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AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST

HALLOWED GROUND

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HONORING THE FALLEN

FROM THE REVOLUTION TO
TODAY'S NATIONAL CEMETERIES



HALLOWED GROUND
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of the American
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2
Message
from
Headquarters

3
Web
Exclusives

4
From the
Trenches

8
Field
Reports

10
Success
Stories

13
Ancestry

14
Page from
the Past

16
Lost. And Found.
Unearthing
Brave Souls in
Camden, S.C.
by Jennifer
Howard



22
The Bivouac
of the Dead:
The Creation
of National
Cemeteries after
the Civil War
by Sara Amy Leach

28
Home of Heroes
by Ashleigh
Byrnes

34
How to
Read a
Headstone

36
Camp of
Instruction

38
Warrior
Legacy

40
Profiles in
Preservation

41
Leading
the Charge

53
A Parting
Shot

COVER: Antietam National Cemetery, Sharpsburg, Md., MATT BRANT; THIS PAGE: Final resting place for Medal of Honor recipient John Basilone at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Va., MIKE TALPLACIDO.

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 56,000 acres, more than 155 sites in 25 states. For more information, call 800-298-7878 or visit our website at 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. ©2023 American Battlefield Trust.



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www.battlefields.org 1-800-298-7878



THE TITLE OF THIS MAGAZINE has never felt more apt than for this particular issue. When we talk about America's battlefields, places marked forever by those who fought and bled and died to forge the nation we know today, "hallowed ground" is more than just a turn of phrase. It is a fundamental truth, a status as true today as it was some 250 years ago when the first Minute Men fell.

And it is more than a philosophical status granted by the shedding of blood: through all of human history battlefields have become cemeteries, with the slain laid to rest in some level of proximity to where they fell. This is powerfully illustrated to students of history on the Civil War's Elliott Burial Maps of Gettysburg and Antietam, which precisely indicate each battlefield burial. The icons are clustered around the landmarks known for ferocity of fighting, sectors labeled by regiment or brigade all but declaring "we fought *here*; we fell *here*."

This is, of course, often a logistical necessity, whether due to outcome of the engagement, distance from home or, as was tragically the case in both the 19th and 20th centuries, a scale of mortality that overwhelmed all previous infrastructures to address interments. But the task of honoring the fallen is so fundamental to the human condition that new systems were originated and, though they have evolved, remain to this day.

Vast, sweeping military cemeteries tied geographically to the fields of battle can and should stop us in our tracks with their significance and their meaning. Row upon row of identical stones with often identical dates of death drive home the sacrifices made by so many. But there is another symbolic layer to the fact that those huge monuments to courage are where they are: Following both world wars, when families were given the option to repatriate their loved ones' remains, some 40 percent chose to have them remain forever in the American military cemetery closest to the theater of battle that claimed them.

Some families were even more precise in their wishes: In the wake of World War I, the Roosevelt family explicitly asked that the former president's youngest son, Quentin, shot down over rural France in 1918, *not* be relocated to one of the new centralized burial grounds. "We feel that where the tree falls, there let it lie," they said, and he remained in that small village until 1955. Then, at the

family's request, he was moved to Normandy American Cemetery to rest beside his eldest brother, Ted, who led troops ashore on D-Day as a brigadier general but died of a heart attack a month later.

We are all intimately familiar with the concept of battlefield as intentional cemetery, the myriad instances when, as Lincoln said, we "dedicate[d] a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives." But three times in just the past 12 months, we have been powerfully reminded that battlefields are cemeteries well beyond the boundaries that might have been formally set aside for that purpose. Within these pages, you will read about the discoveries of mass graves at Red Bank, N.J., and Camden, S.C., both Revolutionary War sites. And as we prepared for printing, word came of a similar discovery tied to the Civil War Battle of Williamsburg.

With this many battlefield burials found in so short a span, I am more convinced than ever before that we must treat our battlefields as hallowed ground. We know from the historical record that they were cemeteries once, and how many of them must be still? However inadvertent it may have been, it is impossible that every fallen soldier was exhumed without fail and transported to a more permanent location.

What respect is due to a cemetery? To a sanctified place of memory? Far more than being hemmed in by data centers or strip malls on all sides. Far more than haphazard commercialization without any effort to remember what great deeds transpired there. Especially when viewed in this light, battlefields are living memorials to those who have taken up arms on our behalf.

The next time you visit a battlefield, especially one with an associated cemetery, I wonder if you might join me in a personal ritual that I perform: pause among or before those headstones and quietly tell those there, "You are not forgotten; you are remembered; I am one of those who will protect and safeguard this *hallowed ground* – for you." Because with your support, the American Battlefield Trust will continue to do just that.



David N. Duncan

DAVID N. DUNCAN
President, American Battlefield Trust

President Portrait by BUDDY SECOR

battlefields.org

ON THE TRUST WEBSITE

TUNE IN TO A TRADITION OF MEMORY

Curious about how national cemeteries came to be after the Civil War? Join Don Pfanz, a founder of the American Battlefield Trust, as he discusses the fascinating origins of some of the nation's most history-rich locations. Learn about the civilian "burial corps," who came from many walks of life and worked for the Union to both identify and transport the thousands of bodies left behind after some of our country's bloodiest battles. Discover this history on the Trust's YouTube channel, www.youtube.com/americanbattlefieldtrust.

ENRICHING EXPERIENCES WITH TRUST APPS

Millions of battlefield visitors have tried to comprehend the sheer amount of loss resulting from the Battle of Gettysburg. While one can reference photos and soldier accounts, the Trust's free, augmented reality app, the *Gettysburg AR Experience*, can bring to light the agonizing aftermath of battle with scenes of the Union dead being reburied in the Soldiers National Cemetery. Or users can be inspired by President Abraham Lincoln's delivery of the Gettysburg Address at the dedication of that very cemetery.

And if you're exploring Virginia, you may also find memories of past hardships and triumphs along the *Road to Freedom*. A physical map and digital tour app, it connects audiences with more than 88 sites that expose the Black experience in Civil War-era Virginia, including six African American cemeteries. Find these apps and more at www.battlefields.org/mobile-apps.

UNEARTHING SOLDIER STORIES

Stepping onto battlefields and visiting cemeteries allow us to grapple with history on the surface. Historians and archaeologists have often dived — figuratively and literally — beyond the surface to uncover even more stories buried beneath. As records and reports were scarce during our nascent country's early conflicts like the Revolutionary War, battlefield archaeology can illuminate information essential to understanding early soldiers' experiences. Dig into the past yourself at www.battlefields.org/preserve/battlefield-archaeology.

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EXPLORE THIS ISSUE



Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery
San Diego, Ca.
KRK. PHOTOGRAPHY

**JOHN NAU HONORED
FOR PRESERVATION WORK**
*Recognized with Lifetime
Achievement Award*

R

ECOGNIZING HIS DECADES of work on behalf of this nation's history, the American Battlefield Trust has presented steadfast preservationist and park advocate John Liston Nau III, with its Lifetime Achievement Award, further taking the exceptional step of naming him a member of the organization's Board of Trustees for life. Moreover, emphasizing

the transformative nature of his contributions to the battlefield preservation movement through his advocacy, the organization renamed its exiting national leadership award for federal officials in Nau's honor. A permanent testament to this profound legacy will be a stone marker with bronze table placed on his beloved Vicksburg Battlefield in Mississippi.

In summarizing his personal commitment to battlefield preservation, Nau cites not only the hallowed nature of this ground and its impact on American history, but points to the unique perspective of many early preservationists. "The veterans themselves initiated the original battlefield preservation movement and spearheaded the creation of parks at Chickamauga and Shiloh, Gettysburg and Antietam, which has since become a larger effort," said Nau. "They themselves knew it was important, not only for the memory of those comrades who didn't survive to return home, but for the generations moving forward."

A number of significant improvements to National Park Service (NPS) infrastructure with regard to battlefields and military history units have taken place since Nau's tenure with the organization began. These include the expansion of the successful American Battlefield Protection Program matching grants to cover interpretation and restoration efforts, as well as the acquisition of landscapes at Revolutionary War and War of 1812 sites, plus the creation of new park units and major expansions at others.

A veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, Nau has spent a lifetime studying American military history. He first became involved in historic preservation issues in his adopted home state of Texas, before rising to the national stage by virtue of the same professional acumen. In 1999, he was first elected to the Board of the American Battlefield Trust, rising to a term as chairman from 2009-2011. He was appointed by President George W. Bush to chair the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, serving from 2001-2010. In 2008, he joined the National Park Foundation Board of Directors, a position he still maintains. He is also involved with a number of other nonprofit organizations devoted to historic preservation. ★

John Nau portrait by Michael Stravato.



**TRUST PLANTS PRESERVATION
FLAG IN 25TH STATE**

Buckeye state added to the fold

A

FTER taking possession of 117 acres at Buffington Island, site of the largest Civil War battle in Ohio, the American Battlefield Trust can now claim to have permanently protected

hallowed ground in half the states of the Union!

At our founding in 1987 in Virginia, the organization's work was expected to focus on Civil War sites in the Old Dominion. But thanks to the incredible generosity of its members, the partnership of visionary elected officials and the collaboration of countless park administrators, the Trust has grown to become the nation's premier heritage land protection organization, having saved a total of 56,000 acres across 155 sites representing three wars in 25 states from Massachusetts westward to New Mexico.

"The remarkable growth and success of this organization and the broader battlefield preservation movement are a testament to the power of place," said Trust President David Duncan. "Standing where you know that historic events unfolded gives you a deeper understanding than any book or documentary can muster. By protecting these important places, we are ensuring that generations yet to come can enjoy that same profound experience. It is an honor to do work born in equal parts out of deep respect for the past and aspiration for the future."

The project that put the Trust over the top was first announced in Spring 2022 and closed over the winter. While the Trust has saved numerous sites associated with the service of Buckeye soldiers, this was its first chance to protect land in the state. The Ohio acreage, adjacent to the existing Buffington Island Battlefield Memorial Park, was purchased with assistance from the Buffington Island Battlefield Preservation Foundation. Although it has now taken ownership of the property, steps remain, including the placement of perpetual conservation easements and ultimate disbursement of grant funding. ★

See a map of all our saved land:



The Wilderness Battlefield
Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania
National Military Park
Fredericksburg, Va.
MATTHEW HARTWIG

URGENT!

WILDERNESS THREATENED
by commercial, residential mega-development

A

MASSIVE residential and commercial development – the largest in Orange County history – has been proposed at the gateway to the Wilderness Battlefield where it would impact adjacent core battlefield land and loom over the Congressionally authorized boundary of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Battlefields National Military Park. At stake is the rezoning of more than 2,600 acres that could result in: more than 5,000 residential units, 200,000 square feet of mixed-use commercial development, 5 million square feet of data centers and distribution warehouses, plus spaces for additional light industrial use.

It isn't just the battlefield that stands to suffer. If this mega-development is allowed to move forward, growth will come at the cost of current residents' quality of life. Already congested roadways will be utterly overwhelmed by nearly 50,000 new vehicle trips along the area's major arteries each day. Resident services will be stretched to the breaking point and beyond.

Worse still, the current controversy is centered on an area we've fought for before: nearby, Walmart had once proposed a supercenter that, in a win-win solution, was ultimately moved a short distance away, with the original 50-acres donated to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Now, once again, we ask local residents and preservationist advocates to take a stand against this massive development project near the Wilderness Battlefield. ★

**LEARN MORE
AND SPEAK OUT!**



JOIN US
*for Civil War 160
Commemorations!*

THIS SPRING, summer and fall the Trust will be roaming with our video cameras at Chancellorsville, Brandy Station, Gettysburg, Vicksburg and several other battlefields as those sites commemorate their 160th anniversaries. Learn more and join us at:



NEW DIGITAL OFFERINGS

put users in the center of the action

T

HE AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST has released two new digital products that merge the past and present and offer users an opportunity to experience battlefields in a new way. The Trust's Civil War Battle Maps App now offers GPS-enabled maps that allow you to locate your position on a map and follow in

the footsteps of those who fought in one of America's defining conflicts. Meanwhile, our new "Step Into History" video series merges period photos with video of the modern-day spot on the battlefield, allowing viewers to watch the historians literally step into the past and back again.

The Trust has again partnered with Wide Awake Films to produce the new video series in which the historians digitally merge with images from the past. The first three installments make use of famous Alexander Gardner photos taken in the aftermath of the September 17, 1862, Battle of Antietam.

The updated Civil War Battle Maps App is available in the Apple App Store and on Google Play. The GPS-enabled app allows users to explore the American Battlefield Trust's extensive collection of battle maps and envision themselves on the landscape and amid the action. It also allows easy access to historic information, battle summaries, map overlays and other valuable information. The new release includes over 100+ updated maps and allows users to toggle between historic maps and modern-day landscapes to see how the land has transformed since the battles. Users can also create an optional account to check-in when they visit a battlefield and keep track of battlefield visits. ★



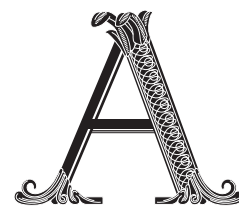
Download the new app and put yourself inside our Civil War battle maps.



Explore the Step Into History series



AMERICAN REVOLUTION EXPERIENCE *wins Anthem Awards bronze*



AN ONLINE EXHIBIT designed to showcase the lives of ordinary people during the U.S. War of Independence, has received a Bronze Award in the Education, Art & Culture division of the second annual Anthem Awards!

The *American Revolution Experience* was created through a collaboration between the American Battlefield Trust and the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), with technical support from the digital development team at Interactive Knowledge. At launch last July, it told the story of 13 ordinary men and women, from drummer boys to mapmakers to nurses, who witnessed the dawn of a new nation. Its growing roster of featured biographies brings to life diverse viewpoints and experiences, touching on the fates of Patriots and Loyalists, men and women, Black and Native populations and even international allies.

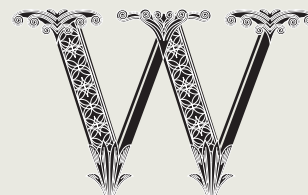
Users watch the physical journeys of the Revolution's participants unfold across the map, discover thematic connections between the lives of subjects and explore contemporary connections via namesakes, descendants and other mechanisms. The exhibit links throughout to the Trust's industry-leading battle content and makes use of incredible documents and artifacts in DAR's collections, as well as impeccably researched custom illustrations by South Carolina artist Dale Watson.

The Anthem Awards were launched in response to the prevalence social good has taken within the national conversation and cultural zeitgeist in recent years. In its second year, this initiative of the Webby Awards — hailed as the "Internet's highest honor" by the *New York Times* — received nearly 2,000 entries from 43 countries. Other honorees in the Trust's category include the National Geographic Society, the Pulitzer Center, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum.

"The sheer number, breadth and overall quality of the entries shared with us in the 2nd Annual Awards is a testament to the strength of this growing movement and demonstrates an enduring commitment to the work that is both humbling and inspiring to see," said Anthem Awards Managing Director Jessica Lauretti. ★



EDUCATORS INVITED TO BALTIMORE *for 2023 National Teacher Institute* *Subsequent, Virtual Teacher Institute will explore intersection of technology and history*



WATCH OUT, BALTIMORE — the teachers are coming! The Trust's annual National Teacher Institute will descend on Charm City July 13–16, building on a two-decade tradition of excellence in continuing education. For three and a half days, educators will have the opportunity to acquire skills and innovative methods while networking with other like-minded professionals.

