864, and Sherman gave the city of Savannah to Abraham Lincoln as a Christmas gift.

Sherman's March to the Sea

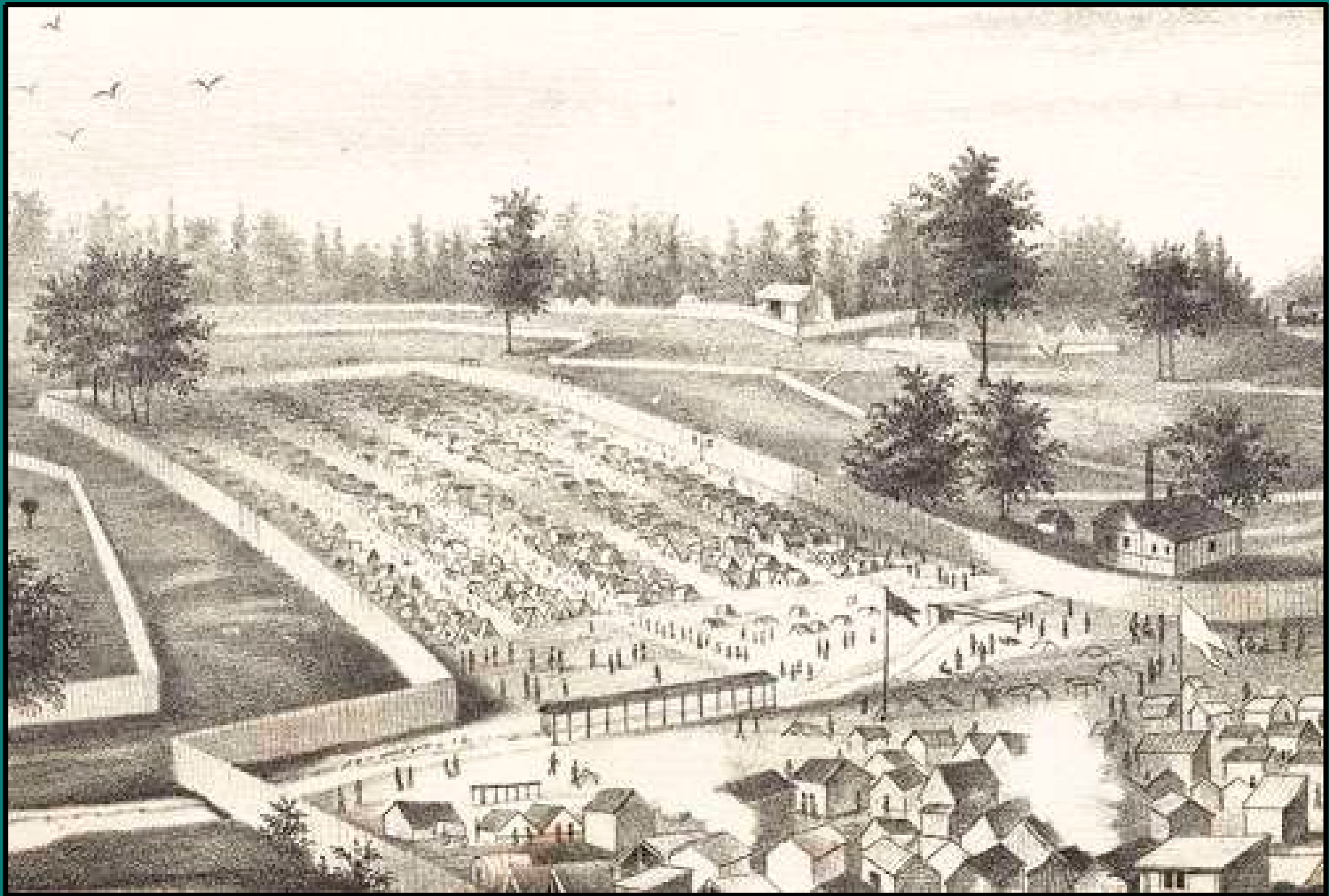


