

SUMMER 2022 • Vol. 23 No. 2

AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST

# HALLOWED GROUND

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NEW  
STATE PARK  
TAKES ROOT  
IN VIRGINIA

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**PLUS:** *Forgotten Fronts in the Old Northwest*

**HALLOWED GROUND**  
A quarterly publication  
of the American  
Battlefield Trust  
Summer 2022  
Vol. 23, No. 2

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THE AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST preserves our nation's hallowed battlegrounds and educates the public about what happened there and why it matters today. We permanently protect these battlefields as a lasting and tangible memorial to the brave soldiers who fought in the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. Thanks to the contributions of more than 300,000 members and supporters nationwide, we have preserved more than 54,000 acres, 143 sites in 24 states. For more information, call 800-298-7878 or visit our website at [www.battlefields.org](http://www.battlefields.org). *Hallowed Ground* is the membership magazine of the American Battlefield Trust. It is produced solely for nonprofit educational purposes and every reasonable attempt is made to provide accurate and appropriate attribution for all elements, including those in the public domain. Contemporary images are reproduced only with permission and appropriate attribution; uncredited images are courtesy the American Battlefield Trust. Feature articles reflect the research and opinion of the bylined author. ©2022 American Battlefield Trust.

**CORRECTION:** The Spring 2022 issue of *Hallowed Ground* that looked at America's service academies and other institutions of higher learning affiliated with the armed services left some readers with the impression that it was intended as an exhaustive inventory, in which case there had been omissions. We apologize for the confusion and lack of clarity that space and other considerations meant that not all affiliated institutions were accounted for in those pages. Notably, the United States Merchant Marine Academy was not featured in an individual essay. Created in 1938, this fifth federal service academy requires appointments for matriculation rather than applications, and welcomed female cadets two years before the other institutions. Because midshipmen serve on vessels prior to graduation, some of which are in combat zones, making them the only service academy authorized to carry a regimental battle standard.



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Minute Man National Historical Park  
Concord, Mass.  
ADAM PULZETTI PHOTOGRAPHY

**I**T IS HARD FOR ME TO RECALL an issue of *Hallowed Ground* packed with more remarkable, long-awaited good news than this one. Not only do we note the remarkable threshold of 55,000 acres saved forever, but we also mark the Trust's attempt to save hallowed ground in our 25th state, Ohio. If you could travel back in time and talk with those who gathered on July 18, 1987, at a Fredericksburg, Virginia, restaurant for the first meeting of our predecessor organization, I doubt any of them could have envisioned that the work they began would one day touch half the states of the Union.

We also celebrate the conclusion of a campaign that took nearly half of the time between that founding and the present day: the effort to preserve the Slaughter Pen Farm. Once the tipping point of one of the Civil War's greatest battles, then a quiet dairy farm facing a string of development proposals, to a real estate listing dubbing it Virginia's prime site for industrial potential, to a battlefield park saved forever past any threat of loss, this hallowed ground has been on quite a journey. But now, thanks to your steadfast and generous support, its future is secured forever.

It is remarkable enough that our \$12 million fundraising campaign spanned 16 years, but staff involvement in negotiating its purchase and advocating to prevent development proposals well predated that point. Making the last payment on our loan in May and announcing complete victory on this project at the outset of June was a fulfilling achievement, and I am keenly aware of how many members, allies and friends made it possible. You have my deepest thanks.

And if that were not enough, we also recently cheered another long-sought initiative coming to fruition: the Commonwealth of Virginia authorized creation of a Culpeper Battlefields State Park. Created from the Trust's donation of some 1,700 acres (about twice the area of Central Park in New York City) of battlefield land, when the park opens on July 1, 2024, it will welcome visitors

interested in history as well as outdoor recreation. For the next two years, we will work closely with state agencies on a transition plan for the land and seek to enhance the park by acquiring even more land using additional state-appropriated funds.

As natural as it might be to pause to reflect on these milestones, I assure you that the Trust has no intention of slowing down.



So long as historic battlefields are menaced by inappropriate development — recall that many sites face escalating threats from data centers and utility-scale solar farms, not just strip malls and subdivisions — we stand ready to fight for their preservation, to encourage smart, balanced growth in historic communities, and to educate the public about what happened on that hallowed ground and why it remains relevant today.

Amid all this good news, I must acknowledge that we are all facing challenging economic times right now. But during my 22 years of being part of this organization, we have been through rough patches like this before. If the past is any guide, I can tell you that if you remain dedicated to the cause and continue to support our efforts to the extent you can, I guarantee we will save many more thousands of acres of hallowed ground critical to a thorough understanding of America's exceptional history. In fact, we have pledged to do so with increased emphasis on battlefields of the Revolutionary War, as we mark the 250th anniversary of that conflict. Standing beside the Old North Bridge in Concord, Mass., on the anniversary of the "shot heard 'round the world," I stated our intention to protect 2,500 acres of those battlefields in the coming years. It is an ambitious goal, but I know that, together, you and I will soon add this to our list of remarkable achievements as well.

DAVID N. DUNCAN  
President, American Battlefield Trust

President Portrait by BUDDY SECOR

## Explore Ohio

With a rich history that covers a plethora of personalities and conflicts, Ohio has no shortage of attractions! In territory originally colonized by French fur traders, Ohio fell into British hands following the French and Indian War in 1754. Upon the American Revolution's end, the British ceded the territory to the United States. Ohio was also the home of many influential Native American leaders, such as Tecumseh and Little Turtle. Not only that — it is oftentimes called the "Mother of Presidents," with seven Ohioans sent to the White House since 1869. Plan your trip to the Buckeye State with our latest travel guide.  
[www.battlefields.org/itineraries](http://www.battlefields.org/itineraries).

## NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE OLD NORTHWEST AND BEYOND

Through efforts to secure the survival of their people, cultures and homes, Native Americans made indelible contributions to the wars that shaped the nation we know today — especially in the Ohio Country, which often functioned as the staging ground for friction between settlers and local inhabitants. Expand your perspective of Native Americans' military history today by exploring biographies, articles and more at [www.battlefields.org/here-from-the-start](http://www.battlefields.org/here-from-the-start).

## OHIO IN THE CIVIL WAR

During the conflict, Ohio was the site of no major skirmishes, save for the Battles of Buffington Island and Salineville. However, Ohio offered up about 60 percent of her military-age sons for service in the war — the highest percentage of any state in the Union. Learn more about the role the state played and some of its most important players by listening to Ohio native and president emeritus of the American Battlefield Trust Jim Lighthizer in the video *Ohio in the Civil War* at [www.youtube.com/AmericanBattlefieldTrust](http://www.youtube.com/AmericanBattlefieldTrust). Learn about the Ohioans who served and later moved to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue as president of the United States in the recent *Head-Tilting History* article "Presidents in the Making, Buckeyes in the Heat of Battle." Check it out at [www.battlefields.org/learn/head-tilting-history](http://www.battlefields.org/learn/head-tilting-history).

EXPLORE THIS ISSUE



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## AT LONG LAST, SLAUGHTER PEN FARM IS SAVED FOREVER

*A preservation victory 16-plus years in the making*



**NCE BILLED** as the most desirable property for industrial development in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the site that historians argue determined the Civil War's Battle of Fredericksburg is now saved forever, with the completion of the associated 16-year, \$12-million fundraising campaign. "When we began this journey, the goal was beyond audacious," said Trust President David Duncan. "This is a milestone moment in the historic preservation movement."

Although the Battle of Fredericksburg is most famous for the doomed Union assault on Marye's Heights, the fight was won and lost farther south, as troops in blue and gray struggled across an undulating farm field and toward the slopes of Prospect Hill. The intense fighting on the south end of the Fredericksburg Battlefield produced some 9,000 casualties, many of whom fell on a piece of ground dubbed the Slaughter Pen by soldiers and locals alike. Five Union soldiers were awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism there.

In the 1930s, the Confederate line along Prospect Hill was added to Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, but the open plain remained a dairy farm, becoming hemmed in by a highway, a railroad and a small airport as the decades passed. Time and again, developers came calling — including proposals for a hospital and elementary school, actively opposed by the Trust — but never struck a deal. When the long-time owner died in September 2005 at age 86, his niece made plans to sell. But she was hostile toward preservationists, and Trust leaders were concerned that even a full cash offer from them might be rejected. Instead, they contacted Tricord Homes, a local firm with which they had worked to fashion a preservation-friendly development proposal on the nearby Chancellorsville Battlefield. Tricord and the Trust then worked closely together and successfully secured the property.

The campaign to raise \$12 million and protect the Slaughter Pen Farm began on March 28, 2006. Closing

occurred in June thanks to the Trust's longtime banking partner, SunTrust, now Truist, agreeing to fund the entire acquisition. The Trust was able to reduce the loan by taking advantage of land preservation tax credits available in Virginia and also took advantage of tax-exempt financing and refinanced the balance of the original loan into a long-term bond issue.

The project received significant governmental support, including a \$2 million matching grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). The Commonwealth of Virginia also contributed \$300,000 toward the acquisition, a process that directly led to the creation of a first-in-the-nation state matching grant program for battlefield preservation in 2006.

Ultimately, nearly half of the \$12 million raised came via private funds, mostly donations from Trust members. The Central Virginia Battlefields Trust, an exceptional regional partner based in Fredericksburg, pledged the monumental sum of \$1 million, fulfilling its commitment in 2011.

"The preservation community is strongest when we work together," said CVBT President Tom Van Winkle. "It is what allows us to take on the most meaningful work and what ensures we leave a permanent legacy."

Since taking ownership of the property, the Trust has focused on landscape restoration and interpretive initiatives. It has gradually removed a number of derelict farm outbuildings, and, in 2009, installed an almost two-mile educational walking trail. The route is popular with locals, students of history and military units participating in staff rides to study lessons in leadership and tactics.

Via installments, the Trust was on track to complete the Slaughter Pen Farm fundraising campaign in 2024, when a long-time supporter who wished to remain anonymous issued a remarkable matching challenge: If individual donors could supply the next \$400,000 annual payment, he would contribute the entirety of the \$800,000 then remaining on the loan, paying it off two years early. Once again, Trust members answered the call and the final payment on the debt was made to Truist in May.

An on-site celebration is being planned for the autumn. ★

Read more about the campaign to protect Slaughter Pen Farm



## CELEBRATING CULPEPER BATTLEFIELDS STATE PARK!

*Commonwealth of Virginia will accept Trust's donation of 1,700 acres; Park opens July 1, 2024*



**IRGINIA IS GETTING** a long-desired state park in the Piedmont region protecting four Civil War battlefields, including Brandy Station and Cedar Mountain! The measure was

included in the two-year, compromise budget plan adopted by the Virginia Senate and House of Delegates on June 1 and signed into law by Gov. Glenn Youngkin, a champion of the state park proposal, on June 21.

"The protection of Culpeper County's historic battlefields has been among the great success stories of the American Battlefield Trust over the past 35 years, and we celebrate the state's decision unreservedly," said Trust President David Duncan. "The creation of a state park from these protected landscapes is the culmination of a tremendous vision shared by the preservation community, local residents and elected officials from across the Commonwealth."

The backbone of Culpeper Battlefields State Park is a critical mass of more than 1,700-acres on the Civil War

battlefields of Cedar Mountain (fought August 9, 1862, as part of the Northern Virginia Campaign) and Brandy Station (the opening clash of the Gettysburg Campaign on June 9, 1863) that the Trust is donating to the Commonwealth. The land also includes elements of the battlefields at Kelly's Ford and Rappahannock Station, creating recreational access to the Rappahannock River.

The region — previously underserved in the state park system — is rich in history and culture, retaining the imprint of its first Native people and the generations that followed. Advocacy toward the new state park began in 2016, when the Culpeper County Board of Supervisors and the Culpeper Town Council both passed resolutions endorsing the concept, supported by a long-standing and bipartisan coalition of state legislators, national and local preservation organizations and residents. But the effort took on new vigor in 2022, when Governor Youngkin came out in support of the state park.

"This park will be a great resource for the people of Culpeper County and will bring in impactful tourism dollars," said Virginia Sen. Bryce Reeves, long a champion for the proposal, who was instrumental in its progress. "I want to thank the great team at the American Battlefield Trust for their consistent efforts to get us across the finish line."

In addition to creation of the park, the budget also includes a \$3-million appropriation to allow the Trust to acquire additional land, up to 800 acres, that will enhance the new facility. The Trust is donating its 1,700-acre holdings to the state outright to create the park.

This victory was made possible by the dedicated support of numerous elected and appointed officials, including: Sen. Bryce Reeves, Chairman Barry Knight, Sen. Chap Petersen, Sen. Emmett Hanger, Del. Robert Bloxom Jr., Del. Alfonso Lopez, Sen. David Marsden, Del. Michael Webert, Del. Daniel Marshall, Senior Advisor to the Governor Andrew Wheeler and, of course, Gov. Glenn Youngkin. ★

Sign a letter thanking Virginia officials



Cedar Mountain Battlefield  
Culpeper County, Va.  
JUDITH MUFFLEY





Minute Man National Historical Park  
Concord, Mass.  
THEODORE KOIK



individual sites and partner groups, as well as the state and federal agencies that support this work through competitive matching grants that augment private donations from its members. The conflict lasted seven long years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, with engagements fought in each of the 13 original colonies, plus the present-day states of Tennessee, Arkansas, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Alabama and Florida.