As part of the 2023 theme "What's Past Is Prologue: Making History Relatable in Today's Classrooms," eventgoers will take part in lectures and workshops to learn about historical topics from experts in both the education and history fields.

"Our National Teacher Institute is more than just methodology; it's about making you a better, more well-rounded educator," said Trust Deputy Director of Education Kris White. "We hope you will leave the Institute with a better understanding of your subject matter, a passion for history education and lifelong friendships."

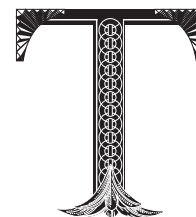
Per Trust tradition, the event is free for educators, but requires a \$100 refundable deposit to reserve your spot. At the conclusion of the event, educators can apply for continuing education certificates provided by St. Bonaventure University and paid for by the Trust.

Following the in-person event, the American Battlefield Trust will also host a Virtual Teacher Institute July 24–26 this year. With the theme of "Technology and History in the Classroom," participants will explore the diverse ways technology is interwoven into history and education. The virtual platform is perfect for those unable to attend the in-person Institute, but can also be a great supplement for the Baltimore experience. Registration for both events is now open. ★

Details and registration available here:



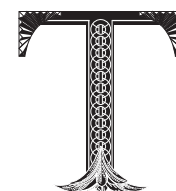
TRUST WORKS TO RALLY *"Allies for Battlefield Preservation"*



THIS WINTER, we launched the first edition of our *Allies for Battlefield Preservation* newsletter. This new communication mechanism highlights the power of advocacy to encourage peer-to-peer education and empower local preservationists in their work alongside park leaders and government officials. Included within future iterations will be information regarding advocacy efforts that will be helpful to those committed to saving historic battlefields. Alongside the Trust's "Speak Out" campaigns, the *Allies for Battlefield Preservation* newsletter will prove a robust companion to any preservation-minded individual or group, as well as new recruits curious about ways to get involved. Looking ahead, we plan to convene virtual gatherings to offer training and foster dialogue among friend groups, round tables and other history affinity organizations from across the country.

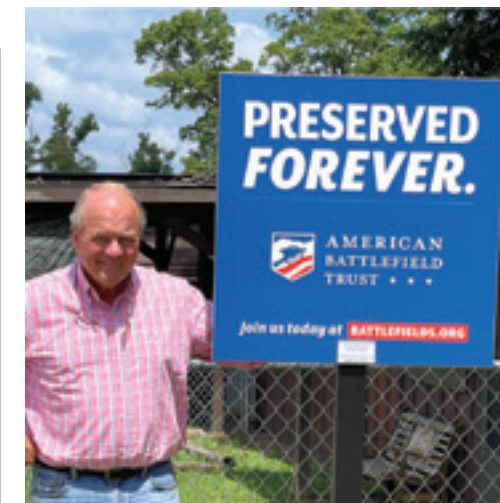
Those wishing to receive the *Allies for Battlefield Preservation* newsletter can visit <http://www.battlefields.org/email-signup>, where they can find and join numerous other email lists covering assorted topics related to history and conservation. Readers can also visit www.battlefields.org/preserve/speak-out to learn of other opportunities to contact their representatives about pressing preservation issues. ★

NEW STATE GRANT PROGRAM *saves Mississippi battlefields*



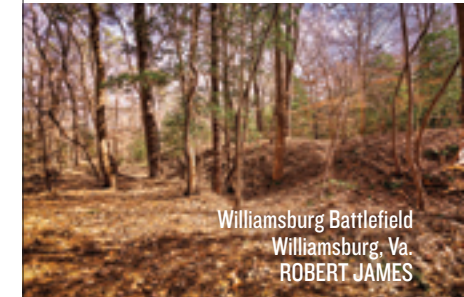
THE MAGNOLIA STATE has joined the roster of states proactively working to foster public-private partnerships to protect battlefield landscapes through state matching grants. In February, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH) announced the second round of recipients for the Mississippi Historic Site Preservation Grants (MHSPG), a matching grants program established in 2021 with the strong support of Gov. Tate Reeves and the Mississippi legislature. Like other grants the Trust receives, selected projects must provide a one-to-one match in funds from other nonstate sources, encouraging collaborative investment in these historic sites.

This year's awards totaled more than \$1.2 million and benefitted four battlefields in the state: Brice's Crossroads, Corinth, Champion Hill and Chickasaw Bayou. Mississippi's state grant program differs from predecessors in Virginia and Tennessee in that it can also apply to sites of Native American archaeology and places with civil rights history.



Although the Trust has long done work at three of these battlefields, these grants are also funding our first-ever projects at Chickasaw Bayou, part of an initiative by long-time Trustee Don Barrett that has protected several small parcels from which a future battlefield park is emerging. Chickasaw Bayou was an important engagement in the Vicksburg Campaign that saw initial Union gains collapse in the face of heavy casualties. ★

WILLIAMSBURG EFFORTS RECOGNIZED *with statewide award*



Williamsburg Battlefield
Williamsburg, Va.
ROBERT JAMES



RECOGNIZING the Trust's ongoing work in the Old Dominion, the Historic Virginia

Land Conservancy (HVLC) bestowed its 2022 HVLC Commitment to Conservation Award on the organization. The honor is meant to highlight the Trust's acquisition of historically significant tracts of the Williamsburg Battlefield in York County, where 343 acres have been saved thus far.

Most recent and, perhaps, most notable is the Trust's 2021 purchase of the James Custis Farm. The property was purchased, in part, with a record-setting \$4.6-million matching grant from the federal American Battlefield Protection Program. Beyond the May 1862 battle during the Peninsula Campaign, the property carries historical associations dating to the colonial period.

At Williamsburg and beyond, the Trust is honored to embody a "Commitment to Conservation" of critical and endangered cultural landscapes. We will continue to work with allies in the preservation and conservation communities to set aside these special places in Virginia and nationwide. ★



MORE THAN TWO DECADES OF PARK DAY

Tending to the places that make up our American story



EACH SPRING, thousands of volunteers gather at battlefields and historic sites across the nation to participate in the Trust's Park Day clean-up effort. For 27 years, Boy and Girl Scouts, Rotarians, Lions Club members, church groups, ROTC units, youth groups and many others have participated in projects large and small to keep our nation's heritage not only preserved, but pristine. This event allows the Trust to cast a spotlight on beloved American landscapes, from Texas to Massachusetts. Projects will keep historic sites and battlefields clean, open and accessible for the enjoyment of all people.

Being that the spirit of Park Day has always been about more than a single date on the calendar, please keep in mind that sites may seek alternative dates.

We thank the following sites for registering to participate in this year's Park Day activities, taking place largely on April 15, 2023. To see the most up-to-date list of locations and learn more about this cherished tradition, please visit www.battlefields.org/parkday.★

ALABAMA

Historic Blakeley State Park

ARKANSAS

Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park

CONNECTICUT

Fort Trumbull State Park

DELAWARE

Fort Delaware State Park
Lums Pond State Park

FLORIDA

Gulf Islands National Seashore

GEORGIA

Andersonville National Historic Site
Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park
Dalton Confederate Cemetery
Dunagan Cemetery
Fort McAllister State Historic Park
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
Prater's Mill Historic Site
Resaca Confederate Cemetery
Rocky Face Ridge Park
Shoupade Park

ILLINOIS

General John A. Logan Museum

INDIANA

General Lew Wallace Study & Museum

KANSAS

Black Jack Battlefield and Nature Park
Mine Creek Battlefield

KENTUCKY

Battle of Richmond
Camp Nelson National Monument



Camp Wildcat Civil War Battlefield
Columbus-Belmont State Park
Leslie Morris Park at Fort Hill
Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument
Perryville Battlefield State Historic Site
Tebbs Bend Battlefield

LOUISIANA

Camp Moore Museum
Mansfield State Historic Site

MARYLAND

Antietam National Battlefield
Fort Washington Park
Monocacy National Battlefield
Point Lookout State Park

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston National Historic Park
Minute Man National Historical Park

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Final Stands Civil War Center
Raymond Military Park

MISSOURI

Battle of Pilot Knob State Historic Site
Fort D Historic Site
Lone Jack Civil War Battlefield, Soldiers Cemetery & Museum
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

NEW JERSEY

Fort Lee Historic Park
Old Barracks Museum
Princeton Battlefield State Park

NEW YORK

Deposit's Revolutionary War Cemetery

NORTH CAROLINA

Fort Raleigh National Historical Site
Historic Carson House
Moore's Creek National Battlefield
Shallow Ford State Historic Site
Smith-McDowell House
Stonewall Manor

OHIO

Buffington Island State Memorial Park
Harriet Beecher Stowe House
Johnson's Island Civil War Prison

PENNSYLVANIA

Bellefonte Union Cemetery
Lancaster Cemetery
Lee's Headquarters at Gettysburg
Mount Moriah Cemetery

SOUTH CAROLINA

Battle of Hanging Rock Historic Site
Battle of Rivers Bridge State Historic Site
Buford Massacre Battlefield
Historic Blakeley State Park
Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park

TENNESSEE

Fort Pillow State Historic Park
Mabry-Hazen House
Mossy Creek Battlefield at Glenmore Mansion
Parkers Crossroads Battlefield
Reflection Riding Arboretum and Nature Center

TEXAS

Palmito Ranch Battlefield National Historic Landmark

VIRGINIA

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
Ball's Bluff Battlefield Regional Park
Belle Grove Plantation
Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park
Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation
Cedar Mountain Battlefield
Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park
Historic Sandusky
Kernstown Battlefield
Laurel Hill Birthplace of JEB Stuart
Payne's Farm/Mine Run Campaign
Poplar Grove National Cemetery at Petersburg Battlefield
Richmond National Battlefield Park
Smith Tract, Williamsburg Battlefield
Trevilian Station Battlefield
Wilderness Battlefield

WEST VIRGINIA

Bulltown Historic Area
Shepherdstown Battlefield

EXPLORE PARK DAY'S ANNUAL TRADITION



Oak Hill
Gettysburg National Military Park
Gettysburg, Pa.
NOEL KLINE

CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE

Sustainability conference preview



ATTENDING the 2023 CWRT Congress Conference August 25-27, 2023 should prove to be as much a turning point for your Civil War round table as the battle that occurred on the battlefield it borders — Gettysburg. The theme for this year's conference, "Membership Expansion and Retention," will focus on several key elements necessary to sustain and grow your round table in this post-pandemic era.

Panel discussions conducted by leaders in the Civil War community will strongly encourage audience member participation. *Coming Out of the Pandemic* will highlight the challenges round tables faced and how they overcame them. *Community Partnerships: The Hidden Value*, brings winning ideas on widening the circle of potential members. *The Sustainability Challenge* provides tools for all Civil War round tables to use in order to maximize efforts. And *Target Marketing – Younger Members*, will show you how some round tables are attracting that elusive younger member. And more!

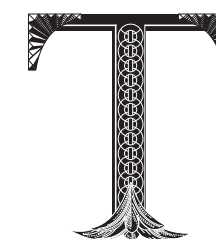
The Conference begins Friday, August 25th, at the Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center with a social hour and tour of the museum (including the cupola!), followed by a talk by a nationally-known speaker to be announced at a later date. The day-long conference is set at the new home of the Adams County Historical Society, located near the first day battlefield. Following the conference, dinner and entertainment will be provided in the NPS Visitors' Center. On Sunday, participants will have the opportunity to attend a guided tour of the George Spangler Farm Field Hospital before heading home.

The CWRT Congress is grateful for the collaborative efforts of the Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center, the Adams County Historical Society, the Gettysburg Foundation, the Gettysburg Civil War Round Table and the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College. Vendors are welcome but will need prior approval by the Adams County Historical Society.

Come to learn. Come to share. And come to be a part of making the study of the Civil War an important part of your community.★

2023 CIVIL WAR INSTITUTE SUMMER CONFERENCE

at Gettysburg College



THE AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST is proud to be a sponsor of the Civil War Institute (CWI) 2023 Summer Conference, hosted this year from June 9-14 at Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania. Attendees will have the opportunity to listen to lectures from Civil War scholars and take part in tours of nearby battlefields. Although the Civil War Institute

has held conferences for nearly 40 years, it continues to add new and exciting elements to the programming in its week-long schedule. Offered for the first time this year is an "Active Track" package, providing access to two walking-intensive tours around the Gettysburg battlefield led by the Trust's Chief Historian, Garry Adelman.

Those who take part in the tours will experience "The First Day at Gettysburg, Off the Beaten Path," where Adelman, a Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg since 1995, will take them through the initial advances of Confederate forces. The following day, Adelman will lead "The Union Fishhook, Off the Beaten Path" and describe the Union's defenses on the second day at Gettysburg, where the Federals held their lines until night fell. The "Active Track" provides an option for those who prefer a shorter, more physically active experience at the CWI 2023 Summer Conference, covering 14 miles over two tours lasting seven hours each. This conference package also includes Friday lectures from leading Civil War historians.

The Conference has a variety of other, less physically demanding opportunities to learn for both new students of history and those well-versed in the Civil War. Each of the five days incorporates a full schedule of activities, including dine-in discussions so attendees can have their fill of both history and food. Additionally, although taking place near the Gettysburg battlefield, participants can explore the Antietam or Harpers Ferry battlefields on full-day bus tours. Or bus tours can be foregone to instead combine half a day of classwork with half a day of being out on the Gettysburg battlefield.

The CWI 2023 Conference is sure to be a fantastic opportunity to learn about a variety of topics regarding our nation's deadliest conflict, while providing an immersive experience enjoyable for all. American Battlefield Trust members are also eligible for discounted tuition rates as sponsors of this event. Learn more at www.gettysburg.edu/civil-war-institute/summer-conference/2023-cwi-conference.★

Buffington Island Battlefield Memorial Park
Portland, Ohio
JENNIFER GOELLNITZ

PRESERVATION VICTORY MILESTONES

25th state tops Trust's list of recent triumphs

ANTIETAM, Md.

The September 17, 1862, Battle of Antietam remains the single bloodiest day in American history. While the battle was a draw from a military standpoint, Lee's army withdrew, giving Abraham Lincoln the "victory" he had been waiting for to issue the Emancipation Proclamation.

With the support of the National Park Service and the Save Historic Antietam Foundation, the Trust has acquired 5.2 acres at Antietam. Situated adjacent to the historic Reel Farm and other Trust-preserved land, the Trust will steward the property until it can be incorporated into Antietam National Battlefield. The Trust has now saved **468 acres** at Antietam.

BUFFINGTON ISLAND, OHIO

In July 1863, against the backdrop of Confederate losses at Vicksburg and Gettysburg, a daring cavalry raid ventured into Ohio. At Buffington Island, Maj. Gen. John Hunt Morgan encountered 3,000 Union artillery, infantry and cavalry accompanied by U.S. Navy gunboats. The fighting ended with 700 Confederates surrendering above and beyond the killed and wounded.

