

## FIFTY-THIRD PENNSYLVANIA INFANTRY

The Fifty-Third Pennsylvania Infantry was organized at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, during October, 1861. When mustered into Federal service the regiment numbered eight hundred and fourteen officers and enlisted men.

More detailed information has been found on the various companies of the regiment. This material is shown below.

"A"	men from Montgomery County
"B"	men from Montgomery and Chester Counties
"C"	men from Blair and Huntingdon Counties
"D"	men from Centre and Clearfield Counties
"E"	men from Union and Carbon Counties
"F"	men from Luzerne County
"G"	men from Potter County
"H"	men from Northumberland County
"I"	men from Juniata County
"K"	men from Westmoreland County

Like almost all Civil War units the Fifty-Third Pennsylvania Infantry was frequently known by an alternate designation derived from the name of its commanding officer. Names of this type used by or for the regiment are shown below.

S ————— John R. Brooke's Infantry  
William M. Mintzer's Infantry  
Richard McMichael's Infantry  
George C. Anderson's Infantry  
Thomas Yaeger's Infantry  
S. Octavius Bull's Infantry  
George D. Pifer's Infantry

JEA

On November 7, 1861 the regiment was ordered to Washington, D. C. There it joined the Army of the Potomac. The regiment served with that Army for its entire career. The list below shows the specific higher command assignments of the regiment.

French's Brigade, Sumner's Division, Army of the Potomac	Nov. 1861 - March 1862
Third Brigade, First Division, II Corps, Army of the Potomac	March 1862 - April 1863
Fourth Brigade, First Division, II Corps, Army of the Potomac	April 1863 - June 1865

The Fifty-Third Pennsylvania Infantry participated in more than sixty various type engagements during its career. These are identified below. Numbers after the events locate them on the map following this history.

Advance on Manassas, Va. (1)	March 10 - 15, 1862
Siege, Yorktown, Va. ,(2)	April 5 - May 4, 1862
Construction of Grape Vine Bridge, Chickahominy River, Va. (3)	May 28 - 30, 1862
Battle, Fair Oaks (4), Seven Pines (5), Va.	May 31 - June 1, 1862
Seven Days Battles	June 25 - July 1, 1862
Battle, Gaines Mill (6), Cold Harbor (7), Chickahominy (3), Va.	June 27, 1862
Engagement, White Oak Swamp Bridge, Va. (8)	June 30, 1862
Battle, Glendale (9) (Nelson's Farm) (10), Frazier's Farm (11), Charles City Cross Roads (12), New Market Cross Roads (13), Willis Church (14), Va.	June 30, 1862
Battle, Melvern Hill (15), Crew's Farm (16) (Poindexter's Farm) (17), Va.	July 1, 1862
Skirmish, Turkey Bend, Va. (18)	July 2, 1862
Movement to Alexandria (19) and Centreville (20), Va.	Aug. 16 - 30, 1862
Battle, Second Bull Run, Manassas, Groveton Heights, Va. (1)	Aug. 30, 1862
Maryland Campaign	Sept. 6 - 22, 1862
Battle, Antietam (Sharpsburg), Md. (21)	Sept. 16 - 17, 1862
Reconnaissance to Charlestown, W. Va. (22)	Oct. 16 - 17, 1862
Movement to Falmouth, Va. (23)	Oct. 29 - Nov. 17, 1862
Action, Snicker's Gap, Va. (24)	Nov. 2, 1862
Reconnaissance to Manassas Gap, Va. (25) and Skirmishes	Nov. 5 - 6, 1862
Battle, Fredericksburg, Va. (26)	Dec. 12 - 15, 1862
Chancellorsville Campaign	April 27 - May 6, 1863

