

Marking Time:

CIVIL WAR GRAFFITI IN THE CATOCTIN REGION

Edie Wallace

*Civil War period
graffiti...marks
the path that
Confederate and
Union soldiers
followed through
the Catoctin
Mountain region.*

Frederick City, September 29th [1862]

How different now is this peaceful valley grown in the short interval of time. And how sad. The thunder-clap of war has now rolled to the distance, leaving Nature slowly to recover from the paralyzation of its recent shock. It were not, perhaps, a smaller contrast, to note the difference in my condition, hope and prospects now, with two weeks ago. I was then hastening over this same road with thousands and thousands of others....I was full of life and vigor, and yet wondering if my fate might not be to have my bones become a part of the dust of the mountain....Now the campaign is ended. I had fondly hoped that I might so term the war. Maryland is free from the tread of Rebel hosts and the Nation rejoices in a great victory, as it mourns over the countless dead. I am returning with many others, helpless, to the little city of Frederick, seeking tenderness and care.

*Private Charles F. Johnson
9th NY, Hawkins Zouaves¹*

Private Charles F. Johnson is remembered today partly because he left his mark through his writing, filling a journal with musings and

sketches of his Civil War experiences. A member of the New York Hawkins Zouaves, Johnson was wounded in action near Sharpsburg on September 17, 1862 at the south end of the Antietam battlefield near "Burnside's Bridge." While Johnson recuperated in Frederick, fellow Hawkins Zouave member William Mitchel chose to leave his mark in time in a far simpler but equally poignant medium. Deeply inscribing his name and regimental association in the second-story windowsill of John Otto's farmhouse overlooking Burnside's Bridge, Mitchel ensured his life and service, too, would be remembered.

Civil War period graffiti—names inscribed, penciled, or written in charcoal on walls, rocks, and windowsills—marks the paths that Confederate and Union soldiers followed through the Catoctin Mountain region. Silent tokens of the horror of civil war, the signatures remind us that the grand armies, the corps, battalions, regiments, and companies were composed of individual human beings. The inscriptions served often as a forum for political opinion, a palate for artwork, or a simple attempt to be remembered. Mostly though, the graffiti filled the moments of boredom experienced by soldiers during the long periods of dull routine between battles.



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William Mitchell's inscription in the windowsill of the John Otto House, Antietam National Battlefield, Sharpsburg, Maryland.

Maryland Heights and Harpers Ferry - 1861

The journey began in 1861, shortly after the long-simmering disagreements between North and South dissolved into secession and war. Massachusetts regiments were among the first to mobilize. The 13th Massachusetts (Rifle) Regiment, including the 101 men of Company K from the Marlborough area, marched out of Boston the last week of July 1861. In a letter submitted to the *Roxbury City Gazette* on August 1, a writer noted, "The regiment was well armed with Enfield muskets....The destination of the regiment is supposed to be Harpers Ferry."² The state-of-the-art rifled muskets would prove to be an advantage for long-range accuracy over the "smoothbore" standards manufactured in the Harpers Ferry federal armory.

Finally arriving in late August at the southern tip of Washington County, Maryland, across the Potomac River from Harpers Ferry, the men of the 13th Massachusetts skirmished on and off with Confederates on the Virginia side of the river. But as the days stretched, boredom set in: "Life is dull here—nothing to do, and plenty of it," observed another writer to the *Gazette* on August 29.³ Stationed on the rocky cliffs of Maryland Heights overlooking Harpers Ferry, the

sharpshooting "Rifles" protected the important Chesapeake & Ohio Canal, proving their weapon's superiority over the smoothbore.

As their stay lengthened into October, opportunities for idleness grew. Crouched among the boulders on the Heights, a number of the soldiers of the 13th Massachusetts, Company K

carved their signatures. Despite the fading effects of weathering a few are still legible, particularly those of Private George H. Gates and Gardner R. Parker. Private Gates, a native of Cambridge, New York, chose an iron-stained flat rock to leave his mark. Gates mustered into service with the 13th Massachusetts on July 16, 1861 at the age of 28. At that time, Gates' occupation as a brewer filled his days. Mustered out on August 1, 1864, the brewer-turned-rifleman returned to New York to live in Brooklyn.⁴ Gardner Revere Parker left his name deeply inscribed on a rock above Gates' name. Born in Lowell, Massachusetts, Private

Inscriptions on a rock on Maryland Heights, overlooking Harpers Ferry.



EDIE WALLACE



▲ Tracing of a drawing depicting Jefferson Davis, in the Roeder Store in Harpers Ferry.



▲ Drawing of a man on the wall of the Roeder Store, Harpers Ferry.



▲ Signatures of members of Baxter's Zouaves, Roeder's Store, Harpers Ferry.

