



Capt. George Late Tyler gravestone detail, Mount Olivet Cemetery, Frederick, Maryland.

Graven in Stone and Buried under the Shield: A Guide to Gravestones of Maryland's Civil War Veterans

by
Ralph E. Eshelman and A. Douglas Rawlinson

“War, at the best, is terrible, and this war of ours, in its magnitude and duration, is one of the most terrible . . . It has destroyed property, and ruined homes . . . It has carried mourning to almost every home, until it can almost be said that the heavens are hung in black.”

President Abraham Lincoln speech during his re-election campaign at a United States Sanitary Commission Fair at Logan Square, Philadelphia, June 16, 1864.



Many Civil War soldiers are buried at Annapolis National Cemetery who died in local hospitals after being wounded at battles such as Monocacy, South Mountain, Antietam and Gettysburg.

Preface

The focus of this work is a guide to gravestones of American Civil War veterans buried in Maryland. All of the contemporary gravestones were hand engraved with chisels and hammers (the more modern metal markers are cast and later stone markers mechanically engraved). Most of the early military gravestones issued by the US Government include the rank, name (usually spelled out in an arch), and unit, all in relief letters within a sunken US shield-shape. Thus the name for this guide “Graven in Stone and Buried under the Shield”.

This inventory contains 11,861 American Civil War veterans buried in 1,106 cemeteries in Maryland. Of these, 20 are buried in cemeteries (Appendix 1) where the precise location is unknown and another 1,687 Maryland veterans for whom we have no cemetery location (Appendix 3). Of these later veterans 1,296 died in Maryland and the remaining 291 died in other states. It is unclear how many who died in Maryland were buried in Maryland and how many who died in other states were transported back to Maryland for burial. What we can say is that this inventory includes burial information for over 10,000 Civil War veterans known to be buried in Maryland.

Of the known Civil War veterans buried in Maryland the following numbers are provided in order of highest number for Baltimore City and each county:

Baltimore City 3,596	Talbot County 183
Frederick County 1,001	Montgomery County 136
Washington County 811	Howard County 125
Allegany County 780	Prince George's County 125
Baltimore County 664	Kent County 95
Cecil County 594	St. Mary's County 87
Carroll County 496	Wicomico County 86
Harford County 299	Queen Anne's County 70
Garrett County 243	Worcester County 59
Anne Arundel County 216	Somerset County 46
Dorchester County 213	Charles County 38
Caroline County 193	Calvert County 18

In addition we found 1,844 veterans who served in Maryland units during the Civil War who are buried outside of Maryland. The following numbers are given in order of highest number for each state:

Pennsylvania 734	Washington 17
West Virginia 233	Florida 12
Ohio 149	Minnesota 12
Virginia 134	Connecticut 11
Delaware 93	South Carolina 11
District of Columbia 93	Wisconsin 11
Illinois 90	Georgia 10
Kansas 80	Tennessee 10
Missouri 56	Arkansas 9
Iowa 55	Kentucky 8
Indiana 54	Oregon 8
Nebraska 48	Maine 7
New York 46	Mississippi 7
California 36	New Hampshire 7
New Jersey 36	Alabama 5
Colorado 28	Utah 5
Michigan 25	North Dakota 4
Texas 21	South Dakota 4
Oklahoma 19	Wyoming 4
Massachusetts 18	Arizona 3
North Carolina 17	Louisiana 3

New Mexico 3
Rhode Island 3
Idaho 2

Montana 2
Nevada 2

In addition we found 1 veteran, and probably another 11, who served in Maryland units but are buried outside of the United States. They include 1 in Australia and probably 1 in Austria, 3 in Canada, 1 in Denmark, 5 in England, and 1 in Ireland (see Appendix 4). All total, there are 11,861 veterans listed in this inventory who served in Maryland units, buried in Maryland, or within the United States, and even a few buried outside of the United States.

It is interesting to speculate that outside of Pennsylvania, Delaware and the District of Columbia, the Midwest seems to have a significant number of veterans who served in Maryland units and ended up being buried outside of Maryland. Some of these men may have come from the Midwest originally, some may have obtained land bounties in the Midwest, and many probably went west seeking to make new lives after the destruction of the Civil War. There is an interesting story here waiting for further research.

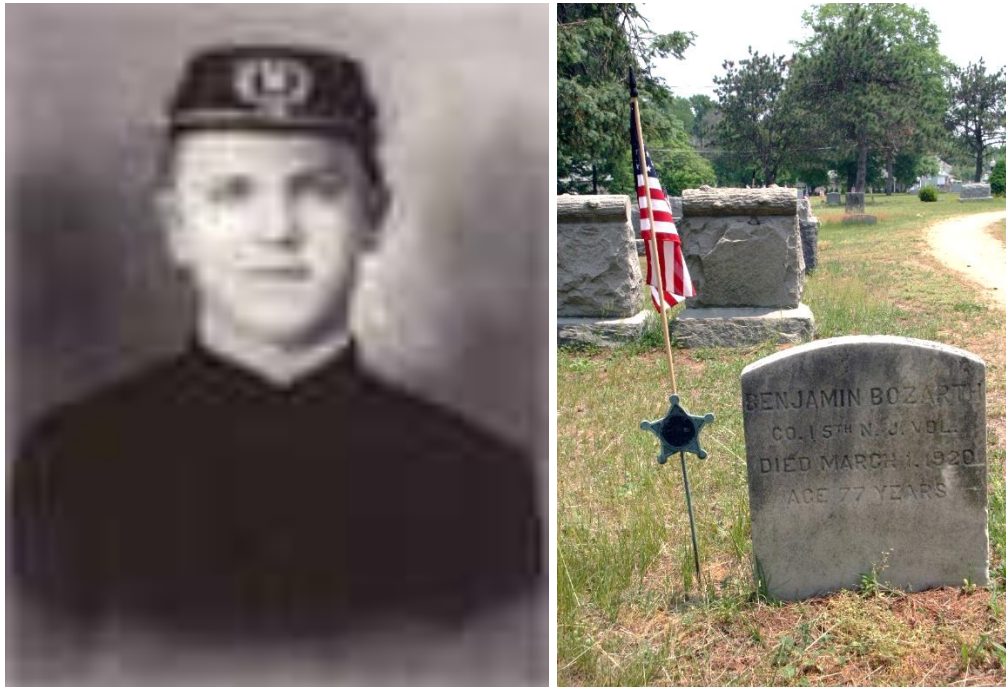
Ancestral Connections

Ralph Eshelman and Doug Rawlinson both have direct ancestors who fought in the American Civil War. It is therefore not surprising that both have an interest in this subject. Initially Eshelman and Rawlinson worked independently on compiling the data found in this guide. One day while visiting the office at Green Mount Cemetery in Baltimore, Eshelman was informed that another gentlemen named Rawlinson was doing similar work. In fact, there was a binder in the cemetery office with the results of some of his research. Upon reviewing it, Eshelman knew Rawlinson was someone he needed to meet. After a few phone calls, exchanges of examples of our independent work and even a few cemetery visits together, a synergism developed that resulted first in Rawlinson contributing his inventory work on Maryland War of 1812 veterans as an appendix to a book Eshelman researched and published entitled *The War of 182 in the Chesapeake: A Reference Guide to Historic Sites in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia*.¹ When visiting cemeteries looking for War of 1812 veterans Eshelman noticed many interesting epitaphs from other wars - many from the Civil War. He decided it would be prudent to record not only the War of 1812 veterans but other veteran's graves as well. Rawlinson noted that many of the epitaphs on many Civil War gravestones were eroding and becoming difficult if not impossible to decipher. He began recording these epitaphs and gravemarkers to preserve their history for others before they were lost. This guide is a partial result of their over ten-year effort. Eshelman and Rawlinson plan to provide future guides on other war veterans buried in Maryland including American Revolutionary War and Spanish-American War.

¹ Ralph E. Eshelman, Scott S. Sheads and Donald R. Hickey, The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, 2010, Appendix B Gravesites Connected to the War of 1812

Below are snippets about the two Civil War veterans related to Eshelman and Rawlinson who influenced the research that resulted in this guide.

BENJAMIN GARFIELD BOZARTH
PRIVATE, COMPANY I, 5TH REGIMENT NEW JERSEY VOLUNTEER INFANTRY



Pvt. Benjamin R. Bozarth portrait in uniform and photograph of his gravestone marked with Grand Army of the Republic marker, Saint Andrews Cemetery, Mt. Holly, New Jersey. Portrait – Ancestry.com. (unfortunately no higher resolution of the portrait has been found).

There are 71 Eshelman's who fought for the Union side and another 5 for the Confederacy, plus 72 Bozarth's (maternal side of the family) on the Union side and 19 for the Confederacy. However, the only member of direct family descent that Eshelman is aware of that fought in the Civil War is Benjamin Garfield Bozarth (1846-1920), his great-great-grandfather.² Benjamin served as a private in the 5th New Jersey Infantry Regiment. This unit spent time in Maryland during the Civil War. The Assistant Adjutant General on April 25, 1878, wrote in response to Benjamin's request for a pension, "Engaged in all the battles with the Regiment." Below is a brief summary of the 5th New Jersey Regiment during the Civil War:

The 5th New Jersey served in the defense of Washington D.C. from September 1861 until March, 1862. During this time units participated in an expedition to Southern Maryland including Calvert County (the same county where Eshelman now lives), Charles and St. Mary's

² Benjamin's two brothers, Eshelman's great-great-uncles, also served in the Civil war, Corp. Joseph Bozarth (115th & 110th Pennsylvania infantry -1844-1907 - interred at Odd Fellows Cemetery, Pemberton, New Jersey), and Pvt. William Henry Bozarth (1st New Jersey Cavalry and 3rd New Jersey Infantry - 1837-1919 - interred at Baptist Cemetery, Pemberton, New Jersey).

Counties then known as “Lower Maryland” from November 3 to 11, 1861. The 5th Regiment was stationed at Budd's Ferry on the Maryland side of the Potomac River in Charles County until April, 1862. The 5th seized the Cockpit Point gun battery on the Virginia shore on March 10, 1862. The regiment participated in the Siege of Yorktown April 10-May 5, the Battle of Williamsburg May 5, the Battle of Fair Oaks (Seven Pines) May 31-June 1 and saw action at Oak Grove in June 25. The 5th was part of Maj. Gen. John Pope's Campaign in Northern Virginia, August 26-September 2, where it saw action at Bristoe Station on August 27. The regiment was present at the Battles of Groveton August 29, Bull Run August 30, Chantilly September 1, and Fredericksburg December 12-15, 1862. It was also present at the Battle of Chancellorsville May 1-5, and the Battle of Gettysburg July 1-3, 1863. The 5th participated in the pursuit of Robert E. Lee's army to Manassas Gap July 5-24. It saw action at the Bristoe Campaign October 9-22, McLean's Ford October 15, Kelly's Ford November 7, the Mine Run Campaign November 26-December 2, and Payne's Farm November 27. The regiment was present at the battles of the Wilderness May 5-7, Spotsylvania May 8-12, Spotsylvania Court House May 12-21, and part of the assault on the Salient at "Bloody Angle," May 12, 1864. It participated in action at Cold Harbor June 1-12 and the Siege of Petersburg June 16 to November 6, 1864 including the several battles to cut the Weldon Railroad. The 5th was consolidated with 7th New Jersey Infantry on November 6, 1864. During its service the 5th Regiment lost 12 officers and 126 enlisted men killed or mortally wounded and 85 enlisted men lost by disease for a total of 223 deaths. It is very likely Eshelman's great-great-grandfather was present at most, if not all, of these actions.

The only known letter that survives from Benjamin is a request for a pension. He wrote “That while in the service . . . about the last of August 1864 in a charge on the Weldon R.R. VA I received a gunshot wound in the left ankle - which makes me quite lame.” Here along the Weldon Railroad the Union Army sought to cut the Confederate rail line that supplied Petersburg. The First Battle of Weldon Railroad took place on June 21-24, 1864, however, the railroad was not actually cut until August 18-21, 1864. In this later engagement approximately 34,300 troops participated, resulting in 5,879 casualties of which 4,279 were Union and 1,600 Confederate. Benjamin Garfield Bozarth was among those casualties. This Union victory resulted in the Confederates having to off-load rail cars 30-miles to the west and haul everything by wagon on a “plank road” to Petersburg.

Family tradition claims Private Bozarth was separated from his unit because of his wound and absent from muster thus being reported AWOL. It took numerous letters and years of bureaucratic hassling to finally clear his military record. Furthermore, family tradition claims one of the supporting letters came from a “Colonel Ellsworth.” Ellsworth thus became a revered family name. Eshelman's maternal grandfather, Robert Ellsworth Bozarth (1903-1995), Ralph Ellsworth Eshelman, and his son Erich Ellsworth Eshelman, continue the name.

Ironically Eshelman lives in Southern Maryland, an area where his great-great-grandfather served during part of the Civil War. He carries a middle name that may have been inspired by a

Civil War “colonel”.³ He owns a Springfield percussion cap conversion rifle stamped “NJ” and “MOUNT” which may have been issued from Mount Holly, New Jersey, near where Benjamin was born and raised and where Eshelman was born and raised as a child.

THOMAS J. OLIVER
PRIVATE, COMPANY I, 1ST REGIMENT EASTERN SHORE MARYLAND INFANTRY



Pvt. Thomas J. Oliver in 1926, one year before his death at Solomons, Maryland, and military and family gravestone, Solomons Methodist Episcopal Church. Oliver’s grave is also marked by a GAR marker not shown in the photograph.

The 1st Maryland Regiment Eastern Shore Infantry was organized at Cambridge, Maryland, September, 1861 and was attached to Major General John Dix's Division, Army of the Potomac until November, 1861. The regiment then served with the Eastern Shore Maryland and Virginia, Middle Department until July, 1862, then with the District Eastern Shore, 8th Army Corps, Middle Department until January, 1863, then with the 1st Separate Brigade, 8th Army Corps until June, 1863, then with Lockwood's Brigade, 8th Army Corps until July, 1863, then with the 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, 12th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac until July, 1863, then with the 2nd Brigade, Maryland Heights, Division West Virginia, until October, 1863, then with the 3rd Separate Brigade, 8th Army Corps until June, 1864, then with the 1st Separate Brigade, 8th Army Corps until September, 1864 and then with the Reserve Division, Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, until February, 1865. This regiment served duty at Baltimore, Maryland, until November, 1861, then served with an expedition force to Accomack and Northampton Counties, Virginia, until November 14-23, 1861, then served duty again at Baltimore and on the Eastern Shore, until June,

³ No “Colonel Ellsworth” is known to have served in the USA during the Civil War, whether this individual held some other rank or if the family tradition is only folklore is unknown.

1863. Oliver's regiment was present at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, June 25-July 2 and was part of the Battle of Gettysburg July 2-3 and part of the pursuit of Lee's army July 5-24. The 1st Maryland Regiment served duty at Maryland Heights, West Virginia, July 17 to October 5, 1863 and then was ordered to the Eastern Shore of Maryland, until February 1865. During this service the regiment lost 9 enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 52 enlisted men by disease. It is very likely Rawlinson's great-great-grandfather was present at most, if not all, of these actions.

Rawlinson's great-great-grandfather Thomas J. Oliver lived and worked as a ship's carpenter at Solomons Island, Calvert County, until the 1920's. Rawlinson, a history major in college, has lived his entire life in Maryland and during this time his interest in history has never waned.

Eshelman and Rawlinson hope this research will prove useful to others who have Civil War family connections.



Pvt. Daniel S. Wampler gravestone, buried alone at Whetzell-Fike Cemetery, Garrett County.

Introduction

This guide was originally intended to include Civil War graves, monuments, memorials and historical sites located within Maryland. During the over ten year compilation of this work, other guides have been published that include many of these monuments and memorials. Therefore the focus of this guide is Maryland Civil War grave sites and grave markers.

While there are several guides to Maryland Civil War historic sites, there is no known comprehensive inventory of Maryland Civil War grave sites. There are a few books specific to

individual cemeteries such as two on Antietam National Cemetery, one by the Board of Trustees of the Antietam National Cemetery, *History of Antietam National Cemetery, Including A Descriptive List of all the Loyal Soldiers Buried Therein*; and a second by Steven Stotlemeyer, *Bivouacs of the Dead*. Anna Miller Watring wrote a book entitled *Civil War Burials in Baltimore's Loudon Park Cemetery* where 2,300 Union soldiers and about 650 Confederate soldiers (Confederate Hill) are buried. Charles Lawrence Bishop wrote a book called *Frederick's Other City: Mount Olivet Cemetery* that contains much information on the Civil War veterans buried there. But there are many more Maryland cemeteries that are less well known for their Civil War burials with no published guides. The Washington Confederate Cemetery in Hagerstown contains over 2,000 veteran graves from the Battle of South Mountain and Antietam. At the Annapolis National Cemetery are 211 unknown gravestones, most found in the front rows of sections H-M, forming an "Avenue of the Unknowns." This guide, the most comprehensive inventory compiled for Maryland, is intended to fill this void.