Morgan escaped but was captured eight days later.

In partnership with the Buffington Island Battlefield Preservation Foundation, the Trust was able to secure **108 acres** at Buffington Island, near the Ohio-West Virginia border. A matching grant from the federal American Battlefield Protection Program is also anticipated. This is the Trust's first acquisition at Buffington Island and its first project in Ohio.

CEDAR MOUNTAIN, Va.

The Battle of Cedar Mountain occurred on August 9, 1862. Fighting was particularly intense in the area known as Crittenden's Gate, where Union casualties reached 30 percent and Lt. Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson personally rallied his faltering command to final victory.

Aided by the American Battlefield Protection Program and the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, the Trust acquired 45 acres at Cedar Mountain. The property will be incorporated into a future state park. The Trust has now saved **629 acres** at Cedar Mountain.

CHAMPION HILL, Miss.

The May 16, 1863, Battle of Champion Hill has rightly been called the most

decisive battle of one of the most decisive campaigns of the Civil War. After a fierce, seesaw struggle, Federal soldiers seized the Jackson Road, and the Confederates were driven from Champion Hill, setting the stage for the siege and surrender of Vicksburg.

With the support of the American Battlefield Protection Program, the State of Mississippi and the HTR Foundation, the Trust acquired 354 acres at Champion Hill. The tract is instrumental to the understanding of the Vicksburg Campaign. The Trust has now saved **1,222 acres** at Champion Hill.

CHANCELLORSVILLE, Va.

The Battle of Chancellorsville, fought April 30–May 6, 1863, was a resounding Confederate victory, but it came at a great cost. After his triumphant flank attack on May 2, Jackson was shot by his own troops and died eight days later.

The Trust secured two properties totaling 44 acres at Chancellorsville with the support of the American Battlefield Protection Program, the Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund, the National Park Service and the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust. The acquisition of the two properties is a significant step toward completing the Flank Attack portion of the Chancellorsville Battlefield. The Trust has now saved **1,365 acres** at Chancellorsville.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.

The Union Army of the Cumberland, besieged in Chattanooga, was dependent on a single supply line. Desperate to open a more direct route for food and reinforcements, they used bridge pontoons to float past Confederate guards on Lookout Mountain and establish a bridgehead at Brown's Ferry on October 27, 1863. The resulting "Cracker Line" facilitated the men, food and supplies necessary for November's Federal assaults on Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge.

This past fall, the Trust acquired an acre of land at Lookout Mountain in Chattanooga – the site of a significant route entrance for Union forces – with support of committed donors. The Trust has now saved **405 acres** at Chattanooga.

CORINTH, Miss.

After the September 19, 1862, Battle of Iuka, the Confederate armies in the area moved toward Corinth, hoping to seize the city and then sweep into Middle Tennessee. Since the siege the previous spring, Union forces had erected various fortifications, which they manned upon the approach of the Confederates. The Southern attack was initially successful, pushing the Federals back to their inner defenses, but after a period of desperate hand-to-hand fighting, their gains were entirely reversed, leading to a general retreat.

In partnership with the National Park Service and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the Trust acquired 29 acres at Corinth Battlefield. The Trust, along with the

National Park Service, will monitor the property until its transfer to the Shiloh National Military Park. The Trust has now saved **820 acres** at Corinth.

CUMBERLAND CHURCH, Va.

Fought on April 7, 1865, the Battle of Cumberland Church was one of the last battles before the surrender at Appomattox Court House. In its aftermath Lt. Gen. U.S. Grant wrote to Gen. Robert E. Lee, speaking of the "hopelessness of further resistance," and "asking of you the surrender of that portion of the C.S. Army known as the Army of Northern Virginia."

The recent acquisition at Cumberland Church was aided by the anticipated grants from the American Battlefield Protection Program and the Commonwealth of Virginia. The property will be transferred to the Appomattox-Petersburg Preservation Society for interpretation and stewardship. These **46 acres** represent the Trust's first acquisition at Cumberland Church.

EUTAW SPRINGS, S.C.

After a string of defeats in the spring of 1781, Continental Major General Nathanael Greene described his efforts to end the British threat in South Carolina succinctly: "We fight, get beat, rise, and fight again." He led 2,100 troops on a 22-day, 120-mile march that ended near the British camp at Eutaw Springs. On September 8, the Americans attacked at first light. Although he could not fully dislodge the British, Greene kept pushing them back to Charles Town.

Supported by the South Carolina Conservation Bank and South Carolina American Revolution Sestercentennial Commission, the Trust aided the acquisition of four acres at Eutaw Springs. The property will be owned and stewarded by the South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust. The Trust has now saved **18 acres** at Eutaw Springs.

FORT TICONDEROGA, N.Y.

Located at the southern tip of Lake Champlain, Fort Ticonderoga is associated with multiple battles in both the French and Indian War and Revolutionary War. In the latter, it was the scene of an American victory over the British in 1775, and a British victory in 1777.

Last fall, the Trust – aided by an anticipated American Battlefield Protection Program grant and a contribution from the Fort Ticonderoga Association – acquired its first acre at Fort Ticonderoga. The Trust will transfer the property to the Fort Ticonderoga Association. The Trust has now saved **an acre** at Fort Ticonderoga.

GETTYSBURG, Pa.

On July 1, 1863, Confederate forces converged on the town from the west and north, driving Union defenders back through the streets. Union reinforcements arrived during the night, forcing the Confederates to attack strong positions on both flanks the next day. On July 3, the Confederate infantry assault



Fort Ticonderoga
Ticonderoga, N.Y.
BUDDY SECOR

known as Pickett's Charge failed.

This past year, the Trust secured the preservation of two critical properties in Gettysburg. Thanks to support from the American Battlefield Protection Program, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and HTR Foundation, the Trust acquired the 4.1-acre Battlefield Military Museum site. Then in late 2022, the Trust secured a significant half acre associated with Pickett's Charge. The Trust intends to restore and interpret both properties. The Trust has now saved **1,242 acres** at Gettysburg.

HOBKIRK HILL, S.C.

In April 1781, Continental Army Major General Nathanael Greene began a campaign to drive the British from South Carolina, starting with British Lieutenant Colonel Francis Rawdon's garrison in Camden. Due to strong British defenses, Greene assumed a position atop Hobkirk Hill. Rawdon launched an attack on the Continentals, and Greene subsequently disengaged and conducted a withdrawal. Despite the victory, Rawdon abandoned Camden soon after.

Funding from the American Battlefield Protection Program and the South Carolina Conservation Bank aided the acquisition of 22 acres at Hobkirk Hill, property now held by the South Carolina Battlefield Preservation Trust. The Trust has now saved **22 acres** at Hobkirk Hill.

MANASSAS, Va.

On August 28, 1862, Confederate Maj. Gen. Stonewall Jackson encountered and attacked elements of the Union army, holding off several assaults the next day until reinforcements could arrive on the field. A crushing Confederate flank attack on August 30 sent the Federals into a retreat eastward.

At Second Manassas, the Trust acquired two properties throughout the year for a total of nine acres. In late August, the Trust — aided by an anticipated American Battlefield Protection Program grant and the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation — acquired three acres. Then in late December, the Trust received a six-acre donation of land. The property will eventually be transferred to the Manassas National Battlefield. The Trust has now saved **385 acres** at Manassas.



Hobkirk Hill
Historic Camden Revolutionary War Site
Camden, S.C.
MARK THORNBERRY

MILL SPRINGS, Ky.

The Battle of Mill Springs, fought on January 19, 1862, was one of the first significant Union victories of the Civil War, as Brig. Gen. George H. Thomas defeated Confederate forces under the command of Maj. Gen. George B. Crittenden and Brig. Gen. Felix Zollicoffer. Zollicoffer, conducting a reconnaissance in front of his forces, was shot and killed by Union soldiers during the battle. The Federal victory at Mill Springs not only helped bolster sagging Northern morale but also helped keep Kentucky solidly within Union control.

In Kentucky, the Trust acquired 83 acres at Mill Springs with the support of the National Park Service and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The property, situated on the 1863 Confederate encampment, has been transferred to the National Park Service for incorporation into the Mill Springs National Monument. The Trust has now saved **769 acres** at Mill Springs.

PETERSBURG, Va.

Following the battle at Cold Harbor, Maj. Gen. George Meade's Army of the Potomac attacked Petersburg on June 15, 1864, driving the defenders, led by Confederate Gen. P.G.T. Beauregard, from their entrenchments. As the Union advanced, Beauregard fell back to defend the city, while Gen. Robert E. Lee rushed in reinforce-

ments. Their timely arrival halted the Union attack and signaled the start of the 10-month siege of Petersburg. When the defenders' lines finally cracked on April 2, 1865, it was only a matter of hours until the Southern capital at Richmond was abandoned. Then the weary Confederates turned west toward Appomattox.

Aided by the American Battlefield Protection Program and the Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund, the Trust acquired eight acres at Petersburg. The property, witness to battle action during June 1864, will be transferred to the Petersburg National Battlefield. The Trust has now saved **130 acres** at Petersburg.

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va.

The Battle of Shepherdstown was the most significant engagement of the contested Confederate retreat following the Battle of Antietam. On September 19, Union forces pushed across the Potomac River at Boteler's Ford, attacking the Confederate rear guard, but were ultimately discouraged by a powerful counterattack the next day.

Supported by funding from the American Battlefield Protection Program, the West Virginia Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund, HTR Foundation, Save Historic Antietam Foundation and the Shepherdstown Battlefield Preservation Association, the Trust successfully acquired 122 acres of the historic Osburn Farm at Shepherdstown. The Trust will transfer the property to the Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission, in the near future. The Trust has now saved **743 acres** at Shepherdstown. ★

TRACING THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAMUEL CLYDE

"A true Whig and a brave officer who has made great sacrifices for his country"

SOMETIMES it is exhilarating to think of whom we descend from. For U.S. Rep. Andrew S. Clyde, family stories steered him toward an awareness that an ancestor with his surname stood as a soldier in the conflict that forged the United States of America. And even with a centuries' age difference, Clyde very likely experienced many of the same emotions faced by his Revolutionary ancestor, as he too served — as an officer in the U.S. Navy for 28 years, including combat in Iraq and Kuwait. Today, his service looks different, as he represents Georgia's 9th Congressional District on Capitol Hill.

But who was this brave Patriot ancestor of Clyde's?

To unveil that, one must sift through generations of Clydes — six generations before Representative Clyde, to be exact. In doing so, we find his four-times great grandfather Hugh Clyde, born ca. 1724 in Ireland to Esther [of Tyrone, Ireland] and Daniel Clyde [of Clydesdale, Scotland]. Between 1730 and 1732, the young family moved to the American colonies and settled in New Hampshire. It was there that Hugh Clyde's brother — Representative Clyde's four-times great grand-uncle — Samuel Clyde was born in 1732.

During the French and Indian War, Samuel Clyde served with the British in New Hampshire. D. Hamilton Hurd's 1878 *History of Otsego County, New York* claims that Clyde was appointed captain in a company led by General James Abercrombie in 1758 and was involved in the taking of Fort Frontenac and the 1759 Battle of Ticonderoga. Before ending his service in 1761, he became familiar with Dr. Matthew Thornton, the uncle of Catherine Wasson and later signer of the Declaration of Independence. Clyde went on to marry Catherine and, together, they moved to the Mohawk Valley region of New York.

But the Mohawk Valley quickly turned into a battlefield in the fight for American independence, and Samuel Clyde again answered the call to serve. A look in the National Archives and Records Administration's compiled service records for Patriot forces confirms this. Accounting for the service of regular soldiers, militia and volunteers, these files differ from

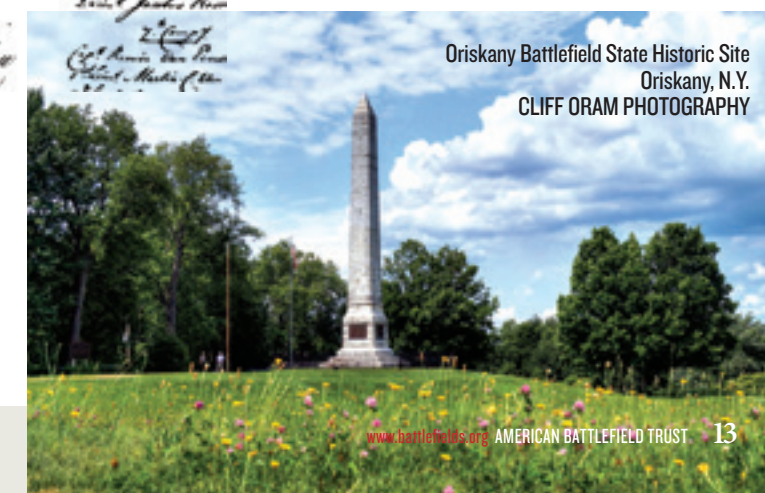
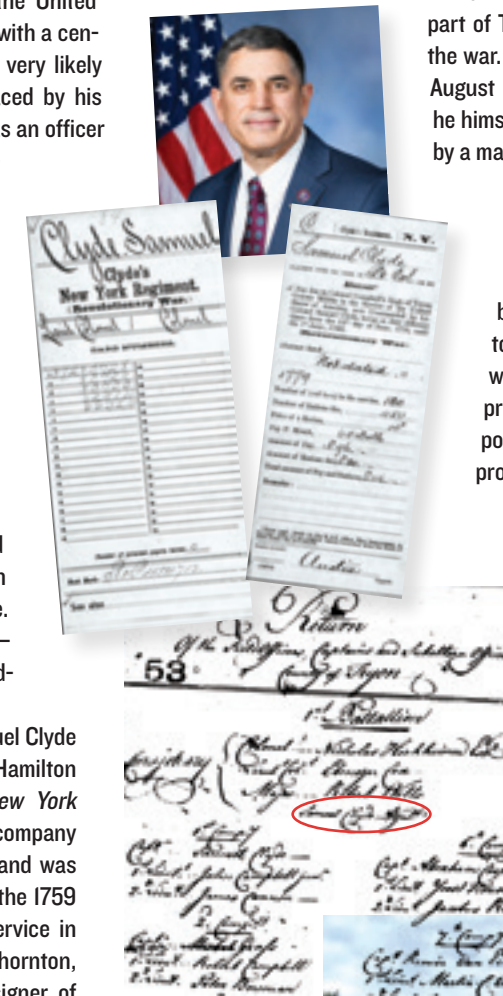
soldier to soldier — some have brilliant detail while others provide just a hint of history.

Fold3's military service records for Samuel Clyde consist of two sets of index cards — one noting his service as a lieutenant colonel turned-colonel in Clyde's New York Regiment, and the other documenting his time as a colonel in Harper's Regiment New York, which accounts for his service in 1780. The file for Clyde's Regiment merits particular attention, as his surname is front and center. The record provides clarity to the curiosity, explaining that "Colonel Campbell's Regt. Of Tryon County Militia in the Service of the United States of America, [was] now Commanded by Lt. Colonel Samuel Clyde, being on duty different times from the 15th day of June, 1779, until the 1st Jany., 1783." So, not only did this ancestor serve — he LED.

