

Henry County Historian
Gene E. Morris, Jr.
228 Shorewood Court
McDonough, GA 30252

March 10, 2008

The Honorable Jason Harper, Chairman
The Honorable Warren Holder, Commissioner
The Honorable Elizabeth Mathis, Commissioner
The Honorable Randy Stamey, Commissioner
The Honorable Reid Bowman, Commissioner
The Honorable Johnny Basler, Commissioner
Henry County Board of Commissioners
Henry Parkway
McDonough, GA 30253

Dear Chairman and Commissioners;

Over the past few months, I have followed with great interest the discussions over the Nash Farm. Two weeks ago I received a study from Mr. Larry Stanley, a study he himself prepared, entitled "The Civil War in Henry County, Georgia". Mr. Stanley requested I review the study and state my opinion of his conclusions, in my official capacity as Henry County Historian. Mr. Stanley also asked for my opinion "as to why the county deemed it appropriate to appoint an Official Civil War Historian".

Since these questions seem to present the two core issues at Nash Farm, I thought it best to conduct a comprehensive review of the facts and respond to the Board of Commissioners directly. Please allow me to respond to the second question first: I commend the Board on Mr. Mark Pollard's appointment and I wholeheartedly concur. Having known him for many years; I have long described Mark as the foremost authority on the Civil War in Henry County. Long before his appointment, I called on him for information about the military actions in our county and I continue to do so. Further, he is a man of integrity and deserving of our trust. Regarding his appointment: It was I who suggested to Mr. Pollard the idea of the Civil War Historian, mine is a non paying office and I'm glad to share the duties with one so knowledgeable. You did a good thing and we the people are lucky to have Mark Pollard in this post.

Next issue; having never been a person who liked to look at only one side of an issue, I called Mr. Pollard and asked him to document and assemble his case in support of Nash Farm as the site of the August 20, 1864 cavalry charge. I have objectively reviewed the information presented by Mr. Stanley and Mr. Pollard. Before going any further, let me state; prior to about 2004, I was completely unaware of any claims of the events at the Nash Farm. But, I'm a country boy and I learned pretty early, that just because I don't know something, it doesn't mean it isn't so. I was raised in west Henry County, my family's been in that part of the county a long time, I knew