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AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST

HALLOWED GROUND

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HALLOWED GROUND
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The American Battlefield Trust preserves our nation's hallowed battlegrounds and educates the public about what happened there and why it matters today. We permanently protect these battlefields as a lasting and tangible memorial to the brave soldiers who fought in the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. Thanks to the contributions of more than 300,000 members and supporters nationwide, we have preserved more than 50,000 acres at 131 sites in 24 states. For more information, call 1-888-606-1400 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. ©2018 American Battlefield Trust.

MESSAGE *from* HEADQUARTERS

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Resaca Battlefield Historic Site, Resaca, Ga.
Where future president
Benjamin Harrison fought bravely.
MICHAEL BYERLEY

IF THERE IS A SINGLE WORD to encapsulate the theme of this issue of *Hallowed Ground*, it is leadership. Not just in the sense of who commanded which regiment, but in myriad contexts.

Every man and woman who has donned the uniform of our armed services has done something extraordinary. Many have, after mustering out, gone on to exemplary lives of public service in one capacity or another. A very select few have gone on to hold the highest office in the land. Five men who led armies in the field during the conflicts of America's first century went on to be elected president and, as we explore in this issue, characteristics evident in their military experiences — from Washington's personal integrity to Jackson's willingness to inspire simultaneous love and loathing to Grant's ability to articulate a clear vision for action — echoed forward into their political careers.

Whether on the field or in the White House, these men were undoubtedly leaders. But I'd also like to call your attention to another category of leader that we honor in this issue — the Trust's own Color Bearers. Each year, it is my pleasure to name each and every one of these extraordinary donors in these pages in conjunction with our Grand Review weekend, which will be held this October in Franklin, Tenn.

At the recent Annual Conference, we rededicated the American Battlefield Trust's lifetime achievement award to the greatest giant in the field of Civil War public history and preservation, the legendary Ed Bearss, recognizing all that he has

done to advance our cause. The Trust, meanwhile, was yet again recognized as an industry leader in nonprofit fiscal responsibility and accountability.

Looking forward, I would also ask your help, ask you to step forward as a leader in the preservation realm, by assisting in our advocacy efforts toward reauthorization of the federal matching grant program that has enabled the protection of some 30,000 acres of battlefield land to date. All such programs, regardless of their efficacy and efficiency, must be periodically reexamined and legislatively renewed. As I'm sure you can guess, this is a complex process, and we are grateful that our cause has able champions on Capitol Hill.

But we need you to step forward, to lend your voice and call on your federal elected officials to support the Preserving America's Battlefields Act. Hearing from constituents who value a program is what inspires legislators to co-sponsor or vote in favor of a measure. You truly do make a difference in helping us achieve the level of broad and bipartisan support necessary for this bill to successfully pass and be signed into law. Please see page 9 for more details on how you can help. ★

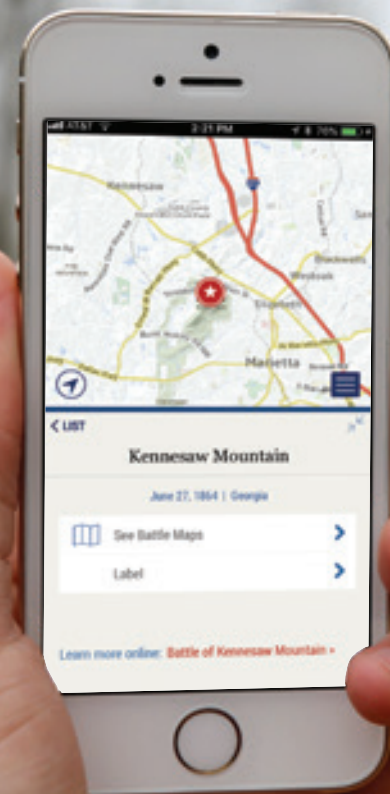


JIM LIGHTHIZER
President, American Battlefield Trust

Portrait by BUDDY SECOR

BATTLEFIELDS.ORG

THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD TRUST



NEW APP PUTS CIVIL WAR BATTLE MAPS *in the palm of your hand*

Searching for the perfect Civil War tour guide? Our new Battle Maps smartphone app allows you to explore 83 Civil War battlefields in 142 different maps in the palm of your hand. This GPS-enabled app allows you to follow the action live from the battlefield, or from the comfort of your living room. This "one-stop shop" includes an overview of the 4-year-long war, timelines of each year of the fighting, and brief histories of 14 major campaigns plus the Confederates' 1862 excursion into Kentucky. All our apps are available for download at www.battlefields.org/mobileapps

SEPTEMBER PEOPLE AND PLACES *Photo Contest*

Have you visited a battlefield and snapped photos of friends, family, and others experiencing time on hallowed ground? The theme of this month's competition is "People and Places" and we invite you to submit your battlefields photos for a chance to win merchandise from our brand-new store. The images may depict people of all sorts—children, families, reenactors, and others enjoying themselves, or having meaningful moments on a battlefield. The images may be taken on any device—smart phone, SLR, or Polaroid—and should tell a story and give a feeling of presence and place. For details on contest rules and the September launch date, keep an eye on the home page at www.battlefields.org.

OVERLAND CAMPAIGN *Animated Map*

The Overland Campaign, some 40-odd days of maneuver and combat between the Rapidan and James Rivers, pitted the Civil War's premier generals — Lt. Gen Ulysses S. Grant for the Union, and Gen. Robert E. Lee for the Confederacy — against one another in a grueling contest of endurance and guile. View our animated map to watch the battles unfold, from Spotsylvania Court House, to Cold Harbor — where we are fighting to save 81 historic acres. Watch it now at www.battlefields.org/overlandmap

EXPLORE *Princeton*

The Battle of Princeton was a quick and decisive action that reversed a series of British successes and revived a dying revolutionary cause. Our battle hub contains articles, videos, and battle maps detailing the July 3, 1777, event. Visit our hub to discover lesser-known facts or delve into subjects including the Marines at Princeton or the role of African Americans in the battle. Visit www.battlefields.org/Princeton

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VICTORY AT PRINCETON!

Purchase of critical land from Institute for Advanced Study finalized



ON May 29, 2018, the Trust and the Institute for Advanced Study announced the formal end of a decades-long effort to protect a vital portion of the Princeton Battlefield. The two entities worked in good faith over the course of several years to craft a win-win solution that sees the Trust acquire 14.85 acres with the greatest historical significance, while the still enabling the Institute to complete construction of new housing for its faculty on its campus.

The Trust's \$4 million acquisition will eventually be conveyed to New Jersey as an addition to the existing Princeton Battlefield State Park. The transaction includes approximately two-thirds of the Maxwell's Field property, along with an additional 1.12-acre tract north of the property that has been identified by historians as part of the battlefield.

"This addition to the Princeton battlefield is one of the most important acquisitions in the Trust's 30-year history and preserves the site of one of the defining moments of the American Revolution," said Trust President James Lighthizer. He further noted that while the Trust has raised some \$3 million for the project, it is awaiting the result of its application to the federal American Battlefield Protection Program to complete its fundraising.

Fought on January 3, 1777, the Battle of Princeton culminated an audacious, 10-day campaign that began with American General George Washington's famous crossing of the Delaware River on Christmas Day 1776. In a series of daring maneuvers, Washington successfully attacked isolated elements of the British army. The decisive charge he personally led across Maxwell's Field at Princeton resulted in the Continental Army's first victory over British regulars, an achievement that revitalized the cause of American independence.

To make the acquisition possible, the Institute reduced the footprint of its proposed project by moving from planned single-family homes to a townhouse format. After closing, the Trust and the Institute will continue to collaborate to fully restore the battlefield site and complete construction of the faculty housing. The Trust intends to install interpretive trails and signage on the land to better tell the story of the Washington's Charge phase of this pivotal battle.

"This landscape is a precious reminder of America's struggle to create a democratic republic dedicated to ordinary people's liberty," said Pulitzer Prize-winning historian James M. McPherson, who taught U.S. history at nearby Princeton University for 42 years. "Of all the sites that figured in George Washington's 'Ten Crucial Days' campaign, it is the only one that survives for people to see, understand and appreciate today."★



Waxhaws Battlefield
Lancaster, S.C.
MARK THORNBERRY

HONORING ANCESTORS, *preserving battlefields*



ON JUNE 22, American Battlefield Trust Chairman Jeff Rodek joined nearly 2,000 Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) members during their 127th Continental Congress in Washington, D.C., to discuss the Trust's work in preserving Revolutionary War battlefields and how local chapters and individual DAR members can help.

With both seeking to honor the patriots of the war that forged the United States and educate the public about that era's continuing relevancy, the Trust and DAR are natural allies. Long before the Trust was founded in 1987, DAR has been intimately involved in memorializing the Revolutionary War. Since 1890, DAR has contributed millions of hours of volunteer work and millions of dollars in charitable donations, creating a lasting legacy that honors the patriots of the Revolution. Like the Trust, DAR works tirelessly to preserve American history, promote patriotism and educate our youth about how this nation was founded and what it means to be an American citizen.

A perfect example of this natural synergy emerged in 2015, when Trust staff visited the two-acre Waxhaws Battlefield county park in South Carolina, the location of the 1780 massacre of more than 113 Continental soldiers by British-led Loyalist cavalry. The staff noticed one memorial marker erected in 1955 by the Waxhaws Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. It was obvious that this rural battlefield, though distant from major cities, is still dear to the hearts of DAR members. Since that visit, the Trust has saved 51 more acres at Waxhaws, increasing the battlefield's preserved land by 2,450 percent.

Discovering more shared priorities and opportunities for collaboration will take on increased importance in advance of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. In a few short years, Americans will come together for the anniversary of our nation's founding. The commemoration provides us with an unparalleled opportunity to celebrate the democratic ideals enshrined in the Declaration of Independence — principles that continue to guide us as a country and inspire freedom-yearning people around the globe. As the the U.S. Department of the Interior's selection for the national nonprofit partner to the United States Semiquincentennial Commission, the Trust will eagerly work with commission members, including the DAR honorary president, to plan and coordinate this landmark effort.★



BEARSS IS ALL-STAR MATERIAL *in both history and baseball*



IN THE SUMMER of 1933, a young boy and his family visited Chicago, a far cry from their Montana cattle ranch, thanks to a recent bequest that allowed them to travel to see the World's Fair. While in the Windy City, they also took in the very first All-Star Game of professional baseball.

Flash forward 85 years: That boy can recall his day at Comiskey Park — including Babe Ruth's home run — in as much detail and recount it with as much dynamism as he does a tour of the battlefield at Gettysburg or Vicksburg. His name? Ed Bearss.

Likely one of the few remaining attendees of the first All-Star Game, Bearss was a guest of Major League Baseball in a special box at the recent showdown between the American and National Leagues in Washington, D.C. Two days earlier, he had thrown out the first pitch at the inaugural Armed Forces Classic, a match between athletes from military services that is slated to become a lasting part of the weeklong festivities surrounding the main event.

Bearss took the sporting world by storm in the lead-up publicity to the game, as a whole new audience, one without a background in military history, was introduced to his remarkable style of presentation. *Washington Post* columnist Tramel Raggs gushed that Bearss spoke "with the enthusiasm of a schoolboy describing a favorite summer memory," while philosophizing that if the great historian's narration can make a listener feel as if they were present on the battlefield, his orations on that long-ago game are possibly even more profound — "he isn't rehashing things he's read; he's strolling down his own personal memory lane."★



2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE *draws rave reviews*

THE ERA of the American Battlefield Trust began in grand fashion in May with an Annual Conference for the record books. Not only was it the first organizational gathering to include visits to sites associated with all three conflicts (the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Civil War), it also included the most logistically intricate event to ever appear on the agenda, as Trust members took over the historic Yorktown waterfront on Friday evening. Living historians took to the streets, museums extended their hours and bands serenaded guests as they ambled around this outstanding heritage tourism destination.

Perhaps most significantly, the conference coincided with a major milestone for the organization — our 50,000th preserved acre of battlefield land. Shortly before traveling to Newport News to attend Marching Toward Freedom, the Trust's Real Estate Department completed the acquisition of 13 acres at Cedar Creek, Va., allowing Trust President Jim Lighthizer to make the official public announcement at the conference's opening luncheon.

In his remarks, Lighthizer tried to put the 50,000-acres accomplishment into perspective: "Fifty thousand acres — that's 78 square miles — is difficult to wrap your mind around. It is greater than the entire area of 'the Federal City' that George Washington envisioned on the Potomac River, the District of Columbia. But rather than think about it in terms of size, perhaps it is better to remember it as an acre for every soldier killed,

wounded or captured at Gettysburg."

Other event highlights included lectures covering the Revolutionary era ("The Furious Fall of '75: Actions Leading to the Battle of Great Bridge and Establishment of Virginian Independence" and "A Hero, a Traitor, and a Rogue: The Revolutionary War on Virginia's Peninsula"), the Civil War ("Civil War Comes to the Peninsula — Again") and the broad swath of history including both ("By Land and Sea: The Military History of the Hampton Roads Area" and "Renowned Revolutionary War Relatives of Significant Civil War Soldiers and Statesmen"). On Thursday evening, historian and Trust founding Board member Will Greene presented a riveting program on "A Perfect Hell of Blood: Confederates at the Battle of the Crater."

As always, however, battlefield tours were the star of the show. Attendees were offered many choices, including: "Fort Monroe to Yorktown: Forts, Fights and Photos on the Lower Peninsula"; "Explore the Civil War at Fort Wool"; "The Battle of Yorktown"; "The Peninsula Campaign from Fort Monroe to Williamsburg"; "Seven Pines and the Seven Days"; "The Battle of Williamsburg"; "Norfolk & Portsmouth in the Civil War"; "Civil War on the Virginia Peninsula"; and "The Battle of Green Spring" — plus hiking tours of Gaines' Mill, Malvern Hill and Cold Harbor or "Yorktown: One Town, One Battlefield, Two Wars."