The Trust has identified tracts of land on dozens of battlefields that could be pursued toward this preservation goal, ultimately working with willing sellers to save places that will inspire Americans for generations to come. The Trust estimates that the project could take a decade to complete and may ultimately cost up to \$39 million, with the Trust applying for project-specific, competitively awarded federal grant funding to leverage against matching dollars from state and local government grants and private sector donations, as well as other sources.★

## TRUST WILL SEEK TO PROTECT 2,500 ACRES to mark 250 years

**A**MERICAN'S FIRST citizen soldiers forged a new nation through valor and sacrifice on battlefields, from the "Shot Heard 'Round the World" at Lexington and Concord to the "World Turned Upside Down" at Yorktown. To honor the legacy of this diverse group of minutemen and Patriots, the American Battlefield Trust announces a campaign to preserve 2,500 acres of Revolutionary War battlefields for the 250th anniversary of America's founding conflict.

The ambitious goal was announced on Patriots Day at Minute Man National Historic Park in Massachusetts, where the first armed conflict of the American Revolution took place on April 19, 1775. Joining the Trust in announcing this goal were representatives of the National Park Service, Daughters of the American Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution.

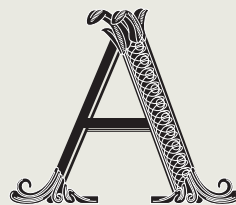
"In protecting and interpreting Revolutionary War battlefields, we ensure [that] the current and future generations of Americans retain tangible links to our nation's founding era," said Trust President David Duncan. "The preservation of these historic landscapes will ensure a lasting legacy of this milestone anniversary that we can pass on to our children and grandchildren."

As momentum builds toward the nation's semiquincentennial commemoration in 2026, so too will renewed interest in the stories of the earliest days of the nation's founding. This effort will serve both to protect these hallowed grounds from development or neglect and to tell the inspirational but often forgotten stories of colonists and citizens soldiers who took on the greatest empire in the world.

To accomplish this work, the Trust will work closely with



## NATIONAL SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION honors Trust with distinguished patriotic leadership award



**A**T ITS Spring Leadership Meeting in March, the National Society Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR), in a unanimous acclamation, named the American Battlefield Trust the 2022 recipient of its Distinguished Patriotic Leadership Award, an honor recognizing both our land preservation and education initiatives.

Although Trust President David Duncan was not able to be in Lexington, Ky., for that gathering, he did join NSSAR President General Davis Lee Wright, the Massachusetts Society and other special guests at a Patriots Day luncheon in Concord, Mass., the following month to convey our gratitude and to speak on the ways that our organizations can work in concert toward creating a meaningful and lasting legacy of the forthcoming semiquincentennial commemoration.

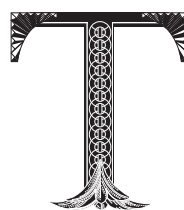
"Our two organizations have missions that are exceptionally well aligned; we are natural partners, and when we

work together, the alliance stands to become more than the sum of its parts," Duncan noted. He encouraged the audience to become not just individual supporters of preservation, but also force multipliers, connecting individuals and groups in their own communities to the national movement that the upcoming anniversary will undoubtedly create.

NSSAR has been a strong supporter of the Trust's work since our earliest forays into the protection of Revolutionary War battlefields. Its advocacy meaningfully advanced our preservation efforts at Princeton and will undoubtedly do so in the future as we work together to protect 2,500 additional acres to mark the Revolutionary War's 250th anniversary.★



## TRUST EARNS DUAL HONORS in 43rd annual Telly Awards



**THE AMERICAN** Battlefield Trust continues to be a leader in creating compelling and innovative content designed to make the past come alive and appeal to a wide range of audiences and knowledge bases. This spring, we were honored with a trio of recognitions for our work on different projects.

Our Gettysburg AR app, which can project interactive animated historical scenes onto a modern landscape using your mobile device, was nominated for the 2022 Auggie Awards — since 2010, the world's most recognized augmented and virtual reality industry awards. Although we ultimately did not take home a prize, we did make it to the public voting round, a major achievement given our nonprofit status and place-based mission.

Separately, Trust video productions received two Silver recognitions in the 43rd

annual Telly Awards, which recognize excellence in video and television across all screens and are judged by leaders from video platforms, television, streaming networks and production companies.

*Carved in Stone*, filmed by Francisco Aliwalas of Pinatubo, Inc., and created in partnership with the Washington Rochambeau Revolutionary Route National Historic Trail, was honored in the General Non-Broadcast category. Created to coordinate with the Winter 2021 issue of *Hallowed Ground*, it tells the story of how two French officers who died fighting for American freedom finally received permanent headstones, nearly 250 years later.

*How We Became America: The UNTOLD History* was honored in the online series group. These videos celebrate that not everything worth knowing exists inside the cover of our history textbooks. The still-growing series is associated with the Driving

Force Institute's larger Untold initiative, which is produced and distributed by Makematic and the University of Southern California's Center for Engagement-Driven Global Education (EDGE). Ongoing funding has been made available through the HTR Foundation and, in the form of matching grants, the federal American Battlefield Protection Program.★





## TRUST ASSISTS REHAB PROJECTS *at Little Round Top*

**C**ETTYSBURG'S major rehabilitation project to upgrade facilities and increase safety at Devil's Den and Little Round Top received a major boost with a \$2-million gift from the American Battlefield Trust and the National Park Foundation. The joint contribution to restore historic Little Round Top was facilitated through philanthropist John L. Nau III, who serves on the boards of both organizations and is the former chair of the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

"There is power in place, a unique ability to inspire and teach that comes from being physically present at a site where great events transpired," said Nau. "Ensuring that such locations are well-situated to offer visitors a meaningful and pleasing experience materially advances that goal."

Work at Little Round Top will relieve chronically overcrowded parking areas, address erosion concerns, create accessible trail alignments, install new interpretation and otherwise make the area more functional and appealing to visitors. The extensive project is expected to close the area to visitors for approximately 18 months, beginning this summer. Separate but related rehabilitation work to address erosion issues closed nearby Devil's Den in late March.

"The American Battlefield Trust is committed to safeguarding the unique resources within battlefield parks," said organization President David Duncan. "The very popularity of certain areas of the park can compound how forces of nature wear upon historic landscapes, and ongoing effort is required to keep these places looking as they did when the battle occurred."★

## VICTORY WEEK ANNOUNCEMENT *sees Trust crest 55,000-acre milestone*

**M**AY IS PRESERVATION MONTH, and in 2022, the Trust used the occasion to mark its second annual Victory Week, a new tradition celebrating the complex process that moves a property from "at risk" to "saved forever." Not only were there achievements totaling 659 acres across seven sites to toast, but the event pushed us past the significant milestone of 55,000 acres of hallowed ground protected!

"It's a gratifying feeling when you take a moment to step back and see what your hard work has produced," said Trust President David Duncan. "This week gives the Trust the opportunity to not only showcase the fruits of its labor, but also thank our generous members for the role they play in the 'victory' process."

The Victory Week roster included Bentonville, N.C. (seven acres), Cedar Mountain, Va. (86 acres), Chattanooga, Tenn. (302 acres), Cold Harbor, Va. (six acres), Manassas, Va. (four acres) and Trevilian Station, Va. (nine acres). But the most notable element was the 245-acre James Custis Farm on Virginia's Williamsburg Battlefield.

Protection of the site had long posed a challenge to the preservation community, with its massive \$9.2-million value. However, the project was awarded the largest matching grant in the history of the federal American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP), and additional support was garnered from the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, a landowner donation and the U.S. Navy's Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program. Ultimately, this combined assistance enabled a remarkable \$163-to-\$1 match for the Trust's fundraising campaign.

The James Custis Farm represents the second-most expensive project the Trust has ever undertaken — the first being the organization's 16-year campaign to protect the Slaughter Pen Farm in Fredericksburg, Va. In both cases, the work was not undertaken alone, but with steadfast and collaborative partners. That full victory could be declared on both within a month is especially worth celebrating.★

Learn more about  
these most recent  
victories



Trevilian Station Battlefield  
Louisa County, Va.  
ROBERT JAMES

## TRUST AND DAR JOINING FORCES *to create "DAR Pathway of the Patriots" Memorial Grove*

**D**EDICATED, RESPECTIVELY, to the people and places integral to the story of our nation's founding and independence, the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the American Battlefield Trust share a commitment to finding tangible and lasting ways to remember that critical period in history. Our latest collaboration will see the establishment of DAR's 250-tree memorial grove, the Pathway of the Patriots, on Trust-protected Revolutionary War battlefield land.

We celebrated the initiation of this vision with a ceremonial tree planting on June 7 at the Old Custom House, headquarters of DAR's Comte de Rochambeau Chapter, in Yorktown, Va. Speakers included DAR President General Denise VanBuren and Trust Vice Chair Mary Abroe, as well as leadership from the DAR Virginia State Society and local chapters.

"Our two organizations are united in understanding the power of tangible links to the past," said Abroe. "From physical landscapes to family legacy, there are ties that bind us across the centuries to the essence of the American story."

VanBuren agreed, noting that Yorktown was an ideal location for this ceremonial planting: "Just as the struggle to win our nation's independence culminated at Yorktown, it is altogether fitting that this gift to the nation takes root here in order to pay tribute to those who ultimately endured eight long years of war to win our liberties."



Members of DAR's Comte de Rochambeau Chapter and Trust Vice Chair Mary Abroe at the Old Custom House in Yorktown, Va.

The DAR Pathway of the Patriots was first envisioned in 2019, and DAR members rallied to the plan, with individual chapters and members enthusiastically stepping forward to sponsor trees in memory of individual Revolutionary War participants. As the relationship between the two organizations has deepened into multiple collaborative projects, the concept evolved to embrace the Trust's place-based mission through a grove honoring America's first citizen soldiers on one of the battlefields where many of them fought.★

## DATA CENTER THREAT GIVES BATTLEFIELDS DUBIOUS HONOR: *Spot on Preservation Virginia's annual "Most Endangered" list*

**E**ACH MAY, Preservation Virginia shines a spotlight on imperiled sites across the Old Dominion with its annual list of Most Endangered sites. The 2022 edition included an entry showcasing the threat posed by data centers to historic battlefield land, specifically citing Manassas National Battlefield Park and the Brandy Station Battlefield.

As part of coalitions opposing these data centers, the Trust has stressed the detrimental impacts that data centers can have on historic landscapes. While typically seen as a low-impact industry, data centers actually use an immense amount of power, create swaths of impermeable surfaces and have significant noise and viewshed impacts, therefore placing a blemish on otherwise pristine and cherished swathes of land. Unlike the housing or commercial developments that have infringed on battlefields in decades past, data centers are a new, 21st-century consideration that communities and the conservation community are learning how to address.

"We want the local officials in these counties to understand that as with any type of development, preservation and data centers are not mutually exclusive," said Trust President David Duncan. "These communities

can have both, but it all depends on the careful consideration of location. With its highly regarded report, Preservation Virginia has empowered this important message and turned attention to an issue that is far from over in the Commonwealth and throughout the country."

Despite public outcry and concerns expressed by the Trust and a vigilant coalition of eight other national, regional and local organizations, an Amazon data center was recently approved by Culpeper County on 230 acres of historic farmland, situated beside two nationally significant, historic properties. Six landowners have filed a complaint and petition, claiming the rezoning approval was a violation of Virginia and local law.

Meanwhile, the Prince William County Board is considering an expansion of its data center district to allow industrial development near both of Prince William County's National Park Service sites — Manassas National Battlefield Park and Prince William Forest Park — a possibility that the Trust and an impressive coalition of organizations has ardently stood against.

Read the full report and discover the other threatened sites at [www.preservationva.org](http://www.preservationva.org).★

Tell officials history  
matters more than  
data centers



## PARK DAY RETURNED TO SITES NATIONWIDE

*Volunteers helped bring our country's historic gems to their best and brightest*

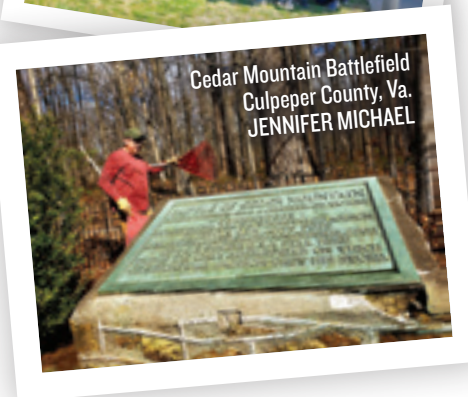
**A**S MANY EMBARK on adventures at historic sites across the country this summer, it is important to remember that some of them were readied for this exciting, busy season with the support of the American Battlefield Trust's annual Park Day clean-up effort. Between Boy and Girl Scouts, Rotarians, Lions Club members, church groups, ROTC units, youth groups, Wounded Warrior groups and many others, almost 460,000 cumulative hours of labor have been contributed to Park Day since 1996.

This year, the Trust proudly supported 97 Park Day sites in 27 states, ranging from Massachusetts to Nevada, and welcomed more than 3,200 volunteers who contributed in excess of 8,000 hours of labor. Furthermore, the value of this volunteer time is estimated to be the equivalent of \$230,000. These passionate volunteers practiced hands-on preservation in a multitude of ways, including — but not limited to — the painting of signs, trash and leaf removal, marker clean-up, trail and fence building and garden maintenance. The Trust extends its most sincere thanks to these volunteers for their exceptional work and dedication to historic preservation.

