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The William Patterson house is the oldest building within the boundaries of Gettysburg National Military Park. The building retains a high level of integrity to the historic period and has a high percentage of original material remaining in this building. In late April the park began to rebuild the log structure with some new logs and many of the original logs that had been treated for rot and insect infestation.



Left: The Patterson House before major restoration work started. Photo by Bunny LaDouceur.



Below: Preservation carpenter Jim Cordero hand trims a new log for the Patterson House.



Four Historic Orchards Replanted

In early April, the park replanted four more historic orchards in major battle action areas on the battlefield so visitors can better understand the fighting and see the battlefield through the eyes of the soldiers fighting in 1863.

Hively Landscapes of Dover, Pa., planted the trees – including the 26 acre McMillan Orchard which is the largest orchard in the park. Also included were the orchards at the Timbers Farm, Klingel farm and at the Joseph Spangler farm at East Cavalry Battlefield. The new orchard trees are hardy varieties of apple: Williams Pride, Pristine, Gold Rush, Liberty,

Enterprise, and Freedom.

According to park historians, almost every farm of any size in 1863 Gettysburg had an orchard, usually of a size in proportion to the farmstead. The orchards played many roles during the battle—cover from observation or from fire for both troops and artillery batteries; concealment during movement; obstructions to observation or clear fields of fire; places to gather to rest or seek medical assistance. Since 2000, the park has replanted 110 acres at 36 historic

orchard sites. The goal is to replant a total of 160 acres of orchards throughout the major battle action areas of the battlefield.

Below: The newly planted orchard at the Klingel farm. The Klingel House is on the left and will be rehabilitated with special funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding.