The 2019 American Battlefield Trust Annual Conference, *Kentucky: Bluegrass Turned Red*, will be held in Lexington, Ky., from May 29 to June 2. Learn more about what is sure to be a great event at www.battlefields.org/annualconference. ★

CLOCKWISE FROM UPPER LEFT: Experiencing historical photos in "4D" — using 3D glasses from approximately the place they were taken — with Garry Adelman; venturing inside the casemate at Fort Monroe National Historical Park; traversing a 17th-century road trace that played a role in the 1862 Battle of Williamsburg with Drew Gruber; interacting with living historians during Wednesday evening's takeover of historic Yorktown; boarding transportation to take in Hampton Roads history from the water; exploring the Seven Days' Battles with Will Greene. PHOTOS BY BUDDY SECOR AND BRUCE GUTHRIE

FOUR MAJOR AWARDS PRESENTED *during Annual Conference*

THE FIRST AWARD formally bestowed by the American Battlefield Trust served to rededicate the organization's highest honor, a Lifetime Achievement Award recognizing broad, major and outstanding contributions to the field of history education and battlefield interpretation. The recognition was presented to Ed Bearss, chief historian *emeritus* of the National Park Service and public history luminary, during an emotional ceremony at the opening luncheon of the Trust's Annual Conference.

Dan Smith, deputy director of the National Park Service, who was present during the event, remarked that "My day was made today when Ed Bearss walked into the room," while Trust President Jim Lighthizer called Bearss, who has since celebrated his 95th birthday, "the best battlefield guide you'll ever find" and "the nation's premier storyteller of the American Civil War."

The Edwin C. Bearss Lifetime Achievement Award was first presented in May 2001, when the organization was known as the Civil War Preservation Trust. Following a recent rebranding, the organization decided to rededicate its most prestigious award by recognizing its namesake. Moreover, Lighthizer announced that Bearss is the first member inducted into the Battlefield Preservation Hall of Fame, and that a granite monument dedicated to Bearss will be erected on the Vicksburg Campaign's Champion Hill Battlefield in Mississippi, a favorite site of Bearss's — and one that his scholarship figuratively put on the map.

Later that evening, the Trust presented its Shelby Foote Preservation Legacy Award to philanthropist and battlefield advocate Mark Perreault, in recognition of his years of extraordinary support for battlefield preservation in Virginia and throughout the nation.

Former legal counsel of Norfolk Southern Corp., Perreault led the grassroots effort to create Fort Monroe National Monument in Hampton. He is now working with the Trust and the Richmond Battlefields Association to preserve the Second Deep Bottom Battlefield near Richmond, and he and his wife, Karen, are restoring an antebellum house at Fussell's Mill there. He is also a strong advocate for the preservation of Petersburg National Battlefield, and supported legislation enacted by Congress in 2016 that expanded the park's authorized boundary.

The Trust next presented its Brian C. Pohanka Preservation Organization Award to the Save Historic Antietam Foundation (SHAF), a nonprofit group established in 1996 that has since conserved more than 3,000 battlefield acres, restored historic sites and helped



CLOCKWISE: Ed Bearss is recognized for lifetime contributions to history and preservation; Civil War Trails, Inc., executive director Drew Gruber accepts the Brian Pohanka Preservation Organization Award; Shelby Foote Preservation Legacy Award winner Mark Perreault and wife Karen; Save Historic Antietam president Tom Clemens and cofounder Dennis Frye accept the Brian C. Pohanka Preservation Organization Award. PHOTOS BY BRUCE GUTHRIE

reforest the Antietam Battlefield's wartime North Woods, East Woods and West Woods. Dr. Tom Clemens, SHAF's president, and SHAF cofounder Dennis Frye, former historian at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, accepted the award on the group's behalf.

A second Pohanka Award was presented to Civil War Trails Inc., a nonprofit group based in Williamsburg, Va., that helps travelers find, understand and enjoy Civil War sites in five states — Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina. Last year, it distributed more than a quarter million maps to localities, tourism offices and other partners, seeing greater demand than during the Civil War's 150th anniversary. Drew Gruber, executive director of Civil War Trails, accepted the award for the organization. ★

PRESERVATION YIELDS

immersive historical events

THE TRUST was honored to assist the Liberty Rifles in organizing a private, immersive living history event at Brandy Station to commemorate the 155th anniversary of the Gettysburg Campaign. Specifically, the group re-created the June 16, 1863, encampment of the 8th Virginia Infantry as it began its march toward destiny, when the regiment was heavily bloodied during Pickett's Charge.

Between June 8 and 10, approximately 220 reenactors — the same number fielded by “the Bloody 8th” during this period of the war — from 17 states participated in the encampment on Trust-protected property at Brandy Station. Although it was not the exact Culpepper County location where the specific encampment occurred historically, the preserved landscape and viewshed offered by the Trust's land created an authentic and immersive experience.

Event organizer Michael Clarke summarized the appeal of the location to the Civil War News, saying, “For a Civil War reenactor, to walk and savor the ground on which momentous events occurred is akin to a spiritual experience.”

Historian Clark B. “Bud” Hall, who has spent decades leading the charge to preserve Brandy Station, offered perhaps the greatest assessment of the natural partnership among land preservation, historical memory and living history, when he commented to participants, “Your being here means we won.” ★



MORE RESTORATION IN PROGRESS AT GETTYSBURG!

PRESERVATION is more than a matter of buying land — we often must restore it to its wartime appearance. Learn how you can support these efforts at www.battlefields.org/restoration.



ACCOLADES CONTINUE

*for Trust accountability,
fiscal responsibility*

FOR THE NINTH straight year, the American Battlefield Trust has earned top marks — an outstanding 4-star rating — from nonprofit watchdog group Charity Navigator.

“This is our highest possible rating and indicates that your organization adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a financially efficient way,” wrote Charity Navigator president Michael Thatcher, in issuing the notification. “This exceptional designation from Charity Navigator sets American Battlefield Trust apart from its peers and demonstrates to the public its trustworthiness.”

Of the more than 1.5 million organizations evaluated by Charity Navigator, fewer than 30,000 are placed in the same category as the Trust, based on the group's data-driven evaluation process. In its most recent evaluation, the Trust received a score of 96.94 out of a possible 100.

Moreover, the Trust recently received a “Platinum Seal of Transparency” from Guidestar, a newly created level that exceeds our previous “gold” rating, in large part because of the tangibility of our results — successes that can be measured in acres of land. Only about 10 percent of the charities that are deemed worthy of a Guidestar seal are awarded one at the platinum level.

“At the American Battlefield Trust, we pride ourselves in being the best possible stewards of both hallowed ground and of our member's charitable contributions,” said Trust President James Lighthizer. “Receiving objective recognition for these values reinforces our commitment to pursuit of ever-greater fiscal excellence.” ★

LEGISLATION WILL ENSURE FUTURE

of federal battlefield preservation grant

SINCE IT WAS first funded in 1999, the Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants Program has facilitated the protection of more than 30,000 acres at some of the most famous battlegrounds in U.S. history: Antietam, Chancellorsville, Franklin, Gettysburg and Vicksburg. Its undoubtedly one of the most vital component of efforts to protect historic landscapes out-side of National Park Service boundaries.

Originally created to protect Civil War battlefields, in 2014, the program was expanded to include Revolutionary War and War of 1812 sites. This has created new preservation opportunities, allowing the Trust to preserve nearly 700 acres of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 sites at places like Princeton, New Jersey; Hanging Rock, South Carolina; Kettle Creek, Georgia; and Sackets



Hanging Rock Battlefield
Lancaster County, S.C.
BRIAN KEELEY PHOTOGRAPHY

Harbor, New York.

As with all federal initiatives, the program must be periodically reauthorized, a legislative process that allows it to remain eligible for yearly funding appropriations.

With the approaching 250th anniversary of America's War for Independence, there is no better time than now to reauthorize the Battlefield Land Acquisition Grant Program. The bipartisan Preserving America's Battlefields Act (H.R. 6108), introduced by U.S. Congressman

Jody Hice of Georgia, does just that. The bill funds the program up to \$20 million a year, an increase designed to reflect its expanded scope and the opportunity to emphasize preservation in the lead-up to that commemoration. The bill also includes provisions to enable nonprofit groups like the American Battlefield Trust to restore and interpret battlefield sites.

Passage of this important legislation will enable us to continue protecting our nation's hallowed battlegrounds for future generations. Please visit the advocacy module on our website to contact your representatives in Washington and ask them to cosponsor the Preserving America's Battlefields Act. www.battlefields.org/speak-out. ★

RICHMOND BATTLE APP®

helps visitors explore the former Confederate capital and surrounding area



THE TRUST is pleased to announce the debut of its latest Battle App® guide, focusing on the 1862 and 1864 campaigns fought for the Confederacy's wartime capital. This GPS-enabled tool packs plenty of battle action into a convenient mobile format, providing images, videos, maps, tours, a chronology, a quiz and visitor tips.

Heritage tourists are empowered to visit battlefields, historic sites and other attractions via three individual tours covering action from the major campaigns, as well as events within the city of Richmond. In all, some 40 stops feature multimedia content,

including interpretation by top historians.

“The latest offering in our Battle App® series will whet people's appetite to learn, see and do more in and around Virginia's lively and historic capital,” Trust President James Lighthizer said. “With this app

in hand, visitors will be introduced to a fascinating and multifaceted region that has much to teach us today. Its engaging multimedia guides visitors across time and distance to great stories and the places that world-changing history happened.”

In addition to the expected battlefield stops at places like Malvern Hill and Cold Harbor, the app delves into lesser-known narratives, like the role of women — from volunteer nurses to cunning spies — and the valor of African American troops.

The Richmond Battle App® is among the many mobile-device apps for Virginia Civil War sites funded through a partnership between the American Battlefield Trust and Virginia Department of Transportation. Developed by Neotreks, it is available free, in iOS and Android versions, from Apple's App Store and Google Play.

Like all Trust Battle App® guides, the new Richmond feature helps users navigate across historic ground and follow the military maneuvers, whether walking on-site or reclining on a sofa at home. To date, there are a total of 18 titles in the series, including offerings that cover campaigns beyond Virginia — such as Antietam, Atlanta, Gettysburg, Shiloh and Vicksburg. ★

FUTURE OF HISTORIC ABRAHAM LINCOLN ARTIFACTS *is threatened*

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN Presidential Library and Museum has one year to complete fundraising to repay the \$23 million loan that its associated foundation used to facilitate the acquisition of some of its most iconic artifacts.

In 2007, the foundation acquired the Barry and Louise Taper Collection, which included such items as Lincoln's boyhood mathematics notebook and the bloodstained gloves that were with him when he was shot by John Wilkes Booth, among many others. Over 11 years, the foundation secured more than \$13 million to repay the loan; however, as it said in a May statement, "If the



foundation is not able to secure commitments in the very near future to retire most — if not all — of the remaining \$9.7 million debt, it will have no choice but to accelerate the possibility of selling these unique artifacts on the private market — which would likely remove them from public view forever."

Selling Lincoln artifacts is a last resort, and the foundation has already begun deacquisition items from the Taper Collection without a connection to the 16th president. This included an auction in Las Vegas over the summer at which a dress belonging to Marilyn Monroe fetched \$50,000. Public contributions toward the project are also welcome via a GoFundMe campaign created by the foundation. ★

UNPRECEDENTED ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY *made at Manassas*

IN JUNE, the National Park Service announced that archaeological excavations at Manassas National Battlefield had made a twice-over unprecedented discovery — the systematic study of a surgeon's pit, and the presence of two soldiers killed in action among the remains of amputated limbs that make up the contents of such pits.

The discovery was initially made during 2014 utility work, and was thoroughly analyzed by National Park Service experts working alongside Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History forensic anthropologists. Alongside artifacts typical of a hospital setting and 11 limbs amputated by surgeons, the experts identified two complete sets of remains belonging to Caucasian males aged 25–34 with fatal wounds evident. One had a bullet lodged in his thigh; the other had several lead buckshot embedded in his remains.

Evidence conclusively indicates that both were Union soldiers killed at the Battle of Second Manassas. Accordingly, they will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery — the first burials in the new Millennium Expansion — in coffins constructed from a downed tree on the battlefield. ★



Second Manassas
Manassas National Battlefield Park
Manassas, Va.
MICHAEL NOIROT

IN MEMORIAM: *Harold "Hari" Jones*



THE American Battlefield Trust joins the entire history community in mourning the loss of Hari Jones, a leading expert on the African American experience during the Civil War era and its echoing impact in many communities. Jones, who passed away unexpectedly on June 22, was a longtime friend of the Trust, appearing at our events, offering perspective in several educational videos and authoring feature articles in *Hallowed Ground*, particularly in relation to the contributions of United States Colored Troops.

Jones had served as a curator at the African American Civil War Memorial Museum, lending his considerable scholarly weight to its exhibits, including the forthcoming installation, "From Bullets to Ballots: The Voting Rights Legacy of the United States Colored Troops." A celebration of his life, and a tribute to fellow advocates for dissemination of the historical African American experience, George Smith and Robert Young — both of whom also passed on in recent months — added to the official schedule for the museum's 20th anniversary events. ★

DID YOU KNOW?

FOR THE 10th consecutive year, *Hallowed Ground* has won accolades in the APEX Awards for Publication Excellence! Several recent layouts were also recognized by the international Society of Publication Designers in New York City. ★



AFRICAN AMERICAN CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL *celebrates its 20th anniversary*



IN JULY 18, the African American Civil War Memorial Museum (AACWMM) in Washington, D.C., celebrated its 20th anniversary with the rededication of the *Spirit of Freedom* sculpture that presides over the capital's U Street neighborhood, inspiring residents and visitors alike to explore the story of the United States Colored Troops at the adjacent museum.



Featuring keynote speaker Robert Sutton, the former director of the National Park Service, and the first African American to hold this post, the ceremony was the first event in a four-day commemoration that also included lectures, living history demonstrations, a parade and a gala reception at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture — an institution only dreamed of when the AACWMM debuted in 1998.

"We have had 20 good years of progress, growth and development," noted the museum's founding director in the lead-up to the celebration. "The future looks bright, and it's time to celebrate our path to progress as we plan for [it]."

The American Battlefield Trust was honored to join in the festivities by virtually bringing participants to the gathering via a Facebook Live broadcast. ★



African American Civil War
Memorial Museum statue
Washington, D.C.
WALLY HURST



REVISITING COLD HARBOR

by Chris Mackowski



CRITICS of Ulysses S. Grant often point to the federal assaults at Cold Harbor on June 3, 1864, as Exhibit A in their efforts to perpetuate the old “Grant the Butcher” myth. Worse, they often use Grant’s own words against him. “I have always regretted that the last assault at Cold Harbor was ever made,” he wrote. “No advantage whatever was gained to compensate for the heavy loss we sustained.”

