

From: WilliamsburgBattlefield Association <williamsburgbattlefield@gmail.com>
Subject: Egger Tract - SAVED !!!
Date: January 2, 2022 at 1:09:27 PM EST
To: undisclosed-recipients;

Dear Friends,

2021 ended with a big bang, loud pop, and jubilant cheer for the WBA! We learned on December 30 that the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) had secured ownership and perpetual preservation of the Egger Tract! This 250-acre tract encompasses the afternoon phase of the May 5, 1862 Battle of Williamsburg. The preservation of this important tract has been years in the making and couldn't have been successful without your support, encouragement, and letters, calls, and emails to your local and state representatives. Please see the attached [article from the *Virginia Gazette*](#) confirming this exciting news and the amazing collaborative effort it took to bring about this success as the last particles of sand funneled through the 2021 hourglass.

While this is a great victory and we celebrate it, our work is not over. The WBA will now transition from preservation advocacy to stewardship responsibility. First, the WBA will work with the ABT to apply for rezoning of and tax abatement on the Egger Tract. Second, we will help the ABT promote a fundraising campaign this winter to cover the costs it will incur for surveys, studies, etc. on the property. It is important that a significant local presence supports this fundraising campaign and demonstrates interest in developing this site as a place for education and economic development through travel and tourism. Lastly, we hope to provide public archaeology on this site, and it is, therefore, incumbent upon all of us to protect this site from inappropriate and illegal trespassing, metal detecting, and digging. This land and any features, artifacts, and remains on and under it are historically significant to our collective American story. Nobody wants to read a story with pages out of order or missing. Please report any illegal or suspicious behavior you see on the property to the WBA, ABT, or York County Sheriff's office. Let's be good stewards of this national treasure!