

THE MONUMENTS
AT
GUILFORD COURTHOUSE
NATIONAL MILITARY PARK
NORTH CAROLINA

BY
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1979

Preface

Visitors to Guilford Courthouse National Military Park will today find twenty-eight monuments and graves spread over the battlefield's 220 acres. The significance of most of these structures is obvious. Others are not so easily decipherable. This book was written as a guide to assist the visitor in understanding the meaning of each of these memorials. The text is not intended as an exhaustive treatment of the subjects of these monuments, but instead seeks to highlight the importance of the people and events commemorated, and their relationships to the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.

For the visitor's convenience each monument has been assigned a number and pinpointed on a map which is included in the text. Photographs of each monument and grave have also been included to assist the visitor in identifying these markers.

Many individuals and organizations have assisted in the publication of this book. Special thanks are due to former Park Historian W. Glen Gray, whose unpublished study on the monuments at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park served as a major source of information for this project. Thanks also go to Superintendent W.W. Danielson, Mark J. Corey, Donald J. Long and the staff of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park for their encouragement and help in putting this work together, and to Eastern National Park and Monument Association for providing the initial funding for this project.

Thomas E. Baker
Guilford Courthouse N.M.P.
Greensboro, N.C.
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Thursday, March 15, 1781 dawned cold and clear. On any other such day the Quaker and Scotch-Irish farmers in this area of north central North Carolina might have simply risen and gone about their chores. Or they might have drifted over to the courthouse to observe the proceedings of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions. But this was to be no ordinary winter's day for the inhabitants of the region known as Guilford Courthouse. Even at that early hour the British army of Lord Charles Cornwallis was marching along New Garden Road headed straight for Guilford Courthouse. And poised, waiting among the trees and along the slopes about the courthouse, was the four-thousand four-hundred man American army of General Nathanael Greene.

Action on the First Line

The British army approached Guilford Courthouse moving eastward along New Garden Road. Shortly after noon, as the redcoats prepared to cross Little Horsepen Creek, they drew fire from the two six-pounder cannons of Captain Anthony Singleton, positioned astride New Garden Road, some six hundred yards from the creek. These guns marked the center of the American first line. This first line, composed of about 1000 North Carolina militia under Brigadier Generals Butler and Eaton, was positioned behind a rail fence on the eastern edge of two cleared fields, its center resting on New Garden Road. Concealed in the forest on the flanks of the militia were cavalry and riflemen under Lieutenant Colonel Henry "Lighthorse Harry" Lee (on the left) and Lieutenant Colonel William Washington (on the right).

Greene's orders to the untried North Carolinians were purposefully simple: fire two volleys at the oncoming British, then fall back.

The fire of Captain Singleton's six-pounders was answered by two three-pounders ordered into action by the British commander, Lord Charles Cornwallis. The cannonade lasted for about thirty minutes, inflicting few casualties on either side, but it did serve to unnerve the already apprehensive militiamen.

As the smoke from the big guns cleared, the British line moved forward. The redcoats slogged ahead through the muddy fields – approaching within 140 yards of the fence – when their ranks were torn by a volley from the Carolinians. Closing the gaps in their ranks, the British pushed on to within fifty yards of the fence, where they fired a volley into the patriot line. Then with bayonets lowered, the red coated line charged toward the American position. Swarming over the fence, the British received a galling fire from the flanking riflemen. But the center of the first line was broken, and the Carolinians streamed back through the forest toward the second line.



Nathanael Greene



Charles Cornwallis

Monuments In The Area Of The First Line

1. James Tate Monument and Grave

On the morning of March 15, 1781, a detachment of American cavalry and infantry commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Henry ("Lighthorse Harry") Lee moved west along New Garden Road seeking to make contact with advance elements of the British army. About five miles west of the Courthouse, Lee's cavalry struck the leading British units commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton. Lee's troopers fell back before Tarleton's oncoming dragoons, leading the British into a narrow segment of the road bounded on left and right by rail fences. Suddenly, Lee's men wheeled about and charged. The impact of this headlong rush sent Tarleton's dragoons reeling back down the road, Lighthorse Harry's men in pursuit. This chase came to an abrupt halt when Tarleton reached the cover of advancing British infantry support troops. Lee's own infantry arriving on the scene, a brief but intense fire-fight developed. As still more British troops arrived and moved into action, Lee's men fell back toward Guilford Courthouse.

Among the infantry supporting Lee's cavalry in this skirmish at New Garden was a company of Virginia militia commanded by Captain James Tate. Little is known of Captain Tate's life; but that life ended near New Garden Meeting House on the morning of March 15, 1781.

Captain Tate was originally buried where he fell, but his remains were moved to Guilford Courthouse in 1891. The monument, erected by the Guilford Battle Ground Company in 1891, is inscribed:

CAPT. JAMES TATE
VA. RIFLEMAN
MARCH 15, 1781



Tate Monument and Grave

2. Arthur Forbis

The story of Captain Arthur Forbis is a tale of great heroism – and great tragedy. Forbis was a resident of Guilford County and commanded a small company of North Carolina militia at Guilford Courthouse. Forbis' company, under the immediate command of Colonel James Martin, was placed on the left center of the American first line of battle.

As the British began their advance up the slope toward that first line, Colonel Martin picked out a conspicuous British officer and asked Forbis if he could "bring him down." Replying that he could, Forbis took aim and shot the British officer. This may have been the first shot fired in the battle by an American infantryman.

As the British pressed their attack the North Carolina line broke and fled. However, one eyewitness reported that Captain Forbis and his men held

their position and engaged the British in hand-to-hand combat. In this struggle Forbis received wounds in the leg and neck. When his men were finally forced back, Forbis was left behind. Somehow surviving the cold, drenching rains on the night of March 15, he was found the next day by Tories searching the battlefield. The wounded officer asked one of the Tories – a local man named Shoemaker – for water. Instead the Tory cursed him and ran a bayonet into Forbis' already injured leg. Surviving this ordeal Forbis was later discovered by friends who carried him off the field. Though Dr. David Caldwell worked diligently to save him, Forbis died within a few days and was buried in the churchyard at Alamance.

Several days later the cruel Tory, Shoemaker, was captured by local Whigs and hanged.

The Forbis Monument, the first to be erected on the battlefield, was donated by McGalliard and Huske Stoneworks of Kernersville, North Carolina, and was formally presented in July 4, 1887. It is inscribed:

IN HONOR OF
COL. ARTHUR FORBIS
OF THE N.C. TROOPS
WHO FELL AT HIS POST IN THE DIS-
CHARGE OF DUTY
ON THIS MEMORABLE
FIELD OF BATTLE
MARCH
15 1781



Forbis Monument

3. *Nathaniel Macon*

The Macon monument is one of several memorials on the battlefield which do not relate specifically to the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. The battlefield's original conservator was Judge David Schenck, founder and first president of the Guilford Battle Ground Company. Judge Schenck believed that the Battle Ground Company should strive to make the battlefield a "shrine to history and patriotism." Guided by this philosophy the company sought to preserve the memories of men and women prominent in all phases of North Carolina history. Nathaniel Macon was one such man.

Macon was born in 1758 in Warren County, North Carolina. He served in the militia during the Revolutionary War, but is best known as a nineteenth-century North Carolina political figure. Macon was first elected to the North Carolina legislature while serving with the militia in the Revolutionary War. However, he was reluctant to leave the army to take his seat. Tradition has it that Nathanael Greene personally interceded and ordered Macon to accept this elective office

Macon served in the U.S. House of Representatives 1791-1815, and in the U.S. Senate 1815-1828. He was known for his advocacy of states' rights and rigid political economy.