Parker was 24 years old when he enlisted in July 1861.⁵ Although he worked as a freightman on the Boston and Albany Railroad before the war, his talent as a stone carver implies some knowledge of the trade. On December 13, 1862, at Fredericksburg, Virginia, a bullet blew off Parker's right thumb and ended his carving days. With his right leg also wounded, Private Parker headed for the hospital. It is said that Gardner Parker, tiring of his confinement in army hospitals, finally skedaddled for Worcester: "Parker wanted out for good—he had fought until wounded, two of his brothers had been killed, and a third had been wounded. The army forgave him and granted him an honorable discharge."⁶

Out of the Frying Pan, Into the Fire - 1862

The town of Harpers Ferry suffered early from massive destruction, the result of constant wrangling for control of the important border location and Baltimore & Ohio Railroad supply route.

Within the first months of the war, one or the other army had burned the federal armory, Herr's flourmill, and the railroad bridge across the Potomac. Many of the houses, abandoned by the town's frightened civilian population, stood empty, their contents removed by the owners or looted by strangers.

By the end of 1861, the 13th Massachusetts had marched south into Virginia, and new Union faces were arriving in the Harpers Ferry area. Baxter's Fire Zouaves, the 72nd Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, had called their enrollment from the various firehouses of the Philadelphia area:

ATTENTION PHILADELPHIA FIREMEN

—Colonel Baxter's Philadelphia Fire Zouaves, Company G, now forming in the western part of the city, will be mustered in immediately. Twenty-five more men wanted. Recruiting Offices, 318 Chestnut Street, upstairs, and Sixteenth St. above Callowhill.

E.G. Roussel, V. Hagerman, C. McCarty⁷

After initial training in Poolesville, Maryland, Baxter's Zouaves stayed in Harpers Ferry from

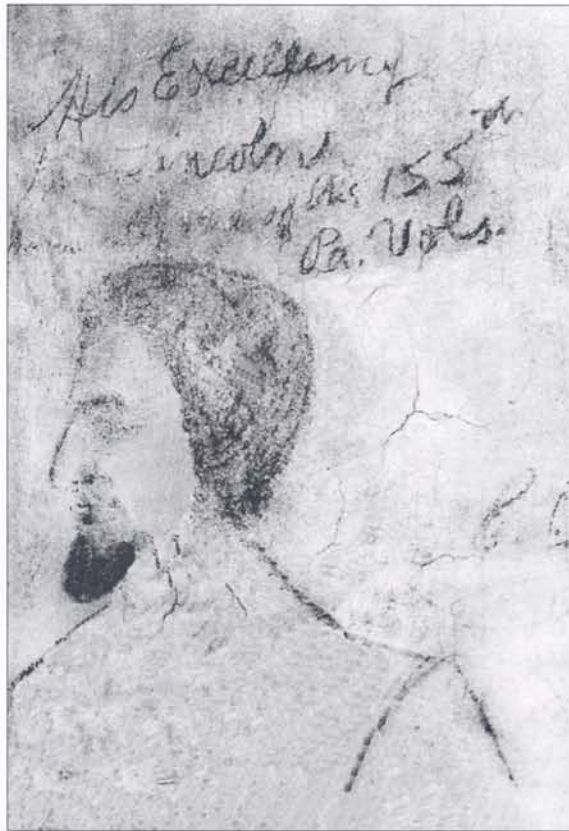
January through February 1862. For two months, the boys of Company G cooled their heels in the abandoned homes of Harpers Ferry. In Frederick A. Roeder's store on Potomac Street, 1st Lieutenant Victor Hagerman and eight of his enlisted men filled their empty hours by decorating the plaster walls.⁸ The firemen of Philadelphia left messages for the Confederacy, perhaps the most graphic drawn by Private Michael Smith showing the "last of Poor Jeff Davis." Smith was 19 years old when he enrolled and listed his occupation as "Gentleman."⁹ Lt. Hagerman, perhaps in honor of their French Zouave association, wrote after his name "de Maulhouse France, Mora aux truhels," roughly translated as, "of Maulhouse France, death to the [traitors ?]." Someone among the group was an artist, gracing the second floor walls with portraits of a man and woman, "Jeff Davis" on a horse, and an elegant rendition of the American flag. Another simply wrote in large letters across the wall, "LEAP FROG LEAP TO HELL." Other signers of the garret walls from Company G included Private/Corporal Benjamin Harris, who declared "Death to Traitors," Private James Dougherty, Private James Starr, Private Samuel Floyd, Private James Breckenridge, Private Josiah Dicsey (listed as Isaiah Dixey in enrollment records), and Private John Henk.¹⁰ Private Henk was a machinist when he enrolled at age 19. He re-enlisted in February 1864 at Stevensburg, Virginia, transferred to the 183rd Regiment, and was promoted to Corporal.¹¹

As the war marched on through the summer months of 1862, events began to unfold that would culminate in the September battle of Antietam, known as the bloodiest single-day battle of the Civil War. The 72nd Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, were among the mass of over 100,000 Union troops that came to the Antietam battlefield at Sharpsburg, Maryland in September 1862. Baxter's firemen of Philadelphia were attached to Sedgwick's 2nd Division, O. O. Howard's 2nd Brigade, known as the Philadelphia Brigade. Moving through the West Woods during the morning phase of the battle, the enfilade of McLaws' Confederates devastated the Brigade. Although the Philadelphia Brigade, made up of only four Pennsylvania regiments, had the highest number of casualties resulting from the Antietam battle, remarkably none of the signatories of the walls of Roeder's store in Harpers Ferry was among those killed.¹² Private James Starr, however, later lost an arm from a wound inflicted at Antietam, and both Private Dixey and Lieutenant Hagerman were discharged after the battle due to injuries.¹³