There are 6,270,639 soldier records in the National Park Service database for American Civil War veterans. Of this total, there are 53,557 soldier records for Maryland Union veterans and 6,089 for Maryland Confederate veterans. Combined, there is a total of 59,646 Maryland soldier records. This number does not include sailors.¹ There were approximately 624,511 battle deaths during the American Civil War.² This figure, which varies depending on source, does not include wounded, missing or captured. To put this number of battle deaths into perspective, more soldiers were killed during the American Civil War than any other war in American history except World War II.³ During the American Civil War approximately 13 percent of the participants died, most from disease. This is the highest percentage of death rate for any American War.⁴

Civil War Era Burial Customs

During the American Revolutionary War Joseph Plumb Martin wrote of his visit to the battlefield at White Plains, New York. Though not a Civil War incident, it exemplifies the difficulty of mass burials in times before mechanical excavators.

...took a ramble on the ground where we were then engaged with the British and took a survey of the place. We saw a number of the graves of those who fell in the battle. Some of the bodies had been so lightly buried that the dogs or hogs, or both, had dug them out of the ground. The skulls and other bones and hair were scattered about the place. Here were Hessian skulls as thick as a bombshell.



Antietam National Cemetery, US Soldier Monument.

The largest Civil War battle to take place in Maryland was at Antietam on September 17, 1862. Approximately 3,650 men were killed during that battle and thousands more died of wounds and disease following the battle. It is estimated the total casualties including dead, wounded and missing was 22,720 individuals.⁵ Burial details swarmed the battlefield. Most of the dead were quickly buried in shallow graves singly or more often in long shallow trenches accommodating a hundred or more dead. Their graves were usually temporarily marked by crude wooden boards

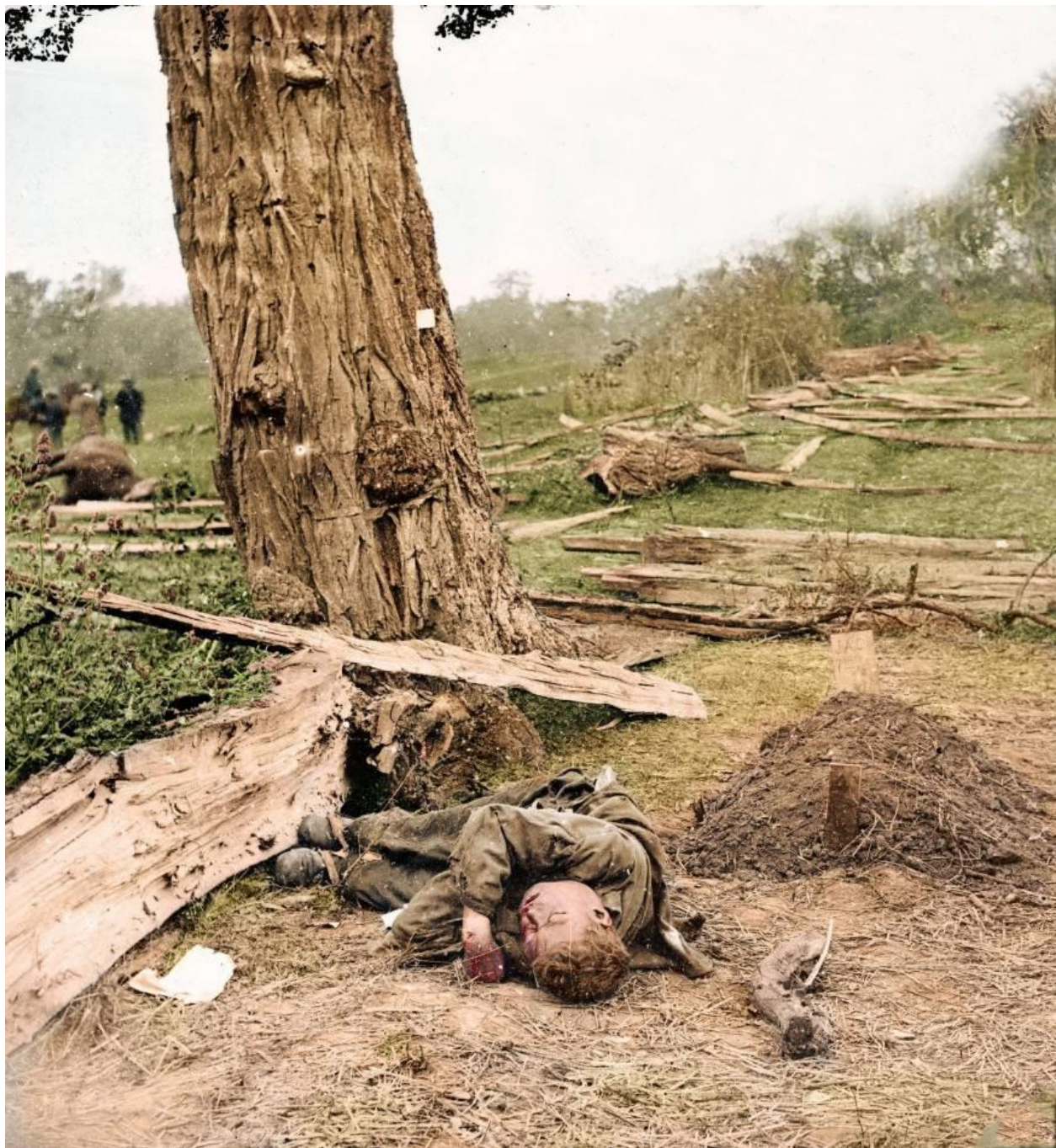
with the name and unit scribbled on them when known. Others were not marked at all. Burial records were sometimes sparse and in some cases not recorded at all.



View of the dead in a ditch at the Battle of Antietam prior to the arrival of a burial detail. Library of Congress.



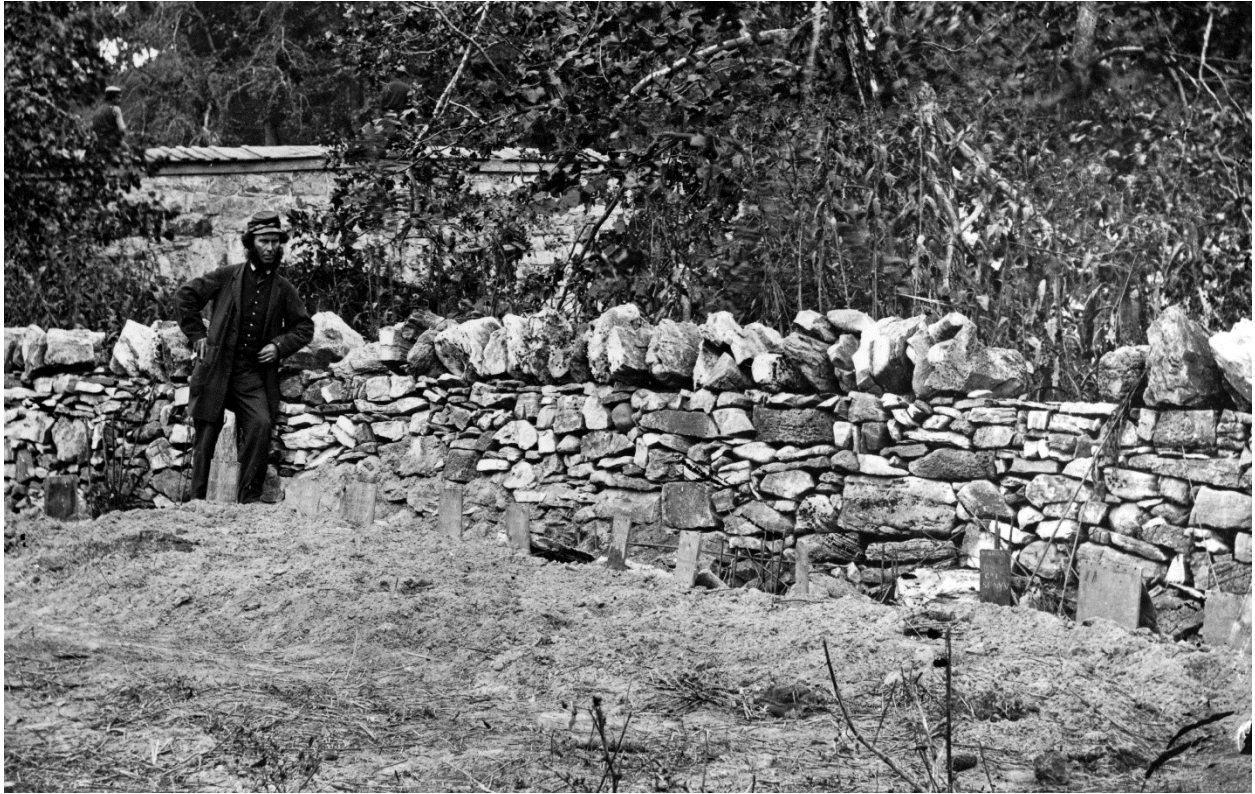
Dead gathered together for burial at Antietam. Library of Congress.



A Union soldier's shallow grave is marked by crude wooden head and foot boards and an unburied fallen Confederate soldier lies next to him at Antietam. Colorized b/w image, Library of Congress.



Burial detail preparing to bury the dead on the battlefield of Antietam. Library of Congress.

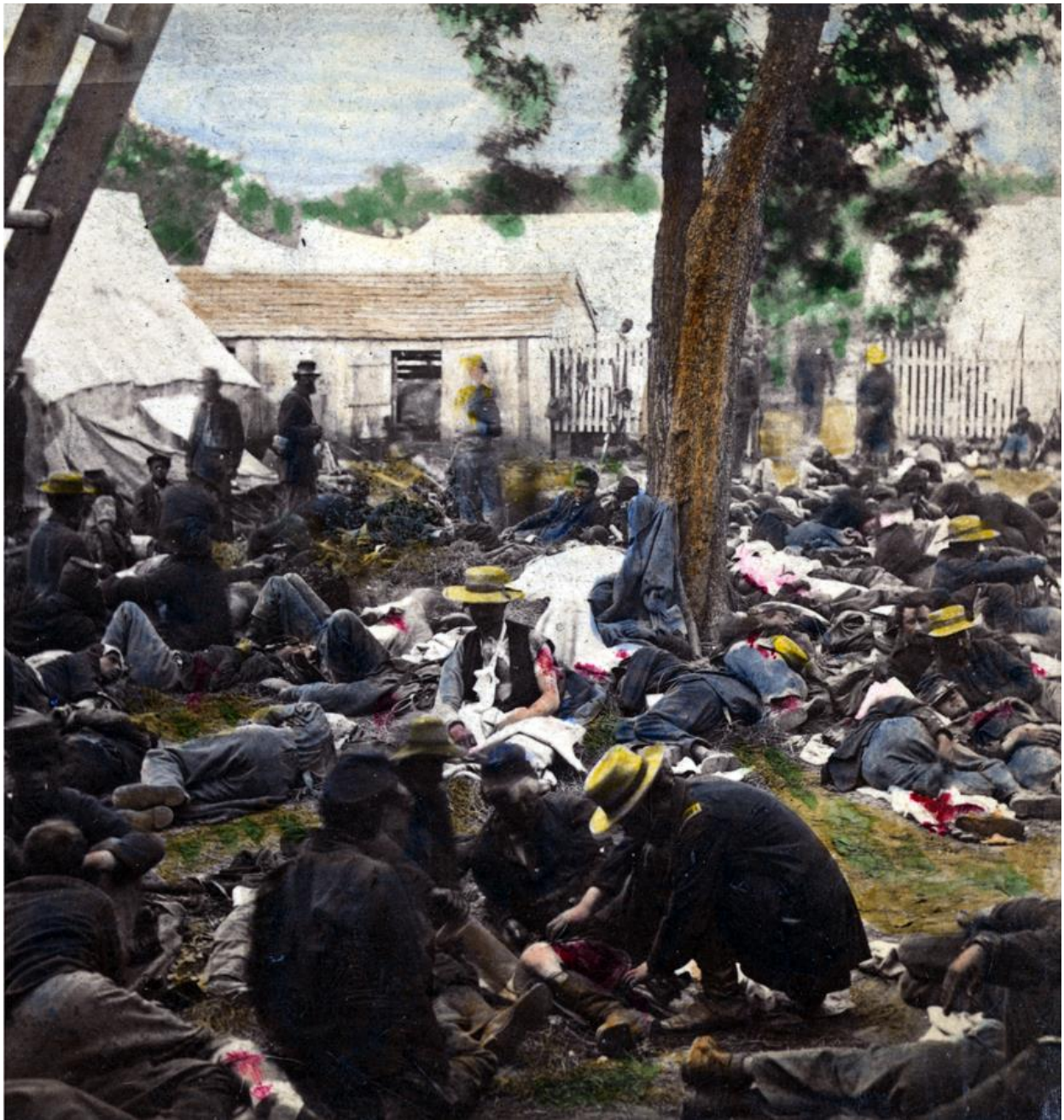


Graves of Federal soldiers line a stone wall at Burnside Bridge, Antietam. Note the headboards were taken from the wooden protective cap of the bridge wall visible behind the standing soldier. Crudely written on the headboards are the name and unit of the individual buried there. Library of Congress.



Few wooden grave markers survive. Example on the left is on exhibit at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisonburg, Pennsylvania. Detail of headboard on right is on exhibit at the Antietam National Battlefield Visitors Center.

Usually those who died of wounds at area hospitals were given more careful burial, often in nearby church cemeteries. Over time many of those not transported home and only marked by wooden headboards became forgotten. Their wooden markers over time fell over, rotted, and became lost to history. Other shallow graves became exposed by animals and erosion.



Treating of wounded Union soldiers at Savage's Station, Virginia, during the Peninsular Campaign. Colorized b/w image, Library of Congress.



Burying the dead at a hospital in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Wagons would deliver the body, covered by a blanket. The body would then be placed in a wooden coffin and lowered into a dug grave and a temporary wooden marker placed at the head of the grave. Library of Congress.



Detail of Schell drawing showing mass burials at Roulette Farm, Antietam. Note the long trenches being dug and bodies lined up ready for burial. Antietam National Battlefield, National Park Service.



Crude wooden markers at an unknown Civil War cemetery. Note more recent burial in background by crouching man. Library of Congress.



Civil War burials near the General Hospital, City Point, Virginia. Note the older graves in the background have wooden markers but the fresh graves in the foreground are yet to be marked. Detailed records were kept to identify who was who but mistakes, sloppy record keeping, misidentification and lack of information all contributed to many being merely identified as unknown. Library of Congress.

Sadly, many of the graves of Civil War soldiers were either never marked or were identified by wooden markers which have since decayed and the grave and name of the individual lost. Other graves may have been marked simply by fieldstones with no identification. At Shiloh Battlefield, Tennessee, it is said ram rods marked some graves. Even those graves with inscribed gravestones have suffered from neglect. Many gravestones have fallen and sunk below the surface while others have been vandalized. There is no doubt that many gravestones remain hidden under years of growth. Some have been moved; some have even been stolen. Just because a veteran is buried under a gravestone does not ensure perpetuity. Some gravestones of inferior quality decay over time and become illegible. Most graves are not identified as those of Civil War veterans. Cemetery records, when they exist, are often times difficult to locate and provide scanty information.



Soldiers assigned burial detail sometimes modified bayonets and fitted them onto wooden handles to facilitate the gathering of bodies for mass burial. These examples are in a private collection, Frederick County, Maryland.



Bent bayonet used as a body hook to move bodies for burial. Antietam National Battlefield, National Park Service.

All states that existed during the war contributed soldiers to both the Union and Confederate side. But Maryland, a border state, was almost equally split in its loyalties. This split can be gleaned from the fact that Maryland, occupied by the Union Army, provided more generals for the Confederate States Army than it did for the United States Army. Upon the death a Union veteran complimentary Government Issued gravestones were provided. Maryland Confederate veterans depended on two charitable organizations, “The Society of the Army and Navy of the Confederate States in Maryland” and “The Association of the Maryland Line” to provide burial

costs if needed. Together they raised \$31,000 during the Confederate Relief Bazaar of Maryland held in April 7-11, 1885, to establish the Confederate Veterans Home at Pikesville. Additional private funds were raised to establish Confederate cemeteries such as Loudon Park's Confederate Hill in Baltimore and Rose Hill's Washington Confederate Cemetery in Hagerstown. The Ladies Confederate Memorial Association of Maryland, organized in 1866, was the first formal post-war organization in Maryland dedicated to caring for Confederate veterans, joining the men's organizations in many projects including the Confederate Relief Fund.

After battles and skirmishes there were often hundreds, even thousands of dead bodies lying on the battlefields. Quick burial was necessary for sanitary health reasons, especially during the hot summer months. Military burial details were formed but in other cases such as after the Battle of Gettysburg, the government printed broadsides and newspaper ads seeking hired help. Because so many soldiers were hastily buried, often near where they died, the government sought bids for the proper reburial in centralized designated locations. Maps indicating the location and names of buried soldiers were usually made but in other cases no record of their names or location was ever established. The cost for exhumation, transportation, and reburial in a coffin at Gettysburg was \$1.69 per body.