While these records account for the years 1779–1783, the aforementioned *History of Otsego County, New York* notes Clyde's early involvement in the Mohawk Valley's resistance against the Crown, having been part of Tryon County's Committee of Safety from the beginning of the war. He is also said to have fought at the Battle of Oriskany in August 1777, where his superior, General Herkimer, was killed and he himself was knocked down by a British musket, and later saved by a man named John Flock. By March 1778, he was one of a party of three who met with the Marquis de Lafayette to request assistance in building a fort and manning it; General Washington later sent orders to proceed with this request.

But tragedy struck on November 11, 1778, when a combined force of Loyalists and Natives struck Patriot forces in today's Otsego County. Snow-covered ground turned red, with more than 40 Patriots killed and approximately 70 taken prisoner. Throughout this attack, Clyde took up a defensive position, while his wife and children fled to the woods for protection.

General Washington visited the Mohawk Valley in 1783, where he found Colonel Clyde in command of Fort Plain. According to the *History of the Mohawk Valley, Gateway to the West, 1614–1925*, this meeting went very well for Clyde. Governor George Clinton is said to have remarked, "General Washington, this is Colonel Clyde, a true Whig and a brave officer who has made great sacrifices for his country" — to which Washington answered, "Then, sir, you should remember him in your appointments." Clinton certainly did, later appointing Clyde sheriff of Tryon County and sheriff of Montgomery County. ★



Oriskany Battlefield State Historic Site
Oriskany, N.Y.
CLIFF ORAM PHOTOGRAPHY

RED BANK DISCOVERY

Hessian burial site offers opportunity for new historic interpretation

“A

S LONG AS I HAVE SERVED, I have not left a battlefield in such deep sorrow.” Captain Johann Ewald, an officer in the Hessian Field Jäger Corps, wrote this in his diary after the Battle of Red Bank, New Jersey. On that October day in 1777, Ewald had lost five of his closest friends, including a family member, in their assault on American forces at Fort Mercer. Four more friends were seriously wounded.

A recent archaeological discovery at Gloucester County’s Red Bank Battlefield Park has led to a stunning revelation regarding the violence Ewald describes. Last summer, the park staff recovered the remains of at least 15 individuals believed to be Hessian soldiers, or troops from German states hired by the British Empire to support its forces. The remains include skull and leg bone fragments that show these individuals may have suffered multiple wounds or dismemberment. Musket balls, canister shot and grape shot were all found nearby. While these finds are common on the battlefield, “to see it [all] in association with a person changes the way you understand that piece of material culture,” said Dr. Jennifer Janofsky, director of Red Bank Battlefield Park and the Megan Giordano Fellow in Public History at Rowan University.

Guided tours, trails and special programs at the park give visitors a thorough understanding of the battle, but Janofsky believes this moment could be an opportunity for the 44-acre historic site to interpret the brutal nature of the war — a point Revolutionary War battlefields don’t often dwell on. “I think the discovery really prompts us to reconsider the stories that we are telling and to really share that story of violence with visitors,” she said.

Just a month before the battle, General Sir William Howe had captured Philadelphia. Yet it was only a partial victory, as American forces still held the Delaware River and countryside, which Howe needed to resupply and reinforce his troops in the city. Fort Mercer — an earthen fortification on a bluff called Red Bank along the river — became a target of Howe’s plan to seize access of this key waterway for the British Navy. On October 22, 1777, approximately 1,400 Hessians descended upon a small American force of just over 600 soldiers. The fort’s outnumbered defenders focused their can-

nons and small arms on the attacking force, supported by fire from several American naval vessels. The Hessian soldiers tore their way through an abatis and this brutal field of fire, but never reached the fort. After approximately 40 minutes of fighting, they retreated, having suffered casualties of up to 25 percent.

The park was aware of the potential for mass graves on the battlefield, but finding one where they did — in what would have been a trench outside the fort — was entirely unexpected. Historical maps noted soldiers’ burial locations on the opposite side of the current park. A 2014 archaeological investigation based on this documentation did not identify any potential mass burial locations. When the park began this current excavation, Janofsky said burials “were not even remotely on our mind.”

The work began as a public archaeology project intended to investigate a quarter-acre property the county added to the park in 2020, demonstrating the critical role of battlefield preservation in making these discoveries possible.

“It seemed like such a small acquisition when you stand on the lot,” Dr. Janofsky said, “but what we found out was that it was extremely valuable.” Hundreds of volunteers worked alongside professional teams to uncover the tract’s mysteries. One of the volunteers even discovered a 1766 King George III guinea coin while using an archaeology sifting screen for the first time. This coin — about the equivalent of a soldier’s pay for month — is an incredibly rare find that Janofsky said may have itself been the major story of the project.

But then came what Janofsky characterized as “a complete shock”: a volunteer found a human bone. This changed the course of the project, as it became not just an archaeological excavation but an investigation. The Park team worked with forensic anthropologists with the New Jersey State Park Forensic Unit to ensure that human remains were all were treated with appropriate care. Additional remains were excavated by

hand within a block of soil so they could later be carefully revealed and analyzed in a lab.

Janofsky anticipates that ongoing research will reveal personal details about these soldiers that will help visitors connect with the diversity of those who fought in the war. She experienced this personal connection herself when the team discovered that one of the individuals may have only been 18–22 years old, the same age as her own children and her students.

“As a historian, I’ve always been drawn to the stories that haven’t been told,” she said, and she wondered what brought him to the war and who might have mourned his loss. State forensic anthropologists hope DNA analysis will be able to identify individuals and their descendants, but that possibility continues to be, as Dr. Janofsky says, the “million-dollar question.” She is optimistic the team may be able to create a facial reconstruction of one of the recovered individuals,



which would truly help her team bring these soldiers to life at the park.

“I think most people, when you say, ‘the Hessians’ in the Revolution, the first word to come to mind is ‘mercenary,’ and ‘mercenary’ has this very negative connotation,” said Janofsky. “The opportunity here is to share their stories and really have them be individuals in the public mind and to really talk about the complexities of who these individuals were,” she said.

Thanks to funding from the New Jersey Humanities Council, the Park will be working with several additional experts to develop new interpretation that highlights these stories. Janofsky, co-director Wade Catts of South River Heritage Consulting and their team are also working on plans to memorialize these individuals on the battlefield, and the County is exploring appropriate options for the reinternment of the remains.

Visitors will soon be able to see this site for themselves. The park will conduct public tours to the property April through October 2023, and visitors will have the opportunity to speak to those involved in the discovery. The park is also planning to offer more public archaeology opportunities soon. *If you are interested in being involved, please contact Dr. Janofsky at lawrencej@rowan.edu.*★



LOST.

AND FOUND.

BATTLE OF CAMDEN
BURIAL 10
LONG BONE FRAG
NORTH CORNER 50 x 50 CM
EAST
GROUP A
(1 MET FRAG)

UNEARTHING BRAVE SOULS IN CAMDEN, S.C.

An illuminating — and emotional — effort provides permanent dignity to hastily buried battle casualties and further insight into a pivotal battle.

BY JENNIFER HOWARD

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SARAH NELL BLACKWELL

JUST NORTH OF CAMDEN

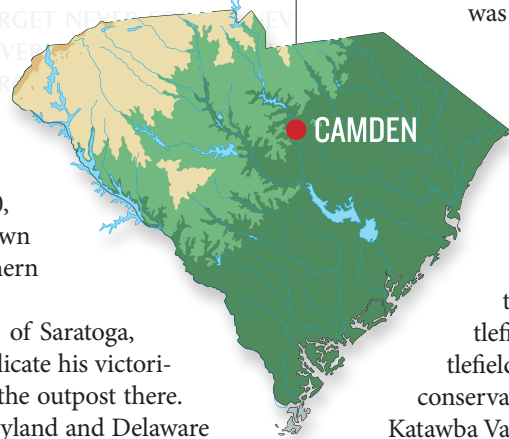
Just north of Camden, South Carolina, the landscape transitions from bustling urbanity to scattered homesteads and expansive longleaf pine forests. On August 16, 1780, this region on the edge of the prehistoric Atlantic Ocean now known as the Sandhills was the setting for the turning point of the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution, the Battle of Camden.

After Charleston fell to the British on May 12, 1780, the hero of Saratoga, Major General Horatio Gates, arrived in the South with plans to replicate his victorious campaign in the North. Gates marched for Camden to capture the outpost there. Meanwhile, Major General Baron de Kalb and more than 1,000 Maryland and Delaware Continentals were marching south from Morristown, New Jersey, on orders from General George Washington. Things were about to get serious in Camden and Gates' troops were severely compromised. Food rations were nearly non-existent. His soldiers foraged on green corn and green peaches, a decision that caused them to be "breaking the ranks all night [as they] were certainly much debilitated...?"

In the early hours of August 16, Lord Cornwallis's 2,335 troops and Gates's approximately 3,500 Patriots literally ran into each other on the Waxhaw's Road, eight miles north of Camden. After a short skirmish, both sides fell back to regroup. At early morning light, the two armies faced each other in earnest, separated by about 200 yards of longleaf pine forest. Although, on paper, the Americans enjoyed numerical superiority, all but about 1,250 of their number were inexperienced new Virginia and North Carolina militia. Cornwallis's forces were a mix of Loyalists and veterans with Simon Fraser's Highlanders, known officially as the 71st Regiment of Foot.

"The battle, of course ended up being a total disaster," commented James Legg, public archaeologist for the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology (SCIAA). "The American Army was destroyed for the second time in four months." Legg has spent decades researching the battle and thousands of hours on the battlefield. He described a setting where musket fire at close range continued for 45 minutes or more before the British outflanked the Patriots and claimed victory.

We may never know how many soldiers lost their lives at Camden. When faced with charging bayonets, many Patriot soldiers fled to the north and west. Some were



captured. Others were left dead or wounded where they fell. Burials were unceremonious affairs in shallow single or mass graves. Historical records indicate that many others remained on the surface, their remains removed by wolves and other scavengers. Legg continues, "No one was ever removed. They didn't get up and go home. They are still right where they fell."

In the years following the battle, the landscape remained remarkably intact. The site was not developed or paved over; however, shallow graves left the soldiers' remains vulnerable to the impacts of logging and agriculture. The Hobkirk Hill chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, that preserved the first two acres, moved to have the battlefield listed on the National Register of Historic Places in January 1961. The Palmetto Conservation Foundation acquired a large portion of the battlefield and provided the initial light interpretation.

In 2017, ownership of the battlefield was transferred to the Historic Camden Foundation. In

2018, the American Battlefield Trust and the South Carolina Battleground Trust, through their Liberty Trail initiative, acquired and preserved an additional 294 acres of the battlefield. All 770 acres of the battlefield are now protected under a conservation easement held by the Catawba Valley Land Trust and enjoyed by visitors using the The Liberty Trail app.

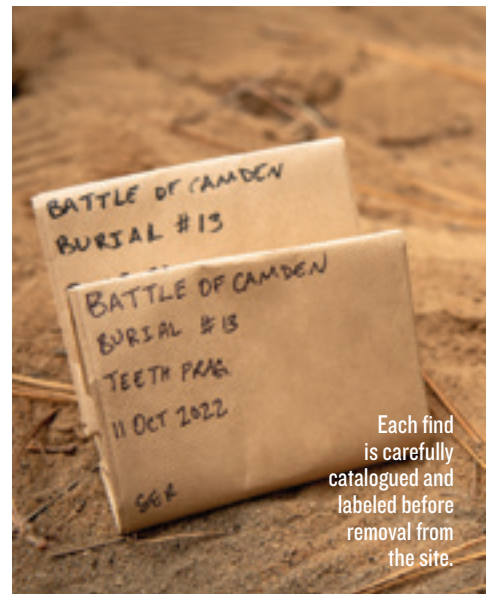
Legg describes Camden as a "featureless battlefield." The site is a pine forest with no structures such as fortifications or trenches – the only evidence comes in the form of artifacts. Much of the early research conducted by Dr. Steven Smith, a research professor affiliated with SCIAA since 1986, involved the identification of artifacts, located either by interviewing relic hunters or utilizing systematic metal detecting. Research conducted

throughout the early 2000s yielded dense concentrations of arms-related artifacts such as lead shot and musket balls, and clothing artifacts such as buttons and clothing clasps, all within six to 18 inches of the surface. The artifacts were catalogued, and the locations were mapped for later work. In 2020, Legg finally confirmed that the

Learn more about the Battle of Camden



Then, as now, longleaf pines cover much of the battlefield.



Each find is carefully catalogued and labeled before removal from the site.



Dr. Stevens arranges the vertebrae of a soldier.



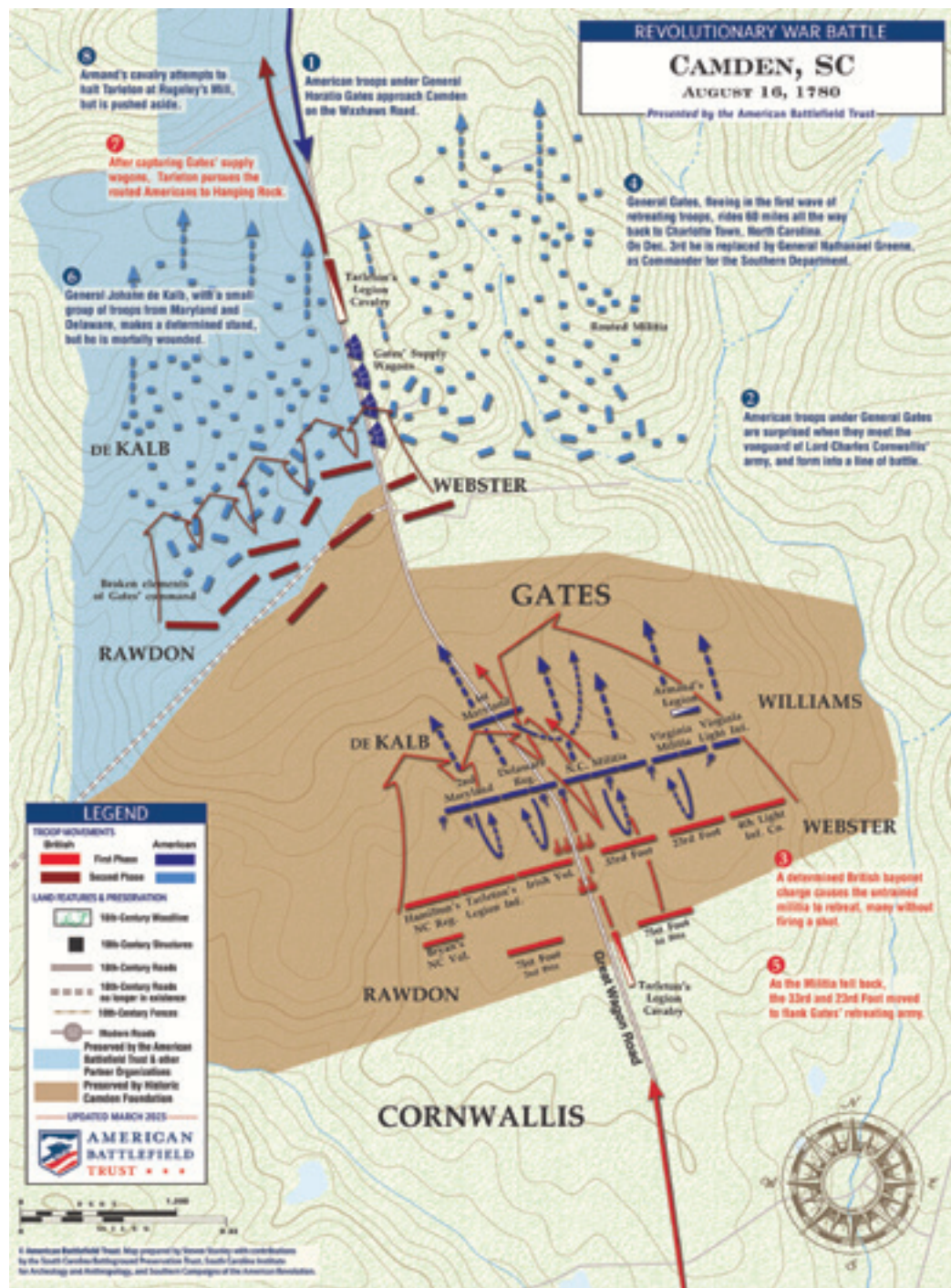
The excavation process involves precise and exacting work.