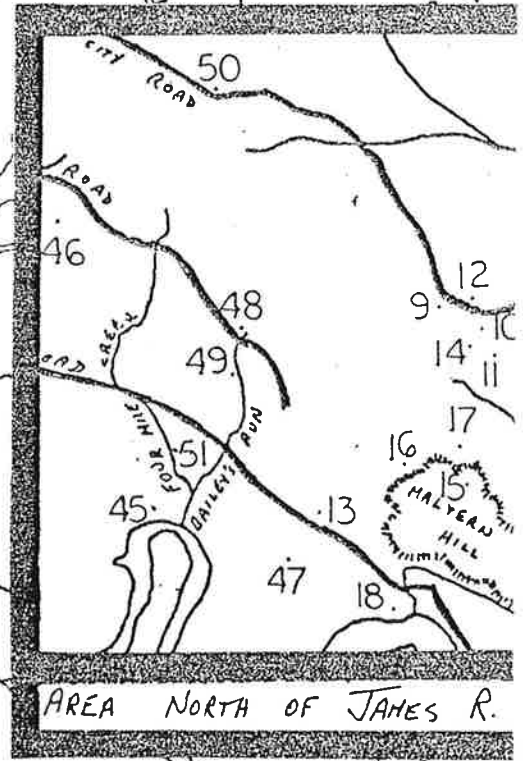
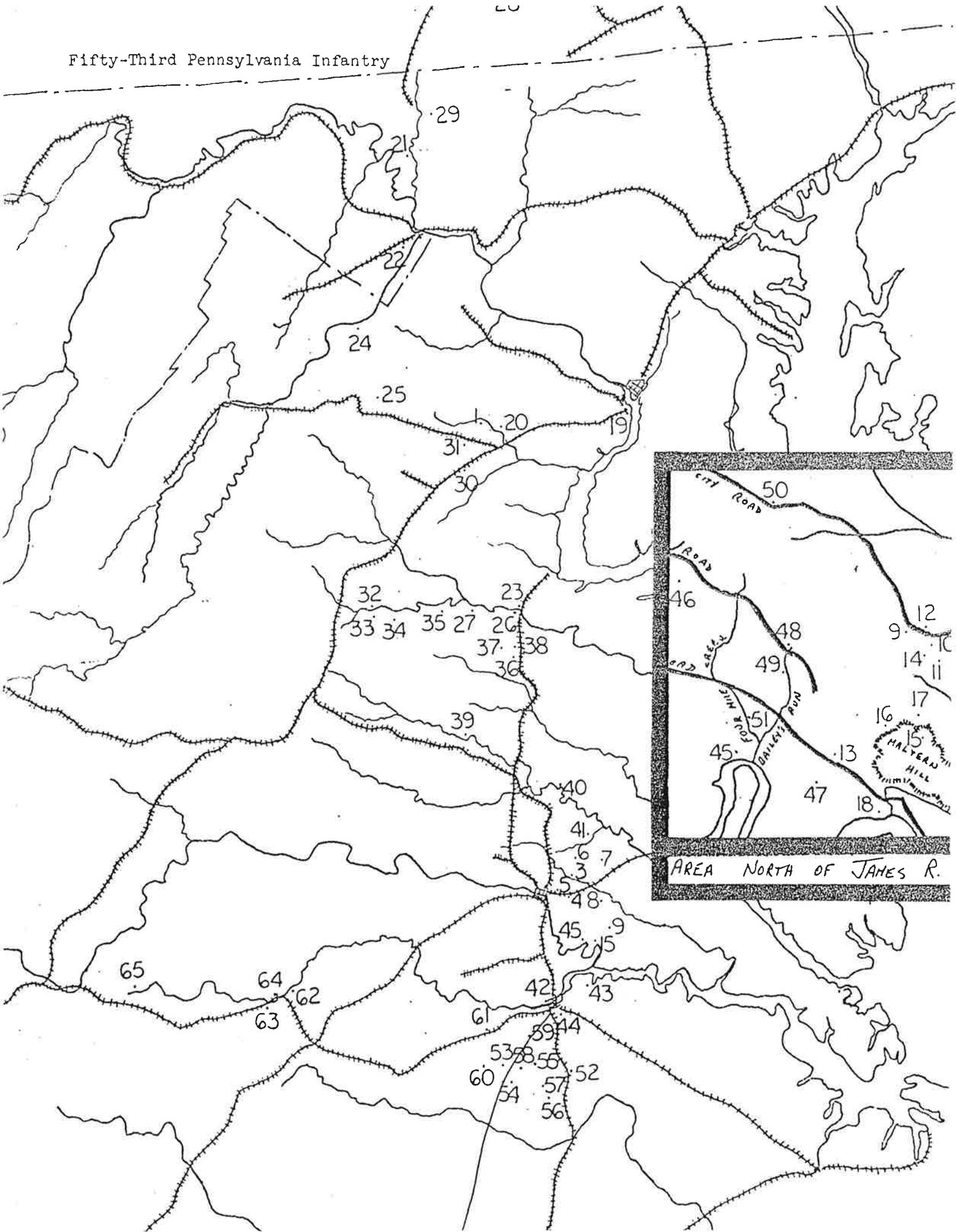
Battle, Chancellorsville, Va. (27)	May 1 - 5, 1863
Gettysburg Campaign	June 13 - July 24, 1863
Battle, Gettysburg, Pa. (28)	July 1 - 3, 1863
Skirmish, Funkstown, Md. (29)	July 12 - 13, 1863
Advance from the Rappahannock to the Rapidan, Va.	Sept. 13 - 17, 1863
Bristoe Campaign	Oct. 9 - 22, 1863
Battle, Bristoe Station, Va. (30)	Oct. 14, 1863
Engagement, Auburn, Auburn Mills, Auburn Ford, Va. (31)	Oct. 14, 1863
Advance to the line of the Rappahannock, Va.	Nov. 7 - 8, 1863
Mine Run Campaign (32)	Nov. 26    Dec. 2, 1863
Engagement, Payne's Farm, Va. (33)	Nov. 27, 1863
Skirmishes along Mine Run, Va. (32)	Nov. 28 - 30, 1863
Skirmish, New Hope Church, Va. (34)	Nov. 29, 1863
Demonstration on the Rapidan, Va.	Feb. 5 - 7, 1864
Wilderness Campaign	May 4 - June 12, 1864
Battle, Wilderness, Va. (35)	May 5 - 7, 1864
Battles, Spottsylvania Court House (36), Laurel Hill (37), Ny River, Fredericksburg Road (38), Va.	May 8 - 21, 1864
Combat, Po River, Va.	May 10, 1864
Assault on the Salient, Spottsylvania Court House, Va. (36)	May 12, 1864
Operations on the line of the North Anna River, Va. (39)	May 22- 26, 1864
Operations on the line of the Pamunkey River, Va. (40)	May 26 - 28, 1864
Operations on the line of the Totopotomoy River, Va. (41)	May 28    31, 1864
Battles about Cold Harbor, Va. (7)	June 1 - 12, 1864
Assault, Petersburg, Va. (42)	June 16, 1864
Siege Operations against Petersburg and Richmond, Va. (43)	June 16, 1864 - April 2, 1865
Assault, Petersburg, Va. (42)	June 18, 1864

