Washington Light Infantry Monument
Cowpens National Battlefield
Historic Structure Report

Cultural Resources, Partnerships, and Science Division
Southeast Region
The report presented here exists in two formats. A printed version is available for study at the park, the Southeastern Regional Office of the National Park Service, and at a variety of other repositories. For more widespread access, this report also exists in a web-based format through ParkNet, the website of the National Park Service. Please visit www.nps.gov for more information.

Washington Light Infantry Monument
Cowpens National Battlefield
Historic Structure Report

Approved By: Superintendent, Cowpens National Battlefield
Date: 1/31/19

Recommended By: Chief, Cultural Resource Partnerships & Science Division, Southeast Region
Date: 12/19/18

Recommended By: Deputy Regional Director, Southeast Region
Date: 2-18-19

Approved By: Regional Director, Southeast Region
Date
Page intentionally left blank.
# Table of Contents

**Foreword** ................................................................................................................................. xiii

**Management Summary** ............................................................................................................. 1

- Executive Summary .......................................................................................................................... 2
- Purpose and Scope ............................................................................................................................... 2
- Historical Overview ............................................................................................................................. 2
- Statement of Significance ...................................................................................................................... 4
- Project Methodology ............................................................................................................................ 4
- Conclusions and Recommendations .................................................................................................... 4

- Administrative Data .......................................................................................................................... 5
  - Locational Data .................................................................................................................................. 5
  - Related NPS Studies ............................................................................................................................. 5
  - Real Property Information .................................................................................................................... 5
  - Size Information .................................................................................................................................. 5
  - Cultural Resource Data ......................................................................................................................... 6

- Proposed Treatment ............................................................................................................................ 6

**I.A Historical Background and Context** ....................................................................................... 9

- Introduction ......................................................................................................................................... 9
- The Early Cowpens Landscape ......................................................................................................... 10
  - American Indian Influence ............................................................................................................... 10
  - Cow Pens ....................................................................................................................................... 10
- The Battle of Cowpens ....................................................................................................................... 11
  - Use of the Landscape ....................................................................................................................... 12
  - Significance ..................................................................................................................................... 13
- The Settlement of Cowpens ............................................................................................................... 13
  - Early Settlers: Scruggs and Ezell Families ....................................................................................... 13
  - Agriculture, Settlement Patterns, and Land Use .............................................................................. 14
- Early Commemoration ....................................................................................................................... 15
  - The Washington Light Infantry Monument ...................................................................................... 16
  - Cowpens Boosters ............................................................................................................................ 17
- Federal Government Commemoration ............................................................................................... 17
  - Cowpens National Battlefield Site .................................................................................................... 19
  - Efforts to Expand ................................................................................................................................ 20
- Park Establishment and Development ............................................................................................... 20
  - Landscape Restoration ..................................................................................................................... 21
  - Bicentennial Development ............................................................................................................... 21

**I.B Chronology of Development and Use** .................................................................................. 23

- 1856 Design & Preparations ................................................................................................................ 23
- 1856-1857 Construction ..................................................................................................................... 24
### List of Figures

About the cover: View of Washington Light Infantry Monument, 2017 .............................................................. ii

**Management Summary**................................................................................................................................. 1

Site Location Map .................................................................................................................................................. 7

Monument Location Map, Cowpens National Battlefield (Adapted from NPS, Harpers Ferry Center) .... 7

**I.A Historical Background and Context** ...................................................................................................... 9

**Figure 1.** Artistic rendering of a cowpen area in the backcountry. Source: 1938 Cowpens National Battlefield Master Plan cover art. ........................................................................................................... 10

**Figure 2.** Artistic the Battle of Cowpens. Note the widely spaced trees, limited understory vegetation, and rolling topography. ("The Battle of Cowpens" by Charles McBarron). ..................................................... 12


**Figure 4.** Artistic rendering of the Richard Scruggs II cabin, showing the Tidewater chimney. Source: Walker, Archeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site. ......................................................... 13


**Figure 6.** Illustration of the Washington Light Infantry at Cowpens, April 1856. Source: William A. Courtney, 1781-1881. *Proceedings of the Unveiling of the Battle Monument at Spartanburg, S.C.* (Spartanburg, South Carolina: Cowpens Centennial Committee, 1896), 12. ........................................................................ 15


**Figure 8.** Photograph of Green River Road, April 1928. The original caption indicates the house in the distance was the Blackwell Residence. Source: United States Department of War, *The Battle of Kings Mountain and The Battle of Cowpens, Historical Statements,* (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1928). http://archive.org/details/historicalstatemOOarmy. ........................................................................................................... 16

**Figure 9.** 1936 photograph of the battlefield site. The Washington Light Infantry Monument is within the wooded area in the background. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3A, 132, 4481 c. 2. ............................................................................................................................... 17

**Figure 10.** 1938 Master Plan for the Cowpens Battlefield National Site. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, flat file. ................................................................. 18
Figure 11. 1937 aerial photograph of Cowpens. The Washington Light Infantry Monument is obscured by vegetation, but is located in the wooded area southeast of the battlefield site. Source: USDA................................................................. 18

Figure 12. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing west southwest, 1950. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B c187, 2 of 2 ......................................................... 19

Figure 13. 1961 image of the US Monument site. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C162, 1 of 2. ........................................................................................................ 19

Figure 14. 1973 Development Concept Plan. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives Flat Files. 20

Figure 15. The relocated 1932 US Monument and 1978 Visitor Center building. Source: National Park Service................................................................. 21

Figure 16. Illustration of Edward Brickell White’s design for the Washington Light Infantry Monument, published in the Charleston Courier, 17 April 1856. Source: “The Cowpens Monument,” The Cahaba Gazette (Cahaba, Alabama), 25 April 1856, 3 ........................................................................................................ 23

I.B Chronology of Development and Use.................................................................................................................. 23

Figure 17. Eagle atop the Eutaw Flag’s flagpole, Washington Light Infantry Hall, Charleston, November 2017 .................................................................................................................. 26

Figure 18. Advertisement for Durant & Hamlin, February 1857. Source: Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 26 February 1857, 5 ........................................................................................................ 28

Figure 19. Two stones with past square embedments, possibly associated with the 1857 iron railing, 25 September 2017 .................................................................................................................. 29

Figure 20. Illustration of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, possibly reusing the 1856 printing plate. Source: John Warner Barber & Henry Howe, Our Whole Country, or the Past and Present of the United States, Vol. I (Cincinnati: Henry Howe, 1861), 719. .................................................................................................................. 30

Figure 21. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southwest, 25 April 1919. Source: pasted into the back cover of the copy of William A. Courtney, 1781-1881. Proceedings of the Unveiling of the Battle Monument at Spartanburg, S.C. (Spartanburg, South Carolina: Cowpens Centennial Committee, 1896), in the collection of the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, 975.7033CoC83p. .................................................................................................................. 32

Figure 22. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 1920. Green River Road is visible in the distance, with the parked automobile, while the dirt cutoff road appears to be visible just beyond the monument. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives ............ 33

Figure 23. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southwest, c.1920. Source: Washington Light Infantry Archives. ........................................................................................................ 33

Figure 24. Illustration of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, published in 1896 and possibly based on the 1856 illustration. Source: William A. Courtney, 1781-1881. Proceedings of the Unveiling of the Battle Monument at Spartanburg, S.C. (Spartanburg, South Carolina: Cowpens Centennial Committee, 1896), 16; “Cowpens Shaft and Battle Plans,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 16 October 1926, 5; Souvenir Program, Unveiling of the Battlegrounds Monument, Cherokee County, S.C. June 14, 1932 from the Collections of the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, s.c. 973.3372 D26u c. 2, 12 .................................................................................................................. 34
Figure 25. Photograph of c.1950s brass eagle in the collection of the Spartanburg County Historical Association, February 2018. Source: Spartanburg County Historical Association. ........................................ 34

Figure 26. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, sometime before June 1932. The original caption reports that the photograph “shows how the monument appeared until recently when efforts were made to restore it to its original condition.” Green River Road is visible beyond the stand of trees. Source: “First Cowpens Monument Erected by W.L.I. in 1856,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 14 June 1932, 4. .......................................................... 35

Figure 27. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, c.1932-1936. This photograph appears to have been taken during or immediately following the 1930s repair campaign; note the apparent stucco residue on the lower part of the cast iron column. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives................................................................. 36

Figure 28. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 1936. Green River Road is visible beyond the trees while the dirt cutoff road is just beyond the fenced enclosure. Note the stucco patches, new marble cap, and new ball on the monument and the damaged condition of the iron fence atop the new stone wall. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3A, 136-4485............................................................................................................ 36

Figure 29. Photograph of 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing southeast, 1950. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B c187, 1 of 2. ................................................................. 36

Figure 30. Photograph of 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing southeast, 1975. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B c76, 2 of 8. ................................................................. 36

Figure 31. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northwest, c.1955. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives................................................................. 36

Figure 32. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southeast, June 1958. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives................................................................. 36

Figure 33. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southwest, 1959. Note the new inscriptions on the top of the base of the monument, the edge of the cutoff road at lower right, and the residential and agricultural setting. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C155-157, 1 of 3................................................................. 37

Figure 34. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 1959. Green River Road is visible beyond the trees and the cutoff road is just beyond the fenced enclosure. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C155-157, 2 of 3................................................................. 37

Figure 35. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northwest, 1959. Green River Road is visible beyond the trees and the cutoff road is just beyond the fenced enclosure. The US Monument is in the distance at left. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C155-157, 3 of 3................................................................. 38

Figure 36. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northwest, 1966. Source: The Gaffney Ledger, 21 November 1966................................................................. 38

Figure 37. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southeast, 1972. The dirt cutoff road is visible at left. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, c 234, no. 12 of 37................................................................. 38
Figure 38. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing south-southeast, 1975. Note the removal of the iron fence and marble cap as well as the general appearance of deterioration. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, c 93. .................................................. 38

Figure 39. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument and 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing southeast, 4 October 1975. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives. .................................................. 38

Figure 40. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument and 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing east, 4 October 1975. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives. .................................................. 39

Figure 41. Photograph of 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing east, c.1975-1978. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives. ........................................................................................................ 39

Figure 42. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southwest, 1978. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield National Register Nomination. .................................................. 40

Figure 43. Sheet from construction documents for fence repair, 24 April 1979. Note the design for a new gate entirely unlike that present from the 1930s to the early-1970s. Source: National Park Service. 40

Figure 44. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 26 September 1980. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives. .................................................................................. 40

Figure 45. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 26 September 1980. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives. .................................................................................. 40

Figure 46. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing east, 26 September 1980. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives. .................................................................................. 40

Figure 47. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing east, 26 September 1980. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives. .................................................................................. 40

Figure 48. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northwest, 1981. Source: National Park Service. ........................................................................................................ 41


Figure 52. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during installation of new stucco, facing north, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives. .......... 42

Figure 53. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during abrasive blasting of iron fence, facing northwest, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives. .......... 43