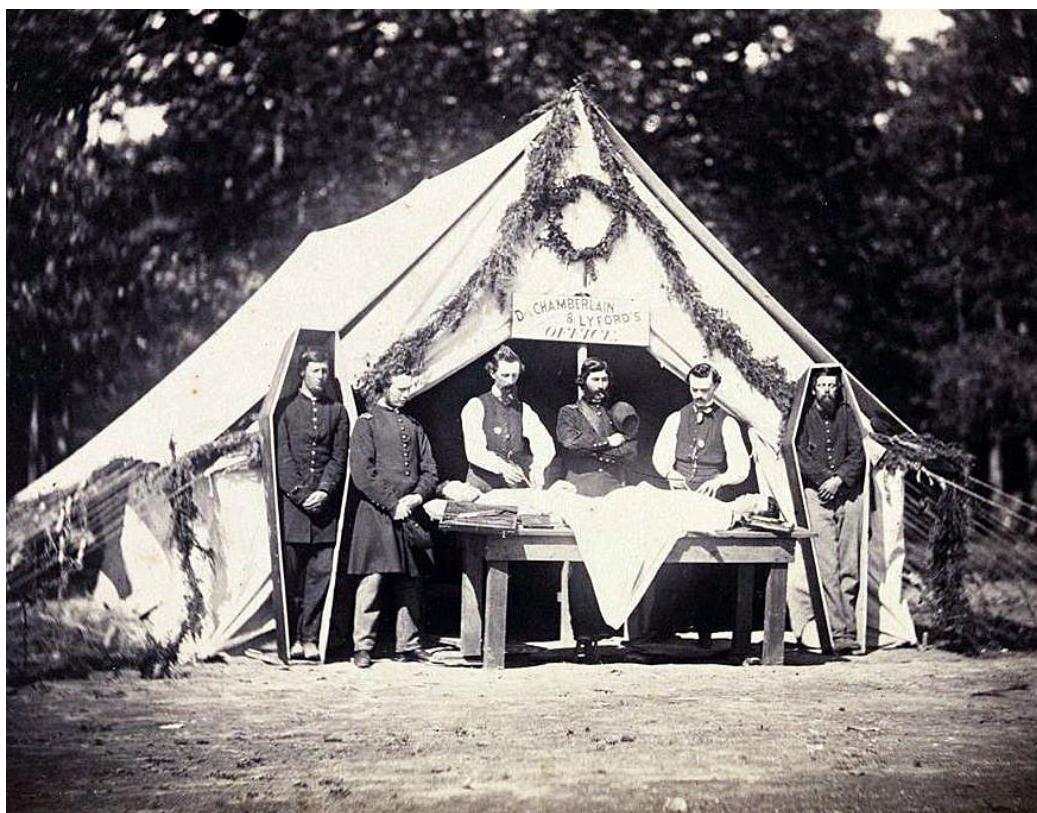
Below is a diary entry from Jacob Engelbrecht dated September 29, 1862. He describes the burial of the Civil War dead at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Frederick.

...Went with a corpse of a Union soldier to be buried. None but the hearse & two to drive. His name was 'Matthew Burk' Company G 59th Regiment New York (Irish Regiment). I helped to carry him in the grave. The graves were a long trench about 7 feet wide & about 20 or 30 feet long. The last coffin being partly uncovered, we put him next to the last about one inch apart, & left ready for the next one. They bury some days 8 or 10. Those of the Rebel Army are buried in another row the same way & up to that time numbered sixty (I counted them). Some of the headboards were marked with their names. One was 'Lieutenant Colonel T.C. Watkins' 22 Regiment South Carolina. Another 'Lieutenant Raisin Pitts' 6th Regiment Alabama &c. Mr. William T. Duall the Keeper of the Cemetery keeps a register of the names & place & number of their internment in case they intend to be removed.

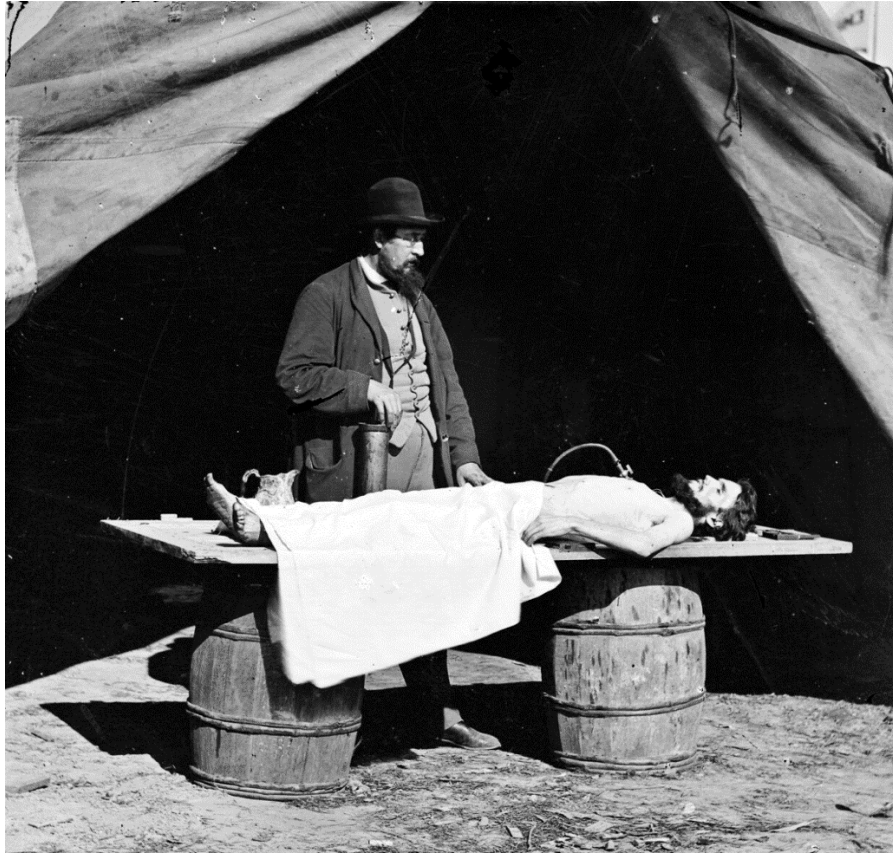
At ambulance stations, field hospitals and proper hospitals it was customary to establish a "dead house," usually a tent. Families with means sometimes bought insurance that should their loved one die he would be embalmed and shipped home for a proper burial. Embalming houses, also usually tents, and coffin makers frequently established temporary facilities as the need dictated.



Embalming building near Fredericksburg, Virginia. Library of Congress.



Drs. Chamberlain and Lyford demonstrate embalming technic on two corpses on a table and two embalmed soldiers are displayed in flanking standing coffins with two Union soldiers looking on. Gettysburg National Military Park NPS Photographic Archives.



Embalming surgeon at work on soldier's body, location unknown. Library of Congress.



Pvt. Micajah Cooper laid in a southern cemetery for three years before he was exhumed and moved to the Gunpowder Baptist Church Cemetery in Baltimore County. Based on date of death he probably died at the Battle of Cedar Mountain, Virginia.



At the intersection of South Broadway and East College Avenue, Frostburg, is a stone marker for the grave of an unknown Civil War veteran who was uncovered in 1870. The plaque reads, "Unearthed 1870 by CHRISTIAN SPITZNAS. Civil War Veteran. Donated 1929 by his son CHARLES SPITZNAS."

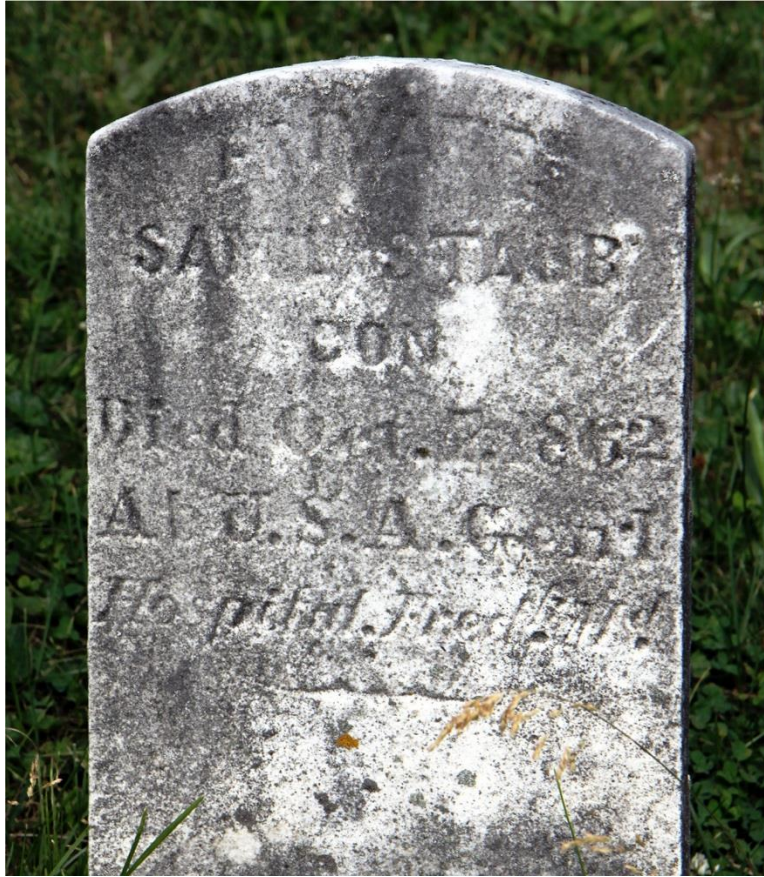


Monument to The Memory of the Unknown Dead erected by the Women's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, Loudon Cemetery, Baltimore.

Wounded were given immediate aid as was possible in makeshift field hospitals. Many of these, if they survived their operations, were sent to temporary hospitals such as in Frederick, Washington, D.C., Baltimore and Annapolis, many miles away. Washington, D.C. had 56 war hospitals alone.



Ordnance Sgt. John W. Crogg received a wound at the Battle of Wilderness May 4-7, 1864, and died two months later at a Washington, D.C. hospital on July 11, 1864. Grogg is buried at the Westminster Cemetery, Carroll County. His gravestone is graced by a patriotic image of Lady Liberty and a flag.



Pvt. Samuel Staub died in the General Hospital, Frederick, and is buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery. Staub was probably wounded at either the Battle of South Mountain or Antietam.



Pvt. John Z. Zimmerman died in a hospital at Bristoe Station, Virginia, on March 20, 1863 and is buried at Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery in Frederick County.



The Pvt. John Settle gravestone is very patriotic. It includes the words “My Life for my Country” and depicts crossed muskets, a star and two flags. Settle died at Camp Parole, Annapolis, at age 18. He was probably wounded and taken to one of the hospitals at Parole. Settle is buried at Annapolis National Cemetery.

The US Christian Commission in addition to raising approximately \$6 million dollars and providing 5,000 persons who gave physical and spiritual aid to the wounded, also assisted with burial records. Burials were usually chronological; that is buried as they arrived regardless of which side they fought on. At Gettysburg National Cemetery Union and Confederate bodies were initially intermingled and in at least one case an African-American was included among the white dead.

The former US Government Hospital for the Insane, better known as St. Elizabeth’s Hospital, located in southeast Washington, D.C., has about 300 burials arranged in the shape of a cross which was meant to serve as a memorial to be seen from a nearby road. Among the graves are not only Union and Confederate soldiers, but also black and white soldiers, buried together. This is reputedly the only public cemetery where black, white, north and south soldiers were

intentionally interred together. President Abraham Lincoln visited wounded soldiers here after the battle of Chancellorsville. He left severely depressed. Doctors described the battle-related stress of soldiers as “nostalgia” or “trotting heard,” the result of a morbid form of homesickness and extreme stress. Below is a letter sent to a father of a fallen soldier reporting on his son’s death and burial. This is not a Maryland account, but explains how the burial of this fallen soldier was handled for possible reinternment back to his home.

Vicksburg, May 29th to Samuel Stephenson, Esq. With feelings of deepest sorrow I seat myself on the battlefield to make a sad record – the death of your most worthy son, John B. Stephenson who was killed yesterday at 2:30 p.m. by a riffle [sic] ball passing though [sic] his head. He died instantly. The Doctor was the only regimental physician present with our sharpshooters near the fort . . . We had a coffin made and I procured a bushel of salt to preserve the body so that I think he will be easily removed. We buried him on the field a short distance below where he fell and close along the side of two others of lamented comrades. The board that marks the grave is the lid of a cartridge box and marked “Dr. John B. Stephenson, Co. F 17th Ill. Vo. Inf. May 28th 1862.” After the fall of Vicksburg, I think there will be no trouble in moving the body, should you wish it; but at present it would be very difficult to do anything. Signed J. Moore [published in Monmouth Atlas, June 12, 1863].

Many soldiers were taken prisoner and kept in prison camps notorious for harsh treatment, poor food and terrible living conditions. With men so confined disease and resulting death was common. Over four thousand Confederates died at the Union Point Lookout Prison Camp, in St. Mary’s County.

Kath Davidson Blockade Runner Survived Pt. Lookout	Pvt. Stanton Presnell Co B 52nd NC Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	Pvt. Nixon Presnell Co F 48th NC Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	William Henry May 47th Regt NC Survived Pt. Lookout	Frederick W. March Co. A 16th Va Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	D. John Wesley Wood Co K 15th Ala Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	Henchey A. Giles Co K 14th Ala Inf Died Pt. Lookout
John H. Lowmire Co F 1st SC Inf. Survived Pt. Lookout	Addison F. Workman Co E 14th NC Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	Pvt. John H. Floyd Co A 11th Ga Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	Cpl. James H. Wiseman Co B 5th NC Cav Survived Pt. Lookout	James Arthur Ramage Survived Pt. Lookout	William S. Cannon Survived Pt. Lookout	John A.M. Degard Co C 15th Ga Inf Died Pt. Lookout
Amon W. Updike Co I 53rd VA Inf. Died Point Lookout	Furney Wood Co B 56th NC Inf Died at Elmira	Harry Lee Co C 5th NC Died at Elmira	Ambrose C. Wyckoff Co A 35th Va Cav Survived Pt. Lookout	Julius J. Engelhorn Co D 12th Ma Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	George Asbury Hypes Co C 22nd Va Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	James Baraloot Co B 58th NC Survived Pt. Lookout
Norfleet Layton Co G 47th NC Inf. Survived Pt. Lookout	Pvt. E. White Co G 21st NC Survived Pt. Lookout	John Raines Mason Co A 12th Va Art Died Pt. Lookout	Frederick Wood Co H 54th Va Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	Rufus Henry Holland Co K 27th NC Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	Annianus Spangler Co E 25th Va Cav Died Pt. Lookout	Pvt. Edwin W. S Co A 1st Md. I Survived Pt. Lookout
W. Lumpkin Co H 55th VA Inf. Died Pt. Lookout	John Richard Hood Co H 35th NC Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	Pvt. Daniel Easter Co C 29th Va Inf Died Pt. Lookout	Edmond S. Beaird Co G 9th Ga Inf Died Pt. Lookout	Pvt. John Pomeroy Co E 55th Va Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	William C. Beaird Co G 9th Ga Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	James Luther Co C 2nd M Survived Pt. Lookout
Cyrus Keith Co H 9th VA Battn. Pt. Lookout	James S. Downs Ed-St. Mary's Beason Survived Pt. Lookout	Charles Dempsey 2nd NC, Artillery Died Pt. Lookout	Henry Dempsey 2nd NC, Artillery Died Pt. Lookout	Pvt. Wallace Bowling Co A 2nd Md. Inf. Survived Pt. Lookout	Allen Y. Bowen Confederate Art. Survived Pt. Lookout	Charles W. I Co. F 7th Survived Pt. Lookout
D. McClary Co F 48th NC Inf. Pt. Lookout	Cpl. Alexander Nesbit Co F 48th NC Inf. Survived Pt. Lookout	Tim Hollingsworth Co B 7th Inf Survived Pt. Lookout	Pvt. Jane A. Perkins Pittsylvania Art Survived Pt. Lookout	Little Artillery-Man Son of Jane Perkins Born Pt. Lookout	Cpl. H.L. Allan 1st Co. Wash. Art. La. Volunteers	Pvt. Tho Co F 18 Survived Pt. Lookout
Radshaw Co A Inf. Pt. Lookout	Hampton Tate Blockade Runner Died Pt. Lookout	John Dunbar Co K 9th Ark Inf Died Pt. Lookout	George Alexander Civillian Died Pt. Lookout	Peyton H. Masssey Co B 47th NC Inf. Died Pt. Lookout	Joer Yerby Cook Died Pt. Lookout	Did Co. H Survived Pt. Lookout
Pope Inf. Pt. Lookout	Nath. Pinkney Parris Co K 60th GA Inf. Survived Pt. Lookout	Jefferson D. Dunbar Co K 9th AR Inf. Survived Pt. Lookout	Benjamin F. Haynes Co C 40th VA Inf. Survived Pt. Lookout	Leonard Fritz Co C 15th AR Inf. Died Point Lookout	Henry E. Petty Co F 5th Va Inf. Survived Pt. Lookout	Ric Died Pt. Lookout