The Maryland Campaign – 1862

The campaign that led to Antietam had commenced in late August 1862, when General Robert E. Lee's Confederate forces crossed the Potomac River southeast of Frederick. As their route led through Urbana, Maryland, the cavalry of Longstreet's Corps under the command of Major General J.E.B. Stuart stopped several nights at the former Landon Military Academy, lately a Female Seminary. Reported to be the location of the Sabers and Roses Ball, hosted by Stuart on September 8, 1862, the expansive building sheltered as many as one hundred Confederate soldiers.¹⁴ According to the Union troops that followed several days later, "...they had written their autographs, and many unpatriotic inscriptions, with burnt sticks, on the beautifully, white-plastered walls."¹⁵ Not to be outdone, the men of the 155th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, Company E, left their own inscriptions, gracing the wall above the parlor mantel with the likeness of "His Excellency Abraham Lincoln." The men of the regiment who were there recalled that, "Private McKenna, of Company 'E,' especially distinguished himself on this occasion as a lightning artist, and was given three cheers by the comrades who witnessed his performance, and unanimously voted Regimental artist."¹⁶

The men of the 155th whose names were immortalized on the walls of what is now called Landon House in Urbana were stragglers, exhausted by their pursuit of the Confederate army through Maryland. Among them were Sergeant John M. Lancaster, Private Theophilus S. Callen, Corporal Newell D. Loutsenheiser, Corporal Thomas P. Tomer, and Privates James I. O'Neill, Robert P. Douglas, Hugh Leonard, James Finnegan, and John Crookham. All, like Private Charles F. McKenna, were members of Company E, except Finnegan of Company D, mustered into service less than one month earlier from Allegheny County in western Pennsylvania. Within weeks of their recruitment, these soldiers found themselves first on the battleground of the South Mountain passes, and three days later approaching Antietam. Despite their lack of training, all of these men survived their first battles. But in 1863, Corporal Tomer was wounded at Gettysburg. Tomer remained in the Union army as a member of the Veteran Reserve Corps until 1865. During the Wilderness battle of May 5, 1864, in Virginia, Private O'Neill was wounded. He too finished his service in the Veteran Reserve. Corporal Loutsenheiser was also wounded at the Wilderness, but died several days



EDIE WALLACE AND DENNY FENNER

Drawing of Abraham Lincoln in the Landon House, Urbana, Maryland.

Theophilus S. Callen and Robert Douglas, of the 155th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, Company E, in their Zouave uniforms.



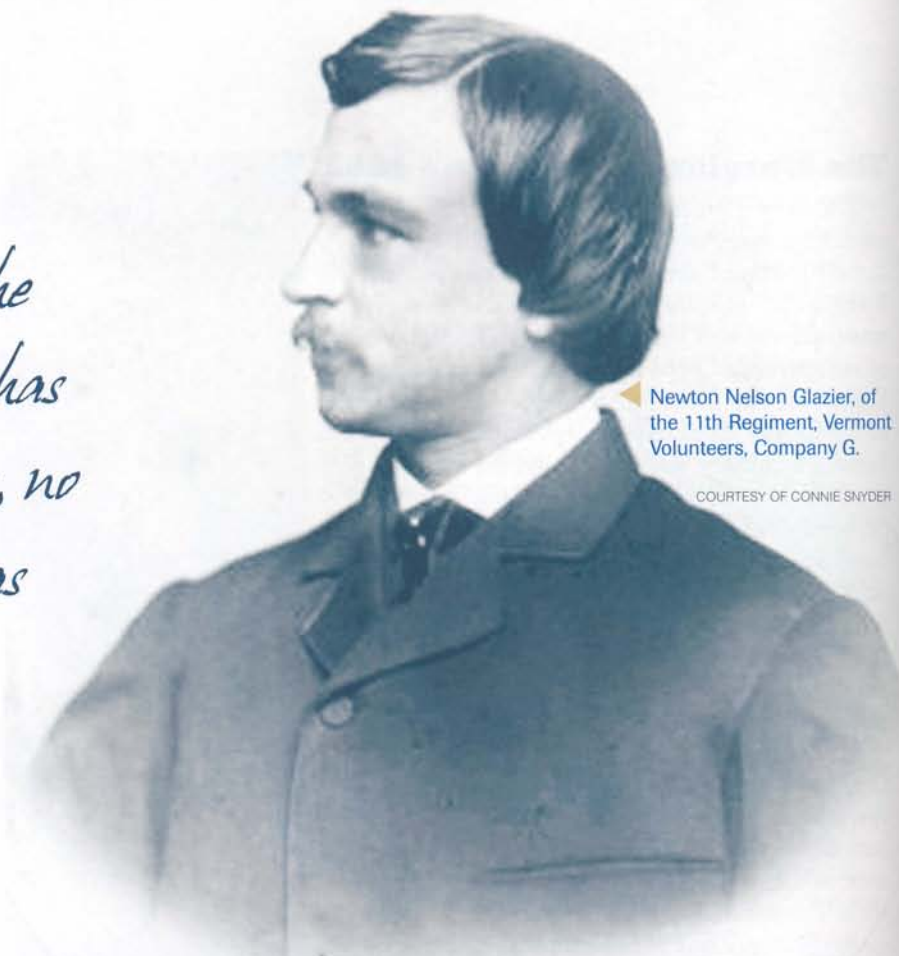
THEOPHILUS S. CALLEN.