Macon Monument

Nathaniel Macon died in Warren County, North Carolina, in 1837. The monument to his memory was erected at Guilford Courthouse in 1902. Its inscription reads:

NATHANIEL MACON
WILLED THAT HIS MEMORIAL
CONSIST ONLY OF RUDE STONES
HERE THEY ARE.

4. *Jethro Sumner*

Sumner was born in Isle of Wight County, Virginia, in 1733. He served in the French and Indian War and may have been present with George Washington at the fall of Fort Duquesne. Sometime after the French and Indian War Sumner moved to Warren County, North Carolina. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War he was appointed major of the Halifax Minute Men. In April 1776 he was promoted to colonel, Third North Carolina Regiment. Sumner's regiment was sent north in March 1776 where it participated in the battles at Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth. When the North Carolina regiments were consolidated in May 1778, Sumner was placed in command of one of the three regiments. Promoted to brigadier general on January 9, 1779, Sumner was sent south on recruiting duty. He was on this assignment at the time of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, but rejoined Greene's army in time for the Battle of Eutaw Springs in September 1781. After the war Sumner was prominent in the North Carolina Chapter of the Society of Cincinnati until his death March 18, 1785.

Originally buried in Warren County, Sumner's remains and grave monument were moved to Guilford Courthouse in 1891.

Carved on the east face of the monument is:

BRIG.-GEN. JETHRO SUMNER
BORN IN THE YEAR 1733
DIED MARCH 18, 1785

COLONEL OF THE THIRD NORTH CAROLINA
CONTINENTAL TROOPS
APRIL 15, 1776

CHARLESTON, JUNE 28, 1776
BRANDYWINE, SEPT. 11, 1776
GERMANTOWN, OCT. 4, 1777
MONMOUTH, JUNE 28, 1778
STONO FERRY, JUNE 20, 1779
EUTAW SPRINGS, SEPT. 8, 1781

*Spotless in character, pure in patriotism
the most eminent soldier among
the North Carolina troops.*

Presented by J.H. Neese

Carved into the south face of the monument is:

To the memory
of General
JETHRO SUMNER
one of the Hero's
of 76.



Sumner Monument and Grave

5. *John Daves*

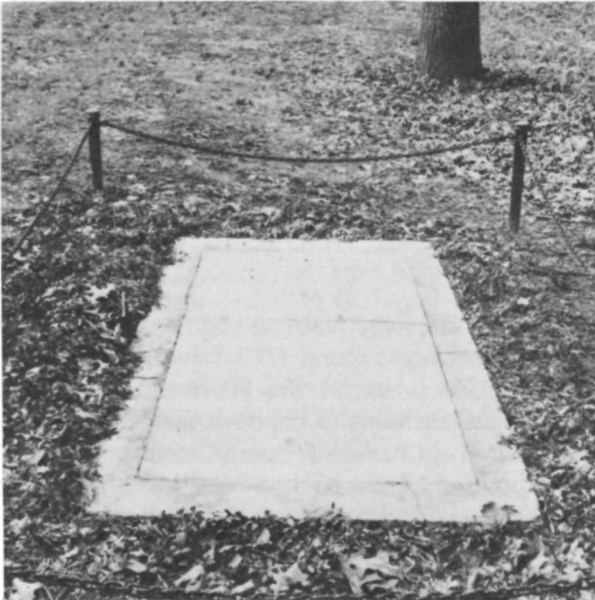
A native North Carolinian, John Daves was born in Mecklenburg County in 1748. He moved to New Bern around 1770. Daves' Revolutionary War service began in June 1776 when he was appointed quartermaster of the Second North Carolina Regiment, Continental Line. Daves served with this regiment until captured at Charleston, South Carolina, in May 1780. On his release he was promoted captain to date from the Battle of Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781. He later received the honorary rank of brevet major.

Following the war, Daves served as collector of the port of New Bern until his death October 12, 1804. His remains and monument were moved to Guilford Courthouse in 1893. The inscription reads:

Here are deposited the remains
of Major JOHN DAVES:
one
of the well tried patriots of our Revolutionary
War;
who departed this life October 12th, 1804,
Aged 56 years.

Epitaph by a Friend

*Beneath this monumental stone repos'd
In shrouded gloom, the relics of the dead
Await th' archangel's renovating trump,
And the dread sentence of the Judge Supreme.
But GOD'S the Judge! in truth and justice robed;
Impartial to reward the friend sincere,
The virtues of the patriot, parent, spouse;
And these, O Major! these were surely thine.
Yes, these were thine - and more still conjorn'd
t'ender thee to thy family and friends,
To leave a lasting memory behind,
And seal thy passports to the realms of bliss.*



Daves Monument and Grave

The following inscription is on the bronze plaque placed by the D.A.R.:

Revolutionary
Soldier
Major John Daves
1775 1783
Grandfather of Mrs. Mary Daves Nash
First State D.A.R. Regent of North Carolina

6. *James Morehead*

James Morehead was an officer in the North Carolina Continental Line in the American Revolution, but like John Daves and Jethro Sumner, he did not serve at Guilford Courthouse.

Born in Virginia in 1750, Morehead moved to North Carolina sometime prior to 1779, for in that year he received a lieutenant's commission in the Tenth North Carolina regiment. Morehead fought in several battles in the South and rose to the rank of captain by war's end.

Two of James Morehead's descendants, J.T. and Joseph Morehead, were instrumental in the drive to erect a monument to the memory of their distinguished ancestor. The monument was completed in 1901 and is inscribed:

1779 1900
TO
CAPTAIN JAMES MOREHEAD
OF THE 10TH REGIMENT,
N.C. CONTINENTAL LINE
BATTLE OF STONO
JUNE 20TH, 1779
ELIZABETHTON JULY 1781
BORN 1750 DIED 1815
ERECTED BY
COL. JAMES T. AND JOSEPH
M. MOREHEAD AND ROBERT
PERCY GRAY

7. *Kerenhappuch Turner*

Kerenhappuch Norman was born in central Virginia about 1733. ("Kerenhappuch" was the name of the third daughter of the Biblical figure, Job, and means "Horn of Beauty.") She was married to James Turner and moved to Maryland before the outbreak of the Revolutionary War.

One of Mrs. Turner's sons was badly wounded at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. Mrs. Turner is said to have ridden on horseback from Maryland to Guilford Courthouse, where she found and nursed her injured son back to health.



James Morehead Monument



Turner Monument

There is an element of tragedy in this story. When Mrs. Turner began her ride south she carried an infant in her arms. Enroute the baby died. The grieving mother paused only long enough to bury the dead child by the roadside before hurrying on her way.

Mrs. Turner was related by marriage to the distinguished Morehead family of Guilford County. Two of her kinsmen, Major J.T. Morehead and Joseph Morehead, were instrumental in the drive to erect a monument to her memory.

The monument, completed in 1902, reads:

1781 1902
A HEROINE OF '76
MRS. KERENHAPPUCH TURNER
MOTHER OF ELIZABETH
THE WIFE OF JOSEPH
MOREHEAD OF N.C. AND
GRANDMOTHER OF CAPTAIN
JAMES AND OF JOHN MOREHEAD
A YOUNG N.C. SOLDIER UNDER
GREENE, RODE HORSE-BACK FROM
HER MARYLAND HOME AND AT
GUILFORD COURTHOUSE NURSED
TO HEALTH A BADLY WOUNDED SON.