Engagement, Jerusalem Plank Road (Weldon R. R.), Va. (44)	June 22, 1864
Demonstration on the North Side of the James River and Engagements at Deep Bottom (45) (Darbytown) (46), Strawberry Plains (47), and New Market Road (13), Va.	July 27 - 29, 1864
Demonstration on the North Side of the James River and Engagements at Deep Bottom (45) (Strawberry Plains) (47), Fussell's Mills (48), Bailey's Creek (49), Deep Run, Charles City Cross Roads (12), New Market Road (13), White's Tavern (50), and Four Mile Run (51), Va.	Aug. 13 - 20, 1864
Battle, Ream's Station, Va. (52)	Aug. 25, 1864
Reconnaissance to Hatcher's Run, Va. (53)	Dec. 9 - 10, 1864
Battle, Dabney's Mills (54), Hatcher's Run (53), Armstrong's Mills (55), Rowanty Creek (56) and Vaughan Road (57), Va.	Feb. 5 - 7, 1865
Action, Watkins' House, Va. (58)	March 25, 1865
Appomattox Campaign	March 28 - April 9, 1865
Action, Hatcher's Run (Boydton Road), Va. (59)	March 31, 1865
Engagement, White Oak Road, Va. (60)	March 31, 1865
Engagement, Sutherland Station, South Side R. R., Va. (61)	March 31, 1865
Engagement, Sailor's Creek, Va. (62)	April 6, 1865
Engagement, Farmville, Va. (63)	April 7, 1865
Engagement, High Bridge, Va. (64)	April 7, 1865
Engagement, Clover Hill, Appomattox Court House, Va. (65)	April 9, 1865
Surrender, Appomattox Court House, Va. (65)	April 9, 1865

The Fifty-Third Pennsylvania Infantry remained on duty near Appomattox until May 2nd. Ordered back to Washington, the regiment arrived there on May 12th. It took part in the Grand Review of Eastern Armies held there on May 23, 1865. The regiment was mustered out of Federal service on June 30, 1865.

During its career the regiment sustained the loss of five officers and one hundred and ninety-five enlisted men killed or mortally wounded. An additional one officer and one hundred and ninety-three enlisted men died from disease or other non-battlefield causes.

Fifty-Third Pennsylvania Infantry



Summary of Service  
extracted from  
A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion  
by Frederick H Dyer.  
reprinted, 1959  
Thomas Yoseloff, New York  
Page 1592  
State of Pennsylvania

53rd REGIMENT INFANTRY.

Organized at Harrisburg October, 1861. Left State for Washington, D. C., November 7. Attached to French's Brigade, Sumner's Division, Army Potomac, to March, 1862. 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, 2nd Army Corps, Army Potomac, to April, 1863. 4th Brigade, 1st Division, 2nd Army Corps, to June, 1865.

SERVICE.—Duty in the Defences of Washington and Alexandria till March, 1862. Advance on Manassas, Va., March 10-15. Ordered to the Virginia Peninsula. Siege of Yorktown April 5-May 4. Duty near Yorktown till June 12. Construction of Grape Vine Bridge over the Chickahominy May 28-30. Battle of Fair Oaks (Seven Pines) May 31-June 1. Seven days before Richmond June 25-July 1. Gaines Mill June 27. Peach Orchard and Savage Station June 29. White Oak Swamp Bridge and Glendale June 30. Malvern Hill July 1. Turkey Bend July 2. At Harrison's Landing till August 16. Movement to Fortress Monroe, thence to Alexandria and Centreville August 16-30. Assist in checking Pope's rout at Bull Run August 30, and cover retreat to Fairfax C. H. August 31-September 1. Maryland Campaign September 6-24. Battle of Antietam September 16-17. Duty at Bollvar Heights September 22-October 29. Reconnoissance to Charlestown October 16-17. Movement up Loudoun Valley and to Falmouth, Va., October 29-November 17. Snicker's Gap November 2. Manassas November 5-6. Battle of Fredericksburg December 12-15. Duty at Falmouth till April, 1863. Chancellorsville Campaign April 27-May 6. Battle of Chancellorsville May 1-5. Gettysburg (Pa.) Campaign June 13-July 24. Battle of Gettysburg, Pa., July 1-3. Funkstown, Md., July 12-13. Advance from the Rappahannock to the Rapidan September 13-17. Bristoe Campaign October 9-22. Auburn and Bristoe October 14. Advance to line of the Rappahannock November 7-8. Mine Run Campaign November 26-December 2. Payne's Farm November 27. Mine Run November 28-30. New Hope Church November 29. Regiment re-enlisted December 27, 1863. Duty near Stevensburg till April, 1864. Demonstration on the Rapidan February 6-7. Rapidan Campaign May 4-June 12. Battles of the Wilderness May 5-7; Spottsylvania C. H. May 8-21; Po River May 10. Assault on the Sallent May 12. North Anna River May 23-26. On line of the Pamunkey May 26-28. Totopotomoy May 28-31. Cold Harbor June 1-12. Before Petersburg June 16-18. Siege of Petersburg June 16, 1864, to April 2, 1865. Weldon Railroad June 22-23, 1864. Demonstration north of the James at Deep Bottom July 27-29 and August 13-20. Strawberry Plains, Deep Bottom, August 14-18. Ream's Station August 25. Reconnoissance to Hatcher's Run December 9-10. Dabney's Mills, Hatcher's Run, February 5-7, 1865. Watkins' House, Petersburg, March 25. Appomattox Campaign March 28-April 9. Boydton Plank Road, Hatcher's Run, March 31. White Oak Road March 31. Fall of Petersburg April 2. Sutherland Station April 2. Sailor's Creek April 6. High Bridge, Farmville, April 7. Appomattox C. H. April 9. Surrender of Lee and his army. March to Washington, D. C., May 2-12. Grand Review May 23. Mustered out June 30, 1865.

Regiment lost during service 5 Officers and 195 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 1 Officer and 193 Enlisted men by disease. Total 394.