ROBERT P. DOUGLAS.

FROM UNDER THE MALTESE CROSS, ANTIETAM TO APPOMATOX (PITTSBURG, PA. THE 155TH REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION) 1910

"No other place has half the attraction, no other place has so many holy associations, no other place is half so dear as my own Vermont."



Newton Nelson Glazier, of the 11th Regiment, Vermont Volunteers, Company G.

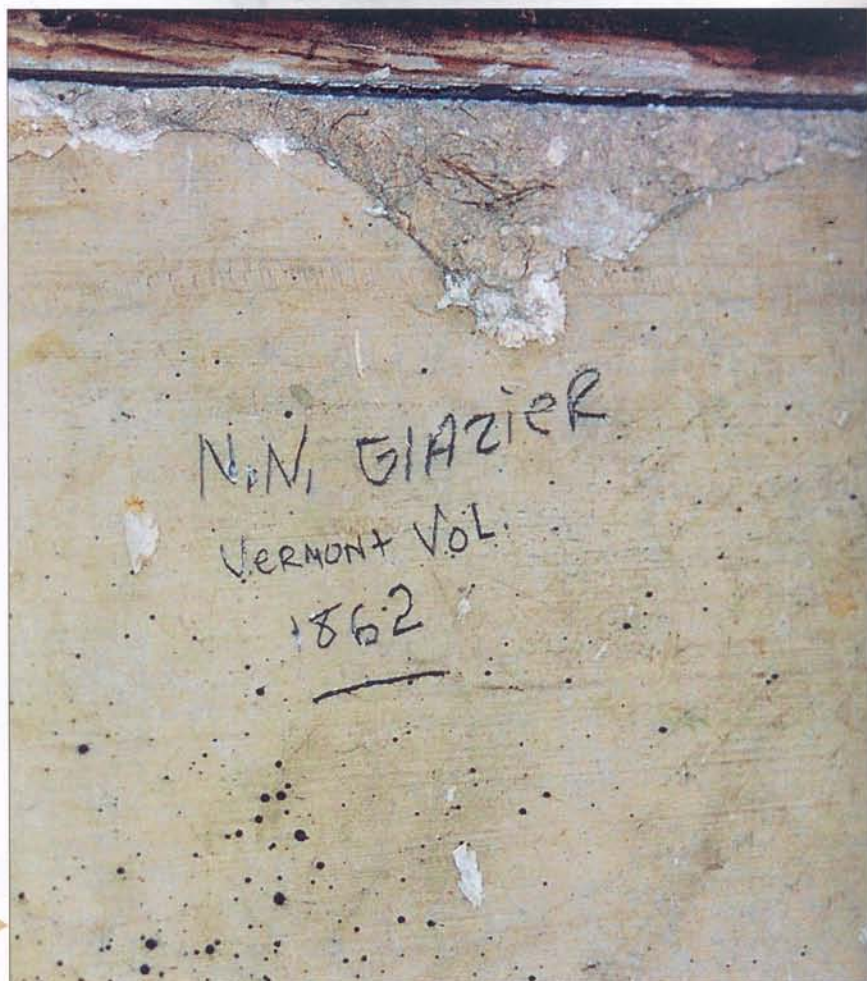
COURTESY OF CONNIE SNYDER

later and was buried in the National Cemetery at Alexandria, Virginia, in grave No. 1,922.¹⁷

By 1864, the group of stragglers that had gathered at Landon House two years earlier had seen plenty of action and formed a strong bond of brotherhood. Proof of this bond was demonstrated on the battlefield of Cold Harbor in Virginia, in June 1864:

...Sergeant Lancaster and Privates McKenna, Hipsley and Douglass, of Company E, under the fire of the enemy on the advanced skirmish line, rescued and carried in from the front the body of Private Theophilus S. Callen, of the same company, who had been killed on vidette outpost just before daylight that morning.¹⁸

As they dug their friend's grave beneath a peach tree, reward for their bravery came with the discovery of a Confederate stash of silverware, "but no gold or silver coins."¹⁹ Private Charles F. McKenna, lightning artist and brave comrade, survived the war and went on to become a lawyer in Pittsburgh. President Theodore Roosevelt later appointed him to the position of Federal Judge of Puerto Rico.²⁰



Glazier's inscription on the wall of the Moulder Building in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