ERECTED BY
J. TURNER AND JOS. MOTLEY
MOREHEAD

8. *James Gillies*

When General Nathanael Greene took command of the American forces in the South at Charlotte, North Carolina, in December 1780, he found that there were not enough provisions in the area to feed his hungry army. He therefore divided his forces, sending a detachment under Brigadier General Daniel Morgan into northwestern South Carolina, while Greene marched with the remainder of his army to a base on the Pee Dee River. Cornwallis reacted to this development by ordering Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton to march with 1100 light troops to seek out and destroy Morgan. But Tarleton was soundly defeated by Morgan at Cowpens, South Carolina, on January 17, 1781.

Following Cowpens, Morgan retreated across North Carolina, forming a junction with Greene's troops at Guilford Courthouse. Greene considered fighting the British at this point, but concluded that his army was not yet strong enough to face the pursuing redcoats. Instead he elected to fall back across the Dan River into Virginia where Greene hoped to receive additional men and supplies. The American army marched north on February 10. Greene detached a force of 700 cavalry and infantry under Colonel Otho

Williams to protect the rear of his army and impede the British pursuit.

On the morning of February 13, Colonel Williams received word from a local farmer, Isaac Wright, that the British army was only four miles from Williams' camp. Williams therefore ordered Lieutenant Colonel Henry "Lighthouse Harry" Lee to send a detachment of his cavalry to verify the farmer's report. Wright rode along with the troopers as a guide. Because his horse was worn out, he exchanged mounts with Lee's bugler, fourteen year old James Gillies. Gillies had but one weapon – a pistol sheathed in a holster on his saddle – and the young bugler neglected to keep this pistol when he exchanged horses with Wright. Lee's troopers intercepted the British about five miles north of Guilford Courthouse and a brief clash ensued. In this struggle Gillies became separated from his compatriots. Unable to escape on the jaded horse and defenseless without his pistol, Gillies was cut down.



Gillies Monument

The Gillies monument was erected in 1898 by the Athenian and Philomathean Literary Societies of Oak Ridge Institute. It bears the inscription:

GILLIES
"LIGHTHORSE HARRY LEE'S BUGLER-BOY"
"DULCE ET DECORUM EST PRO PATRIA MORI"*
ERECTED BY THE LITERARY SOCIETIES AND ALUMNI OF
OAK RIDGE INSTITUTE MAY 6TH 1898 TO THE

MEMORY OF THE GALLIANT GILLIES WHO
FELL UNDER THE SWORDS OF TARLETON'S
DRAGOONS NEAR OAK RIDGE, N.C.
FEB. 13TH 1781, A NOBLE
SACRIFICE TO HIS OWN
GENEROSITY AND FOR
HIS COUNTRY'S
FREEDOM.

*"SWEET AND FITTING IT IS TO DIE FOR ONE'S COUNTRY."

9. *No North – No South Monument*

This monument is a memorial to the spirit of American nationalism. The Civil War had been over less than forty years when this marker was erected in 1903. In the minds of many Americans the wounds of that sectional conflict had not yet healed. Yet during the Revolutionary War, Americans had set aside their sectional differences. Through eight long years of war Americans from North and South had joined hands in the common struggle for independence. This spirit of solidarity was exemplified by George Washington, a southerner who led mostly northern troops, and Nathanael Greene, a northerner who commanded southern troops.

The No North - No South Monument, erected by the Guilford Battle Ground Company is inscribed:

north face:	1776
east face:	NO NORTH WASHINGTON
south face:	1903
west face:	NO SOUTH GREENE

10. *Washington's Visit*

On April 17, 1791, President George Washington left Mount Vernon on a tour of the southern states. The President traveled through coastal Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia. Moving inland to Camden, South Carolina, Washington then rode north following the route of Nathanael Greene's army in the campaign of 1780-1781. Reaching Guilford Courthouse on June 2, 1791, Washington was guided around the field by a veteran of the battle. The President spent the night in Martinville (a hamlet which had grown up around the Courthouse in the years following the battle) and the next morning proceeded northward, reaching Mount Vernon June 12, 1791.



No North – No South Monument



Washington's Visit Monument

The plaque commemorating Washington's visit was unveiled November 11, 1925, by members of the Guilford Battle and Alexander Martin Chapters of the D.A.R.

The inscription reads:

IN
PATRIOTIC COMMEMORATION
OF THE VISIT
OF
GEORGE WASHINGTON
ON HIS
TOUR OF THE
SOUTHERN STATES
1791

MARKED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
1925

11. Martha McFarland McGee-Bell

Martha McFarland was born in present day Alamance County, North Carolina. Her first marriage was to Colonel John McGee, a wealthy farmer and trader. After Colonel McGee's death she married William Bell and moved to Bell's Mill on Deep Creek. Following the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, Lord Cornwallis' army, in desperate need of facilities to grind its corn into meal, stopped at Bell's Mill. Mrs. Bell is said to have threatened to burn the mill if the British troops molested either her person or possessions. Lord Cornwallis then promised to protect Mrs. Bell and her property.

The monument commemorating the courage of this patriot woman was erected in 1929 by the Alexander Martin Chapter of the D.A.R. It is inscribed:

MRS. MARTHA MCFARLAND MCGEE-BELL
1735-1820

LOYAL WHIG – ENTHUSIASTIC PATRIOT
REVOLUTIONARY HEROINE

WE ARE INDEBTED TO E.W. CARUTHERS
FOR THE EVENTFUL STORY OF HER LIFE

ERECTED BY
ALEXANDER MARTIN CHAPTER, D.A.R.
HIGH POINT, N.C.
1928



McGee-Bell Monument

Action on the Second Line

The second American line was posted in the forest approximately three hundred yards to the rear (east) of the first line. This line was composed of Virginia militia under Brigadier Generals Lawson and Stevens. Many of these Virginians were actually discharged Continentals, and were therefore accustomed to the horrors of battle. This “veteran” militia fought tenaciously among the tangled trees, inflicting heavy casualties on the advancing British. The Virginians gave ground grudgingly, but at length the redcoats broke through and headed for the third line.

Monuments In The Area Of The Second Line

12. Edward Stevens

Commander of the left wing of the American second line, Brigadier General Edward Stevens was born in Culpepper County, Virginia, in 1745. He was commissioned colonel of the Tenth Virginia, Continental Line, in November 1776, serving with this regiment at Brandywine and Germantown. He resigned his commission in January 1778. Stevens returned to Virginia where in 1779 he was appointed brigadier general of militia.

Stevens’ militia played a less than honorable role at the Battle of Camden, South Carolina, in August 1780, breaking in the face of a British charge. The bitter recollection of this rout fresh in his memory, Stevens took steps to prevent a similar occurrence at Guilford Courthouse: twenty yards behind his main line he placed sharpshooters with orders to shoot down any men who ran away.

The Virginians fought ferociously among the thick woods of the second line, inflicting heavy casualties on their red-coated adversaries. But at the height of the action, General Stevens received a severe musket ball wound in his thigh, and had to be carried from the field. The sight of their fallen leader, combined with the steady hammering of the British regulars, soon induced the Virginians to begin a disjointed withdrawal.

Stevens survived his wound and rejoined the army at Yorktown. Following the war he served Virginia for eight years as a member of its legislature.