Figure 54. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during abrasive blasting of iron fence, facing north-northeast, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives. .......... 43

Figure 55. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during abrasive blasting of iron fence, facing northwest, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives. .......... 43

Figure 56. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during priming of iron fence, facing northwest, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives. .......... 43

Figure 57. Detail of 1993 stucco showing exposure of fiberglass mesh, 25 September 2017. .......... 43

Figure 58. General view of monument, enclosure, and context, facing southeast, 25 September 2017. ........................................................................................................ 45
Figure 59. 25 General view of monument and enclosure, facing northeast, September 2017 45
Figure 60. Southwest elevation of monument, facing east-northeast, 25 September 2017 45

I.C Physical Description and Condition Assessment 45

Figure 61. Marble plaque on northeast elevation (historic front) of monument base, facing southwest, 25 September 2017 46
Figure 62. Marble plaque on northeast elevation (historic front) of monument base, facing south, 25 September 2017 46
Figure 63. Northeast elevation (historic front) of monument, facing southwest, 25 September 2017 46
Figure 64. North elevation of monument, facing south, 25 September 2017 46
Figure 65. Northwest elevation of monument with 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing southeast, 25 September 2017 46
Figure 66: Southwest elevation of monument, facing northeast, 25 September 2017 47
Figure 67: South elevation of monument, facing north, 25 September 2017 47
Figure 68: Southeast elevation of monument, facing northwest, 25 September 2017 47
Figure 69: Detail of top of pedestal showing cracks in 1993 stucco, 25 September 2017 48
Figure 70: View of cast iron column shaft, 25 September 2017 48
Figure 71: Detail of cast iron column and base with later patch between them, 25 September 2017 48
Figure 72: Detail of holes and pock-marks in cast iron shaft, 25 September 2017 49
Figure 73: Detail of cast iron column capital and mounting of cast iron ball, 25 September 2017 49
Figure 74: North elevation of enclosure, facing south-southeast, 25 September 2017 49
Figure 75: East elevation of enclosure, facing west-northwest, 25 September 2017 49
Figure 76: South elevation of enclosure, facing north-northeast, 25 September 2017 50
Figure 77: West elevation of enclosure, facing east-southeast, 25 September 2017 50
Figure 78: Detail of typical condition with mortar at connection between wall and iron fence, 25 September 2017 50
Figure 79: Detail of spalled mortar and former embedment hole in stone wall, 25 September 2017 50
Figure 80: Detail of typical conditions at iron fence, 25 September 2017 50
Figure 81: Two stones with past square embedments, possibly associated with the 1857 iron railing, 25 September 2017 51
Figure 82: 1866 Advertisement for Edward Brickell White’s practice at Charleston. Source: Charleston Daily News, 13 October 1866, 8 53
Page intentionally left blank.
Foreword

We are pleased to make available this Historic Structure Report, part of our ongoing effort to provide comprehensive documentation for the historic structures and cultural landscapes of National Park Service units in the Southeast Region. A number of individuals and institutions contributed to the successful completion of this work. We would particularly like to thank the staff at Cowpens National Battlefield for their assistance throughout the process. We hope that this study will prove valuable to park management in ongoing efforts to preserve the historic structure and to everyone in understanding and interpreting this unique resource.

Dan Scheidt, Chief
Cultural Resources, Partnerships and Science Division
Southeast Regional Office

John Slaughter, Superintendent
Cowpens National Battlefield

2018
Page intentionally left blank.
Management Summary

Project Team

Building Investigation/Building Condition Assessment
- David Kroll, Historical Architect
- Benjamin Ross, Historic Preservation Specialist
- RATI0 Architects, Inc., Indianapolis, IN
- Keyes Williamson, Principal Historian
  WLA Studio, Athens, GA

Research
- Keyes Williamson, Principal Historian
- Sean Dunlap, Historic Preservation Specialist
  WLA Studio, Athens, GA

Building Recordation
- David Kroll, Historical Architect
- Benjamin Ross, Historic Preservation Specialist
  RATI0 Architects, Inc., Indianapolis, IN

Program Review
- Ali Miri, Historical Architect
  National Park Service
  Southeast Regional Office
  Atlanta, GA
- Sarah Cunningham, Chief of Integrated Resources and Facilities
- Vanessa Smiley, Chief of Interpretation and Site Manager
- Virginia Fowler, Park Ranger
- Cowpens National Battlefield
- Gaffney, SC

Project Manager
- Ali Miri, Historical Architect
  National Park Service
  Southeast Regional Office
  Atlanta, GA
Executive Summary

At the request of the National Park Service (NPS), WLA Studio has developed this Historic Structure Report (HSR) for the Washington Light Infantry Monument at Cowpens National Battlefield. WLA Studio consulted with RATIO Architects, Inc. in preparing this document.

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this Historic Structure Report is to document the construction history and current condition of the Washington Light Infantry Monument at Cowpens National Battlefield (COWP) and to provide recommendations for the structure’s treatment and use. This HSR will guide the National Park Service (NPS) in the stewardship of this historic resource.

The report includes Part I: Developmental History and Part II: Treatment and Use. Part I provides a brief review of the historical development of Cowpens National Battlefield, known historical information about the Washington Light Infantry Monument’s construction and use, and transfer of the property to the National Park Service. A chronology of the structure’s physical development and use provides information on the known evolution of the monument over time. This information derives largely from physical investigations with the addition of available historical documentation. The HSR provides information about why the structure was constructed, who constructed it, and how it was constructed. The HSR also provides a chronology of changes that have been made to the structure, from its original construction to 2017.

A current physical description based on building investigations and assessment using non-destructive methods provides a systemic accounting of the memorial’s features and materials. A summary assessment of the monument’s current condition is also included.

Part II provides recommendations for the treatment and use of the Washington Light Infantry Monument. The Treatment and Use chapter presents a proposed treatment for the historic structure. It emphasizes preservation of existing historic material while conforming to applicable laws, regulations, planning, and functional requirements. Treatment recommendations address foundation conditions, masonry conditions, and deterioration of the physical structure.

A bibliography provides all sources of information this report references. An appendix contains scaled drawings of the historic monument appearance and existing monument plan and elevations.

Historical Overview

Cowpens National Battlefield is an 842.5-acre site located in Cherokee County, South Carolina. The site was established to commemorate the Battle of Cowpens, a nationally-significant Revolutionary War battle fought on January 17, 1781. The closest towns to the site are Chesnee, Cowpens, and Gaffney; Interstate 85 is approximately eight miles southwest. Though rapidly developing, the surrounding area is still mostly rural in character.

Before European colonization, the site does not appear to have supported any permanent prehistoric settlements. Instead, the area served as hunting grounds for the Cherokee and Catawba. The site is located along an elevated ridge. This topographic condition coupled with specific soils and periodic fire disturbance produced a savanna vegetation community. Below and surrounding the drier ridge, mature forest and swaths of rivercane grew dense and provided alternate browsing areas for wild fauna. It is likely American Indian hunters augmented the naturally-occurring fire cycles of the site to increase vegetation preferred by wild game such as white-tailed deer. These conditions were amenable to cattle grazing as well, and after the Cherokee and Catawba were removed from the area, the landscape was used as a cow holding area—a cow pen—during the late Colonial era.

It is unknown who first used the area for holding cattle. The name “Hannah” was associated with the site in the historic period, but no record related to that name can be traced directly to the site. There is also no definitive evidence of anyone living within present park boundaries prior to 1811. However, by the start of the American Revolution two regional roads passed through the site: Green River Road and Island Ford Road. These roads provided settlers from North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia access to the South Carolina frontier
as they migrated south, while also connecting the backcountry to regionally important trading centers. Further, these roads served both patriots and British troops during the war.

The Battle of Cowpens was one of the notable patriot victories of the southern campaigns, and one that helped to change the outcome of the war. Building on the momentum of the patriot victory at the Battle of Kings Mountain, General Nathanael Greene, commander of the patriot forces in the south, sent Brigadier General Daniel Morgan with half the southern patriot force to sneak up on and attack the British should they enter North Carolina. Tipped off to the plan, British General Lord Charles Cornwallis, sent the highly-skilled and fast-moving British light troops commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton to disrupt the patriot plan. Tarleton pursued Morgan through the South Carolina backcountry in the winter of 1780-1781, gaining on him and ultimately positioned to overtake the slower patriot force. Realizing that retreat from Tarleton would not be possible, Morgan devised a plan to engage Tarleton in battle. Based on input from a local named Captain Dennis Trammel, Morgan directed his troops to make for the “cow pens” area. Arriving earlier allowed Morgan to develop a battle plan using the natural systems and features of the site. Specifically, Morgan planned to use the site’s topography and vegetation to corral the British as if they were cattle.

The Battle of Cowpens was fought on the morning of January 17, 1781. The 25-30-minute battle resulted in a resounding victory for the patriots. Coming at a time when morale among troops and militiamen was low, the victory gave new life to the patriot cause. It also helped sway loyalist sentiment towards independence. As the year went on, the British and American forces fought a series of battles, with the British winning the majority of them, though suffering many casualties each time. With dwindling numbers, the remaining British forces relocated to Yorktown. On October 19, 1781 Cornwallis surrendered and signaling the beginning of the end of the war. The war officially ended in September 1783 with the signing of the Treaty of Paris.

Following the Battle of Cowpens, a period of land speculation in the South Carolina Piedmont region began. At the battlefield, many acres were claimed, though initially little development of the area occurred. Soon after, various settlers, most notably the Scruggs and Ezell Families, came to the cow pens area to start self-sufficient farming operations. Settlers cleared land, planted crops, tended gardens, and raised livestock. As time went on, a farming community developed in the area. Churches, mills, and other industries were established nearby. The town of Spartanburg developed southwest of the site.

Local citizens recognized the importance of the Battle of Cowpens, and as early as the 1830s, they held commemoration events at the battlefield. In 1856, a militia from Charleston erected the Washington Light Infantry Monument on the battlefield. The following year, a group of local Spartanburg women purchased a one-acre plot from the Ezell Family to surround the monument. This was the first physical commemoration at the battle site. Local boosters wanted more recognition for the battle however, and several decades of petitioning government officials began. In 1929, a bill authorizing the creation of a one-acre Cowpens National Battlefield Site (NBS) was signed, though the one-acre parcel containing the Washington Light Infantry Monument was excluded from the development plan. Between 1929 and 1933, the US War Department administered the site, which was located at the intersection of two local roadways. They erected a 32-foot-tall monument and installed minimal site improvements. In 1933, the War Department transferred most of its military parks to the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS did not make any substantial changes to the site until the 1950s, when site managers installed parking, interpretation, and vegetation.

Throughout NPS ownership, local boosters continued to advocate for an expanded battlefield park. As local and political support grew, the NPS began exploring the possibility of a dramatically larger site and created a series of master plans to create a vision for what the park would contain. The plans called for the creation of an 800-acre site that would contain extensive interpretive features, a visitor center, picnic area, walking trails, and an automobile tour road. Additionally, the plans called for the restoration of the landscape to 1781 conditions. The restoration necessitated the removal of many residents from within the park boundary, as well as removal of the physical evidence of their residency, including all houses,
barns, fences, roads, and commercial buildings. The plan was approved in 1970, and on April 11, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed House Bill 10086, establishing Cowpens as a national battlefield.

