

Monocacy National Battlefield Visitor Center
Exhibit Planning & Design - Design Development 2
Text Document

Text Level 3:

Text Level 3 is a refined draft, revised or re-written as necessary in response to review comments. This full draft of all exhibit text should be evaluated for writing style, content, tone, and interpretive accuracy. We encourage you to use “Track Changes” to edit this document directly as part of your review. Your comments and edits inform the Text Level 4 script – the final text that will appear in the complete exhibit.

Scene 01: Introduction

LA-01-01-100:

The Battle that Saved Washington

The Battle of Monocacy took place on July 9, 1864 on farm fields outside of Frederick, Maryland. Here, Confederate soldiers led by Jubal Early encountered a surprising Federal force led by Lew Wallace.

A day later, the victorious Confederates rode on to take Washington. But their delay at Monocacy allowed just enough time for Federal troops to arrive and defend Fort Stevens, where they stopped the Confederate advance.

The country’s capital was saved. [73 words]

LA-01-01-110:

Causes of War

Throughout the early 1800s, tensions mounted over the expansion of slavery in the United States. Our national ideal that “all men are created equal” did not apply to the millions of African Americans living in bondage.

Abraham Lincoln’s victory in the 1860 presidential election cemented the growing divide over slavery’s future. To protect their power and economic interests, eleven states seceded to form the Confederate States of America and preserve the institution of slavery.

This action set the stage for a bloody Civil War.¹ [84 words]

LA-01-01-112:

Confederate States included Virginia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and Arkansas. [17 words]

¹ ANTI intro text, per request of MONO 2/22 meeting

LA-01-01-115:

“Those were days though, when we fought with clenched teeth, and learned to smother our emotions. ... We were in the field to preserve the Union and to eliminate the National parasite of human slavery...” -Major Lemuel Abijah Abbott² [39 words]

LA-01-01-150:

States of the Union

Though Maryland tried to steer a neutral course, its economic and social divisions resulted in a raging debate over secession that continued throughout 1861.

Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri were “Border States” – Slave states that remained in the Union. Because Maryland surrounded Washington D.C. on three sides, President Abraham Lincoln took care not to alienate Maryland. [58 words]

LA-01-01-151:

When Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, slavery was abolished in those states in rebellion, but the border states were excluded.³ The document also called for the arming of African Americans for service in the army and navy. The provision was a declaration that formerly enslaved and free men of color would help see the end of slavery in America. [72 words]

LA-01-01-200:

A Crossroads Primed for War

Here at Monocacy Junction, the B&O Railroad met the main highway out of Washington, D.C. This was a transportation crossroad connecting the rest of the country to economic centers to the east.

For years, those living here experienced military occupation as war raged around them. Residents lived in a state of heightened anxiety, hopeful that conflict would come no closer.

They would not be so lucky. [66 words]

LA-01-01-201:

In 1862, Confederate soldiers occupied Frederick, and burned the bridge over the Monocacy. Throughout the war, both Federal and Confederate armies camped in the surrounding farm fields. [27 words]

QR code “learn more about this image”.

LA-01-01-210:

United States Colored Troops

² Current MONO exhibits, panel Untitled, on 10th Vermont.

³ Current exhibit text, at request of MONO 2/22 meeting

The Emancipation Proclamation took effect on January 1, 1863. Formerly enslaved and free Blacks could enroll in the army and navy. The United States Bureau of Colored Troops (USCT) was formally established on May 22, 1863. Before they were able to enlist as soldiers, many Black workers already served as laborers, cooks, or camp guards in the army.

To help organize this vast, new supply of manpower, recruiting stations were established throughout the northern and border states, including a recruiting station here at Monocacy Junction. Although they did not fight in the Battle of Monocacy, several men formerly enslaved on farms at Monocacy signed up for service here.⁴ By the end of the war, at least 540 men had been placed on muster rolls from Frederick County. These men joined some of the most renowned regiments to fight in the war, including the 54th and 55th Massachusetts Infantry. [164 words]

LA-01-01-211:

Free to Serve

The first Black troops to officially enlist as soldiers were raised from southern states in 1862 before the USCT was formally established. This was due in part to the Confiscation Act of 1861, which allowed the government to seize any property being used to support secession, including people enslaved in those states in rebellion. The Confiscation Act released tens of thousands of enslaved from bondage, but brought them – as property – under the care of the federal government. [77 words]

LA-01-01-215:

“Here was a race between the two great contending forces, the state of which was the capitol [sic] of the nation, its treasure and its prestige.” - Glenn Worthington, civilian witness to the Battle of Monocacy⁵ [36 words]

LA-01-01-250:

Emancipation in Maryland

The Confederate invasion of Maryland inadvertently brought about freedom for those enslaved in Maryland. As Confederates ransomed towns on their way to Washington, they accumulated wagonloads of supplies and money – and enemies.

At July’s Constitutional Convention in Annapolis, Maryland delegates expressed outrage and required that all voters and officeholders must swear they never aided the Confederacy and pledge future loyalty to the Union. This strengthened loyalty set the stage for the passage of a new Maryland constitution that emancipated enslaved people in November of 1864. [85 words]

⁴ SOURCE NEEDED – extrapolated from Dean Herrin’s research but not certain they enrolled at THIS recruiting station...

⁵ Current MONO exhibits

LA-01-01-255:

Into the 1860s, the farms and plantations at Monocacy used enslaved labor. Because the Emancipation Proclamation did not free those enslaved in border states like Maryland, slavery continued as depicted in this illustration of the slave village at Best Farm. [40 words]

LA-01-01-257:

"I had crossed the line. I was free; but there was no one to welcome me to the land of freedom. I was a stranger in a strange land." – Harriett Tubman [31 words]

Scene 02: The Battle

LA-02-01-050:

July 9, 1864 [3 words]

LA-02-01-200 & LA-02-01-205:

The Battle of Monocacy

The Battle of Monocacy took place in a single, bloody day on the farm fields just beyond the building you stand in today. Civilians watched from their homes as war raged outside their doorsteps.

By 4am on July 9th, Federal troops are in place guarding the bridges with a mere six cannons and a 24-pounder howitzer. They hold off the Confederate artillery for several hours of fierce fighting throughout the morning.

But the Confederates keep coming with attack after attack. The Federal troops are forced to fall back, outgunned and outnumbered, suffering heavy losses.

As the day ends, it is a clear defeat for Union General Lew Wallace's men on the battlefield. But the unexpected fight at Monocacy has delayed Confederate General Jubal Early in his march to Washington, DC.

Who can claim true victory? Press the start button to begin the presentation. [143 words]

Scene 03: Civilians of Monocacy

LA-03-00-100:

"The whole country has been devastated by the whirlwind of destruction that swept over it." -- The Frederick Examiner, 13 July, 1864 [22 words]

LA-03-01-100:

Sounding the Alarm

Late June, 1864. Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad President John Garrett received word that Confederate troops were sacking bridges and telegraph lines in the Shenandoah Valley. The army appeared to be marching north towards Harpers Ferry.

Receiving no response from Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, Garrett warned Major General Lew Wallace, the commander of the Union Army's Middle Department based out of Baltimore.

Wallace's response was swift. He ordered reinforcements to join the lightly guarded post at Monocacy.⁶ [78 words]

LA-03-01-105:

Garrett's first wire, June 29 1864: "I find ... statements of large forces in the Valley. Breckinridge and Ewell are reported moving up. I am satisfied the operations and designs of the enemy in the Valley demand the greatest vigilance and attention."⁷ [42 words]

LA-03-01-200:

The Railroad and the War

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was a key player in the Civil War. Its strategic use by the Union made it a prime target of the Confederate army.⁸ In the days leading up to the Battle of Monocacy, railroad agents like Frank Mantz, B&O agent at Monocacy Junction, reported trains carrying troops and supplies toward the anticipated battle lines. [60 words]

LA-03-01-210:

Reporting Movements

Mantz reported in the early hours of July 9 that trains were moving everything out of Frederick, and that "many citizens have evacuated the town tonight."