The monument, erected near the spot where General Stevens received his wound was dedicated in 1931. It reads:

ON THIS SPOT
BRIG. GEN. EDWARD STEVENS
WAS WOUNDED WHILE MAKING A
GALLANT STAND WITH HIS
VIRGINIA TROOPS

ERECTED BY
CULPEPPER MINUTE MEN CHAPTER
D.A.R. OF CULPEPPER, VIRGINIA
1934



Stevens Monument

13. Hal Dixon

North Carolina contributed no finer soldier to the armies of the American Revolution than Henry "Hal" Dixon. Although the date and place of Dixon's birth are unrecorded, it is known that he moved to Caswell County, North Carolina, prior to 1775, and was one of the first to respond to North Carolina's call for troops at the outbreak of the war. He was commissioned captain, First North Carolina Regiment, Continental Line, in September 1775.

Dixon first saw action in the southern theater, but was soon transferred north where he fought at Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth and Stony Point. He was then promoted to major and transferred to the Third North Carolina, Continental Line. In the summer of 1779, Dixon was sent south on recruiting duty and did not again see action until he was wounded at the Battle of Stono Ferry, June 20, 1779. By August 1780, Dixon had sufficiently recovered to lead a regiment of North Carolina militia at the Battle of Camden. Though Camden is remembered as the most disastrous defeat ever inflicted on an American army, it was on that field that Dixon most distinguished himself. Dixon's Carolinians, together with Maryland regulars,

held their positions long after most of the other American troops had fled the field. Then, fighting with desperate courage, Dixon's men charged the British with the bayonet, cutting their way to safety.

Following Camden, Dixon was promoted to lieutenant colonel (to date from May 12, 1778) and appointed Inspector General of Militia of the army under its new commander, Nathanael Greene. Dixon was present at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, though he had no command. In the spring of 1782 he took command of the Second North Carolina, Continental Line, leading that regiment at the Battle of Eutaw Springs, where he was badly wounded. Dixon succumbed to the effects of his injuries on July 17, 1782. The location of his grave is unknown.

The monument to Lieutenant Colonel Dixon was erected in 1896. Its inscription reads:

IN MEMORIAM
LIEUT. COL. "HAL" DIXON,
OF CASWELL COUNTY N.C.
3RD N.C. REGIMENT, CONTINENTAL LINE
BRANDYWINE SEPT. 11TH 1777.
GERMANTOWN OCT. 4TH 1777.
MONMOUTH JUNE 20TH 1778.
STONO FERRY JUNE 20TH 1779
CAMDEN AUG. 16TH 1779.
GUILFORD COURT HOUSE MARCH 15TH 1781.
THE EMBODIMENT OF CHIVALRY
THE IDOL OF HIS SOLDIERS
THRICE WOUNDED IN BATTLE
FROM WHICH HE DIED
JULY 17TH 1782
1895

This inscription contains two errors: The Battle of Monmouth was fought on June 28, 1778 rather than June 20; the Battle of Camden was fought in 1780 instead of 1779.

14. Hooper-Penn

The most historically significant graves on the battlefield at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park are those of William Hooper and John Penn, two of North Carolina's signers of the Declaration of Independence.

William Hooper, born in Boston, June 17, 1742, practiced law in that city until he moved to the vicinity of Wilmington, North Carolina, about 1765. Hooper served with Governor Tryon's militia which smashed the Regulator movement at the Battle of Alamance in 1771. In 1774 he was elected head of the North Carolina delegation to the Continental Congress, serving until



Dixon Monument



Hooper-Penn Monument and Graves

1777. In that year he returned to North Carolina where he served in the state legislature until the end of the war. William Hooper died in Hillsborough, North Carolina, on October 4, 1790.

John Penn was born in Caroline County, Virginia, May 17, 1741. He moved to Granville County, North Carolina, in 1774, and the following year was elected to the Continental Congress. In 1780 Penn was elected to the North Carolina Board of War, and in that capacity helped supply North Carolina's guerillas and militia units. He died at his estate near Stovall, North Carolina, in 1788.



"Signing the Declaration of Independence"

**ACTION ON THE FIRST LINE
Monuments In This Area**

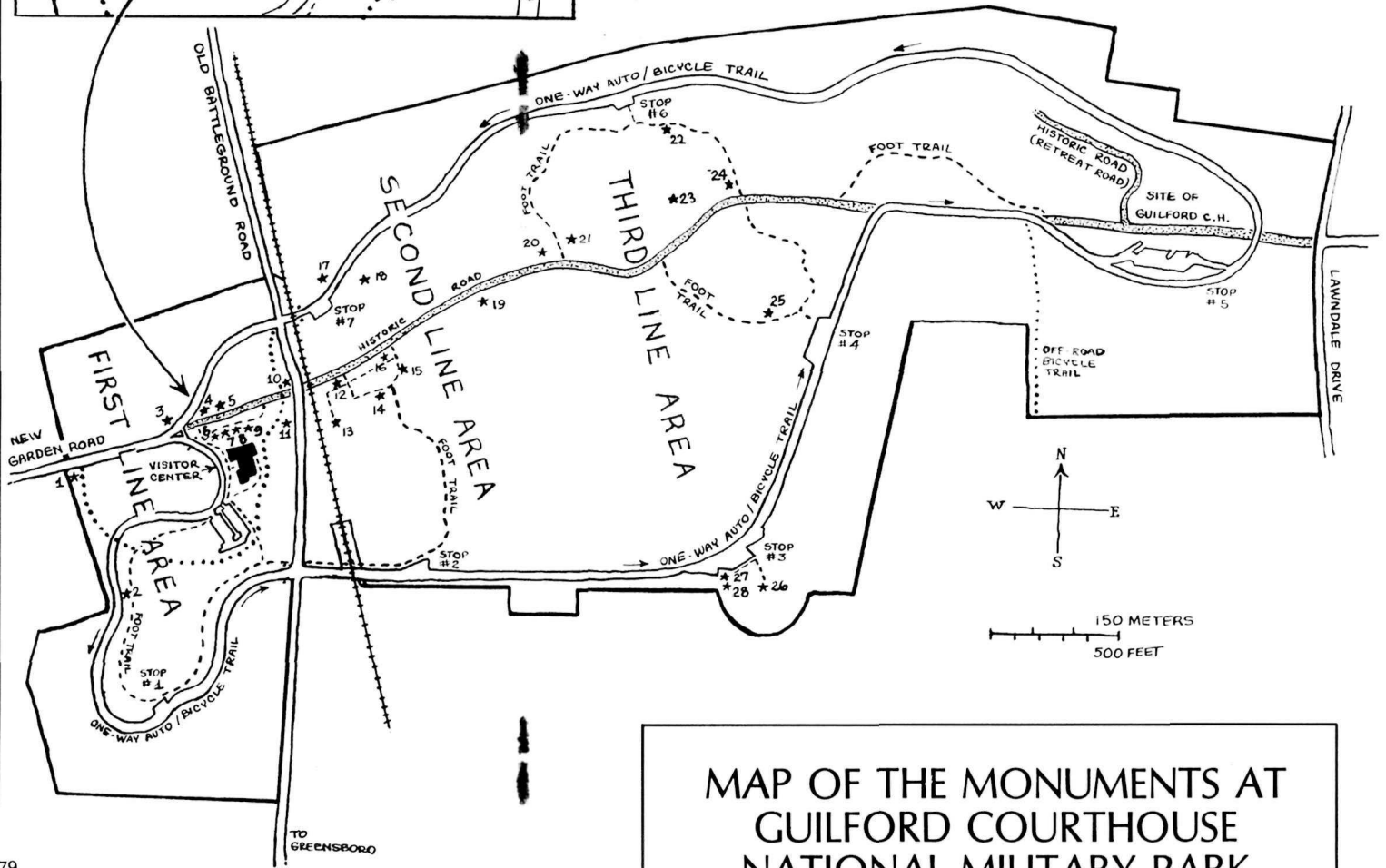
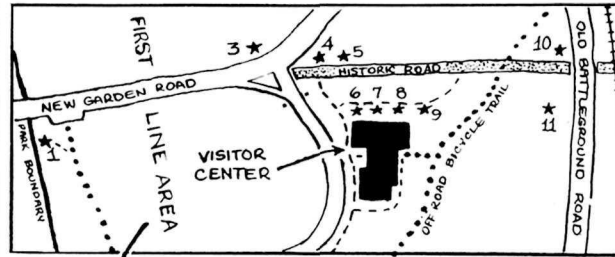
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7. Turner Monument
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10. Washington's Visit Mon.
11. McGee - Bell Monument