Antietam War Department Tablet No. 47

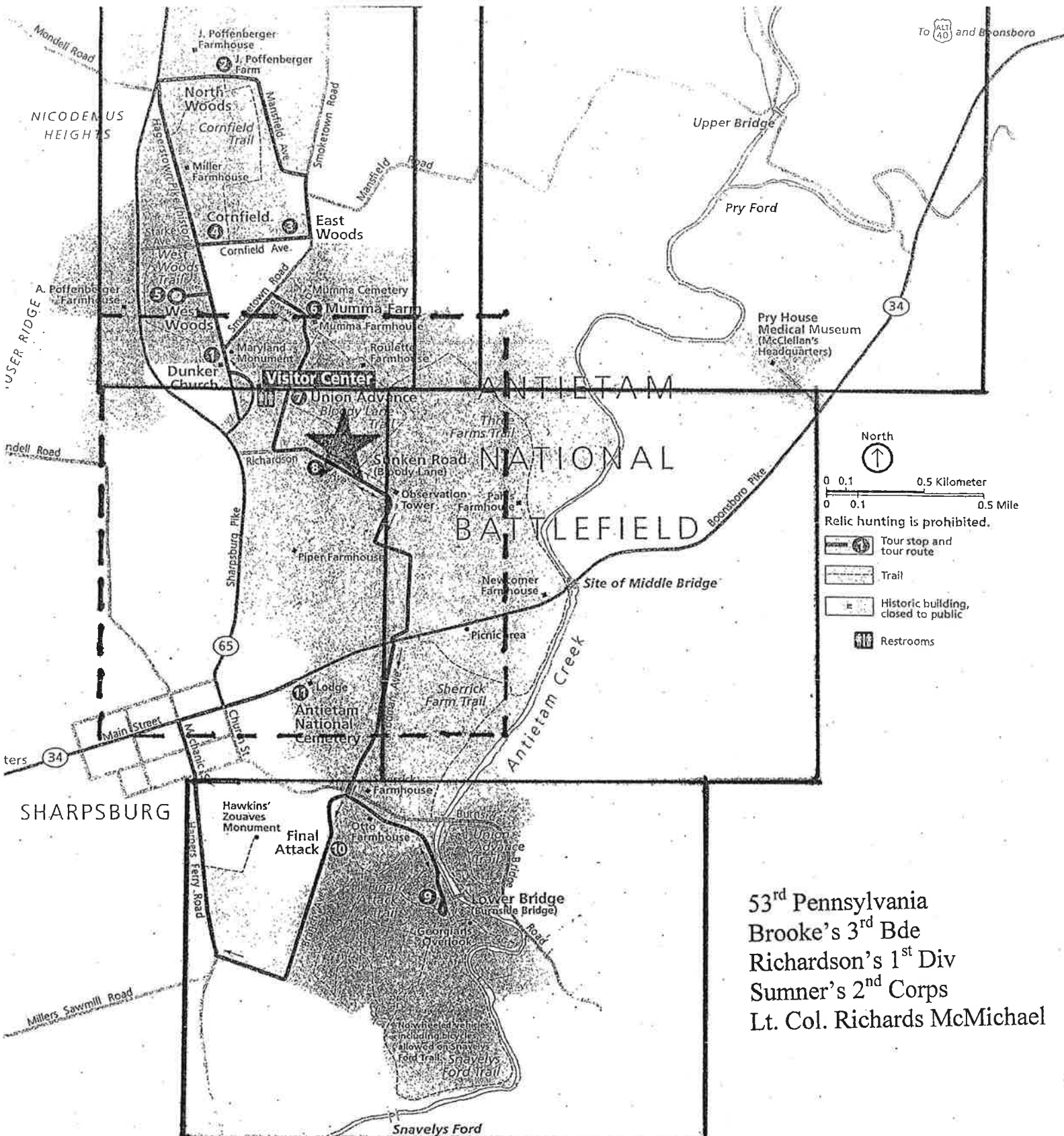
U.S.A.  
Second Army Corps  
Brooke's Brigade, Richardson's Division  
Col. John R. Brooke, 53d Pennsylvania Infantry, Commanding  
Organization  
2d Delaware Infantry  
52d New York Infantry  
57th New York Infantry  
66th New York Infantry  
53d Pennsylvania Infantry  
September 17, 1862

Brooke's Brigade formed the reserve of Richardson's Division. After checking an attempt of the enemy to gain the right rear of Frenche's Division near Roulette's House, it co-operated with Caldwell in his advance across the Bloody Lane and through the cornfield to the south, the advance regiments driving the enemy from Piper's Barn and outhouses. The ammunition of the brigade having been exhausted, it was withdrawn and occupied a position a short distance north of this point, in support of Battery K, 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Artillery.

NO. 47

Location: North side of Bloody Lane, west of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Delaware Infantry Monument