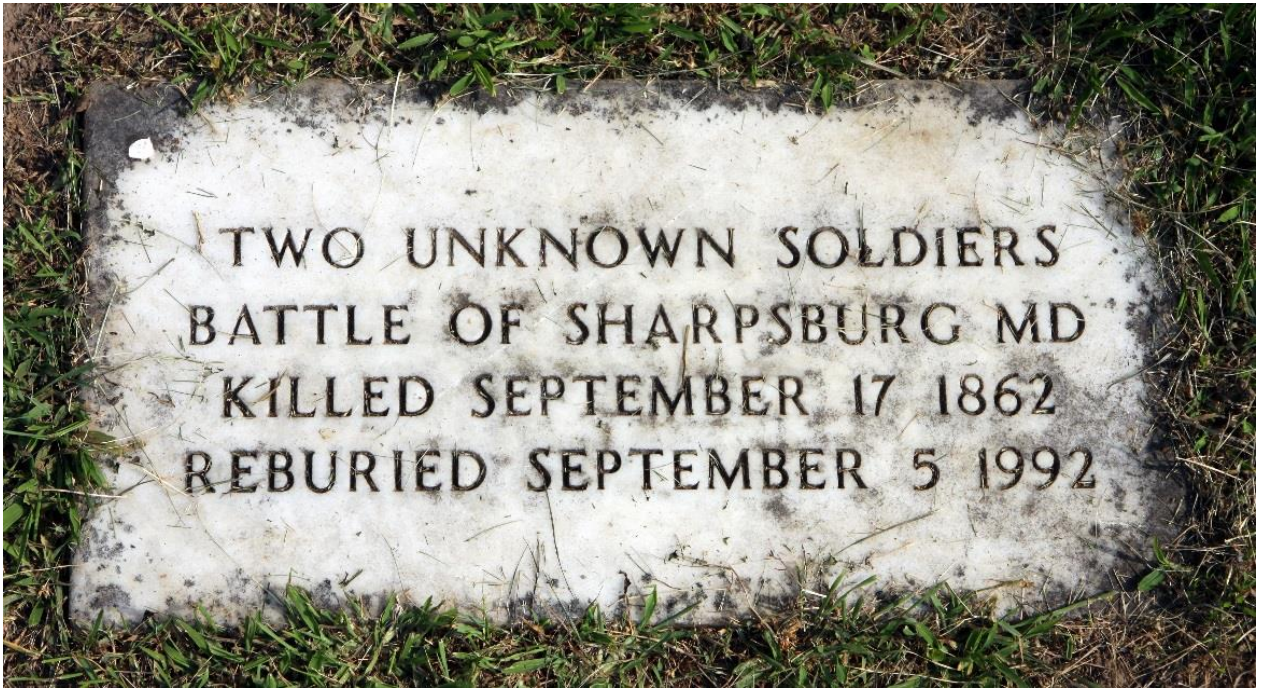
Memorial bricks to Confederate soldiers confined at Point Lookout Prison, St. Mary’s County. Note individual bricks designate who survived and who died.



Monument to The Memory of the Unknown Dead erected by the Women's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, Loudon Cemetery, Baltimore.

Mistaken Identification – Henry Struble was reputedly mortally wounded at the Battle of South Mountain and buried at Antietam National Cemetery – or was he? Steve Stotelmeyer, a park ranger at Antietam National Battlefield, claims otherwise. When Struble was resting from his wound in a field hospital he gave his canteen, marked with his name, to a thirsty soldier who was gravely wounded. Sometime later the unknown individual died still in possession of Struble's canteen. The individual was buried in a temporary grave and reinterred several years to Antietam National Cemetery. The burial detail assumed the dead man was Struble based on the name on the canteen strap. Struble, however, recovered from his battle wound and became mayor of Youngwood, Pennsylvania in 1898. Somehow, Struble discovered this mix-up and sent flowers for the grave of this unknown man every Memorial Day until his own death in 1912. It is unknown who is actually buried beneath Struble's gravestone at Antietam.⁶

Unknowns – John Flye of Company K, 13 Massachusetts Regiment was killed at the Battle of Gettysburg. He was about to be buried as a Confederate. Apparently a Confederate soldier exchanged his worn out uniform with the Yankee uniform of John Flye because it was in better condition. Flye's messmate happened to pass by his body and recognized him. He informed the burial detail of his name and that he was a Union, not Confederate soldier. Except by this happenstance this individual would never have been identified. A few soldiers bought their own name tags or pinned their name to their uniform before battle which sometimes provided the only information as to who they were.



It is unclear where these two unknown soldiers were first buried in the 130 years since their death before reburial at Washington Confederate Cemetery, Rose Hill, Hagerstown.

Establishment of National Veteran Cemeteries

As the war dragged on and the numbers of dead increased the temporary battlefield and hospital graveyards became overwhelmed. It was clear larger cemeteries were necessary. To fill this need national cemeteries were established. This meant that many soldiers were exhumed and re-interred in permanent graveyards.



Collecting the remains of the dead on the battlefield at Cold Harbor, Virginia, for reburial elsewhere. Library of Congress.



Exhumation party retrieving buried soldiers for reburial. Hanover Area Historical Society, Hanover, Pennsylvania.



Alexandria National Cemetery, Virginia, illustrates uniform wooden grave markers with name, company and regiment. Library of Congress.

The Maryland Senate in late 1864 introduced a plan for a state or national cemetery for both Union and Confederate dead at Antietam. But bitterness over the war and the South's inability to help raise sufficient funds caused Maryland to shelve the plan. Finally, on September 17, 1867, on the fifth anniversary of the battle, a National Cemetery was dedicated. President Andrew Johnson as well as other dignitaries were present. But the 2,800 Confederate dead were buried elsewhere at Washington Confederate Cemetery at Rose Hill in Hagerstown, Maryland, Mount Olivet Cemetery in Frederick, Maryland, and at Elmwood Cemetery in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. There are more Confederate dead in these three cemeteries than Union dead in the National Cemetery because more Union dead were removed and reburied at their homes and communities by their surviving family members and friends. Countless Confederate families did not have the financial means to remove and transport their beloved ones.



Maryland Section of Civil War burials at Antietam National Cemetery.

It was soon realized that wooden grave markers would only last five years on average. The cost of replacing thousands of these grave markers was staggering. The government soon initiated gravestones that would last over a hundred years or more. Many of the Union veterans are therefore found today buried beneath Government Issued gravestones, white marble slabs, on which their rank, name, company, and unit are unusually given within the outline shape of the union shield. Confederate veteran markers were issued after the war. To distinguish them from Union soldiers the tops of the gravestones have a shallow peak while the Union markers have a shallow arc - easy to distinguish even at a distance.



Union (left) and Confederate (right) Government Issued gravestones, Mount Olivet Cemetery, Frederick.



Fifteen of the twenty-two Marylanders buried at Gettysburg National Cemetery, Pennsylvania.

National Cemetery Administration

Prior to the Civil War soldiers were usually either buried where they died or in cemeteries established at forts or other military installations. However, the carnage of the American Civil War changed this practice due to the practicalities of the large numbers of dead. On July 17, 1862, Congress authorized the purchase of “cemetery grounds” to be used as national cemeteries “for soldiers who shall have died in the service of the county.” Fourteen cemeteries were established that first year including two in Maryland – Annapolis and Antietam. By 1870, nearly 300,000 Union dead had been buried in 73 national cemeteries, most located near Civil War battlefields, hospitals and encampments. In 1873 all honorably discharged veterans became eligible for burial. In the 1930s, new cemeteries were established to serve veterans living in major metropolitan areas. Baltimore National Cemetery is an example. Below are the three National Cemeteries located in Maryland showing the total number of veterans buried at each:

Annapolis – 2,994

Baltimore – 44,268

Sharpsburg - 4,776 (1,836 unknown)

In 1973, Congress transferred 82 national cemeteries from the Department of Army to the Veterans Administration, now the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The transfer joined 21 VA cemeteries at hospitals and nursing homes with the Army cemeteries bringing the total number to 103. These cemeteries were placed under the National Cemetery System. On November 11, 1998, the Veterans Program Act changed the name to the National Cemetery Administration. Today there are a total of 136 national cemeteries; the National Cemetery Administration is responsible for 120 of them while the National Park Service maintains two cemeteries including Arlington National Cemetery.

Government Military Gravestone Program

The original standard government grave marker has its origin in the frontier days prior to the Civil War. A wooden board with a rounded top and bearing a registration number or inscription became the standard though no centralized system for recording burials existed. Two months after the first battle of Manassas, the War Department issued General Orders number 75, September 11, 1861, which made commanders of national forces responsible for burials and marking graves. The Quartermaster General of the Army was directed to provide headboards as well as blank books and forms for the preservation of burial records resulting in the first organized system of marking veteran graves.

Following capitulation of the Confederate States Army, a concerted effort was undertaken to recover the dead from their temporary wartime burial places and provide permanent reburial in national cemeteries. Little thought was given to the suitability of the round top wooden headboards. In 1865, when burials in national cemeteries approached 100,000, concern arose

over the long term economy of maintaining the wooden headboards then in use. It was estimated that the total recovered number of dead from the Civil War would approach 300,000 individuals and considering the average cost of a headboard at \$1.23 each and a life expectancy of the headboard not to exceed more than five years, it became obvious that the original and replacement costs would exceed \$1 million over a 20-year period.

Public sentiment was turning to a more permanent mode of marking veteran graves. After a seven-year debate over marble versus zinc coated iron markers, the Secretary of War in 1873 adopted the marble marker for national cemeteries. For the known dead, the department adopted a marble slab four inches thick, 10 inches wide and 12 inches in height above the ground. The part above the ground was polished and the top edge slightly arched (rounded). The number of the grave, rank, name of the soldier and the name of the state were chiseled on the front face in base relief in a sunken shield. This original design for the permanent headstone was referred to as the "Civil War" type, and was furnished for members of the Union Army only. For the unknown dead, the gravestone was a block of marble or other durable stone six inches square, and 30 inches long. The top and four inches of the sides of the upper part were finished and the number of the grave cut on the top. This same design was also used to replace or mark for the first time graves of veterans from the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, the Mexican War and the Indian Campaigns.

On February 3, 1879, Congress authorized the furnishing of gravestones for the unmarked graves of veterans in private cemeteries. Insofar as is known, the only marker type used was the same as used for the known dead in national cemeteries. At the conclusion of the Spanish-American War, it was decided that the same design of headstone should be used to mark the graves of eligible deceased veterans from that war as well but "Spanish American War" [abbreviated to SP. AM. WAR] was added to differentiate them.

In 1903, after a study was conducted as to determine the durability of the type of headstone then in use, the height of the gravestone was increased to 39 inches, the width to 12 inches, and the thickness to four inches. The use of stone blocks for marking unknown graves in national cemeteries was discontinued on October 21, 1903, and the graves were marked with the same design as those furnished for the known dead. In an effort to ensure that all graves in military controlled cemeteries were marked appropriately, Congress on April 28, 1904 (58th Cong., Chap. 1762), also authorized the furnishing of headstones for the unmarked graves of civilians buried in post cemeteries.

The Act of March 9, 1906 (P.L. 38, 59th Cong., Chapter. 631) resulted in the authorization of the furnishing of headstones for the graves of Confederates who died in the war, primarily those in Union prison camps and buried in federal cemeteries. Congress adopted the same size and material for Confederate headstones as headstones for Civil War and Spanish-American War deceased. The design varied in that the top was pointed instead of rounded and the shield was omitted. Apocryphally, it has been said that the pointed top was adopted to prevent "Yankees" from sitting on Confederate headstones.

Following World War I in about 1918, a new design was used for all graves except those of veterans of the Civil War and Spanish-American War. This new gravestone slab design was referred to as "General" type, slightly rounded at the top, and made of American white marble, 42 inches long, 13 inches wide and four inches thick. No shield was used. The inscription on the front face included the name of the soldier, his rank, regiment, division, date of death and state from which he came. For the first time, a religious emblem was adopted for use on government headstones but only on the "General" type marker. The choice was limited to the Latin Cross for the Christian faith or the Star of David for the Jewish faith.

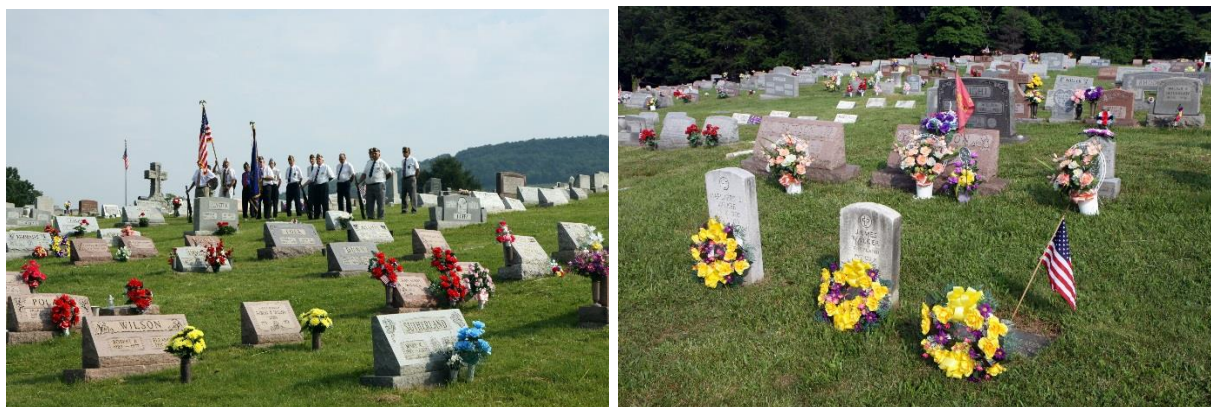
An act on February 26, 1929 (70th Cong., Chap. 324), authorized the furnishing of the "General type" of marker for graves in private cemeteries, as well. The Confederate type marker was also approved for private cemeteries. On May 26, 1930, the War Department implemented regulations for Confederate headstones that also authorized the inscription of the Confederate Cross of Honor in a small circle on the front face of the gravestone above the standard inscription of the soldier's name, rank, company and regiment.

The United States government provides military markers for any verified veteran whose family request them. The original marble slab type markers are easy to identify. Over the years flat lawn type markers of granite and bronze and granite upright markers have been added in addition to the marble slab type. Each has inscribed the name, date of birth and death and branch of service. During the Civil War era the dates of birth and death were not included; on some this information has been added later by families.

To assure the markers of all graves of all eligible members of the armed forces and veterans interred in private cemeteries were uniform, only flat marble ground level markers were permitted beginning on August 11, 1936. Flat granite markers were adopted on September 13, 1939. An act of April 18, 1940, authorized the use of other materials and the standard flat bronze marker was adopted on July 12, 1940. The marble and granite flat markers are 24 inches in length, 12 inches in width, and four inches deep with incised inscriptions. The bronze flat marker is 24 inches in length, 12 inches in width and three-sixteenths of an inch thick with raised lettering. The markers are placed flush with the ground and the inscription is placed parallel to the greatest dimension of the marker. The inscription includes the name of the deceased, state, rank, organization, dates of death and religious emblem above the inscription. In April 1941, the Under Secretary of War approved the use of granite for gravestones similar to the existing designs of Civil War, Spanish-American War, Confederate and General military types. These granite headstones were discontinued in 1947, however, because of the inability to procure them within the price limitations authorized by the War Department. The Under Secretary of War authorized the addition of the date of birth as part of authorized inscription in 1944. At the same time "World War I" or "World War II" was approved as part of the inscription. A new design was approved beginning with fiscal year 1973 for flat markers.

Memorial Day – Day of Remembering

Memorial Day, originally known as Decoration Day, can be traced back to the Civil War. Women's groups in the South began to place flowers on the graves of fallen Confederate soldiers before the war had even ended. After the war communities honored their fallen heroes who had died in the conflict. General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, declared via a proclamation that May 30, 1868 would be celebrated by placing flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. By the turn of the twentieth century most states recognized May 30 as Memorial Day. Congress declared in 1971 that Memorial Day be celebrated on the last Monday of the month of May to give federal workers a three-day weekend. The American Legion and other such organizations traditionally place American flags on the graves of American war veterans. It is impressive to wander around graveyards on Memorial Day or soon after before the sun, rain, and wind bleach, shred and eventually cause the flags to fall or be blown away.



Memorial Day, Philos Cemetery, Westernport, 2010.

Visiting cemeteries over Memorial Day or Veterans Day weekend can be a very emotional experience as well. The lawns of most cemeteries are freshly cut to make them as beautiful as possible. Usually on Veterans Day a new American flag is placed next to each veteran's grave. You will see family after family bring a wreath, flowers or some other symbol of remembrance that they carefully place on the graves. You will also see some relatives stand in silence, occasionally even kneeling, before their loved one. By the end of the holiday the graveyards are often festooned with beautiful colors of flowers and wreaths. It is that one day each year when many Americans most remember the sacrifices made by these veterans.



Civil War Row, Mount Olivet Cemetery, Frederick, is a long line of original gravestones with new Government Issued gravestones placed behind them.