**ACTION ON THE SECOND LINE
Monuments In This Area**

12. Stevens Monument
13. Dixon Monument
14. Hooper - Penn Mon. & Graves
15. Greene Monument
16. Reynolds Monument
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**ACTION ON THE THIRD LINE
Monuments In This Area**

22. Third Line Monument
23. Stuart Monument
24. Fautleroy Monument
25. Cavalry (Francisco) Mon.
26. Winston Monument
27. Winston Grave
28. Franklin Grave



**MAP OF THE MONUMENTS AT
GUILFORD COURTHOUSE
NATIONAL MILITARY PARK**

showing
their location on the battlefield ★

MAP DRAWN BY DONALD J. LONG, 1979

North Carolina's third signer, Joseph Hewes, was born in Kingston, New Jersey, in 1730. About 1760 he moved to Edenton, North Carolina, where he became a successful merchant. Hewes was a member of the North Carolina Committee of Safety and the Continental Congress. In Congress, Hewes chaired the committee which was responsible for fitting out the first American warships. As such he is considered the first civilian head of the United States Navy. Joseph Hewes died in Philadelphia on November 10, 1779. After a state funeral he was buried in Christ Churchyard, Philadelphia. By 1897 the exact location of Hewes' grave had been lost, and therefore his remains could not be moved to Guilford Courthouse.

The remains of Hooper and Penn were moved to Guilford Courthouse and a monument to the three signers was dedicated on July 3, 1897. The monument is inscribed:

IN MEMORIAM
WILLIAM HOOPER AND JOHN PENN
DELEGATES FROM
NORTH CAROLINA 1776 TO THE
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS AND SIGNERS
OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE
THEIR REMAINS WERE REINTERRED
HERE 1894, HEWES GRAVE IS LOST
HE WAS THE THIRD SIGNER

"LEE, HENRY, AND HOOPER WERE THE
ORATORS OF THE CONGRESS"
JOHN ADAMS' DIARY VOL. 2. P. 396, 1774

15. *Nathanael Greene*

The strategic genius of Nathanael Greene dominated the southern campaign of the American Revolution. It is therefore fitting that the giant equestrian statue of Greene should today dominate the field at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.

Nathanael Greene was born to Quaker parents in Rhode Island in 1742. An iron founder by trade, Greene had little formal education. However, he possessed a keen mind which he honed by reading widely in subjects ranging from the classics of Greek philosophy to military science. Greene's interest in military affairs led to his expulsion from the Society of Friends in 1773 for attending a militia parade.

At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, Greene was a private in a Rhode Island militia company, but his knowledge of the military arts was soon recognized. In May 1775, Greene was commissioned brigadier general of militia commanding the three regiments raised by Rhode Island. The

following June he was transferred to the Continental Line, and two months later promoted to major general. Serving in most of the major battles in the North, Greene became George Washington's most trusted subordinate.

At Valley Forge it became apparent that the Quartermaster General's Department was failing miserably in its efforts to supply the army. Greene was asked to take charge of that inefficient agency. Greene accepted the post and performed the difficult duties of Quartermaster General with great distinction. But Greene's methods were the subject of much criticism in Congress. When Congress refused him vote of confidence Greene resigned as Quartermaster General, July 15, 1780.

After the American disaster at the Battle of Camden, Congress asked George Washington to name a new commanding general for the southern theater. Washington immediately chose Nathanael Greene. Taking command of the army at Charlotte, North Carolina in December 1780, Greene conducted the great campaign which broke the back of the British war effort in America.

At war's end, Greene was forced to sell most of his property to retire debts he had incurred to provide supplies for his army. However, the state of Georgia, in appreciation for his services, gave Greene a plantation, Mulberry Grove, near Savannah. At the age of forty-three Greene retired to the quiet of his plantation. But he would enjoy that quiet for only three



Nathanael Greene



Greene Monument

years. For on June 19, 1786, Nathanael Greene, victor of the southern campaign, died of the effects of a sunstroke.

The first serious effort to erect a monument to the memory of Nathanael Greene in Guilford County began in 1857. In that year the Greene Monument Association organized and began fund raising activities. However, the turmoil of the Civil War disrupted the work of the Association, and the money it had raised was lost. With the formation of the Guilford Battle Ground Company in 1886, a campaign was launched to have Congress appropriate funds for a Greene Monument. In 1911 Congress finally appropriated \$30,000 for this purpose, and the sculptor Francis H. Packer was selected to execute the monument. Formal dedication ceremonies for the Nathanael Greene Monument were held July 3, 1915.

The Nathanael Greene Monument is inscribed:

MARCH XV MDCCLXXXI

IN THE MANOEUVERING THAT PRECEDED IT, IN THE STRATEGY THAT COMPELLED IT, IN THE HEROISM THAT SIGNALIZED IT, AND IN THE RESULTS THAT FLOWED FROM IT, THE BATTLE OF GUILFORD COURTHOUSE IS SECOND TO NO BATTLE FOUGHT ON AMERICAN SOIL, OVER THE BRAVE MEN WHO FELL HERE THEIR COMRADES MARCHED TO ULTIMATE VICTORY AT YORKTOWN, AND THE CAUSE OF CONSTITUTIONAL SELF GOVERNMENT TO ASSURED TRIUMPH

AT PHILADELPHIA, TO OFFICER AND PRIVATE, TO CONTINENTAL
SOLDIER AND VOLUNTEER MILITIAMAN, HONOR AND AWARD
ARE ALIKE DUE. THEY NEITHER NEED DEFENSE NOR EULOGY
BUT ONLY JUST RECOGNITION. A GRATEFUL NATION ERECTS
THIS MONUMENT, THEREFORE, AS AN EXPRESSION OF ITS SOLEMN
PRIDE IN THE MEN WHO FOUGHT HERE, OF ITS IMPERISHABLE
DEVOTION TO THEIR MEMORY, AND OF ITS UNALTERABLE
CONFIDENCE IN THE PERMANENCE OF THE PRINCIPLES WHICH
THEIR EXAMPLE VINDICATED AND THEIR BLOOD CONSECRATED.

NATHANAEL GREENE
APPOINTED MAJOR GENERAL IN
COMMAND OF THE SOUTHERN ARMY
OCTOBER 14, 1780
BORN IN RHODE ISLAND AUGUST 7, 1742
DIED IN GEORGIA JUNE 19, 1786

HARLEM HEIGHTS
TRENTON
PRINCETON
BRANDYWINE
GERMANTOWN
MONMOUTH
GUILFORD
COURTHOUSE
HOBKIRK'S HILL
NINETY-SIX
EUTAW SPRINGS

GREENE IS AS DANGEROUS AS WASHINGTON
I NEVER FEEL SECURE WHEN ENCAMPED
IN HIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

—CORNWALLIS

IT IS WITH A PLEASURE WHICH FRIENDSHIP ALONE IS SUSCEPTIBLE
OF THAT I CONGRATULATE YOU ON THE GLORIOUS END YOU
HAVE PUT TO HOSTILITIES IN THE SOUTHERN STATES.
—WASHINGTON

16. *George Reynolds*

Nothing is known of the life and military career of Captain George Reynolds beyond the information inscribed on his monument.

