



# Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Major John C. Hutto Camp #443  
Jasper, Alabama

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December Christmas Party 2014 - Special  
Guest Speaker Alabama Division  
Chaplain Dr. Charles Baker

Major John C. Hutto Camp  
January Meeting Notice  
Sunday, 18 January 2015 - 2:30 PM  
First Methodist Church  
1800 Third Avenue  
Jasper, Alabama  
Speaker  
University of Georgia Professor  
Ray Herren - Athens, Georgia

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Alabama Division  
Lee - Jackson Day Montgomery  
Saturday, 24 January 2015 - 10:00am  
Special Guest  
Mrs. Mary Custis Lee  
See details *Alabama Confederate*,  
January 2015, pg. 7



Mary Anna Randolph Custis Lee (October 1, 1808 – November 5, 1873) was the wife of Gen. Robert E. Lee. They married at her parents' home, Arlington House, in Virginia on June 30, 1831. They had three sons and four daughters together: George Washington Custis, William H. Fitzhugh, Robert Edward Jr., Mary, Eleanor Agnes, Anne, and Mildred Lee.

Mary Lee was descended from several colonial and Southern families, including the Parke Custises, Fitzhughs, Dandrighes, Randolphs, Rolfes, and Gerards. Through her paternal grandmother, Eleanor Calvert, she descended from Lord Baltimore. Through her mother, Mary Lee Fitzhugh Custis, she was a descendant of William Fitzhugh. Mary Anna Custis Lee was the only surviving child of George Washington Parke Custis, George Washington's step-grandson and adopted son and founder of Arlington House, and Mary Lee Fitzhugh Custis, daughter of William Fitzhugh and Ann Bolling Randolph Fitzhugh. She was born at Annefield in Clarke County, Virginia when her mother's coach stopped there during a journey. She was well educated, studying both Latin and Greek.



Robert E. Lee around age 43

Mary Lee enjoyed discussing politics with her father, and later with her husband. She kept current with the new literature. After her father's death, she edited and published his writings as *Recollections and Private Memoirs of Washington*, by his Adopted Son George Washington Parke Custis.

Mary Lee was diminutive and vivacious.

She had known Robert E. Lee from childhood. Robert E. Lee's father Henry had delivered the eulogy to a crowd of 4000 at George Washington's 1799 funeral. Among Mary Anna's other suitors was Sam Houston.

Mary Lee inherited Arlington House from her father after he died in 1857. The estate had long been the couple's home whenever they were in the area during her husband's military career. She was a gracious hostess and enjoyed frequent visitors. She was a painter, like her father, and painted many landscapes, some of which are still on view at the house. She loved roses and grew eleven varieties.

Deeply religious, Lee attended Episcopal services when there was one near the army post. From Arlington, Virginia, the Lees attended Christ Church (Alexandria, Virginia) in Alexandria, which she and Robert had both attended in childhood.

With the advent of the War for Southern Independence, Robert and their sons were called to service in Virginia. Mary Custis Lee delayed evacuating Arlington House until May 15, 1861. Early that month, Robert wrote to his wife saying:

War is inevitable, and there is no telling when it will burst around you . . . You have to move and make arrangements to go to some point of safety which you must select. The Mount Vernon plate and pictures ought to be secured. Keep quiet while you remain, and in your preparations . . . May God keep

and preserve you and have mercy on all our people.

Mary Custis Lee and her daughters initially moved among the several family plantations. In May 1862, she was caught at her son Rooney's White House Plantation in New Kent County behind the Federal lines, as Union forces moved up the York and the Pamunkey rivers toward Richmond. Mary and her daughters escaped the enemy and took up residence in Richmond.

Mary Lee and her daughters settled at 707 East Franklin Street in Richmond for a time. The family next moved to the plantation estate of the Cocke family at Bremo Bluff, where they sought refuge until after the end of the war in late 1865.

After the war, the Lees lived in Powhatan County for a short time before moving to Lexington. There Robert E Lee became president of the Washington College, later renamed Washington and Lee University. Mary Custis Lee visited her beloved Arlington House once more before her death, but was unable to leave her horse carriage. She hardly recognized the estate except for a few old oaks and some of the trees she and Robert had planted.

Mary Custis Lee died three years after her husband at the age of 66. She is buried next to him in the Lee family crypt at Lee Chapel on the campus of Washington and Lee.



### **Arlington House National Cemetery**

Arlington House was stolen from the Lee family and converted into a national cemetery during the War for Southern Independence

Today Arlington National Cemetery, located across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C., is considered the most hallowed ground in the United States. Veterans of every one of the nation's wars are interred there, as well as two presidents, a number of Supreme Court justices, and many members of Congress.

The cemetery has a long and fascinating history. It was originally the estate of a family related to George Washington, and its most prominent resident was Robert E. Lee, who called the estate home in the years just before the war.