Grant didn’t write much else about Cold Harbor, despite the stunning casualties, and so critics have pounced on his silence as his own tacit acknowledgment that he made a mistake. Historians have generally remained silent on this point, too — an apparent unspoken agreement of their own.

Grant lost nearly 4,000 men in half an hour as the result of a single fruitless charge. Some critics have placed that number as high as 7,000, although



recent scholarship suggests that number includes all of Grant’s losses for the entirety of June 3, not just that single ill-fated charge. Altogether, he’d lose nearly 13,000 men in those days around Richmond; the Confederates, by comparison, lost some 4,500.

Don’t accept Grant’s silence as an admission of guilt, though. By the time Grant got to writing about the Overland Campaign in his memoirs, he was in his last weeks of life. Fighting excruciating pain from throat cancer — not to mention the mind-addling effects of his painkillers and exhaustion — his attempt to finish the second volume of his memoirs represents a Herculean effort.

“If I could have two weeks of strength I could improve it very much,” he wrote to his publisher, Mark Twain, on June 30, 1885. “As I am, however, it will have to go about as it is....” He expressed satisfaction with most of what he’d written about the last year of the war, but he admitted to his son Fred, who was helping with the final editing, “I should change Spotts if I was able, and could improve N. Anna and Cold Harbor.”

His scribbled notes to Fred show a dozen aspects of the book all competing for his attention in those final weeks. He left “verifications and corrections” to Fred and the rest of his small team of helpers, depending on them for “suggestions which will enable me to make a point clear here and there.”

“I would have more hope of satisfying the expectation of

the public if I could have allowed myself more time,” he wrote in his introduction.

It’s little wonder Grant was able to finish as much as he did. He set down his pencil on July 21, 1885 — his draft finished and yet not as complete as he would have liked — and died on the morning of July 23. Cold Harbor, among other things, never got its full due. ★

Co-founder and editor in chief of the Emerging Civil War blog community, Makowski is the author of numerous books and articles, including *Grant’s Final Battle: The Story Behind The Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant*.

SUCCESS STORIES

LAND SAVED FOREVER

Brice’s Cross Roads National Battlefield Site
Baldwyn, Miss.
MIKE TALPLACIDO



VICTORY

AT ANY MOMENT, Trust real estate staff may be working on dozens of potential acquisition or easement projects. These are the transactions completed in the first six months of 2018.

APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, Virginia

AS THE BATTLE of Appomattox Court House developed on the morning of April 9, 1865, federal infantry arrived in relief of the cavalry, which had begun to drive back the Confederate infantry. Brig. Gen. George Custer’s federal cavaliers moved to the east, threatening the Confederate left flank, but the advance soon halted when Custer heard rumors of a flag of truce to arrange terms of surrender. A white flag shortly came into view, and Custer’s soldiers gave “three rousing cheers.”

The eight-acre property protected in May witnessed a portion of the final infantry attack of the Army of the Potomac. Funding was provided by the American Battlefield Protection Program and the Virginia Battlefield Preservation Fund. The tract is expected to be eventually incorporated into the Appomattox Court House National Historical Park. The Trust has now protected a total of **512 acres** at Appomattox Court House.

BRICE’S CROSS ROADS, Mississippi

AT THE BEGINNING of June 1864, Maj. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest set out with his cavalry corps of about 2,000 men to enter Middle Tennessee and destroy the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, which was carrying men and supplies to Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman in Georgia. On June 10, 1864, Forrest’s Confederate force defeated a much larger Union column under

Brig. Gen. Samuel Sturgis at Brice’s Cross Roads. This brilliant tactical victory against long odds cemented Forrest’s reputation as one of the foremost mounted infantry leaders of the war.

Acquisition of a 36-acre tract was completed in early June, thanks to funding from the American Battlefield Protection Program. The Trust plans to donate this tract to Brices Cross-roads National Battlefield Commission (BCNBC) after recordation of conservation easement with State of Mississippi. It will be incorporated into the Brices Cross Roads National Battlefield Park, with BNCBC acting as steward. The Trust has protected a total of **1,458 acres** at Brice’s Cross Roads.

CARTHAGE, Missouri

ON JULY 4, 1861, upon learning that Union Col. Franz Sigel had encamped at Carthage, Missouri governor Claiborne Fox Jackson formulated a plan to personally attack the much smaller force. The next morning, Jackson closed up to Sigel, established a battle line on a ridge 10 miles north of Carthage and induced Sigel to attack him. Seeing a large Confederate force — actually unarmed recruits — moving into the woods on his left, Sigel feared that they would turn his flank and withdrew. The Confederates pursued, but Sigel conducted a successful rearguard action. Pro-Southern elements in Missouri, anxious for any good news, championed their first victory.

SUCCESS STORIES
LAND SAVED FOREVER

*In January, the Trust worked with the Ozark Regional Land Trust to place a conservation easement on **180 acres** at Carthage. Funding was also provided by an American Battlefield Protection Program matching grant and through a landowner donation. This marked the Trust's first preservation achievement at Carthage.*

CEDAR CREEK, Virginia
IN THE FALL of 1864, Union Maj. Gen. Philip Sheridan marched up the fertile Shenandoah Valley, stripping the country bare to starve out the Confederate forces in Virginia. By mid-October, the exhausted Confederates were outnumbered two to one, but after an audacious night march, they surprised Union troops near Cedar Creek. Ultimately, a crushing Union rally extinguished Southern hopes in the Valley.

*As outlined in the last issue of Hallowed Ground, completion of this 13-acre acquisition put the Trust past 50,000 acres of total protected land. Funding was provided by the HTR Foundation and the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation. The Trust plans to transfer this tract to the National Park Service for incorporation into the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park. We have now protected a total of **714 acres** at Cedar Creek.*

CHAMPION HILL, Mississippi
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.

*The February acquisition of three acres on the west bank of Jackson Creek and near the field headquarters of Confederate Lt. Gen. John C. Pemberton will add another important piece to the preservation puzzle presented at Champion Hill. Thanks to 2014 legislation expanding the boundary of Vicksburg National Military Park, the Trust will eventually be able to transfer this property to the National Park Service. Funding was provided by the American Battlefield Protection Program and a Trust donor. This brings our total of protected land to **798 acres** at Champion Hill.*

CHATTANOOGA, Tennessee
AFTER MAJ. GEN. Ulysses S. Grant received command of the Western armies, the federals began offensive operations to open a supply line to besieged Chattanooga. On November 23–24, Union forces captured Orchard Knob and Lookout Mountain; the next day, they assaulted and carried the seemingly impregnable Missionary Ridge. One of the Confederacy's two major armies was routed, and the Union held the “Gateway to the Lower South.”

*In February, the Trust acquired a 3.6-acre property that was critical to the engagement at Brown's Ferry, through which the Union troops opened the “Cracker Line” to resupply their beleaguered army. This tract is adjacent to a property previously protected by the Trust. It will be stewarded by the Trust or a local non-profit organization until it can be transferred to the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. The Trust has now protected **110 acres** at Chattanooga.*



COLD HARBOR, Virginia
THE BATTLE of Cold Harbor is remembered as the culmination of the Overland Campaign and one of the bloodiest engagements of the Civil War. Beginning on May 31, Union Lt. Gen. Ulysses Grant ordered a series of hopeless frontal assaults, finally shifting his army to threaten Petersburg on June 12.

*The Trust has recently protected two parcels totaling 34 acres at Cold Harbor, both of them associated with the famed, doomed Union assault of June 3, 1864. Some historians place the death of Col. Peter A. Porter of the 8th New York Heavy Artillery — the retrieval of whose body resulted in the awarding of a Congressional Medal of Honor — on one of the tracts. Both properties will eventually be transferred to Richmond National Battlefield Park, with the Trust working with the sellers and, in one case, a potential renter, on stewardship concerns until that time. The properties were secured with funding from the HTR Foundation, bringing our total saved land to **138 acres** at Cold Harbor.*

CORINTH, Mississippi
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 the first days of 2018, the Trust completed the acquisition of eight acres directly opposite Battery Robinett, which leveled devastating fire at Confederate troops advancing across our new tract. The land, which had been at risk for continued commercial use, will eventually be transferred to the Corinth unit of the Shiloh National Military Park. The Trust has now protected a total of **791 acres** at Corinth.*

FORT DONELSON, Tennessee
AFTER CAPTURING Fort Henry, Brig. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant advanced cross-country toward Fort Donelson. On February 16, 1862, after failing to break through Grant's lines, the fort's 12,000-man garrison acquiesced to Grant's demand for “unconditional surrender,” solidifying the Union hold on Kentucky.

*The Trust has recently completed two transactions at Fort Donelson. The first, finalized in January, is a 2.5-acre tract near the entrance and visitor center at Fort Donelson National Battlefield that includes a portion of the Confederate outer defensive line commanded by Brig. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner. The second, 11 acres completed in late February, is associated with the Confederates' February 15 breakout attempt. Funding for these projects was provided by the federal American Battlefield Protection Program and the Tennessee Civil War Sites Preservation Fund. Cumulatively, the Trust has now protected **368 acres** at Fort Donelson.*

PRAIRIE D'ANE, Arkansas
AFTER SECURING a bridgehead on the Little Missouri River at the Battle of Elkin's Ferry, a Union army under Maj. Gen. Frederick Steele engaged in a fierce artillery duel with Confederates under Maj. Gen. Sterling Price. On April 12, the federals moved against the Confed-



erate fortifications, only to find that Price had withdrawn his forces toward Washington during the night. Steele immediately turned toward Camden in hopes of finding supplies for his starving army, resulting in a spirited rearguard action fought at the village of Moscow the next day. While the combat at Prairie D'Ane was sporadic, the actions there were vital in the course of the Camden Expedition.

*This winter, the Trust formed a vibrant public-private partnership to protect **811 acres** at Prairie D'Ane. Funding and support were provided by the American Battlefield Protection Program, Nevada County Depot & Museum and the State of Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, as well as financial contributions from the state and county contributions and a landowner donation. The property, which was transferred to the Nevada County Depot and Museum in June 2018, marked the Trust's first preservation achievement at Prairie D'Ane.*

PRINCETON, New Jersey
ON JANUARY 3, 1777, Gen. George Washington fought and won the Battle of Princeton, the culmination of the Ten Crucial Days Campaign that began with the crossing of the Delaware River on Christmas Day 1776. One of Washington's divisions was initially routed, but veteran reinforcements fearlessly led a counterattack that

overwhelmed and drove off some of the best soldiers of the British army. Washington's victory at Princeton, his first victory over British regulars in the field, humiliated and alarmed the British, ultimately causing them to withdraw their forces from most of New Jersey. Princeton was the first engagement in which Continental Marines fought and died in battle.

*After decades of controversy, the Trust reached an agreement with the Institute for Advanced Study to balance the need for faculty housing with preservation of Maxwell's Field, where Washington personally led the final charge against British troops. In addition to Trust members, funding was provided by the American Battlefield Protection Program, the Mercer County Open Space Preservation Program, and several major donors. The Trust expects to transfer this tract to the State of New Jersey for incorporation into the Princeton Battlefield State Park following landscape restoration work. The Trust has now protected **24 acres** at Princeton.*

AUDACITY!

**GEORGE WASHINGTON
AND THE CRUCIAL DAYS
THAT SAVED
THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION**

by **LARRY KIDDER**



Princeton Battlefield State Park
Princeton, N.J.
MEREDITH BARNES

BY DECEMBER 25, 1776, the war for American independence had lost its early optimism and glamour, and was on the verge of dissolving after the defeats suffered by its shrinking Continental Army during the New York Campaign and in its retreat across New Jersey and the Delaware River into Pennsylvania. The next 10 days, however, prevented the collapse of the war effort and provided the renewed momentum that ultimately led to victory.



WHEN WRITING about those crucial days, one of Washington’s generals praised him for demonstrating the ability to deceive his enemy by giving “an appearance of something which is not intended, while under this mask some important object is secured,” while avoiding “those wily snares which are laid for him.” Before December 25, 1776, Washington’s personal bravery was unquestioned, but over this period, some would argue that he revealed his skills at deception, along with the complexity and depth of his audacious and decisive character, for the first time. Demonstrating his talents to react pragmatically and decisively to changing situations, based on his long-range goal, complete intelligence gathering, understanding of terrain and understanding of his enemy, he restored confidence and spirit in the American cause, and himself as commander.

Two or three days after the Continental Army crossed into Pennsylvania in the first week of December, General Hugh Mercer’s 18-year-old aide-de-camp, Major John Armstrong, overheard several meetings between Adjutant General Joseph Reed and Mercer discussing the possibility of attacking some or all of the British cantonments that General William Howe had spread across New Jersey to support and encourage the Loyalists, and to provide a base for eventually taking Philadelphia. The two men agreed to bring up the subject with Washington and other officers. Washington welcomed the resulting conversations and, between December 8 and 25, gathered intelligence and pondered how to drive the British from some portion of their cantonments with his small army, regaining at least part of New Jersey.

While Washington developed his plan, small detachments crossed the Delaware River



George Washington at Princeton, c. 1788
This triumphal image was painted by the adopted son and protégé of noted portraitist Charles Willson Peale, who had served under Washington during the campaign.
Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, Va.
CHARLES PEALE POLK

daily to gain information and harass Hessian outposts and patrols. These frequent hit-and-run attacks wore out the hired Hessian auxiliaries physically, and deceived British leaders into believing that Washington’s army was incapable of mounting a major attack.

Washington knew that his army, while small, was larger than any one of the cantonment garrisons, encouraging him to “attempt a stroke upon the forces of the enemy, who lay a good deal scattered.” This urge to attack was tempered by the reality that he badly needed reinforcements and, worse, that the enlistments of a large portion of his troops ended on December 31. However, Washington firmly believed that he needed to force the enemy troops out of New Jersey in order to revitalize the Whigs and the dispersed state government, subdue rising Loyalist confidence and actions and encourage reenlistment in the Continental Army.