⁶ https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/john_w_garrett.htm

⁷ <https://emergingcivilwar.com/2018/11/06/railroads-the-bo-and-the-battle-of-monocacy/>

⁸ https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/john_w_garrett.htm

Mantz continued to send reports throughout the day, worrying that supplies would run out for the Federal troops. Meanwhile, his family sought refuge in the Worthington House cellar with neighbors. [56 words]

LA-03-01-220:

Go See It

Head to the overlook on the Gambrill Trail to see original pilings of the railroad bridge over the Monocacy. From the same vantage point you will also see the former location of the covered bridge that burned during the battle. [40 words]

LA-03-01-300:

A Flag to Unite Us

Did you know Maryland's flag reflects the state's history as a border state?

The flag's bold pattern is based on the coat of arms of the Calvert family, the colonial proprietors of Maryland. Before the Civil War, the most common flag was the state seal on a blue background. But during the war, Confederate Marylanders adopted the Crossland red and white bottony cross, while Unionist Marylanders retained the Calvert black and yellow stripes.

By the 1880s, the flag combined the colors claimed by both sides in a gesture intended to symbolize unity and reconciliation, and in 1904 the Maryland General Assembly adopted the design as the official state flag. ⁹ [109 words]

LA-03-01-301:

The Maryland State flag [4 words]

LA-03-01-305:

The Calvert family banner includes alternating vertical yellow and black stripes. [11 words]

LA-03-01-310:

The Crossland family banner includes a quartered red and white bottony cross. George Calvert adopted his mother Alicia Crossland's banner into his coat of arms. [25 words]

LA-03-01-400

Our heart grows sick over the statements we constantly hear in reference to the devastation of our beautiful country. With houses destroyed, fences torn down, crops ruined, stores robbed and private residences pillaged, a distressing spectacle of waste and desolations meets the eye at almost every step.

-*The Examiner*, Frederick MD July 13, 1864 [54 words]

⁹ <https://www.preservationmaryland.org/history-maryland-flag/>

LA-03-02-100

The People of Monocacy

The Battle of Monocacy ranged across the farm fields just outside this building for most of the day July 9, 1864. Families took shelter, some witnessing the horrors of war from boarded up windows in their cellars and basements. Those enslaved here had no choice in whether they stayed or left.

Civilian witnesses provide us with some of the most detailed accounts of the events that unfolded here. [68 words]

LA-03-02-110: Sidebar

Filing for Damages

This community felt the impacts of war long before the battle on July 9. Soldiers were stationed here or passed through on their way to battles at Sharpsburg, Antietam, and Gettysburg. Residents filed claims with the War Department to be compensated for property damage to crops and fields, broken fences, lost livestock, stolen property, and even rent or room and board for officers and stolen goods.¹⁰ [66 words]

LA-03-02-200

The Hermitage: Evacuated and Burned

The property know as the Hermitage was near the center of battle throughout the day on July 9, 1864, and had witnessed the effects of war for years. The Hermitage plantation was in view of both bridges over the Monocacy River. In 1862, the B&O railroad bridge had burned. During the Battle of Monocacy, Federal troops set the Georgetown Pike covered bridge on fire to delay the advance of the Confederate army down the road to Washington.

Confederate sharpshooters took up position in the barn to fire on Federal troops guarding the railroad bridge. Federal artillery returned fire and destroyed the barn.¹¹ [102 words]

LA-03-02-250:

These items were discovered under floorboards and behind walls Hermitage Farm, likely hidden away as remembrances of the Battle of Monocacy or other campaigns that brought soldiers to this area. The inscribed canteen spout likely belonged to Lieutenant Ambrose Hart, of the 128th New York Infantry, who camped with his regiment at Monocacy Junction in August 1864. [57 words]

LA-03-02-260:

¹⁰ MONO-provided research document “more research” on various events and interactions by Monocacy residents during the War.

¹¹ Best Farm Cultural Landscape Report, p. 23.

“[There] stood a large and splendid farm house, with ... numbers of large holes, pierced in them from the guns of the enemy. Large numbers of rifle barrels, broken rifles, knapsacks, and everything pertaining to a soldiers outfit, were strewn over the ground in every direction. Across the railroad ... the greater part of our men were buried. A rifle pit into which they had been thrown together, and covered by the rebels formed their common grave.”¹²

- Diary of Edgar A. Walters, July 31, 1864 [94 words]

LA-03-02-300:

The People of Hermitage Farm

The French-Caribbean Vincendière family purchased land along the Monocacy in 1798 ~~and~~ including the plantation property known as L’Hermitage. Victoire Vincendière enslaved as many as 90 people to work the plantation, and eventually sold the property to Ariana McElfresh Trail and her husband. The Trails never lived on the plantation, instead renting parcels out, including the large farmhouse rented by David Best and his son John. The Bests had a successful farming operation, growing a variety of crops, as well as producing wool, milk, and butter.⁴⁶ [86 words]

LA-03-02-310:

John and Margaret Best likely evacuated ahead of the Battle of Monocacy. [10 words]

LA-03-02-320:

From Enslaved to Enlisted

The Best family operated a successful farm on the Hermitage property. The 1860 census records David Best as enslaving six people between the ages of 4 and 20.¹³ The Bests are known to have enslaved a man named John Combash since his birth. Records of the enslaved are vague, but research suggests Mr. Combash may have been freed in 1863 to join the United States Colored Troops 2nd Regiment. He saw action in battle at Fort Meyers, Florida, but survived the war, and was discharged in 1865.¹⁴ [99 words]

LA-03-02-330:

Go See It

Best Farm is Stop #1 on the self-guided auto tour of the park. Parking is available and one hiking trail begins from this location: the easy 1.5-mile Best Farm Trail. See outdoor wayside exhibits at the Best Farm. [38 words]

LA-03-02-340:

Special Orders 191

LA-03-02-342:

¹² MONO-provided research document “Primary Research for exhibits.doc” p.1

¹³ Paula Stoner Reed. Cultural Resources Study. Monocacy National Battlefield, 1999, p. 64

¹⁴ MONO-provided “Records of the enslaved” p.1

A Confederate Plan

Following victories in Richmond and Manassas in the summer of 1862, Confederate General Robert E. Lee sensed an opportunity to further demoralize his enemy. He would invade Maryland and force a confrontation before the Federal Army had reorganized.

On September 9, Lee's army camped at Hermitage Farm. Here, Lee formed a plan to divide his army and move three branches of troops to capture Federal garrisons. General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson would move on the garrison at Martinsburg while Generals Lafayette McLaws and John G. Walker would surround troops at Harpers Ferry. Generals James Longstreet, D.H. Hill, and J.E.B. Stuart would bring up the rear and all detached forces would regroup in Hagerstown or Boonsboro.

Lee's Assistant Adjutant-General Robert H. Chilton penned this strategic plan, creating several copies of Special Order 191. The generals all received their orders, but one copy – written by Chilton and intended for General Hill – never made it to Hill's camp. [154 words]

LA-03-02-345:

Lost Order No. 191, Found

On September 13, General George B. McClellan's Federal troops moved into the Frederick area on the heels of Lee's army, but unaware of his intentions or exact location. Resting from the morning march, soldiers from Company F, 27th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, XII Corps discovered the Lost Orders in a wheat field on the Hermitage Farm.

McClellan acted immediately, isolating the fragmented Confederate army and forcing them into battles at South Mountain and Antietam. [73 words]

LA-03-03-100: The Gambrill Mill: A Safe Place for the Wounded

On the morning of the battle, Union forces were positioned in the yard of James Gambrill's operating flour mill. As fighting intensified, Gambrill took cover inside the mill.