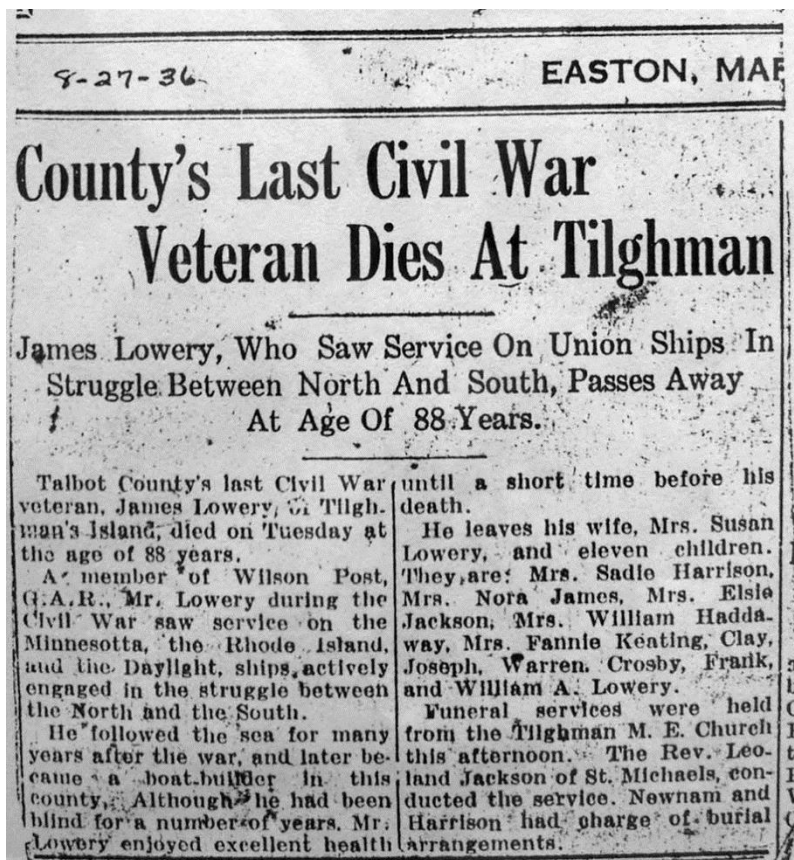
One may be overcome with emotion upon seeing the long line of Government Issued military gravestones at Mount Olivet Cemetery in Frederick. In these cemeteries hundreds if not thousands of gravestones can be seen, each marking the final resting place of a Civil War veteran, many for whom their name is not even known. These gravestones remind us of the numbers of veterans who fought in that war.



Civil War veteran's graves with miniature American Flags, Memorial Day, Angel Hill Cemetery, Havre de Grace, 2013.

It is even more meaningful to visit a small rural cemetery such as Angel Hill Cemetery, Havre de Grace, Harford County, or the small Unionville Cemetery in Talbot County. Here one can grasp a real sense of how this conflict brought sorrow and permanent change to these small communities. To see gravestone after gravestone with the same last name from the same community who died during the war brings home a sense of how these families and their communities must have grieved and struggled with their loss. We can only ponder how these villages and hamlets dealt with these war losses. Mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, wives, friends, and fellow soldiers and sailors all felt the emotional pain of death caused by the war.

It is not the intent of this guide to bring anguish to its users but to offer a means by which these soldiers and sailors who served, and in some cases gave their lives, can be remembered. Some of these graveyards are poorly maintained. Others have been abandoned and overgrown. Still others are little known or have been lost from memory, even to the communities where they are located.



William James Lowery, last Civil War veteran from Talbot County, *Eastern Journal*, August 27, 1936.

One day while Eshelman was talking about this project to colleague Darrin Lowery, Darrin mentioned his great-grandfather was a Civil War veteran. He was buried on Tilghman Island. Eshelman had visited that graveyard before but until Darrin told him of his grandfather Eshelman was not aware that he was a Civil War veteran. His gravestone made no mention of it. There was no GAR or other Civil War veteran marker to distinguish his grave. Upon further inquiry Darrin provided the following information about William James Lowery, the last surviving Civil War veteran from Talbot County. Lowery served on the USS *Allegheny*, *Minnesota*, *Rhode Island* and *Daylight*. He reportedly observed the battle between the *Monitor* and the *Virginia* (*Merrimack*) at Newport News on March 9, 1862. He served as a gunner's mate during the attack on Fort Fisher, North Carolina. That action closed Wilmington, North Carolina, the Confederate's last open seaport on the Atlantic. During the attack *Daylight* became grounded and was burnt to keep it from falling into enemy hands. Lowery was, as per his wishes, buried in his uniform with his casket draped with the stars and stripes. Without this serendipitous discussion with a friend, William James Lowery might not have been included in this inventory. How many more such stories exist?

One bright beautiful fall day Eshelman was searching for a graveyard in extreme southern St. Mary's County. As was his custom, he stopped at the first elderly person (knowing they usually were the most helpful) he could find to ask directions. This man with slightly bend frame,

replied to his request that he knew of several overgrown and forgotten cemeteries in the area. With his outstretched arm he began to point in different directions. He told Eshelman of five graveyards within the view of where he stood. When Eshelman mentioned the last name of the individual he sought, the elderly man pointed to it and told him how best to get there. Eshelman parked his car on the side of the road where he directed and walked across a corn field into the woods. He followed the shoreline of a beautiful shallow inlet off the Potomac River. Sure enough, Eshelman found the abandoned cemetery. The gravestone of the individual he sought was partially fallen over and covered with leaves, but it was there. How many other such cemeteries lie overgrown, unrecorded, and forgotten?

John E. Jacob in researching the graveyards of Wicomico County, states he does not know how many cemeteries and family graveyards are located there but he had visited over six hundred. Of these, nearly two hundred are “totally without markers or have markers which give no information about the person buried beneath them. Some show no visible traces of their former use, others are marked only by shallow depressions in the ground.”⁷ Of the 269 recorded cemeteries in Montgomery County, about thirty of them were never found.

Eshelman remembers distinctly visiting Federalsburg’s African-American Federal Hills Cemetery in Caroline County. Here in this relatively small graveyard are eight Civil War veterans identified by the standard Government Issued military gravestone provided at no charge to the deceased families. No sign marked the cemetery. Eshelman asked an African-American gentleman visiting his family plot the name of the cemetery. He was curious as to why a white man was interested in this small black cemetery. He was astonished to learn when Eshelman told him that eight Civil War veterans were buried there. Eshelman showed the gentleman how to identify a military gravestone and told him that U.S.C.I. stood for United States Colored Infantry and U.S.C.T for United States Colored Troops. The gentleman lamented how he never appreciated the presence of these men – no doubt once heroes of his community, but now forgotten. This guide will hopefully bring recognition to these lost individuals and hopefully build a sense of care and preservation for their graves.

Of course not all of the 59,646 records for Maryland Civil War veterans (53,559 who fought for the Union and 6,089 who fought for the Confederacy) in the National Park Services’ Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System are buried in Maryland. Many Civil War veterans from other states are also buried here. But this figure begins to give one an idea of the numbers of persons who served from Maryland. Of Maryland’s 1860 estimated population of 687,000, it has been estimated that up to 25,000 Marylanders traveled south to fight for the Confederacy while about 60,000 Maryland men served in all branches of the Union military.⁸ This number of course in no way reflects the number of persons who were affected by the war. Families suffered not only by the separation of those members of their families who served and died, but battles, skirmishes, encampments, recruitment, surveillance, taking of slaves and reprisals also took place in nearly all parts of Maryland.

Begun in 1988, volunteers on the first Saturday of December, layout and lite 23,000 luminaries, one for each soldier who lost his life, was wounded or missing during the one-day battle at Antietam. Known as the Antietam National Battlefield Memorial Illumination, more than 2,000 vehicles packed with passengers wait up to two hours to enter the battlefield park and view the luminaries spread over an approximately five-mile long route. It is difficult to imagine 23,000 candles, one to honor each Blue and Gray causality. But the luminaries bring the magnitude of this battle to our minds - no one can leave this experience without thinking of the carnage of this battle.



Antietam National Battlefield Memorial Illumination, 2008.

Maryland African-American Civil War Veterans



Lt. Charles G. Teeple and unidentified African-American soldier of Company I, 7th Regiment, United States Colored Troops at Camp Stanton, Benedict, Maryland. Ross J. Kelbaugh Collection.

After the Emancipation Proclamation of January 1, 1863, the Maryland General Assembly offered a bounty to African-Americans willing to enlist. Owners of slaves who offered them to serve in the Union were also given a bounty. There were seven African-American regiments raised in Maryland, the 4th, 7th, 9th, 19th, 30th, 39th and 118th. Many slaves ran away to join the Union to escape slavery and gain their freedom. At least one Maryland African-American, Decatur Dorsey, Company B, 39th Regiment, and a resident of Howard County, received the Medal of Honor while serving as color-bearer during the Battle of the Crater at Petersburg, Virginia, July 30, 1864. His citation reads, “planted his colors on the Confederate works in advance of his regiment, and when the regiment was driven back to the Union works he carried the colors there and bravely rallied the men.” This hero is buried in New Jersey.

Methodology

Several sources were used to help find and locate Maryland cemeteries. ADC county map books were very useful and generally accurate although cemeteries were sometimes found at church sites even though not so designated. In other cases known cemeteries were not designated on these maps. Unfortunately there are no ADC map books for Garrett and Allegany Counties. For these counties in particular, but for all counties in general, we also used the Maryland Tombstone Transcription Project at usgtombstone.org/maryland/Maryland and cemetery records online at Internet. .us/md/index and epodunk.com which in combination provided cemetery locations, profiles, burial indexes and maps. In some cases there were serendipitous discoveries of cemeteries while traveling between known cemetery sites. All the cemeteries visited are marked and circled on the ADC maps. For Garrett and Allegany counties they are marked on a Maryland Delaware Atlas & Gazetteer that includes topography. Both the atlas-gazetteer and ADC maps have GPS grids. Either slides or digital photographs were taken for nearly all the known veterans' gravestones listed in this inventory. **These images along with the maps will be deposited at the Maryland State Archives for reference purposes.**

While some of the sources such as Find a Grave in Ancestry.com provide photographs of the gravestones, many either lack photographs or the epitaph could not be clearly distinguished. Due to deterioration of many of these gravestones the time-consuming task of recording epitaphs for many were conducted. Some sources provide inscriptions but they are often not accurate so they were field checked at the cemetery for accuracy. We give the inscriptions exactly as they appear on the gravestone, including capitalization, italic, supra and subscript, periods and commas, even when it was apparent that the engraver made errors. Separation of each line of the epitaph is indicated by a forward slash "/" also called a solidus. The following format is used for each gravestone entry. The name of the individual is given, sir name first, followed by rank when known, and first and middle name or initial when known. When parentheses are shown it includes whether the gravestone is a private, family and/or military gravestone. This is followed, when known and/or applicable, with the cemetery section and lot number. Anything within brackets represents engraved objects such as flowers, fraternal organization insignia, etc. Anything that follows the epitaph is also presented in brackets and includes information about the rank, company, regiment and sometimes information about where he fought, was wounded or died in battle. When a wife is buried beside him the name and dates of birth and death are also usually provided. Finally, when a triple period (...) is used it indicates more of the epitaph is present but it is either undecipherable or does not provide any further information about the individual. The following example is for an individual that has both a military and private gravestone:

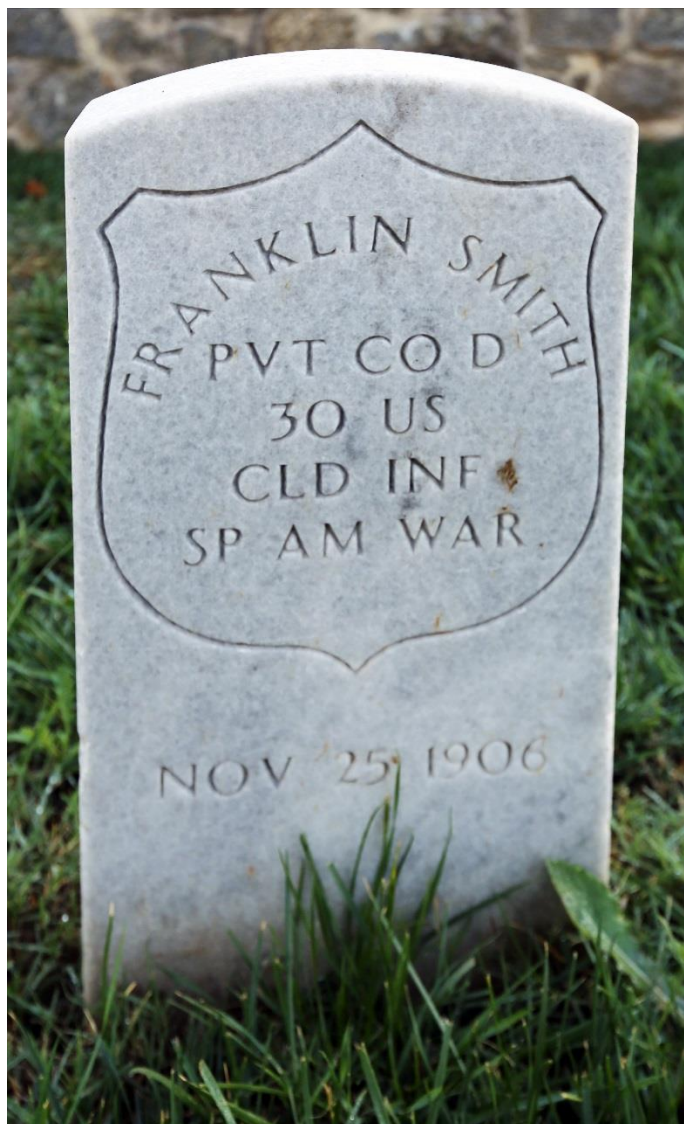
Harrison, Capt. George W. gravestone (military metal lawn type and private)
inscriptions: (military) GEORGE W HARRISON/ CAPT US VOLS/ GEN KELLEYS

STAFF/ CIVIL WAR/ MAY 6 1837 [cross] JUN 4 1911 (private) GEO. W.
HARRISON/ CAPTAIN A QM- U.S.V./ 1837 1911/ –

Due to gravestone deterioration it is often difficult and sometimes impossible to partially or fully decipher the inscription. In such cases we used question marks to designate when we were unsure of the spelling; in a few cases we intentionally left blanks. When the same cemetery was visited two or more times we attempted to check the accuracy of the epitaph inscriptions. Corrections were frequently revealed. Most of these were because our early attempts at recording inscriptions were conducted in the pre-digital camera era. We wrote out in long hand the inscriptions. Most of the corrections were due to errors made during these early hand-written recording days. But we also discovered that lighting can affect the ability to clearly see the engravings. For example, a weathered 4 might look like a 1, and a 0 like a 6, or a C like a G. Sunlight is usually best, shade less good. We learned to take along a brisk broom to brush the gravestone when necessary. Another trick is to have some water that can be applied to the gravestone to highlight text. This technique is especially helpful when applied to embossed letters such as found on early military gravestones. A technique we have not used but understand others have used successfully is to apply shaving cream and then wiping the gravestone. We have been reluctant to try this technique because it is unclear if the cream has any long term chemical effect on the gravestone. A flashlight at low angle is another technique useful in shady situations.

Memorial Day weekend or a few weeks following this holiday is a good time to visit cemeteries. Organizations such as VFW and American Legion posts plant miniature American flags on veteran graves. While these flags help to direct investigation, misplaced flags are not unusual. For example we have seen the spouse of a soldier marked but it was unclear if the veteran is actually buried there as well in an unmarked grave. In other cases we have seen flags mark graves which are not veterans at all. At other times we have seen Great Army of the Republic (GAR) and Confederate States of American (CSA) markers on graves that could not possibly be a Civil War-era grave. Therefore presence of an American flag does not necessarily mean the grave marks a veteran or his or her spouse. Understandably VFW and American Legion posts are reluctant to share their veteran lists because of misuse by others such as the Westboro Baptist Church and its anti-gay protests at or near veteran's funerals. One National Cemetery forbid us from even taking pictures of graves for the same reason.

Worse, we have seen Government Issued military gravestones that give the wrong war in which the individual fought. There are several examples at the Annapolis National Cemetery where the gravestone indicates the individual served in the Spanish American War when in fact they served in the Civil War. We have attempted to correct these mistakes in this guide.



Pvt. Franklin Smith served in the US Colored Infantry during the Civil War despite the mistaken engraving claiming he fought in the Spanish-American War. Smith is buried at Annapolis National Cemetery where there are several such instances of the wrong war misidentified on the gravestone.

The National Park Service's Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database

(<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/>), referred to in this publication as "NPS database" can also be used to check spellings. On occasion it was helpful to type in the regiment, regimental number, and state when known, and then check the NPS database for individuals who served in that regiment. In such instances the database can help identify names when only the first few or even last few letters of a name are decipherable. This research can be a very time-consuming task but often identification can be made for otherwise partially undecipherable names. It is interesting how often names are spelled differently within a family group of gravestones and even more differentiation between the written records and the gravestone. We sometimes give more than one spelling to help the user cross reference names.

When a Civil War veteran is reputed to be buried in a cemetery but the precise location of that cemetery could not be determined they are listed in Appendix 1 “Graves for Which the Location is in Question and the Precise Location Could Not be Verified.” When a cemetery contains only graves that are suspected to be those of Civil War veterans but for which verification could not be determined, they are listed in Appendix 2 “Possible Graves of Civil War Veterans but Could Not Be Verified.” When a cemetery contains both known and suspected or unverified Civil War veterans, they are all placed under the cemetery name in the main inventory so not to split up information but they are distinguished so it is clear who are known veterans and who are unverified individuals.