After residents relocated from within the park, the process of removing non-historical features began. While most of the site was cleared, several historic resources dating to after the battle were spared demolition. The features were the Robert Scruggs house, the Richard Scruggs II chimney, the Green River Road, and the two existing monuments, including the Washington Light Infantry Monument. The NPS redeveloped the park between 1978 and 198, and it was completed in time for the bicentennial of the Battle of Cowpens. Since that time, landscape restoration activities have focused on restoring the ecological character of the landscape by thinning areas of successional forest, prescribed fire, and planting native trees, grasses, and river cane.

**Statement of Significance**
The Washington Light Infantry Monument (1856) is an early and architecturally significant Revolutionary War battle monument. The monument is a significant memorial work by prominent Charleston architect Edward Brickell White, who designed many built and unbuilt monuments in South Carolina. It is significant for its use of construction materials and technology, including cast-in-place concrete that may relate to both southeastern coastal building traditions and contemporary experiments with concrete construction. The Washington Light Infantry Monument is among the earliest Revolutionary War monuments in the United States and is significant for its place in the evolution of American military commemoration.

**Project Methodology**
The scope of work for this HSR defined the required level of the historical research and the architectural investigation, analysis, and documentation as “limited.” Research was conducted through the use of primary-source documents and public records, with most resources derived directly from the NPS archives. Additional research was conducted at the University of Georgia, Cultural Landscape Lab (UGA-CLL). The UGA-CLL had recently completed a final draft of a Cultural Landscape Report for Cowpens National Battlefield and the group possessed copies of many primary resources pertaining to the site. Monument investigation was “non-destructive.”

Documentation of the monument began in August 2017 with the kick-off meeting for the project. Consultants conducted fieldwork for the project in September 2017. Documentation included field drawings of existing conditions, notes about materials and architectural features, structural conditions, and digital photographs. The available NPS documents provided important information on the historic context of Cowpens Battlefield, documentation to-date of the monument, and management plans that are guiding the current treatment of the resource.

The historical architects referred to existing recordation documents, as available, for the preliminary analysis of the monument’s evolution and to prepare for fieldwork. The historical architect and staff prepared the existing condition plans based on these field investigations and drafted them using AutoCAD.

**Conclusions and Recommendations**
It is recommended that the Washington Light Infantry Monument receive a Restoration treatment, returning it to its appearance in 1856-1857. This treatment would allow for a more accurate presentation and interpretation of this early and significant Revolutionary War monument. An alternative treatment would be a Preservation treatment, maintaining the current appearance of the monument. This alternative would severely limit visitors’ ability to understand the monument’s historic appearance and its significance. A Preservation treatment could be an intermediate level of treatment, maintaining the resource during the period of research, investigation, and fundraising that would be needed for a Restoration treatment.
Administrative Data

Locational Data
Building Name: Washington Light Infantry Monument
Location: Cowpens National Battlefield
State/Territory: South Carolina

Related NPS Studies


Real Property Information
Acquisition Date: 1970s (after 1972) – date to be possibly confirmed with further research

LCS ID: 006115
FMSS ID: 43868
Cultural Landscape Inventory ID: 550133
National Register Information System ID: 66000072

Size Information
Extent of memorial site 1856-1970s: 1.0 acre
Fenced enclosure (1857-c.1865): 900 square feet ±
Fenced enclosure (1930s-present): 180 square feet ±
**Cultural Resource Data**

*National Register Status:* Listed as a contributing resource within the Cowpens National Battlefield on October 15, 1966. The monument contributes to the national significance of Cowpens National Battlefield under National Register Criterion A as the first commemorative monument erected on this field to honor American participants in the battle. The documentation for the nomination was submitted and approved in 1978.

**Proposed Treatment**

It is recommended that the Washington Light Infantry Monument receive a restoration treatment, returning it to its appearance in 1856-1857. The monument suffered vandalism and damage within a year after its completion and was reported to be in ruinous condition by the 1870s, limiting its period of significance to the time of its completion (the monument in 1856 and the iron railing in 1857).
I.A Historical Background and Context

Introduction

Located in rural upstate South Carolina, Cowpens National Battlefield commemorates the 1781 Battle of Cowpens, a significant patriot victory during the final months of Revolutionary War. The battlefield encompasses roughly 250 acres of the 842.5-acre site, of which about 80 acres has been proposed for the “core battlefield.” Commemorative activities of the battlefield began as settlers established homes, institutions, and industries in the immediate area during the early nineteenth century. Recognizing the importance of the battle, local boosters held commemorative events beginning as early as 1834. These events transitioned into advocacy for protection of the battlefield site. In 1856, The Washington Light Infantry—an organization created in honor of George Washington—erected a memorial to the battle participants. The following year, aided by local citizens, a one-acre parcel upon which the monument was built was sold to the group. These commemorative events mark the beginning of a long history of local efforts aimed at increasing public knowledge of Cowpens’ significance, commemorating Cowpens’ history, and protecting the battlefield landscape.

In the years following the battle, the growing local community used the battlefield for various community events. For instance, in 1861, 2,000 people attended the 80th anniversary of the battle, an event that also celebrated South Carolina’s recent secession from the United States. After the Civil War ended, the nation viewed the impending centennial of the American Revolution as a way to heal a divided country. As part of this nationalist spirit, the federal government sought to identify battlefield sites in need of protection and commemoration. As they had for the previous half-century, local organizations and politicians championed Cowpens as a site of great national importance, one worthy of federal recognition. Congress authorized funds for building a new monument at Cowpens to coincide with the battle’s centennial. For several reasons however, the location for the monument was switched from Cowpens to nearby Spartanburg. The move was illustrative of the challenges local Cowpens enthusiasts faced in their advocacy. Their subsequent attempts to expand the existing commemorative site were mostly unsuccessful until 1929, when Congress authorized the purchase of one acre of land to establish Cowpens as a National Battlefield Site (NBS).

The enabling legislation classified Cowpens as a Class IIB site and authorized the creation of a small commemorative site to be administered by the US War Department. It did not authorize money for land purchase. Therefore, in 1930, the Daniel Morgan Chapter NSDAR and the Cherokee County government raised the funds to acquire a one-acre parcel at the intersection of South Carolina Highways 11 and 110. The land was then deeded to the federal government. The US War Department constructed the US Monument on the triangular tract of land in 1932. The new Cowpens NBS did not include the Washington Light Infantry Monument. In 1933, all War Department battlefield sites were transferred to the National Park Service (NPS). From 1933 through the 1960s, local advocates continued to lobby for an expanded battlefield site. Their efforts were again mostly unsuccessful, though this does not mean the site was neglected. Mission 66 projects in the late-1950s and early-1960s improved the Cowpens NBS landscape with new tree and shrub plantings, a parking area, walkways, and interpretive features.

In the late 1960s, efforts to increase the prominence of Cowpens NBS gained renewed traction, with the NPS taking the lead role in planning the future of the site. The NPS planners’
vision was authorized in 1969, and focused on turning the site into a historical park complete with a historic core restored to 1781 conditions, walking trails, an automobile tour road, a visitor center, and other recreational areas. The plan necessitated the acquisition of hundreds of acres surrounding the site which included residences and farmland. In 1972, the decades-long attempt to expand Cowpens into a renowned battlefield site was finally successful. The enabling legislation established Cowpens as a National Battlefield, and “authorized over five million dollars for acquisition of approximately 845 additional acres and park development.” This time, the land containing the Washington Light Infantry Monument was included, and the monument was not included on a long list of buildings, structures, and features slated for demolition and removal. Planners also saved the Green River Road, the Robert Scruggs House, and the Richard Scruggs II House site from demolition. By the bicentennial of the Battle of Cowpens, the NPS had implemented most pieces of the plan.

Since that time, the park managers have continued the landscape restoration activities envisioned in the late-1960s. Various partners have conducted extensive ecological, archeological, and cultural resources, which have revealed much about Cowpens’ landscape history. The resulting documents guide preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration efforts today.

The Early Cowpens Landscape

American Indian Influence
Prior to human presence in what is now the South Carolina Piedmont, the environment contained a mixture of mature forest, open savanna, and dense rivercane ecosystems. Finding the landscape amenable to resource extraction, American Indians populated the southeast in increasing numbers by around 8000 BCE (Common Era) and practiced agriculture by around 2000 BCE. Coinciding with agricultural activities, American Indians throughout the southeast mimicked naturally-occurring processes and used fire to maintain and expand the savanna landscape. Fire management encouraged the growth of plant species preferred by wildlife such as deer and elk. It is assumed that American Indians employed fire management in the Cowpens area. Archeology within the park identifies the presence of American Indians as early as the Late Archaic to Early Woodland Periods (approximately 1000 BCE-1000 CE). There is no evidence of prehistoric human settlement of the landscape, suggesting that American Indians, specifically the Cherokee and Catawba, used the area for hunting and gathering and likely did so into the early-eighteenth century. As Europeans settled the Southeast, they introduced diseases that decimated American Indian populations. Population decline coupled with aggressive methods of land acquisition resulted in Europeans gradually taking control of the region. Often, new settlers established communities in areas formerly occupied by American Indians and reused the old agricultural fields for their own subsistence. While some European settlers adopted the use of fire as a landscape management technique, in general, the practice declined, which resulted in successional vegetation advancing into abandoned fields.

Cow Pens
The grasses and other forbs of open savanna areas that were preferred by browsing wildlife were also ideal for grazing cattle. As the colonial government

---

3. Ibid., 28.
promoted settlement in the South Carolina Piedmont as part of the 1731 Township Scheme and less land was available in the South Carolina low-country, cattle drivers entered the Piedmont in search on new grazing areas. Cowpens, as its name suggests, met the needs of the transient cattle drivers, who often squatted on and used the landscape without owning it outright (Figure 1). In terms of the cultural landscape of cowpens, these areas generally existed as “isolated homesteads with cattle pens, dwellings, and gardens, sitting amidst expanses of unfenced woodlands. A typical cowpen was manned by a white rancher, or ‘cowpen-keeper,’ and by several black slaves, or ‘cattle-hunters.’ In addition to raising crops in manured gardens, cowpen slaves branded cattle, penned calves, and collected beeves for market.”

Enslaved Africans possessed a working knowledge of cattle raising, which is a primary reason for its successful introduction into the colonies.

There is no evidence that any buildings, fences or structures were present at Cowpens in the years prior to the American Revolution, though, based on period documents, it appears that for a time the area was associated with a person named Hanna or Hannah. The absence of fencing can be attributed to the extensive canebrake thickets that penned-in the upland area and served as natural fencing. The cattle drivers used the developing road network to get their cattle to both local and distant markets. By the late-1770s, both Green River Road and Island Ford Road existed within the present park boundary. While colonial-era roads were often improved American Indian trails, it is not known if this is the case for either the Green River or Island Ford roads. The road network encouraged the gradual settlement of the South Carolina backcountry by Irish, Scottish, and German families. These immigrants added to the existing population of Europeans, Africans, and American Indians present in the area. At this time, the population of the South Carolina Piedmont region numbered over 10,000.