The mill and its yard became a field hospital where wounded soldiers and officers were brought throughout the day. Of its use as a hospital, Major General Lew Wallace remarked that "the place appeared well selected for the purpose, its one inconvenience being that it was under fire."¹⁵ [76 words]

LA-03-03-200:

The Gambrill Family

¹⁵ https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/gambrill_mill.htm

The Gambrills were a large and prominent Monocacy family. At the time of the battle, James Gambrill's wife, Antoinette, was seven months pregnant. She was able to take shelter with her two young sons at the Thomas farmhouse.

Like other families of Monocacy, the Gambrills were impacted by war over a period of years. James Gambrill filed claims for commissary stores taken by General McClellan's army during the 1862 Sharpsburg Campaign, and again by General Truex in July 1864, but he was not fully compensated. [85 words]

LA-03-03-210:

Mr. Gambrill & General Ricketts

Three local men -- Samuel Thomas, Julius Anderson, and Hugh Gatchell -- were briefly impressed into service with the 11th Maryland. On release, they hurried to the home of James Gambrill. There, they found Mr. Gambrill speaking with General James B. Ricketts on the front porch.

A young officer rode up with a message for Gen. Ricketts, then left to return to the line of battle. Just moments later, the same officer was carried back, shot and badly wounded. With fighting clearly intensifying, Ricketts advised Gambrill and the three young men to take cover right away. They sheltered in the Mill for the rest of the battle.¹⁶ [106 words]

LA-03-03-240:

Go See It

Gambrill Mill is Stop #5 on the self-guided auto tour of the park. Parking is available and one hiking trail begins from this location: the easy 0.5-mile Gambrill Mill Trail. [30 words]

LA-03-04-100:

Worthington Farm: Witnesses to War

The Worthington Farm became a staging area for Confederate troops during the battle. General McCausland's cavalry crossed the Monocacy River at Worthington Ford, just 500 yards from the family home.¹⁷ From the second floor of his house, John Worthington could see Union soldiers lying in wait for Confederates who did not expect to encounter experienced troops. He later said that he "could not understand why the confederates went forward as if on parade."¹⁸

John Worthington later filed a claim for damages, which was supported by two formerly enslaved laborers -- John Ephraim Tyler Butler and Thomas Payne. [120 words]

¹⁶ Worthington. P.170-171.

¹⁷ NPS Interpreter's Guide to The Worthington House Monocacy National Battlefield, p.25

¹⁸ Spaulding, Brett W. Last Chance for Victory: Jubal Early's 1864 Maryland Invasion, p.98

LA-03-04-200:

The People of Worthington Farm

John Worthington bought this property in April of 1862. For several days in September of that year, Confederates occupied Frederick as part of the Maryland Campaign. Then, in 1864, the Battle of Monocacy was fought on his doorstep. After enduring the damage and trauma of the war, the family rebuilt and continued to live in the home. The property remained in the family until the 1950s.

Records from 1860 account for seven enslaved laborers, though it is unknown how many enslaved people Mr. Worthington retained or purchased by the time of the battle in 1864.²³ [95 words]

LA-03-04-220:

Go See It

Worthington Farm is Stop #2 on the self-guided auto tour of the park. Parking is available. Three hiking trails begin from this location: the easy 1.6-mile Ford Loop Trail, the difficult 1.9-mile Brooks Hill Loop Trail, and the xxx x-mile Highwater Trail. [42 words]

QR code to enhanced Virtual Tour of Worthington House.

LA-03-04-230:

“Poor creatures, it means death to them either way!”

John and Mary Worthington, with children John Jr. and Glenn, took shelter in their cellar. Francis, Barbara, Lillie, and William Mantz, the wife and children of B&O Railroad agent Frank Mantz sheltered with them, along with an unknown number of enslaved laborers.¹⁹

From the cellar, they watched Federal soldiers ambush the Confederates. The families heard officers cursing and threatening the panic-stricken Confederate troops. Young Glenn Washington, just six year old, later recalled hearing the moans and cries of the wounded and dying soldiers just outside the cellar window.²⁰ [104 words]

LA-03-05-100:

Araby Farm: In the Thick of It

By mid-morning, the fighting had moved to the fields around Araby Farm -- the Thomas family homestead. By the afternoon, the battle reached its climax here, with Confederate troops sweeping twice across the fields in their attempt to push back Union forces to open the road to Washington.²¹

¹⁹ Worthington, Glenn H. Fighting for Time. Burd Street Press, White Mane Publishing Co, Inc, 1985. P.103-4.

²⁰ Worthington, p. 120.

²¹ Current MONO exhibit copy

At least eight artillery shells hit the house, one exploding in the home's dining room. Although the house survived the battle, it sustained severe damage. A month later, a Union soldier passing through noted that he had "scarcely seen a house more scarred by battle."²² [97 words]

LA-03-05-105:

Just one month after the Battle of Monocacy, General Ulysses S. Grant commandeered Araby farm to host a meeting of his generals and plan the Shenandoah Valley Campaign. [28 words]

LA-03-05-200:

The People of Araby Farm

Christian Keefer (C.K.) Thomas was a Frederick County native who sold his interest in a Baltimore dry goods company and bought Araby farm in 1860 to avoid what he saw as impending hostilities between the north and south.²³

Little did he know that his property would become the site of a bloody battle. After the war, the family rebuilt and remained on the property. The 1870 census included both Black and white paid household and farm laborers, and by the 1880s the farm was worked by tenants. [93 words]

LA-03-05-220:

Portrait of Tom Jones

It is uncommon to have a seated portrait like this one of Tom Jones, who is believed to have been enslaved in the Thomas household. Both the 1840 and 1860 Baltimore census record that C.K. Thomas was an enslaver. Records refer to multiple laborers who may have been enslaved laborers rented from other enslavers -- a common practice among agricultural land owners at the time. [65 words]

LA-03-05-230:

Go See It

Araby (Thomas House) is Stop #4 on the self-guided auto tour of the park. Parking is available and two hiking trails begin from this location: the easy 1.75-mile Thomas Farm Loop Trail and the moderate 0.25-mile Middle Ford Ferry Loop Trail. See exhibits in the Thomas Farm Tenant House. [49 words]

LA-03-05-240:

This Civil War rifle butt was found embedded in a tree on the Thomas Farm. [15 words]

LA-03-05-300:

²² Thomas House Historic Structure Report, p.17.

²³ Thomas House Historic Structure Report, p.14

Complicated Allegiances

Living in a Border state meant complicated and sometime changing allegiances. The Thomas family had to adapt as both Federal and Confederate soldiers moved through the area. When General Grant used the family home as a planning headquarters, he asked young Virginia Thomas if her parents were loyal Unionists. She replied: "Mamma, she's a Rebel, but papa, he is a Rebel when the Rebels are here and a Yankk when the yankees are here." [74 words]

LA-03-05-310

A Time of War on the Thomas Farm [8 words]

LA-03-05-320:

Sharpshooter Duel

During the Battle of Monocacy, Confederate sharpshooters gained entry to the Thomas house and fired on Union Colonel William Truex's brigade from second-floor windows. A Union soldier described the sharpshooter duel:

Sergeant Pike ... one of our best sharpshooters ... was having all the fun he wanted firing at those rebs in the window, while I was watching them with my glass and giving him points. Soon I saw a head and gun coming in sight around one of the window casings, and directed Pike where to look, and almost at the same instant both fired, I felt a bullet go under my chin, and the reb pitched out of the window. The brave Color Sergeant, Billy Mahoney, was watching us, and in a moment he caught me by the coat-tail and pulled me on the ground, saying, "that will do, Colonel, the blooming rebs mean you," and a moment after the brave Sergeant Pike dropped upon us, shot dead.²⁴

- Colonel William W. Henry of the 10th Vermont Infantry [177 words]

LA-03-05-330:

Impressed into Service

Days before the battle, Julius Anderson, Samuel Thomas, and Hugh Gatchell were arrested off the veranda of the Araby farm by a party of Union soldiers. They arrived as prisoners at the Union camp, were given muskets, and were sent to fight on the west side of Frederick.