By December 14, Washington was clearly working through various options, writing to several generals that “I should hope we may effect something of importance.” During conversations with various officers and while analyzing multiple intelligence reports, Washington developed a plan to drive the British from as much of New Jersey as possible. He would start with a surprise attack

Jersey the night of December 25, and although only the one group he personally led was able to cross in the horrible weather and river conditions, he succeeded in capturing most of the Hessians at Trenton and putting those stationed south of Trenton into panic, causing them to seek protection in Princeton. While Washington could not make attacks on December 26, and in-



Washington Crossing The Delaware, 1851
The man standing next to Washington holding the flag is Lieutenant James Monroe, future President of the United States, and the man leaning over the side is General Nathanael Greene.
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, N.Y.
EMANUEL LEUTZE

on Trenton, but he knew that victory would only be symbolic if not followed up with additional actions.

Washington’s plan for attacking Trenton has been described as extremely complex and fraught with dangers that could easily have led to defeat. Washington’s password for the day, “Victory or Death,” demonstrated his awareness that failure could mean the end of the Revolution. He knew the attack must be unexpected, quick and decisive, and avoid laying siege to the town or becoming involved in a drawn-out battle — lest the British troops at Bordentown and Princeton quickly reinforce the Trenton Hessians and pin the Americans against the river. He planned to quickly capture the entire Trenton garrison, remove the prisoners to Pennsylvania and then combine his forces for further attacks on other British cantonments.

Washington planned to cross three military forces to New

**WASHINGTON
NEEDED EVERYONE,
ESPECIALLY
BRITISH SPIES,
TO BELIEVE HE
MEANT TO MAKE
AN ALL-OR-
NOTHING STAND
AT TRENTON.**

stead crossed back to Pennsylvania, he knew that additional action was expected of him. The Continental Congress wrote to Colonel Thomas Fleming of the 9th Virginia Regiment, overdue on its march to join the army, informing him that Washington had made “an unexpected stroke at Trenton where he now reigns master. We hope to drive the enemy out of New Jersey and if you haste up you’ll come in for a share of the glory.” On December 28, Washington told Congress that he wanted all available troops to be ready

to join up with him to create “a fair opportunity ... of driving the enemy entirely from, or at least to, the extremity of the province of Jersey.” Congress also felt that keeping the troops on the offensive “clearing the Jerseys” would encourage reenlistment, whereas acting defensively would discourage it.

Washington crossed his troops back to New Jersey between

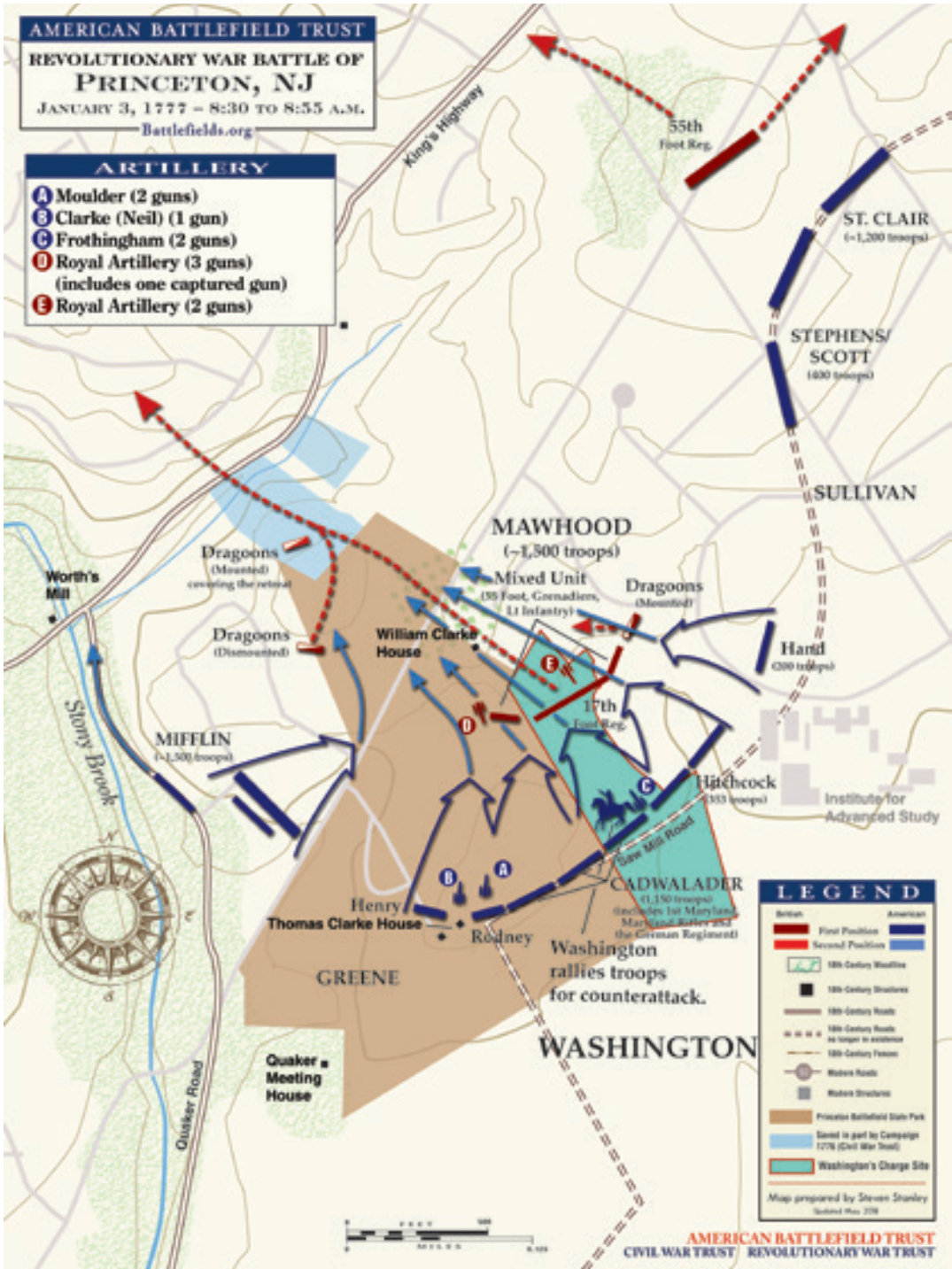
December 27 and 31, posting his main force at Trenton and other forces south of town in the Bordentown and Crosswicks areas. Some doubted his wisdom, believing he was inviting defeat by re-occupying Trenton. Major James Wilkinson worried that Washington had placed himself in a dangerous situation, putting himself “into a ‘cul de sac,’” with the river at his back and “a corps numerically inferior to that of the enemy in his front,” an enemy that until recently had forced him to retreat. Washington continued to gather intelligence, especially about the British at Princeton, and was able to convince about half of the men whose enlistments expired on December 31 to extend them for six weeks. He told them, “If you will consent to stay only one month longer, you will render that service to the cause of liberty, and to your country, which you probably never can do under any other circumstances. The present is emphatically the crisis, which is to decide our destiny.”

Washington was not planning to sacrifice his men in a major defeat at Trenton, and it is likely that he already planned to make Cornwallis believe he would make a stand at Trenton. Instead, he would secretly march overnight to Princeton, defeat any rearguard there and continue on to Brunswick to capture the British supplies and war chest located there. Washington no doubt had multiple conversations with people who knew the area well and were aware of a new, little-used road (that still had low tree stumps in it), also shown on a spy map, that he could use to skirt the British troops at Trenton and reach Princeton undetected. For this plan to work, Washington needed everyone, especially British spies, to believe he meant to make an all-or-nothing stand at Trenton.

Preparing for the anticipated British advance from Princeton, Washington ordered up his troops from the Bordentown area to Trenton and posted units at locations on the main road to Princeton with orders to slow the British advance and prevent their reaching town before evening. He did not make the mistake that the German colonel, Johann Rall, had made by trying to defend the town, but rather formed up his troops on the hill on the

southeast side of Assunpink Creek, making it appear that his only chance was to delay and punish the British for as long as he could and make them pay a heavy price when attacking him; that is, make it another Bunker Hill.

The long day of successful delaying actions on January 2 left the British troops exhausted and still facing the Americans across the creek as darkness descended. Both sides set out pickets and prepared for the next day’s big battle. Washington called a council of war, and while he probably knew exactly what he wanted to do, the officers present felt they made a unanimous decision to march overnight to Princeton, avoiding detection by Cornwallis, to defeat the small Princeton garrison before moving on to Brunswick. They could then move on to Morristown,



and the British would hopefully abandon most of New Jersey.

This was not a plan to extricate himself from a self-imposed trap, but rather was part of Washington’s overall plan to force the British from New Jersey by taking advantage of the weaknesses in their chain of cantonments and avoiding a large pitched battle with the full British army, such as Cornwallis eagerly anticipated the next morning. A British officer later wrote that “Mr. Washington, whom we have already seen capable of great and daring enterprise [at Trenton] ... and surprising the intermediate posts of communication by unexpected and rapid movements, ... conceived the idea of stealing a march on the royal army” which was at that time “harassed and jaded by the long march, and the bad roads.” He believed Washington’s men were relatively fresh, “his intelligence good, and his knowledge of the country, through all the cuts and bye-roads, perfect.” Therefore, “[i]t must be allowed, the deception was admirable, and it was conducted in a masterly manner; it deserves a place amongst distinguished military achievements, and was worthy of a better cause.”

The secrecy of the plan was so complete that when the soldiers set out quietly marching to Princeton, they had no idea where they were going, and some men did not get the word and were left behind. Just after daylight, the overnight marchers surprised British forces marching out of Princeton toward Trenton to assist Cornwallis in his renewed attack on Washington. After the initial encounter resulted in confusion and retreat by troops of Mercer’s and Cadwalader’s brigades, Washington, seeing the problem, ordered Hand’s and Hitchcock’s brigades to go to their assistance, and he personally led them across Maxwell’s Field to steady the troops. Sergeant Nathaniel Root was in retreat when he saw Washington at the head of the troops coming to help the re-

“THE DECEPTION WAS ADMIRABLE, AND IT WAS CONDUCTED IN A MASTERLY MANNER”

never again occupied the state as they did in December 1776.

The victories of the Ten Crucial Days caused “an amazing alteration in the faces of men” when told the story and “the tidings flew upon the wings of the wind — and at once revived the hopes of the fearful, which had almost fled! How sudden the transition from darkness to light; from grief to joy!” As for the British, Lord Germain commented to Parliament in 1779 that “all our hopes were blasted by that unhappy affair at Trenton,” and its follow-up decisive and audacious victories by deception over the Ten Crucial Days.★

A veteran educator and interpreter, Larry Kidder is active on the Association for Living History, Farm, and Agricultural Museums the New Jersey Living History Advisory Council; and many regional historical societies and round tables. He is a member of the Advisory Council for Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area and the author of THE TEN CRUCIAL DAYS: Washington’s Vision for Victory Unfolds, Knox Press in 2018.



TIPPECANOE

{ AND POLITICAL SPIN, TOO }

BY RICK CONWELL

URING THE 17TH AND 18TH centuries, the colony, and later state, of Virginia was dominated socially, economically and politically by the owners of large tobacco plantations. It was from among this class of American aristocrats — wealthy (though often in debt), slave owning, ardently anti-British — that the leaders of the American Revolution, and ultimately, four of the first five U.S. presidents came.

The Revolutionary generation passed along its ideological worldview to its offspring. The master of Berkeley Plantation, Benjamin Harrison V, was an associate of Washington, Jefferson and Henry Knox; a signer of the Declaration; and three-term governor of Virginia. Benjamin's youngest son, William Henry, attended college and briefly studied medicine, before joining the military in 1791 at the age of 18.

The newly commissioned Ensign William Harrison's first assignment was that of a recruiter in Philadelphia. He raised 80 men, leading them to Fort Pitt and then down the Ohio in flatboats. The company arrived in Fort Washington (Cincinnati) in November of 1791, just in time to meet the survivors of St. Claire's Defeat. When Anthony Wayne replaced St. Claire as major general of the army in 1793, young Harrison became one of Wayne's aides-de-camp and got his first combat experience at the Battle of Fallen Timbers. In the years after the 1795 signing of the Treaty of Greenville, he married Anna Symmes, resigned his commission and re-entered civilian life.

Harrison was appointed governor of the newly formed Indiana Territory at age 27. The family moved to Vincennes, the territorial capital, and constructed an estate, which they named Grouseland. The mansion still stands today, operated and maintained as a museum by the Grouseland Foundation, Inc.

Harrison's rise to power in the Indiana Territory paralleled that of a Shawnee mystic named Tenskwatawa, or the Open Door, known to whites simply as the Shawnee Prophet. The Prophet led a Native revivalist movement that

became increasingly militant, as one treaty after another sliced away Native territory. Anger over land sales eventually led to the Battle of Tippecanoe on November 7, 1811.

The two-hour, pre-dawn battle was Harrison's first combat command. The army suffered a casualty rate of more than 20 percent, but held the field and accomplished its narrowly drawn mission of causing the evacuation and dispersal of the population of Prophet's Town. Though initially viewed by some as a defeat, the outcome of the battle, along with his subsequent military success, allowed the resilient and adaptable Harrison to spin the fight into a great strategic victory and use it to launch a national political career.

Harrison resigned the governorship and took command of the Army of the Northwest at the beginning of the War of 1812. While his war-time success cemented his reputation, he was, like Theodore Roosevelt, always remembered for a single brief event.

The political season of 1840 began almost a year early, with Whigs and their supporters bludgeoning the hapless "Martin Van Ruin" as an elitist snob responsible for the economic woes of the country. The Whig convention in Harrisburg passed over the party's establishment figures — Henry Clay and Daniel Webster — to nominate Harrison ("Old Tippecanoe"), along with John Tyler ("Tyler, too"), as its presidential ticket. Harrison represented the rising political power of the West, and when Democrats, intending insult, suggested that Old Tipp would be better off pensioned and given a barrel of hard cider to drink while sitting in front of his log cabin, the campaign gladly accepted the smear as a gift, and the "Log Cabin and Hard Cider Campaign" was born. Almost overnight, log cabins (some mobile and pulled by oxen), coon skins and hard cider became the symbols of an energized Whig Party.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SHENANDOAH SANCHEZ



THE TWO-HOUR, PRE-DAWN BATTLE WAS HARRISON'S FIRST COMBAT COMMAND.



Opposite: A statue of William Henry Harrison on the side of a 90-foot monument created by John H. Mahoney. Top left: Prophetstown State Park, preserves the camp where mystic Tenskwatawa lived. The white spot in the distance, is the Harrison monument (upper right), which marks the battle's location. Here: The thick woods where the battle took place. Tippecanoe Battlefield Park, Battle Ground, Ind.