Home Is Where the Heart Is

Just one month prior to the Antietam battle, Amherst College sophomore Nelson Newton Glazier enlisted in the 11th Regiment, Vermont Volunteers, Company G.²¹ Private Glazier traveled with his company in September 1862 to Fort Lincoln, and later Fort Slocum, for "Duty in the Defences [sic] of Washington, D.C." The skills in artillery demonstrated by the men earned the regiment a change in designation to 1st Heavy Artillery in December 1862. However, Newton Glazier's education no-doubt influenced his position as clerk in the Adjutant's office. In September 1862, while his compatriots labored at the construction of the Washington forts, Glazier attended to his clerk's duties, noting in a letter: "It is much pleasanter for me to remain in camp than it would be to go out and aid in throwing up these works; you know I am not so immoderately fond of work as many are."²²

The 11th Regiment remained at the Washington defensive forts through May of 1864 and did not participate in the Antietam battle of September 1862. Yet Newton Glazier's signature, dated 1862, appears on the garret wall of the Moulder Building in the nearby Virginia town of Shepherdstown (now West Virginia). Although his letters do not mention a trip to Shepherdstown, Glazier's duties in the Adjutant's office included stints as courier to the other Washington forts, and perhaps as far as Shepherdstown during the long Union occupation following the September battle.

Throughout his time around Washington, Newton Glazier rose through the ranks. In November 1863 he became 2nd Lieutenant of Company A and in January 1864 was elevated to 1st Lieutenant. Although spared the heavy labor of construction, and apparently relatively comfortable in his camp, Glazier complained of stomach illnesses often and grew increasingly homesick. While describing his camp in Maryland as "some four miles north of Washington, in a very pleasant country, healthy in locality," still his heart longed for home: "No other place has half the attraction, no other place has so many holy associations, no other place is half so dear as my own Vermont."²³

On the morning of May 12, 1864, Newton Glazier wrote from Fort Slemmer near Washington, D.C.: "My Very Dear Father; We are expecting to leave tomorrow for the 'Front'—They are having an awful battle in Virginia—we expect to join Grant soon...I think Grant is determined to win or sacrifice the Army in the attempt."²⁴ Nine

Uncovering History:

Revealing the **GRAFFITI** of Building #5 in Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Like archaeologists working above ground, the conservators at Harpers Ferry Center found stratified layers of later periods of occupation covering the 1861 graffiti on the walls of Building #5 (Frederick A. Roeder's Store), in Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Faced with the challenge of revealing the delicate penciled inscriptions, a variety of tests were used to evaluate potential techniques. The results were variable, depending largely on the layers of material to be removed, providing a useful reference for future graffiti conservation projects throughout the United States.

The second floor plaster walls of Building #5 had seen years of whitewash and were finally finished with several layers of opaque paint. In a report on the conservation project, conservators described the process of removing the whitewash and paint to reveal the graffiti:

The technique used to reveal the graffiti on the south and west walls of the southeast room was to scrape off the overlying strata with a scalpel, using a mist of water as a lubricant and as a means of bringing out the more faint inscriptions. There was relatively good cleavage between the graffiti-bearing strata and the overlying layers, possibly because a layer of grime had accumulated prior to the surface being painted.

In the garret of Building #5, where only a few layers of lime wash had covered the plaster, consideration was given to removing the lime wash with acids. However, fear that the acid would also remove the graffiti resulted in the use of a far less destructive technique. Conservators found that swabbing the walls with distilled water had the effect of making the lime wash transparent, revealing the penciled graffiti underneath. Although the inscriptions would not be permanently uncovered with this technique, they could be photographed and transcribed. Importantly, conservators noted, "leaving the lime wash protects the graffiti from dirt, light," and other potential destructive forces.

Harpers Ferry is blessed with many buildings inscribed with Civil War era graffiti. Many, like Building #5, have so much graffiti on the walls that the cost to uncover it all would be prohibitive. Like archaeological sites, the graffiti-filled walls are perhaps best left with their protective coverings, preserving them for future generations.

If you have historic graffiti on your walls and wish to preserve and display the work, it is suggested that no abrasives be allowed to come into contact with the generally fragile material and that plaster walls be kept dry and prevented from cracking. Covering your graffiti with glass is acceptable, as long as the glass does not touch the plaster (to prevent condensation) and the wall is not in direct sunlight (to prevent fading).

SOURCE: Greg Byrne and Alan Levitan, "Graffiti Survey, Building #5, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park," National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center, Division of Conservation (October 1993), n.p.



days later, Glazier wrote from Hospital B, 2nd Division, 6th Corps, Fredericksburg, Virginia:

My Dear Father—Early Thursday morning May 19 My left arm was struck by a piece of shell near the shoulder—amputation was necessary...I am thankful I am as well off as I am.

O pray for the wounded & the Dying—I hope our cause will be victorious. I trust that the old Flag borne upward by Northern Prayers & borne onward by Northern blood will triumph yet—good bye—I am very weak.