Because the men still wore civilian clothes, a young officer realized that the Confederates would believe them to be spies and would execute the men if captured. The officer released them on the morning of July 9, and they retreated to Gambrill Mill, where they sheltered during the battle.²⁵ [97 words]

LA-03-05-340:

Hunting Pals

²⁴ MONO-provided doc "Sharpshooter duel at Thomas Farm"

²⁵ https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/the_thomas_family.htm

Like many of his neighbors, C.K. Thomas developed comradery with some of the soldiers stationed at Camp Hooker for nine months near the end of 1862. He became especially close with Union Major Peter Vredenburg.²⁶

The two men hunted quail and enjoyed meals together, and Vredenburg even left his hunting dog Jack in Thomas's care. During the Battle of Monocacy, Vredenburg saw the intensity of the fighting on the Thomas property and sought out his friend, advising the family to take cover in the cellar.^{27 28} [86 words]

LA-03-05-400:

"Mamma, she's a Rebel, but papa, he is a Rebel when the Rebels are here and a Yankk when the yankees are here." - Virginia Thomas [26 words]

LA-03-05-500

Vredenburg Military Uniform

These garments belonged to Major Peter Vredenburg of the 14th New Jersey regiment. Vredenburg survived the Battle of the Monocacy, but was killed several months later, at the Battle of Opequon in Winchester, VA, on September 19, 1864. [38 words]

²⁶ https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/the_thomas_family.htm

²⁷ In discussion with Tracy Evans, 7/29/21.

²⁸ <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/nobody-gets-through>

Scene 04: Soldier Stories

LA-04-00-100:

“Every man tried to do his best against great odd.” – Lt M.J. Stearns, 106th New York Infantry [17 words]

LA-04-01-100

The Battle that Saved Washington

Although the Battle of Monocacy was a Confederate field victory, it was a strategic win for the US Army. Lew Wallace’s Federal troops, though vastly outnumbered, delayed Jubal Early’s march toward Washington, DC by one day.²⁹

General Robert E. Lee hoped that a battlefield victory at the gates of Washington would turn the tide of the 1864 Presidential election. If Abraham Lincoln was not re-elected, it would change the course of the Civil War.³⁰ The Confederate army reached Fort Stevens on July 11, 1864, but Federal reinforcements had already arrived. Unable to break the defensive line, the Confederates retreated into Virginia, leaving the Federal capital unscathed.³¹ [113 words]

LA-04-01-200

How Did We Get Here?

In May of 1864, two months before the battle, Lieutenant General Ulysses S Grant was engaged in a campaign south of Richmond, VA to defeat the Confederate army of General Robert E. Lee. To the west, ongoing fighting in the Shenandoah Valley threatened to cut off critical supplies from reaching the main forces of Lee’s army under siege near Richmond.³² [60 words]

LA-04-01-220:

A Levy on Frederick

When the Confederate army arrived in Frederick, General Jubal Early demanded supplies from his troops – thousands of pounds of flour, sugar, coffee, salt, and bacon, and a sum of \$200,000 dollars. The Mayor of Frederick complied—the money was loaned from local banks—and he penned this receipt for his payment of the levy. [54 words]

LA-04-01-230:

²⁹ <https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/the-battle-of-monocacy.htm>

³⁰ Current MONO exhibits, panel “Target Washington”

³¹ <https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/the-battle-of-monocacy.htm>

³² Spaulding. P.1.

"If victorious, we have everything to live for. If defeated, nothing will be left for us to live for." - General Robert E. Lee³³ [24 words]

LA-04-01-250

Moving Toward Monocacy

Mid June 1864: General Robert E. Lee decided to send more troops to the Shenandoah Valley, even though that left Richmond in a weakened position. Lee sent Lieutenant General Jubal Early to join forces with Major General John Breckinridge, instructing the force to move north, and remove the Federal threat to the supply chain. They would circle around to capture Washington in a surprise attack from the west.³⁴ [68 words]

Late June 1864: News of Confederate movement up the Shenandoah Valley quickly reached John Garrett, President of the B&O Railroad. Angered that his bridges and tracks were under attack, he notified the War Department. The response came from General Lew Wallace, who sent his own troops, along with reinforcements from Grant's Army of the Potomac. [55 words]

Early July 1864: The Federal troops met the Confederates just south of Frederick, in the farm fields here at Monocacy. The odds were staggering – the Confederate army stood nearly 15,000 strong, facing just 6,600 Federal troops.³⁵ [36 words]

LA-04-02-100:

The General's Strategy

Early's Advance

Generals Jubal Early and John Breckinridge had made terrific progress through the Shenandoah Valley. With most Federal forces stationed near Richmond, word was that the US capital was only lightly defended. Early believed that the only Federal force between his troops and Washington was nothing more than a small group of inexperienced 100-Days men.

It appeared he would pull off General Lee's strategic plan to take Washington by surprise.³⁶ [69 words]

LA-04-02-110

Wallace Heeds the Call

Although Lew Wallace never received intelligence that alerted him to a specific plan to attack the US capital, he recognized that Washington was threatened if the Confederate army advanced down the Georgetown Pike. He knew the small force stationed near

³³ Current MONO exhibits

³⁴ Spaulding, p.5

³⁵ <https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/the-battle-of-monocacy.htm>

³⁶ Current MONO exhibits, panel "The Generals' View"

Frederick would be outnumbered and overwhelmed by the experienced Confederate army.

He called for seasoned troops from Petersburg to head towards Harpers Ferry, and to shore up defenses near Washington. His best hope was to delay the Confederates long enough for reinforcements to arrive.³⁷ [84 words]

LA-04-02-210:

General Lew Wallace's uniform with frock coat, vest, and epaulets. [10 words]

LA-04-02-215:

Civil War trunk, belonging to General Lew Wallace [8 words]

LA-04-02-220:

Carte-de-visite of Union Major General Lew Wallace. Label on bottom reads "Maj. Gen. Lew Wallace, Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1862, by E. Anthony in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the U.S. for the So. District of New York [46 words]

LA-04-02-300:

The Battle Unfolds [3 words]

LA-04-02-310

Brigadier General John C. Breckinridge

Brigadier General John C. Breckinridge was leading troops up the Shenandoah Valley in 1864 when he received orders to join forces with Jubal Early. Under Early, Breckinridge led his troops and those recruited from Lee's Army of Northern Virginia up the Valley into West Virginia and then Maryland.^{38 39} [48 words]

LA-04-02-320

General Stephen D. Ramseur

Confederate General Stephen Ramseur advanced along Georgetown Pike towards Monocacy Junction where he encountered a small Federal force consisting of 100-Days men, and troops from the 10th Vermont. The Federals held their ground to the north of the Georgetown Pike covered bridge, blocking the route to Washington.⁴⁰ [47 words]

LA-04-02-330

Brigadier General John McCausland, Jr.