The Battle of Cowpens

In the years leading up to the American Revolution, the settlers of the South Carolina backcountry generally favored remaining British subjects. This sentiment continued as the British waged the first Southern Campaign in 1776, which aimed to wrest control of the southeastern coastline from the patriots. After a series of defeats, the British temporarily abandoned the campaign in order to focus on the northern colonies. In 1780, the British once again set their sights on the south and launched the second Southern Campaign.

As the British marched through the south, a civil war between loyalists and patriots throughout the southern colonies severely destabilized the region, especially in the South Carolina backcountry. Tension among settlers was high as numerous battles and skirmishes broke out across the region. The British won a number of these conflicts. However, in October 1780, the Battle of Kings Mountain, the patriot victory over a 1,000-person strong loyalist force, was a serious setback for the success of the Southern Campaign. Nearby, a place known locally for cattle grazing soon served as the site of one of the defining battles of the American Revolution—the Battle of Cowpens.

Seizing on the victory at Kings Mountain, General Nathanael Green, commander of the patriot forces in the South, “divided his army and sent half of it with Brigadier General Daniel Morgan to attack the rear of the British force if it entered North Carolina.” As a response, British General, Lord Charles Cornwallis, sent the highly-skilled and fast-moving British light troops commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton to disrupt the patriot plan. As the two armies marched through the cold and wet winter, Morgan realized he would not be able to outrun the approaching British force. Based on the recommendation of a local named Captain Dennis Trammel, Morgan directed his troops to Cowpens to prepare for battle.
Use of the Landscape

On the evening before the battle was fought, Morgan and the patriot troops made camp at Cowpens. As meals and preparations were made, Morgan devised his battle plan. The plan relied on the natural systems and features of the site, especially those related to topography and vegetation. Morgan planned to organize his troops in a “three-tier, in-depth defense as was standard in eighteenth-century European warfare,” but reverse “the usual order of battle so that his positions became progressively stronger, instead of weaker, as the enemy encountered them.” Like it did with cattle, the landscape would force Tarleton within the confines of the elevated ridge and open-forest savanna, thus preventing any potential British attempts to flank the patriot forces. The mature hardwoods that punctuated the landscape would be used as cover, variations in topography would be used as vantage and firing locations, and the rising sun would make the British easier to see.

The Battle of Cowpens was fought on the morning of January 17, 1781 (Figure 2). From the start, Morgan’s plan was a success, and despite moments of uncertainty, the 25 - 30-minute battle went decidedly in Morgan’s favor. At the end of the conflict, “Tarleton’s army had lost eighty-six percent of its men, including 110 killed, two hundred wounded, and 512 additional soldiers captured. Morgan’s losses included at least twenty-four killed and one hundred wounded.”

12. Ibid., 7.

Figure 2. Artistic the Battle of Cowpens. Note the widely spaced trees, limited understory vegetation, and rolling topography. (“The Battle of Cowpens” by Charles McBarron).

Significance
The Battle of Cowpens dealt a severe blow to the British ranks, but it did not knock them out of the war. Perhaps more significant than the number of casualties, the battle helped to sway loyalist sentiment in favor of the patriots in the backcountry, while boosting the morale of both militia and regular troops. As the year went on, the British and American forces fought a series of battles, with the British winning the majority of them, though suffering many casualties each time. With dwindling numbers, the remaining British forces relocated to Yorktown. On October 19, 1781, Cornwallis surrendered, which marked the beginning of the end of the war.

The Settlement of Cowpens
Following the Battle of Cowpens, the backcountry remained a volatile cultural environment. The Revolution and local civil war produced wounds that were not quick to heal. With the passage of time however, an increasing number of settlers came into the region and established homes, farms, industries, and communities (Figure 3). Cowpens followed a pattern of development in line with these trends.

The settlement of the region surrounding Cowpens began by the start of the American Revolution. “In what is now Spartanburg County,” just to the west of Cowpens today, “Scots-Irish settlers occupied the various branches of Tyger River by 1761, but the first permanent settlement was at Lawson’s Fork (Glendale) in 1775.”13 By 1780, William Abbett established a small farm two miles southwest of the battleground, making him one of the earliest settlers in the area. Even closer to the battlefield, in 1787, James Steadman purchased a grant for land just west of the core battlefield. In 1791, ten years after the Battle of Cowpens, the South Carolina General Assembly sanctioned the survey, purchase, and settlement of vacant backcountry lands. With the opening of the backcountry by the General Assembly, a period of land speculation began in the area, resulting in a series of large land purchases by speculators and settlers alike. The flurry of land acquisition produced overlapping property boundaries and conflicting claims.

Figure 4. Artistic rendering of the Richard Scruggs II cabin, showing the Tidewater chimney. Source: Walker, Archeological Investigations at the Richard Scruggs II House Site.

As previously mentioned, while Cowpens was historically associated with a person named Hanna or Hannah and a person named Saunders, there is no known record of a people of that names living or owning land at Cowpens. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, the area was still largely unclaimed. Speculators did not let the land remain vacant for long, and within a few years they had purchased most of the remaining unclaimed Cowpens lands. The earliest deeds for lands encompassing the battlefield date to 1803 and correspond to Daniel McClaren’s purchase of 2,000 acres. There is no evidence that McClaren improved the property in any way.

Early Settlers: Scruggs and Ezell Families
Richard Scruggs II of Rutherford, North Carolina improved the land he purchased. Between 1803 and 1804, Scruggs purchased 200 acres located southeast of the core of the battlefield. The land was first purchased in 1797 by George Williams. The property was sold several times before Scruggs acquired it. A portion of the land Scruggs amassed included part of William Abbett’s original farm, which Scruggs’ father-in-law had purchased a few years prior. Based on recorded deeds and an inscription on a chimney stone, it is generally assumed that around 1811, Richard Scruggs constructed a single-pen cabin for his family near a branch of Island Creek. The cabin featured a

Tidewater-style chimney, which is characteristic of backcountry houses constructed in the mid- to late-eighteenth century (Figure 4). As such, it is possible that the cabin, or some iteration of it, was actually the house Abbett constructed in the late eighteenth century. As archeologist John Walker surmises, “were the Richard Scruggs II chimney judged wholly on architectural style, it would likely date from the eighteenth century.” Walker further conjectures that “Scruggs may have moved into the house at that time under some sort of informal familial arrangement” prior to the 1811 date in the deed book. Either way, as it is currently understood, the chimney remains the oldest surviving constructed feature within the park boundary.

Richard and his wife Mary proceeded to have children who later acquired property in the immediate vicinity and established their own homes and farms. In 1828, the elder Scruggs gifted to his son, Robert Scruggs, 200 acres as a wedding present. On this property, Robert built a house with his wife Catharine at the intersection of Green River Road and Scruggs Road (Figure 5). Since at least 1849, when Robert assisted American Revolution researcher Benson Lossing, the Scruggses of the house served as unofficial tour guides of the battlefield. Later, in 1895 James Scruggs lent Battle of Cowpens artifacts—Scruggs family heirlooms—to be displayed at the Atlanta Exposition that year.

The house’s association with the commemorative history of Cowpens helped to save it from demolition during park expansion in the 1970s. Other Scruggs family members similarly carved out their own space in the landscape, and the family established themselves as integral members of the small but growing community.

Other prominent families in the area included the Ezell Family, who owned land near the intersection of Green River Road and Island Ford Road northwest of the Scruggs’ properties. The land, which included a house and small family cemetery, was acquired by James H. Ezell in 1850. The Ezell Family became community fixtures, participating in Cowpens commemorative events and selling the one-acre parcel the Washington Light Infantry Monument occupies. Members of both the Scruggs and Ezell families operated the local Cowpens post office, which was actually named “Ezell” even after the nearby town of Cowpens was established. James Ezell also ran a general store, which he constructed sometime during the 1870s. The store served as both the post office and polling place. The Byars-Ezell Cemetery still exists in the northwest portion of the park.

Agriculture, Settlement Patterns, and Land Use

Primarily subsistence farmers, these families produced cattle, hogs, corn, tubers, and other vegetables. Orchards grew interspersed with the fields and fencerows. Settlement took into account the landscape’s natural features such as creeks, topography, and wetlands. Settlers built homes on topographical highpoints but in relatively close proximity to water sources. A dispersed settlement pattern characterized the early Cowpens landscape. As the nineteenth century progressed, settlement of the area increased, which produced significant changes to the landscape. Within the first decade of the 1800s, cattle had dramatically reduced the native cane ecosystem. Agricultural land practices resulted in worn-out fields, which farmers subsequently abandoned. Timbering activities related to land clearing for settlement and extraction for the burgeoning iron industry further altered the pre-settlement landscape. While some farmers with properties near the battlefield

grew cotton by the mid-1850s, they did not plant it extensively until after the Civil War. Where cotton was grown in large amounts after the Civil War at Cowpens, it resulted in the expansion of agricultural terracing and drainage ditches throughout the landscape. These landforms are still evident today.

Within the first few decades of the twentieth century, the industries that had propelled the growth of the Piedmont backcountry experienced significant decline. Erosion of agricultural fields put tons of soil into local waterways making mill operations unsustainable. Iron factories closed as production moved northward. The boll weevil decimated cotton crops throughout the South. Urbanization and the consolidation of agricultural production resulted in the closing of many small farm businesses. This economic shift resulted in the subdivision and residential development of former farm fields. At Cowpens, a comparison of aerial photographs from the 1930s through the 1970s reveals this trend. By the establishment of Cowpens National Battlefield in 1972, the Cowpens landscape contained 295 acres of woodland and 549 acres of land in pasture, crops, orchards, turf, fallow, residential and commercial sites, and roadways. Around 250 people lived in the area, divided between 85 families.15

**Early Commemoration**

The settlers of the Cowpens landscape and surrounding area looked towards Cowpens Battlefield as a source of local pride. As early as the 1830s, locals held commemorative events at the battlefield. In particular, “several thousand of the citizens of Spartanburg and the adjoining Districts and counties of South and North Carolina” celebrated the 53rd anniversary of the battle.16 Many of the visitors camped on the battlefield the evening before and woke to rousing cheers and musket fire. Dignitaries gave speeches, prayers, and retellings of the events of the battle. Events such as these likely continued through the next

---

two decades and helped to galvanize community interest and support for more permanent commemorative presence on the landscape. The publication of Benson Lossing’s popular *Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution* in 1859, which along with numerous other Revolutionary War sites featured the Cowpens landscape in both narrative description and illustration, furthered interest in the battle and helped to bring national attention to Cowpens.