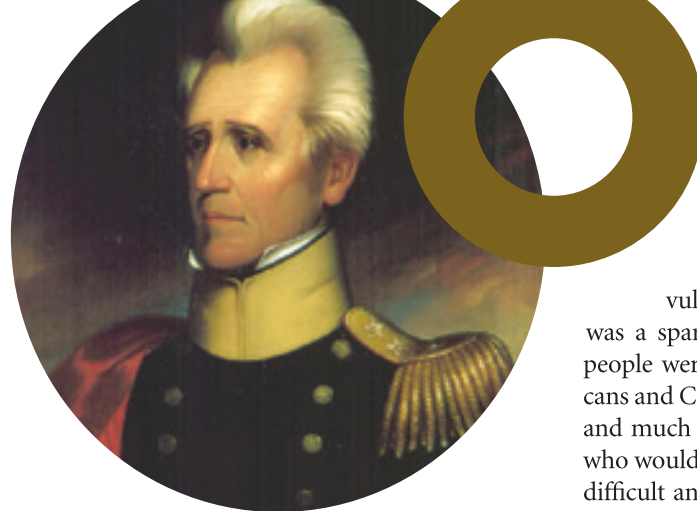
What may stand as the largest event ever to take place at the Tippecanoe Battlefield was held May 29–30, 1840, when the Whig Party and its presidential ticket held a massive rally. Most forms of travel other than foot or horseback were impossible. Nevertheless, thousands of rally-goers made their way to the battlefield. "Fifteen acres of men" guessed one paper, all housed in a tent three quarters of a mile long, dined on beef roasted over a large pit on the grounds. Hard cider was only one of the intoxicating beverages served. Six bands played, while attendees' horses lounged on a temporary, 300-acre grazing farm.

The "Carnival Campaign" went on to sweep the 1840 election in landslide fashion. Harrison and Tyler carried 19 of the 26 states in an election in which voter turnout increased 38 percent over 1836 levels.

Harrison's 8,445-word inaugural address is the longest in U.S. history, but his tenure in office remains the shortest. Falling ill about three weeks later, the oldest man elected president up to that time became the first president to die in office.★

Rick Conwell is the manager of the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum.

OLD HICKORY



ADORED AND DESPISED

JUST 29 YEARS after the Treaty of Paris officially ended the Revolutionary War, our young nation found itself again at odds with Great Britain. Responding to an assortment of slights against American sovereignty that had caused repeated insult and economic damage, on June 18, 1812, Congress issued its first declaration of war.

BY **SEAN MICHAEL CHICK**

Chalmette Battlefield
Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve
Chalmette, La.
ZACK SMITH, www.zacksmith.com



ON DECEMBER 1, 1814, General Andrew Jackson arrived in New Orleans. The city was under threat of a British attack, and was one of the most vulnerable spots in America. It was a sparsely populated area, and the people were divided: The Anglo-Americans and Creoles did not trust each other, and much of the population were slaves who would likely join the British. It was a difficult and delicate situation that Jackson navigated skillfully, at least at first.

Jackson was lucky his opponents were the British. The Creoles, people of French, Spanish and/or African descent, but born in the Western Hemisphere, were not enthusiastic about being ruled by Anglo-American Protestants, but strongly preferred them to the British. Jackson made a good impression on several influential individuals, and often stayed with Jean-Bernard de Marigny de Mandiville, a powerful politician known for his playboy lifestyle. He also made a grudging alliance with the buccaneer brothers Jean and Pierre Laffite, who provided Jackson with troops, scouts and, most importantly, gunpowder. Jean Humbert, who had served in the French Revolutionary army, was part of Jackson's staff. He had fled to New Orleans after it was discovered that he was having an affair with Pauline Bonaparte, the wife of his commanding officer, Charles Leclerc.

Jackson commanded a polyglot army — there were militias from Kentucky and Tennessee, as well as buccaneers, smugglers and Choctaw Indians in the ranks. In addition, there was the local Creole and Anglo-American militia. Much of the Creole militia was made up of free people of color who had taken part in military actions at least as far back as the Natchez War in 1729. By 1815, they were a major part of the city's defensive force. Jackson also had regular infantry and artillery on hand. All in all, his force had enthusiasm but not experience. While the British were not sending their finest regiments, quite a few were veterans of the Napoleonic Wars.

On December 14, the British crushed the small American fleet at Lake Borgne. Nine days later, they landed and took Jackson by surprise. Instead of panicking, Jackson attacked; losses were heavy, but the British were put off-balance, allowing

Jackson to fall back to the Chalmette Line, five miles downriver from New Orleans. The British were in a dilemma: Swamps prevented a flanking movement against the Americans, and a formal siege was not possible given British logistics. Illness was also rampant in the British ranks.

On January 8, the British struck using a complicated plan that involved attacks on both sides of the Mississippi River. General Edward Pakenham, the British commander, attacked even as the fog lifted and uncovered his men. The

**THEN, AS NOW,
JACKSON
DID NOT INSPIRE
MILDNESS.**

assault was a disaster. In roughly 30 minutes, 2,000 British soldiers became casualties. Among the dead was Pakenham and his second in command, Samuel Gibbs. After the third in command, John Keane, was shot in the groin, command devolved to John Lambert, an uninspired soldier. Even though the attack on the west bank, which had been delayed, succeeded, Lambert withdrew. Efforts instead shifted to taking Fort St. Philip, the main strongpoint defending New Orleans from river assault. That siege also failed.

Unbeknownst to Jackson and Pakenham, however, the War of 1812 had essentially come to a close. Both sides had signed the Treaty of Ghent on December 24, 1814, although it still needed to be ratified by Congress. The victory in New Orleans brought to a close with a resounding victory a conflict that had seen numerous military disasters for the Americans. And, in earning a victory that ensured that New Orleans would not be sacked or set alight like the White House, Jackson became a national hero.

Before the battle, Jackson showed an impressive ability to forge alliances and an iron will that was a prerequisite for military victory. However, in the fighting's aftermath, Jackson showed his penchant for pettiness, pride and pointless pugnacity. Even as the British shifted to capture Mobile, first news of the treaty ending the war arrived. But Jackson was not sure of the situation. Martial law had been enforced since December 1, and Jackson — who had

executed six militiamen for desertion — would not end martial law until he was certain the war was fully and formally concluded.


Louisiana state senator Louis Louailier wrote an unsigned article in the *Louisiana Courier* that criticized Jackson for not returning civilian authority. In return, Jackson had him jailed. U.S. District Court judge Dominic A. Hall signed a writ of *habeas corpus* for the imprisoned senator, and for his trouble he, too, was jailed. A military court exonerated Louaillier, but Jackson ignored the verdict and kept the politician detained.

Hall was exiled from the city until martial law passed, at which point he returned and brought Jackson to court. Jackson's supporters, including many of the buccaneers, gathered inside. Dominique You, third in command to the Laffite brothers, said, "General, say the word and we pitch the judge and the bloody courthouse into the river." Jackson refused to answer Hall's questions and was fined \$1,000 for contempt of court.

When Jackson left the courthouse, he was surrounded by admirers and veterans of the battle. The buccaneers unhitched the horses on his wagon and pulled it down the street as people cheered and booed. Throughout his career, Jackson would inspire fear and hatred, but also devotion and love. Then, as now, Jackson did not inspire mildness.

The fine levied against Jackson left the city initially divided. But in time, he became a local hero for winning one of America's most lopsided victories. In 1856, a statue, cast after one erected near the White House in Washington, D.C., was erected in the Place d'Armes, which was renamed Jackson Square. In time, it became an iconic symbol of New Orleans, featured in books, brochures, posters and coasters. The courthouse where Jackson was fined was demolished after the Civil War, but the building on the site today is known as the Andrew Jackson Hotel.★

Historian and author Sean Michael Chick is a member of the Emerging Civil War community. He has long been active in the development and design of historical board games covering a variety of eras. A New Orleans native, his popular tours help residents and visitors appreciate the city's layered past.



COLD HARBOR. *Two words
that conjure images of brutality
and futility. Out of 13 days
of fighting, it is one charge on one day
that came to characterize the memory
of Ulysses Grant's generalship and
cling to him, like a leech,
all the way to the highest office
in the land — the presidency.*

BY **PHILLIP GREENWALT**
PHOTOGRAPHY BY **BUDDY SECOR**

THEY CALLED GRANT A BUTCHER.

BUT CAN A BUTCHER HAVE REGRETS?



IGAR CLENCHED

between his teeth, flies buzzing about him as he watched the still-smoldering campfire, a middle-age man with a scrubby beard and tanned face, his uniform stained with sweat and grime, stands in front of his tent. Ulysses Simpson Grant —

“U.S.” to the media, but jokingly, “Sam” to his friends — peered into the horizon. In his immediate view sprawled

Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at his headquarters, Cold Harbor, Va., LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, colorized by Mads Madsen, @MadsMadsen.CH
OPPOSITE: The cannons at the Cold Harbor Battlefield in the middle of the night.

the powerful Union Army of the Potomac, with an independent corps, the XVIII, borrowed from the Army of the James, attached to the command. Beyond his line of sight, behind immense earthworks, lay his antagonist, the formidable Confederate Army of Northern Virginia under Gen. Robert Edward Lee.

In the first days of May 1864, now a month prior, the Civil War’s two principal armies had locked horns in battle west of Fredericksburg, Va., in a second-growth forest simply called



the Wilderness. Since that first encounter, which resulted in two days of bloodletting in the tangled growth, Grant had initiated a campaign of forward movement, sidestepping around Lee’s right flank. His first destination was the pivotal crossroads at Spotsylvania Court House. Lee beat him to the area, however, and erected extensive earthworks. On May 12, Grant unleashed the Union II Corps against a salient in the Confederate lines initially dubbed the “Mule Shoe,” but after more than 18 hours of intense combat, now known to history as the “Bloody Angle.”

**COLD HARBOR
LASTED 13 DAYS,
YET ONE CHARGE
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IS SOMETIMES USED
AS A SUMMATION
OF GRANT’S
ENTIRE CAREER**

But the Ohioan was not foiled. After further contemplation and probing, Grant again headed south, around Lee’s right flank toward the North Anna River. When stymied there, Grant sidestepped again. A month into the campaign, his forces depleted by some 50,000 cumulative casualties, Grant stood on the banks of the Pamunkey River. From the Union lines, one could practically see the spires of the churches of Richmond, the Confederate capital, with a field glass.

The battle now joined on the Tidewater Peninsula, near the location of the Seven Days’ Campaign approximately two years earlier, has come to greatly shape the memory of Grant’s military career.

Fighting at Cold Harbor lasted 13 days, yet one charge on one day is sometimes used as a summation of Grant’s entire career, a process solidified by the memoir, penned near the end of his life: “I have always regretted that the very last assault at Cold Harbor was ever made,” he wrote, “No advantage whatever was gained to compensate for the heavy loss we sustained.”

For this attack, Grant became known as The Butcher. His own former staff officer, Horace Porter, did not help the cause when he wrote, some 30 years later, the following sensational story:

“As I came near one of the regiments which was making preparations for the next morning’s

assault, I noticed that many of the soldiers had taken off their coats, and seemed to be engaged in sewing up rents in them. The exhibition of tailoring seemed rather peculiar at such a moment, but upon closer examination it was found that the men were calmly writing their names and home addresses on slips of paper, and pinning them on the backs of their coats, so that their dead bodies might be recognized upon the field, and their fate known to their families at home.”

Both armies were well entrenched by June 3, 1864, having spent the previous several days building elaborate earthworks. Historians have debated what prompted Grant to launch the frontal assault that morning. Whatever the reasoning, at approximately 4:30 a.m., with a light rain falling, the blue-clad infantry scrambled out of their earthworks and entered the open field. Even with the precipitation, from the Confederate line burst forth thousands of rifles belching flame and shot. Bullets found bodies, limbs were shattered, men fell, dead and dying.

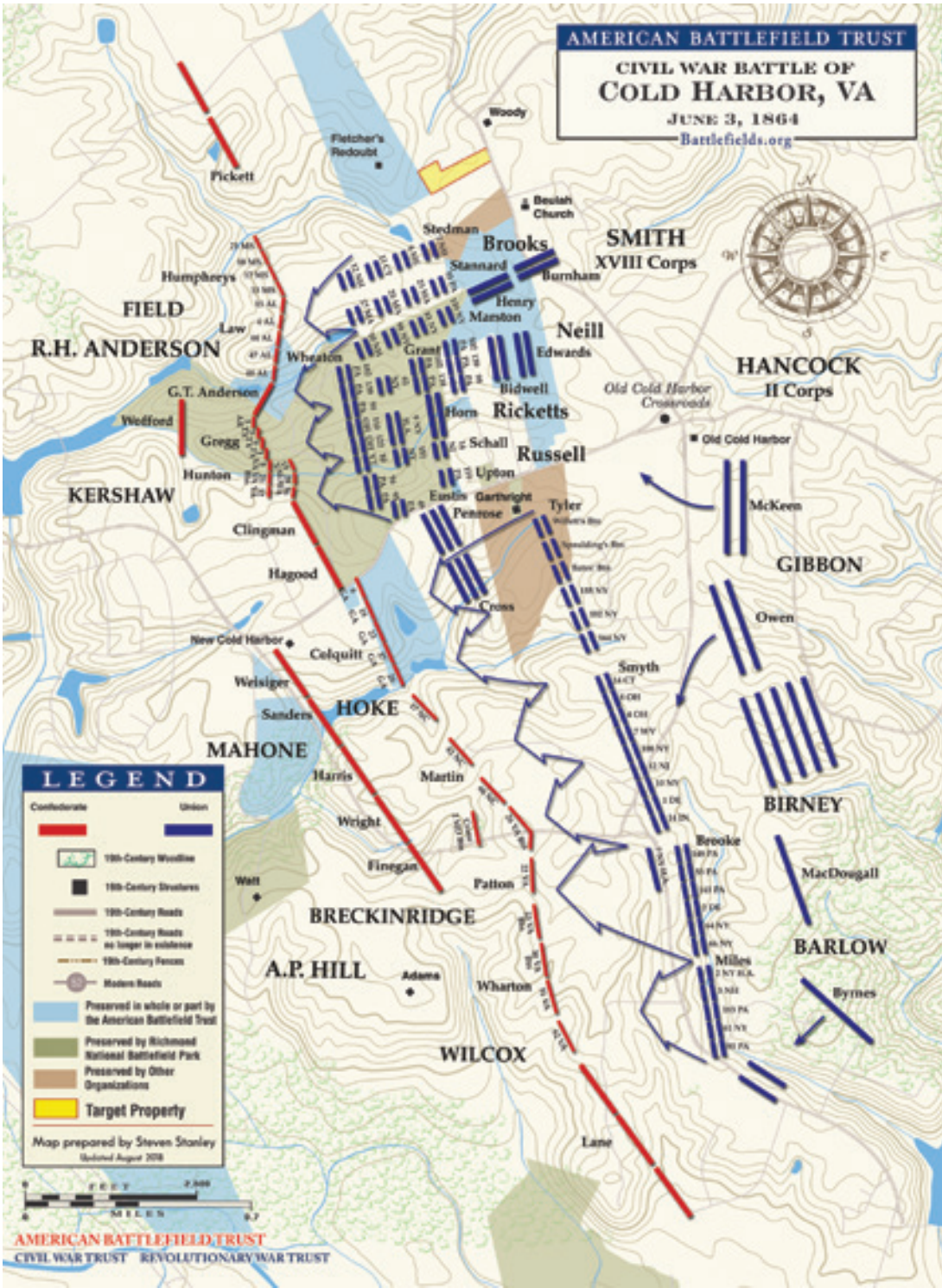
The living tried moving forward, some turning sideways, like a pedestrian braving a pelting rainstorm. But, instead of water drops, these were lead missiles. More men fell. Some of the Union infantry found temporary lodgments in the Confederate lines. The 7th New York Heavy Artillery, converted artillerymen now serving as infantry, found a ravine and was able to break through a portion of Col. George Patton’s Brigade of Virginians. A rush of Floridians and Marylanders helped seal the gap and push the federals back.