³⁷ Current MONO exhibits, panel "The Generals' View"

³⁸ <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/biographies/john-c-breckinridge>

³⁹ <https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/general-breckinridge.htm>

⁴⁰ <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/95dbdf7388214a14bde9a1fc180d8a4d>

1,200 Cavalrymen under Confederate General McCausland made their way south of the covered bridge looking for another river crossing. McCausland's troops forded the Monocacy at Worthington Farm, and fought 1,000 of US General James Rickett's experienced troops. The Confederates were pushed back.⁴¹ [42 words]

LA-04-02-340

Major General John B. Gordon

By early afternoon, the Confederates had pressed the Federals back to Araby Farm. Here, McCausland's troops skirmished with Rickett's VI Corps again. Confederate General John B. Gordon crossed the Monocacy River behind them, and launched another attack on Rickett's men, which drove them off the field.⁴² [46 words]

LA-04-02-350:

Brigadier General Erastus B. Tyler

Brigadier General Erastus Tyler set out from Baltimore on July 3, commanding troops from the 8th Illinois Cavalry. Joining with 100-Days men, they proceeded west towards Harpers Ferry, and skirmished with Confederate troops raiding supply depots. They confirmed the Confederates were indeed headed through the mountain pass toward Frederick.⁴³ [49 words]

LA-04-02-360

Brigadier General James B. Ricketts

Brigadier General James B. Ricketts led experienced soldiers of the Army of the Potomac. They were sorely needed at Monocacy, and endured some of the heaviest fighting of the day. Though outnumbered, they fought hard against Confederate troops led by Generals Gordon and McCausland. Most of the 1,300 Federal casualties that day were from Ricketts's division.^{44 45} [56 words]

LA-04-02-400:

At least one Federal regiment was held up in Monrovia when the trains stopped moving. Gen. Wallace asked repeatedly what had happened to these men, but they never made it to Monocacy to join the fight. [36 words]

LA-04-02-410:

Did You Know...? [3 words]

LA-04-02-420

A lawyer, a Kentucky senator, and Vice President under James Buchanan, John C. Breckinridge started his military career during the Mexican-American War. Breckinridge

⁴¹ <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/95dbdf7388214a14bde9a1fc180d8a4d>

⁴² <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/95dbdf7388214a14bde9a1fc180d8a4d>

⁴³ <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/nobody-gets-through>

⁴⁴ https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/james_ricketts.htm

⁴⁵ <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/biographies/james-b-ricketts>

left the Senate when Kentucky stayed in the Union, and joined the Confederate army.
[37 words]

LA-04-02-430:

General John B. Gordon was an experienced commander, wounded four times at the deadly Battle of Antietam in 1862. But at the end of the war, he called the Battle of Monocacy the hardest battle he ever fought.⁴⁶ [38 words]

LA-04-02-440

It was the Confederate raids at Harpers Ferry that caught the attention of the US Army's high command. On July 6, orders came to send men from the Army of the Potomac to Harpers Ferry, but the 3,000 veteran soldiers never made it that far. Wallace stopped them at Monocacy Junction, just in time to engage the advancing Confederate army.^{47 48}
[60 words]

LA-04-03-100

The Soldier's Experience

Many of the Federal soldiers who fought at Monocacy were inexperienced troops who had never seen battle. Others were the seasoned soldiers of Brigadier General James Ricketts's VI Corps and the Army of the Potomac. These young veterans arrived fresh off rail transports before dawn the morning of July 9.

For the Confederates, it had been a long march over hundreds of miles up the Shenandoah Valley. The Confederate force was 15,000 strong and battle-hardened, but weary from marching so many miles in the heat of a Virginia summer. [89 words]

LA-04-03-200

Regiments

Many of the men who fought at the Battle of Monocacy were so-called "100-Days men" -- they enlisted for just 100 days, were lightly trained, and were typically used to guard railroads, bridges, and forts.⁴⁹ Most never saw more than a minor skirmish defending supplies.^{50 51}

Other soldiers were stationed at Monocacy for longer periods, primarily to defend the bridges which came under attack several times throughout the long years of Civil War.
[73 words]

⁴⁶ Per comment from Tracy Sept 2021. Do not have reference for this information.

⁴⁷ <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/nobody-gets-through>

⁴⁸ Current MONO exhibits, panel "Wallace Defends Monocacy"

⁴⁹ Current MONO exhibits, panel "100 Days Men"

⁵⁰ Spaulding. P.29

⁵¹ Extrapolated from current MONO exhibits, display of recreational items from Camp Hooker. Needs research and follow-up from park.

LA-04-03-210**10th Vermont**

The 10th Vermont Infantry Regiment was stationed north of the river, protecting the Junction's multiple bridges across the Monocacy. This was an experienced regiment, and during the Battle of Monocacy, they fought under Gen. Ricketts's command, repelling multiple Confederate attacks. The over-confident Confederates had been told "these are only 100-days men and they can't stand up against our troops." Instead, the experienced 10th Vermont had the advantage of surprising the Confederates with their staunch defense.⁵² [75 words]

LA-04-03-300**The Monocacy Regiment**

The 14th New Jersey Regiment had a long history at Monocacy. In the winter of 1862, they established an encampment at the Junction. Known as "Camp Hooker," it housed up to 1,000 soldiers, and included officers' quarters, soldiers' tents, cookhouses, guard houses, commissary, stable, and even a hospital.

Soldiers from the 14th New Jersey built earthworks and the two blockhouses that protected the Junction. They reinforced the bridges in 1863 when they were strategic targets during the Gettysburg Campaign.

This regiment was called back as reinforcements for the Battle of Monocacy. By 1864, they were seasoned troops, and saw some of the heaviest fighting of the battle.

Due to their long history at the Junction, they became known as "the Monocacy Regiment."⁵³ [122 words]

LA-04-03-310**For Love of a Nurse**

Chauncey Harris, a soldier with the 14th New Jersey had been stationed at Camp Hooker for nine months, but he only met local Monocacy resident Clementine America Baker after being wounded at the Battle of Monocacy. She nursed him to health and the two eventually married. [46 words]

LA-04-04-100:**From Terror to Tedium** [4 words]**LA-04-04-150:**

The Battle of Monocacy began and ended quickly, but before and after such battles, soldiers passed their time in camp writing letters, playing games like dice, checkers, and

⁵² Spaulding. P. 103-109

⁵³ https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/14th_nj.htm

dominoes. They drank, smoked, and – if they had the materials – engaged in hobbies like whittling wood and playing music. One soldier described the life in a letter to his wife: "Soldiering is 99% boredom and 1% sheer terror."⁵⁴ [66 words]

LA-04-04-200:

Soldiers' Diaries and Letters [4 words]

LA-04-04-205:

"On July 9th, 1864 (my 21st birthday) I was detailed for picket duty ... as we came up to stand in the corn the Corporal stretched up his full height to take in the situation and was shot through the head falling backwards onto myself." - Private Daniel B. Freeman, 10th Vermont⁵⁵ [52 words]

LA-04-04-210:

"The rebs had three or four lines of battle and we had only one in the afternoon we had some hard fighting, neither side had any entrenchments and we were in plain sight of each other and all we had to do was to stand and shoot at them as fast as we could." - Private Henry P Burnham, 10th Vermont⁵⁶ [60 words]

LA-04-04-215:

"I was acting as a gunner ... We were hotly engaged only for about 30 minutes, the Yanks in our front giving away very soon ... A cannon ball came very near taking my head off today ... If I had been standing up it would have struck me full in the face." -Private Henry Robinson Berkley⁵⁷ [58 words]

LA-04-03-420:

"I pass a comrade sitting by the roadside. Blood is trickling from a wound just below his heart... I say 'Goodbye,' to him; there is no regret or fear in his tone as he replies. A brace country boy he had lived and death has no terrors for him. He could not have smiled more sweetly had he been lying down to pleasant dreams. Hours afterward I carry a canteen full of water to another comrade lying on a pile of grain in the storehouse by the railroad, and he too had no complains or repinings. He only said, 'I have my deathwound,' and with the dew of youth yet fresh upon him, with all the prospects of a long life ended, he closed his eyes in dreamless sleep." - Soldier (unknown)⁵⁸ [132 words]

⁵⁴ <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/civil-war-facts#What%20did%20soldiers%20eat?> Tracy: Do we know who or what regiment? Caryn: Unfortunately, no. This came from Battlefields.org, and there is no name, regiment, or source listed. It is such a great quotation, but if you'd prefer we don't use it because we don't have more information, just let me know.