The monument was unveiled November 23, 1928, by members of the George Reynolds Chapter, D.A.R., and was donated by J.F. and T.E. Reynolds.

The monument is inscribed:

IN MEMORIAM
CAPT. GEORGE REYNOLDS
1754 1815
OFFICER UNDER GENERAL GREENE IN
REVOLUTIONARY WAR



Reynolds Monument

17. David Schenck

David Schenck should rightly be considered the father of Guilford Courthouse National Military Park.

David Schenck was born in Lincolnton, North Carolina on March 24, 1835. Admitted to the bar at age twenty-one, he was a member of the North Carolina Secession Congress in 1861, and was appointed Superior Court Judge of the Ninth Judicial District in 1874. In 1881 he became counsel for the Richmond and Danville Railroad and moved to Greensboro.

While living in Greensboro, Judge Schenck became interested in local history and the Revolutionary War, particularly the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. He saw that the battlefield in the 1880's bore little resemblance to its appearance in 1781. Furthermore, he could find only a handful of local citizens who could even point out the location of the battle. While walking one Sunday afternoon in October 1886, Judge Schenck decided that something had to be done to save the battlefield from oblivion. That very afternoon he arranged to purchase thirty acres of battleground land. Schenck then approached several prominent Greensboro businessmen with the idea of establishing a non-profit corporation to preserve the battlefield. Assured of their support, Judge Schenck drew up a charter, and in March



Schenck Monument

1887 the Guilford Battle Ground Company was incorporated. Appropriately, Judge Schenck was elected the Company's first president, holding that office until his death in 1902. As president, Judge Schenck oversaw the purchases of land, the construction of monuments and the general maintenance of the battlefield.

The Judge requested that his only memorial be a plain granite marker, placed somewhere on the battlefield he had worked so long to preserve. This request was honored by the Battle Ground Company in 1904.

The monument is inscribed:

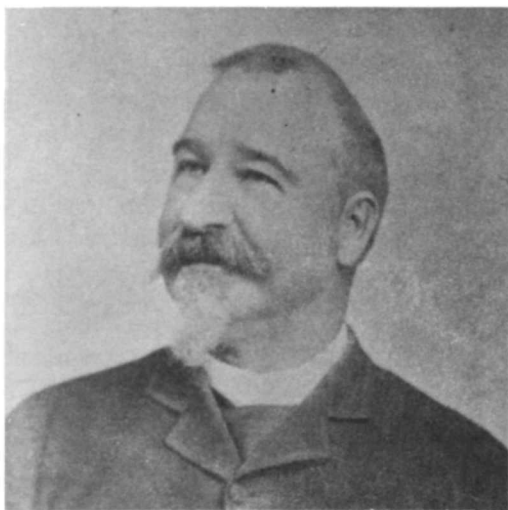
DAVID SCHENCK
THE PROJECTOR OF THIS BATTLE FIELD'S
RECLAMATION AND THE ORGANIZER AND
FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE
GUILFORD BATTLE GROUND COMPANY
1835 1902

18. Joseph Morehead

Joseph Morehead, second president of the Guilford Battle Ground Company, was born in Greensboro, North Carolina on July 9, 1840. He attended the University of North Carolina and served in the Civil War.



David Schenck



Joseph Morehead



Guilford Battleground Company Officers (L. to R.) J. Scott, J. Gray, D. Schenck, T. Keogh, D. Benbow



Joseph Morehead Monument

Morehead was not one of the original directors of the Battle Ground Company, but was elected to that body in 1892. While serving as director Morehead solicited donations, arranged the building of monuments, and provided his own funds to erect the James Morehead and Turner memorials. On Judge Schenck's death Joseph Morehead was elected president of the Guilford Battle Ground Company. As president he ramrodded the successful effort to construct a monument to Nathanael Greene. He died on January 1, 1911, shortly before the appropriation of funds for the Greene monument received final Congressional approval.

Joseph Morehead's contributions to the Guilford Battle Ground Company were memorialized in 1913 with the erection of a monument in his honor. It is inscribed:

JULY 9, 1840 JANUARY 1, 1911
JOSEPH M. MOREHEAD
VICE-PRESIDENT, ACTING PRESIDENT
AND SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE GUILFORD
BATTLE GROUND COMPANY

19. David Caldwell

Probably no early resident of Guilford County is so revered as Dr. David Caldwell. David Caldwell was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1725. Graduated from the College of New Jersey (Princeton) in 1761, he was active in religious and educational affairs from New Jersey to North Carolina. In 1768 he was installed as pastor of Buffalo Presbyterian Church (located in modern Greensboro).

Finding that his congregation did not have access to the services of a physician, Caldwell studied medicine and became widely known as a healer. Dr. Caldwell also found that no schools existed in the area where young men could prepare for the study of the law or medicine. To fill this gap he founded the "log college", a highly regarded classical academy.

In the Revolutionary period Caldwell was an ardent patriot, serving as a member of the Halifax Convention which framed the first constitution of North Carolina. Because of his vocal support of the revolution, Dr. Caldwell's property was a particular object for destruction by the invading British at the time of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. To avoid capture Caldwell fled his home and remained in the vicinity of the American army. After the battle of March 15, 1781, Dr. Caldwell helped care for the wounded of both armies.

Following the war, Dr. Caldwell served in the North Carolina Constitu-

tional Convention which ratified the United States Constitution. He continued his work as pastor, healer and teacher until old age forced his retirement in 1820. Four years later, on August 25, 1824, Dr. David Caldwell, one of North Carolina's most distinguished citizens, died in his ninety-ninth year. He was buried in the cemetery of Buffalo Presbyterian Church.

The monument to Dr. Caldwell's memory was erected at Guilford Courthouse in 1909. It is inscribed:

DR. DAVID CALDWELL
BORN 1724
DIED 1824
PREACHER
PATRIOT
PHYSICIAN
TEACHER



Caldwell Monument

20. Delaware Monument and Graves

Judge David Schenck, founder of the Guilford Battle Ground Company, spent many weekends walking the area of the battlefield searching for artifacts. On July 12, 1888, Judge Schenck and his wife were walking over the farm of William Daniels, about one half mile north of the park's present boundary. Along the edge of a ravine Schenck noticed two bones pro-

truding from the earth. Digging around these bones the Judge soon unearthed the remains of three men. From buttons found in the grave, Schenck identified these men as American Continentals, and from the location of their bodies he reasoned they must have fought with Kirkwood's Delaware Company.

These Delaware men were part of the remnants of one of the most famous of all Continental regiments. Accepted into the service in January 1776, this regiment fought in all the major battles in the northern theater, gaining an enviable reputation for valor and efficiency. Transferred south, the gallant Delaware regiment was virtually destroyed in the fiasco at Camden, August 16, 1780. The survivors of that black day were organized into two companies which were combined with the remnants of the seven Maryland regiments shattered at Camden to form a light infantry battalion. Although the Delawares and Marylanders fought well together at Cowpens, they were broken up in the January 1781 reorganization of the Maryland line. The Delawares – numbering fewer than one hundred – formed a company under Captain Robert Kirkwood. Placed on the far right of the American first line at Guilford Courthouse, Kirkwood's men stubbornly resisted the British advance, with the disintegration of the first line the Delawares fell back, fighting for a time on the far right (north) of the second line, then on an extreme right of the third line. They fought there until General Greene's call for a general retreat. Few in number at the outset, Kirkwood's Delawares suffered heavily at Guilford Courthouse, losing thirty-five men.



