

Corston Vale Relief Road

A Introduction

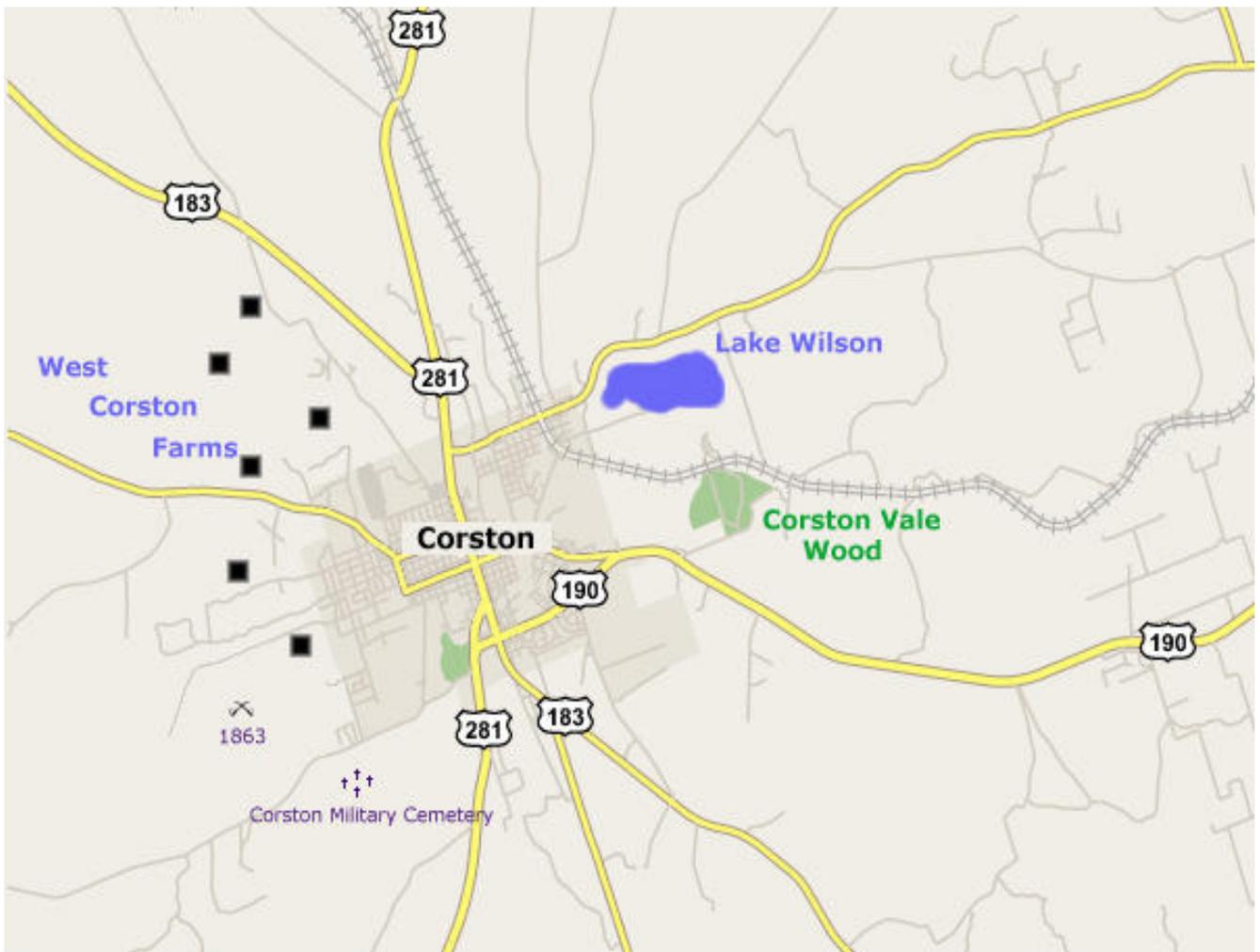
The town of Corston lies in the heart of the beautiful Corston Vale, a lovely area of forest and river.



The town has been getting increasingly more congested with traffic and the local authorities have decided to build a relief road to reduce downtown traffic.

There are three options open for discussion and a meeting has been called to decide which of the three options should be chosen.

B Map



C Description

Corston has a population of 27,000 people but has suffered increasing traffic problems in the last decade.

To the east of the town, there is a popular tourist attraction, Lake Wilson where people go to fish and do water sports such as windsurfing, jet-skiing and sailing. To the south of Lake Wilson, Corston Vale Wood is an area of ancient forest popular with hunters but also with local residents who can make use of the picnic area and nature trails.

To the west of the town, there are six farms collectively known as the West Corston farms. These are mainly dairy farms although one of them, owned by the Pickering family, grows a lot of the fruit and vegetables consumed by the town. There is also a Civil War battlefield. The Battle of Corston was fought in 1863 with the loss of some 8,000 lives. Most of the dead were buried in the nearby Corston Military Cemetery.

D Options

The local government has put forward three options for the relief of traffic congestion in downtown Corston.

- i. Widening of the current road downtown from a two-lane highway to a four- or six-lane highway. Enormous disruption to the lives of Corston residents and many historic buildings will need removing or destroying. **Cost \$50 million.**
- ii. Relief road to the east of the town. This will pass close to Lake Wilson and Corston Vale Wood and has caused great protest from those wishing to preserve the peace and quiet found in the area. **Cost \$80 million.**
- iii. Relief road to the west of the town. Three of the West Corston Farms will have to be closed down and the Veterans Association is unhappy about the proximity of the new highway to a battlefield site they consider sacred. **Cost \$60 million.**



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E The Meeting

The town council has called a meeting with all interested parties attending. A decision must be made about which of the three options should be chosen for the future prosperity of Corston and the local area.

Each representative will have one vote at the end of the meeting and members of the public will be able to vote too.

A chairperson will be selected before the beginning of the meeting and will keep order in the meeting.

Try and consider the positive aspects of other people's opinions too. Argue your case but also think about what other people are saying.



Read the instructions on the piece of paper your teacher will give you very carefully and plan your arguments with the other students in your group.

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