

THE FORT COLLIER DISPATCH

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QUARTERLY NEWS AND NOTES ABOUT THE FORT COLLIER CIVIL WAR CENTER
AND STINE FARM MUSEUM IN WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

Fundraising Project Announced To Preserve Fort Collier Barn

Although the bank barn on the grounds of Fort Collier was built after the Civil War, it represents an integral part of one family's story of recovery from the war's devastation.

In 1865, Isaac Stine and his family returned to the destroyed Stine property and re-built the house and the barn into a prosperous farm using some of the original stone foundations.

The barn now faces serious structural issues, so the Fort Collier Board is raising money to preserve it structurally. Our goal is to raise at least \$30,000. A donor has promised matching funds for each dollar donated up to \$15,000. To donate, use the QR code on the next page or mail a check or bring it to the September Open House.



September 19-20 Open House Includes Living History Camp

Fort Collier will host its 2026 Open House, Saturday and Sunday, September 19-20, to commemorate the 162nd anniversary of its crucial role in the Third Battle of Winchester. In addition, the Open House will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the non-profit Fort Collier Civil War Center.

Highlights of the Open House will include a living history encampments of Civil War reenactors from the 7th Virginia and the 124th New York Infantry regiments.

Free tours of the grounds and the Stine House Museum will be offered. Refreshments will be available, and parking at Fort Collier is free. Follow the Fort Collier Civil War Center on Facebook for further updates and details.





See New Signage at Fort Collier

Recently, the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District installed a sign at Fort Collier as part of the district's Long Road to Freedom trail.

The sign explores the role two freedom seekers, Henry Dilworth and Dennis Taylor, played in providing information to Union General Nathaniel P. Banks about Fort Collier and the defenses of Winchester in early 1862.

The sign was written by Jonathan Noyalas, Director of the Shenandoah University McCormick Civil War Institute and Secretary of the Fort Collier Civil War Center's Board of Directors.

Support Our Mission to Preserve "Where History Comes Alive"

The Fort Collier Civil War Center is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization.

Annual membership is \$50 per person, and additional donations are always welcome, especially for our efforts to preserve and restore the Stine barn.



Extensive Archaeology Dig Reveals Civil War and Farm Relics, including Bivouac Site

An archaeological dig on the property north of Fort Collier is being conducted this summer. This property is not part of the Civil War Center's current 10 acres but was part of the original Stine farm and would have seen activity during the Civil War.

As of July, the archeological team has discovered various artifacts, including small gauge rails, approximately 20-30 bullets (including one that is carved), lots of horseshoes, farm implements, and evidence of a wartime campsite.

Many of these artifacts will be on display in the Stine House Museum during September's Open House.

Why Attend Fort Collier's September 19-20 Open House?

Attend the September 19-20 Open House and you'll be able to:

- Explore the site of America's largest Cavalry Charge vs. infantry (during the 3rd Battle of Winchester)
- Tour the grounds and the restored Stine House Museum – packed with family and Civil War memorabilia
- Walk the battleground and earthwork fortifications
- Visit the restored family cemetery with graves of Rachel and Benjamin Stine and other family members
- Meet with Civil War re-enactors
- Purchase souvenir Fort Collier T-shirts
- Meet members of the Board of the Fort Collier Civil War Center