We know that despite our efforts we have missed cemeteries and many burials. We believe we have visited the vast majority of graveyards that are accessible and still have visible gravestones – probably over ninety percent. But we also know there are scores of small, some forgotten, family cemeteries located in fields and woods that we overlooked. We also know that errors still exist despite our best efforts. Those having corrections and information on cemeteries containing Civil War veterans that we have missed are encouraged to contact us at ree47@comcast.net.

Definitions:

Burial Ground - a tract of land for burial of the dead, a graveyard or cemetery.

Cemetery - A term for a burial ground which is derived from the Greek “kiometerion or sleeping place or dormitory.

Cenotaph - A memorial to a deceased person who is interred elsewhere. It literally means “empty tomb”.

Headstone – A grave marker that marks the head of a grave.

Footstone - A grave marker that marks the foot of a grave.

Grave Marker - A marker of any material including but not limited to a stone or wood, which designates a grave.

Gravestone - a stone that marks a grave.

Brief Guide to Gravestone Markers: When visiting a large cemetery with thousands of gravestones, the task of finding nineteenth-century markers which may represent Civil War veterans, can be perplexing, overwhelming and very time-consuming. The cemetery office, if one exists and is open, can sometimes be useful, but most require the full name of any veteran you are seeking in order to provide a plot location. However, a few simple procedures can greatly reduce the time necessary to successfully explore a cemetery. Before even visiting the

cemetery check to see if an inventory of that graveyard already exists. Many are online; others may be located in church offices, historical societies and even libraries. If you visit on Memorial Day or Veterans Day or soon after, many graves are marked by American flags. Use caution as sometimes the grave so marked is the veteran's widow and some graves are unfortunately incorrectly marked. Look for grave GAR, CSA or other such markers. Again, caution must be used. In one case, Eshelman visited a cemetery where every veteran was marked with a Spanish-American War marker even when the grave of a veteran did not participate in that war or any war.

Gravestones from an abandoned cemetery are often times relocated to other cemeteries so even if a cemetery was established in the mid to late twentieth century that does not mean it may not contain burials from an earlier period. Sometimes a modern marker is placed by descendants to either replace a deteriorated marker or to simply mark a grave that was never marked. Thus a new gravestone does not always indicate the date of actual burial.

Another helpful procedure is to have some knowledge of gravestone design. The three-lobed gravestone marker was popular from about 1770 to about 1830. The gothic design marker was popular from about 1790 to 1900. The basic tablet was popular from 1790 to about 1920. The obelisk marker was popular from about 1830 to 1920. The cross-vaulted obelisk was popular from about 1850 to 1920. The scroll type marker was popular from about 1850 to 1920. Flat or lawn type markers were introduced about 1910. By having a simple understanding of marker shape and design over time one can focus your search to that period you are most interested in.

General Grave Marker Maryland Chronology Guide⁴

Below we use, when possible, Maryland Civil War veteran gravestones to represent the examples of typical gravestone chronology types.

⁴ Grave marker chronology can vary from region to region. This Maryland chronology is based on Robert Lavote, "Pattern of Change in Tombstone Style and Artwork," *Maryland Genealogical Society Bulletin* 17(1):7-17 (Winter) 1976 with modifications based on Margaret Puglisi, "Stone Stories: Honoring Fallen Soldiers," *Heritage Gazette* (Spring 2013, p. 8); Claire Prechtel-Kluskens, "Headstone records for US military veterans," *National Genealogical Society Magazine*, vol. 39, no. 1 (2013): 30-33; and "History of Government Furnished Headstones and Markers," US. Department of Veterans Affairs, <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/history/hmhlist.asp>.



Wood or fieldstone marker – typical of 1750s or earlier but later examples are known.



Sandstone, limestone or dark slate with crude engraving – 1660s to 1850s.



Three or more lobed tablet (shouldered) type – 1770-1850.



Gothic (often rounded with pointed top such as on right) type – 1790-1910.



Basic tablet (rounded top) type – 1790-1930.



Gray-blue slate – 1800-1850s.



Obelisk (four-sided column) – 1830-1930.



Marble – 1830s-1880s.



Cross vaulted obelisk type – 1845-1940.



Scroll type – 1850-1920.



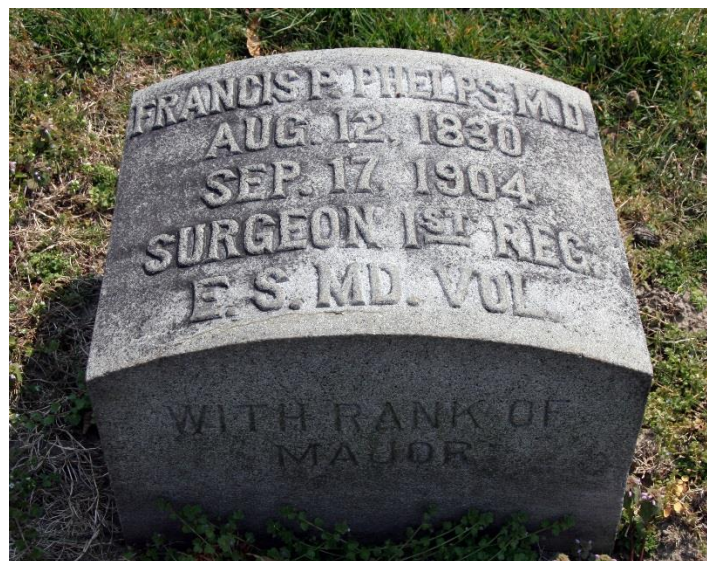
Pulpit (block with beveled or sloped top) type – 1860-1940.



Civil War military upright type with slightly rounded top, sunken shield, marble 10 inches wide and less than 4 inches thick – 1873-1903.



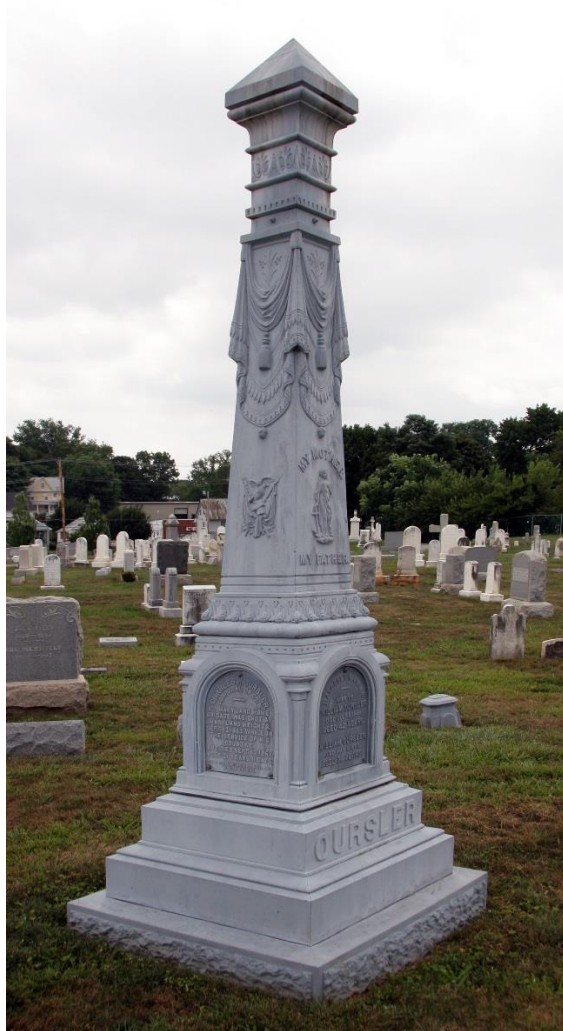
Granite – 1880 to present.



Arched granite – 1880 to present.



Cast metal – 1880-1910.



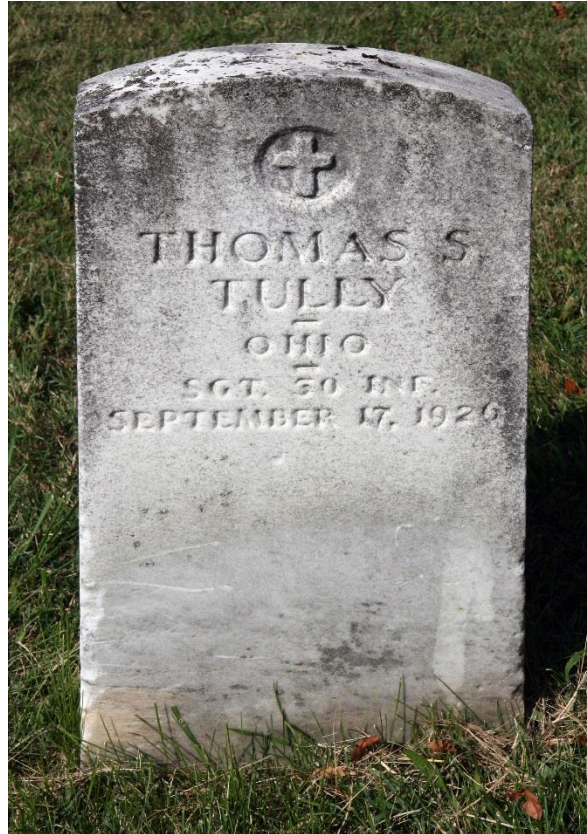
Cast alloy metal – circa 1860-1890.



Civil War military upright type with slightly rounded top, un-sunken shield, marble slab 12-13 inches wide and 4 inches thick – 1902-1925 (includes Civil War and Spanish-American War veterans who died prior to May 1925).



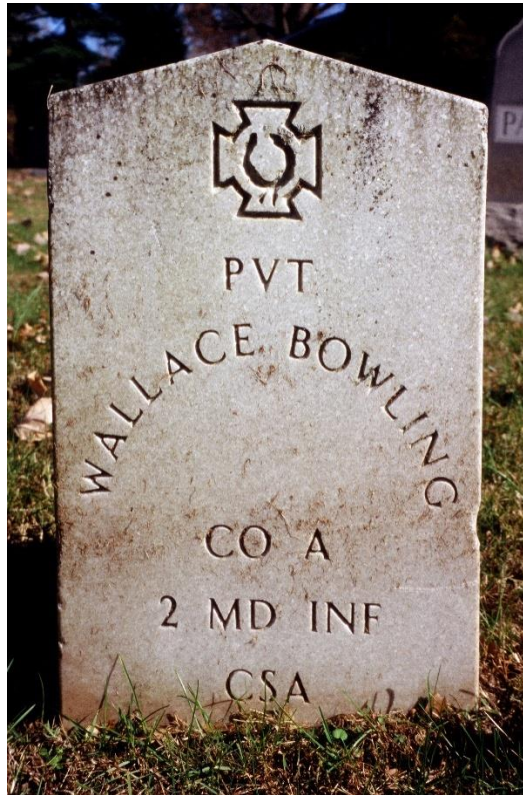
Confederate upright type military marble marker with pointed top, no Confederate Cross of Honor - 1906 to 1930. Non-Maryland burial, photo by Amy Crow.



General military upright type marble marker (13 inches wide) which often includes rank, regiment, division, date of death, state and religious symbol (Latin cross or Star of David) – circa 1918.



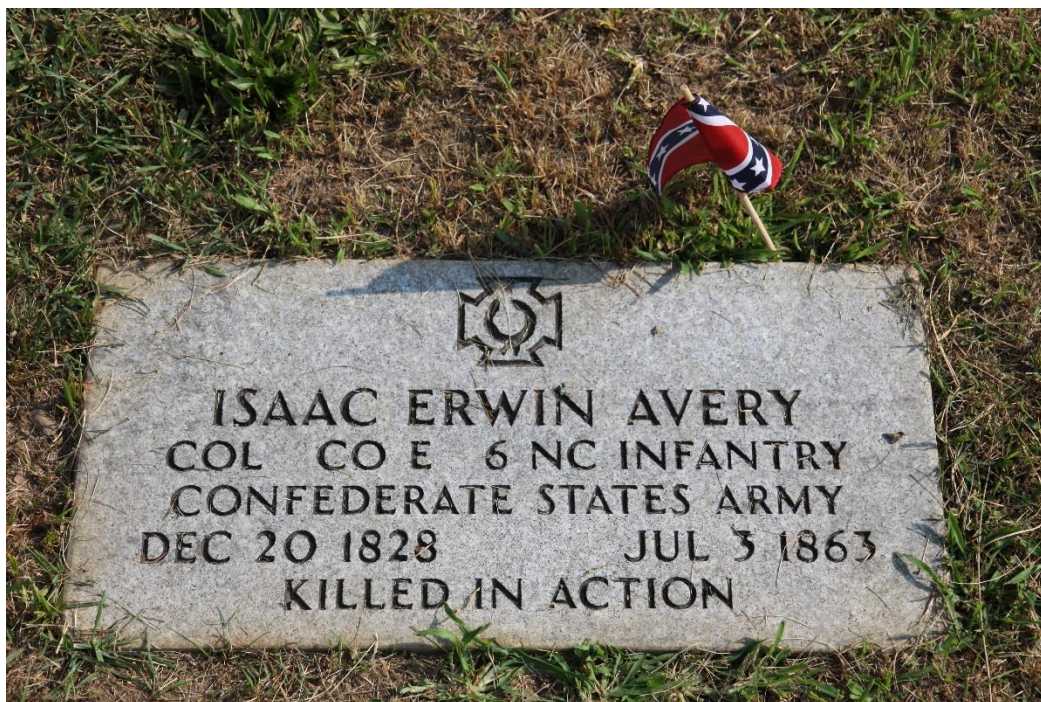
Military upright granite type marker – 1925-1947.



Confederate upright type military marble marker with pointed top and Confederate Cross of Honor – 1930-present.



Flat military granite marker with Latin Cross or Star of David – 1939-1947.



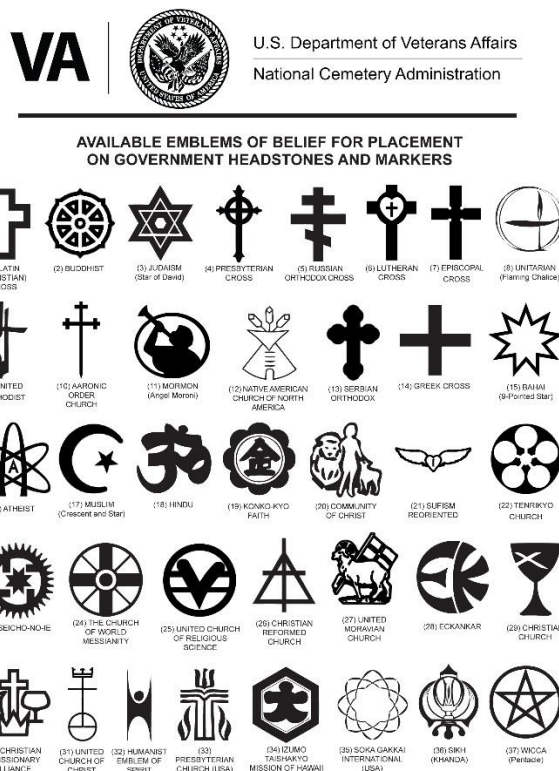
Flat military marble marker with religious symbol or Confederate Cross of Honor symbol top center – 1936-1973.



Military flat metal markers with plain edge, Latin Cross or Star of David symbol at top center and date of birth and death – 1944 to present.



Military flat metal marker with decorative edge, Latin Cross or Star of David symbol center bottom – 1973-present.



Page 1 of 2

The Federal Government in an effort to recognize various religious and non-religious beliefs began to allow such emblems on military gravestones in 1981. The examples above are a partial listing of types. Because most of these emblems post date Civil War veteran's deaths these are not typically found on Civil War veteran gravestones.

Variations of Government Issue Gravestones

The standard Government Issued military gravestone generally consists of the veteran's name in an arc, followed by company on second line and unit on third line. The arc on some gravestones almost forms a semicircle while in others there is only a slight arc for the name. Rank, other than that of private, is usually given above the name.



This early Government Issued gravestone for Pvt. John Barnes illustrates raised embossed lettering but the edge of the sunken shield is beveled. The thickness of the gravestone is thin compared to later Government Issued grave markers (see Knapp gravestone below). Tooth chisel marks are very clear. Barnes is buried at the Mount Carmel United Methodist Church Cemetery, Frederick County.



The Pvt. Christopher J. Knapp gravestone, located in Porter Cemetery, Allegany County, illustrates the semi-circle arc style for lettering of the veteran's names. Note the tooth chisel marks are distinguishable within the sunken shield area.



James R. Keller was a musician in the 2 Potomac Home Brigade, Maryland Infantry band. He is buried in Philos Cemetery, Westernport, Allegany County.



The Pvt. William R. Keeney gravestone, located in the Rocky Hill Cemetery, Frederick County, shows the potential for damage to the embossed raised lettering used on early military gravestones.



This gravestone from Vicksburg National Cemetery, Mississippi, provides the number assigned to fallen Union soldiers who died in the early years of the Civil War, however, it does not provide unit information. In the location where the company designation is normally placed is a block of unremoved marble. Possibly the unit information was unknown and the carver left this block in hopes at least the company designation could be later added.



The Government Issued gravestone for Pvt. Robert Jarvis, buried at Union Church Cemetery, Cecile County, shows machine carved lettering within a non-sunken shield, replacing the earlier more time-consuming hand carved embossed lettering style.

