

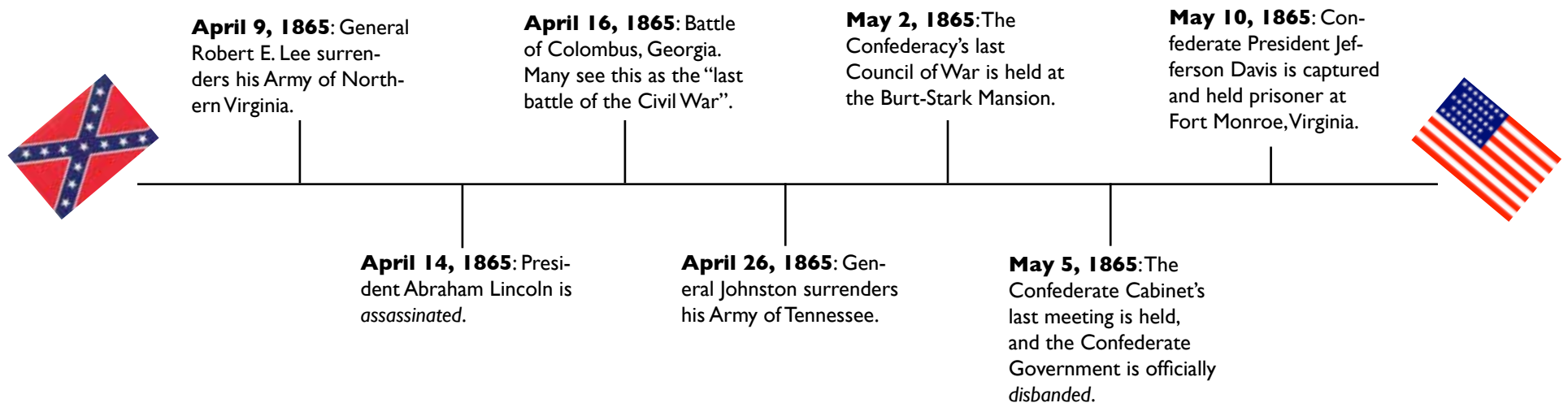
BURT-STARK MANSION

The Burt-Stark Mansion in Abbeville, South Carolina, is one of the locations that marked the end of the American Civil War. During the late afternoon on May 2, 1865, Confederate President Jefferson Davis held his last Council of War in this mansion. He was joined by three of his *Cabinet* members and five military commanders. At this meeting, Davis wanted to push forth and keep fighting. However, his Cabinet and the generals convinced Davis that the South had no more resources, and to continue fighting would be *futile*. The Confederacy's last council, and the Civil War, ended as Davis finally declared, "All is indeed lost."

About the house:

The mansion was built in the 1830's by a David Lesley (planter, lawyer, Abbeville District Judge), constructed in the Greek Revival style, similar to many government buildings including the U.S. Capitol. In 1862 the house was sold to Armistead Burt, a friend of Jefferson Davis's wife. She stayed there for a short while for protection during the war. After the surrender, Burt was forced to sell the house due to bankruptcy. The Burt-Stark Mansion was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1992.

End of the Civil War Timeline



VOCABULARY

President's Cabinet: A group, or council, of people who help the president make important decisions.

Futile: hopeless, not successful

Assassinated: murdered (especially a political or famous person)

Disbanded: To break up or dissolve an organization.