Revisit Park Day 2022 and help us plan for 2023!

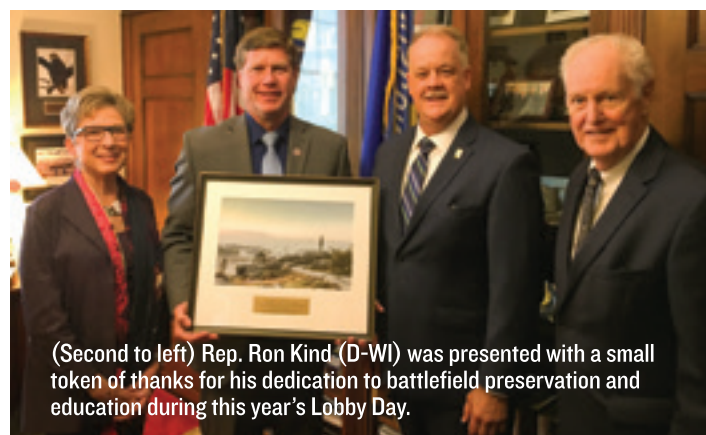


We look forward to uplifting these historic sites yet again by celebrating Park Day 2023 on Saturday, April 15, and hope you will encourage a park near you to join us in continuing this nationwide tradition of volunteerism!★



## CRAWFORD RECEIVES *two-fold recognition*

**F**OR DECADES, Charlie Crawford has been a driving force for the preservation and interpretation of Georgia Civil War history. In May, he was twice honored for this work, receiving major awards from the Trust and the Georgia Historical Society — the presentations of both having been delayed due to the pandemic. Congratulations to Charlie on both well-deserved honors: the Trust's Shelby Foote Preservation Legacy Award and the Society's John Macpherson Berrien Award!★



(Second to left) Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) was presented with a small token of thanks for his dedication to battlefield preservation and education during this year's Lobby Day.

## LOBBY DAY RETURNS TO CAPITOL HILL

**T**HROUGH its annual Lobby Day events, the American Battlefield Trust has conducted hundreds of meetings with Senators and Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, to share with them the work our organization does to preserve battlefield land, thank them for their support and ask for their continued backing of federal initiatives that benefit battlefield preservation organizations throughout the country. As a result, we have seen increases in funding for battlefield acquisition both inside and outside National Park Service boundaries, expansions at several major national battlefield parks, and the creation of two new grant programs to restore and interpret preserved battlefields.

This June, in the Trust's first in-person Lobby Day since the COVID lockdowns of March of 2020, trustees and staff took part in more than 90 meetings with House, Senate and administration officials.★

## TRUST PARTNERS WITH NASHVILLE AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL ALLIANCE *to protect historic Fort Negley on St. Cloud Hill*

**I**N THE LAST YEAR, the American Battlefield Trust and the Nashville African American Cultural Alliance (NAACA) have been working to protect Fort Negley, the largest inland fort built during the Civil War. Nashville Metro Parks manages the fort and the adjacent Nashville Cemetery, leasing a portion of the land to the Adventure Science Center (ASC).

This popular, family-friendly museum determined it would plant an arboretum as both an educational exhibit and a fundraiser. Unfortunately, the proposed arboretum would encroach on the wartime boundaries of the fort, including an area suspected of containing the graves of those who built the fort, as well as individuals from the historic Bass Street neighborhood, among the first free Black neighborhoods in Nashville.

NAACA's education mission centers on sharing the stories of those who worked, lived and died during the construction of the fort and the surrounding settlement. More than 4,000 Black workers — some fugitives from slavery, some impressed into service, some free Blacks conscripted by the Union — labored on the fort, with hundreds who died during construction buried in unmarked graves around the park. Many of their descendants live in Nashville today.

The entire area is an important cultural landscape. Union forces built the fort on St. Cloud Hill overlooking Nashville in 1862. Today, it is adjacent to the Bass Street community and the Nashville Cemetery, which boasts its own popular and free arboretum. Fort Negley is listed as a Site of Memory by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the only such site in Tennessee. Clearly, the area is rich with intact archaeological deposits.

Faced with this potentially invasive proposal, NAACA worked with the Trust to get a review by the Tennessee Historical Commission. A hearing was conducted to encourage a review, and arbitration resulted in a victory for Fort Negley. Future plantings, changes, modifications or developments on the leased property will be communicated to Metro Parks and published on its website. Sensitive areas not currently managed by ASC will not have trees added. Representatives from both ASC and NAACA will be present with professional archaeologists to carefully locate trees until the ASC arboretum achieves "Class one" status. ASC and Metro Parks acknowledge the importance of further archaeology at the site and will work cooperatively to develop procedures for additional scientific archaeology.★



Fort Negley  
Nashville, Tenn.  
MICHAEL BYERLEY

## CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT LAND at Ohio's Buffington Island brings the Trust's work to a 25th state

**WHEN THE** first meeting of our predecessor organization, the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, convened on July 18, 1987, not even the most visionary attendees could foresee the impact their small group would grow to have. As we celebrate our 35th anniversary, we've crossed two once-unimaginable milestones — 55,000 acres saved forever, spread across more than 150 battlefields — and stand on the threshold of a third: protecting hallowed ground in a 25th state!

"Seeing our preservation footprint extend to half the states in the Union is a meaningful milestone," said Trust President David Duncan. "Not only are we working to save endangered sites, but also demonstrating the broad array of communities where visitors can experience America's transformative history through the power of place."

This spring, the Trust began a fundraising campaign to protect land at four battlefields, including Buffington Island, Ohio, where we've targeted a 117-acre

property. This historic ground, located in Meigs County, southwestern Ohio, is threatened by residential development and nearby mining that would encroach on the battlefield and nearby state memorial park. If successfully acquired by the Trust, the property may eventually be interpreted to enrich the visitor experience at the battlefield and preserve a critical piece of the Buckeye State's Civil War past.

In July 1863, Confederate Maj. Gen. John Hunt Morgan and his men made their way to Buffington Island, where he hoped to cross back over the river and get out of Ohio unscathed after a daring cavalry raid north. On the very ground we are trying to save, Morgan encountered 3,000 Union artillery, infantry and cavalry accompanied by U.S. Navy gunboats. The fighting ended with 700 Confederates surrendering and others captured, wounded or killed. Morgan initially escaped, but surrendered eight days later, ending the reign of his feared cavalry force.

The battle itself took place on the mainland along the Ohio River near the titular island. Today, visitors can visit the four-acre Buffington Island Battlefield Memorial Park located on the banks of the Ohio River to learn more about the battle and see the plaque marking where Maj. Daniel McCook was mortally wounded.

The Buffington Island Battlefield Preservation Foundation is a local friends group partnering with the park to help preserve and interpret the battlefield.

The Foundation also educates the public about Morgan's Raid and Ohio's largest Civil War battlefield. They coordinate volunteer opportunities to help maintain the park, offer public events and advocate for the preservation of the battlefield.

To learn more, visit: [www.buffingtonbattlefieldfoundation.org](http://www.buffingtonbattlefieldfoundation.org).

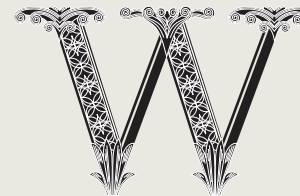
Included alongside Buffington Island in the fundraising appeal are three other lesser-known sites associated with famous generals: Ulysses S. Grant at the November 1861 Battle of Belmont in Missouri and Kentucky, William T. Sherman at the December 1862 Battle of Chickasaw Bayou in Mississippi and J.E.B. Stuart at the June 1863 Battle of Upperville in Virginia. Together, these 311 acres of hallowed ground are valued at nearly \$2.7 million, but thanks to key partnerships and anticipated federal and state matching grants, the Trust's fundraising need is only \$206,207 — a valuable \$13-to-\$1 return on investment. Learn more about the campaign to protect pivotal pieces of these four storied battlefield sites at [www.battlefields.org/save311](http://www.battlefields.org/save311).★



Buffington Island Battlefield Memorial Park  
Portland, Ohio  
JENNIFER GOELLNITZ



## DPAA IDENTIFIES REMAINS of two Medal of Honor recipients



**WHILE** the American Battlefield Trust's preservation mission focuses on conflicts of the 18th and 19th centuries, our collaboration with the Congressional Medal of Honor Society brings our place-based approach to history education and interpretation to a wider array of eras.

Since 1863, a total of 3,511 individuals have earned the Medal of Honor, with 655 of them awarded posthumously, meaning that the individual died in the course of performing the deed for which they are recognized. Of those, more than 70, dating from the Civil War through Vietnam, are officially deemed Missing in Action, their remains never recovered or buried in a grave marked Unknown.

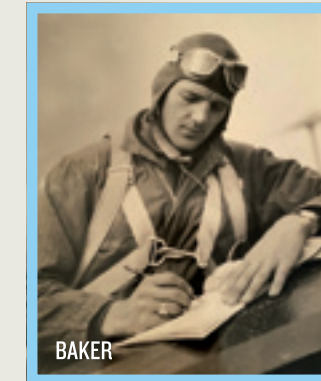
As we readied to launch the Medal of Honor Valor Trail in March, word came that one of these men had been accounted for, some 80 years after his death aboard the USS *Oklahoma* at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. After the ship was struck multiple times in the sudden attack, James R. Ward, a 20-year-old native of Springfield, Ohio, remained at his post with a flashlight to help guide others off the capsized vessel. He was one of 429 men to perish on the *Oklahoma*, and one of 394 who could not be identified and was buried as Unknown.



Ward's identification was the work of the Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), a remarkable entity that uses painstaking research and cutting-edge scientific analysis to positively identify the remains of U.S. servicemen and women. Beginning in 2003, DPAA worked steadily on a comprehensive project to disinter and identify *Oklahoma's* unknown remains, examining more than 13,000 bones in the process. On Pearl Harbor Day 2021, the project was declared complete — only 33 sets of remains could not be individually identified. Ward's



The capsized USS *Oklahoma* days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii.  
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



BAKER

match occurred in August, making him one of the final sailors accounted for.

Just two months later, DPAA announced the identification of a second set of remains belonging to a WWII Medal of Honor recipient born in Ohio. U.S. Army Air Forces Lt. Col. Addison E. Baker, 36, was the commander of the 328th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 93rd Bombardment Group (Heavy), 9th Air Force. On August 1, 1943, he was piloting a

B-24 Liberator bomber during Operation TIDAL WAVE, the largest World War II bombing mission against the oil fields and refineries north of Bucharest, Romania. During its bombing run, his plane was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and crashed, but not before he dropped his bombs on their target and avoided crashing into the other B-24s in his formation.

Remains that could not be identified, Baker's among them, were buried as Unknowns in the Hero Section of the Civilian and Military Cemetery of Bolovan in Romania. Following the war, the American Graves Registration Command (AGRC), the organization that searched for and recovered fallen American personnel, was unable to identify more than 80 individuals, and they were permanently interred at Ardennes American Cemetery and Henri-Chapelle American Cemetery, both in Belgium.

In 2017, DPAA began exhuming Unknowns believed to be associated with unaccounted-for airmen from Operation TIDAL WAVE. These remains were sent to the DPAA Laboratory at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, for examination and identification. To identify Baker's remains, scientists from DPAA used anthropological analysis, as well as circumstantial evidence. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System used mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and Y chromosome DNA (Y-STR) analysis.

The identification of two Medal of Honor recipients is certainly notable, especially because DPAA's mission is far broader than that limited universe. The agency looks to provide the fullest possible accounting for the approximately 81,000 missing Department of Defense personnel from the nation's past conflicts, regardless of rank, decoration or other consideration.

The Trust salutes DPAA's important work of using technology to unlock secrets of the past and helping thousands of families find solace through the identification of their loved ones. We are proud that our allies at American Veterans Archaeological Recovery have contributed to DPAA missions in the United Kingdom and Sicily. To learn more about DPAA's work, visit [www.dpaa.mil](http://www.dpaa.mil).★

Learn about the  
*Oklahoma* Project  
that identified  
Ward





**THE PROVING GROUND:**  
**REVOLUTIONARY**  
**OHIO**



BY KATE EGNER GRUBER

**“OUI SHI CAT TO OUI!”** Hokolessqua bellowed to his fellow Shawnee warriors as they faced 1,000 Virginians on October 10, 1774. “Be strong!”

Days before, Colonel Andrew Lewis led his militiamen from the east to the confluence of the Ohio and Kanawha Rivers, where they met a combined force of between 500-700 Shawnee and Mingo led by Hokolessqua, sometimes known as Cornstalk. But the Virginians’ flank attack on Cornstalk’s forces won the day, causing the allied Indigenous force to retreat. At the Battle of Point Pleasant, Captain Lewis had secured Virginia governor John Murray, Lord Dunmore’s aim of forcing Cornstalk into a peace treaty. The Treaty of Camp Charlotte was signed on October 19, 1774, along the banks of Scippo Creek, today in Ohio’s Pickaway County. The treaty opened lands south of the Ohio River to European settlement. It also invited the ire of Indigenous nations like the Shawnee and Mingo against the Virginians.

Waged six months before and more than 750 miles west of Lexington and Concord, some historians credit the Battle of Point Pleasant as the first battle of the

Revolution. Perhaps the Revolution, then, started not in New England, but in the Ohio Valley; at minimum, Dunmore’s War and the actions of his militia in Ohio were an omen of things to come.