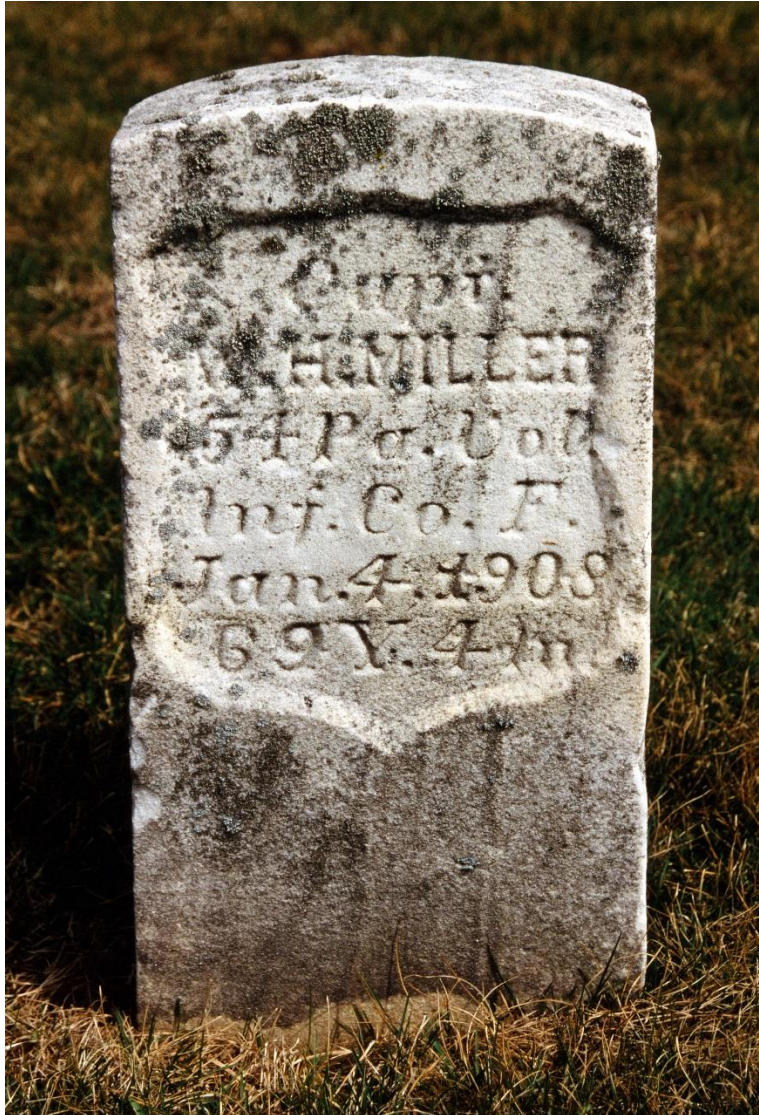


The standard semi-circle name style is shown on the left but another variation is the name straight across as seen on the right. Lt. Orville T. Andrews was wounded April 6, 1862, at Shiloh, Tennessee, resulting in amputation of his leg. He is buried at Westminster Cemetery, Carroll County.

Government Issued military markers initially did not include date of birth and death but because it was the custom to usually give dates on gravestones, families sometimes added them. By about 1909 the government began to include the date of death and by 1936 included the date of birth as well.



The year of birth and death has been added to the top face of this Government Issued gravestone for Pvt. Peter McClain who is buried at Germantown Church of God, Frederick County. Note the broken GAR marker.



The Capt. William H. Miller Government Issued gravestone is unusual in that it has a sunken beveled edge shield with concave engraved lettering, not the normal raised embossed lettering. It is probable that the original embossed lettering was removed and re-engraved as the lettering style is not anything close to the typical Government Issued lettering style. Perhaps the name was misspelled or the family wanted to add date of death and his age. Miller is buried at Hampstead Cemetery, Carroll County.



Example of shallow arc style for lettering the name with added death and birth dates as well as “FATHER” on top of Government Issued gravestone. Pvt. Joseph Hughes is buried at Rose Hill Cemetery, Cumberland.



Someone placed this separate handmade wooden marker to the Pvt. William H. Young's gravestone adding his dates of service and the fact that he was killed at Weldon Railroad, Virginia. Young is buried at Mount Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery, Washington County.



The Government Issued gravestone for 1st Sgt. James W. Jackson, located at Wayman African Methodist Episcopal Church Cemetery, Frederick County, gives his rank above his name. The gravestone is laid flat illustrating the length, about two-thirds of which would normally be buried below the surface.



This Government Issued gravestone appears to be a modern replacement. The sunken shield and raised embossed lettering is machine done as well as the concave letters below the shield. Pvt. Samuel Schwab is buried at Loudon Park Cemetery, Baltimore.



Government Issued gravestones are sometimes provided for immediate family members including wives and children. Here is an example of a standard government gravestone for Pvt. James A. Ringgold with raised embossed lettering in a sunken shield and the newer style format for his wife Mary with concave machine engraving. Note dates were added by the family to the James gravestone inscription whereas dates were provided on the newer Government Issued style for Mary.



Both private and Government Issued gravestones are sometimes present for the same individual as is the case for Pvt. James D. Alexander who is buried at Harts United Methodist Church Cemetery, Cecil County.



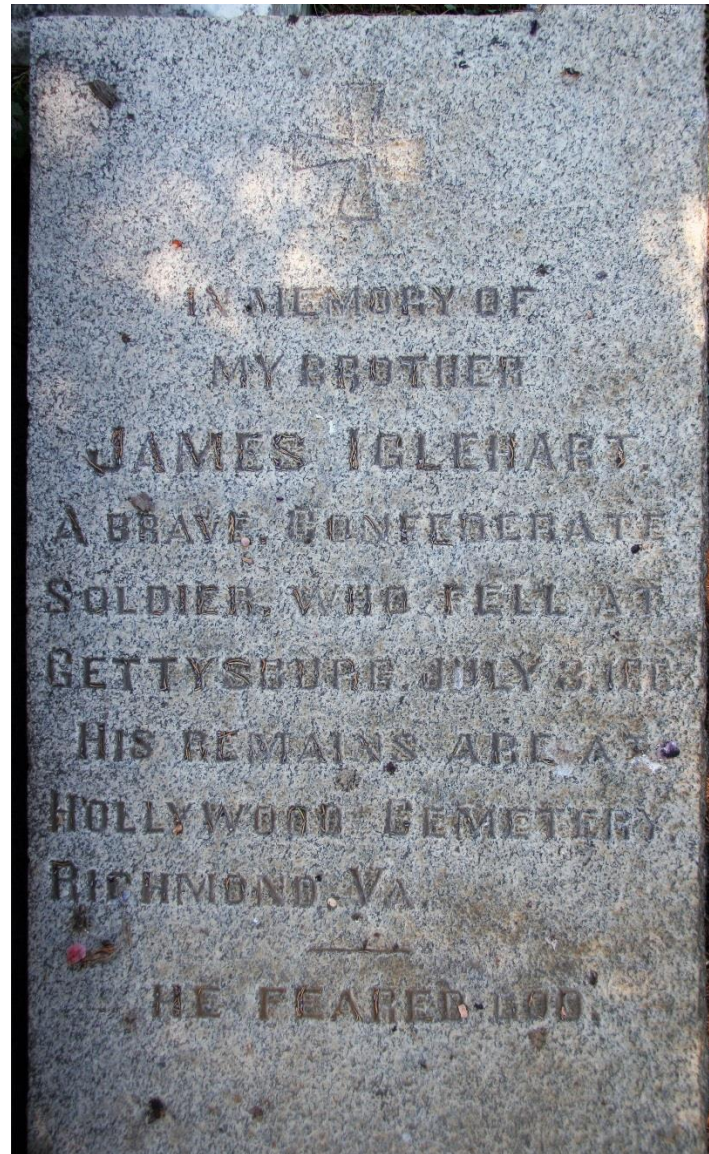
Occasionally a civilian or employee gravestone is issued as these examples from Fort Stevens, near Astoria, Washington.



Capt. Jacob Koogle received the Medal of Honor at the Battle of Five Forks, Virginia, April 1, 1865 when he captured a “battle flag.” His Government Issued gravestone, located at St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery, Frederick County, depicts the Medal of Honor.

Cenotaphs

Not all gravestones are actually places of burial. Sometimes the body is buried elsewhere, or the place of burial is unknown, but families or comrades wished to commemorate that individual with a memorial. Such memorials are called cenotaphs.



This cenotaph to Cpt. James Iglehart “who fell at Gettysburg” is located in St. Anne’s Cemetery, Annapolis, while his body is buried in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Virginia.



Lt. Col. John H. Kleefisch was killed at the Battle of Bull Run in April 1862. This cenotaph for him is located at New Windsor Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Carroll County, but his body is buried in Congressional Cemetery, Washington, D.C.

Private Gravestones with Military Symbolism

Many private gravestones provided by family and other loved ones sometimes include proclamation of military service or military depictions such as cannons, swords and muskets often related to the type of unit the veteran served. Other gravestones include patriotic symbols such as the American flag or US Shield.



1st Sgt. Joseph W. Walker was wounded near Petersburg, Virginia, June 16, 1864 and taken to Mt. Pleasant Hospital, Washington, D.C. where he died on July 8, 1864. His gravestone depicts an eagle standing on crossed flag staffs, a bayonet on each side and a US cartridge box below. Walker was aged twenty years, ten months and seventeen days. While the carving is among the most impressive on a Maryland Civil War veteran's gravestone, his last name is misspelled as Walter.



The Cpl. Henry Clay Shuck gravestone depicts an eagle with garland in its beak, a shield, crossed flags, a drum and a cannon. Shuck is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery, Cumberland, Allegany County.



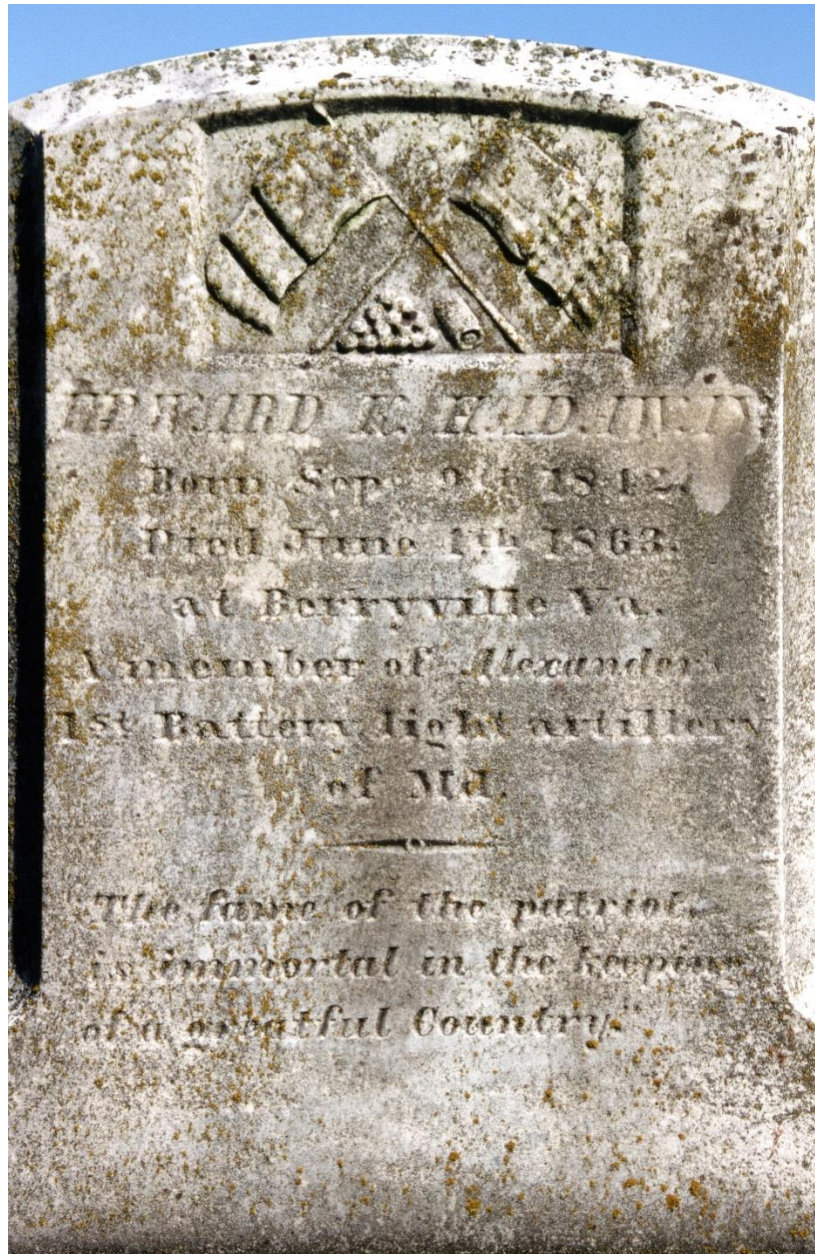
The Cpl. Charles W. Oursler gravestone is a cast metal obelisk on one side of which are crossed flags with an eagle standing on a shield and cannons, cannon balls, anchor and handle of sword behind. Oursler is buried in Westminster Cemetery, Carroll County.



Eagle with olive branch on US Shield graces the Monument to The Memory of the Unknown Dead erected by the Women's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, Loudon Cemetery, Baltimore.



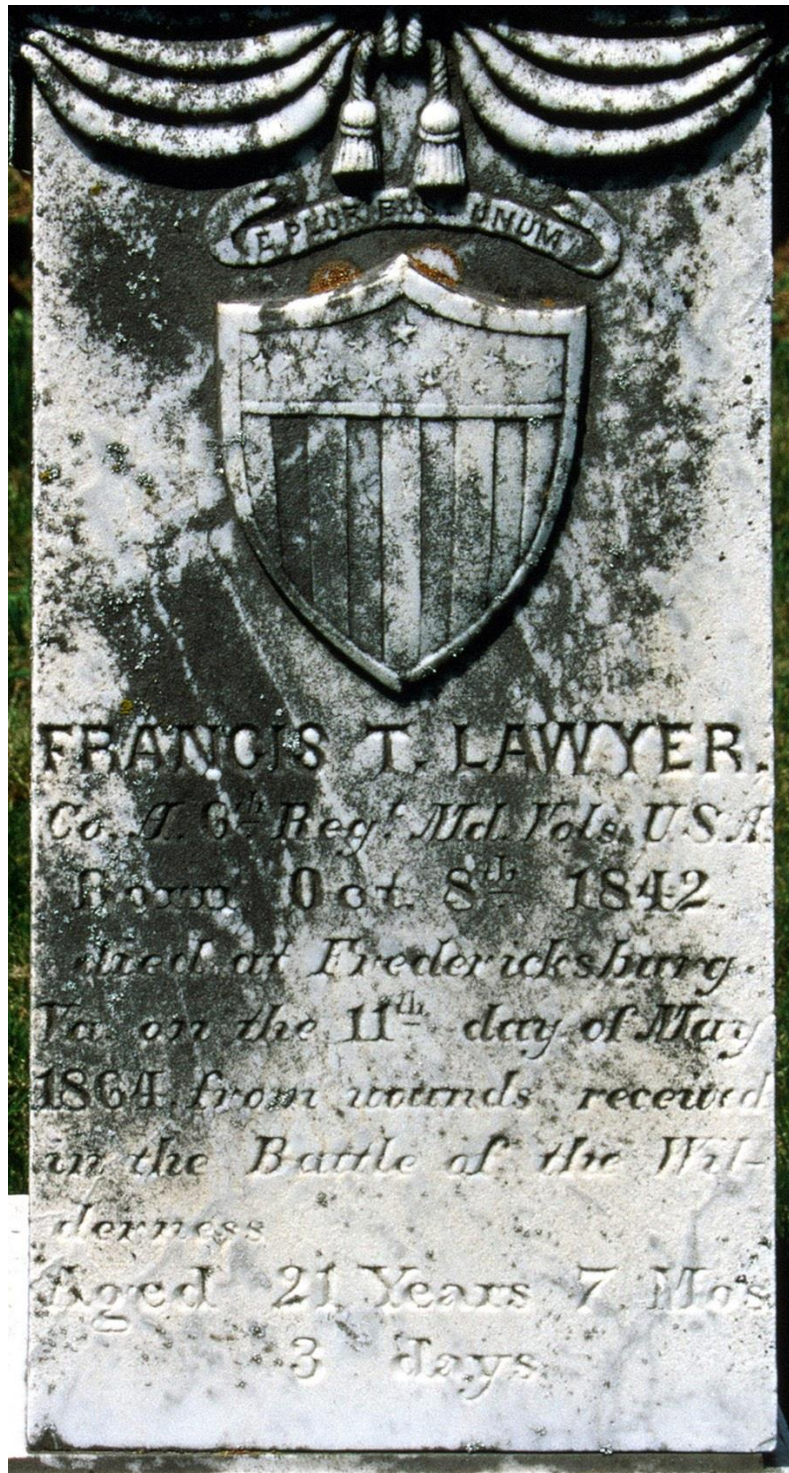
The Harvy T. McNull gravestone includes a gun, sword and sash. The epitaph includes the words "A patriot's grave." McNull was killed at the Battle of Loudoun Heights, Virginia, January 10, 1864. McNull is buried at Taneytown Reformed Cemetery, Carroll County. Harvy is an unusual spelling and may be a misspelling.