As the war began in the spring of 1861, the spectacular view from Arlington House was

suddenly a serious military threat. If the Confederates had secured that high ground, they could have lobbed artillery shells into the city of Washington.

The Union Army War Department dispatched troops across the Potomac River to seize Arlington House, and for the rest of the war the estate was occupied by the Union Army. Later in the war, as a deliberate act to ensure Lee could never return, the estate was turned into a cemetery for Union war dead.

Since its first burial - of a Union private - in 1864, the cemetery has become a national icon. Its grounds are the final resting place for approximately 400,000 Americans, and 3 million tourists visit the grounds annually. Popular sites for tourists are the grave of President John F. Kennedy, the Tomb of the Unknowns, and the Custis-Lee Mansion.

Before Arlington became a cemetery the 600 acres of the current cemetery was part of a grant of land given in 1669 to Robert Howsen by the governor of Virginia, Sir William Berkeley. The land later passed to the Alexander family, and in the late 1700s it was sold to John Parke Custis, the son of Martha Washington and stepson of George Washington.

John Parke Custis, who served as an officer with his stepfather in the Revolutionary War, died soon after the war's end. His infant son, George Washington Parke Custis, would spend much of his childhood living with George and Martha Washington.

When G.W.P. Custis turned 21 he inherited vast amounts of Virginia real estate, including several farms and a large number of slaves. For his own residence, he chose the hill with the spectacular view of the new federal city, and began planning a mansion which would become known as Arlington House.

On June 30, 1831, a young Army officer, Robert E. Lee, married Mary Custis, the only child of G.W.P. Custis, in the mansion's drawing room.

Robert E. Lee was often absent from Virginia while performing his military service, but in the late 1850s, following the death of G.W.P. Custis, Arlington House became his home. On the eve of the War for Southern Independence, Lee wrote the letter resigning his commission in the U.S. Army in the Arlington Mansion.

Under Union occupation, the quartermaster general of the Union Army, Montgomery Meigs, kept his headquarters at Arlington House. One of the many problems Meigs faced in early 1864 was finding room to bury the increasing numbers of dead soldiers. General Meigs, who was bitter about Robert E. Lee having gone to the Confederate side, made Lee's home a cemetery for Union war dead.

The first military grave to be dug at Arlington was for Private William Henry Christman of the 67th Pennsylvania Infantry. Christman was buried on May 13, 1864.

On June 15, 1864, the grounds of Arlington House were officially established as a national cemetery by the federal government. Robert E. Lee made no attempt to visit or restore his title to Arlington House before his death in 1870. Mary Lee died in 1873, having visited the house only once, a few months before her death. Too upset at its condition, she refused to enter and left after just a few moments.

In April 1874, Robert E. Lee's eldest son, George Washington Custis Lee, filed suit against the United States government in a Virginia circuit court to regain his property. A jury found in favor of Lee, leading to extensive appeals by both parties. In 1882, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled in favor of Lee in *United States v. Lee*. The court, by a 5-4 majority, found that the estate had been "illegally confiscated" in 1864 and ordered it returned. But Lee was less interested in obtaining the estate than he was in just compensation for it. After several months of difficult negotiations, Lee and the federal government settled for \$150,000 (\$3,796,607 in 2014 dollars)

By the end of the war, about 5,000 soldiers had been buried at Arlington. In the years following the war, a grim job began of removing bodies from temporary graves at battlefields and relocating them to national cemeteries. Many bodies were reburied at Arlington, and an elaborate granite tomb containing the remains of 2,111 unknown soldiers was built near the mansion house.

One of the first barbarous acts by Major

General Montgomery C. Meigs when formal authorization for burials began was to immediately institute a ban on the decoration of the few Confederate graves at Arlington National Cemetery.

Confederate military personnel were among those initially buried at Arlington. Most Confederate soldiers buried at Arlington were buried there by accident. In 1865, General Meigs built a monument to war dead in a grove of trees near the flower garden south of the Arlington House.

The bodies of 2,111 Union and Confederate dead within a 35-mile radius of the city of Washington, D.C., were collected. Some of the dead had been interred on the battlefield, but most were full or partial remains discovered unburied where they died in combat. None were identifiable.

Although Meigs had not intended to collect the remains of Confederate war dead, the inability to identify remains meant that both Union and Confederate dead were interred below the cenotaph he built. The vault was sealed in September 1866. Other Confederate battlefield dead were also buried at Arlington, and by the end of the war in April 1865 several hundred of the more than 16,000 graves at Arlington contained Confederate dead.