There was certainly revolutionary sentiment among the Virginia militiamen who encamped at Fort Gower, in modern Athens County, Ohio, after their engagement at Point Pleasant. While camped there future patriot leaders George Rogers Clark, Daniel Morgan, and others met on November 5 to discuss the developing situation, and where their loyalties should lay.

Bolstered by their victory at Point Pleasant on behalf of the king and his royal governor, but confident in their own band of frontier brotherhood, they put forward:

*“Resolved, that we will bear the most faithful allegiance to His Majesty, King George the Third, whilst His Majesty delights to reign over a brave and free people; that we will, at the expense of life, and everything dear and valuable, exert ourselves in support of his crown, and the dignity of the British Empire. But as the love of liberty,*

*and attachment to the real interests and just rights of America outweigh every other consideration, we resolve that we will exert every power within us for the defense of American liberty, and for the support of her just rights and privileges; not on any precipitate, riotous or tumultuous voice of our countrymen.”*

The *Virginia Gazette* published the Fort Gower Resolves on December 22 — perhaps the first public declaration of the rights of *American liberty* over allegiance to the British Empire.

By the time the Revolutionary War waged in earnest, the Ohio territory had long-been a contested landscape. The Iroquois knew the vast river as *O He Yo*, the Great River, and the name soon came to encompass this land in the west. The French first explored the territory for its potential in the fur trade, and were followed by English colonists who formed the Ohio Land Company to speculate for settlement there. Wealthy Virginians, including members of the Lee and Washington clans, lost potential profits when the Proclamation Line of 1763



forbid permanent settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains. George Mason’s attempts to renew the Ohio Company in 1772 met further roadblocks in 1774’s Quebec Act, in which Parliament ceded lands north of the Ohio River to the Province of Quebec, further denying colonial speculation in the west.

By year’s end, Dunmore’s War had forced the Shawnee to cede territories in the Ohio Valley to land-hungry colonists infuriated by Parliamentary roadblocks. Months later, those same colonists went to war against Great Britain and, as conflict spread along the eastern seaboard, some eyes naturally turned westward. Throughout the Revolution, the interests (and musket balls)

**Across this landscape and its Great River Patriot militias declared their rights to life, liberty and property...**

of British soldiers, Patriots, and Indigenous nations collided in Ohio.

In December 1778, commander of the Continental Army’s Western Department General Lachlan McIntosh established Fort Laurens (located in modern-day Bolivar, Ohio) looking to engage the British at Detroit. The British took advantage of a harsh winter and deteriorating conditions there

and, along with allied members of the Wyandot, Mingo, and Delaware nations, laid siege to the fort for nearly a month. The plan worked — the Patriots were in no condition to advance to Detroit and by summer, the fort was abandoned.

Further south at the Shawnee capitol along the Little Miami River, near present-day Xenia, Chief Blackfish repulsed an attack by Kentucky militia on May 29, 1779, at the Battle of Old Chillicothe. The skirmish was brought on by years of back-and-forth raids across the Ohio, perpetuated by Blackfish for increasing colonial encroachment and after Chief Cornstalk’s death at the hands of American Patriots in 1777. Though he successfully led the Shawnee to push back the Patriot militia, Blackfish died from a gunshot wound received in the battle.

The next year, General George Rogers Clark mounted a campaign to destroy the Shawnee town of Piqua, not far from Old Chillicothe in present-day Springfield. On August 8, 1780, Clark led nearly 1000 Kentucky militiamen against the Shawnee and their allies, using artillery to smash the town’s wooden stockade. Clark’s men completed a total destruction of Piqua, staying behind for days to burn the town and its fields to the ground. The largest battle of the Revolution west of the mountains had many eyewitnesses, including a 12-year-old Tecumseh whose outlook was shaped by the hostilities perpetuated by Americans there.

Nor was that the last engagement in the region, despite its backcountry location. Across this landscape and its Great River patriot militias declared their rights to life, liberty, and property while Indigenous Americans combatted colonial encroachment and appropriation of their lands and sovereignty. In the end, Americans succeeded in settling the Ohio Territory, as veterans of America’s war for independence moved onto the once-contested landscape, claiming bounty lands for their patriotic service. But tensions remained long past the Treaty of Paris.★

*Kate Egnor Gruber, the acting director of curatorial services at the Jamestown Yorktown Foundation, grew up on the Piqua Battlefield in Ohio. She holds a master’s in American history from the College of William and Mary and a B.A. in Historic Preservation and Classics from the University of Mary Washington.*

*Northwest Indian War, 1786-1795*  
**AMERICA'S FIRST  
CONQUEST**

by **DANIEL DAVIS**

*Charge of the Dragoons at Fallen Timbers*  
by R. T. Zogbaum, 1895



**T**

**HE CONCLUSION** of the American Revolution significantly altered the landscape of North America. In the 1783 Treaty of Paris that ended the conflict, Great Britain ceded territory stretching from the Allegheny Mountains west to the Mississippi River and south from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. Native American tribes like the Shawnee, Miami and Delaware, many of them allies of the British, claimed this land as their own. Still, the British government in Canada hoped to maintain cordial relations with the tribes in the coveted Ohio River Valley, primarily due to the lucrative fur trade.

Between 1785 and 1787, the U.S. government negotiated treaties that steadily pushed tribes farther toward the Great Lakes. On July 13, 1787, Congress passed the Northwest Ordinance, creating a government for the Northwest Territory. The legislation outlined the process for creating new states, making white settlement inevitable and deepening the existing tension between Natives and the government.

In the spring and summer of 1790, the governor of the territory, Arthur St. Clair, traveled to Vincennes to make treaty overtures to tribes living along the Wabash River. When none responded, a frustrated St. Clair decided to initiate military operations. He instructed Brigadier General Josiah Harmar and the First American Regiment to march to Kekionga, the main Miami town, located where the St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Rivers converged to form the Maumee, and construct a fort.

Augmented by Kentucky and Pennsylvania militia, Harmar struck out from Fort Washington, outside Cincinnati, in late September. The Americans advanced in three columns, steadily moving north. On October 13, a captured Shawnee informed Harmar that the Miamis were evacuating their towns. Hoping to catch them before they fled, Harmar dispatched an advance guard under Colonel John Hardin. They arrived at Kekionga three days later, just a day ahead of the main body, to find it abandoned.

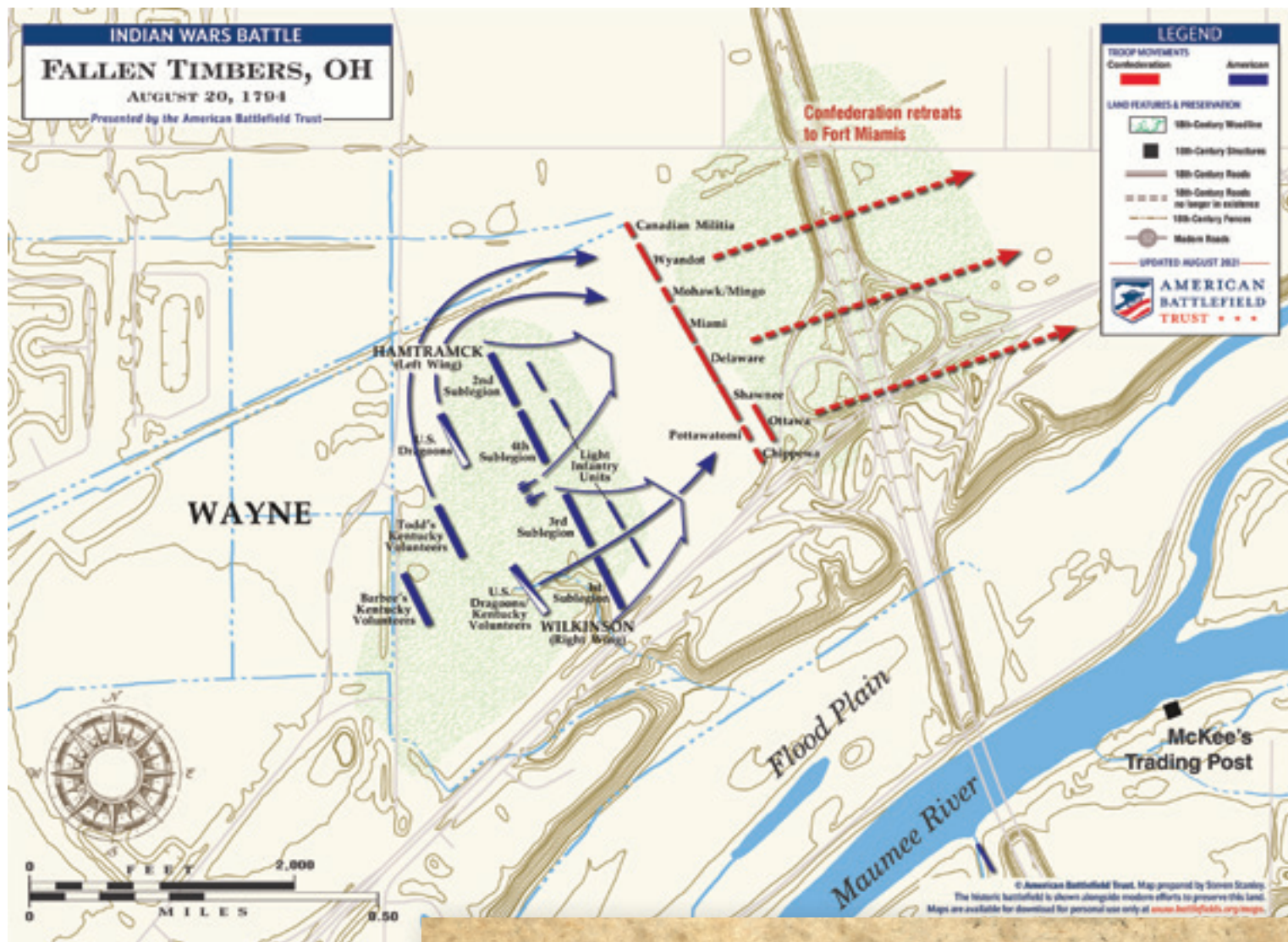
Acting on reports that the Miamis remained in the immediate vicinity, Harmar sent Hardin, along with a contingent of Regulars under Captain John Armstrong, northwest toward the Eel River. That afternoon, Miami warriors under Little Turtle ambushed the Americans near the river, sending them fleeing back to Harmar's camp.

Little Turtle's victory shifted the initiative to the Miami. The news shocked Harmar, who decided to give up the expedition and return to Fort Washington. He started south on October 21. That night, a scout left behind to monitor the Miamis reported that warriors had reoccupied Kekionga. Hoping to recover his fortunes and possibly surprise his foe, Harmar sent a force back under Major John Wyllys early on the morning of October 22.

Wyllys reached a ford along the Maumee opposite Kekionga later that day. Little Turtle and his Miamis, along with some Delaware, Sauk, Shawnee and Ottawa warriors, were indeed waiting for them. Once again, Little Turtle sprang an ambush. This time, the Americans put up a stiffer fight, and the engagement lasted for several hours. Eventually, the Americans broke off and withdrew to Harmar's main column. Dejected, Harmar continued his retreat, arriving at Fort Washington on November 3.

The failed campaign shocked President George Washington's administration. St. Clair, commissioned a major general, relieved Harmar. In March 1791, St. Clair and Washington began planning a new campaign. Following up on their success, Blue Jacket, a Shawnee chief, traveled to Detroit to confer with





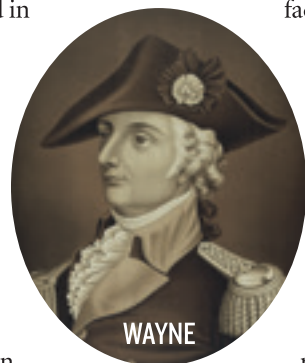
**Wayne thundered that his only order was to "Charge the damned rascals WITH THE BAYONET!"**

the British governor of Canada, Sir Guy Carleton. Blue Jacket pleaded for assistance, and although Carleton could not promise troops, he ordered munitions to be delivered to the tribes.

St. Clair planned to repeat Harmar's expedition and adopted the objective of building a fort at Kekionga. The army left Fort Washington on September 8. To secure his supply line, St. Clair ordered the construction of Forts Hamilton and Jefferson as he trudged north. On the afternoon of November 3, St. Clair reached the banks of the Wabash River and bedded down for the night. Unbeknownst to the Americans, a force of more than 1,000 warriors under Blue Jacket and Little Turtle crept toward them in the darkness. The warrior formation resembled a half moon, designed to close off any potential line of retreat, and the Native forces struck before dawn on November 4. After several hours of

fighting — an engagement known to history ignominiously as St. Clair's Defeat — the remnants of the American army, well-less than half its original size, fled in horror back to Fort Jefferson.

Blue Jacket and Little Turtle's triumph was the greatest defeat ever inflicted on the United States Army by a Native force. "O God, O God, he is worse than a murderer!" Washington raged against St. Clair upon receiving the news. "How can he answer to his country? The blood of the slain



is upon him — the curse of widows and orphans — the curse of heaven!"

Washington and his Cabinet now faced the monumental task of rebuilding the army and, after careful thought, appointed Revolutionary War hero "Mad" Anthony Wayne to succeed St. Clair. Wayne received his commission of major general on March 5, 1792, and soon set out to rendezvous with his new command, the freshly authorized and expanded Legion of the



United States, at Fort Fayette near Pittsburgh.