Sample collection also plays a role in the project.



An x-ray of remains at the Richland County Coroner's Office showing uniform buttons embedded in remaining soil matrix.



several, and the timeline extended from four weeks to eight.

John Michael Fisher, an archaeologist for SCIAA, has personal connections to Camden and served his country in the U.S. Army Reserves. “My grandfather used to take me on rides throughout the state to see battlefields or historic sites. Camden was always important to him. We had a family member who fought in the Revolution and disappeared at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.” He continued, “As a veteran, I felt humbled to be there. I’m a combat veteran, so seeing these guys who marched all the way from Maryland exhausted, and then died and were thrown into mass graves, made me personally attached to this project.”

Fisher and his colleagues worked with excruciating care to remove soil from the remains with a collection of wooden spoons, chopsticks and small brushes. They relied on the biological pathologists from the Richland County Coroner’s Office to lead the final removal in a manner that would not cause additional harm to the fragile bones. Deputy Coroner Dr. Bill Stevens has extensive experience in the recovery of remains. “We treat remains with dignity, especially those who have died in a conflict. That was the case for me working in Guatemala, and later in Cyprus, in the Mediterranean, and here at Richland County, where we provide services for homeless veterans, dealing directly with Fort Jackson to provide them burial with full military honors.”

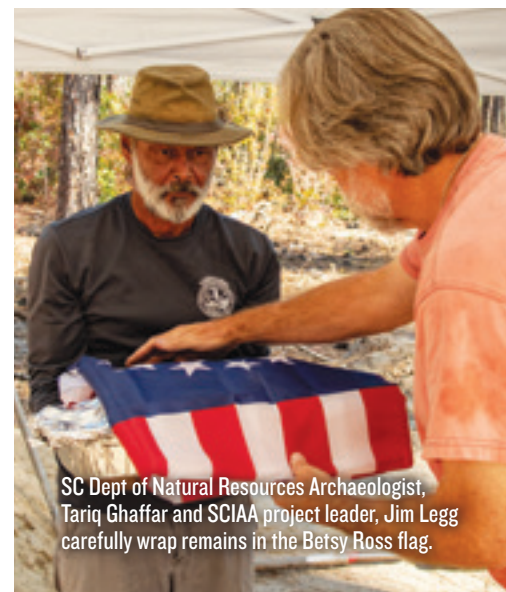
The recovery of Revolutionary War soldier remains is rare. The manner of their burials, coupled with human or animal disturbance, weather, and soil chemistry, often results in the loss of these individuals and their stories. Stevens credits the partnership of experts in developing field protocols that will provide additional insight into these heroes and provide an opportunity to ensure they are forever remembered. “The project allowed us to develop a lot of different protocols using each others’ expertise. The Department of Natural Resources, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina and the Richland County Coroner’s Office all have different skill sets for dealing with remains and material culture artifacts, knowledge about the soil, about the conditions of burial and his-



SCBPT staff member and military veteran Rick Wise (LEFT) drapes the remains of a British loyalist with the Kings Colors while Dr. Bill Stevens, deputy coroner, Richland County prepares to carry the remains to the coroner’s van.



SCIAA Archaeologist and veteran Sara Rogers carries the remains of a Maryland Continental from the field.



SC Dept of Natural Resources Archaeologist, Tariq Ghaffar and SCIAA project leader, Jim Legg carefully wrap remains in the Betsy Ross flag.

torical knowledge to identify individuals. It’s been a great melding of experts that allowed us to carry out the field recovery as we did and continues into the lab analysis.”

Camden’s material artifacts are helping to shed light on the soldiers’ stories. Unique buttons lying among the remains helped researchers identify the remains as 12 Continentals, one Loyalist militiaman, and one British soldier from the 71st Regiment of Foot. Continental buttons prominently featured the letters “USA” in an overlapping design. The soldier of the 71st was found with 22 uniform buttons with a decorative border and the numbers 7-1. The careful excavation also provided insight on the manner of death for many of the soldiers: a musket ball lodged in the spine or in the skull paints a clear picture.

The manner of burial was one of the most emotionally challenging finds for those who

That sentiment was common among the team, resulting in the creation of a short informal ceremony before and during the final removal of the soldiers. Bostick described those moments, “They were carefully removed. Each body was wrapped, boxed. Someone would say a few words. Another would offer a prayer. The flag-draped box of remains was then carried to the coroner’s van by a member of the team who was also a veteran.”

The Richland County Coroner’s Office is studying the soldiers’ remains to learn more about where they came from, their diets, their ages and stature. DNA samples are also being collected, and once this work is complete, staff will prepare the remains to be placed in handcrafted replica 18th-century coffins and to be returned to Camden for two days of reinterment ceremonies. At the conclusion of the ceremonies, the coffins

AS THE REMAINS OF TWELVE CONTINENTALS, ONE LOYALIST MILITIAMAN, AND ONE BRITISH SOLDIER FROM THE 71ST REGIMENT OF FOOT, FRASER’S HIGHLANDER WERE REMOVED FROM THE SITE, EACH WAS GRANTED A SHORT INFORMAL CEREMONY.

worked daily on the battlefield. While the Fraser’s Highlander was presumed to be carefully and respectfully buried, face up with his arms across his chest, the Continentals were found in a much different condition. Four graves were single burials, and three were multiple burials. South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Archaeologist Tariq Gaffar described his experience. “I’ve done disinterment before both of large cemeteries and individuals, but this would be different because this is the first time I’ve dealt with individuals who have died by violent means.”

He continued, “There was a tremendously callous and brutal treatment of their bodies. They were not carefully or lovingly buried. They weren’t marked. So I feel as though my role here is not so much as a doctor or healer, but as a rescuer. I’m glad that they are going to finally get the military honors that they have deserved for hundreds of years.”

will be placed in sealed vaults, in the precise location where the remains were initially recovered, and the graves will be marked.

“This will be a one-of-a-kind event. The opportunity to respectfully bury these soldiers who did not have the opportunity to be respectfully buried in 1780,” Bostick reflected. “We invite you to come to Camden to immerse yourself in the Revolutionary War. This is going to be a ceremony that none of us will see in our lifetime again. To do so, with full military honors is what these soldiers deserve.”★

Camden archeology and reburials in depth



Jennifer Howard is the principal of Steward Terra Communications, a South Carolina firm specializing in conservation issues and the challenges faced by natural resource-based organizations. She has worked closely on the Trust’s Liberty Trail initiative since its public launch in 2019.

THE CREATION OF NATIONAL CEMETERIES AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

Tasked with reburying the Union dead in the southern states, U.S. Army officer Edmund Burke Whitman literally mapped out the plan for this massive undertaking. Accountability and honoring the nation's military dead took on a new meaning and lasting vision.

BY SARA AMY LEACH
*Senior Historian, National Cemetery Administration,
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs*

THE BIVOUC OF THE DEAD

With millions of government-issued veteran headstones, including those dating as far back as 1873, perpetually altered by their natural environment and the passage of time, the need for upkeep is constant. Each headstone requires regular cleaning by contractors, staff or volunteers – as is the case at many cemetery sites that participate in the Trust's Park Day program.

Stones River National Cemetery, Murfreesboro, Tenn.
MIKE TALPLACIDO



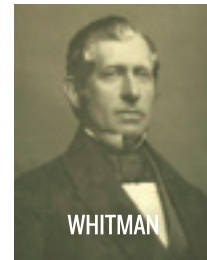
“cemeterial district” maps where the dead were found and their destination national cemetery. Whitman’s remarkably illustrative report is born of some of his pre-war work.

Whitman, 49, enlisted in the Civil War on July 18, 1862. Older than most volunteers but with an eclectic and suitable background, Captain Whitman was assigned duties in Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee during the war. He was born in Massachusetts, graduated from Harvard College in 1838 and taught in the East until 1855, when he moved to Lawrence in Kansas Territory as a representative of the New England Emigrant Aid Society. He also farmed and oversaw new construction, and in the late 1850s, partnered with surveyor Albert D. Searl in real estate investments. Services offered by “Whitman & Searl” included mapping farms, bridges and railroads, and “architectural drawings of every description ... town plats, and historical views of scenes.”

FINDING THE DEAD

The U.S. Army had begun to bury its dead at major battle sites in Tennessee before Whitman’s posting there in December 1865 under Major General George H. Thomas, commander of the Department of the Cumberland. Whitman, however, was tasked with the broader scope of “visiting battle-fields, cemeteries, and places where Union dead are interred” throughout the military division, which included Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee.

He oversaw three major expeditions in addition to numerous shorter trips to map the fallen. His findings percolated into “definite cemeterial districts ranged around some central spot, convenient and appropriate,” where a national cemetery was established. The two dozen or so districts were eventually drafted separately by Charles “Chas.” F. Smith, inked on heavy stock in black and filled in with vivid pastel pink, green and blue watercolor washes. The elegant, very small drawings — most scaled at 32½ miles per inch — show geographic features and, in red ink, a flag for the cemetery. Their cheery appearance belies the human mortality they illustrate.



Whitman personally visited “the most interesting places and ... most important routes.” He first set out on March 1, 1866, with officers, soldiers and clerks and

WHITMAN IDENTIFIED “FOUR PRINCIPLES WHICH SHOULD GOVERN IN THE SELECTION OF NATIONAL CEMETERY SITES.”

equipped with “a field note-book and a pocket compass.” That May, some of his findings were used to brief a U.S. congressional committee visiting Memphis about the reinterment effort. Before the group left Tennessee, the essence of the 1867 legislation “with many of its details were ... agreed upon,” Whitman later reflected. He was promoted to brevet major the following month and ordered to the “duty of locating, purchasing, and establishing National Cemeteries, and preparing Mortuary Records in the Military Division of the Tennessee.” Disinterment began in October 1866, and in January 1867, Whitman was named superintendent of national ceme-

teries, though technically it was only for the Department of the Tennessee.

To foster consistency, as early as June 1866, Whitman identified four “principles which should govern in the selection of national cemetery sites.” Major battle sites met the first criteria as “distinguished localities, of great historical interest” to honor the Union’s sacrifice. These included three Tennessee cemeteries Thomas authorized in 1863 — first at Chattanooga (five weeks after Lincoln spoke at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania), then Stones River and Nashville. Army chaplains Thomas B. Van Horne and William Earnshaw were at work there when Whitman arrived, and he wrote that they

THE POST-CIVIL WAR relocation of Union dead from the battle-ravaged Southern landscape into orderly new national cemeteries by the U.S. Army is partial fulfillment of President Abraham Lincoln’s promise “to care for him who shall have borne the battle.” The lesser-known individual most responsible for this feat is Brevet Lieutenant Colonel and Assistant Quartermaster of Volunteers Edmund Burke Whitman (1812–1883), who was also superintendent of national cemeteries. Based in the Military Division of the Tennessee in the Department of the Cumberland, Whitman led this solemn mission over four years with a deep commitment toward finding thousands of remains, selecting land for new cemeteries and methodically reintering the dead — all the while creating crucial “mortuary records.” His accountability for the dead across the “interminable grave-yard” left in the wake of fighting led to passage of the National Cemetery Act of 1867, the first substantive legislation to define national cemeteries and provide permanent grave markers for those who served. The United States was the first country to do this.

At the end of Whitman’s tenure in 1869, he submitted to his superiors a remarkable report that spelled out the breadth, timeline, methods, ethics and outcome of the reinterment mission. The mortuary statistics on many of the 130 or so pages are valuable, but the report’s unique significance is in its illustrations: sketch views and site plats for about 20 national cemeteries in the report, as well as separate, individual



Chattanooga National Cemetery
Chattanooga, Tenn.
MIKE TALPLACIDO

were “justly entitled to the credit of being the pioneers in the work of disinterring the dead in the Division.” This trio of sites also reflect two more principles — “points conspicuous ... on the great thorough-fares of the nation” and “central points, convenient of access” — considering their proximity to transportation by waterway, railway and roadway. After the war, Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs directed officers in other military divisions to select burial sites for their Union dead, but it was Whitman who established the broad system of reinterments under the quartermaster’s authority before it was codified by law.

NATIONAL CEMETERY SKETCHES & PLATS

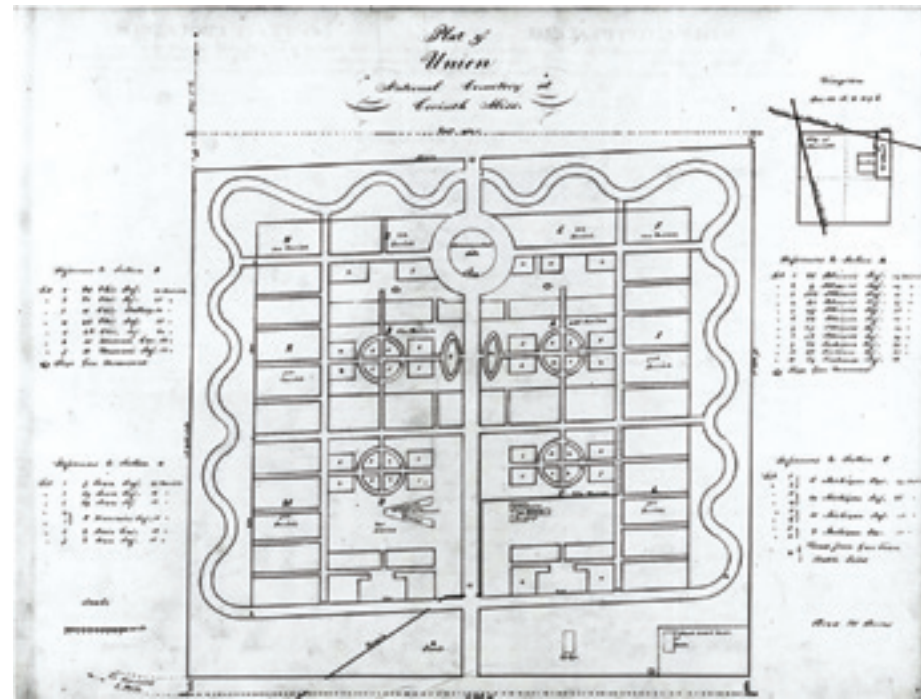
Whitman approached his final report as akin to what he probably produced in Kansas, pairing technical plats with charming street-view drawings to create a sense of place. This time his collaborator was Philip M. Radford (1820–1897), a Nashville-based civil engineer with “skill and taste.” Radford made “accurate surveys [and] elaborate sectional plats” of 18 (of 20) national cemeteries, and imaginative views from the perspective of visitors approaching on foot or by carriage. Known photographs of national cemetery landscapes are limited for the late 1860s, so these naïve renderings are among the only and earliest views of impermanent wood buildings, gated entrances and burial sections framed by paths and floral beds.



