



The Battle of Lee's Mill

# First months of the Peninsula Campaign

In the early spring of 1862, the Union Army of the Potomac landed at Fort Monroe at the tip of the Virginia "Peninsula" formed by the James and York Rivers. The battle of the Ironclads March 9 had cleared Hampton Roads, enabling the

Federal water transports to land unmolested. Union Gen. George McClellan hoped to march west on the Peninsula and capture Richmond, less than 100 miles away. Confederates, led by Gen. John Magruder, manned strong fortifications behind the Warwick River, holding off the Federal juggernaut for a month before making a fighting withdrawal through Williamsburg in early May. The Confederate armies fell back to the Richmond defenses and were pinned down by mid-May.

**John V. Quarstein**, our guide, is an award winning historian, preservationist, and author. John has served as the director of the Virginia War Museum since 1978. He oversees the management of the City of Newport News' historic properties including Endview Plantation, Lee Hall Mansion, Young's Mill, and the Newsome House as well as serving as the historical advisor for the Mariners' Museum's U.S.S. Monitor Center project. Quarstein is the author of seven books.

Explore sites such as: (as time allows)

- Fort Monroe
- Congress Cumberland Overlook
- U.S.S. Monitor
- Lee Hall Mansion (Magruder's headquarters)
- Lee's Mill
- Battle of Williamsburg Redoubts 1,2,& 6
- Dam #1



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