

WILSON-KAUTZ RAID




“Destroy both those roads”

Virginia 
is for Lovers™

VIRGINIA
CIVIL WAR
TRAILS

Follow this sign
to stops along the
Wilson-Kautz Raid
and more than 300
other Civil War sites
across Virginia.



In late June 1864, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia were engaged in a desperate defense of the city of Petersburg. Victory for Lee depended on a steady flow of supplies, brought in by rail. To force Lee from Petersburg, Union Gen. U.S. Grant planned to cut Southern supply lines and ordered a cavalry raid to tear up track and destroy railroad stations and bridges. On June 22, 1864, Union Gens. James H. Wilson and August V. Kautz, commanding more than 5,000 cavalry troops, left Petersburg to destroy track on the Richmond & Danville R.R. and the South Side R.R.

Follow in the footsteps of Gens. Wilson and Kautz along the Virginia Civil War Trails Wilson-Kautz Raid, a tour route that allows you to explore more than 40 Civil War sites in southside Virginia. Please drive carefully as you enjoy the beauty and history along our trail.



Artist Alfred R. Waud's wartime drawing of the Wilson-Kautz Raid.



Capt. Benjamin L. Farinholt helped to defend Staunton River Bridge from the raiders.



Gen. James H. Wilson



Gen. August V. Kautz



This communion set was stolen by the raiders from St. John's Church and recovered days later at Ream's Station.

WILSON * KAUTZ
RAID

- Driving Route
- Alternate Driving Route
- ★ Wilson-Kautz Raid Site
- Other Civil War Site
- State or National Park
- ⓘ Information

LEE VS GRANT
THE BATTLE OF PETERSBURG

1862
PENNSHOLA CAMPAIGN
FROM LEES MILITARY JOURNAL