By midday, the attacks had stalled. Orders from Maj. Gen. George Meade, the commander of the Army of the Potomac, went out to resume the assaults across the entire front of the army. Yet, his various corps commanders — Maj. Gens. Winfield Hancock of the II Corps, Gouverneur Warren of the V Corps and the commander of the contingent from the Army of the James, William Smith of the XVIII Corps — all

advised against it. The hard-lucked Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside, leading the IX Corps into what he mistakenly thought was the Confederate main line but in actuality were only skirmishers’ rifle pits, became bogged down, although his troops continued to sporadically fire on the enemy throughout the remainder of the day.

How many men fell wearing Union blue that day? A cursory glance at any online article or some generalized reading will put the number of Union dead at approximately 7,000. Recent scholarship, however, has brought that number down to closer to 4,000. Still a significant, even horrific, number for a single assault. However, let’s put it into perspective.

Approximately a year earlier, in July 1863, Lee launched a massive assault



GRANT DID INDEED HAVE AN OBJECTIVE, AND HE WOULD NOT DEVIATE.

against Union forces near a small hamlet in southeastern Pennsylvania. That assault, labeled “Pickett’s Charge,” cost Lee’s forces approximately 6,000 men. Yet, that charge has been romanticized and remembered more favorably, and is part of the lore of the fallen Confederacy. Meanwhile, Grant’s assault gave him the moniker “The Butcher.”

Delving even further, Grant had also launched a massive assault against a protruding salient at Spotsylvania Court House. That one broke the Confederate line, ushered in 18 hours of fierce hand-to-hand combat and almost resulted in breaking Lee’s army in half. Grant is not remembered as a butcher for that action.

A “butcher” does not have strategic vision and would continue to batter his head against an entrenched enemy, continue to throw men recklessly against his position. Grant, however, did have a vision: destroy Lee’s army. And if Cold Harbor did not offer that opportunity, then another place of his choosing would.

Just as he did after the Battle of the Wilderness, after the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House and now after the Battle of Cold Harbor, Grant resorted to his forte: turning Lee’s right flank. This time, he moved across the James River toward the important transportation hub at Petersburg.

Grant did indeed have an objective, and he would not deviate. This self-assuredness, confidence and demeanor had won the trust and respect of President Abraham Lincoln. When the Ohioan became general in chief of all Union armies, the president deviated from his previous routine of

sorts of cross-cuts, ford streams, and jump any number of fences to reach another road rather than go back and take a fresh start.”

Thus, as Grant chomped on a half-lit cigar and swatted flies that swarmed around his command tent, he had a vision for the future. Would he come to regret Cold Harbor? Yes, in part. But, every military leader has some regretful decision. Grant had the acumen though to try, to endeavor to finish the job, and a tenacity to hold on until the job was done. He would need these personal attributes to finish the job against the Confederacy and move into his post-war career, transitioning from the military to politics.

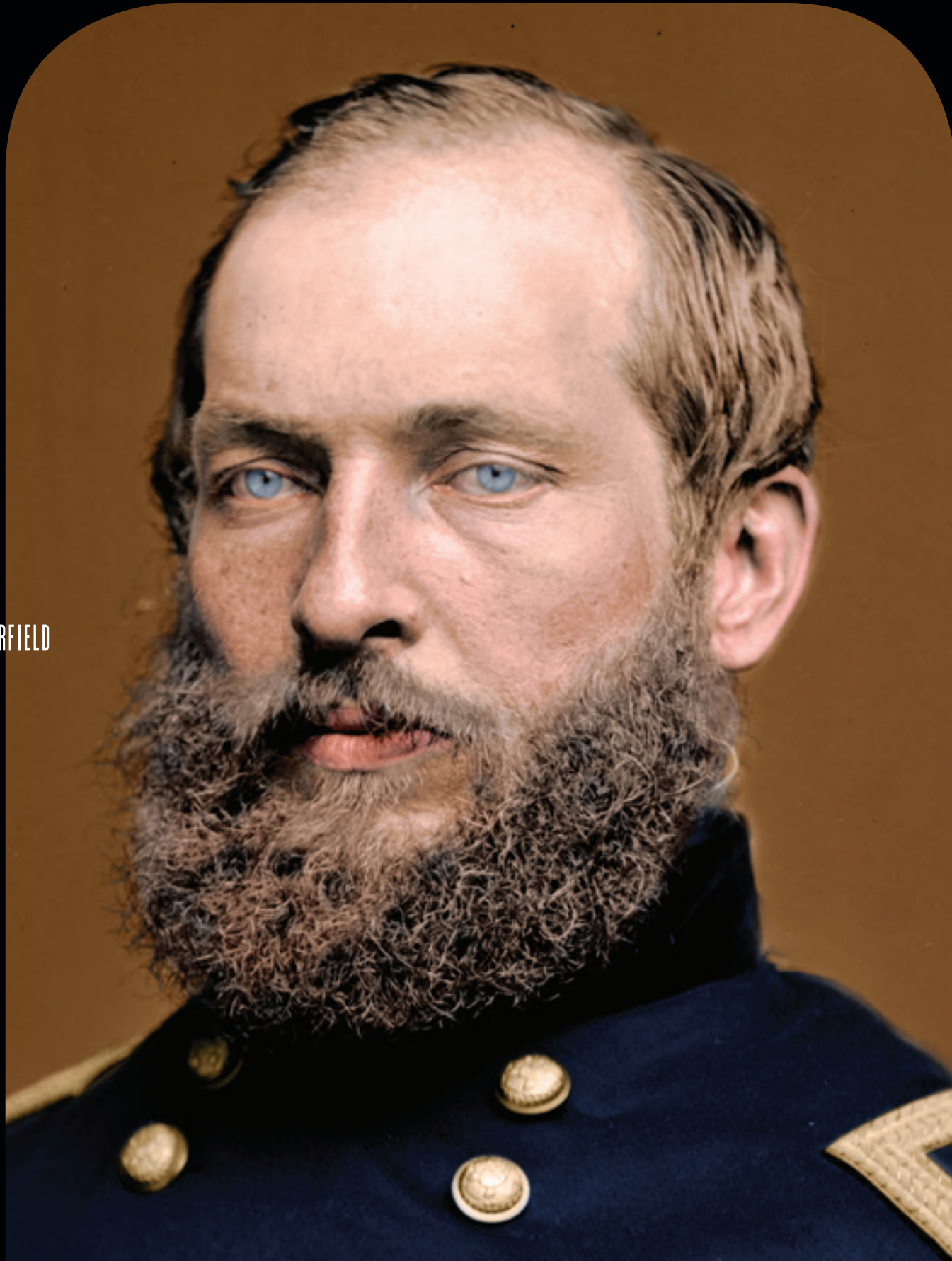
Yet the stain of that charge at Cold Harbor would continue to follow Grant the rest of his days. The power of memory would continue to tug the focus of Grant’s military image and connect a part of that legacy to that one instance on that one field in Virginia.★

Phillip Greenwalt is an editor of the Emerging Civil War community and a co-founder of its sister project, Emerging Revolutionary War. He is the author of several books on both eras and serves as a supervisory ranger for the Shark Valley District of Interpretation and Visitor Services of Everglades National Park.



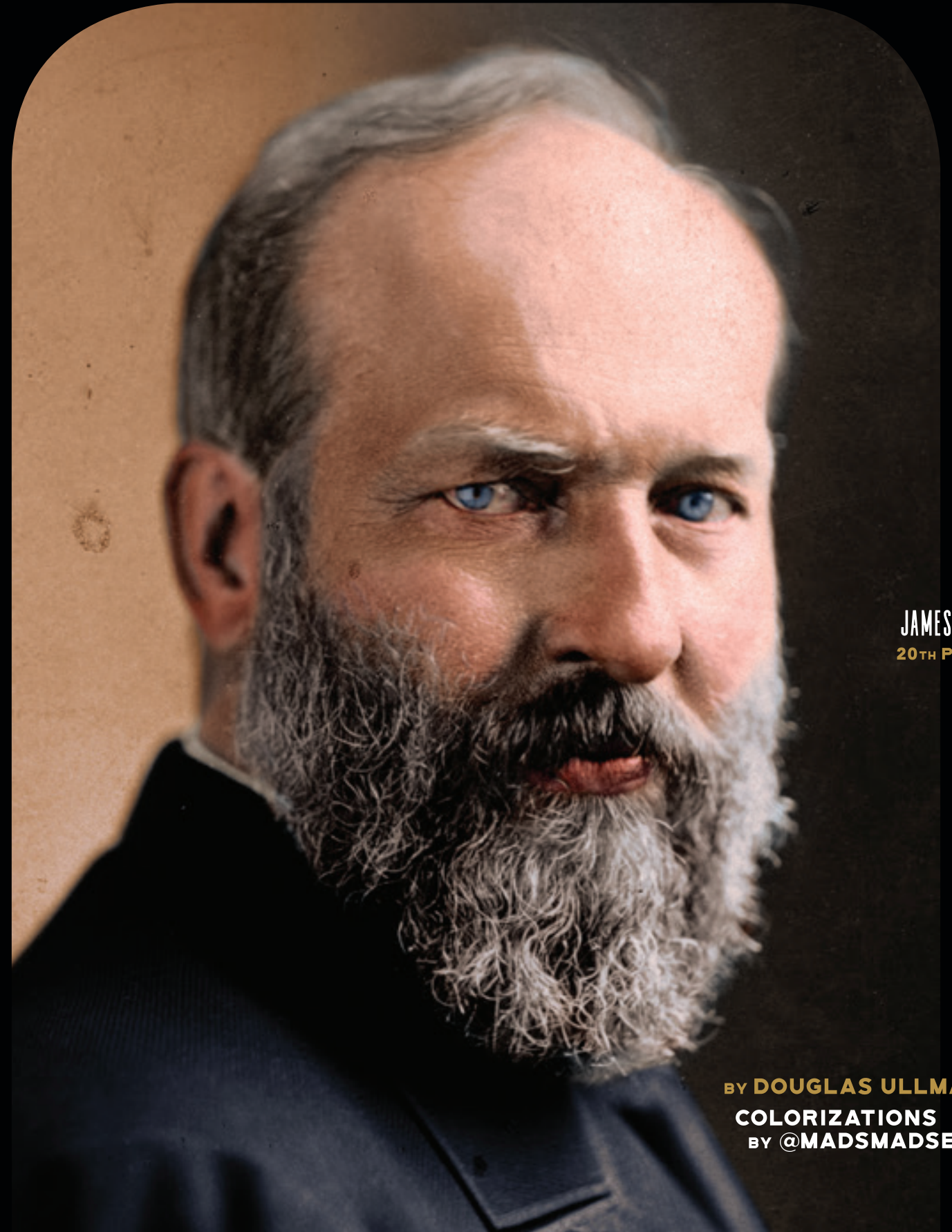
FROM THE FRONT LINES TO THE WHITE HOUSE

BRIG. GEN.
JAMES A. GARFIELD
42ND OHIO



MATHEW BRADY, c.1855 and 1865, Library of Congress

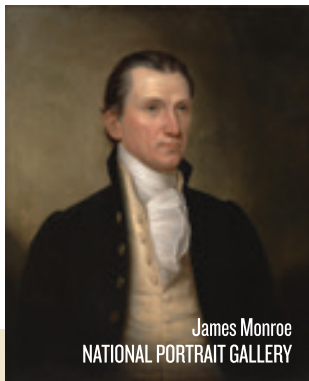
PRESIDENT
JAMES A. GARFIELD
20TH PRESIDENT



BY DOUGLAS ULLMAN, JR.
COLORIZATIONS
BY @MADSMADSEN.CH

NAPOLEON SARONY, c.1880, National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

W



HEN, ON APRIL 30, 1789, George Washington took the oath of office as the first president of the United States of America, he began a long tradition of commanders in chief who boasted prior military experience. In total, 31 of America's 45 presidents have worn the military uniform of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, or their state militia. (No member of the United States Marine Corps has yet been elected President.) Not all served their nation in a time of

war, and fewer still deployed overseas or saw combat. Six (the four detailed elsewhere in this issue, plus Zachary Taylor and Dwight Eisenhower) commanded entire armies, but a number of others had frontline experience and truly qualify as fighting presidents.