### The Washington Light Infantry Monument

The interest in permanent commemoration of the Battle of Cowpens resulted in the construction of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, the first physical commemoration of battle. In January 1856, the Washington Light Infantry militia of Charleston, South Carolina came to Spartanburg to participate in annual celebration of the battle. While the militia’s name honors George Washington, its association with Cowpens relates to George’s cousin, William Washington, a veteran of the Battle of Cowpens. After William’s death in 1810, his wife gifted the battle flag Washington carried during the battle to the militia. During their stay, the militia arranged to come back to the battlefield in April to hold a commemorative parade and erect a monument on the battlefield.¹⁷

After disembarking the train in Laurens, the militia and its associated company marched 100 miles to Spartanburg and then on to the battlefield (Figure 6). Once there, the militia, with assistance from locals, located “the site where it was believed the Tarleton Legion had been first checked by Colonel Washington’s charge,” which was part of James H. Ezell’s property.¹⁸ Within two days, the monument—a cast iron shaft atop a slab of marble resting on an octagonal tabby base—was completed (Figure 7). In September of 1856, a group of local women from Spartanburg raised funds to purchase a one-acre plot of land from James H. Ezell upon which the monument was erected. The group then conveyed the land to the Washington Light Infantry. The following year, local men raised the funds and labor for a thirty-foot square iron fence to enclose the monument.

Neither the fence, nor the patriotic sentiment, protected the monument however, and vandalism and neglect over the subsequent decades reduced the monument to a ruinous state within thirty years. By 1928, when the stewardship of the site was transferred from the Washington Light Infantry to the Battle of Cowpens Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR), the monument’s iron fence was missing, the marble and tabby base was severely damaged, and the eagle atop the iron

---

¹⁸. Ibid., 165.
shaft had reportedly been removed to a museum in Spartanburg. Under the new stewardship, by 1938, the monument had been repaired. The group replaced the fence, installed a granite stone with plaque, and repaired the base. Over the ensuing decades, various caretakers made repairs to the monument.

Cowpens Boosters
The events of 1856 mark the beginning of organized and concerted advocacy to commemorate the Battle of Cowpens. Led by two chapters of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR)—the Daniel Morgan and Battle of Cowpens chapters—the championing of Cowpens as a place of national significance continued mostly unabated for decades. Along with a supportive local community, the two NSDAR chapters were relentless in their attempts to expand the memorial. In general, however, for the better part of seven decades, the groups were unsuccessful.

A partial victory came when the nation celebrated the centennial of the American Revolution in the 1870s and 1880s. At this time, Congress authorized funding for the commemoration of American Revolution battlefields. Out of all the potential sites deemed significant enough to receive money for the construction of a monument, only eight were selected, and Cowpens was one of them. Because of the vandalism inflicted on the Washington Light Infantry Monument, the Cowpens Centennial Committee voted to change the location of the proposed monument from the battlefield to downtown Spartanburg. The monument featured a statue of General Morgan standing atop an octagonal pedestal. The statue was designed by John Quincy Adams Ward, and the pedestal was designed by noted Charleston architect Edward Brickell White, who had designed the Washington Light Infantry Monument in 1856. The relocation did not stop local boosters from continuing to advocate for the protection of the battlefield.

Federal Government Commemoration
It was not for any lack of trying that the boosters failed in getting Congress to authorize the creation of a federally funded and administered Cowpens Battlefield Site. In fact, between 1902 and 1924, local congressional delegates introduced twelve bills seeking the establishment of an official Cowpens site.19 Congress was tasked with determining which sites to preserve or commemorate with the limited available funding. In order to make such decisions, committees conducted studies to identify sites across the country eligible to receive funding. Most significantly for Cowpens, a study of battlefield sites begun in 1926 finally identified Cowpens as possessing “more than ordinary military and historic interest,” and “worthy of some form of monument, tablet, or marker to indicate the location of the battle field.”20 The study, boosted by the support of the NSDAR and other prominent locals, helped secure authorization for the creation of a national battlefield site. The proposed bill initially sought the approval for the acquisition of at least ten acres (Figure 8). The final bill, after committee revisions, reduced its size to one acre, and local supporters were once again responsible for purchasing the land. Despite the setback, on March 4, 1929, President Hoover signed the bill authorizing the creation of Cowpens National Battlefield Site (NBS), and it became one of many historic battlefields administered by the US War Department.

Figure 10. 1938 Master Plan for the Cowpens Battlefield National Site. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, flat file.

Figure 11. 1937 aerial photograph of Cowpens. The Washington Light Infantry Monument is obscured by vegetation, but is located in the wooded area southeast of the battlefield site. Source: USDA.
Cowpens National Battlefield Site
The Daniel Morgan Chapter of the NSDAR and Cherokee County government combined forces to raise the necessary money to purchase the one-acre lot for Cowpens NBS, which was done in July 1930. Lieutenant Colonel H.L. Landers of the Army War College identified the site to be purchased. The triangular lot, located at the intersection of South Carolina Highways 11 and 110, roughly a hundred yards to the north of the existing Washington Light Infantry Monument, was the “approximate spot from which Morgan directed his troops during the battle.” After its purchase, the DAR deeded the property to the US War Department. The War Department designed the monument to be erected at the new site. The monument featured a 32-foot tall multi-block granite obelisk that stood above a large inscribed granite block and even larger granite foundation stone (Figure 9). A low fence and raised octagonal platform surrounded the monument. Construction began in 1931, and its builders completed the monument the following year. A dedication ceremony hosted by the Daniel Morgan Chapter NSDAR was held on June 14, 1932.

A year later, in 1933, Executive Order 6166 transferred all War Department historic battlefields and parks to the National Park Service (NPS). The superintendent of the recently created Kings Mountain National Military Park oversaw administrative duties of Cowpens. Kings Mountain did not take part in daily park operations. The NPS hired a local farmer-resident, General V. Price as custodian of the site. Over the years, the position was responsible for “briefing the superintendent on the site’s condition, maintaining the lawn and plantings, raising and lowering the flag every day, estimating visitation, tracking weather conditions, and restocking interpretive folders.”

During the early years of NPS management, the NPS changed little at the Cowpens National Battlefield Site. The NPS created several master plans in the late-1930s, but due to a lack of funding, the recommended improvements were not implemented (Figure 10). The surrounding area remained rural and featured extensive agricultural land use—not an overtly park-like setting (Figure 11). The NPS returned to the plans after WWII, and when “Benjamin F. Moomaw became superintendent of Kings Mountain in July 1951; he made improvement of the grounds at Cowpens a priority.” However, besides grading and grass seeding, more substantial improvements were not made to the national battlefield site until the Mission 66 era. In the meantime, the local Battle of Cowpens Chapter of the NSDAR “cleaned and repaired the Washington Light Infantry Monument and its one-acre tract, which continued to suffer from occasional vandalism.”

Mission 66 improvements planned for the national battlefield site included “a fifteen-automobile parking lot, a paved walk to the US Monument, a flagpole, signage, removal of the iron fence around the monument, and landscaping with

22. Ibid., 16.
23. Ibid. 17.
24. Ibid.
native trees and shrubbery. Plantings included cedar, hackberry, inkberry, and red maple trees.”25 Between 1958 and 1959, the parking lot, walkway, signage, and flagpole were installed. It does not appear the planting plan was completely implemented, with only some of the proposed vegetation appearing in photographs from that period (Figure 13). In addition to these improvements, the county “agreed to grade a road on the third side for a visible site boundary and access to the parking lot.”26

Efforts to Expand

While the Price family cared for the site, behind the scenes, local boosters continued their advocacy for increased recognition and protection of the entire battlefield. In the early 1940s they “stepped up their pressure on the National Park Service to further enlarge and develop the site.”27 In 1956, the Battle of Cowpens Chapter of the NSDAR purchased a one-quarter-acre lot that was created by the relocation of SC 11. The land was deeded to the federal government, expanding Cowpens National Battlefield Site to 1.25 acres. Throughout the 1950s, both the Battle of Cowpens and the Daniel Morgan chapters lobbied Congress for an expanded site. As the 1960s progressed, the local citizenry joined in on the calls for greater recognition, and local congressional representatives introduced a new bill to add acreage to the site. Seeing this activity, the NPS started to consider the expansion of the site into a national battlefield.

Park Establishment and Development

In 1969, the Denver Support Office began drafting a new master plan for the park, outlining resources to remove, resources to retain, and post-removal development (Figure 14). The plans “called for an entrance road with a parking lot, a visitor center separated from the battlefield core, a walking tour trail, a one-way automobile loop tour road, a picnic area, an environmental study area, a bridle path, restoration of the Robert Scruggs House, preservation of the Richard Scruggs House Ruin, and a battlefield landscape restored to its 1781 appearance.”28

NPS director George B. Hartzog, Jr. approved the plan in 1970, and that year the NPS held public meetings concerning the proposal. Despite some opposition, local citizens generally supported the plan. After a series of committee meetings and hearings, on April 11, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed House Bill 10086, establishing Cowpens as a national battlefield, as opposed to

25. Ibid., 18.
26. Ibid.
27. Ibid., 17.
28. Ibid., 31.
a national battlefield site. The authorization also included $5,000,000 slated for land acquisition and park development. The wish of local supporters for over a century had been granted.

In order to perform this work, the NPS removed “90 major buildings, including 27 farm residences, 45 year-round residences, 2 service stations and 3 garages” from the park between 1978 and 1979. Planners aimed to finish the work by the bicentennial of the battle. By 1982, the NPS had completed most work pertaining to the development at Cowpens National Battlefield.

Landscape Restoration
One of the key park management goals was to restore landscape to its 1781 appearance. Historical accounts describe the battlefield as an open woodland savanna with long sight lines through the trees, bounded by dense forest and canebrakes. However, even with the removal of the dozens of buildings and structures, the landscape still reflected two centuries of agricultural and residential land use. Beginning in the 1980s and increasing during the 1990s, management of Cowpens’ vegetative character became a priority. Toward this goal, park managers partnered with various organizations and universities to conduct a series of studies on both the historic and existing ecological conditions of the park. These reports guided landscape restoration objectives and identified key target areas within the landscape for specific treatments. Such treatments included prescribed fire, mechanical thinning, canebrake restoration, grassland restoration, extensive tree planting, and removal of invasive species. These activities are ongoing.

In addition to addressing the vegetative character of the site, the park oversaw the restoration, repair, and relocation of cultural features at the site. While all these features post-date the battle, park historians viewed their connection with the battle as reason for their continued presence in the landscape. Between 1979 and 1980, the Robert Scruggs House, which had been occupied until park acquisition, was stripped of its numerous post-1828 additions. Moretti Construction, Inc., of Charlotte, North Carolina performed the restoration work. Since that time, the NPS has conducted periodic repair work on the house as its condition deteriorated. In 1979, the park stabilized the Richard Scruggs II House Ruins, a chimney which survived the 1961 fire that destroyed the cabin. In subsequent decades, park staff oversaw the repointing and repair of chimney ruins several times.

The park similarly addressed the two monuments of the site. At the time of park acquisition, the Washington Light Infantry Monument exhibited substantial deterioration. Restoration and repairs to the monument occurred over a period of years and were complete by the mid-1990s. The NPS relocated the US Monument to the new visitor center site in the late 1970s, and it began to show issues related to mortar leaching. The cause of the leaching related to the monument’s disassembly and reassembly. The park has periodically cleaned the leaching stains from the monument.

