This house was built in 1870 and later on the foundation or site of the earlier Henry House. At the time of the Civil War, the Henry House, a 1½-story frame house, was the home of Judith Carter Henry, an 85-year-old widow. Her husband, Dr. Isaac Henry, whom she had married in 1801, was a U.S. Navy surgeon who died in 1829. Judith Henry was a daughter of Landon Carter of Pennsylvania. The farm, 333 acres, was originally included in George Carter's portion of the Lower Bull Run Tract, which had been patented in the 1720's by Robert "King" Carter when he was agent for the proprietary.

According to the legend, the ancient Judith Henry was moved from the house on a litter when the fighting on Henry Hill began on July 21, 1861. She asked to be returned to the house, however, and was then struck by a stray shell. After the battle, the house was allegedly chopped into pieces and carried off by sightseers as souvenirs. The house burned during the Battle of 2nd Manassas.

The present house on the site was constructed in 1870 and later, the first part having been built by a Confederate veteran named Andrew Norman. This fact was revealed in about 1920 when Mr. Norman visited the battlefield and, beside his signature which he made in a visitor's guest book, wrote, "I built this house in 1870."

In the 1920's the Henry farm was acquired from Arthur Lee Henry, and the Henry House was operated as a historical museum by the Sons of the Confederate Veterans, a genealogical and patriotic organization whose members are descended from Confederate veterans. The caretaker of (continued)
old locust trees, are two memorials dating to the Civil War. Directly east of the Henry House, about 40 feet away, is the first Bull Run monument. It consists of a pyramid of shaped and roughly coursed sandstone surrounded by four blocks or piers of red sandstone. Each corner pier was originally topped by a large parrott shell. (Two of the shells were removed by the MPS, and the remaining two were stolen in June 1980.) The central pyramid, however, still retains its shell. The pyramid is inscribed on the west side, "In/Memory/ of the Patriots/who fell at/Bull Run/July 21, 1861," and on the east side, "Erected/June 10, 1865." The whole monument rests on a raised grassy mound measuring about 25 feet square, and the monument is enclosed by a rail fence. A NPS-erected marker explains that the monument was "Erected in the Spring and Winter of 1865 by Gamble's Federal Cavalry Brigade, then stationed at Fairfax Court House. It was dedicated with elaborate civic and military ceremonies on 10 June 1865." The stones for the monument may have come from the foundation of Pittsylvania, the mid-18th century Carter plantation house that was once the core of a large Bull Run estate. Pittsylvania was burned by Union soldiers in 1862. According to a Park historian, the rumor that the bodies of Union soldiers killed on this hill were buried in a mass grave under the monument is not true.

In a small fenced plot west of the Henry House is the burial ground containing the grave of, among others, Judith Henry. The inscription on Judith Henry's stone marker explains that she was killed in her 85th year by a shell that exploded in her house.

There is another monument identical to the Union monument described above, erected at the same time by Gamble's Brigade and located near the unfinished railroad, also known as the "deep cut." It was dedicated to the patriots who fell August 29, 29, 30, 1862.

HISTORY (Cont.)

the museum was a one-armed veteran named Adiniron Powell. In the late 1930's, the Department of the Interior acquired the Henry farm and house from the Sons of the Confederate Veterans and included it in the National Battlefield Park.

There are at present no plans for the future use of the Henry House.

PUBLISHED SOURCES (Cont.)


Hanson, Joseph Mills, Bull Run Remembers (c1953), p.

"Battlefield Monuments Constructed 100 Years Ago," in Manassas Journal-Messenger, 10 June 1965.
Published sources (Books, articles, etc., with bibliographic data.)
Primary sources (Manuscript documentary or graphic materials; give location.)
Battlefield Park Visitor Center files include information on Henry House.

Names and addresses of persons interviewed: Stuart Vogt, MNHP Historian and Acting Superintendent.

Plan (Indicate locations of rooms, doorways, windows, alterations, etc.)

Site plan (Locate and identify outbuildings, dependencies and significant topographical features.)

Name, address and title of recorder: Frances Jones, Architectural Historian - Surveyor, NYPOC

Date: SEP 1980