JAMES MONROE, the fifth president and originator of the Monroe Doctrine, was the first president since Washington to have fought in the American Revolution, having abandoned his studies at the College of William & Mary at age 18 in 1776. As a lieutenant in the 3rd Virginia Regiment, he went north to New York City and served at the Battles of Harlem Heights and White Plains, before crossing the Delaware and being seriously wounded at the Battle of Trenton. Monroe made a full recovery and joined the staff of American General William Alexander, Lord Stirling, forming important relationships with the Marquis de Lafayette, Alexander Hamilton and Washington himself. After the winter at Valley Forge, where he shared quarters with his college roommate — and future Supreme Court justice — John Marshall, he later resigned and returned to Virginia to study law; he served as a colonel in the Virginia militia (under the direct command of Gov. Thomas Jefferson), but saw no further combat.

The ninth president, William Henry Harrison, and the 12th, Zachary Taylor, are primarily remembered for their short tenures in office (dying after 31 days and 16 months, respectively), but both men were elected on their exemplary service records. Virginia native Harrison spent his military career in the Northwest Territory (modern-day Ohio and Indiana). He served alongside Revolutionary War hero General “Mad Anthony” Wayne at the 1794 Battle of Fallen Timbers during the Northwest Indian War and, when tensions with Native American tribes in Indiana Territory bled into the fighting during the War of 1812, he commanded the Army of the Northwest as a major general. Taylor likewise spent the majority of his military service on the frontier, fighting in



four different wars: the War of 1812, Black Hawk War, Second Seminole War — when his actions earned him a general's star and the nickname “Old Rough and Ready” — and the Mexican War. The army he commanded in Mexico won victories at Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterrey and Buena Vista.

Between 1869 and 1901, six of the seven occupants of the Executive Mansion were men who had worn the uniform in defense of the Union during the Civil War. Of those, five served in combat roles; Chester A. Arthur, a brigadier general, served as quartermaster general for the State of New York.

In 1877, Ulysses S. Grant passed the mantle of power to Rutherford B. Hayes, who, at the outbreak of the Civil War, left his legal career fighting passionately for the rights of runaway slaves to secure a commission as major in the 23rd Ohio Infantry. By September 1862, Lt. Col. Hayes led the regiment in the Battle of South Mountain. Crying, “Give the sons of bitches hell!” he and his troops helped drive the Confederates from Turner's Gap. The future 19th president went down with a minie ball through the arm and spent the rest of 1862 recovering. He returned to service as a colonel commanding a brigade, then commanded a



division at the Battle of Cedar Creek fighting on land later preserved with the help of the American Battlefield Trust.

James A. Garfield and William McKinley share the unfortunate distinction of having been assassinated while in office; their military experiences, however, differed greatly. An up-and-comer in the Republican Party, the 30-year-old Garfield was already serving in the Ohio state Senate in 1861, when he parlayed his status into a commission as colonel of the 42nd Ohio. Schoolteacher McKinley, by contrast, enlisted as a private in Hayes's 23rd Ohio.

By the spring of 1862, Garfield wore his new brigadier general's star across the battlefields of Shiloh and Corinth, while McKinley had risen as far as commissary sergeant. He was serving in that capacity when his regiment crossed Burnside's Bridge at Antietam, and received a commendation for bringing food and coffee to his beleaguered comrades, an act immortalized with its own battlefield monument. In 1863, while McKinley's brigade chased down Confederate partisan John Hunt Morgan, Garfield secured a position as chief of staff to Maj. Gen. William S. Rosecrans. When Rosecrans was ousted later in 1863, Garfield feared he might be relegated to some inauspicious post and opted instead to resume his career in politics. McKinley got his own staff appointment, joining the retinue of Maj. Gen. George Crook as a captain in 1864. He stayed in the army until the war's conclusion in 1865, ending his military career as a brevet major.

Twenty-seven-year-old attorney Benjamin Harrison was living in Indianapolis when Confederate troops fired on Fort Sumter. The following summer, he raised a company of infantry and

LT. COL. HAYES LED THE REGIMENT IN THE BATTLE OF SOUTH MOUNTAIN.

was later appointed colonel of the 70th Indiana. Neither Harrison nor his regiment saw major action in 1862 or 1863, but in early 1864, the Hoosiers joined Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's army in northwest Georgia — troops poised to strike deep into the Confederate heartland. Harrison fought in nearly every major battle of the ensuing Atlanta Campaign, distinguishing himself at Resaca and at Peach Tree Creek, where he commanded a brigade. Harrison received a brevet promotion to brigadier general and resigned in June of 1865.

Theodore Roosevelt, the only Spanish-American War veteran to serve as president, lived a life of public service that spanned three decades. When the United States declared war with Spain in 1898, 40-year-old Roosevelt resigned from his post as assistant secretary of the navy to take a commission as lieutenant colonel of the First United States Volunteer Cavalry, a regiment soon known as the Rough Riders. In June 1898, the regiment landed in Cuba as part of the mounted division commanded by former Confederate cavalier, Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler. Shortly thereafter, Roosevelt received a promotion to colonel and commanded the Rough Riders for the duration of the campaign. On July 1, Roosevelt led his regiment in a pell-mell assault up Kettle Hill.

Supported by Gatling guns, his men breached the Spanish line and, after a brief hand-to-hand struggle, forced the Spaniards to retreat. The action, part of a larger engagement known as the Battle of San Juan Hill, proved to be the decisive battle of war, and Colonel Roosevelt was commended for his role in the American victory. In 2001, he posthumously received the Medal of Honor, the only American president to have been so recognized.

The White House remained the domain of civilian presidents until Harry Truman took office in 1945. Missouri-born Truman had wanted to attend the United States Military Academy, primarily as a cost-saving measure, but was thwarted by eyesight too poor for admittance to West Point. He joined the Missouri National Guard instead, serving in an artillery unit from 1905 to 1911 before returning to civilian life as a farmer and, later, a haberdasher. He rejoined the Guard in 1917, when the United States entered the Great War. Truman received a commission as a lieutenant and then became a captain in the 129th Field Artillery. In 1918, Captain Truman and his battery were assigned to the 35th Division, taking part in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive that September. On September 27, Truman spotted a German battery setting up opposite the nearby 28th Division. Though his orders were to restrict his fire to targets in his own division's front, Truman destroyed the battery, managed to avoid court martial and did not officially retire from the Army Reserve until 1953 — after his term as president — at the rank of colonel.

Of the six chief executives who went overseas during the Second World War, only one, Dwight D. Eisenhower, did so with the United States Army, serving as supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in Europe, a position from which he planned and executed the invasions of North Africa and Normandy. The other five were naval officers, fighting against the Japanese in the Pacific. Three of them — who, incidentally, went on to hold the land's highest office consecutively — John F. Kennedy, Lyndon Baines Johnson and Richard Nixon, were in the South Pacific simultaneously during 1942–1943.

Johnson, already a sitting U.S. Congressman and a member of the Naval Reserve in 1941, joined Gen. Douglas MacArthur as a special observer for President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Armed with only a camera, Johnson boarded a B-26 bomber slated to bomb a Japanese air base on New Guinea on June 9, 1942. Accounts conflict as to whether his plane was actually under fire, but Johnson nevertheless received the Silver Star for “gallant actions [that] enabled him to obtain and return with valuable information.”

California native Richard Nixon joined the South Pacific Combat Air Transport Command stationed on Guadalcanal in May 1943, playing a pivotal role in moving troops, ammunition, food and medical supplies to and from the many islands in the Solomons chain. Nixon finished the war as a lieutenant commander and received the Navy and Marine Corps Commenda-



[TRUMAN] DID NOT OFFICIALLY RETIRE FROM THE ARMY RESERVE UNTIL 1953 — AFTER HIS TERM AS PRESIDENT — AT THE RANK OF COLONEL.

tion Medal for his “meritorious and efficient performance.” In his letter of commendation, Vice Adm. John Newton praised Nixon’s “sound judgment,” a somewhat ironic assessment in light of Nixon’s later association with the Watergate scandal.

Lt. (junior grade) John F. Kennedy had arrived in the South Pacific a month before Nixon, and it is easy to imagine the former watching planes from the latter’s command flying overhead from his station on the nearby island of Tulagi. Kennedy spent the first part of his military career training on torpedo patrol boats — more commonly known as PT boats — small, lightweight craft intended for use against enemy ships, primarily at night. Jack Kennedy, commander of PT-109, plied his new trade on the myriad Japanese vessels cruising through Iron Bottom Sound. In the hours before dawn on August 2, 1943, a Japanese destroyer rammed PT-109, instantly cutting it in half and killing two crewmen. Rather than surrender, Kennedy and his men swam to safety, with the skipper towing a wounded buddy — an act for which he later received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal. The following month, Kennedy took command of PT-59, but was later relieved of command by a doctor for a chronic back injury.

Gerald R. Ford, Jr., enlisted in the navy after Pearl Harbor and received his commission as an ensign five months later. By May 1943, Ford had been promoted to lieutenant and headed to Camden, N.J., to join the crew of a new Independence-class aircraft carrier, the USS *Monterey*. In the next 18 months, he was *Monterey*’s assistant navigator, anti-aircraft battery officer and, as a former University of Michigan football player, the athletic officer. During his time on the *Monterey*, Ford earned a total of nine battle stars, including for the Battle of the Philippine Sea and the landing at Leyte Gulf. Stateside, Ford had several positions in athletic and physical training before completing his service in 1946.

George Herbert Walker Bush turned 18 six months after the

bombing of Pearl Harbor and celebrated the occasion by enlisting in the United States Navy. When he completed the training course for naval aviators and received his commission, Bush was the youngest naval aviator up to that time. He joined a squadron of torpedo bombers in the Pacific, VT-51, attached to the USS *San Jacinto*. Tall and slight, Bush was quickly dubbed “Skin” by his squadron mates. Flying a TBM Avenger on June 18 and 19, 1944, “Skin” took part in the “Great Marianas Turkey Shoot” — the naval aviators’ name for their role in the Battle of the Philippine Sea. Bush was promoted to lieutenant (junior grade) six weeks later. On September 2, Bush participated in an attack on the Japanese naval base at Chichijima. Enemy flak caused Bush’s Avenger to erupt in flames, but he managed to drop his torpedoes on target before yoking the blazing aircraft away from the target and bailing out. He spent the next four hours floating in a life raft until rescued by the submarine USS *Finback*.

In looking back at our nation’s fighting presidents, a common thread emerges. Nearly all of the future chief executives who served our nation in war zones did so as citizen soldiers who volunteered to serve the United States in a time of great need. The same commitment to service later compelled them to dedicate their time and talents to the United States in lives of broader public service. To these fighting presidents — and those who will come after them — we must offer our heartfelt thanks.★

Douglas Ullman, Jr. is a historian and researcher who has contributed significantly to the American Battlefield Trust’s education and multimedia content for more than eight years. He lives in Northern Virginia with his wife and young son.

PROFILES *in* PRESERVATION RECOGNIZING INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT



JAY W. JOHNS

and the Lee-Jackson Educational Foundation



THE LEE-JACKSON Educational Foundation (LJEF) traces its origins to 1953 and was the brainchild of Jay Winston Johns, a successful Pennsylvania coal industrialist transplanted to Virginia who became a leading advocate for the preservation of the Old Dominion's many historic treasures. Johns believed there was real value in preserving and owning the places where key historic figures walked and lived.

In 1930, he purchased Ash Lawn, the Albermarle County home of President James Monroe, as his personal residence, and set about restoring the property, then enabling public access. In his 1974 will, Johns left the property to Monroe's alma mater, the College of William and Mary, which continues to

Stonewall Jackson's Headquarters Museum, Winchester, Va. William I. Spinrad, Jr.

own, safeguard and interpret the site.

Johns was also a founder of the Virginia Trust for Historic Preservation and was integral in the protection of the Lee-Fendall House Museum in Alexandria, Va. — a property that was home to 37 members of the extended Lee family during the late 18th and early 19th centuries — and Derwent — the Powhatan County home where Robert E. Lee reunited with his family following the surrender at Appomattox. Additionally, he served on the board of visitors of the Virginia Military Institute and was a trustee of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

"Although a Pittsburg native, [Johns] fell in love with the Civil War and the great men it produced," reflects LJEF president Sandy von Thelen. "Lee and Jackson were still great men for a young Johns born in 1888, a mere 23 years removed from the titanic struggle in our nation's history."

Living in the greater Charlottesville area, Johns became an admirer of Confederate generals Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson, both of whom have deep connections to that community. In founding the Lee-Jackson Educational Foundation, he sought to honor attributes of its namesakes' personalities — compassion, honor, bravery, sagacity, perseverance, generosity, civility, leadership to name a few — that still have value in contemporary society.

In 1985, the foundation began inviting high school students to participate in a competitively awarded scholarship program based on original research and essays. Participants must conduct original research and analysis, offering a fresh take and independent assessment — whether positive or negative — of some aspect of the career, character or legacy of Robert E. Lee and/or Stonewall Jackson.

Each year, 18 students from Virginia high schools with plans to attend a four-year university are recognized for their work and receive a \$1,000 or \$2,000. Two essayists are selected from each of eight geographic regions, as well as a separate category for private and homeschool students; the teacher who sponsors the most individual essays in each region may also be eligible to win an award for his or her school. Additionally, the student whose essay is judged the best overall receives an additional \$8,000.

"Even in the era of Twitter and Wikipedia, as long as the accepted route to scholarly excellence involves primary research and then analyzing and interpreting that data, this competition will be relevant."

From its origins, LJEF has been active — albeit quietly — in battlefield preservation, with Johns protecting Jackson's Winchester headquarters and portions of the Cross Keys and McDowell battlefields during his lifetime.

"Our foundation prefers to fly low under the radar," says von Thelen. "Jay Johns had no issues about spending his personal funds to preserve historic properties. What the LJEF is doing, we consider an ongoing legacy of that effort."★



THE ONLY PRESIDENT of the Confederacy had an exemplary record of military service — on behalf of the United States. Jefferson Davis was part of the West Point class of 1828, served under Colonel Zachary Taylor (himself a future president) in the Black Hawk War, and personally escorted the eponymous chief to prison at its conclusion. In 1835, he resigned his commission and married Sarah

Knox Taylor, having sidestepped her father, his commanding officer, who objected to her becoming a military spouse. Despite being elected to Congress in 1845, Davis raised a regiment during the Mexican-American War, then resigned his seat to command it, including at the Battle of Buena Vista, where he was wounded. He was next appointed to a vacant Senate seat, later becoming the chair of the Committee on Military Affairs and, ultimately, the Secretary of War.★

VETERANS *for* BATTLEFIELDS A BROTHERHOOD OF SERVICE

PRESERVATION GETS RINGING ENDORSEMENT

from Army's former top military historian



JOHN W. MONTCASTLE, a retired Army brigadier general, knows a thing or two about taking people onto battlefields.