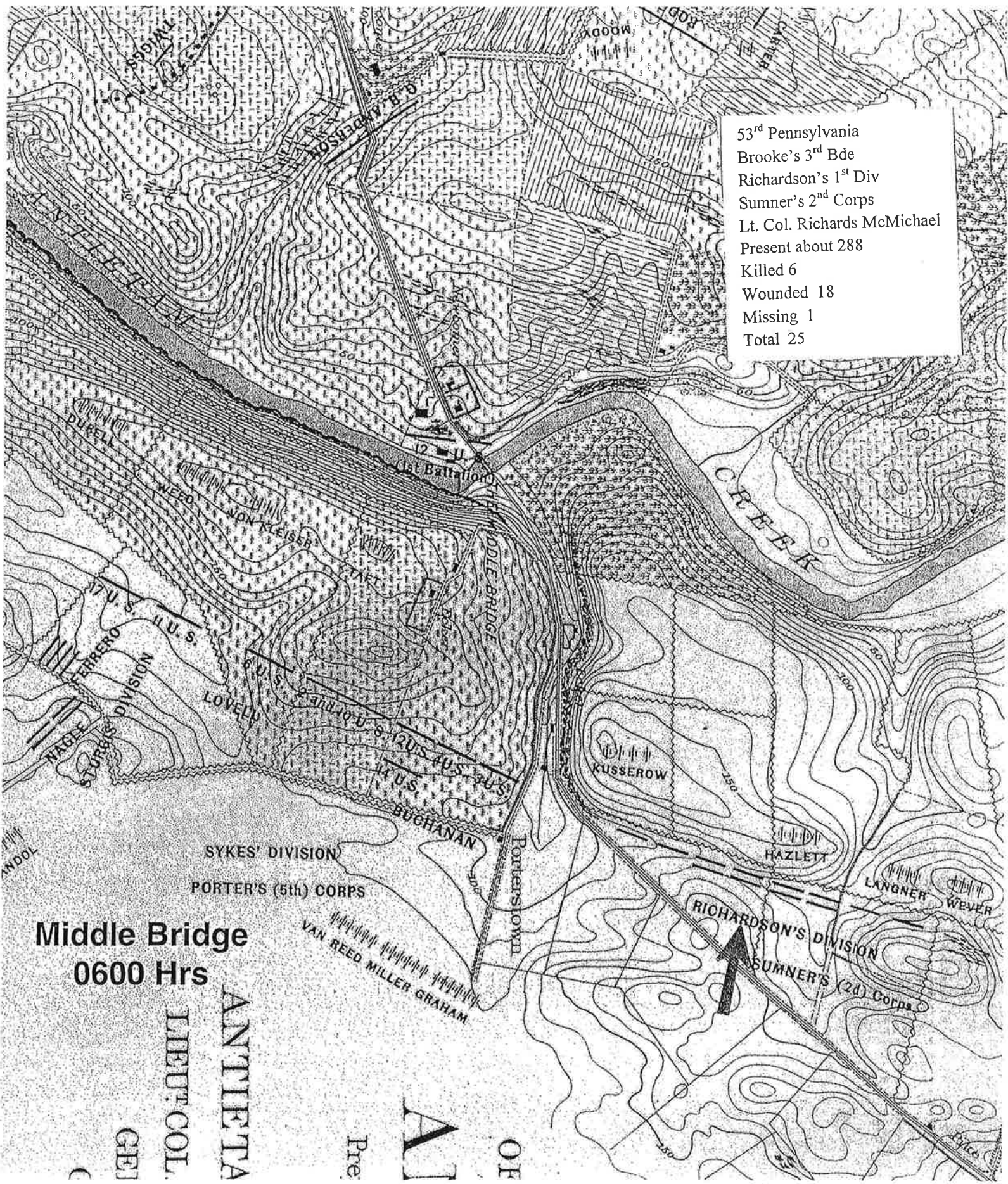
Casting Error: "Frenche's Division" should be "French's Division"



53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania  
 Brooke's 3<sup>rd</sup> Bde  
 Richardson's 1<sup>st</sup> Div  
 Sumner's 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps  
 Lt. Col. Richards McMichael



53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania  
 Brooke's 3<sup>rd</sup> Bde  
 Richardson's 1<sup>st</sup> Div  
 Sumner's 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps  
 Lt. Col. Richards McMichael  
 Present about 288  
 Killed 6  
 Wounded 18  
 Missing 1  
 Total 25



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SYKES' DIVISION  
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RICHARDSON'S DIVISION  
 SUMNER'S (2d) Corps

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 (1st Battalion)

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HAZLETT

LANGNER  
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Porters town

BUCHANAN

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 8 U.S.  
 10 U.S.  
 3 U.S.

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11 U.S.  
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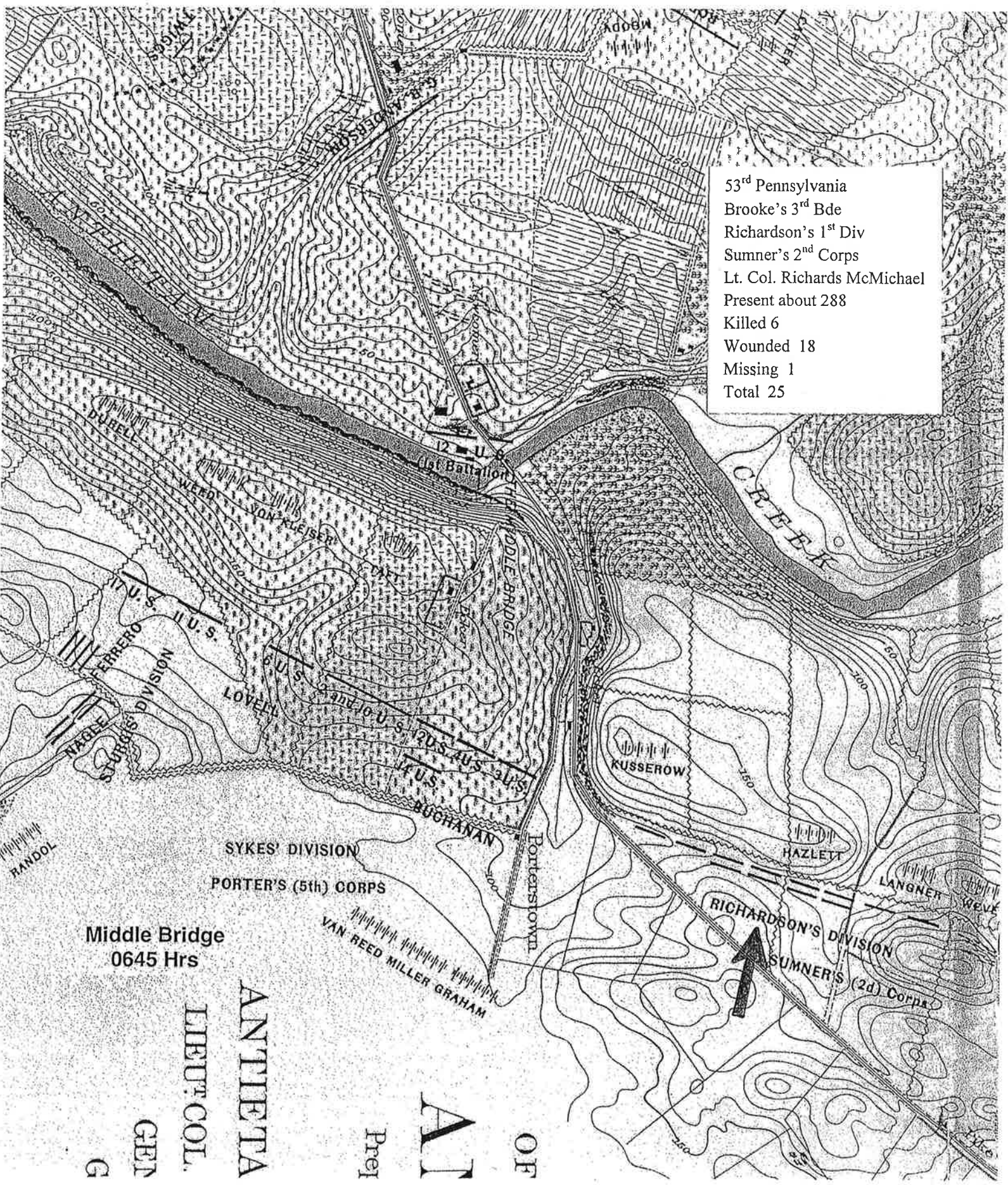
G. B. P. BENSON