Wayne instilled a strict regimen of drill and discipline. The Legion departed for Cincinnati on April 30, 1793, arriving on May 6. Rather than occupy Fort Washington, Wayne established his men at a new camp at Hobson's Choice on the Ohio River. On October 7, Wayne began a march into the land that saw the destruction of St. Clair's army and the careers of his predecessors.

Aware of the mistakes of Harmar and St. Clair, Wayne determined not to fall into an ambush. He instructed his men to fortify their camps after each day's march. Ten days into his advance, however, a band of Ottawa attacked and routed one of the Legion's supply trains. This prompted Wayne to go into winter quarters. He ordered the construction of Fort Greenville, named for his old friend, commander and Continental Army officer, Nathanael Greene. In December, Wayne sent Major Henry Burbeck to the Wabash River to occupy St. Clair's battlefield, inter remains and build a fort later christened Recovery.

On July 28, 1794, Wayne and the Legion departed Fort Greenville. Rather than head to Kekionga, he charted a course to the north, then turned east toward the area known as the Grand Glaize, where the Auglaize River flowed into the Maumee. It was also the site of a large village. Wayne reached the Grand Glaize on August 8 and put his men to work constructing a new fort he named Defiance.

A week passed before Wayne marched out of Fort Defiance, heading northeast along the bank of the Maumee. On August 16, a flag of truce arrived from the warriors, asking Wayne to halt for 10 days until they

could come down and meet with him. This delaying tactic allowed the tribes to assemble at Fort Miamis, constructed that spring by Lieutenant Colonel John Graves Simcoe, the lieutenant governor of Canada, near the Maumee Rapids.

Wayne elected to continue his march. Sensing that the warriors were close, he slowed his pace to allow his scouts time to survey his front. The Legion reached Roche de Boeuf, a giant rock

outcropping in middle of the Maumee on August 18 and constructed Fort Deposit to house baggage in preparation for a final advance.

The Legion moved out at 5:00 a.m. on August 20, its two wings plunging into a forest thick with downed trees, earning the subsequent conflict the name the Battle of Fallen Timbers. Waiting for them was a force of Chippewa, Delaware, Mingo, Ottawa, Potawatomie and Wyandot.

The fighting started when Wayne's advance guard stumbled upon some nervous warriors, who quickly gained the upper hand and pushed the Legion back toward the main line. As his men came stumbling back through the trees, Wayne deployed his light infantry and called up his artillery. Lieutenant William Henry Harrison, Wayne's aide, admonished his commander not to ride too far ahead with-


out issuing orders. Wayne thundered that his only order was to "[C]harge the damned rascals with the bayonet!"

As the warriors advanced, they began feeling for the Legion's left, and Wayne sent troops to bolster that end of the line. Bitter fighting stabilized the line, and Wayne ordered a bayonet charge at trail arms. The right of Wayne's line advanced at about the same time, pressing the warriors back from the Legion. Major William Campbell, the British commander at Fort Miamis, hoping to avoid conflict, refused the retreating warriors entry. Wayne led his men to the fort, and after exchanging several messages with Campbell, withdrew on August 23.

Wayne returned to Fort Greenville. His battle with the tribes broke their resolve to fight. Beginning the week before Christmas, Natives began to appear at the fort seeking terms for peace. Blue Jacket himself arrived on February 7, 1795, and after meeting with Wayne, agreed to a cease fire, in exchange for supplies and the promise to return in the spring for negotiations. That summer, Wayne met with representatives from the tribes. The new treaty agreed to by both sides relinquished two-thirds of the present-day state of Ohio to the United States. The Treaty of Fort Greenville, however, served only as a temporary peace and laid the seeds for the next conflict in the Old Northwest.

*Daniel T. Davis is a senior education manager at the American Battlefield Trust. He is the author or co-author of six books in Savas Beatie's Emerging Civil War Series.*





# A NATIONAL CALAMITY

HOW THE HORRORS  
*at the* RIVER RAISIN  
BECAME *a* RALLYING CRY

**I**N 1812, as the United States and Great Britain spiraled toward another armed conflict, the Michigan Territory emerged as a critical theater of operations, its location north of Ohio (admitted to the Union in 1803) and its border with British-held Upper Canada made it an obvious avenue of invasion. American militias were called into service building preparatory roads even before the U.S. Congress declared war against Great Britain on June 18. With the ongoing war against Napoleon in Europe, few troops could be spared for service in North America, forcing British Major General Isaac Brock to depend on the cooperation of the Native American Confederation under the Shawnee war chief, Tecumseh.

American mobilization continued as Brigadier General William Hull, commander of the U.S. forces in the (Old) Northwest — accompanied by 1,200 Ohio militia and 200 regular soldiers — arrived in Detroit on July 5 and began preparations for the attack. Invasion of British-held present-day Ontario began on July 12. While Hull assailed the British at Fort Amherstburg, a small British force surrounded and took control of the unaware U.S. garrison at Fort Mackinac. Hull, unable to hold the captured Fort Amherstburg and protect an overextended supply line that stretched back to Ohio,

returned to Detroit in the first week of August.

Hull surrendered Detroit and the entire Michigan Territory on August 16 after a siege by British and Native warriors, knowing more Native warriors were enroute from the upper Great Lakes, and cut off from American support assembling at the River Raisin close to the Ohio border. The British and their Native allies were able to secure firm control over much of the Old Northwest as they pushed the frontier back to Fort Wayne, Indiana. Upon liberating Fort Wayne, Major General William Henry Harrison soon turned his sights on coordinating efforts to recapture Detroit. He established a base at the Maumee Rapids, south of present-day Toledo, Ohio.

In January 1813, these American forces were assembling for a winter campaign to retake Detroit. Revolutionary War veteran Brigadier General James Winchester, an early arrival, received a request from River Raisin settlers to lift British control of their community. Winchester dispatched more than 550 men from the 1st and 5th Kentucky Volunteer Regiments, under the command of Colonels William Lewis and John Allen to the River Raisin.

American efforts to outflank allied Canadian militiamen and Confederacy warriors proved unsuccessful, and the fighting dissolved into a series of fierce skirmishes through the dense woods to the north. In “the woods the fighting became general and most obstinate,” wrote

by RIVER RAISIN NATIONAL  
BATTLEFIELD PARK STAFF  
PHOTOGRAPHY by JAMES SALZANO

one Kentuckian. “[T]he enemy resisting every inch of ground as they were compelled to fall back.” Over the course of two miles the slow-moving battle continued until darkness fell, with the retreating forces taking cover to fire on the pursuing Kentuckians, then dashing to another protected area before the pursuers could regroup or return accurate fire.

The victorious Kentucky Volunteers set up camp within the protection of the puncheon fence and French habitant homes. Upon word that the area was liberated, Winchester assembled four additional companies and proceeded to the River Raisin on January 20, 1813, bringing the number of American troops close to 1,000. Upon arriving, the 17th Infantry set up camp 200-300 yards outside the puncheon fence line in the bitter cold and deep snow. Meanwhile, the British and Native warriors prepared a counterattack across a frozen Lake Erie at Fort Amherstburg in Canada.

### Second Battle at the River Raisin

Arriving before dawn on January 22 and unnoticed by the American sentries, a force of 600 British Canadians and 800 Native warriors gathered into battle positions along the Mason Run creek, about 250–350 yards to the north of the settlement. British regulars and artillery were positioned in the center, a dispersed clustering of Native warriors made up mostly of Anishinaabeg (Ojibwe and Potawatomi) and Miami, accompanied by some Canadian militia were to the west, and to the east was a large number of Native warriors, mostly Wyandot and Shawnee, in the forward position, supported by Canadian militia and artillery to their rear.

Reveille sounded, and an American sentry spotted the British in the pre-dawn light. He fired a shot into the forward line that killed the lead grenadier, and the report of his musket sent 1,000 just-awakened soldiers scrambling for their battle positions. Almost immediately, the British opened with their artillery and the infantry pushed forward from its center position. As they drew within range of the settlement, the infantrymen fired a powerful volley at what, in the still-dark distance, had seemed to be a line of soldiers. Assuming they had the advantage, the British made a fierce charge forward, but the target of their fusillade proved to be the puncheon fence behind which the protected Kentuckians could fire at will. With British artillery overshooting the mark, and the fence providing ample



River Raisin National Battlefield Park  
Monroe, Mich.

protection, the Kentuckians were unscathed and unrelenting.

Matters were quite different to the east, where the Canadian militiamen quickly adjusted the aim of their artillery and wreaked havoc on the exposed position of the U.S. 17th Infantry. As cannon fire tore through

## THESE WERE BRAVE WORDS, but the Kentuckians' position was dire...

**In short, Major George Madison of the Kentucky 1st Regiment had two choices: to surrender to the British or, as he put it, “be massacred in cold blood.”**

the encampment and shattered breastworks, the Regulars also had to contend with militiamen and Wyandot fighters who had taken possession of some nearby buildings from which they could fire at will into the American encampment. The Americans struggled to hold their ground, but eventually faltered when mounted warriors came around their right flank. An attempt was made to send a few companies of Kentucky militiamen to the aid of the 17th Infantry, but the effort proved disastrous.

General Winchester, arriving from his headquarters, ordered the infantrymen to fall back to the north bank of the river where they could rendezvous with the Kentuckians. Together they made a brief stand, but were soon overwhelmed by the pursuing Canadian, Wyandot and Shawnee fighters. After a frantic retreat to the south side of the river and another futile stand, the American position disintegrated entirely. Within 20

minutes, about 220 U.S. soldiers were killed and another 147 captured. Only 33 American Regulars managed to escape back to the Maumee River.

But the actions east and south of Frenchtown barely registered for the British Regulars and the Kentuckians still entrenched behind the fence lines. Instead, they remained locked in what seemed to be the main battle area. Over the course of two hours, the British regrouped and made two more frontal attacks, but the Kentuckian position was too strong — British losses were perhaps four times greater than those suffered by the entrenched Kentuckians.

As the British pulled back and evaluated their seemingly weakening situation, they received revelations about the status elsewhere. Winchester, now a prisoner of war and unable to give orders to those still engaged, arrived in the area. When told that his men would otherwise be burned out of their position and attacked by a much larger force of Native warriors, he agreed to send a message encouraging the Kentuckians still within the pickets to surrender. When they received the message, the riflemen Kentuckians balked, feeling themselves still able to carry the day. As Private Elias Darnell later recalled, “Some plead[ed] with the officers not to surrender, saying they would rather die on the field!”

These were brave words, but the Kentuckians' position was dire. Their ammunition was low, they were completely hemmed in on the south, British artillery was in position to fire volleys of gunfire through their defensive lines and Confederacy warriors



The post-battle “River Raisin Massacre”  
Clements Library / UNIV. OF MICHIGAN

were firing into the heart of the settlement while preparing to set it on fire. In short, Major George Madison of the Kentucky 1st Regiment had two choices: to surrender to the British or, as he put it, “be massacred in cold blood.” Still, Madison was committed to holding out long enough to influence the terms of surrender. After some back-and-forth with the British over the disposition of prisoners, protection from Confederacy forces and care of the wounded, Madison formally capitulated.

Expecting American reinforcements from General Harrison's troops, the British quickly withdrew due to heavy casualties. The battle was costly for the British Regulars and Canadian militia, but for the Americans it was an unmitigated disaster: Of the 934 who had heard the morning's reveille, 901 were either dead, wounded or prisoners of war.

### A National Calamity Turned Rallying Cry

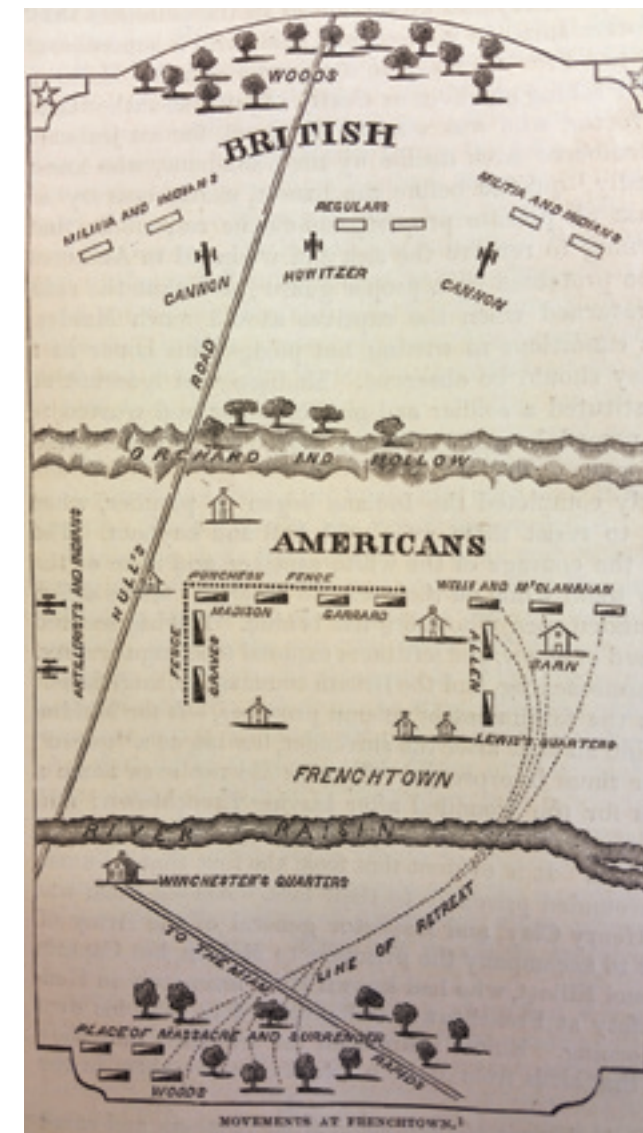
When the British departed, they left the Americans who were too wounded to walk in the homes of the French inhabitants under a small guard of British troops. On January 23 in retaliation for past brutalities, Native warriors returned to the River Raisin to plunder and burn homes, killing and scalping many of the remaining Americans and taking others captive. Official U.S. estimates of the aftermath include a dozen named individuals killed and up to 60 more who were probably killed in this manner.