"As an old soldier and former army chief of military history, I have had many opportunities to walk those fields and forests with soldiers, marines and cadets. The most common statement that one hears from these men and women is something like: 'Oh, now I see how it was!'" he muses. "The opportunity to consider the incredible demands of leadership — when lives are on the line — is something very special, very valuable."

When he leads civilian groups for Stephen Ambrose Historical Tours, based in New Orleans, Mountcastle almost invariably passes out Trust resources like maps or back issues of *Hallowed Ground*. In doing so and by explaining the importance of preservation, he has successfully recruited more than a few new members.★



Brig. Gen. Jack Mountcastle (Ret.), with a contingent from the University of Richmond ROTC's "Spider Battalion," stop at the 20th Maine Monument during a recent staff ride at Gettysburg National Military Park.

This new, recurring department in each issue of *Hallowed Ground* will showcase that brotherhood of service by highlighting Trust donors and family who are active duty or veteran members of the U.S. military. To nominate someone for inclusion — or to update your member record so we can recognize you for your service in other ways — email veterans@battlefields.org.

CUT HERE

CUT HERE

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CALLING ALL PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS!

Be a part of our tribute



HAVE YOU been awarded the Purple Heart after being wounded in our nation's armed services? Tracing its origins to the Revolutionary War — and George Washington's personal desire to recognize superlative valor — the Purple Heart is America's oldest military award still presented.

An upcoming initiative seeks to honor and recognize those Trust members who have sacrificed their physical well-being in the service of our country. If you would like to be included in this tribute, planned for next spring, we ask that you complete this short form and mail it to: **American Battlefield Trust, Attn: Veterans for Battlefields, 1156 15th Street, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC, 20011.** Alternately, you can email the same information to veterans@battlefields.org.★

NAME AND RANK _____

BRANCH OF SERVICE _____

DATES OF SERVICE _____

TEACHERS EXPLORE PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC SITES from Philadelphia's "Cradle of Liberty" to Gettysburg's "new birth of freedom"

THE EDUCATORS who descended on Valley Forge, Pa., in early July for the Trust's 18th annual Teacher Institute were treated to a dynamic combination of workshops, battlefield and museum tours, guest lectures and networking opportunities, all designed to provide tools to more creatively and engagingly teach about the pivotal conflicts of America's first century.

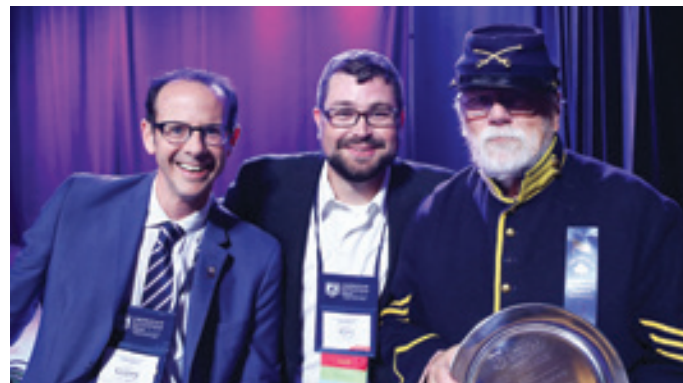
With more than 200 teachers registered from 24 states and the District of Columbia, this year's institute was the largest ever. The event's proven methods produce positive results in teachers who, over the course of their careers, will influence hundreds of thousands of young people. In addition to instructional enrichment for the upcoming school year, attendees earned continuing education units and certifications through Virginia Tech University.

Participants visited key sites of the American Revolution

and the Civil War, and came into close contact with artifacts, images and documents — the "real stuff" of history. Popular tours took teachers to Old City Philadelphia, where they visited the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall and other landmarks, and sites associated with the Civil War's Gettysburg Campaign. A keynote address by Penn State historian Dr. Carol Reardon examined the difference between history and popular memory of history, including how persistent myths influence teaching of the Civil War.

Other thought-provoking presentations included Museum of the American Revolution education manager Adrienne Whaley's workshop comparing the experience of African Americans in British versus American military service, and a presentation by David O. Stewart, author of *Madison's Gift: Five Partnerships That Built America*, on historical myth-making and the development of a national identity during the course of the Revolutionary War and War of 1812. Bruce A. Lesh, who has gained national recognition for his inquiry-based, primary source-centric method of teaching history to middle and high schoolers, delved into 100 years of research to determine whether students' knowledge of history is in decline. And Trust education manager Kristopher White explored how the American army evolved during its first century.

Each American Battlefield Trust Teacher Institute is offered free of charge, but educators or their districts must pay for travel expenses and lodging, although scholarships covering such fees are available for first-time attendees. Registration for the 2019 Teacher Institute, to be held in Raleigh, N.C., will begin in November. See www.battlefields.org/teacherinstitute for more information. ★



IN CONJUNCTION with its Teacher Institute, the American Battlefield Trust honored two outstanding educators with awards in recognition of their outstanding, career-long commitments to sharing a love of the past with the next generation of historians and preservationists. Tyler Madison of Walnut Middle School in Grand Island, Nebr., was named 2018 Teacher of the Year (RIGHT). As part of his district's new strategic plan, Madison is in the vanguard, integrating cutting-edge, student-led teaching techniques in his eighth grade social studies classroom. The Abroe Carter Award was presented to David Niekum, a veteran educator with the Avella Area School District in Pennsylvania (LEFT).



GENERATIONS EVENTS INSTILL CURIOSITY, PASSION IN YOUNG PEOPLE

*Summer event saw youth recreate
Confederate assault at Gaines' Mill*



S PART of the 156th anniversary commemoration, the Trust held one of its innovative Generations events on the Gaines' Mill Battlefield, allowing young people to re-create the "Greatest Charge of the Civil War."

Participants drilled in preparation for their climactic march across the battlefield where 40,000 Confederate soldiers made the single largest massed assault of the Civil War on June 27, 1862. The event was held in partnership with Richmond National Battlefield Park, and young people were able to earn Junior Ranger badges for completion. Other elements of the gathering included the unveiling of two new National Park Service interpretive signs on Trust-preserved land, including one featuring a painting

of the action specifically commissioned from historical artist Keith Rocco.

The Generations program is designed to help history lovers share their interest in America's past with a young person, whether that is a son, a granddaughter, a cousin or a family friend. "Curiosity and passion are essential for success in the classroom and in life," Trust President James Lighthizer said. "Who better to instill those critical attributes in a young person than the multigenerational role models already in his or her life?"

The next Generations event will be held on September 15, in conjunction with the annual Harvest Days event in Mechanicsville, Va. Future events will be posted at www.battlefields.org/generations. ★

WINNERS ANNOUNCED in Annual Student Contest



WE ARE PLEASED to announce the winners of the 2018 American Battlefield Trust postcard contest!

These talented students in grades 4–12 were encouraged to take a creative approach to this year's topic, *The Civil War on the Homefront*. Entries demonstrated critical thinking about how conflict impacts families, politics, the economy and more.

Information on the 2018–2019 academic year contest will be posted this fall at www.battlefields.org/postcard-contest.

Thank you to all of our entrants, and congratulations to these winners! ★

SENIOR DIVISION, 8TH – 12TH GRADE

First Place - Ryan Bauer, Fort Benton High School, Montana

Second Place - Julianna Beebee, Middletown Christian School, Ohio

Third Place - Jeanna Delaney, Mt. Juliet Middle School, Tennessee

JUNIOR DIVISION, 4TH – 7TH GRADE

First Place - Lillian K. Marr, Manzanita Elementary School, Arizona

Second Place - Vanessa Larkin, Cold Spring Elementary School, Pennsylvania

Third Place - Katarina C. Santiago, Franklin Elementary School, Tennessee



**SENIOR DIVISION
WINNERS**

FIRST PLACE



SECOND PLACE



THIRD PLACE

MEET OUR GREATEST STRENGTH *The Color Bearers*

As their historical counterparts were widely and appropriately acclaimed for their courage, American Battlefield Trust Color Bearers will be honored for the extraordinary commitment they bring to the mission of saving our nation's most hallowed ground.

CAREFULLY EXAMINE virtually any depiction of a historic American battle scene, and you will find them. In nearly every written account of combat, from small skirmishes to history-changing battles, their valor and sacrifices are prominently recounted and forever remembered. Soldiers fought — and often died — for the honor to be one: *The Color Bearer*.

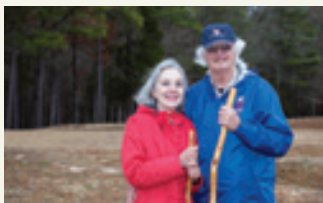
The American Battlefield Trust exists to identify and preserve, for all time, the significant battlefields of the American Revolution, the War of 1812 and the Civil War. We do this so that all Americans, whether of this generation or those yet to come, may learn of the sacrifices made to secure and uphold democracy and individual freedoms. To stem the tide of destruction burying these sacred fields beneath the relentless onslaught of urban sprawl, the American Battlefield Trust issues an urgent call for volunteers — individuals, corporations and

foundations — to join our most important league of supporters: *The Color Bearers*.

Color Bearers are the backbone of the American Battlefield Trust. Not only do they give generously for campaigns to save specific tracts of battlefield land, they also give an additional unrestricted membership dues gift of \$1,000 or more each and every year.

This unrestricted giving is absolutely essential to the success of the Trust, acting primarily as a “ready reserve” fund we can utilize whenever quick movement is needed to save a piece of hallowed ground. Understanding and enabling our flexibility with this level of above-and-beyond generosity are what sets our Color Bearers apart.

Year after year, our Color Bearers, who represent only about 3 percent of our total membership, make nearly 50 percent of all the gifts we receive. What does it mean to be a Color Bearer? It means you are an undisputed leader in this nation's battlefield preservation movement in America.



WHAT OUR COLOR BEARERS SAY:

“Being Color Bearers fills us with pride.... These endeavors provide opportunities for people to better understand the war at a time when our educational system generally reduces it to a few paragraphs.”

— Don and Pat Granstra



WHAT OUR COLOR BEARERS SAY:

“We know that every dollar that we contribute is being used to not only preserve but also to educate us and future generations on the importance of these historic sites.”

— Rich and Mary Antonucci

COLOR BEARER BENEFITS

Note that each successive level of support enjoys all benefits of the previous levels. Donations are fully tax deductible, if you don't take advantage of the Events benefits offered.

REGIMENTAL COLOR BEARER – \$1,000

- ◆ Receive an invitation to our exclusive annual springtime Color Bearer Thank You Weekend.
- ◆ Receive an invitation to exclusive historian-led battlefield tours, including a specially selected tour in conjunction with the Annual Conference.
- ◆ Receive an invitation to the limited-capacity “Author Dinner” with a noted historian during the Annual Conference.
- ◆ Receive special recognition in printed materials at the Annual Conference.
- ◆ Appear as part of the annual Roll Call of Honor in our quarterly magazine, *Hallowed Ground*, and in our Annual Report.

BRIGADE COLOR BEARER – \$2,500

- ◆ Receive an invitation to the Grand Review, an annual, intimate weekend of battlefield tours, history talks, meals and camaraderie, held at a unique Civil War– or Revolutionary War–related site.
- ◆ Receive appropriate recognition in the Grand Review commemorative event program.

DIVISION COLOR BEARER – \$5,000

- ◆ Enjoy free registration for the Annual Conference for yourself and one guest.

CORPS COLOR BEARER – \$10,000

- ◆ Enjoy free registration for the Annual Conference for yourself and three guests.
- ◆ Receive, upon request, personal genealogical research services to identify your Civil War and Revolutionary War ancestors.

NATIONAL COLOR BEARER – \$25,000

- ◆ Enjoy free registration for the Annual Conference for yourself and four guests.
- ◆ Experience, upon request, a personal tour for you and up to four guests at the Civil War or Revolutionary War battlefield of your choice. ★

ALL PHOTOS
BY BUDDY SECOR



ABOVE LEFT: Kernstown Battlefield, Winchester, Va.
HERE: Cedar Creek & Belle Grove National Historical Park
Middletown, Va. Both locations where future presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley fought with the 23rd Ohio.

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"Copiously filmed reenactments complement quickly-paced battle descriptions." —Civil War Times Illustrated

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A PARTING SHOT

HERITAGE SITES

PRINCETON BATTLEFIELD STATE PARK



HE JANUARY 3, 1777, Battle of Princeton was the culminating moment of the “Ten Crucial Days,” the remarkable period that began with the Christmas crossing of the Delaware River and ended with a reinvigorated Continental Army and a new momentum to the conflict.

Fighting ranged over a significant area, including the campus of the College of New Jersey, now Princeton University. A soon-to-be-expanded, thanks to the work of the American Battlefield Trust, state park incorporates many of the chief landmarks from the battle and its aftermath. Visitors can explore the Clarke House Museum, a 1772 building with exhibits and period furnishings that also served as a hospital

*Here Freedom stood
by slaughtered friend
and foe,*

*And, ere the wrath
paled or that sunset died,
Looked through the ages;
then, with eyes aglow,
Laid them to wait
that future, side by side.*

—Alfred Noyes, 1917

PHOTOGRAPH BY
KHURT
WILLIAMS

for General Hugh Mercer, who was wounded in fierce fighting nearby. Although the original Mercer Oak was felled in a storm in 2000, a scion of the tree has been planted at the location.

An Ionic colonnade synonymous with the battlefield in the eyes of many visitors was originally designed by Thomas U. Walter (architect of the U.S. Capitol) and previously functioned as a portico on the private home; when Mercer Manor burned in the 1950s, the architectural feature was saved and became a monument. The adjacent stone patio is designed to mark the grave of 21 British and 15 American soldiers killed in the battle, the first such memorial dedicated. It includes a poem was written for the site by visiting Princeton professor Alfred Noyes, late the poet laureate of England. ★

Princeton Battlefield State Park, 500 Mercer Road, Princeton N.J. 08540
Visit WWW.BATTLEFIELDS.ORG/HERITAGESITES to start your journey.



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how it affects your membership, please visit

www.battlefields.org/questions

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