⁵⁵ Current MONO exhibits, panel "Battle of Monocacy in Their Own Words"

⁵⁶ Current MONO exhibits, panel "Battle of Monocacy in Their Own Words"

⁵⁷ Current MONO exhibits, panel "Artillery at Monocacy"

⁵⁸ Current MONO exhibits, panel "Fallen Voices"

LA-04-03-425:

“Ben Weishamfel and I rode over the battlefield the other day. It bears traces of the desperate conflict, in the hundreds of muskets, knapsacks, cannon balls and shells which lay around and the fences riddled with balls. The fight raged furiously around the fine farmhouse and barn of Mr. C.K. Thomas. Several large holes through the wall attest to this. This family sought refuge in the cellar during the battle.” William Daviess Hutchings Papers, Indiana Historical Society ⁵⁹ [77 words]

LA-04-04-240:

Dear Aunt

I received the box you sent to me all safe and everything was in perfect order and when I opened it my heart did Leap for Joy to think that I was not forgotten by all of my relatives. I was completely overjoyed to receive such A memento in such A place as this. I have got on the shirts and drawers and the gaund and I can say let the storm come down, and be comfortable with my new clothes the eatables came very acceptable indeed for the food we get here is not very palatable I assure you, So I dressed myself up and took my tea on Dryed beef and boiled eggs, short cake and butter and sweet cake and a nice cup of tea and I assure You that no King in his palace was more happy than I, and it brought back to my memory the happy time of by gone days when war alarms were not felt nor feared. I found in the pocket of the gaund A plug of tobacco marked A which I supposed came from Alanson which came very exceptable and tell him that I am very much oblige to him for it
So Now Dear Aunt I must bring this to a close hoping to hear from you soon again and tell Matz to write often for A Letter hear is a great treat I assure you. Give my Love to all inquiring friend and except a Large share for yourself,
I remain you Thankful Nephew, Sergt Jervis H. Bennett
P.S. write soon [265 words]

LA-04-04-250:

"Camp near Middletown, VA./Oct. 18, 1864 ..." ⁶⁰

LA-04-05-100:

Medals of Honor

Two Medals of Honor, the highest award in the US Military, were awarded for actions at the Battle of Monocacy – both to men from the 10th Vermont.

⁵⁹ MONO-provided doc “research for new exhibits” p.8 - 7/28/64 Frederick, MD Herman Koehler addressed the letter to his mother, Aurora H. Koehler, New Frankfort, Indiana – our interpretive files – Union letters.

⁶⁰ Need transcription of this letter from the park.

Lt George Davis received the Medal of Honor for his defense of the bridges over the Monocacy⁶¹. Private Alexander Scott received the Medal of Honor for saving the national flag of the regiment while under very heavy fire from the enemy⁶².⁶³ [85 words]

LA-04-05-110:

Heroes of the 10th Vermont

Lt Gen George Davis

First Lieutenant George Davis⁶⁴ was among the 300 soldiers (75 of them from the 10th Vermont Volunteers⁶⁵) who encountered Confederate troops on the Georgetown Pike around 8:30am on the morning of July 9. Davis was given sudden command of the troops, and proceeded to extend a defensive line to protect the two bridges over the Monocacy. The men held this position all day, preventing the Confederate advance from these points across the river.

The 9th New York Volunteers were ordered to burn the Covered Wooden Bridge and became trapped, eventually made a dangerous retreat over the bridge.⁶⁶ [165 words]

LA-04-05-115:

Corporal Alexander Scott

During the Battle of Monocacy, Corporal Alexander Scott fought with his regiment on Araby Farm. During the Federal retreat, the regiment's color sergeant fell out due to exhaustion. Under heavy enemy fire, Scott took the National colors and the state flag, and carried them off the field to safety. [49 words]

LA-04-05-120:

Lt. George Davis's effects include a flattened minie bullet from the Battle of Monocacy, his 1st Lieutenant epaulettes, his 6th corps badge pin, and an artillery shell fragment. [28 words]

LA-04-06-100

Every "color bearer" on the battlefield carried the flag of his specific regiment. This honorable job was also incredibly dangerous – color bearers were clear targets for the enemy. When a regiment was overrun, the attacking troops captured the flag, often by wounding or killing the color guard.

⁶¹ Additional detail on Davis's medal of honor receipt from MONO-provided doc "research for new exhibits" p.3

⁶² Correction to Scott's medal of honor receipt from MONO-provided doc "research for new exhibits" p.2

⁶³ Current MONO exhibits, panel "10th Vermont Medal of Honor Recipients"

⁶⁴ Tracy asked to double check his rank because it changed after this battle ---

<https://www.nps.gov/mono/learn/historyculture/lieutenant-george-davis.htm> *Davis enlisted as a private, was made 1st Lt in 1863. Served with the 10th VT through the Shendandoah Campaign and was promoted to captain. So, during The Battle of Monocacy, he was a 1st Lt – that's how I read this. If there is additional information, please let me know!*

⁶⁵ Worthington, p.113

⁶⁶ Spaulding. P.82-91.

The schoolyard game “Capture the Flag” is a light-hearted take on this battlefield practice.⁶⁷ [61 words]

LA-04-06-150

Regimental flag of Company F, 17th Virginia Cavalry. [8 words]

The 17th Virginia chased members of the 8th Illinois south from Monocacy. The Illinois regiment evaded the pursuit, and circled back to shoot the Confederate color guard. Lt. Col. Clendenin, commander of the 8th Illinois, presented the captured Confederate company flag to Major General Lew Wallace.⁶⁸ [46 words]

LA-04-06-151 image caption:

Describes the reverse side of the flag.

LA-04-06-300

Is the Confederate Flag a Symbol of Hate?

Today, the most recognizable regimental flag is the battle flag of Northern Virginia – what is commonly regarded as “the Confederate flag.” In truth, there was no single or official flag of the Confederacy.

Not until the 1940s did the battle flag of Northern Virginia take on associations outside of Civil War veterans' events. Southern segregationists imbued the flag with a deeper cultural and political meaning when they adopted it as a symbol of resistance to the federal government. Racist groups like the Ku Klux Klan also adopted the flag as a symbol in the 1940s and 50s.⁶⁹

For many Americans, the flag is a divisive and painful reminder of this country's foundation in slavery and the desire of some to glorify or celebrate that period of history. [128 words]

⁶⁷ Current MONO exhibits, panels “Honor and Defense: Battle Flags” and “The Final Charge”

⁶⁸ NPS Interpreters Guide & Current exhibit copy.

⁶⁹ <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/8-things-didnt-know-confederate-flag>

Scene 05: Collision!

LA-05-01-100:

Emergency!

The General Hospital in Frederick tended to many soldiers wounded in battle, but before they were transported there, injuries were treated in the field. Many houses, schools, churches, and even orchards around the Monocacy Battlefield were converted to field hospitals. Both the Worthington and Thomas houses served as field hospitals, as did the Gambrill Mill and the smaller, neighboring homes of the McKinney and Yaste families.⁷⁰

In the aftermath of this and other Civil War battles, civilians worked alongside soldiers and surgeons to shelter and help the wounded.⁷¹ [92 words]

LA-05-01-200:

Firsthand Accounts

Soldiers often kept diaries or wrote letters home, leaving a record that today helps us understand both the horrors and the kindnesses that soldiers experienced in the aftermath of battle.