LEFT: Whitman’s map shows the vast section of Tennessee that Union dead were removed from for reburial at Knoxville National Cemetery. **RIGHT:** In Kentucky, where moving the dead proved more challenging, Whitman’s map illustrates the use of multiple burial plots with smaller concentrations of reburials closer to their original location. **BELOW:** In Corinth and Memphis, Mississippi, where the terrain is relatively even, burials are organized in grids.

These plats are also significant because they represent one-quarter of all the national cemeteries as of 1872, when reburials were complete. Collectively, this is the largest number of cemetery plans (as a set) the Army produced until an 1892–1893 atlas. They show clever, thoughtful designs with labeled features: superintendent’s lodges (dwelling and office), a “head board house” to store grave markers, a well (“pump,” covered by an ornamental shelter) and a “substantial and permanent Flag Staff.” About one-third reserve a “monumental site” in keeping with Whitman’s fourth and final principle: that cemeteries should present “favorable conditions for ornamentation, so that surviving comrades, loving friends, and grateful States, might be encouraged to expend liberally of their means, for such purposes.”

Symmetrical or organic, the designs resulted from the topography and the inclination of the officers in charge. The



sinuous layouts at Chattanooga and Marietta, Georgia, are atypical for their adaption to low, natural hills where sections are arranged in concentric rows of graves with inward-facing headstone inscriptions. Conversely, on the even grounds of Corinth and Memphis in Mississippi, graves are organized in grids, and at Knoxville, Tennessee, a single circle is formed by concentric rows of graves. In Kentucky, where moving the dead was challenging, smaller numbers of dead



“NO DISTINCTION IS TO BE MADE IN REGARD TO COLOR SO FAR AS THE REMOVAL TO THE NATIONAL CEMETERIES IS CONCERNED.”

segregation in death has been found, but Whitman — with a personal history of anti-slavery activism — was clear. “No distinction is to be made in regard to color so far as the removal to the National Cemeteries is concerned,” he wrote in 1867, “but as the colored troops were a distinct organization, it is considered quite proper and in no way an odious distinction to give them burial either in a separate lot or together in the same part of a lot containing both White and Black. In selecting a separate lot they are in every way, to be treated as if they were white soldiers.”

“HARVEST OF DEATH” BY THE NUMBERS

Whitman’s report contains daunting numbers. His men visited nearly 2,000 distinct localities, including more than 300 places where fighting occurred and hospitals. They found more than 40,000 scattered graves and documented in excess of 10,000 names. They collected remains from “no less than 6283 distinct spots,” and ultimately, more than 114,500 remains were reinterred into the Military Division of Tennessee

national cemeteries. Fortunately for Civil War researchers, these statistics are elevated through the sketches, plats and cemeterial district maps associated with Whitman’s final work.

Whitman mustered out of the U.S. Army on July 15, 1868, but as a civilian he worked another year producing the report that “formed the basis of the elaborate system of National Cemeteries.” He died in 1883, and his eulogy by the Society of the Army of the Cumberland was fitting: “The beautiful cemeteries of the Southern States will remain a perpetual memorial of Colonel Whitman.”★

READER NOTE: All quoted material is from Whitman’s final report or correspondence, if not indicated otherwise. The report and individual district maps are part of the U.S. Army Quartermaster’s records (RG 92) at the National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC, and College Park locations, respectively. Another large map of all Whitman’s Civil War cemeterial districts is in the collection of Harvard University Library collection (G3861.G54/1866/C4; 1866), though it is not currently credited to him.

CUSTODIANS OF THE NATIONAL CEMETERY SYSTEM

THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION became the steward of the 112-year-old National Cemetery System on September 1, 1973, when it received 82 national cemeteries from the U.S. Army. At the same time, it re-designated its own 21 existing burial grounds at medical facilities to oversee an organization of 103 national cemeteries that contained more than 4,000 acres. In September 2023, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will commemorate the 50th anniversary of what is now the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) and a system that has grown to 155 national cemeteries, more than 22,000 acres, and nearly four million graves.

The 1973 act also transferred responsibility to VA for issuing government headstones and markers to eligible veterans and family members. It authorized VA to acquire land for new cemeteries, established uniform burial-eligibility criteria, and mandated a study of the future burial needs of veterans. The study, issued the next year, evaluated the placement of cemeteries in 10 Standard Federal

Regions, introduced a grant program to expand state-run veterans’ cemeteries (authorized in 1978), and proposed the use of columbaria in keeping with the rise of cremation.

In the first decade under VA management, six regional national cemeteries opened, and some closed cemeteries re-opened on new land. The expansive new cemeteries boasted manicured burial sections and tree-lined roads; columbaria became regular features, and funeral services were held in committal shelters. In the late 1980s, memorial walkways were added to manage the numerous standard commemorative monuments that veteran organizations continue to donate to national cemeteries; there are nearly 1,400 today.

Recently, VA gained another 11 historic cemeteries from the Department of the Army, and VA Urban and Rural initiative properties are being built to serve veterans. NCA, whose mission is to honor veterans and eligible family members with “final resting places in national shrines and with lasting tributes that commemorate their service and sacrifice to our nation,” is the only federal administration developing veteran cemetery benefits.★



HOME OF HEROES.

Since 1923, the American Battle Monuments Commission has been tasked with honoring American armed forces who serve overseas by establishing and maintaining monuments and markers and providing a final resting place for the fallen in military cemeteries on foreign soil. It's their mission. They honor it ... forever.

BY ASHLEIGH BYRNES

Luxembourg
American Cemetery
Luxembourg City, Belgium
by WARRICK PAGE/ABMC

THE AMERICAN Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) is commemorating its centennial anniversary throughout 2023, reflecting on 100 years as the guardian of America's overseas commemorative cemeteries and military memorials worldwide. Though a century has passed since the agency's formation, its history is ever present.

For instance, U.S. Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. William J. McGowan was laid to rest in France this past July under the care of ABMC, nearly 80 years after he was killed during operations in World War II.

The 23-year-old Minnesota native perished on D-Day — June 6, 1944 — when the P-47 Thunderbolt he was piloting crashed while on a mission near the city of Moon-sur-Elle, France. While the crash site was initially investigated in 1947, his remains were declared non-recoverable. He was not officially accounted for until 2019, after the site was excavated and his remains were forensically identified.

McGowan's family chose a burial at Normandy American Cemetery, alongside more than 9,300 other Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice. Though interments there are infrequent, as the cemetery was declared closed to new burials in 1956, individuals who are later recovered and identified can be laid to rest there at the family's request.

"When we were asked where we wanted the final resting place of our uncle to be, we did not hesitate," said Paul Stouffer, McGowan's nephew.

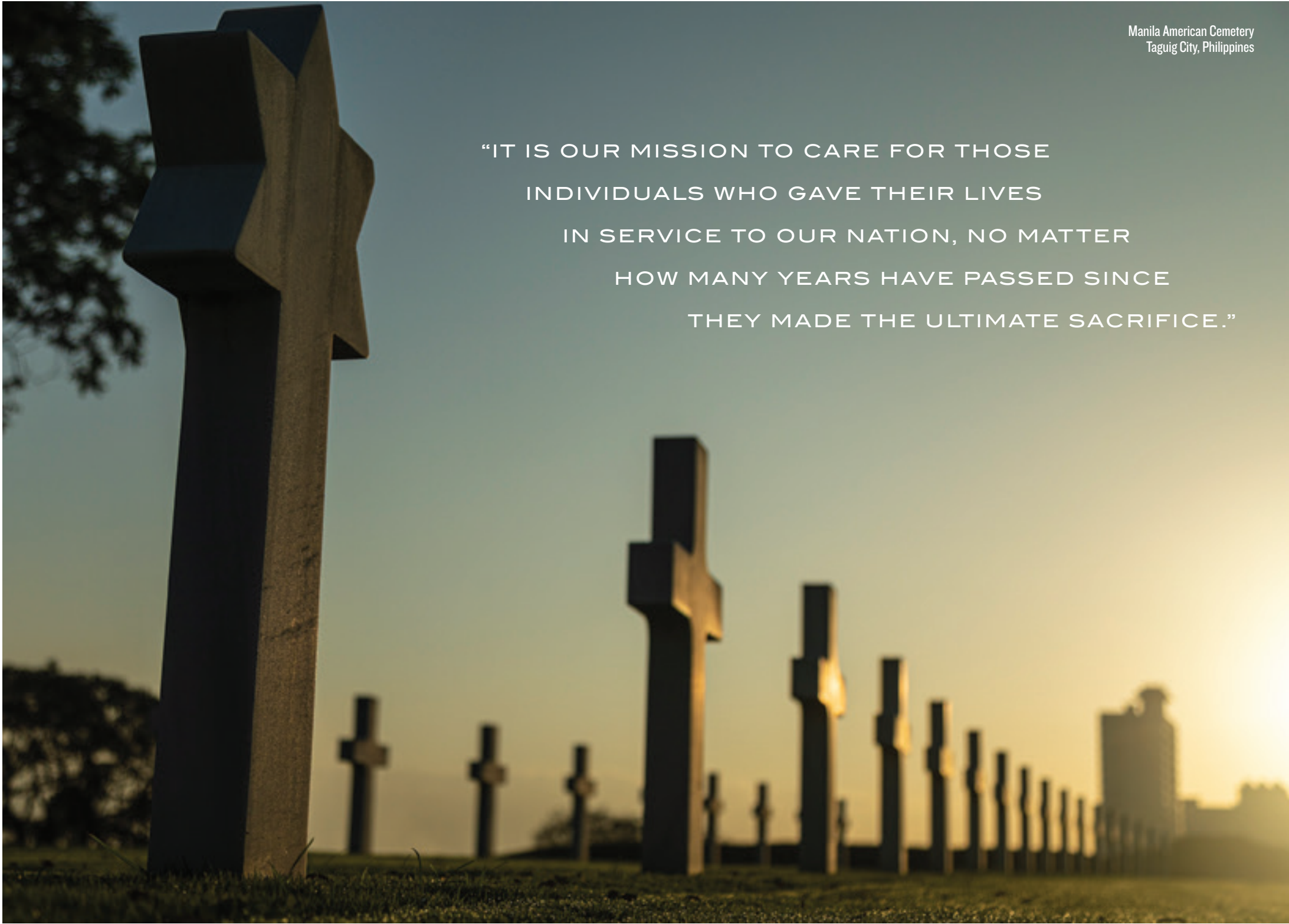
As the organization commemorates its centennial anniversary, stories like McGowan's showcase ABMC's important legacy and continuous role in honoring those who fought and died in the name of freedom — even decades after their deaths.

"It is our mission to care for those individuals who gave their lives in service to our nation, no matter how many years have passed since they made the ultimate sacrifice," said Scott Desjardins, Normandy American Cemetery superintendent. "It is our solemn honor to provide Lieutenant McGowan a final resting place among those he served beside."

ABMC's role was already solidified and solemnified during McGowan's lifetime, having been created in the aftermath of what was then known as the Great War. Following World War I, the U.S. government recognized a need for a burial and repatriation policy for America's war dead. Over the course of the conflict, more than 116,000 Americans lost their lives in Europe. Understanding the need to acknowledge America's contribution to the war in Europe through commemorative cemeteries and memorials overseas, the government also respected the desires of many Americans to have their fallen family members returned to the United States. Under provisions of the law, families were entitled to select permanent interment of a loved one's remains in an American military cemetery on foreign soil, repatriation of the remains to the United States for interment in a national or private cemetery or repatriation to the individual's homeland. A majority of families chose repatriation, but approximately 40 percent opted for permanent interment overseas.

Recognizing the need for a federal agency responsible for honoring American armed forces where they had served overseas and for controlling the establishment of military cemeteries, monuments and markers on foreign soil, Congress created the American Battle Monuments Commission in March

Manila American Cemetery
Taguig City, Philippines

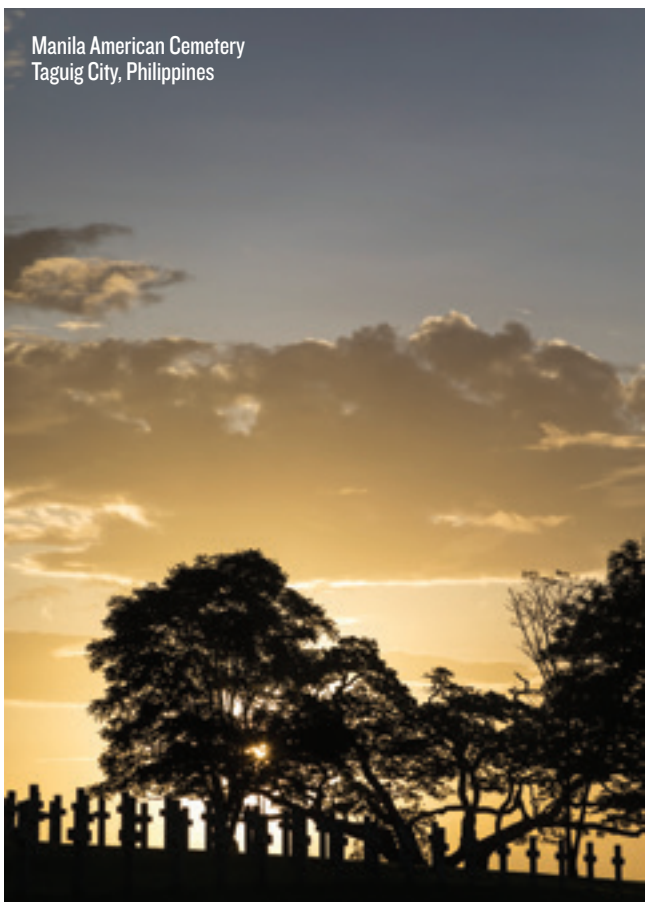


"IT IS OUR MISSION TO CARE FOR THOSE
INDIVIDUALS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
IN SERVICE TO OUR NATION, NO MATTER
HOW MANY YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE
THEY MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE."



General Pershing at Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery Dedication on May 30, 1937, in Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, France.

ALL TOLD, AMBC KEEPS MORE THAN 200,000 LEGACIES ALIVE AT ITS SITES SPREAD ACROSS 17 FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND THE UNITED STATES.