Bicentennial Development
While the commemoration of the first centennial of the Battle of Cowpens occurred in Spartanburg, the commemoration of the bicentennial produced significant changes to the site at Cowpens. In addition to the restoration of the landscape and contributing resources, another primary objective of the park plan focused on developing Cowpens into a unit that catered to a variety of visitors. Park planners in the early 1970s envisioned the addition of various new construction on the site, including a picnic area, visitor center, and automobile-oriented interpretive scenic loop road (Figure 15). Planners sited these additions in a way that lessened their

---

visual impact to the historic battlefield area, placing them within the successional forest buffer that ringed the battlefield. By the bicentennial of the battle, most major work related to the development plans was complete.
PART I - DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

I.B Chronology of Development and Use

1856 Design & Preparations

The Washington Light Infantry (WLI), a Charleston-based militia organized in 1807, was the custodian of the Eutaw Flag carried by Lt. Col. William Washington’s unit during the Battle of Cowpens. Washington’s widow Jane Elliott entrusted it to the organization in April 1827. In advance of the 75th anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens, the WLI began considering an appropriate commemoration of the battle. A monument was proposed on January 17, 1856, and Charleston architect Edward Brickell White, who had been an active member of the WLI during the 1840s, prepared a design by early April. The Charleston Courier published White’s rendering of the monument on April 17, 1856 (Figure 16). The WLI presumably obtained permission to construct the monument from James H. Ezell, owner of a parcel of land near the battlefield site, although no documentation of this has been found to date.

WLI members assembled at Military Hall in Charleston on the evening of April 16, 1856 and departed for Columbia on a 10 pm night train. They attended a “hearty though hasty reception and breakfast” at Columbia before traveling by railroad to Laurens, South Carolina. The Palmetto Troop, a local militia, met WLI representatives and, after “the national requisition of speechmaking,” the two militias paraded through the village. Although railroad lines to Spartanburg appear to have been in service by 1854, the WLI traveled by wagon and on foot from Laurens to Cowpens, a distance of about 55 miles. They camped at a spring a few miles outside of Laurens on the evening of April 17. A daguerreotype of the camp was made on the morning of April 18, indicating that a photographer was present on the expedition (Figure 6). The WLI began a 24-mile journey, delayed by damage to one wagon, camping somewhere between the Enoree River and Spartanburg. They arrived at Spartanburg at 10 am on the third day of the journey and were met by a committee representing the town. After “an address delivered by one of the prominent citizens of the place” and a parade, the WLI camped on “a gentle slope selected on the eastern suburbs of the town, where the Stars and Stripes were soon floating in the hospitable breeze.” They enjoyed “a handsome entertainment given by the ladies in their honor” that evening at the Palmetto House hotel (1850, demolished c.1897) on the northeast corner of Main and Church Streets. The WLI participated in religious exercises directed by Dr. Gilman, the unit’s chaplain, on the morning of Sunday, April 20 at the Methodist Episcopal

Church.36 The journey resumed on Monday, April 21.

The group crossed the Pacolet River about noon and reached Cowpens about 3 pm. The Eutaw Flag was planted on the battlefield site, and a camp was created nearby; the group enjoyed a hearty dinner and bonfires that evening. The photographer may have been present with the group at this location as well, as an engraving of the encampment, published in 1896, may have based on a daguerreotype.37 A survey of the site was made on the evening of April 21, 1856, determining “as near as possible, where Tarleton’s Legion had first been checked by Washington’s charge.”38

1856-1857 Construction

On the morning of April 22, 1856, the WLI began construction of the monument. Some of the monument’s components appear to have been fabricated in advance, likely in Charleston and transported by train and wagon to the site. These include the marble tablet in the base, the marble cap, and the cast iron components. The marble may have been furnished, cut, and inscribed by WLI member William T. White (c.1823-1870), a stonemason from a family of prolific and skilled artisans active in Charleston. His family was possibly the city’s most prominent monument builders of the 1850s.39 As of 1854, W. T. White advertised that his marble yard could serve a wide variety of architectural, memorial, paving, and furniture needs.40 W. T. White’s Steam Marble Works built the Col. William Washington & Jane Elliott Washington Monument (1858, Edward Brickell White, architect) in Charleston’s Magnolia Cemetery.41 White’s headstones can be found in cemeteries across South Carolina and in some areas of North Carolina and Florida.42

A correspondent from the Carolina Spartan reported: “When we reached the ground on Tuesday morning the structure was advancing with great industry. Each infantry man had his allotted work, and labored with zeal to push forward the generous enterprise that won the company their weary march.”43 An 1896 description reports:

The sharp rap of chisel and mallet, the clip of trowels, the loud shouts and boisterous calls of the workers, the glancing of bright uniforms amid the deep green of the surrounding woods, the snowy canvas flapping in the breeze, the crackling fires, the waving flags and glittering arms, made up a scene as picturesque as novel and one not easily forgotten… Clearing this [the site], the corner-stone and foundation had been laid, and the erection of the base now went rapidly on. This was composed of a rough granite block, selected from the field itself…44

An 1857 article reported that there were “loose slabs laid around the base” of the monument, but the configuration and appearance of these slabs is unknown.45 A marble slab was inserted into the side of the granite base facing the road and retains this inscription:

36. Courtney, 11.
37. Courtney, 12.
38. Courtney, 15.
39. William T. White’s business had been founded shortly after the Revolution by Scottish-American master carver Thomas Walker. The business passed to Walker’s son-in-law, John White, thence to his son John, thence to his son, William T. White. William’s brothers, Robert D. White and Edwin R. White, were also active stonemasons at Charleston. Matthew Kear, In Reverence: A Plan for the Preservation of Tolomato Cemetery, St. Augustine, Florida (Lexington, Kentucky: Matthew R. Near, 2010), 47; Walter B. Edgar, The South Carolina Encyclopedia (Columbia, South Carolina: University of South Carolina Press, 2006), 583.
44. Courtney, 14.
45. “A Visit to Cowpens,” Lancaster News (Lancaster, South Carolina), 22 April 1857, 1.
Upon the granite base, builders constructed an octagonal concrete pedestal in approximately six layers. The concrete contained shells gathered near Fort Moultrie and water from Eutaw Springs. The pedestal appears to have been built with a void, into which was “deposited a bottle of Eutaw Spring water, a brick from the house in which the British took refuge on that hotly contested day, the roll of the officers and members of the company present, and a pamphlet, descriptive of the battle, from Dr. Joseph Johnson’s narrative.” The base was topped by a thick octagonal slab of white marble bearing inscriptions “in sunken gilt letters” on its outer sides. An April 1856 description lists “the inscriptions on the several sides of the Monument” as follows:

WASHINGTON.
— The Washington Light Infantry of Charleston, To whose custody the widow of William Washington intrusted his banner, visited this battle-field, April, 1856, and again waved over it the Flag borne by him on that occasion

MORGAN.

HOWARD.

46. The top line of the inscription is not legible but appears to retain traces of “IR” or “IN” at a larger scale than the text below. It is possible that this line bore the name “WASHINGTON”.

47. An 1896 description gives a different text for the marble slab inserted into the granite base: “THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED / BY THE WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY / CAPT. L. M. HATCH, APRIL, 1856,” while the accompanying engraving shows “ERECTED BY / THE WASHINGTON / LIGHT INFANTRY,” Courtney, 15-16.


49. Courtney, 15.


The four names listed commemorate the four leaders of the Continental troops: Lt. Col. William Washington, Morgan, Col. John Eager Howard, and Andrew Pickens. Descriptions from April and May 1856 and from 1896 (the latter possibly based on the 1856 articles) vary in the placement of the list of battles. All descriptions suggest inscriptions for seven of the eight faces of the octagonal cap. The 1896 account of the dedication notes “the names of Morgan, Howard, Washington, Pickens, McCall would henceforth be identified in more than mere memory with the place of their renown!” The name “McCall”—for Maj. James McCall—does not appear on other lists of inscriptions but could have been the name on the eighth face of the cap.

Around noon a plumber installed the cast iron components of the monument. These consisted of a thin fluted column topped by a ball—the Carolina Spartan reported that it was “(as we have been told) an English bombshell”—“on which rested a gilded eagle with extended wings.” The Charleston Mercury published a description of the design on April 18, 1856, including the note that the cast iron shaft would be “surmounted by a bombshell, on the apex of which will be a golden eagle, being a facsimilie [sic], enlarged, of the staff
of the Eutaw Flag” (Figure 17). Aside from the gilded eagle, finishes on the cast iron components are not documented. Ironwork was often painted to imitate more expensive metals, with a “bronze green” (gray-green) resembling aged bronze and gray-browns resembling patinaed bronze documented for other monuments of the 1840s and 1850s and bronze greens remaining popular into the 1870s. The ironwork was likely painted before transportation to the site.

By the time the monument was completed, it was reported that “There was a vast concourse of people present to witness the erection, and the ceremonies of dedication were of the most imposing kind.” The Carolina Spartan reported:

“At two o’clock p.m., the shaft, crowned by the gilt eagle, was placed in position and was saluted by the Infantry and the large concourse with three times three, amid the booming of cannon from the Cowpens Artillery and the rolling of drums.” An 1896 description provides a similar report: “There was a slight pause and hush as it [the cast iron shaft] was being adjusted, the plumber leaped from the pedestal and the air shook with a thundering salute from the guns of the Cowpens Artillery, and repeated cheers from thousands of mountain lungs sent the wild chorus flying over wood and hill and plain.”

A description of the event published in the Spartanburg Express on May 1, 1856, reported:

“The work being completed, the company changed their fatigue dress for their full dress uniform, and formed a double column around the monument to consecrate it to its sacred purposes.” Following a picnic lunch provided by the ladies of Spartanburg, “a rough stand was erected” and the monument was dedicated by Rev. Dr. Gilman, the WLI’s chaplain. Addresses were given by Ex-Capt. W. D. Porter (then a state senator from Charleston), Lieut. Thomas Y. Simons, Jr., J. D. Bruns, M.D., and others. The WLI selected Rev. John Gill Landrum (1810-1882) of Woodruff, South Carolina as an orator for the event. The WLI deemed him the most suitable expert on the county’s history.

In 1885, Landrum’s biographer reported: “we have often heard the speech… complimented as one replete with information, pathos, and power,” noting that no notes or text for the speech survived except for a report in the Spartanburg Express of May 1, 1856. This article reported the...
conclusion of the speech: “Then, after speaking at considerable length in reference to the monument, and announcing that the people of Spartanburg would enclose it with an iron railing, he took his seat amid loud and prolonged applause.”

Another Spartanburg paper, *The Carolina Spartan*, reported that Landrum pledged the people of Spartanburg to build “an iron railed enclosure to protect from injury… the monument left to their custody by the Washington Light Infantry.” Following Landrum’s oration, the Banner Song of the WLI was sung, and the dedication ceremony was completed.