The event that became known as the “River Raisin Massacre” was not a sudden burst of collective violence. Rather, it began as a somewhat incredulous confirmation that no U.S. forces had arrived, then progressed to a deliberate taking of valuables and able-

bodied captives that was later punctuated by the killing of the most severely wounded survivors. As Dr. Gustavus Bower later described what transpired, “They did not molest any person or thing upon their first approach, but kept sauntering about until there were a large number collected, (one or two hundred) at which time they commenced plundering the houses of the inhabitants and the massacre of the wounded prisoners.”

Even then, the killings followed a method that — however brutal — might be described as utilitarian. The wounded who could not travel were the primary victims, and they were killed swiftly. The looting, the taking of able-bodied prisoners and the burning of buildings and structures were done methodically — Dr. John Todd, a surgeon with the Kentucky 5th Regiment Volunteer Militia later described these actions as a kind of “orderly conduct.” This deliberateness of behavior did not diminish, and perhaps intensified, the horror many survivors later described. Indeed, the most vivid recollections related to the systematic nature of the killings and treatment of the remains.

The battle ended in what was described as a “national calamity” by then Major General, and later president of the United States, William Henry Harrison. It also left an impact on the broader American consciousness. The Americans who pushed north to liberate Detroit went on to destroying the British-Canadian-Indian coalition in the



west at the Battle of the Thames, near present-day Chatham, Ontario, on October 5, 1813. Fueled by the battle cry, “Remember the Raisin!” their massive victory sealed the War of 1812 in the western theater for the United States, claimed the life of the great Shawnee leader Tecumseh, and resulted in the end the American Indian Confederation. In an even broader sense, the aftermath of these battles resulted in the implementation of U.S. policy of Indian removal from the Northwest Territory at the conclusion of the War of 1812, leading to the Indian Removal Act of 1830, a policy that continues to resonate today.★

*Established in 2009 as a National Park, the River Raisin National Battlefield Park interprets the Battles of the River Raisin and its Aftermath. To learn more, please visit our website at [www.nps.gov/rira](http://www.nps.gov/rira)*

# CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

JOHN HUNT MORGAN'S  
DISRUPTIVE (AND (UNAUTHORIZED) RAID  
BEHIND ENEMY LINES

by CAROLINE DAVIS



*Gen. Morgan*

# IN

## the summer of 1863,

Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans and his Army of the Cumberland received orders from Maj. Gen. Henry Halleck in Washington, D.C., instructing them to prepare for a march toward Gen. Braxton Bragg's Confederate troops. Bragg was busy trying to establish a strong defensive position in Tennessee, but he needed more time. To buy that time, Brig. Gen. John Hunt Morgan proposed a plan to keep Rosecrans away from Bragg. The plan was similar to one the Union had used in the spring of the same year, when Col. Benjamin H. Greirson led a raid behind Confederate lines for 16 days, covering some 600 miles.

Morgan's idea was to take more than 2,000 cavalry through Kentucky to threaten Louisville. Next, he would attempt to destroy the Louisville & Nashville Railroad lines that the Union troops depended on for supplies. Morgan proposed to Bragg that his men would then cross the Ohio River into

Indiana, turn east for Ohio, re-cross the Ohio River and make their way back to Bragg through Kentucky or possibly West Virginia. Bragg did not approve of Morgan's plan, but relented that he would allow a raid into Kentucky, under the condition that the raiders would not cross the Ohio River. Ultimately, what was to be a mere distraction became the longest, albeit unauthorized, raid of the Civil War.

Morgan entered Kentucky on July 2, and after five days in the Bluegrass State, the soon-to-be infamous raiders headed north, spending an additional five days in Indiana, before turning east into Ohio. At the time of the Civil War, Ohio was the third-most populous state, behind New York and Pennsylvania. As word of the

impending raid reached Ohio, panic ran rampant; nearly all men of fighting age were away, engaged in the many bloody battles that occurred in summer of 1863.

The raiders, happy to be leaving Indiana, gleefully gazed upon the town of Harrison, a small community that straddles the Indiana and Ohio border, around noon on July 13, 1863. Confederate Lt. Col. James McCreary was quite impressed with the setting:

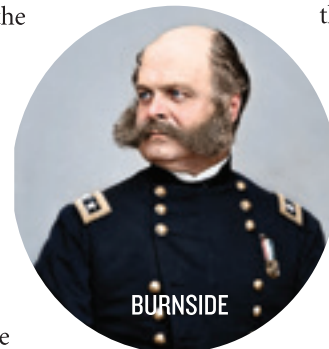
*Today we reach Harrison, the most beautiful town I have yet seen in the North. A place, seemingly, where love and beauty, peace and prosperity, sanctified by true religion, might hold high carnival. Here we destroyed a magnificent bridge and saw many beautiful women.*

Harrison's citizens had heard tell of the approaching Confederates. When the Rebels arrived, they were met by locked stores and boarded-up homes, with resident families cowering inside. These minimal defenses didn't deter the raiders, and in their typical fashion, they started pillaging, helping themselves to anything they wanted, including some unusual items like ladies' hats and dresses. "They pillaged like boys robbing an orchard," wrote one Harrison citizen. Morgan's men managed to leave the town in complete disarray after only a few hours, departing around 3:00 p.m.

Continuing east toward Hamilton, the raiders were ever aware of the threat that Cincinnati, just to the south, held for them. In an attempt to thwart the Yankee soldiers in the Queen City from knowing their exact whereabouts and movements, Morgan discussed false plans within earshot of those he had previously captured, hoping they would report to the next Union force they came across, once they were released.

The fake plan involved an attack on Hamilton, but Morgan's real plan was to circumvent the Union army and make haste toward the nearest passable ford on the Ohio River. After he released the prisoners, Morgan sent 500 of his men to Miamitown, just east of Cincinnati, and headed northeast with the remaining raiders.

In the meantime, Union Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside and his thousands of soldiers were hard at work in Cincinnati developing a plan



BURNSIDE

Burnside portrait LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, colorized by MADS MADSEN



to stop the raiders. Burnside ordered all militia units from 32 southern Ohio counties to report to four specific locations. He told the men nearest the Ohio River to dig in and be prepared to head off Morgan should he try to cross the river.

Halleck, with no idea what General Burnside was facing in Ohio, ordered him to relocate to Knoxville, Tennessee. When Halleck didn't receive a response, he sent a telegram to Rosecrans in Tennessee on July 13: "General Burnside has been frequently urged to move forward and cover your left, by entering East Tennessee. I do not know what he is doing. He seems tied fast to Cincinnati." The telegram's timing coincided with Morgan's arrival in Ohio and left Burnside with a tough decision: Should he protect Cincinnati or reinforce Rosecrans in Tennessee?

The decision was made for him when he received several reports informing him of the approaching raiders. Ironically, Morgan wasn't planning to attack Cincinnati. He skirted the city and, on July 14, passed to the north through Loveland, Carthage and Glendale before eventually arriving at Camp Dennison. The Confederates spent the night there and moved on quickly at dawn.

A few days went by without incident, but as the raiders drew nearer to the Ohio River, things took a turn for the worse. The men Burnside had ordered to watch the riverbanks were ready. Those in West Union, Ohio, observed the raiders and watched as Brig. Gen. Edward Hobson and his cavalry followed close behind. This Union force had

been secretly following Morgan ever since the Confederates had crossed the Ohio River and entered Indiana earlier in July but, until this point, had failed to catch up. Morgan was also being tracked by a large contingent Burnside had sent out when he saw the Confederates moving past Cincinnati.

Burnside wrote to his fellow general Julius White, on July 14, 1863:

*Morgan... is making for the Ohio River, near Ripley. He may be kept from crossing by the gunboats, and he may go above to cross. General Hobson is but 10 miles in his rear with a large cavalry force. They both camped in Clermont County, Ohio, last night. We hope to catch him.*

Morgan wished to get out of Ohio and into Kentucky or West Virginia as soon as possible. However, on July 15, 1863, a combination of problems prevented him from crossing, first, near Ripley and, again, at West Union. Morgan was thus convinced that his best opportunity to cross the Ohio River would be at Buffington Island, 120 miles to the east, located on the Ohio-West Virginia border. Morgan had to act quickly; in addition to the two forces on his tail, Union gunboats were patrolling the Ohio River. But reports in a local newspaper on July 17 indicated that the river near Buffington Island was running about two feet deep, far too shallow for any ship.

Morgan and his men arrived at Buffington Island on July 18, only to see that the ford was blocked by earthworks put up by

## UNION FORCES hot on the raiders' trail the past five days converged on Buffington Island.

hundreds of local militia. The Confederates outnumbered the men hiding behind the entrenchments, but Morgan was unable to launch an attack because dusk was falling fast, and a heavy fog had settled over the area. Not realizing how close behind him Hobson's cavalry was, Morgan gave his tired men a break and set up camp. He also ordered the hasty construction of flatboats to aid in crossing the river for those who had been wounded in earlier struggles during the raid.

Morgan's delay proved to be a critical mistake. As morning approached, Union forces hot on the raiders' trail the past five days converged on Buffington Island.

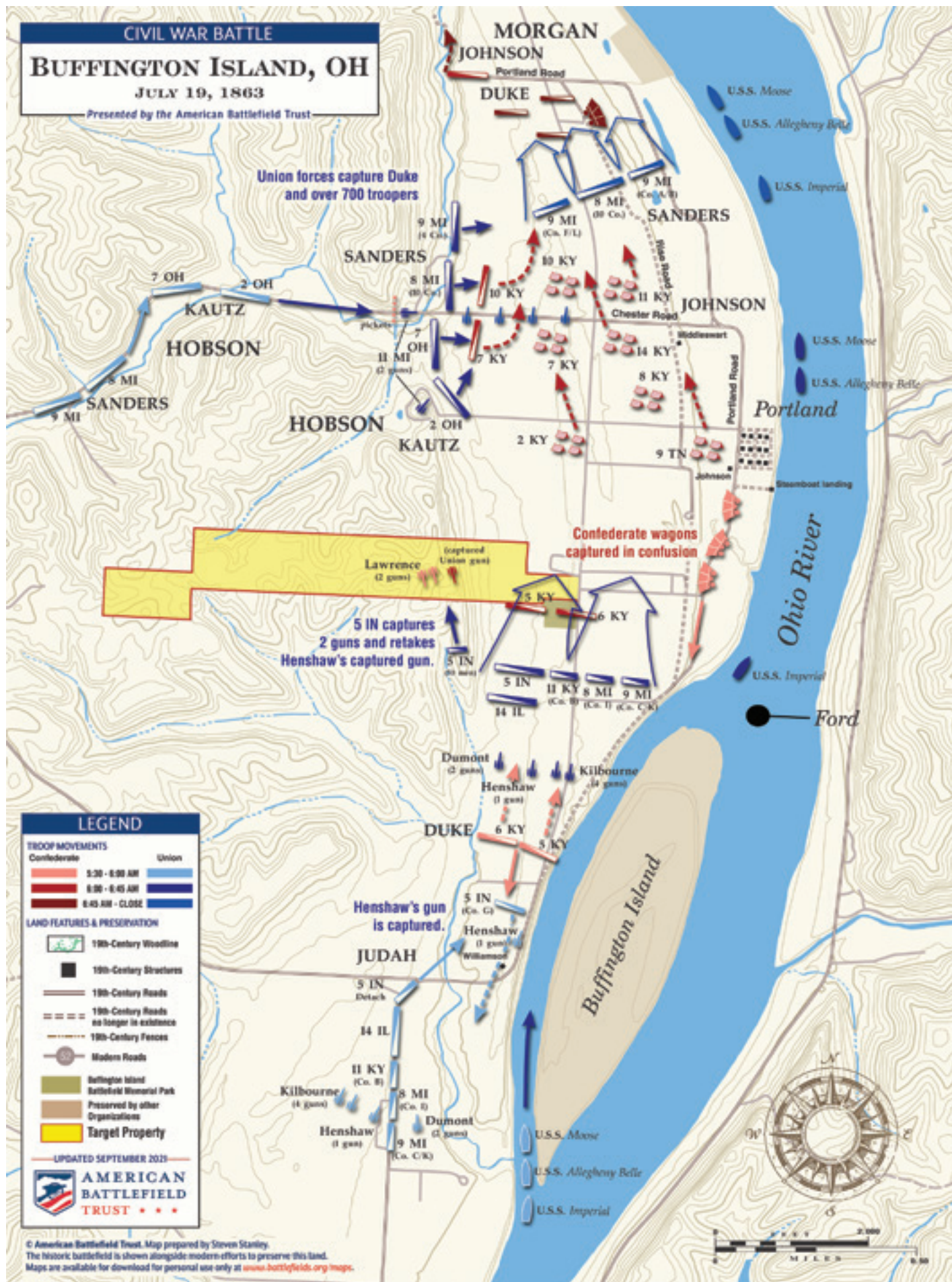
When the raiders awoke on July 19, they found themselves surrounded by Federals, who had easily slipped into the surrounding hills and roads undetected under the cover of the heavy river fog that had blanketed the area overnight.