Manila American Cemetery Taguig City, Philippines

1923. In 1934, ABMC was charged with maintaining American cemeteries and memorials abroad that honor fallen and missing U.S. service members of WWI, and eight permanent cemeteries were established to fulfill the mission.

Within a decade, ABMC's role grew through tragedy as a new generation of Americans answered their nation's call to service in another global conflict. By the end of World War II, several hundred temporary burial grounds had been established by the United States Army on battlefields around the world. In 1947, 14 overseas sites were selected to become permanent cemeteries by the secretary of the Army and ABMC. Twelve overseas monuments and three stateside memorials were also established.

"ABMC has proudly honored America's fallen heroes for a century," said ABMC Secretary Charles K. Djou. "Our promise is to carry forward the legacy of Lieutenant McGowan and all those buried or memorialized within our sites for the next one hundred years and for generations to come."

The centennial anniversary highlights this evolution of ABMC's mission. Its cemeteries include nonsectarian chapels, sculptures, battle maps and narratives depicting the course of the war in a region, as well as visitor reception facilities. Thus, not only is the agency focused on commemoration, but also on embracing the art, architecture and horticulture that together create the tranquil sites entrusted to its care.

These unique facets — the culmination of art as a commemorative tool — can be a bridge for new audiences to experience ABMC. For most of the agency's existence, it has welcomed to its sites the family members and friends of the fallen — as well as local residents who share in the wartime history — to pay their respects to those who fought and those who were lost. With each passing decade and with such direct ties becoming fewer, it becomes more important to welcome new generations of visitors and develop ways of establishing a connection to the sacrifices that were made.

Today, ABMC operates and maintains 26 permanent American burial grounds and 32 separate memorials, monuments and markers on foreign soil and in the U.S. There are 124,000 American war dead interred in these cemeteries, of which 30,973 are from World War I and 92,958 from World War II. Additionally, the names of more than 8,200 individuals listed as missing from the Korean War and more than 2,500 individuals from the Vietnam War are memorialized at ABMC's Honolulu Memorial. Elsewhere, more than 15,000 American veterans and others are interred in the Mexico City National Cemetery — which includes 750 unidentified dead from the Mexican-American War. All told, ABMC keeps more than 200,000 legacies alive at its sites spread across 17 foreign countries and the United States. Each of these sites is a tribute to service and sacrifice that must never be forgotten.

"The American Battle Monuments Commission is an agency of the American people," said Djou. "This is our history and heritage, and connecting our past to the future and engaging with the next generations will help ensure the true cost of preserving our values and the American way of life continues to be shared and understood."

At the time of its founding, General of the Armies John J. Pershing was appointed to ABMC's board of commissioners and subsequently elected chairman. He served in that capacity until his death in 1948, when he was succeeded by Gen. George C. Marshall. All 11 veterans — 10 of them generals — to have held the post have lived out and perpetuated the vision articulated by Pershing: "Time will not dim the glory of their deeds."

Learn more about ABMC, its history and centennial at www.abmc.gov. ★

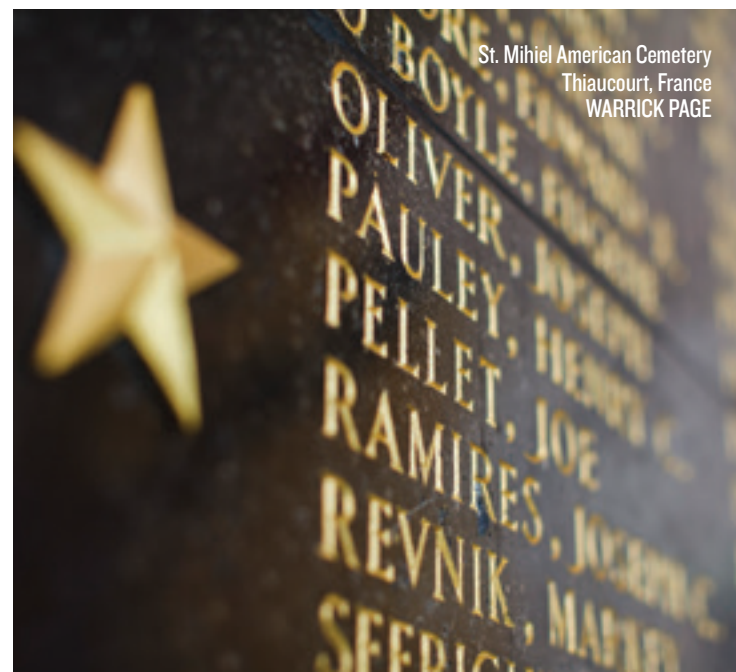
Ashleigh Byrnes is the American Battle Monuments Commission media operations manager. She is a U.S. Marine Corps combat veteran, deploying to Afghanistan where she established and led the American Forces Network Kandahar. Between her honorable discharge and joining ABMC, she spent a decade working in communications for Disabled American Veterans.



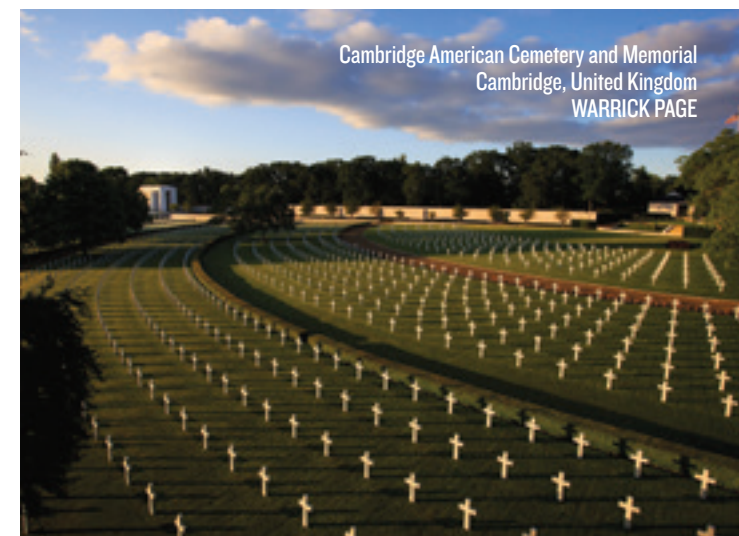
Sicily-Rome American Cemetery and Memorial Nettuno, Italy DONALD SAVAGE



Lorraine American Cemetery St Avold, France WARRICK PAGE



St. Mihiel American Cemetery Thiaucourt, France WARRICK PAGE



Cambridge American Cemetery and Memorial Cambridge, United Kingdom WARRICK PAGE

HOW TO READ A HEADSTONE

Grave marker inscriptions and iconography for our fallen heroes must meet specific guidelines, but they reveal the distinct individual stories of the soldiers buried beneath the sacred soil.

1. Before the Civil War, fallen American soldiers were buried beneath a round-top wooden board that would bear a registration number or small inscription. In 1873, Secretary of War William W. Belknap adopted the first standardized design for stones made of long-lasting marble or another durable stone to be erected in national cemeteries.
2. Until 1903, unknown burials might receive a six-by-six block rather than a vertical headstone. A more detailed design with a recessed shield motif began to appear in the 1890s, and in the event that a Confederate burial was marked, it would receive a vertical stone with a slightly pointed top rather than a gently rounded one.
3. While the secretary of the Army was originally in charge of grave marker allocation, that responsibility was transferred to the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1973. Since then, more than 14 million headstones have been furnished.
4. Today, a standard headstone will be made of either Georgia or Vermont marble, weigh about 250 pounds and measure four inches deep, 13 inches wide and 42 inches tall. The design has remained almost identical since World War II and denotes the dates of birth and death, the highest service rank attained, a religious symbol if desired and any wars in which the deceased participated as an active-duty service member. Other options include a flat marble grave marker, a flat bronze grave marker and small bronze niche markers.
5. While the Veterans Administration no longer allows unique headstones upon graves, families can choose from 50 symbols associated with religious beliefs, a tradition that began in 1922. The most recent to be approved was a wiccan symbol in 2007.



VETERANS
ADMINISTRATION

Ira Hayes, a Native American Marine from Sacaton, Arizona, fought in the Pacific Theater of World War II at Bougainville and Iwo Jima. He became famous as one of the six flag-raisers on Mount Suribachi, but suffered from PTSD and ultimately died from exposure to cold and alcohol poisoning. He was buried with full military honors in Section 34, Grave 479A at Arlington National Cemetery on February 2, 1955.



AMERICAN
BATTLE
MONUMENTS
COMMISSION

James E. Huntsberger, from Sunburst, Montana was on a bombing run in a B-17 over Austria and Yugoslavia when his plane collided with another in the squadron. He was one of 10 crew members killed. Four others became POWs. He was 19-years-old and survived by his parents and two older siblings. Huntsberger is buried in Plot K, Row 28, Grave 24 at Lorraine American Cemetery, St Avold, France.

1. All ABMC headstones are either presented as a Latin Cross or the Star of David. Due to the unprecedented scale of conflict during World Wars I and II, some Jewish soldiers were mistakenly buried under crosses, a situation not unique to the United States. International nonprofit organization Operation Benjamin — inspired by the story of Pvt. Benjamin Garadetsky — works with cemetery administrators and families to correct this oversight.
2. In World War I, servicemembers who could not be identified received a gravestone annotation: “Here Rests in Honored Glory an American Soldier Known but to God.” A similar practice was followed for World War II, but the words “American Soldier” were changed to “Comrade in Arms.”
3. Although ABMC facilities are owned by the U.S. government, local residents have strong emotional connections to the sites and those they honor, who fell liberating their communities. At several cemeteries in Belgium, Luxemburg and the Netherlands, the individual graves have been “adopted” by families who serve as caretakers and memory keepers. It is not unusual for the responsibility to be passed down through generations, nor to name a child for the family’s soldier-charge.
4. Upon request, ABMC will provide a family with a photograph of their loved one’s resting place, typically after placing flags of both the host nation and the United States at the graveside. To make the inscription legible, staff reverently rub wet sand into the lettering and carefully sponge away the excess. For European ABMC cemeteries, the sand is brought from the D-Day landing beaches in Normandy.



NATION'S CARETAKER

Some of our oldest burying grounds are tended by National Park Service



WHILE THE VAST majority of cemeteries dedicated to the memory of America's soldiers, sailors and marines fall under the auspices of either the Department of Veterans Affairs or the American Battle

Monuments Commission, a relatively small number of highly significant sites remain under the management of the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service (NPS).

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the sites that fall into this category are among the oldest national cemeteries, established during or immediately following the Civil War, excepting Custer National Cemetery in Montana, which relates to the 1876 Battle of the Little Bighorn. Accordingly, of the 14 national cemeteries overseen by the green and gray, only one remains open to new burials – Andersonville National Cemetery at Andersonville National Historic Site in Georgia. Based on their location, two facilities, Yorktown National Cemetery in Virginia and Chalmette National Cemetery outside Louisiana, might seem likely to hold a large number of burials related to pre-Civil War conflicts. But the former has no Revolutionary War dead, and while the latter has four War of 1812 veterans, only one of them fought in the Battle of New Orleans.

The only true outlier to that pattern of origin is Andrew Johnson National Cemetery at Andrew Johnson National Historic Site in Tennessee, which didn't see veteran burials until 1909. It had been owned by the Johnson Family until 1906 and used as a family resting place until the will of Martha Johnson Patterson, who had served as her father's White House hostess, requested that the hill become a burial ground for veterans in a "park-like" setting. New burials took place until 2019, and the more than 2,000 interments



"Old Simon" watches over Antietam National Cemetery Sharpsburg, Md. MATT BRANT

represent veterans from the Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam, the Gulf War and the War on Terror.

Many of the NPS-led national cemeteries contain spectacular sculptures and statuary. Dominating the layout of Antietam National Cemetery in Maryland, the Private Soldier Monument, affectionately known as Old Simon, towers over about 5,000 burials. At Gettysburg's Soldiers' National Cemetery, the central Soldiers' National Monument is more famous, but an urn standing watch over the dead of the First Minnesota – 52 of the 75 men killed or mortally wounded are buried there – is widely recognized as the first monument placed on the battlefield. During the Victorian era, cemeteries were designed to be beautiful places for surviving families to find solace, and elements of that landscaping philosophy are still readily visible in the undulating curves of Stones River National Cemetery in Tennessee.

The Park Service's cemeteries vary greatly in size. Battleground National Cemetery in Washington, D.C., is the most petite, covering one acre and containing just 41 burials – 40 soldiers who fell in the Battle of Fort Stevens and one veteran who died in 1936 and requested to be interred there. At the other end of the spectrum, the 40-acre Vicksburg National Cemetery in Mississippi holds the remains of 117,000 Union soldiers, plus about 1,300 veterans of later wars.

Civil War-era national cemeteries were not all neatly collected in centrally located national cemeteries from the outset, and reburial details had to locate, exhume and rebury soldiers who had been buried relatively near where they fell. To populate Poplar Grove National Cemetery in Petersburg National Battlefield, crews relocated 6,718 remains from nearly 100 individual burial sites across nine Virginia counties, stretching as far as Lynchburg.

While fallen warriors being buried as unknowns remains a sad fact of warfare, the scenario was much more common during the Civil War, before soldiers carried government-issued identification. Only about 20 percent of burials at Fredericksburg National Cemetery, which includes some 15,000 individuals from the four major battles around Fredericksburg, as well as the Mine Run and North Anna campaigns, are identified. The ratio is even worse at Shiloh National Cemetery, where 2,359 of the almost 3,600 Civil War burials are unknown. Interestingly, the cemetery includes both a memorial to a soldier killed in the Gulf War and the grave of George Ross, a Continental Army private.

Regulations for these national cemeteries during the 19th century were highly specific and limited to "soldiers who shall die in the service of the country." That provision initially meant only to Union war dead, although the Revolutionary War and War of 1812 burials



Andersonville National Cemetery Andersonville, Ga. BRIAN KEELEY PHOTOGRAPHY

noted above demonstrate that it was imperfectly applied. But in broad terms, it does mean that no Confederate soldiers are buried in these cemeteries, excepting a handful of known cases of mistaken or overlooked interment and whatever number might be obscured in the vast quantity of wholly unidentified remains. Instead, Confederates who were not returned to their homes might be buried in churchyards near the battlefield, such as the massive Blandford Cemetery, near Petersburg, or left on the battlefield, as was the case at Shiloh.

Both for their incredible symbolism, being hallowed ground in the truest sense, and their intrinsic historical value, upkeep of these cemeteries is a priority for the National Park Service. The 2020 passage of the Great American Outdoors Act, a massive federal investment in conservation and public-land stewardship, created an influx of \$9.5 billion over five years to address infrastructure and maintenance backlog. And the National Park Service has articulated that upkeep and capital improvements for its national cemeteries is a targeted program through the Legacy Restoration Fund.