In May 1856, a group of Spartanburg residents began planning for the purchase of the monument site—part of a farm owned by James H. Ezell—and the construction of “a [h]andsome iron railing” to enclose the monument. It was decided that the women of the community would raise funds for the purchase of the property while men would raise funds for the construction of the railing.

The men formed a committee of G. Cannon, Rev. J. G. Landrum, Col. S. N. Evins, Simpson Bobo, Dr. J. Winsmith, and T. S. Farrow to oversee the construction of the iron fence and to solicit donations in each voting precinct on weekly sales days.

By September 1856, the women of Spartanburg had raised twenty-five dollars in funds to purchase a one-acre parcel of land surrounding the monument from James H. Ezell. The group engaged Spartanburg attorney J. W. H. Legg to handle the purchase, with the title transferred to the Washington Light Infantry. The women who contributed to the project included Mrs. J. D. Wright, Mrs. J. W. Carlisle, Mrs. G. W. H. Legg, Mrs. Simpson Bobo, Mrs. J. J. Boyd, Mrs. W. H. Thimmier, Mrs. G. W. Moore, Mrs. A. H. Kirby, Mrs. A. T. Cavis, Mrs. J. V. Thimmier, Mrs. L. C. Kennedy, Mrs. J. H. Goss, Mrs. W. C. Bennett, Mrs. T. S. Farrow, Mrs. D. G. Finley, Mrs. J. A. Lee, Mrs. H. Mitchell, Mrs. O. E. Edwards, Mrs. J. B. Tellerson, Mrs. T. O. P. Vernon, Mrs. J. Epton, Mrs. J. M. Best, Mrs. J. H. Wilson, Mrs. R. E. Cleveland, and Mrs. J. Farrow. The WLI sent a gold-headed walking stick in the form of a palmetto to the ladies of Spartanburg as a token of their appreciation.

Further research may reveal whether there are connections between these Spartanburg women and other contemporary movements to commemorate early American history, including the Mount Vernon Ladies Association.

An April 1857 account of the site from the *Spartanburg Express* newspaper documents the appearance of the monument one year after completion, including early damage, vandalism, and graffiti:

The road, as it nears the battle field… the country through which it runs is level, the soil sandy, and the pines are abundant and of unusual size… Arrived at the ground, we of course paid our first respects to the monument. The gleam of the surmounting eagle catches the eye from afar through the trees, and awakens and prepares the heart of the approaching pilgrim. Finished, chaste and appropriate the monument rises firmly and proudly among the waving pines, and the man who can stand by its side with a heart untouched by the many associations that cluster around it, must surely be destitute of all sensibility.

A tree which stood very near the monument has recently fallen down, and in so doing has slightly displaced one of the loose slabs laid around the base. Most of the trees which were near enough to fall on it have been cut down, and we wonder that they are not all removed, for, although they...
seem firm and green now, they are so tall as to make them liable to be blown over by the wind of the frequent storms which we have during the summer. We hope that some one [sic] in the neighborhood will see that they are speedily removed. We noticed too, with pain and displeasure, several names inscribed upon the white marble. This silly and disgusting practice is as common throughout our country as it is disagreeable…

If those who have thus thoughtlessly defaced with their pencils the fair tablet could know how ridiculous their names appear to an unprejudiced eye in juxtaposition with those of Morgan, Washington, Howard, &c., we are quite sure they would be in no little hurry to efface the record of their ill-advised efforts after immortality. We are glad to know, however, that the monument will so be enclosed with an iron railing, which will add to its appearance, and, in some degree, protect it from such insults as we have just noticed.76

The Spartanburg Spartan newspaper reported in April 1857:

We have examined lately the very neat iron railing now being manufactured by Messrs. Hamlin and Durant, on Laurens street, for the Cowpens’ Monument. It will enclose a space thirty feet square and form a secure and ornamental protection to the Washington Light Infantry Monument. It will probably be ready in three or four weeks.77

H. H. Durant and G. Hamlin opened a blacksmith and wheelwright shop in Spartanburg in February 1857.78 The shop was on Laurens street (now Church Street), south of the Palmetto House hotel (1850, demolished c.1897), which stood at the northeast corner of Main and Church Streets on the site of the present Palmetto Building/Belk-Hudson Building (1898). Rev. Henry Hill Durant (1814-1861) had been a Methodist minister at

76. “A Visit to Cowpens,” Lancaster News (Lancaster, South Carolina), 22 April 1857, 1.
77. “Monument Railing,” Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 9 April 1857, 2.

Figure 18. Advertisement for Durant & Hamlin, February 1857. Source: Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 26 February 1857, 5.

Spartanburg as of the 1850 census.79 Hamlin appears to have been a skilled blacksmith and the company advertised that they were “ready to manufacture Iron Railing, Balconies, Lightning Rods, Iron Bedsteads, Iron Lamp-post and Awnling Frames, &c. &c.” as well as horse-showing, “Plantation Blacksmithing,” and general repairs (Figure 18).80 Durant & Hamlin received a silver cup for the “best Iron-wrought Gate” at the second annual fair of the Spartanburg Agricultural Society in October 1857.81 Their advertisement ran in the Spartan through December 1857 but nothing is known of the firm after that date.82

The manufacture of the railing was completed by May 7, 1857, but it had not yet been installed.83 It appears to have been installed in late May or June 1857. The men of Spartanburg’s fundraising efforts seem to have fallen short, as they were required to solicit further contributions to cover costs after the installation of the railing. The design and orientation of the railing are not documented, but the square was likely centered on the monument and may have been aligned with the monument’s

primary elevation or with Green River Road. At least one gate was present. It appears to have been mounted in stone footers, some of which remained in 1916 and at least two of which remain on site today (Figure 19). These footers retain one inch-square embedment holes typical of iron fence and railing embedments commonly seen from the 1830s to the 1850s.

Iron fences around monuments and graves of the 1850s could vary widely in design. Some were composed entirely of wrought scrolls, of cast ornaments, or of a mixture of the two. One contemporary memorial, the Cockade Monument (McRae Monument) (1856) in Blandford Cemetery, Petersburg, Virginia, honoring the Petersburg Volunteers of the War of 1812, features an elaborate cast iron fence with components in the shape of eagles, flags, shields, guns, axes, stars, scrolls, and other armaments and ornaments. An 1856 fence around the Burden family plot in Magnolia Cemetery at Mobile, Alabama, features cast iron tree trunks, grape vines, and an arch of oak leaves over the gate. The Col. William Washington & Jane Elliott Washington Monument (1858, Edward Brickell White, architect, William T. White, sculptor) in Charleston’s Magnolia Cemetery is surrounded by a fence with simple oval and circle castings mixed with more elaborate

---

84. Although later and in a different region of the country, the Rodman Monument (1871) in the Rock Island National Cemetery at Rock Island, Illinois, sits within a rectangular enclosure formed by an iron fence of similar dimensions to the 1857 railing, suggesting the effect of this treatment. HALS IL-3-15
86. “Battleground Monument is Now Being Neglected,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 31 March 1916, 8.
89. HABS ALA,49-MOBI,89-24
star castings. A 1860 fence around the Frierson and Vaughan and Converse and Frierson family plots at the Church of the Holy Cross in Stateburg, South Carolina, includes tree trunks (matching the Burden posts), grape vines, and an arch of leafy branches crowned by a laurel and rose wreath and palm leaves over the gate. These elaborate fences are typically mounted to larger posts; no traces of such embedments have been found in the remaining footers on site. This may suggest that the railing followed a simpler design or that it featured cast iron panels frames holding wrought iron scrolls rather than cast iron components. Durant & Hamlin’s advertisements suggest blacksmith-wrought iron work and do not specifically mention iron casting, suggesting that the railing may have been composed largely of wrought-iron ornaments. It is possible that the existing fence, installed in the 1930s, could contain components from the 1857 railing. The paint finishes of the iron railing are not documented but may have been gray, “bronze green” (gray-green), or gray-brown based on documented ironwork colors of the period.

1858-1928 Vandalism & Neglect

Following the completion of the iron fence in 1857, the Washington Light Infantry Monument appears to have entered a period of vandalism and neglect. The earliest image of the monument located to date appeared in an illustrated history of the United States published in 1861 (Figure 20). The book reproduced engravings from many earlier publications, including a view of the Robert Scruggs House and the Cowpens site from Benson Lossing’s The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution (1850-1852). For this reason, it is possible that the 1861 image was printed from the same plate used in the 1856 article, showing Edward Brickell White’s rendering of the monument.

Deterioration of the monument was hastened by visitors who chipped off pieces of marble as “relics” or souvenirs. A 1919 account reports that “At that time [1856] that part of Spartanburg county was thinly settled, and it seems to have been not a great while before an iron fence, erected around the monument by the ladies of Spartanburg, had been entirely destroyed and carried away, and the dedicatory inscriptions upon the monument entirely effaced.” A local belief states that Confederate soldiers from Texas stole the iron fence while returning home at the conclusion of the Civil War; other accounts

91. HABS SC,43-STATBU.V,1-42
92. The ironwork of the Washington Monument at Baltimore provides a well-documented example. Upon completion in 1836, all ironwork was painted a moderate “lead” gray color. In 1849, the fence was painted a “bronze green,” with several applications of similar gray-green and yellow-green colors. Matthew J. Mosca, Historic Paint Finishes Study: The Washington Monument, Baltimore, Maryland, 1828-1836 (Baltimore: Artifex, Ltd., 2012), 15-16, 19-20.
confirm that it was gone by the late-1870s. A 1932 article reports that, by 1880, the monument “had been utterly destroyed by vandal hands—even the iron fence around it, and, as well, the monument itself, had literally disappeared.” A report from 1884 suggests its condition at that time:

A recent visitor to the battle-fields of King’s Mountain and the Cowpens in South Carolina reports that the monuments placed there many years ago are ruined by relic-hunters. The facing of the Cowpens monument, “Erected by the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston in 1856,” is nearly all gone; the ground has grown up to forest and soon there will be nothing left to mark the spot where one of the most important events of our Revolutionary history took place.97

An 1893 article in The Magazine of American History gives a description of the monument’s condition and an account of oral histories regarding the monument’s vandalism:

There was originally an iron fence about the monument, and the shaft was surmounted by an eagle, but both eagle and fence have gone. We spoke to the man (an American and a descendant of Americans), who, as we knew, had at least the iron gate, and asked him in a casual manner what had become of the fence. He said that he did not know. Part, he thought, had probably been taken by “niggers from the mountings,” part by “North Caroleenians,” part most likely owed its disappearance to disbanded soldiers who after the late war passed near the Cowpens on their way to Texas and “toted it along.” “And what,” we asked, “do you suppose became of the gate?” He realized that we knew, and so with a grin confessed that he had taken that for his share. “But whoever’s got the eagle,” he added, with succinct expressiveness, “hain’t hollered yet!” The mutilated monument stands in a clump of pine woods, and in its present condition does but sorry honor to the memory of the men who so bravely fought on that battle-field.98

A visitor to the site in April 1897 reported:

A great deal of lettering was done on the smooth surface of the stone [of the monument] giving the names of the principal actors in the battle. The whole [was] surrounded by an iron fence, and it provided in excellent taste a suitable memento of the stirring scenes it was intended to commemorate. But the war came on and since then unlicensed vandalism has done its work. The beautifully dressed stone has been chipped by curiosity seekers. The iron fence is gone, and now the whole presents an unsightly and desartable [sic] appearance which should be replaced with some ornamentations and somebody put to guard them against such outrages in the future.99

A newspaper editor at Laurens, South Carolina, alluded to the monument’s deteriorated condition in 1906: “The last time we saw the Cowpens monument on Cowpens field we inferred from its appearance that no member of Barry Chapter, D. A. R., of Spartanburg city, had seen it since


Cornwallis surrendered.” A 1916 account suggests that deterioration of the monument had continued:

Spartanburg, March 22, 1916.