Two Federal brigades attacked immediately. More Union troops arrived and nearly cut off all chance of escape. Close to 3,000 Yankees engaged in battle with Morgan's remaining 1,800 men. To make matters worse, the river actually was deep enough to allow passage for two Union gunboats, the USS *Moose* and USS *Allegheny Belle*, which arrived on the scene and opened fire. A third river vessel arrived a few hours later.

While history has named this engagement the Battle of Buffington Island, the vast majority of fighting occurred in the Portland area, not on the island itself.

By 10:00 a.m. July 19, 1863, any remaining Confederate hope of crossing the river at Buffington Island had been lost. Morgan's best option was to fight his way north and hope to find another ford. But the raiders had been torn apart by Federal forces. In the chaos, Morgan's second-in-command, Col. Basil Duke, was taken prisoner, along with 750 raiders, while 52 raiders were killed. Morgan made a narrow escape with the remainder of his men and fled upstream. At Belleville, West Virginia, about 300 of them

ABOVE: Morgan raiding Washington, Ohio. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.



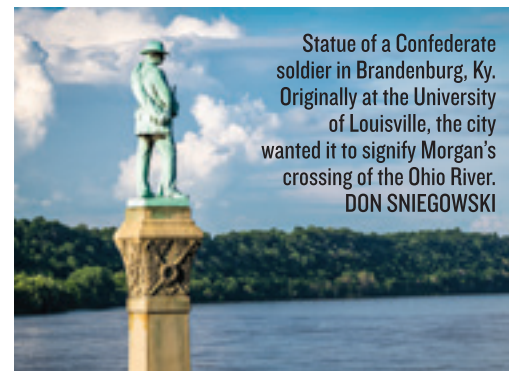
successfully crossed the Ohio River and avoided capture. Morgan was halfway across the river when a gunboat came into view. Knowing the raiders on the Ohio side of the river would be trapped, he turned his horse around and joined them. Morgan and his remaining 400 men spent the next few days hiding from the Yankees and searching for another place to cross.

The longest raid of the Civil War ended on July 26, 1863. While eating breakfast, Morgan received word that another Union force was moving toward him. He quickly rallied his troops and fled in the opposite direction. By this point, every Union soldier in

**"If I had to be caught, I'm glad it was by another KENTUCKIAN!"**

the area was hunting him. The raiders were near Salineville, moving toward Steubenville, when they encountered a group of militia, and Morgan had no choice but to hoist the white flag. Capt. James Burbick discussed the terms of surrender with Morgan: The raiders gave up their horses, arms and equipment in exchange for a safe river crossing. Burbick and his men agreed to join in the crossing.

On the way to the river, Morgan saw two dust clouds approaching. Union forces were heading toward them fast, one from the right and one from the left. Too tired to resist, Morgan halted his men and surrendered again, this time to Maj. George Rue of the 9th Kentucky Cavalry. Morgan recognized Rue, as they had grown up just 30 miles apart and said with a smile, "If I had to be caught, I'm glad it was by another Kentuckian."



Statue of a Confederate soldier in Brandenburg, Ky. Originally at the University of Louisville, the city wanted it to signify Morgan's crossing of the Ohio River. DON SNIEGOWSKI



Buffington Island Battlefield Memorial Park  
Portland, Ohio  
JENNIFER GOELLNITZ



Buffington Island Battlefield Memorial Park  
Portland, Ohio  
JENNIFER GOELLNITZ

Major Rue later noted: "It was a hot July day and they were the tiredest lot of fellows I ever saw in my life."

The raiders had covered more than 1,000 miles through three states, terrorizing the Midwest for nearly a month. While the raid ended in defeat, many in the Confederacy saw the elusive and quick actions of Morgan as a success by keeping the Midwest in a panic for weeks and restoring some semblance of hope to those in the South. For the Union, the raid inspired a renewed effort in fighting by bringing the war to the Yankees' front door and making the conflict more personal for those in the North. With the capture of Morgan, along with the recent victories at Gettysburg, Vicksburg and Tullahoma, came a new and strengthened hope that complete victory over the rebellious Southern states was at hand.

Caroline Davis earned her BA in history from Ball State University and MA in historical preservation with a concentration in public

history at Georgia State University. She has worked at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park, Stones River National Battlefield, Vicksburg National Military Park and is currently a seasonal ranger at the George Rogers Clark National Historic Park in Vincennes, Ind.



Buffington Island Battlefield Memorial Park  
Portland, Ohio  
JENNIFER GOELLNITZ





## STANDING TALL ON LAKE ERIE

*A reminder of fierce naval warfare turned peaceful relations*

**J**UST FIVE MILES SOUTH of the Canadian border, on an isthmus near downtown Put-in-Bay, Ohio, sits a 352-foot-tall monument towering over Lake Erie. Free-standing, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is the world's tallest Doric column — a plain, thick column that is a common sight at federal buildings scattered throughout the nation's capital. The monument stands 47 feet taller than the Statue of Liberty, that is, when measuring the New York Harbor landmark from the ground to the tip of Lady Liberty's torch. A simple but striking presence, the structure — often referred to simply as Perry's Monument — is also the only international peace memorial overseen by the National Park Service. However, it is representative of so much more than these pieces of sure-to-impress trivia.

The monument's construction started in 1915, the centennial of the War of 1812's conclusion, with the intention to honor the brave souls who battled at the site 102 years prior.

The titular "Perry" is famed U.S. naval officer Oliver Hazard Perry, who, in February 1813, was sent to Erie, Pennsylvania, to complete the building of an American squadron that could hold its own against the powerful British Royal Navy in the Great Lakes region during the War of 1812. By early fall, his fleet was ready to engage.

On the morning of September 10, 1813, a lookout aboard one of the American ships spotted six British vessels to the northwest of Put-in-Bay, beyond Rattlesnake Island. Word quickly spread to Master Commandant Perry, who issued orders to confront the British ships.

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial  
Put-in-Bay, Ohio  
DAN FEICHT, Put-in-Bay Visitors & Convention Bureau

Since August 1812, the British Royal Navy had controlled Lake Erie. But, with Perry's new fleet, the British were in store for an awakening. In July 1813, the British abandoned the Great Lake due to the new American threat, poor weather conditions and a shortage of supplies, as Perry's fleet had severed the critical British supply route from Fort Malden to Port Dover. So, the Royal Navy attempted to break through Perry's line.

While the British squadron was composed of six ships with 63 cannons, the American fleet was comprised of nine vessels and 54 guns. The British had superior guns for long-range firepower, while the Americans had the advantage in short-range guns, leaving Perry to pray for the wind to work to his benefit.

At 7:00 a.m., Perry ordered his two largest ships, USS *Niagara* and USS *Lawrence*, to set full sail and proceed directly toward the British line. But the Great Lakes' notorious winds put up a long fight. Despite Perry's wishes, the wind wouldn't back his fleet. Nonetheless, at 10:00, just as he was readying to steer his ships away, the tricky wind suddenly shifted, situating itself directly behind the Americans.

Heading the British vessels was Commander Robert Heriot Barclay, an experienced Royal Navy officer from Scotland, who ordered his ships to go with the wind, taking the British vessels into battle.

The British ship *Detroit* crippled the American flagship *Lawrence*, forcing Perry to transfer his men to the *Niagara*. He made sure to bring his battle flag — emblazoned with the words "Don't Give Up the Ship," the dying words of friend James Lawrence, who had perished captaining his ship in the Atlantic conflict. And despite losing his flagship, Perry managed to disable and scatter most of the Royal vessels.

He received the British back onboard the tattered *Lawrence* to discuss terms of surrender — a deliberate move to force the British to confront the damage they had caused. After the battle, Perry dispatched a letter to General William Henry Harrison, saying, "We have met the enemy and they are ours. Two ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop." Harrison, in turn, was then free to invade western upper Canada. Perry was hailed the "Hero of Lake Erie."

Dedicated in 1931, Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is a testimony of the American victory on Lake Erie and a nod to the long-standing peace among the U.S., Canada and Great Britain. Initially, three American and three British soldiers were buried at the monument as a reminder of the losses suffered by both sides during the fierce 1813 battle. The bodies were later exhumed and reburied in DeRivera Park.

There is no doubt that the towering structure embodies a history of great proportions.★



## PROFILES in PRESERVATION RECOGNIZING INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT

### LIGHTHIZER FETED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRESERVATION MOVEMENT *Trust president emeritus received Lifetime Achievement Award at Annual Conference*

**F**OR MORE than 20 years, I worked the greatest swindle of all time," Jim Lighthizer told the crowd at the American Battlefield Trust's 2022 Annual Conference. "My job was to study subjects I would have gladly learned about in my spare time. I got paid to visit the places where I would have vacationed anyway."

Although retired since the fall of 2020, Lighthizer had taken the stage to be recognized for his two decades of leadership and to bid an official farewell to his beloved members. "Being your president was the great honor of my very full career," he said.

In a tribute twice delayed as events were postponed and shifted throughout the pandemic, Trust President David Duncan presented his friend, mentor and predecessor with the organization's Edwin C. Bearss Lifetime Achievement Award. Even as he praised past recipients, pausing to remember the two who have passed away in recent months, Duncan noted that Lighthizer's impact was the furthest reaching of all.

"If you seek his monument," Duncan said, paraphrasing the famous epitaph, "look around. Go to Antietam, to Bentonville, to any one of the 150 battlefields where we have saved land — that impact would simply not have been possible without Jim Lighthizer."

Born in Ashtabula, Ohio, Lighthizer came late to the field of history. A graduate of Dayton University and Georgetown University Law Center, he was already a successful politician — moving from the Maryland House of Delegates to Anne Arundel County executive — when a friend suggested some beach reading for the family's 1983 summer vacation. Lighthizer protested that he didn't read "historical novels," but the friend insisted. "I read it," Lighthizer is fond of saying, "and the rest, as they say, is history."

The book: Michael Shaara's *The Killer Angels*, a riveting retelling of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Now thoroughly hooked on Civil War history, Lighthizer began consuming vast quantities on the

subject. As Maryland secretary of transportation, he pioneered the use of Transportation Enhancement Grants to protect historic landscapes and battlefields. He was invited to join the Board of the original Civil War Trust and served on the merger committee as it joined forces with the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites (APCWS).

On December 1, 1999, as one of the conditions of the merger vote, Lighthizer became president of the new Civil War Preservation Trust, collaborating with a chair of the Board who had come from the APCWS ranks. The new organization had redundancies and inefficiencies to contend with, as well as \$7 million of debt.

Determined and dynamic, Lighthizer immediately began charting a course to the future. His goal was for the organization to become the best in the world in its field — heritage land preservation. It was a vision that transformed the battlefield preservation movement, expanding into a more holistic vision rather than concentrating on a single site or conflict. His belief in the power of calculated risk allowed the group to undertake massive initiatives and grow into its promise as the American Battlefield Trust.

Although now retired from day-to-day operations, Lighthizer remains active on the Board with a lifetime appointment as president *emeritus*. In addition to spending time on battlefields as a civilian, Lighthizer and his wife Gloria are spending time with their grandchildren and enjoying their 1780s home, Rehoboth, on the water of Maryland's Eastern Shore.★



Jim Lighthizer and his wife Gloria at the 2022 Annual Conference in Chantilly, Va. by BUDDY SECOR



## THE TROWBRIDGE FILES: *Unwinding the Tangled Web of an Ancestor's Past*

Thrown a genealogical curveball, Nicholas Redding took it in stride when he learned that Civil War ancestor George Duane Trowbridge was not what he expected.



ACCORDING TO THE NOTICE GIVEN in a quaint Conneaut, Ohio, newspaper, George D. Trowbridge departed this Earth on Saturday, August 25, 1917. He is painted as a longtime resident of the town, an honorable veteran of the Civil War and the husband of a Mrs. Matilda Brabender.

But the truth — first uncovered at the National Archives by Nicholas Redding, a former Trust employee, now president and CEO of Preservation Maryland, and augmented with further research by our partners at Ancestry, Fold3 and Newspapers.com — turns out to be much more complicated.

“My great-great-grandmother was Matilda — George’s second wife, whom he had married in the early 1900s,” said Redding. “But it wasn’t even legal, because he was still married to a woman in Canada. And, as far as we know, Matilda had children from a previous marriage but not with George; meaning I’m not blood-related to him ... which might be a good thing!”

Born in Elmira, New York, on April 5, 1844, George Duane Trowbridge was the eldest son of working-class parents, George and Harriet Trowbridge. The Federal Census of 1850 shows that the family had relocated northeast to Preble, where the patriarch worked as a carpenter and joiner to support his wife and four children, including seven-year-old George.

But during his lifetime, George often had a different take than what the records tell us. For instance, on September 16, 1903, he told a pension official that his *adopted* name was George Duane Trowbridge. He expanded the story, stating that his adopted family claimed his biological father’s name was Keefe and that his own baptismal name was William Keefe. Of course, this contradicts *another* affidavit claiming that he had never known anyone by the name of William Keefe. The story becomes even more convoluted and dicey as the Civil War arrives.