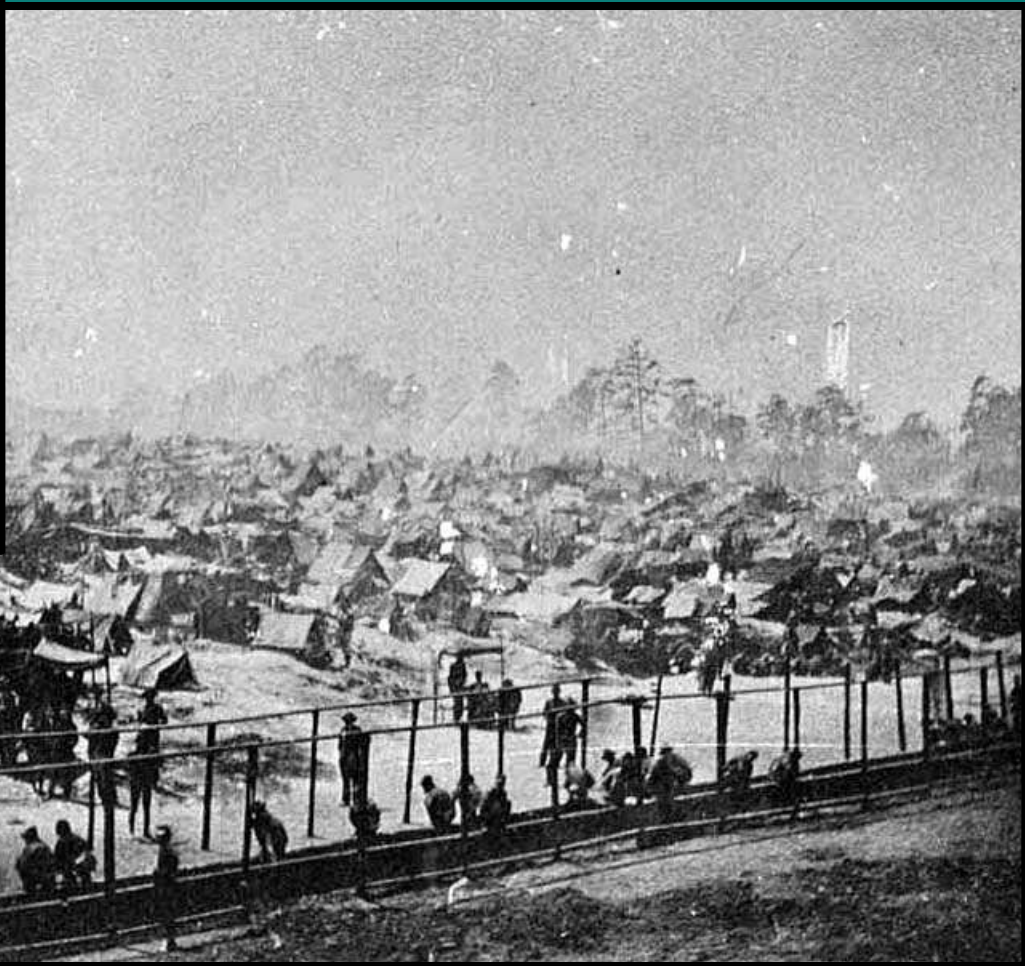
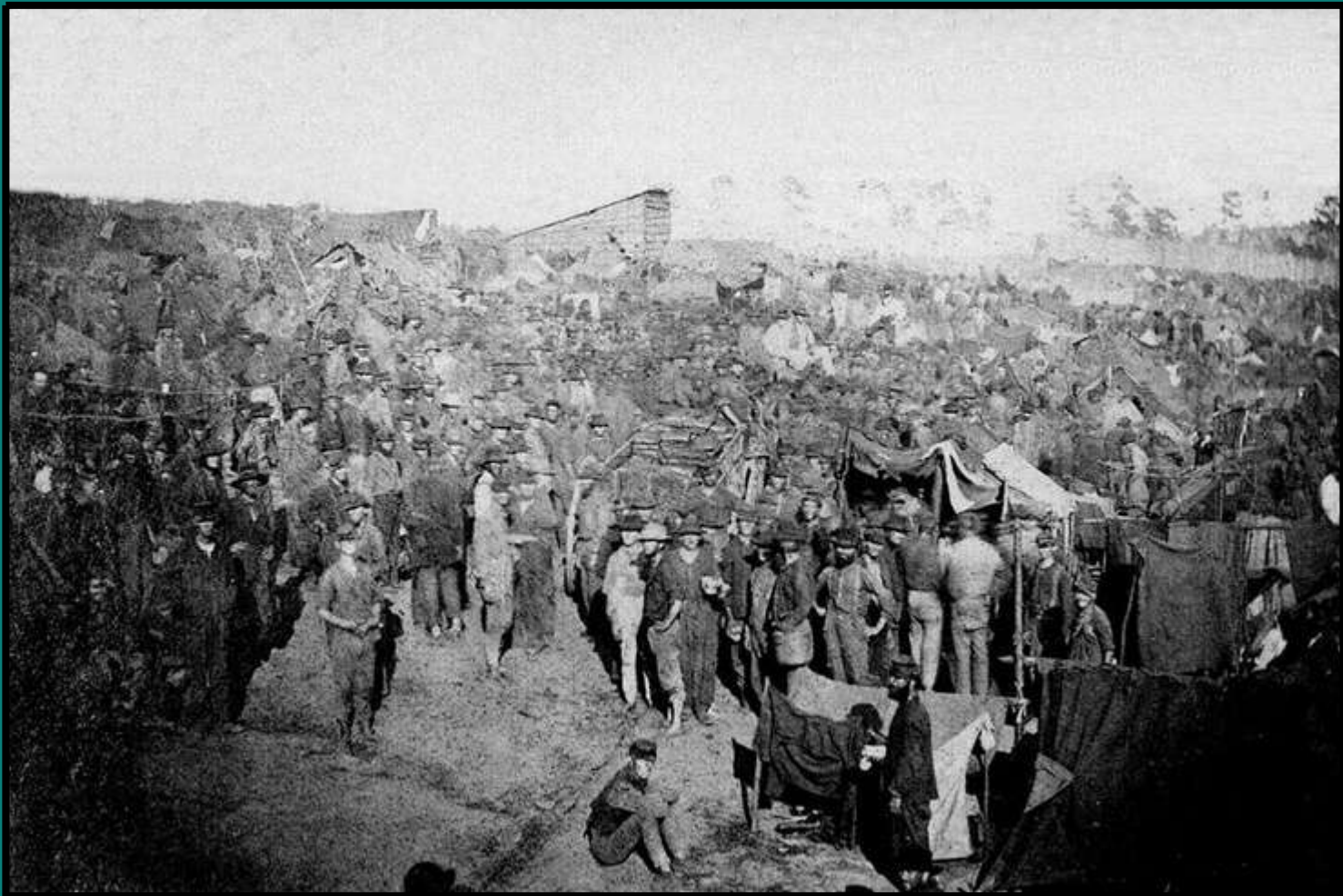