N. N. Glazier²⁵

Having lost his arm from the wound at Spotsylvania, Lieutenant Glazier was honorably discharged from the Union army on September 3, 1864. In 1865, while he continued his college studies, Newton Glazier represented his hometown of Stratton in the Vermont legislature, and in 1869, he was ordained a Baptist minister. Rev. Glazier served a number of Vermont and Massachusetts congregations, recalled his great-niece, Maud C. Eaton, who noted:

The last fifteen years of his life as a retired pastor were spent with his blind sister, Czarina Abigail Glazier Williams, then 92 years of age, at Beatrice, Nebraska; Muscotah, Kansas; and Ashland, Nebraska. He died at Ashland, Nebraska in the fall of 1922 and was buried at Willow Creek Cemetery north of Prague, Nebraska.²⁶

The Eyes of the Gray Ghost - 1863

Early in the summer of 1863, General Robert E. Lee, known among Union soldiers as "the gray ghost," again decided to take the war into Northern territory. With his eye toward Pennsylvania, Lee led his army northward through Maryland behind the cover of the South Mountain and Catoctin Mountain ranges. For three days in July, the town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania was the center of one of the war's most pivotal battles. Unable

to break the Union lines at Gettysburg, Lee's hungry and bedraggled army retreated southward through two days of driving rain to the banks of the Potomac River. The swollen river forced the men to remain in Maryland, setting up their defenses in a line stretching from Funkstown to Downsville.

As both Union and Confederate armies had found over the previous year, a competent signal corps placed in strategic positions was an invaluable tool in "modern" warfare. The widely extended lines of the Confederates, trapped by the swollen Potomac, found advantage in their position using a widow's walk on the roof of a manor house known as Linden Hall, near Williamsport. The large house stood on a low hill surrounded by cultivated fields, providing an unobstructed view of three states: Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. From this vantage point, the men of the Confederate Signal Corps assigned to General Longstreet's 1st Corps provided information on the cautious movements of Meade's pursuing Union army. Longstreet reported later, "...the command was put in camp on the best ground that could be found, and remained quiet until the 10th, when the enemy was reported to be advancing to meet us."²⁷

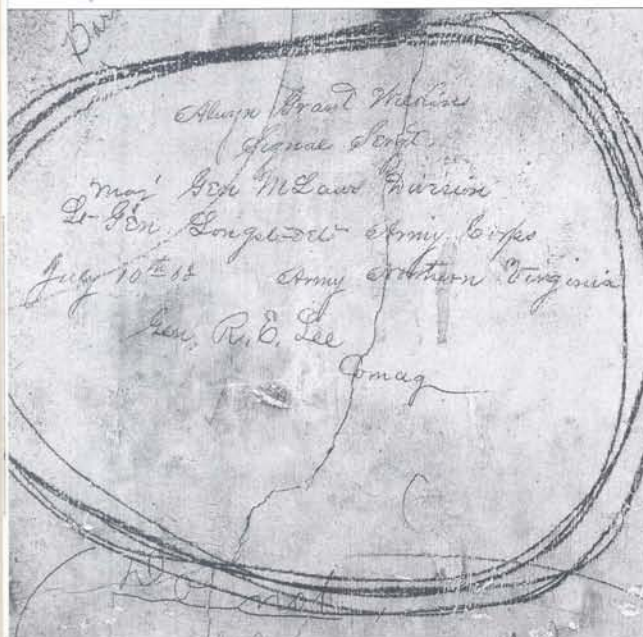
The signalmen who manned the rooftop post at Linden Hall found refuge during quiet moments in the cramped garret room. Penciled inscriptions on the plastered walls dated July 10, 1863, were probably written just prior to the sighting of the approaching Union cavalry. Although all written in the same hand, the inscriptions detail three South Carolina men, all from General McLaws' Division, Army of Northern Virginia: David Hugh Crawford, Alwyn Grant Wilkins, and Creswell Archimedes Calhoun Waller. One might speculate that Wilkins wrote the inscriptions, his signature containing the most detailed information.

The Confederate Signal Corps, established by the Confederate Congress on May 29, 1862, was under the command of Major William Norris, a native of Reisterstown, Maryland.²⁸ Soldiers who could read and write were recruited from various regiments for service in the corps. The activities of the Confederate Signal Corps remain largely shrouded in mystery; however, an 1888 article in the *Southern Historical Society Papers* described its organization:

The Signal Corps, as organized, consisted of one Major Commanding, ten Captains, ten first and ten second-class Lieutenants and twenty Sergeants—there were no privates, as

*"O pray for
the wounded &
the Dying—
I hope our
cause will be
victorious."*

Signature of Alwyn Grant Wilkins of the Confederate Signal Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, in Linden Hall, near Williamsport, Maryland.