At approximately age 17, the youngster enlists as “Duane Trowbridge” with the 12th New York Infantry, Company D, on May 13, 1861, in Elmira. On May 29, the unit moved to Washington, D.C., where, upon arrival, it partook in the defenses of the nation’s capital until July 16. After, the 12th New York moved on

Manassas, where the unit fought in the first full-scale battle of the war on July 21. Later, the unit saw action at Upton’s Hill, and returned back to Washington, D.C., where George deserted on September 21.

By November 1, 1861, George had found a new home with the 76th New York Infantry, Company E. The unit remained in New York until January 17, 1862, when it then left for Washington, D.C. Yet again, George found himself amid the defenses of Washington. But on April 7, 1862, he deserted once more.

Here is where the records become *really* hard to follow. Pension claims, among other sources, deem that George took on the alias of William Keefe, a soldier in the 17th Connecticut Infantry, Company D. Index records confirm that such a man existed. It is also known that the regiment was organized out of Bridgeport, Connecticut, in late August 1862, in keeping with the timeline of George’s supposed wartime service.

Despite the inability to 100 percent certify Keefe as our good ol’ George, it is obvious that Redding’s ancestor was bounty jumping. With no intention of staying for long but with every intention of reaping the financial benefit, bounty jumpers would enlist, collect their bounty, desert and then reenlist elsewhere.

Next, Ancestry pinpointed George in the 1870 Federal Census: a 27-year-old boatman living in Auburn, New York. But don’t think that he had “gone straight”: A June 6, 1879, *Fall River Daily Herald* proclaimed George was “OUT OF AUBURN PRISON AND ATTEMPTING THE ROLE OF A PRODIGAL SON.” Knowing that a son of Biba Baker, a “respectable and well-to-do” mechanic, had run away and long been considered dead, George attempted identity theft. He was armed with a fanciful tale of adventure, claiming he had been to all parts of the world, accumulated a large fortune and was home to seek reconciliation and share his wealth. Surprisingly, the ruse worked on most of the family, and celebration ensued. However, suspicions within the Baker family grew, and George was called out as the “notorious horse thief” who had just been let out of Auburn Prison. Thrown out of the Baker home, George returned to form, stealing identities and horses. After his arrest in Schenectady, *The St. Albans Advertiser* connected him to the Loomis Gang, a largely family group of outlaws who had plagued central New York from the 1840s to the 1870s.

Prison records show that George was (re)admitted to Auburn Prison on September 1, 1879. While files are lacking, Ancestry’s community of users assert that — after serving his prison time — he went to Canada and married Margaret Lyons on January 29, 1887. He didn’t stay long.

On July 21, 1890, George filed for a pension while living in Ohio. It claimed that he served with the 12th New York Infantry, 76th New York Infantry and 17th Connecticut Infantry — and additionally noted that he had used the alias of “William Keefe” and was married to Matilda K. Trowbridge. All the while, George was still married to Margaret in Canada, having never sought a divorce.

In the years that followed, George kept busy. Most notably, he served time in Ohio State Prison, tracked down comrades to back his pension claims, stole more horses, swindled a widow out of



\$200, served more time — twice — in New York and tried (unsuccessfully) to send a stolen horse to Ohio.

By September of 1901, fate caught up with George and he was taken in for pension fraud and for impersonating a special examiner of the Pension Bureau. He was held in Utica, New York, under a hefty \$4,000 bond. For his trial, George turned on the dramatics. Newspapers described him as “almost at the point of death” when he laid upon a cot in the courtroom, allegedly paralyzed on his right side and blind in both eyes. Of course, when he’d been arrested only a few months earlier, he’d had no signs of poor health. The charges stuck, and George went back to prison.

In March of 1903, George was released for his crimes and promised the judge that he’d never return to New York. And as far as the records show, he never did.

That September, KT Meade, special examiner from the Department of Pensions, was sent to find George and secure a complete history of his military operations. Funny enough, he didn’t find a blind or paralyzed man, but instead a man known for frequenting “the lowest dives of the City of Conneaut.” Meade interviewed George once in September and again in October, receiving inconsistent information from him that contrasted with records on file. Meade even emphasized in his report that he had “the feeling that all the information which the soldier gave was wholly unreliable...”

Marriage records show that, on October 5, 1904, George finally married Matilda, a woman he’d been associated with for quite some time — and Redding’s great-great-grandmother. The 1910 Federal Census lists George and Matilda with three children — determined not to be George’s — living on Buffalo Street in Conneaut, Ohio. When he passed in 1917, he was buried in Center Cemetery.

“The Civil War has always been real to me, but this takes the story of the Civil War and makes it real for my family,” said Redding. “It paints a realistic story of what happened — not everyone was a battlefield hero; there were people who took advantage of the situation, and that just so happened to be the case with my ancestor.”

Although not covered in military glory, George Trowbridge could still be the protagonist of a Hollywood flick — albeit of a very different, though no less interesting sort!★

## HIGH SCHOOLERS WITH A HUNGER FOR HISTORY

### The American Battlefield Trust's 2021-2022 Youth Leadership Team

**A**S THEIR SCHOOL years came to a close, the Trust's third cohort of passionate student preservationists took a moment to reflect on what they learned as part of the program — how their capstone projects might impact their community and how the process shaped their own thinking. Learn more about the Trust's Youth Leadership Team at [www.battlefields.org/ylt](http://www.battlefields.org/ylt).

"We as a population, and a generation, need to care," proudly declared **OLIVIA BUCS of Columbus, N.J.** "The history of this nation is something to be studied, and it's on us to make sure our whole story is told." She collaborated with two townships, their respective historical societies, the Revolutionary War Alliance of Burlington County and her state representatives to further awareness and inspire preservation efforts at the Petticoat Bridge skirmish site, where Patriot forces clashed with Hessian-led foraging parties in December 1776.

"After receiving the opportunity to visit several battlefields, I now have a fuller appreciation for the historic preservation movement and want to take on a greater role in ensuring future generations have such opportunities," said **JOSEPH CANDELAS of Harker Heights, Texas.** He channeled his deep passion for the American Revolution into in-person community discussions of lesser-known battles, supplemented by a widely available podcast.

**JUSTIN CHUNG of Anaheim, Calif.,** enlisted digital artists, video editors and historians to produce a suite of digital content aimed at attracting young audiences to battlefield preservation through an awareness campaign. "Among my peers, history isn't the most popular subject. This seems to be the case among others as well, as historic land and buildings continue to be pushed aside for other purposes. The Trust understands that this is a critical threat, and I wish to do everything I can to spread awareness about their mission in my community."

"Talking [about] a battlefield is one thing," realized **SYDNEY KIRAGES of Lake Forest, Ill.** "Seeing a battlefield that allows you to truly consider the weight on a soldier's shoulders —



Sean Myers, a proud Louisianan, worked with local institutions and historians to create new resources for Battlefields.org that will highlight his home state.

Rachel Walters performed archaeological work at Georgia's Fort Washington Park for her capstone project.

as they fought for not only their life but the lives of their friends, family and neighbors." She wrote the children's book *Stories with Pop-Pop: Women in Disguise in the Civil War*, which revolves around Jenny, whose grandfather tells her tales of disguised female soldiers during the nation's bitterly divisive conflict. She also enlisted an illustrator to pair her text with eye-catching visuals.

**JOSEPH MARTIN of Richmond, Mo.,** created a middle school lesson plan about the Missouri-Kansas Conflict (or "Bleeding Kansas") that profiles 30 individuals who lived during 1854-1865, from the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act to the end of the Civil War. "Be it the smallest artifact dug up in someone's backyard or thousands of acres of America's most significant land, preserving things and places allows people to better connect with the past."

"Historic preservation, especially at our battlefields, is critical in teaching people of all ages and backgrounds about not only American history — but also about such concepts as sacrifice," said **RORY MORAN of Davidson, N.C.** Rory used a combination of primary sources and recent scholarship to build a diorama of the 1781 Battle of Guilford Courthouse that reflected real-life accounts from the figures directly involved in the battle. He even hand painted 500 28mm figures!

**CATHERINE SLAVICH of Lanett, Ala.,** is a natural preservationist, noting, "I've grown up in a historic home — an 1858 Greek Revival — that sits below a Civil War fort, so historic preservation has always played a role in my life. There are even marks from Civil War artillery in my sunroom wall." Her project took her to Fort Tyler in West Point, Ga. There, she led the charge to restore five historical markers with the help of the Fort Tyler Board, a graphic designer, a signage company and community volunteers.

**HANK THOMPSON of Richmond, Va.,** was mentored by historian Dr. Bruce Venter, a Trust collaborator, to produce a video explaining the events tied to the 1864 Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid — through imagery collected during site visits, animated maps and other various graphics. "Many incredible moments of heroism and perseverance — that unfolded on local street corners and quiet fields — would be forgotten if not for organizations like the American Battlefield Trust," he said.

**STEPHANIE WANG of Katy, Texas,** found that "American history is rich — full of trials, tribulations and complexities that cannot be fully captured simply by a textbook or website." She developed a project-based curriculum for students to explore lesser-known Civil War figures, especially women and minorities, and create a digital memorial after performing research on a pre-selected historical figure.

Other members of the 2021-2022 Youth Leadership Team include:  
**ALEXIS ELLIS of St. Rose, La.,**  
**ABBIE HASTY, Alton, Ill.,**  
**SEAN MYERS, Church Point, La.,** and  
**RACHEL WALTERS of Brunswick, Ga.**





## America's History, LLC 2022 Calendar of History Tours

April 6-9—Kill Jeff Davis: The Kilpatrick-Dahlgren Raid on Richmond and Custer's Charlottesville Raid—Bruce M. Venter—Goochland, VA

May 14—Women in War: The Revolutionary Experience—Holly Mayer, Head of Faculty, Todd Braisted, Jenna Schitzer and others—A Symposium offered by The Marshall House—Schuylerville, NY

June 1-4—The Revolutionary World of Dr. Joseph Warren: Boston, Lexington, Concord, Bunker Hill and more—Christian DiSpigna and Bruce Venter—Woburn, MA

June 15-18—Following Famous Fighting Brigades at Gettysburg—Larry Korczyk—Licensed Battlefield Guide—Gettysburg, PA

June (dates TBD)—Wellington vs. Napoleon: The Waterloo Campaign of 1815—Call America's History for details—Waterloo, Belgium.

August 24-27—Virginia's Founding Fathers: Essentially Important for Independence—Edward G. Lengel and Bruce Venter—HQ TBD.

September 7-10—Sullivan's Campaign against the Iroquois in 1779: Retribution or Genocide—Dr. Glenn F. Williams—Victor, NY

September 14-17—Young George Washington: How Frontier Warfare Shaped His Leadership—Dr. David Preston—Cranberry, PA

September 23—New York's Frontier on Fire: Major Christopher Carleton's Raid in 1780—Patrick Niles and Bruce Venter—in conjunction with the Fort Ticonderoga American Revolution Seminar—Ticonderoga, NY

October 3-9—Grant Moves South: Vicksburg to Chattanooga—A. Wilson "Will" Greene—Birmingham, AL—(all meals and hotel rooms are included in the registration fee.)

October 28—World War II Conference Bus Tour—TBD—Gettysburg, PA

October 28-30—3rd Annual World War II Conference—Edward G. Lengel, Head of Faculty, Alex Kershaw, Michael Gabriel, Leah Garrett, John McManus, Charles Neimeyer, Daniel O'Keefe, James M. Scott, Craig Symonds, Flint Whitlock, and others—Gettysburg, PA

November 2-5—America's Heroes: A National Medal of Honor Battlefield Experience—Edward G. Lengel—Knoxville, TN

Each tour includes motor coach transportation, all lunches, beverage and snack breaks, a map package, all admissions and gratuities and the services of experienced tour guides/historians. You pay only for your transportation to the start point of the tour, evening meals and your overnight accommodations (at pre-negotiated special rates.) The Grant Moves South tour includes all accommodations and all meals. Details will be available on our web site on each tour's description page.

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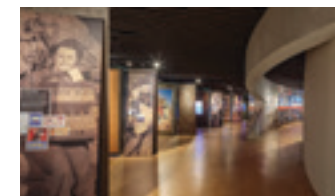
**NATIONAL VETERAN'S MEMORIAL MUSEUM**



**ONLY ONE MUSEUM** honors American veterans from all branches of service under one roof. Along the Scioto River in Columbus, Ohio, sits the National Veterans Memorial Museum. The museum began as the vision

of John Glenn, retired Marine Corps veteran, legendary astronaut and U.S. senator. It opened in 2018 and presents a history of veterans from the Revolutionary War onward, including stories of their time in and beyond uniform.

Permanent exhibits connect the past with the present through the transformative experience of military service. Some highlights include exhibits that illustrate how we honor veterans, emphasize the emotions of military



experience and how we remember their sacrifice. A massive floor-to-ceiling stained-glass installation resides in the Remembrance Gallery. The "infinity-flag" display in this gallery is a popular spot for visitors.

Through October 22, the museum features *The Twenty-Year War: Our Next Greatest Generation*. It features powerful portraits of post-9/11 service members, with podcasts and activities occurring throughout the exhibit.

The museum offers guided tours of its exhibits if visitors desire a more in-depth history of the collection. Tickets for veterans, active military personnel and museum members are free. The museum also has a parking garage near the museum for visitor use. Please check online for updates on admission prices, revolving exhibits, events and much more. ★

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