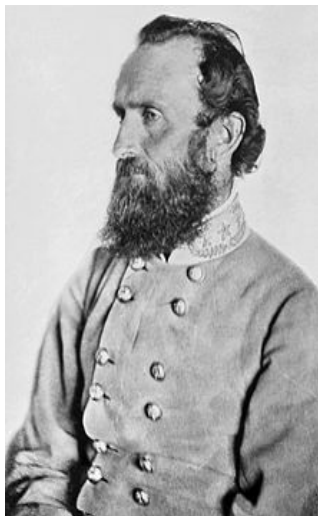
The federal government did not permit the decoration of Confederate graves at the cemetery. As Quartermaster General, Meigs had charge of the Arlington cemetery (he did not retire until February 6, 1882), and he

refused to give families of Confederates buried there permission to lay flowers on their loved ones' graves. In 1868, when families asked to lay flowers on Confederate graves on Decoration Day (now known as Memorial Day), Meigs ordered that the families be barred from the cemetery.

Union veterans' organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR; whose membership was open only to Union soldiers) also felt that rebel graves should not be decorated. In 1869, GAR members stood watch over Confederate graves at Arlington National Cemetery to ensure they were not visibly honored on Decoration Day. Cemetery officials also refused to allow the erection of any monument to Confederate dead and declined to permit new Confederate burials (either by reburial or through the death of veterans). Fifty years passed after the first burial at Arlington Cemetery, before Confederate dead are recognized at Arlington Cemetery.



## Thomas Jonathan “Stonewall” Jackson & Mary Anna Jackson



General Jackson's portrait, taken at a Spotsylvania County farm on April 26, 1863, seven days before he was wounded at the Battle of Chancellorsville <http://www.stonewalljackson.org/faq.html>

Thomas Jonathan Jackson was born on January 21, 1824 in Clarksburg, Virginia (now West Virginia) to Julia Neale Jackson and Jonathan Jackson.

Jackson's nickname “Stonewall” was first applied to him at the First Battle of Manassas on July 21, 1861 by Confederate General Bernard Bee. Inspired by Jackson's resolve in the face of the enemy, Bee called out to his men to inspire them: “Look, men! There is Jackson standing like a stone wall! Let us determine to die here, and we will conquer!” Exactly what General Bee said will never be known, but this version was published in the Charleston Mercury on July 25, 1861 and reprinted in the Richmond Daily Dispatch and Lexington Gazette.

Jackson was accidentally wounded by friendly

fire at Chancellorsville on May 2, 1863 by a soldier or soldiers of the 18th North Carolina Infantry Regiment. Jackson was shot twice through the left arm and once through the right hand. His left arm was removed two inches below his shoulder by Dr. Hunter McGuire in an effort to save his life. Jackson was then removed to Guiney Station to convalesce. Jackson's condition continued to decline; he developed pneumonia and died on May 10, 1863. His last words were “Let us cross over the river and rest under the shade of the trees.” Jackson was buried on May 15, 1863, in the Lexington Presbyterian Cemetery. The cemetery, now called the Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery, is located on Main Street in Lexington, Virginia.

After Jackson left Lexington to fight for the Confederacy, Mary Anna left Virginia to live with her parents in North Carolina. She chose to remain at her parents' home after Jackson died. Mary Anna then rented the house out for a period before selling it to a chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in the early 20th century. For nearly fifty years, the house - with many additions - served as the only hospital for Rockbridge County. When the hospital moved to its current location, the house was operated as a shrine to Jackson. In 1979, the house was restored to its appearance during the period of Jackson occupancy and reopened to the public.





Mary Anna Jackson never remarried.

After Jackson's death, she and Julia returned to her "Cottage Home," her parents' home in Lincoln County, North Carolina, where they stayed until

1873. Mary Anna and Julia then moved to Charlotte for six years, and subsequently spent two years in Baltimore while Julia attended school. After Julia completed her formal education, the two women generally spent winters in Richmond and summers visiting Lexington, though they never stayed in the Washington Street house. When Julia married, Mary Anna joined her household, first in Richmond and then for a brief period in San Diego before returning to North Carolina. Mary Anna lived the rest of her life in Charlotte, although she frequently traveled to visit friends and family, and to attend Confederate Veterans' events. Mary Anna died in 1915, and is buried in Stonewall Jackson Memorial Cemetery next to her husband.

Stonewall Jackson House  
8 E. Washington Street  
Lexington, VA 24450

## HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

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Commander . . . . .	James Blackston
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Cmd. . . . .	John Tubbs
2nd Lt. Cmd. . . . .	Brandon Prescott
Adjutant . . . . .	Trent Harris
Chaplain . . . . .	Barry Cook
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The ***Rebel Underground***, is the official monthly publication of the Major John C. Hutto Camp #443. All members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are invited to submit articles. Articles published are not necessarily the views or opinions of the Executive Board or the Editor.

The ***Rebel Underground*** is dedicated to bringing our readers the very best in coverage of important news concerning Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We are not ashamed of our Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We dare to defend our rights.