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men were detailed from the line of the army whenever wanted, and when their services were no longer required they returned to their respective commands.²⁹

David Hugh Crawford was detailed to the Signal Corps from the 15th Regiment, South Carolina Infantry, Company A. Records indicate that Crawford was a 16-year old student when he enlisted at Columbia, South Carolina.³⁰ Signal Sergeant Wilkins described his occupation as "engineer and student" when he mustered into service. Although it is unknown what regiment he belonged to initially, in 1864 he transferred to the Army of Tennessee and was stationed at Kinston, North Carolina.³¹ Creswell A.C. Waller joined the ranks of Company F in the 2nd Infantry Regiment of South Carolina prior to his detachment to the signal corps.³²

The men of the signal corps suffered the unfortunate misconception among fellow soldiers of serving as non-combatants in "bomb-proof" positions.³³ In reality, signalmen found themselves in some of the most dangerous and unprotected positions possible. Located on the highest and often the most visible vantage points, they were regular targets of sniper fire. Yet despite the danger, the members of the corps steadfastly fulfilled their duty:

To comrades true, far, far away,
Who watch with anxious eye,
These secret signs an import bear
When waved against the sky.
As quick as thought, as swift as light,
Those airy symbols there,
Are caught and read from The Bonnie
White Flag
That Bears The Crimson Square.³⁴

On honoring the men of the Confederate Signal Corps in 1897, A.W. Taft noted, "...what greater compliment can be paid to any man than to say of him that he had been selected for his intelligence and reliability from the ranks of the Confederate army, whose merits have won the admiration of all nations?"³⁵

Remembrance and Reunion – Antietam's Dunker Church

America's Civil War ended in the spring of 1865, but for the surviving veterans the brotherhood born on the battlefield remained with them for the rest of their lives. Reunion encampments became a common sight on former battlefields as the men gathered to commemorate battles and honor fallen comrades. These reunions had a

profound impact on many of the communities around the battlefields as the War Department purchased the hallowed ground and thriving "tourist" businesses grew.

Remarkably, the Antietam Battlefield changed little in the decades after the war. Despite the fact that the land remained in private ownership, the region's robust agricultural economy helped to preserve the farms and the Sharpsburg community much as it had appeared during the 1860s. The Dunker Church that stood at the center of the bloody battle also remained little changed through the nineteenth century. Standing alone at the edge of the West Woods, the church was perhaps the most recognizable landmark from the battle for returning veterans.

Through the 1880s and 1890s and into the first decades of the twentieth century, monuments to the fallen grew on the fields of Antietam. The New York monument, among the largest on the field, stood near the old Dunker Church. It was probably during one of the veterans' reunions that members of several New York regiments carved their names on the outside windowsills of the Dunker Church. Henry Winters, a Broome County, New York native with the 89th New York Infantry, Company H, participated in the afternoon phase of the daylong Antietam battle under the command of General Ambrose Burnside.³⁶ Crossing the Antietam Creek at Snavely's Ford, just behind the Hawkin's Zouaves, the 89th New York faced the perfectly timed arrival of Confederate General A.P. Hill's Division from Harpers Ferry.³⁷ Winters' regiment had been as far away from the Dunker Church as any could be on the battlefield, and yet it was there that he and several others chose to leave their mark.

In 1921, a windstorm demolished the old Dunker Church, by then used as a gas station and general store. The remnants of the building, including six of the original eight window sills, were placed in storage by an astute Sharpsburg resident. In 1961, the National Park Service reconstructed the church using 3,000 of the original bricks and 17,000 matching bricks. The carved sills were returned to their historical location.³⁸

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EDIE WALLACE



▲ Henry Winters' inscription in the windowsill of Antietam's Dunker Church.

...the graffiti they left behind provides a window into the soldier's lives, both ordinary and extraordinary.

Vandalism, art, or icon, graffiti means many things to many people. Fortunately, for those interested in the men who served during America's Civil War, the graffiti they left behind provides a window into the soldier's lives, both ordinary and extraordinary. Found in houses, courthouses, churches, and other buildings and sites throughout much of Maryland and Virginia, as well as other states that saw action during the Civil War, the preservation of these inscriptions provides an important layer of personal history associated with America's war.

Edie Wallace is a historian with the cultural resources consulting firm Paula S. Reed & Associates in Hagerstown, Maryland. She recently earned her Master of Arts degree in Historic Preservation from Goucher College in Baltimore, receiving the Hiram C. McCullough Award for her thesis, "Reclaiming Forgotten His-

tory: Preserving Rural African-American Cultural Resources in Washington County, Maryland."

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The Catocin Center for Regional Studies is compiling an inventory of structures and sites in the Catocin region with Civil War-era graffiti. If you own a home or other building with graffiti, or know of graffiti inscriptions, we would appreciate hearing from you. Please contact the Catocin Center at: Catocin Center for Regional Studies, Frederick Community College, 7932 Oposumtown Pike, Frederick, MD 21702; or by e-mail at dherrin@frederick.edu.