Already, masons from the National Park Service Historic Preservation Training Center have descended on Poplar Grove National Cemetery at Petersburg to address failing brick walls enclosing the burial area. They repaired, rehabilitated, and stabilized 30 double wythe masonry recessed panels, used specialized cleaning techniques to remove a century and a half of pollutants, repointed some 1,100 linear feet of deteriorated masonry and replaced unrecoverable bricks. The Park Service is also investigating how these mechanisms can best be used to repair damage caused by flooding at Vicksburg National Cemetery and to systematically address the underlying infrastructure problems that may cause recurrences.★



Golden Gate National Cemetery San Bruno, Ca. MARIUSZ S. JURGIELEWICZ



Fredericksburg National Cemetery Fredericksburg, Va. JENNIFER GOELLNITZ

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

*Exemplifying “the soul of America
and the supreme sacrifice
of her heroic dead”*



T

HE TOMB of the Unknown Soldier is the heart of Arlington National Cemetery and the final resting place for three unknown service members who fell in battle across World War I, World

War II and the Korean War. It is a sacred site woven into the fabric of American heritage.

Its origins are rooted in the war that put the United States on a global stage. The nation didn't enter the Great War until April 1917, when Congress declared war on Germany. American troops arrived in Europe that June, and by Armistice Day, November 11, 1918, approximately 116,700 U.S. service members had perished.

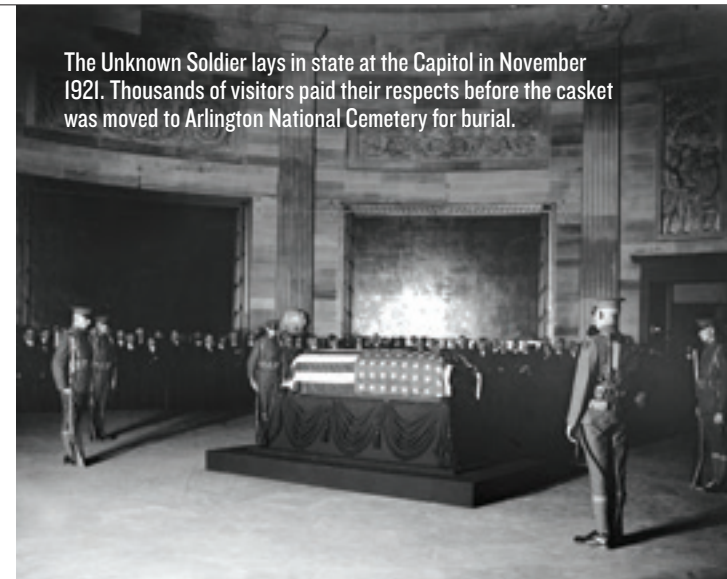
Technological advances in warfare had resulted in unprecedented casualties — a global death toll approaching 10 million.

Commemorative efforts arose out of the boundless grief that enveloped the globe. France and Great Britain were first to begin the process of choosing one of their unidentified fallen soldiers to be buried with honors to represent the vast number of those who perished. The British buried their warrior in Westminster Abbey, and the French theirs at the base of the Arc de Triomphe on November 11, 1920.



By December 1920, Hamilton Fish, Jr., a New York Congressman and WWI veteran, had proposed legislation to inter one of America's unknown soldiers at a tomb to be constructed in Arlington National Cemetery. He remarked that the tomb was intended “to bring home the body of an unknown American warrior who in himself represents no section, creed, or race in the late war and who typifies, moreover, the soul of America and the supreme sacrifice of her heroic dead.” Congress approved the legislation on March 4, 1921, and on Memorial Day 1921, the bodies of four unknown American soldiers killed in combat were exhumed from American military cemeteries across France.

On October 24, 1921, Sgt. Edward F. Younger of Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 50th Infantry, stood before the four unknowns — in identical caskets — at the city hall in Chalons-sur-Marne, France. Given the task of choosing who would be buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Younger placed a spray of white roses on the third casket from the left. The casket was transported aboard the USS *Olympia*, which arrived at the Washington Navy Yard on November 9, 1921. Upon arrival, the Unknown lay in state in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, with about 90,000 visitors paying their respects during the public viewing on November 10, 1921.



The Unknown Soldier lays in state at the Capitol in November 1921. Thousands of visitors paid their respects before the casket was moved to Arlington National Cemetery for burial.



President Dwight D. Eisenhower Lays a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on May 30, 1958.

On November 11, 1921, the Unknown was transported from the Capitol to Arlington National Cemetery by horse-drawn caisson. A state funeral, presided over by President Warren G. Harding, was held at the cemetery's new Memorial Amphitheater. During the ceremony, President Harding placed the Medal of Honor on the casket, with subsequent foreign dignitaries presenting their nation's highest honors, a reciprocity extended to similar symbolic interments across many allied nations. The Unknown soldier was interred later that day, with the Tomb then consisting of a simple marble slab.

After Congress approved legislation to incorporate a more detailed tomb design on July 3, 1926, a design competition was held. Ultimately, the winning design came from Lorimer Rich and Thomas Hudson Jones. Created from a slab of Colorado marble, the Tomb is designed in the Beaux Arts style, featuring three figures representing Peace, Victory and Valor on the east panel, sculpted wreaths on the north and south panels and an inscription on the west panel reading “HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY AN AMERICAN SOLDIER KNOWN BUT TO GOD.” The new, detailed Tomb was dedicated in 1932.

Soldiers were first stationed to guard the Tomb in 1926, largely to keep visitors from stepping atop it. In 1937, the duty became more aligned with the stirring ceremony we know today. Sentinels belong to the 3rd U.S. Infantry regiment, known as “The Old Guard,” established in 1784, making it the longest-serving active-duty infantry unit in the U.S. Army. Those eligible to stand guard go through rigorous training, and only a fraction ultimately make the cut. Selection as a sentinel is the second least-awarded decoration in the U.S. Army.

After World War II, interest rose in laying one of that conflict's unknowns to rest at Arlington, and the measure was approved by Congress in 1946. While interment was set for Memorial Day 1951, the Korean War halted these plans. Ultimately, unknown soldiers from both conflicts lay in state, were awarded the Medal of Honor and interred in the plaza of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier simultaneously on May 30, 1958.

On Memorial Day 1984, an unknown soldier from the Vietnam War was interred. However, following advances in DNA testing, in 1998, the remains were identified as Air Force 1st Lieut. Michael Joseph Blassie. At his family's request, Blassie was exhumed from the crypt.

Throughout its 100-year existence, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has stood as a symbol of all missing and unknown U.S. soldiers. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency remains dedicated to recovering and identifying lost soldiers from years' past and from all conflicts the U.S. has had a role in. In the meantime, the Tomb provides comfort for those loved ones who may never find answers. ★

WARRIOR LEGACY

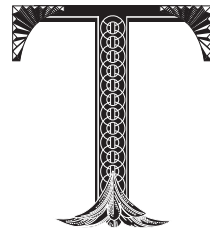
★ ★ ★ ★ ★

DID YOU KNOW?

- ★ The Tomb is guarded 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in all but the most extreme of weather conditions — such as intense lightning or a hurricane that threatens the safety of the sentinel.
- ★ Guards do not wear a rank while performing their duty, ensuring they do not outrank the soldiers laid in the Tomb.
- ★ A guard's patrol is precise: 21 steps; turn and face the Tomb for 21 seconds; about face, shift arms and hold for 21 seconds; 21 steps back to the starting point. The symbolic number is tied to the 21-gun salute, a centuries-old international military tradition signaling the highest of honors.
- ★ Every hour during the winter and every 30 minutes during the summer, a choreographed changing of the guard occurs. Each day, guest organizations lay wreaths before the Tomb in special ceremonies.

REMEMBERING REP. DONALD McEACHIN

A boon to preservation and a force in public service



THE UNEXPECTED PASSING of Rep. Donald McEachin last November dealt a palpable blow to the historic preservation and land conservation communities, especially those

working in the Mid-Atlantic region. More than 600 mourners crowded his Richmond funeral, bearing testament to his incredible stature — both physical and symbolic — in the community.

Effervescent and enthusiastic, McEachin had the type of personality that inspired both collegial interactions and deep personal friendships. He first met Sen. Tim Kaine when both were young lawyers in Richmond, and they remained personal friends for 40 years as both pursued lives of public service. At his 1986 wedding, McEachin became acquainted with a South Carolina official (now a minority leader in the U.S. House of Representatives) named James Clyburn, whose wife had grown up with the mother of the bride. The pair were among the 46 members of Congress who journeyed to attend McEachin's "homegoing" service, the senator moved to song during his eulogy.

McEachin was born in October 1961 while his Army officer father was posted in West Germany. The family also lived in Italy before settling permanently in Virginia. He received a bachelor's degree in political history from American University and, in 1986, his *juris doctor* from the University of Virginia School of Law. Later in life, he returned to his studies and received a master of divinity from Virginia Union University.

McEachin was a passionate public servant, winning his first election to the Virginia House of Delegates in 1996 and subsequently serving in the Virginia Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. He and his wife were both pioneers: He the first African American nominated by a major party for Virginia attorney general and third African American elected to Congress from the state; she the first woman elected Richmond Commonwealth's Attorney.

As a member of the House Natural Resources Committee, McEachin was ideally positioned to advo-

cate for environmental and conservation causes close to his heart. The constituent organizations of the Virginia Conservation Network, including the Trust, experienced firsthand the strength of his resolve and the clarity of his vision. "Congressman McEachin's life of public service will always be a tremendous source of inspiration for so many of us," noted Tom Cormons, executive director of Appalachian Voices. "His kindness and generosity were always apparent, and he combined his deep humility and commitment to lifelong learning with his dedication to the practical work of making the world a better place — making him an incredible example of impactful, moral leadership."

Representing an area of Virginia rich in historical and cultural resources, McEachin naturally understood the benefits of historic preservation and became a key advocate for battlefields on Capitol Hill. This commitment only deepened when his genealogical research revealed that he was descended from members of a free Black settlement that dates to the time of the American Revolution.

"Whenever I pass through Varina and the Gravel Hill community, or visit the old Gravel Hill Baptist Church, my emotions are profound. "The sense of place is palpable," he wrote in a *Richmond Times Dispatch* op-ed in 2021 before going on to praise the Trust's work in preserving and interpreting the actions of United States Colored Troops at New Market Heights, near Richmond. "These types of programs are crucial to a full understanding of these events and their significance. It is imperative that our conservation efforts are inclusive of all of America's cultural heritage — and that we work to protect historic sites that represent the stories of all Americans."

Although he had appeared victorious in his 2014 fight against colon cancer, effects of the disease lingered and ultimately took their toll. He passed away on November 28, 2022, less than three weeks after handily winning a fourth term in Congress.

The American Battlefield Trust is indebted to Representative McEachin for the work he championed, helping communities safeguard the resources, whether historical or natural, that set them apart and give them a wholly unique identity. We have invited the McEachin family to join us at the Grand Review in October so that we may posthumously honor him with the Trust's National Preservation Achievement Award in recognition of his leadership.★



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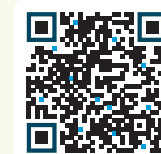


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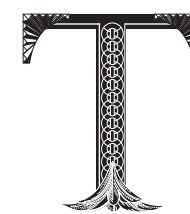
The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NSSAR or SAR) was founded in 1889. SAR is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education for our future generations. SAR members volunteer untold hours of service each year in their local communities. SAR is very active in assisting veterans. We proudly assist teachers with living history interpreters, lesson planning materials, and reenactment events for school-aged youth to attend.

- ★Remembering Our Past...By honoring those who served or assisted the efforts for Independence during the Revolutionary War.
- ★Promoting Core Values...By inspiring communities and institutions with more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers.
- ★Shaping Future Generations...By educating our youth about the founding of our nation and American ideals and traditions.

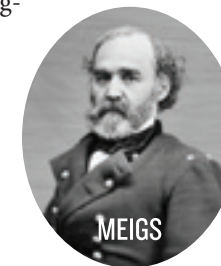
Having an ancestral connection to our nation's revolutionary era, the SAR is a collegial organization whose mission is to further the founding ideals. As a hereditary society, our members are connected through a shared sense of honor, privilege, and responsibility to perpetuate the "cause" of the founders to create an independent nation of free people.



Join the SAR | SAR.org



THE UNITED STATES ARMY runs two national cemeteries, both of which are found near our nation's capital. The more famous, Arlington National Cemetery, sits just across the Potomac River. The Army first occupied the land in 1861, including the plantation home of Robert E. Lee that sat upon the sprawling estate. Its above-sea-level position kept it free from flooding and offered a dynamic view of the District of Columbia. In 1864, the U.S. Government purchased the property at public auction and Quartermaster General Montgomery Meigs identified it as the ideal location for the burial of Union dead, including his own son, John. Meigs himself was buried at Arlington



National Cemetery in 1892. The inspiring landscape of Arlington stands as a reminder of the service and sacrifice of all enshrined within its hallowed ground.

Since the Civil War, the national cemetery has grown considerably. On May 30, 1929, Herbert Hoover cemented its legacy by choosing the site to conduct America's first national Memorial Day ceremony. Today, more than 639 acres of Arlington, Virginia, are dedicated to the 400,000 servicemen and women who devoted their lives to defending justice and liberty both within our nation and beyond. The cemetery still conducts between 27 and 30 funerals each weekday and continues to expand. Arlington National Cemetery is a testament to the struggles of our nation and to the ongoing process of living history. ★

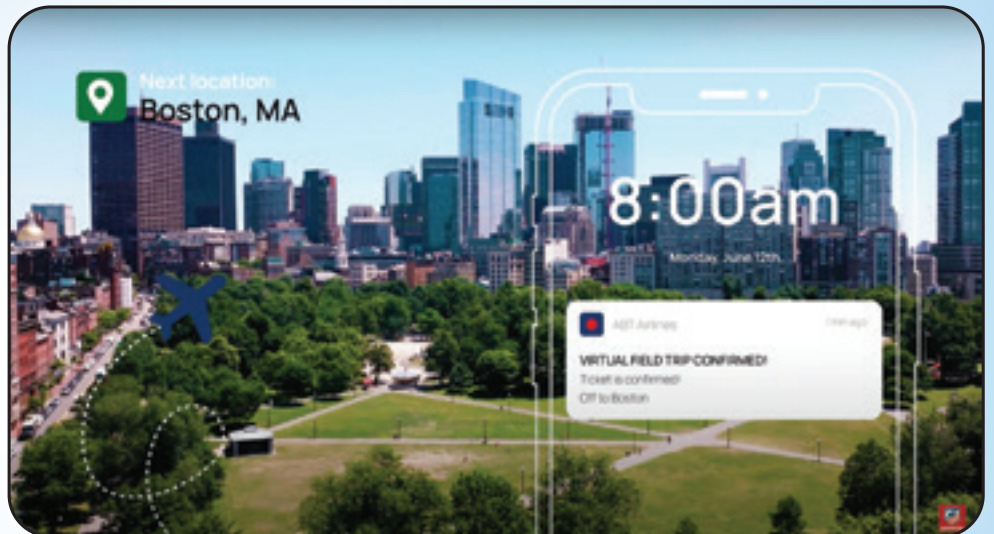
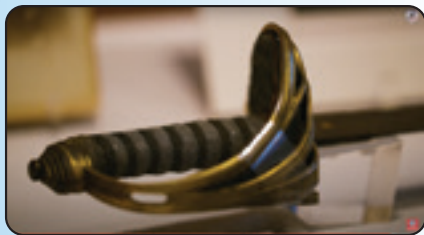
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