Lift the panels to read soldiers' firsthand accounts. [40 words]

LA-05-01-205:

"When wounded I lay where I fell, in care of Sam Lindsey, one of my company, who had me removed the next morning to Frederick City and placed in a comfortable , improvised hospital filled with wounded and apparently, all the good women of the town busily engaged administering to the sufferers." -- Lt. Charles Thompson Stuart, Co. H, 26th GA [61 words]

LA-05-01-310:

Enemies Turned Friends [3 words]

LA-05-01-320:

John Worsham of the 21st Virginia recalled that, after the battle, he and some fellow Confederate soldiers temporarily camped in an orchard with wounded Federal soldiers. The conflict over for the night, Worsham and others provided the Federals with food and water. They then bathed in the Gambrill Mill pond "which refreshed us very much." ⁷² [55 words]

LA-05-01-330:

⁷⁰ Fighting for Time, p.162

⁷¹ Current MONO exhibits, panel "Aid to the Wounded"

⁷² MONO-provided document "research for new exhibits" p.1

One Month After Battle [4 words]

LA-05-01-340

Tuesday Aug 9th. At Monocacy - came up yesterday with a squad of stragglers (20) and handed them over to Col Fisher. Have been wandering over the battlefield this morning. The stench is still horrible. It is enough to sicken one to stand over the rifle pits in which our dead are buried - or even to approach near them. ... Dark spots on the sand show where many a poor fellow's life-blood has watered the soil. Not ten steps from where I write this a shell exploded killing three poor fellows and wounding many more.⁷³ – Diary of Pastor Charles Henry Kain [110 words]

LA-05-01-345:

Wounded and Captured [3 words]

LA-05-01-355:

"I was afterward wounded and captured at Frederick city, Md., July 9, 1864. My hip was broken, elbow broken, and I was shot in the back besides. I was taken to Frederick city, where I remained about eight months. The surgeons of the Federal Army performed a difficult operation on my arm, taking out about 3 inches of the bone in my elbow. But astonishing as it seems, I have always had good use of my arm. I shall always recollect the care and kindness shown to me by the doctors and soldiers of the Union army, I was confined to my bunk for 60 days, and during all that time no friends or relatives could have shown me more kindness than those who had the care of me." -Nate Draughn, Gordon's Division⁷⁴ [133 words]

LA-05-01-360:

Thomas Cox Bible

Private Thomas Cox of the 21st Virginia was wounded on Araby farm. The bullet struck him in the chest, but glanced off the spine of the pocket bible he carried. The bible saved him from being instantly killed, and he was treated in Frederick hospital then transferred to Baltimore. During his time in the hospital, he and another Confederate soldier made notations in the margins of the bible. Although Cox survived the battlefield, he died from his wounds five weeks later.^[1] [84 words]

LA-05-01-365:

"the ball struck this book entered my left brest (sic) and came out of right –It saved instant death & and will be the means of of (sic) saving my soul. Thomas Cox. Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord" ^[2] [42 words]

⁷³ Diary of Charles Henry Kain, August 9th Entry

⁷⁴ Current MONO exhibits, panel "Aid to the Wounded": Tracy asked to find regiment for Nate Draughn. This quote was pulled from an exhibit panel in the current exhibit, and did not cite the source beyond the information shown above. If the park has more information or research, please provide.

LA-05-02-200

The Sick and Wounded

Did you know that more soldiers died of disease than battle wounds during the Civil War? Turn the cubes to discover what might afflict a soldier, how he might be treated for his ailment, and whether or not he was likely to survive. [47 words]

LA-05-02-205

Shot through the leg:

Bullet wounds were common, and could easily become infected. [13 words]

LA-05-02-210

Typhoid Fever:

More soldiers died from disease than from battle wounds in the Civil War – Typhoid was easily spread in camps. [21 words]

LA-05-02-215

Minie ball to the jaw:

Facial wounds were as common in battle as any other bullet wound. [17 words]

LA-05-02-220

Smallpox:

This common disease was highly infectious and had extreme impacts on emancipated Blacks. [14 words]

LA-05-02-225

Amputation:

Amputation was often used to prevent an infection from spreading. [11 words]

LA-05-02-230

Opiates, Turpentine, or Whiskey?:

There was no effective treatment for typhoid fever, though surgeons tried to treat symptoms with a variety of common medicines. [24 words]

LA-05-02-235

Unanesthetized Surgery:

While chloroform could be used for amputations, jaw and other facial surgeries often had to be performed without anesthesia. [21 words]

LA-05-02-240

Quarantine:

Quarantine tents were an effective control in military camps, but freed Blacks often were not given access. [18 words]

LA-05-02-245

Patient Lives:

Despite gruesome portrayals in movies, most amputations were performed with chloroform or ether for anesthesia, and successfully saved lives.⁷⁵ [21 words]

LA-05-02-250

Patient Dies:

With a mortality rate over 30%, if a soldier got sick with typhoid fever, he was unlikely to recover. [21 words]

LA-05-02-255

Patient May Live:

If surgery could be performed and infection avoided, the patient was likely to live, but may be terribly disfigured. [22 words]

LA-05-02-260

Patient May Die:

Many urban populations were inoculated, but in military camps, the best defense was to prevent the spread through quarantine. This could save other lives, but the patient with smallpox was likely to die. [36 words]

LA-05-03-150:

Civil War Ammunitions

Imagine the damage each of these ammunitions could do to a human body, or a standing structure. Minie bullets were created in 1849, and came into common use during the American Civil War. Made of soft lead, they expanded as they moved down the rifle barrel – which made their firing more accurate. They also flattened when they hit a target, shattering bone rather than just breaking it, inflicting the kind of damage that often led to amputations.⁷⁶ [77 words]

⁷⁵ <https://www.civilwarmed.org/unanesthetized-surgery/>

⁷⁶ <https://www.historynet.com/minie-ball/#:~:text=The%20Mini%C3%A9%20ball%2C%20or%20Minie,developer%2C%20Claude%2D%C3%89tienne%20Mini%C3%A9.>

Scene 06: Aftermath and Outcomes

LA-06-01-100:

The Aftermath of War

The Battle of Monocacy is often referred to as the “Battle that saved Washington” because it foiled General Lee’s plan to surprise the Federal Capital with an attack from the west when most of the US Army was engaged elsewhere. One of Lee’s goals was to disrupt the presidential election of 1864 and sue for peace under another administration.

Instead, the attack on the capital city was unsuccessful, and Lincoln went on to win another election. Nine months later, on April 9, 1865, Confederate forces surrendered at Appomattox Courthouse. [93 words]

LA-06-01-125

“The day after emancipation thus found black men and women in the same ambiguous positions as on the day before: between slavery and freedom, struggling to define a new free status for themselves.” – Ira Berlin, “Freedom” [36 words]

LA-06-01-200

Maryland Delays Emancipation

The Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863 freed all people enslaved in the 10 states fighting for secession from the Union. The law did not apply to the five “border states” that stayed in the Union, because Congress did not give the President authority to seize property in states that were loyal to the Union.

As one of those border states, Maryland continued to uphold slavery for nearly two more years. On November 1, 1864, Maryland finally abolished slavery by vote – a narrow margin of 30,174 in favor of abolition and 29,799 against.⁷⁷ [96 words]

LA-06-01-300

Loopholes in the Law

No longer enslaved, but without means or rights, Black Marylanders maintained a very precarious “freedom.” Maryland’s Orphans Court interpreted the new law to allow children to be apprenticed without pay until their eighteenth birthday. Many enslavers evicted newly freed Blacks from their one-time homes, or refused to pay wages for work. [55 words]

LA-06-01-400

⁷⁷ https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/md-politics/the-not-quite-free-state-maryland-dragged-its-feet-on-emancipation-during-civil-war/2013/09/13/a34d35de-fec7-11e2-bd97-676ec24f1f3f_story.html

A Period of Reconstruction

In the decade that followed the end of the Civil War, Americans needed to re-unify the nation. The period from 1865 to 1877, known as Reconstruction, aimed to do that through a series of constitutional amendments.

The 13th Amendment (1865) abolished slavery and involuntary servitude. The 14th Amendment (1868) granted citizenship to anyone born or naturalized in the United States. The 15th Amendment (1870) granted the right to vote regardless of race. Southern states had to ratify the new amendments to rejoin the Union, and while they did so, they also looked for ways to limit equality between Black and white Americans.⁷⁸[106 words]

LA-06-01-405:

This Thomas Nast cartoon shows President Andrew Johnson as Shakespeare's deceitful Iago who betrayed Othello, and depicts the period of Reconstruction as harmful and unjust to African Americans. [28 words]

LA-06-01-500

The Rise of Jim Crow

Many states enacted 'Jim Crow' laws that created systems of inequality and segregation and severely restricted the rights of Black Americans.