Sherman's Men Destroying Georgia's Railroads

Andersonville

- One of the most notorious sites of the Civil War was the Confederate prison camp in Andersonville, GA.
- The prison was overcrowded and unsanitary, and over 13,000 of the 45,000 captives died of disease and starvation.
- After the war, the Union captured and executed the prison's commander, Major Henry Wirz.

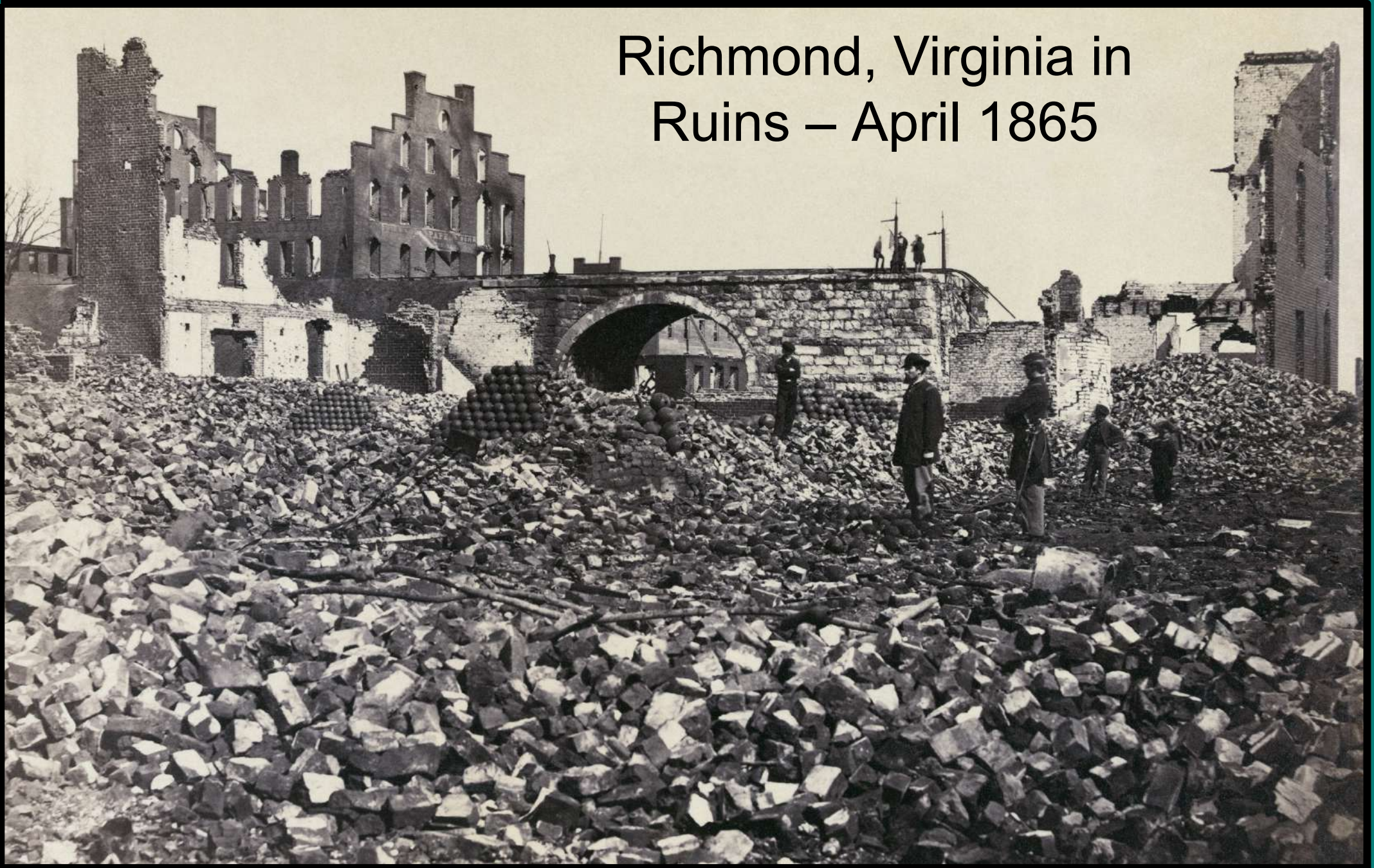




Appomattox

- In early April, Union troops finally took Richmond, Virginia, the capital of the Confederacy.
- On April 9, 1865, General Lee surrendered to General Grant at Wilmer McLean's house in the town of Appomattox Court House, Virginia.
- The Civil War was finally over.
 - Instead of celebrating, soldiers on both sides went home quietly.
- Just a few days later, on April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.

Richmond, Virginia in Ruins – April 1865



Union Army Soldiers— April 9, 1856
Appomattox Court House, VA



Robert E. Lee's Amnesty Oath to the US Constitution

October 2nd, 1865

Office of Notary Public

Rockbridge County, Va., *October 2nd* 1865.

AMNESTY OATH.

I *Robert E. Lee* of *Lexington Virginia*
do solemnly swear, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect
and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States thereunder, and that I
will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all laws and proclamations which have been made
during the existing rebellion with reference to the emancipation of slaves, so help me God.



Sworn to and subscribed before me, }
this *2nd* day of *October* 1865. }



Chas. A. Davidson NOTARY PUBLIC.

War's Effects

- The Civil War had major effects on the United States.
 - These effects were mostly positive in the northern and western parts of the country.
 - In the South, they were disastrous.
- The war had been fought mostly on Southern soil.
 - Many homes, cities, railroads, farms, etc., had been destroyed and had to be rebuilt after the war.
- But the southern states had little money to do so.
 - They were financially bankrupt and could not pay their war debts.