Delaware Monument and Graves

The grave that Judge Schenck found on that afternoon in 1888, then, contained the bodies of three gallant men from a state which sacrificed much for the cause of American independence. The remains of these honored dead were removed to the battlefield in August, 1888. Their graves are marked by a common monument which is inscribed:

THURSDAY
MARCH 15, 1781
THREE CONTINENTAL SOLDIERS
REST HERE
In fame's eternal camping ground

21. Maryland

No soldiers played more prominent roles in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse than did those from the state of Maryland. The First and Second Maryland Regiments (commanded respectively by Colonels Gunby and Ford) formed a major portion of Nathanael Greene's third line at Guilford. The First Maryland was composed of veterans of the various Maryland regiments shattered at Camden, while the Second consisted largely of untried recruits. The Second's lack of seasoning became apparent when her men fled at their first contact with advancing redcoats. However, the First repelled the initial assault of the British Twenty-third and Thirty-third regiments on the third line and then turned to smash the flank of Lord Cornwallis' main attack force. These brave men fought toe to toe with the very best troops the British army could muster, falling back only in the face of Cornwallis' point blank cannon blasts. It is in large measure due to the valor and deadly skill of the men of the First Maryland that the British hopes of subjugating North Carolina were shattered at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.

The monument commemorating the Maryland soldiers who fought at the Guilford Courthouse was financed with voluntary contributions from members of the Maryland Historical Society, and was dedicated October 15, 1892. It is inscribed:

MARYLAND'S TRIBUTE TO
HER HEROIC DEAD

ERECTED BY MEMBERS OF
THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
IN MEMORY OF THE SOLDIERS
OF THE MARYLAND LINE.
1781 1892

NON OMNIS MORIAH*
**"I SHALL NOT DIE ALTOGETHER."



Maryland Monument

Action On The Third Line

Nathanael Greene had reserved his best troops for the third line. About 550 yards east of the second line, Greene posted 1400 Maryland, Virginia, and Delaware Continentals along a slope facing a cleared ravine north of New Garden Road. The Continentals anxiously scanned the woods on their front seeking some glimpse of their red-coated adversaries. Finally the first British units, the Twenty-third and Thirty-third regiments, broke into the clearing and attacked the American right. A volley and counter attack by the First Maryland sent the redcoats scampering back across the ravine seeking cover. On the southern end of the line, the British Second Battalion of Guards emerged from the forest and rushed toward the Second Maryland Regiment. Firing a feeble volley, the Marylanders fell back. Pursuing, the Guards seized the pair of six-pounders of Captain Anthony Singleton which had covered the American left flank. The flight of the Second Maryland posed a serious threat to the American position. Pouring through this gap, the British were immediately in the rear of the Virginia and Delaware Continentals, and by continuing their advance could have completely surrounded the right wing of the American army. Greene, keenly aware of this possibility, decided to withdraw, saving his army to fight another day. However, battlefield communications were slow and uncertain, and before the command to retreat could be conveyed to all of Greene's regimental commanders, the battle took a dramatic turn in favor of the Americans. The Guards, intent on pursuing the fleeing Second Maryland, did not notice the First Maryland returning to its original position on the line. Nor did the British see William Washington's cavalry as it roared down on their rear. The Guards were caught between hammer and anvil, slashed and stabbed by sáber and bayonet. Had Lord Cornwallis not arrived on the scene, the annihilation of the Guards would have been certain. But Cornwallis brought up his two three-pounders, charged them with grapeshot and blasted iron balls squarely into the melee, cutting down Continental and Redcoat alike. Dazed, the combatants drifted apart. Cornwallis had killed many of his own soldiers, but he had succeeded in breaking up the fighting. Washington's cavalry and the battered Marylanders then joined in the general retreat which Greene had earlier ordered.

Monuments In The Area Of The Third Line

22. American Third Line Monument

This tall granite shaft marks the position of Greene's Continentals on the third line. From the monument site, this line stretched southward along the hillside terminating at New Garden Road, and northward along the ridge for an undetermined distance. Here the Maryland and Virginia brigades, with the remnants of Kirkwood's Delaware Company, bore the brunt of the final British attack.



Third Line Monument

The monument, erected in 1910 is inscribed, simply:

REGULARS
GREENE'S 3RD LINE

23. James Stuart Monument

Of the 2000 British soldiers who fought in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, only one man is commemorated with a monument: Lieutenant Colonel James Stuart, Second Battalion of the Queen's Guards. According to William Johnson in his *Life of Greene*, Colonel Stuart and Captain John Smith of the First Maryland had met in hand-to-hand combat in an earlier battle. In this previous encounter neither combatant was killed. Stuart and Smith met again at Guilford Courthouse, where their regiments engaged each other on the third line. Stuart hacked at Smith with his sword, but stumbling over the arm of a dead man, missed his mark. Smith then killed Stuart with a single blow from his sword. Smith was himself shot down by one of the Queen's Guards, but was carried from the field by his men and survived his wound.

In 1866 a sword was plowed up on the third line field. From the escutcheon etched on its blade the sword was identified as Colonel Stuart's. It was assumed, then, that this was the spot where Colonel Stuart was slain. After



Stuart Monument

the formation of the Guilford Battle Ground Company, a monument was erected on this site. The monument is inscribed:

HON. LIEUT.
COLONEL STUART
Of the second Battalion of the Queens
Guards, was killed at this spot by
Captain John Smith
of the First Maryland Regiment

Col. Stuart's sword was exhumed here in 1866
Erected by the GBG Co. in honor of a brave foeman
1895

24. Griffin Fautleroy

Beyond the dates and places of his birth and death we know little about the short life of Griffin Fautleroy. He was born in Northumberland County, Virginia, September 28, 1754. Twenty-seven years later, on March 15, 1781, Captain Fautleroy fell mortally wounded while leading his men of the First Virginia Light Dragoons at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.

The monument which guarantees that the sacrifice of Captain Fautleroy

will remain a part of our national remembrance was erected in 1931 or 1932 with funds donated by P.C. Fauntleroy. It is inscribed:

THIS SITE WAS OCCUPIED
BY THE 1ST VIRGINIA CAVALRY
UNDER LIEUTENANT COLONEL
WILLIAM WASHINGTON, CONT'L
LINE, AND IT WAS HERE CAPTAIN
GRIFFIN FAUNTLEORY, 1ST VA.
LT. DRAGOONS, CONT'L LINE-
WAS MORTALLY WOUNDED ON
MARCH 15, 1781
BORN SEPTEMBER 28, 1754.
NORTHUMBERLAND CO., VA.



Fauntleroy Monument

25. Cavalry Monument

This monument, although popularly known as the "Francisco Monument," actually commemorates the electrifying charge of Colonel William Washington's dragoons upon the rear of the British Second Battalion of Guards during the struggle on the third line. Three especially notable American cavalymen are named in the monument's inscription.



Cavalry Monument

Lieutenant Colonel William Washington

Born in 1752, William Washington (a cousin of George Washington) began the war as an infantryman. He soon transferred to the cavalry, and led mounted units until his capture at Eutaw Springs in September 1781. Washington is perhaps best known for his superlative performance in the smashing American victory at Cowpens.