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MIDDLE BRIDGE  
 CREEK

53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania  
 Brooke's 3<sup>rd</sup> Bde  
 Richardson's 1<sup>st</sup> Div  
 Sumner's 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps  
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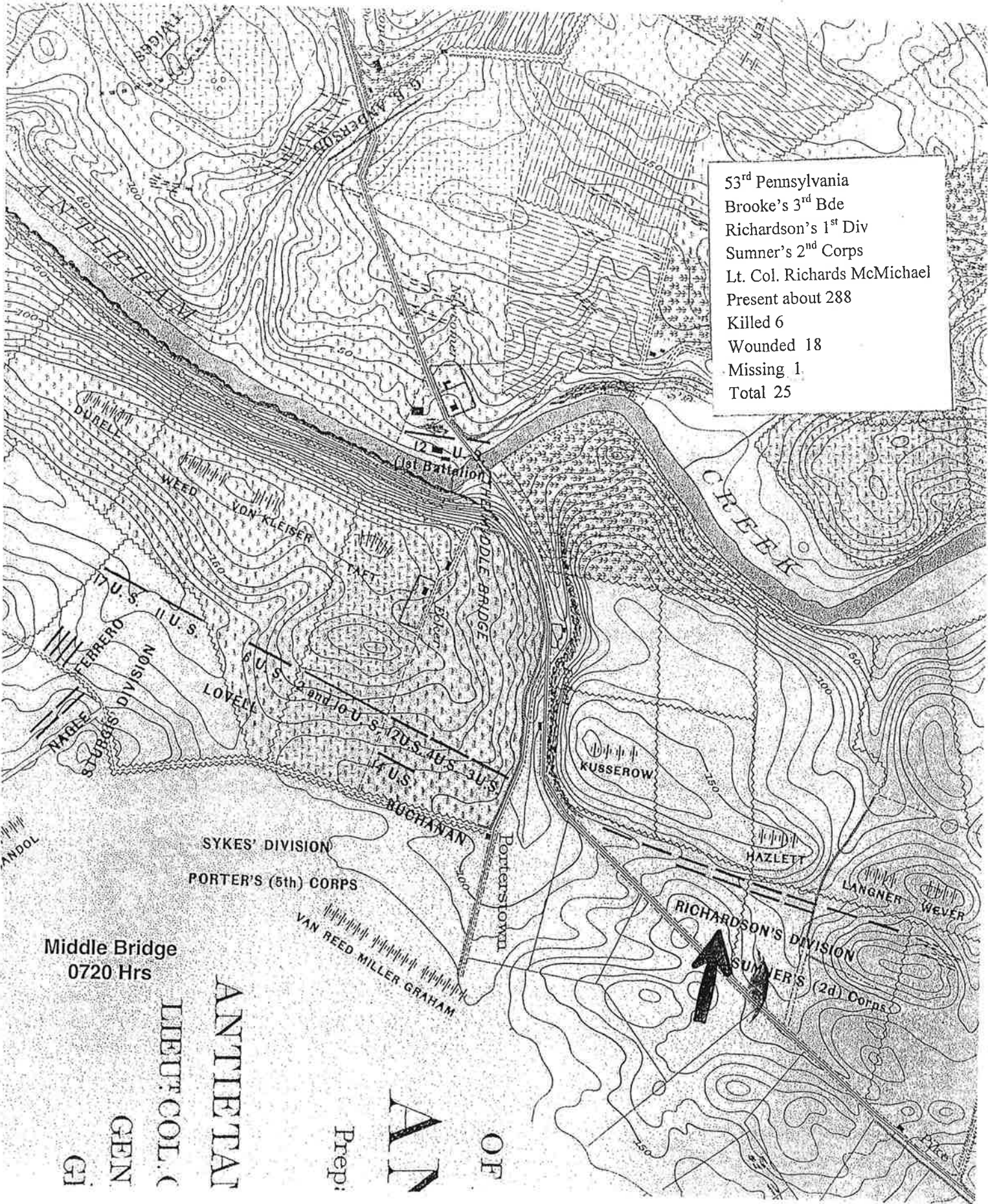
VAN REED MILLER GRAHAM