Pvt. Edward K. Hadaway served in Alexander's 1st Battery Maryland Light Artillery and died June 1, 1863 at Berryville, Virginia. His gravestone, located at Wesley United Methodist Church Cemetery, Kent County, depicts crossed American flags over cannon balls and a cannon tube.



The Capt. Thomas Griffith gravestone depicts a Confederate flag with the letters "C.S.A." inside a circle surrounded by garland.



Francis T. Lawyer was wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness May 5-7 and died a few days later at Fredericksburg, Virginia, on May 11, 1864. This patriotic gravestone with US Shield includes the US motto *E. Pluribus Unum* (Out of many, One) adopted by an Act of Congress in 1782. Lawyer is buried at Krider's Lutheran & Reformed Cemetery, Carroll County.



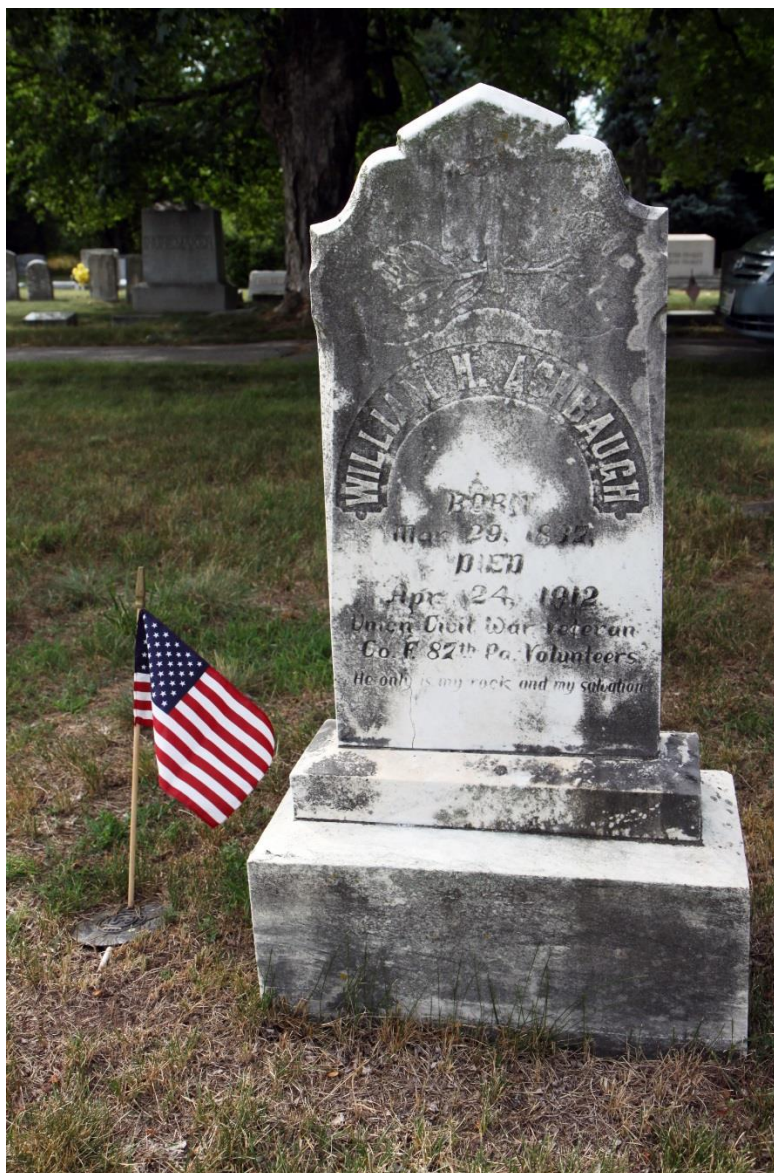
1st Cpl. William Cameron Jackson served in the North Carolina Cavalry as depicted in this sculpted portrayal of a cavalryman located at New Cathedral Cemetery, Baltimore.



The Capt. George Late Tyler gravestone consists of a broken column meaning death decorated with hanging saber and belt, cavalry helmet and gloves at base of column. Tyler served in the 2nd US Cavalry and is buried at Mount Olivet Cemetery, Frederick. Photograph shows detail of only the base of column.



Private gravestones sometimes use depictions to indicate the profession of the deceased. The Emmanuel Gates gravestone depicts a trumpet. Gates was bandmaster in the 6 US. Cavalry and is buried at St. Anne's Cemetery, Annapolis.



The epitaph for Pvt. William H. Ashbaugh, located at Emmitsburg Memorial Cemetery proclaims “Union Civil War Veteran.”



The Pvt. William J. Brannock gravestone, located at Greenlawn Cemetery, Cambridge, Dorchester County, proclaims him as a “Confederate Soldier” and includes the Confederate motto “Deo Vindice” meaning Under God, our Vindicator, adopted by CSA on April 30, 1863.



The Henry Brown gravestone prominently displays the Grand Army of the Republic star emblem. Brown is buried at Blooming Rose Church Cemetery, Garrett County.



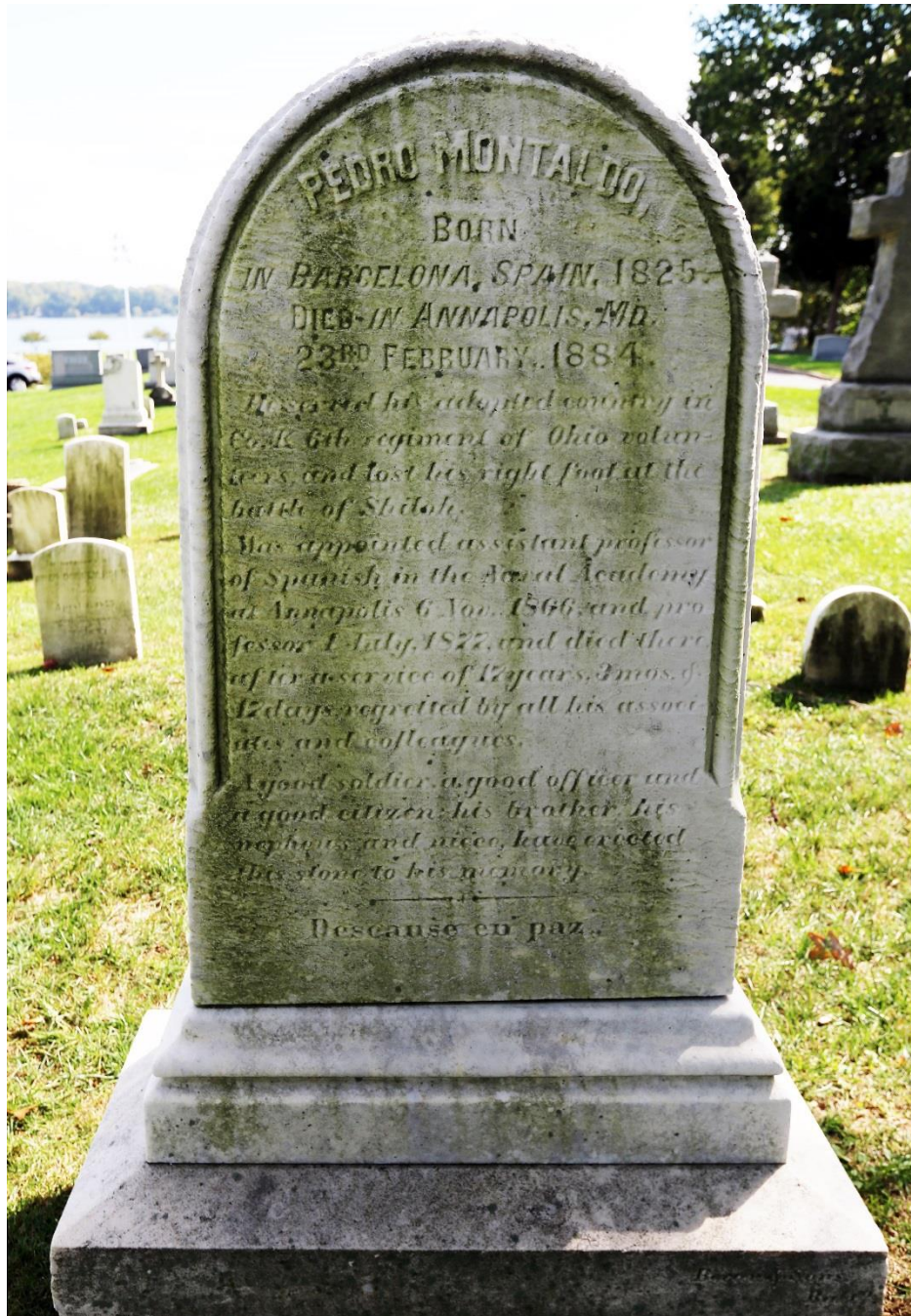
William Jenkins' gravestone, located in St. Johns the Evangelist Catholic Church Cemetery, Baltimore County, appears to include crossed flags representing the first and second versions of the national flags of the Confederate States of America.



The Pvt. Hugh McWilliams gravestone, located at Loudon Park Cemetery, Baltimore, boldly proclaims he was a Confederate Soldier.



There are four Kirkwoods buried in Bethel Presbyterian Church, Harford County, probably all from the same family. Each has the motif of an American flag, three identical and one different. Maj. Robert Kirkwood Robinson's gravestone has a strangely drooping American flag motif. All four served in Maryland units during the Civil War.



Pvt. Pedro Montaldo was born in Spain and “served his adopted country” in the Ohio Volunteers. He lost his right foot at the Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee, April 6-7, 1862, and was appointed professor of Spanish at the Naval Academy in Annapolis where he died and is buried.



Sgt. Adam C. Spicer was killed in the Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862, aged 24 years, 10 months and 4 days. The gravestone depicts Lady Liberty holding an American flag and the epitaph includes the words “*He gave his life freely that, the Republic might live.*” Spicer is buried in Gunpowder Baptist Church Cemetery, Baltimore County.



Among the most interesting Civil War related gravestones in Maryland is one for a War of 1812 veteran, John Houck, who died in 1873 at age 88. The gravestone engraver included an image of a militiaman, but unfamiliar with what a militiaman from the War of 1812 looked like, he instead used a representation of a soldier from the Civil War. Note the derby-like hat and cartridge box strap across his left shoulder. Houck is buried at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery, Upperco, Baltimore County.



Crossed Swords usually indicate death in battle. 2nd Lt. Isaac H. Smith, died March 26, 1863 at age 23 years, probably in battle or from wound in battle. Smith is buried at West Liberty Methodist Church Cemetery, Baltimore County.



Flags symbolize patriotism or veteran of the armed services. Pvt. William Henry Wilgis died October 16, 1863 during a “forced march...from Baltimore to Antietam, to defend the principals of his homeland.” The gravestone depicts an American flag on a staff. Wilgis served in Co. C 7th Maryland Infantry and is buried Mount Zion United Methodist Church Cemetery, Harford County.



G.A.R. medal emblem symbolizes membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. The Pvt. Eli T. Bull gravestone includes a relief depiction of the Grand Army of the Republic medal worn by many of the GAR members during parades and other such events honoring Civil War veterans. Bull is buried the Wiseburg United Methodist Church Cemetery, Baltimore County. A GAR medal is shown on the right.



Garland symbolizes victory in death. Garland over two crossed rifles is depicted on the Woman's Relief Corps Monument at Ebenezer United Methodist Church Cemetery, Carroll County.



Swords may symbolize a military career. Col. John W. Wilson was killed at the Battle of Dabney's Mill, Virginia, February 6, 1865. His gravestone with depiction of crossed swords was erected by the surviving officers and men of the 1st Maryland Regiment. Wilson is buried in Chestnut Grove Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Baltimore County.



While not solely a military symbol, a broken column signifies death. Pvt. David O. Welling is buried in St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery, Point of Rocks, Frederick County

Organizational and Fraternal Grave Markers

Many organizations mark veterans' graves. The original standard was cast iron, followed by bronze or some other metallic combination. Unfortunately due to theft of these metal markers for recycling they are now being replaced by plastic. Below are examples of some of the types of markers used to mark veteran's graves with emphasis on Civil War veteran markers.



American Legion US marker available in metal or plastic.



Confederate States of America iron marker.



Civil War Veteran marker.



Confederate War Veteran marker.



Confederate War Veteran metal marker.



Confederate War Veteran 1861 1865 plastic marker.



Daughters of Confederacy marker.



Grand Army of the Republic 1861 1865 metal star-shaped marker.



Grand Army of the Republic Pennsylvania G.A.R. cast iron marker.

F.C.L. stands for the three cardinal principals of the organization, Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty. The keystone shape signifies this is a Pennsylvania GAR post marker.



Grand Army of the Republic round iron marker.



Grand Army of the Republic shield-shaped metal marker.



Grand Army of the Republic star surrounded by circle metal marker. This marker appears to be handmade.



Grand Army of the Republic, John Brown Post 194. Different GAR posts had different markers.



Grand Army of the Republic 1861- 1865 Veteran plastic marker.



Grand Army of the Republic Veteran metal star marker.

Each tip of the star is decorated with a smaller star. The letters F, C, L and crossed rifles and anchor decorate each arm of the star. The crossed rifles represent soldiers and the anchor sailors. The letters stand for Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty representing the motto of GAR.



Commercial cast metal alloy grave marker signifying that Burris Subers served in the 119th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers.



US World War Veterans metal marker.



US War Veteran metal marker with eagle on top, star in middle and shield below.

Summary of Determining Age of Gravestones

Based on the type (shape and material) of a gravestone one can approximate the age of the marker. For Government Issued military markers, one can also usually determine the time period when the marker was installed. Caution must be used as new markers were often made to replace or mark previously unmarked graves. A helpful hint however is that usually the punctuation mark for periods “.” are found after abbreviations such as rank or unit in the Civil

War era gravemarkers while no periods “.” are found in the General or later military gravemarker types. The same is true for dates; there usually is a comma after the day and before the year in the Civil War era whereas there is no comma in the later types. Caution again, as sometimes the date of birth and or death have been added to old type markers. These instances can usually be distinguished by size, font and weathering differences.

Cemetery Etiquette Suggested by the International Association of Cemetery Preservationist, Inc.

1. Take only photos, leave only footprints.
2. Do not touch memorials or offerings.
3. Do not bring alcohol, firearms or entertainment items into cemeteries.
4. Show respect for the dead.
5. Maintain supervision of children and teach them to respect the dead.
6. Keep pets under control and clean up after them.
7. Do not litter, this includes cigarette butts.
8. Do not interfere with the plants or wildlife that inhabit the cemetery.
9. Keep your vehicle on designated roadways or in parking areas.
10. Do not leave vehicle idling, the exhaust can exacerbate damage to historic structures and sculptures.
11. Please stay on designated walkways or footpaths.
12. Obey posted times of operation or refer to local laws on the matter.
13. Promptly report suspicious activities or vandalism to local authorities.

Issues of Privacy

Most cemeteries are privately owned. Exceptions are veteran cemeteries and some public cemeteries owned by municipalities, etc. Usually visitors are welcome to private cemeteries such as those owned by churches so long as visitors respect private property and the dead buried there. Cemeteries on private property should never be visited without permission from the owner first.

1. These figures are from Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System, a computerized database about servicemen operated by the National Park Service. The records are largely from the National Archives. Unfortunately the sailor NPS database portion is not complete.

² Robert W. Meinhard, War Statistics, *The Civil War Battlefield Guide*, edited by Frances H. Kennedy, The Conservation Fund, Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1990.

3. There were 405,399 battle deaths during WWII, 116,516 battle deaths during WWI, 58,152 battle deaths during the Vietnam Conflict, 33,746 battle deaths during the Korean War, 4,435 battle deaths during the American Revolution, 2,260 battle deaths during the War of 1812, 13,283 battle deaths during the Mexican War, 4,374 battle deaths during the Philippines War, 2,446 battle deaths during the Spanish-American War, over 1,300 battle deaths during the Iraq War, and 382 battle deaths during the Persian Gulf War, and 69 battle deaths during the Afghanistan Conflict. Statistics from Meinhard, Department of Defense, Veterans Affairs Department, and Oxford Companion of American Military History. During the American Civil War there were 1,100,192 killed, wounded and missing.

4. 12.5 percent of the participants died during the American Revolution, 2.5 percent during WWI, 2.5 percent during WWII, 0.7 percent during Vietnam War and 0.6 percent during the Korean War. These significantly lower numbers reflect better and faster medical attention. The Civil War death total represented approximately 1.60 percent of the total United States population. This is the largest death percentage for any American conflict; 0.9 percent of the population died during the American Revolution, 0.28 percent during WWII and 0.12 during WWI.

⁵ <http://www.nps.gov/anti/learn/historyculture/casualties.htm>.

⁶ “Civil War cemetery is historian’s classroom,” *Annapolis Capital*, September 26 (year of newspaper article unknown).

7. John E. Jacob, *Graveyards and Gravestones of Wicomico* (Willow Bend Books 2003), 1.

⁸ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maryland_in_the_American_Civil_War.