Films and newspapers swayed public opinion by depicting Black Americans as criminals and dangerous citizens. A clause in the 13th Amendment, which had abolished slavery "except as a punishment for crime," opened the door for courts to imprison Blacks for even minor offenses, creating a new form of legalized slavery.⁷⁹

The Ku Klux Klan, a white supremacist group founded in Tennessee in 1865, used terror and violence as a way to recreate pre-War social structures between Blacks and whites.^{80 81} [106 words]

LA-06-01-505:

The 1915 silent film, *Birth of a Nation*, played a role in cementing racist ideas in the American psyche. The film promotes white supremacy and portrays the Klan as necessary and heroic force that preserves American values and protects vulnerable white women. [42 words]

⁷⁸ <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/jim-crow-era>

⁷⁹ <https://sites.sandiego.edu/blackhistoryatusd/2020/05/29/13th-a-documentary-in-discussion/>

⁸⁰ <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/africanamericanheritage/reconstruction.htm>

⁸¹ <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/jim-crow-era>

LA-06-01-510:

Signs like this one at a bus station in Rome, Georgia became part of the country's new landscape. Despite being free by law, Black Americans faced explicit discrimination in the century following the Civil War. [35 words]

LA-06-02-100

Picking up the Pieces

In the aftermath of the Battle of Monocacy, the community struggled to recover from the violence and trauma of war. Dead soldiers remained in the farm fields, unclaimed by family, and eventually buried in mass graves. Damaged fences, burned buildings, and bridges needed repair.

Just one month later, in August of 1864, Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant used the Thomas home to hold a council of war and plan the Shenandoah Valley campaign.

Although the war raged on into the spring of 1865, the Battle of Monocacy was the last major military action in Maryland.⁸² By November of 1864, President Lincoln had won re-election to the presidency and Maryland had abolished slavery. [117 words]

LA-06-02-125:

"We are sometimes asked, in the name of patriotism, to forget the merits of this fearful struggle, and to remember with equal admiration those who struck at the nation's life and those who struck to save it, -- those who fought for slavery and those who fought for liberty and justice." - Frederick Douglass, Decoration Day, 1871 [57 words]

LA-06-02-200:

How long does it take to rebuild bridges

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit

⁸³[~70 words]

LA-06-02-205:

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. [~20 words]

⁸² <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/maryland.htm>

⁸³ Placeholder text. September exhibit comments included suggestion to have text on aftermath than talked about how long it took to rebuild bridges, and that MONO would provide information. At this time, no information is available.

LA-06-02-210:

Damages and Reparations

In 1864, Congress passed an act to provide repayment for property damaged by or supplies provided to the Federal army during the time they were “engaged in the suppression of the rebellion.” Claims could only be made by “loyal citizens, in States not in rebellion.” For the civilians at Monocacy, there were plenty of claims to be made, and each was investigated to determine “the question of loyalty to the Union,” the claimant’s citizenship, and the legitimacy of the items destroyed or supplied to the army. Recently freed enslaved citizens had no path for claiming damages. Most claimants were white land owners, and many received only about one-third of the damage they claimed in compensation.⁸⁴ [118 words]

LA-06-02-210:

C.K. Thomas was awarded a partial claim for damages to his farm house. [13 words]

LA-06-02-300:

Memorials of War

After the Battle of Monocacy, fallen soldiers who were not claimed by family were buried in the fields where they had fallen. In 1866, the remains of Federal soldiers were removed and reinterred at Antietam National Cemetery in Sharpsburg, MD. Confederate remains were moved to Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Frederick, MD.⁸⁵

As decades passed, veterans and other groups erected monuments to memorialize the events and people of the Civil War. At Monocacy, the battlefield itself became a memorial, and a total of five monuments were erected and still stand within the borders of the park. [109 words]

LA-06-02-302:

On July 9, 1907, survivors of the 14th New Jersey Regiment reunited on the grounds of the battle to dedicate the first monument placed on the battlefield.[27 words]

LA-06-02-350:

GO SEE IT

The Pennsylvania and Vermont monuments are located on Araby Church Road near the Thomas Farm. [18 words]

LA-06-02-355:

GO SEE IT

The New Jersey monument is located on Route 355 at Monocacy Junction. [15 words]

LA-06-02-360:

⁸⁴ MONO research provided by Tracy – “Reparations – Itemized.pdf”

⁸⁵ Current MONO exhibits, panel “Antietam National Cemetery” and “Mt. Olivet Cemetery”

GO SEE IT

The Daughters of the Confederacy and the Maryland monuments are located on Route 355 just west of the Visitor Center. [23 words]

LA-06-02-365:**GO SEE IT**

Mt Olivet Cemetery, located in downtown Frederick, is the final internment site for more than 400 unknown confederate soldiers who fell during the Battle of Monocacy. [29 words]

LA-06-02-370:**GO SEE IT**

Antietam National Cemetery, located in Sharpsburg, Maryland, is the final internment site for more than 4,000 unknown federal soldiers killed during the Battles of Antietam, South Mountain, Monocacy, and other actions in Maryland. [36 words]

LA-06-03-050:

What Do You Think? [4 words]

LA-06-03-100**Outcomes and Relevance -**

The Civil War ended more than 150 years ago, but the rifts in society that caused the war are still being felt today. Eras, events, and institutions like Reconstruction, Jim Crow, Segregation, the Civil Rights Movement, the prison industrial complex, and continuing movements for social and racial justice today all represent a societal tug-of-war that continues to impact the way Americans live their lives.

Were you taught Black history in school? Consider how you, your friends, and your family have experienced events and movements connected to Black history and the Black experience in America. Are there actions you are taking (or not taking) that could impact others around you? [113 words]

LA-06-03-200 (0 - template)**What Do You Think?**

Here is space for up to 30 words of provocative text, to create your own audience-centered prompt or question that centers on the visitor and is not a yes/no question?

Write your response and leave it in the box. Your answer may be featured on the board for others to read and consider. [57 words]

LA-06-03-200 (1)

What Do You Think?

Monocacy Battlefield commemorates a Civil War battle, and is home to five Civil War memorials erected by veterans groups from both sides. When and where do you think memorials to the Civil War are appropriate commemorations?

Write your response and leave it in the box. Your answer may be featured on the board for others to read and consider. [63 words]

LA-06-03-200 (2)**What Do You Think?**

Do you consider yourself free? What does freedom look like in your life?

Write your response and leave it in the box. Your answer may be featured on the board for others to read and consider. [40 words]

LA-06-03-200 (3)**What Do You Think?**

Have you ever needed to learn about history because it affected you personally? Tell us your story.

Write your response and leave it in the box. Your answer may be featured on the board for others to read and consider. [44 words]

LA-06-03-250:**We Want to Hear From You!**

Drop your response in the box below. You may include your name or remain anonymous. The park will select response to display for other visitors read – take a look at the boards to see what other visitors had to say. [46 words]

LA-06-03-300**Illegal Bondage**

General Lew Wallace claimed that following emancipation in Maryland, he learned of Maggie Toogood, a young woman who continued to be held in bondage in neck chains, in opposition to Maryland's new law freeing the enslaved. Wallace instructed his men to find and free her; they did so, and brought Wallace the chains that had bound her neck.

Wallace's account is unverified, and scholars continue to research the story of Maggie Toogood. The chains, however, are known to have hung in Wallace's office in Crawfordsville, Indiana.⁸⁶ [86 words]

LA-06-03-350

⁸⁶ Tracy Evans' email 3/22/22

Pick up and handle this reproduction of Maggie Toogood's chain. Can you imagine being bound by your neck to a wall or post with this? [25 words]