PORTER'S (5th) CORPS  
 SYKES' DIVISION

RICHARDSON'S DIVISION  
 SUMNER'S (2d) Corps



53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania  
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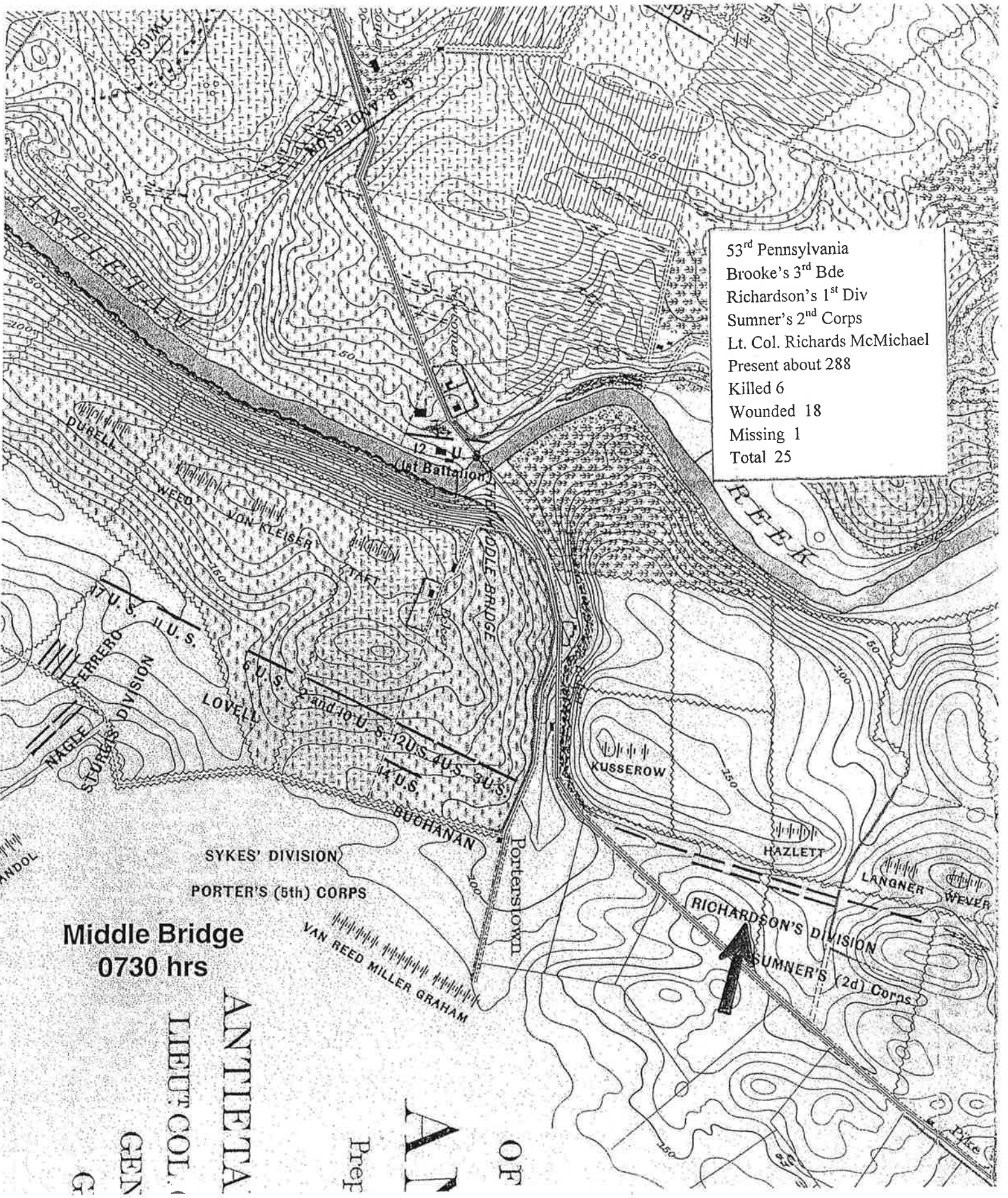


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 PORTER'S (5th) CORPS  
 VAN REED MILLER GRAHAM