- 1 Charles F. Johnson, *The Long Roll* (Shepherdstown, WV: Carabelle Books, 1986, reprint of original, 1911), 201.
- 2 Transcript of letter found on www.letterscivilwar.com/8-1-61-13th_mass_departure.html.
- 3 Transcript of letter found on www.letterscivilwar.com/8-29-61-13th_mass_poney.html.
- 4 "13th Mass Vol Inf Roster," www.angelfire.com/ca5/4xmas/g.html.
- 5 Ibid.
- 6 "Union Soldier's Legacy Eroding," unattributed newspaper article, n.d., "Maryland Heights" Vertical File, Western Maryland Room, Washington County Free Library, Hagerstown, MD.
- 7 Advertisement, *Philadelphia Public Ledger*, August 22, 1861, as cited on <http://philazou.home.mindspring.com/page5.html>.
- 8 Greg Byrne and Alan Levitan, "Graffiti Survey, Building #5, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park," National Park Service, Harpers Ferry Center, Division of Conservation (October 1993); Historic Structure Report, "Frederick A. Roeder's Store, Building 5 on Wager Lot 16," National Park Service, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (1980).
- 9 Pennsylvania State Archives, Civil War soldiers card file, available on ARIAS digital archives, www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/archive.asp.
- 10 Information on the members of Baxter's Fire Zouaves, Co. G, was provided by John Brasko, <http://philazou.home.mindspring.com>, citing Samuel P. Bates, *Pennsylvania in the Civil War, 1861-1865*, (Commonwealth of Pennsylvania).
- 11 Pennsylvania State Archives, Civil War soldiers card file.
- 12 James V. Murfin, *The Gleam of Bayonets* (Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 1965), Appendix C, p. 348 and Appendix D, p. 375.
- 13 Information on the members of Baxter's Fire Zouaves, Co. G, was provided by John Brasko, <http://philazou.home.mindspring.com>, citing Samuel P. Bates, *Pennsylvania in the Civil War, 1861-1865*, (Commonwealth of Pennsylvania).
- 14 "Stancioff House," National Register of Historic Places file, 1973; "Old Catalogue Tells Of The Life At The Military Academy At Urbana," *Heister G. Rhawn, Frederick Post*, Oct. 31, 1962.
- 15 *Under the Maltese Cross, Antietam to Appomattox, the loyal uprising in western Pennsylvania, 1861-1865; campaigns of the 155th Pennsylvania regiment, narrated by the rank and file* (Pittsburg, PA: The 155th Regimental Association, 1910), 70.
- 16 Ibid.
- 17 www.pa-roots.com/~pacw/155thorg.html.
- 18 *Under the Maltese Cross*, 284. Although not listed as a Zouave regiment, the men of the 155th appear in their photos in authentic French Zouave uniforms, reportedly a reward for skill in the "zouave drill and bayonet exercise." (p. 223).
- 19 Ibid, 284.
- 20 Ibid, 624.
- 21 www.vermontcivilwar.org/bios/glazier.html.
- 22 September 17, 1862 letter from Newton Glazier to the "Folks at Home;" letters transcribed by N. N. Glazier's great-great grandniece Connie Snyder, <http://vermontcivilwar.org/1bgd/11/nng2.shtml>.
- 23 Ibid, Sept. 17, 1862 letter and Oct. 17, 1862 letter.
- 24 Ibid.
- 25 Ibid, May 21, 1864 letter.
- 26 Maud C. Eaton, "Biography/ Nelson Newton Glazier," www.vermontcivilwar.org/1bgd/11/nng1.shtml.
- 27 "Report of Lt. Gen. James Longstreet, CSA, 1st Corps, July 27, 1863," as cited on www.swcivilwar.com/LongstreetGettysburg.html.
- 28 www.cwsignalcorp.com/how.html.
- 29 "The Signal Corps in the Confederate States Army," *Southern Historical Society Papers*, Vol. XVI, Richmond, Va., January-December, 1888, as cited on www.civilwarhome.com/signalcorps.htm.
- 30 As cited in "The History of Linden Hall," Joanna K. Byers, March 1976, Washington Co. Survey File, WA-I-390, Western Maryland Room, Washington Co. Free Library, Hagerstown, MD. (See also Soldiers General Index, microfilm collection M381, roll 8, National Archives, Washington, D.C. as shown on the on-line database: www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm)
- 31 Ibid. The Soldiers Index lists a Grant Wilkins of Capt. Carlton's Co., Troup County Artillery, Georgia, but it is not clear that this is the same man.
- 32 Soldiers General Index, microfilm collection M381, roll 33, National Archives, Washington, D.C. as shown on the on-line database: www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm
- 33 From "A Tribute to Their Arduous and Invaluable Services During the War," An Address by A.W. Taft, before Camp Sumter C. V., Charleston, S.C., May 1, 1897," *Southern Historical Society Papers*, Vol. XXV, Richmond, VA, Jan.-Dec., 1897, as reproduced on www.civilwarhome.com/signalcorps.htm.
- 34 "Song of the Confederate Signal Corps," Benjamin Tubb, *The Music of the American Civil War (1861-1865)*, on www.civilwarhome.com/signalcorps.htm.
- 35 Ibid.
- 36 "Broome Co. Men in the 89th NYVI," www.rootsweb.com/~nybroome/military/br89ros.htm.
- 37 Murfin, 279-284.
- 38 Antietam National Battlefield, Dunker Church vertical files.