At Guilford Courthouse, Washington's cavalry, numbering fewer than one hundred men, was initially stationed on the far right of the first line. That position giving way, Washington withdrew his men to the commanding hill south of the third line. From this eminence Washington witnessed the route of the Second Maryland. Seizing the initiative, Washington launched a thundering charge down the slope, riding over the red-coated Guardsmen at the same instant the First Maryland struck the British flank. Only the blasts of Cornwallis' cannon saved the redcoats from certain disaster.

The Marquis of Bretagne

Like that other idealistic French nobleman, Lafayette, the Marquis of Bretagne (also spelled Britigny) cast his lot with the cause of American independence. The Marquis sailed for the United States in September 1777 with officers and equipment to form a cavalry regiment. His vessel was cap-

tured by ships of the British blockading squadron, and the Marquis spent his first six months in North America in a British prison at St. Augustine. On his release, the young nobleman traveled to Philadelphia where he attempted – unsuccessfully – to obtain a brigadier general's commission.

In early 1779 the Marquis sailed to Martinique where he served as agent for the state of South Carolina. After Charleston fell in May 1780, he was employed in this same capacity by North Carolina. During his stay in the West Indies, the Marquis purchased quantities of arms and equipment which significantly strengthened North Carolina in its attempts to repel the invading British armies.

The Marquis' service was not limited to his activities in Martinique. Though the date and circumstances of his arrival are unknown, it is certain that the Marquis had returned to North Carolina by March 15, 1781. For on that date, the Marquis of Bretigny led approximately forty North Carolina cavalymen in the American third line charge at Guilford Courthouse. At day's end, this command's losses included one man killed, and one wounded.

Sometime after the battle, the Marquis resumed his activities in Martinique, serving there until 1782.

Following the war the Marquis returned to the adopted state he had served so well, and resided at New Bern, North Carolina until his death in 1793.

Peter Francisco

Peter Francisco was one of the most famous enlisted men in the Revolutionary War. Over the intervening two hundred years, Francisco has assumed truly legendary proportions. Indeed it is today sometimes difficult to distinguish the man from his legend.

It is known that in June 1765 a small boy was abandoned on a dock at City Point, Virginia. This child was Peter Francisco. The place and date of his birth have long been subjects of debate, but Francisco himself believed that he had been born in Portugal. Recent research indicates that Francisco was probably born in 1760 in the Portuguese Azores.

One can only speculate as to how a five-year old child born in the Azores made his way to Virginia. One theory holds that the boy was sent away from his home to escape murder at the hands of his father's enemies. Others believe that Francisco was kidnapped and held for ransom, but the kidnapers were, for some reason, forced to abandon both their scheme and the

child.

Appearing at City Point, Francisco was placed under the guardianship of Judge Anthony Winston, and spent his boyhood at Winston's home in Buckingham County, Virginia. The environment on the Winston farm must have been exceedingly healthful, for the boy grew into a formidable man. Although descriptions of Francisco's size vary, he was probably about six and one-half feet tall and weighed approximately 260 pounds.

Francisco's Revolutionary War service began in the autumn of 1776 when the strapping teenager joined the Tenth Virginia Regiment. By the end of his first enlistment in December 1779, he had served in most of the battles of the northern campaign. Following his discharge Francisco returned to Virginia. After the fall of Charleston, South Carolina, in May 1780, he joined the militia regiment of Colonel William Mayo and marched south with General Horatio Gates' army. Gates met disaster at Camden, South Carolina, in August 1780. At Camden Francisco is said to have saved an 1100 pound cannon from capture by lifting and carrying it from the battlefield.

Following Camden Francisco joined a mounted unit recruited in Prince Edward County, Virginia, by Captain Thomas Watkins' cavalry rode in William Washington's charge at Guilford Courthouse. Armed with a huge sabre, Francisco was conspicuous in this charge, killing eleven British regulars before he was, himself, felled by a serious bayonet wound in his leg.

Although left for dead on the battlefield, Francisco was later found alive by a Quaker farmer and nursed back to health. He recovered in time to join Washington's army for the Yorktown campaign.

Following the war, Francisco became a planter, living in Virginia until his death in 1831.

Completed in 1909, the cavalry monument bears two bronze tablets. The tablet on the north face is inscribed:

1781 1909
TO THE MARQUIS OF BRITIGNY
AND COL. WM. WASHINGTON
WHO WITH THEIR NORTH CAROLINA AND
VIRGINIA CAVALRY CHARGED AND RAN
THROUGH AND OVER THE 2ND. QUEENS
GUARDS IN THE VALLEY BELOW.

on the west side face:

TO PETER FRANCISCO
A GIANT IN STATURE
MIGHT AND COURAGE –

WHO SLEW IN THIS ENGAGEMENT ELEVEN OF
THE ENEMY WITH HIS
OWN BROAD SWORD RENDERING
HIMSELF THEREBY PERHAPS
THE MOST FAMOUS
PRIVATE SOLDIER OF
THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

26. *Joseph Winston Monument*

27.,28. *Joseph Winston and Jesse Franklin Graves*

Joseph L. Winston was born in Louisa County, Virginia, on June 17, 1746. As a young man he moved to Surry County, North Carolina. In 1775 he represented that county in the North Carolina Provincial Congress, and was appointed major of the Surry militia. This unit was part of the American force which destroyed the Loyalist army of Colonel Patrick Ferguson at King's Mountain in October 1780. For his conspicuous gallantry in this engagement, the North Carolina legislature voted to present Winston a sword.

The Surry County contingent was part of the large force of North Carolina militia which served with Greene's army at Guilford Courthouse. In this engagement Winston's men were initially stationed on the far left of the



Winston Monument

American first line. The accurate fire from this segment of the patriot line inflicted heavy casualties on the oncoming British. As the center of this position gave way, Winston's men were compelled to fall back. Attaching themselves to "Lighthorse Harry" Lee's force of cavalry and riflemen, the "Surry County Boys" withdrew to a hilltop about one mile southeast of their first position. On this rise Lee's and Winston's men turned to face their pursuers – the First Battalion of Guards and the Hessian Regiment von Bose – in a desperate secondary battle, isolated from the main action of the day. These hardy Americans could not be budged from their hilltop position until General Greene ordered a general retreat.

Among Winston's "Surry County Boys" were Richard Taliaferro and Jesse Franklin. Both had ridden horses to Guilford Courthouse, tying their mounts behind the area of the battle. As Winston's men fell back, Franklin and Taliaferro tried to reach their horses. Franklin made good his escape, but Taliaferro was killed by pursuing British cavalry. Traditionally, Taliaferro is said to have been the last American soldier killed in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. Franklin later returned to the battlefield and buried his fallen comrade.

The Winston monument was unveiled on July 4, 1895. The remains of Joseph Winston and Jesse Franklin were moved to Guilford Courthouse in 1906. The Winston Monument is inscribed:

West face:

IN MEMORY
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA TROOPS
UNDER
MAJOR JOSEPH WINSTON
WHO WERE FIGHTING THE
HESSIANS
AND TARLETON'S CAVALRY
NEAR THIS SPOT
AFTER THE CONTINENTAL LINE
HAD RETREATED
FROM THE FIELD OF BATTLE
MARCH 15TH, 1781

North face:

ERECTED BY
GOVERNOR THOMAS M. HOLT
1893

East face:

MAJOR JOSEPH WINSTON
CAPTAIN JESSE FRANKLIN
RICHARD TALIAFERRO
PALAMAN QUI MERUIT FERAT*
*LET HIM WHO HAS WON
THE PALM BEAR IT.



Winston Grave



Franklin Grave