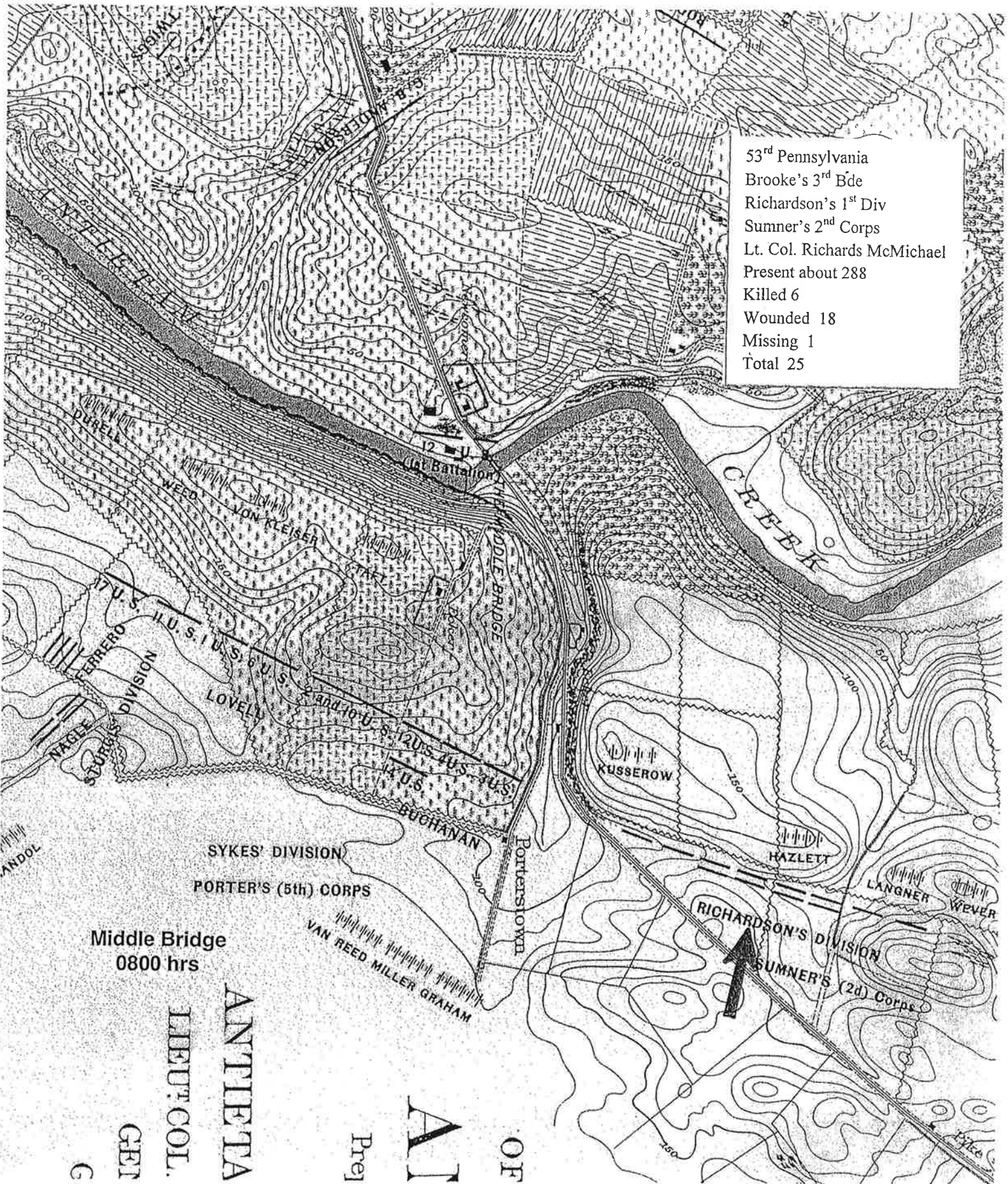
53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania  
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 Richardson's 1<sup>st</sup> Div  
 Sumner's 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps  
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53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania  
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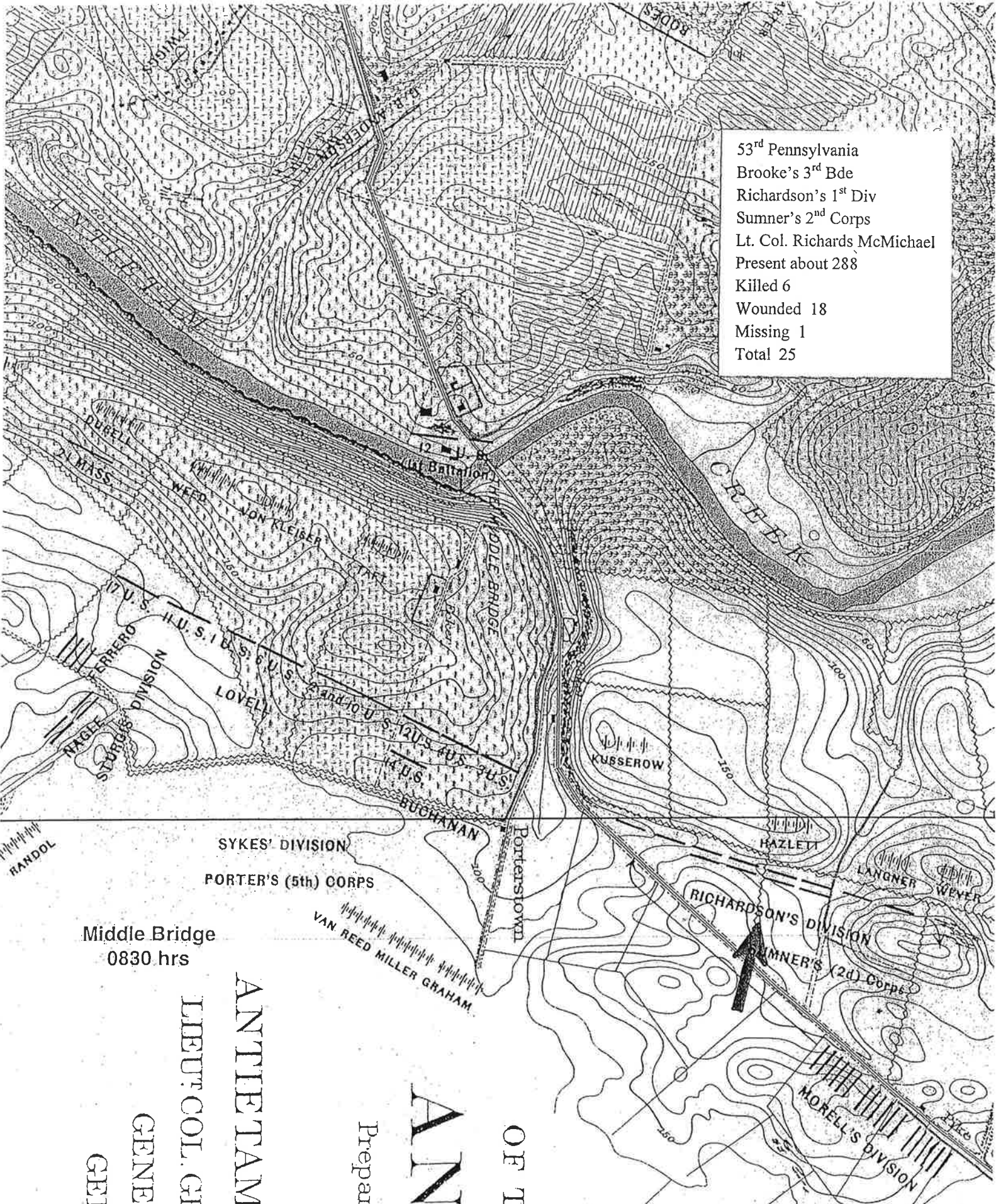


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53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania  
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53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania  
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Sumner's 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps  
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