The writer for the first time visited the Cowpens battleground this week, and saw the monument erected there in the year 1856 by the Washington Light Infantry, of Charleston. We had heard that the monument had been much abused, but its condition really gives one a shock and reflects badly on our sentiment of honor for the dead heroes of Cowpens…

The marble plinth immediately above the stone and cement foundation has been so chipped and disfigured by relic hunters, or mere idlers, that its appearance is most forlorn. We picked up a few small fragments of marble left lying around, but should have been unwilling to add to the desecration by further injury. A number of stone base posts remain set in the ground, but except these, no vestige of a fence reveals itself. Everything about the monument speaks neglect.101

A letter published in the Gaffney Ledger in December 1916 referenced “the little misused monument at Cowpens was built there in 1856…” In 1917, the Daniel Morgan Chapter of the DAR announced that it “will raise an American flag on the monument at Cowpens battleground…” 102

Pencil notes in a copy of the 1896 book on the monument note that the “Concrete pedestal, corner stone, & iron shaft, intact April [?] 24, 1919 / Marble cap stone badly mutilated, [illeg.] gone [?] / Eagle and ball from top of shaft, gone.” The earliest photograph of the monument that has been located is dated April 25, 1919 (Figure 21). This image shows the base and marble plaque, the concrete pedestal, the remnant of the marble cap, and the lower part of the iron shaft. No trace of a fence is visible in the background. A dirt road running roughly east-west between Green River Road and the Cowpens-Clifton Road appears to have been in use by 1920, passing immediately north of the monument. This road may have been associated with a house built west of the monument sometime between 1919 and 1928.

As of 1918, the Daniel Morgan Chapter of the DAR had a “Cowpens Monument committee” consisting of Mrs. W. H. Smith, Mrs. A. C. Cree, Mrs. Harry Shaw, and Mrs. Charles W. Hames.105 This committee appears to have been behind a 1919 campaign to create a government-owned park on the Cowpens site and to construct a federally-funded monument commemorating the Battle

Figure 21. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southwest, 25 April 1919. Source: pasted into the back cover of the copy of William A. Courtney, 1781-1881. Proceedings of the Unveiling of the Battle Monument at Spartanburg, S.C. (Spartanburg, South Carolina: Cowpens Centennial Committee, 1896), in the collection of the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, 975.7033CoC83p.


101. “Battleground Monument is Now Being Neglected,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 31 March 1916, 8.

102. “Cowpens Battleground,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 15 December 1916, 8.

103. “Raise the Flag on Field of Cowpens,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 14 June 1917, 1.


105. “Daniel Morgan Chapter Meets to Arrange Picnic,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 25 April 1918, 1.
erected… in 1856. The monument today presents a pitiable contrast. Relic seekers have removed the eagle and ball from the top and have chopped away pieces of the base until it can hardly be recognized. The drawing discovered in an historical book by J. Edgar Lewis, of this city, who with others is promoting plans for the reclamation of the monument and the development of the location as a national park.  

Maj. N. Y. Duhamel, district engineer of the Charleston District of the War Department, visited the site in February 1928. He reported that the monument was “very badly dilapidated and has suffered through vandalism… Local sentiment is in favor of restoring this monument.” In April 1928, a Col. H. L. Landers visited the site and took several photographs, one showing the monument with further deterioration of the concrete pedestal (Figure 7). He reported that the eagle had been salvaged and was then on display.

106. Yorkville Enquirer (York, South Carolina), 25 April 1919, 2; “Cowpens Monument Bill Introduced,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 23 August 1919, 1.
108. “Cowpens Shaft and Battle Plans,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 16 October 1926, 5.
Figure 24. Illustration of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, published in 1896 and possibly based on the 1856 illustration. Source: William A. Courtney, 1781-1881. Proceedings of the Unveiling of the Battle Monument at Spartanburg, S.C. (Spartanburg, South Carolina: Cowpens Centennial Committee, 1896), 16; “Cowpens Shaft and Battle Plans,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 16 October 1926, 5; Souvenir Program, Unveiling of the Battlegrounds Monument, Cherokee County, S.C. June 14, 1932 from the Collections of the South Caroliniana Library, University of South Carolina, s.c. 973.3372 D26u c. 2, 12.

Figure 25. Photograph of c.1950s brass eagle in the collection of the Spartanburg County Historical Association, February 2018. Source: Spartanburg County Historical Association.
in the museum of the Spartanburg Historical Society. Correspondence with the Spartanburg County Historical Association in 2017-2018 turned up a brass eagle that has been in the museum’s collection since 1964 and may be a match for the eagle shown in the 1958 photograph. (Figure 25) Collections records for this eagle state that it was removed from a local house, where it had been mounted by the door as a decoration. The design of this brass eagle is consistent with a 1950s date. Available documentation of the 1856 eagle indicates that this 1950s eagle differs in size, style, and materials from the original.

In May 1928, the Washington Light Infantry deeded the one-acre parcel surrounding the monument to the South Carolina State Society of the National Society of the DAR, with the Battle of Cowpens chapter serving as custodians of the monument. The deed stated the DAR’s commitment to “repair, restore, and perpetually maintain the monument erected by the Washington light infantry in 1856 to commemorate the battle of Cowpens...” A 1929 report noted that the local chapter “is to restore it and have the whole inclosed [sic] in an iron fence.”

1929-2016 Deterioration & Repairs

The Washington Light Infantry Monument appears to have undergone some repairs in anticipation of the June 1932 dedication of the US Monument nearby. Two articles published that month provide seemingly contradictory information. The first, covering the dedication of the new US Monument, noted, “Across a small intervening lot stands the weather-scarred monument erected in 1856 by the Washington light infantry of Charleston.” The second reprinted much of the 1896 account of the monument’s construction, along with the 1896 engraving and a recent photograph (Figure 26). The caption reports that the photograph “shows how the monument appeared until recently when efforts were made to restore it to its original condition.”

A circa 1932-1936 photograph in the archives of the Washington Light Infantry appears to show the monument during or immediately following this repair campaign (Figure 27). The photograph shows the monument with a new marble cap, stucco patches on the concrete pedestal, and an iron ball atop the column. The lower part of the cast iron column appears to be covered with residue from the stucco or mortar used in the repair work below. The marble cap appears to have been formed by new marble tiles on each of the eight faces. It is possible that remnants of the original white marble cap remained inside with concrete or stucco fill around it. The monument is surrounded by the present low stone wall, upon

111. Photographs of the eagle and information on its collection record were provided by Colleen Twenyman of the Spartanburg County Historical Association. Park staff report that this eagle was shown to them on 5 May 2017.
112. “Cowpens Ground is Given to Daughters,” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 15 May 1928, 7.
Figure 27. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, c.1932-1936. This photograph appears to have been taken during or immediately following the 1930s repair campaign; note the apparent stucco residue on the lower part of the cast iron column. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives.

Figure 28. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 1936. Green River Road is visible beyond the trees while the dirt cutoff road is just beyond the fenced enclosure. Note the stucco patches, new marble cap, and new ball on the monument and the damaged condition of the iron fence atop the new stone wall. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3A, 136-4485.

Figure 29. Photograph of 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing southeast, 1950. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B c187, 1 of 2.

Figure 30. Photograph of 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing southeast, 1975. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B c76, 2 of 8.

Figure 31. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northwest, c.1955. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives.
PART I - DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

which is the present iron fence.

The next known photograph is dated 1936 and shows the full extent of the iron fence and stone wall (Figure 28). The wall is made of uneven fieldstones with thick mortar roughly applied to create a somewhat solid exterior face on the wall, the interior showing little exposed mortar. The corners contain rectangular cut granite stones into which the iron fence is embedded. The fence includes many broken and damaged panels, missing components, and is partly held in place by pipes, wires, or boards. These conditions suggest that the fence was not new and that it had been salvaged and reinstalled on the wall. It is possible that it was made from remnants of the 1857 fence, although the interim whereabouts of the fence are not documented. The 1857 gate was reported to be in the Cowpens area as of 1893. It is also possible that the fence was salvaged from a property in the Spartanburg area, possibly from a family plot in a cemetery. The fence’s design, including posts with heart-shaped scrolls, resembles some ironwork documented at Charleston, including gates at St. Phillip’s Church, the fence and gates of Hibernian Hall (1840-1841), as well as an 1840s fence around the Lentz family plot in Philadelphia’s Laurel Hill Cemetery. It is possible that the fence includes salvaged pieces dating from the period 1810-1860 or that it is a Colonial Revival work dating from the period 1890-1930. A dirt path or drive was present along the northeast side of the enclosure by this time and may have been present in 1920.

The 1930s repair campaign was concluded in 1938, when the Battle of Cowpens Chapter of the DAR installed a rock-face granite slab with a bronze plaque bearing the inscription (Figure 29, Figure 30):

**THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED BY**
**THE WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY**
**OF CHARLESTON S.C.**
**L. M. HATCH, CAPT.**
**APRIL, 1856**
**COWPENS CHAPTER D.A.R.**
**CUSTODIANS**
**1938**

A small eagle of modern design was added on top of the ball between 1955 and June 1958 but had disappeared by 1959 (Figure 31 - Figure 35). Photographs from circa 1955 and 1959 show new inscriptions on the faces of the marble cap, done in a rounded, Art Deco-influenced typeface characteristic of grave markers of the 1945 to 1970 period (Figure 31, Figure 33, Figure 34, Figure 35). Inscriptions are visible on five sides of the cap and appear to repeat the 1856 text as reported in period documents:

WASHINGTON
THE
WASHINGTON LIGHT
INFANTRY OF
CHARLESTON

117. HABS SC, 10-CHAR, 58-10; HABS SC, 10-CHAR, 88-4; HABS PA-1811;
Figure 34. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 1959. Green River Road is visible beyond the trees and the cutoff road is just beyond the fenced enclosure. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C155-157, 2 of 3.

Figure 35. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northwest, 1959. Green River Road is visible beyond the trees and the cutoff road is just beyond the fenced enclosure. The US Monument is in the distance at left. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, C155-157, 3 of 3.


Figure 37. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southeast, 1972. The dirt cutoff road is visible at left. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, c 234, no. 12 of 37.

Figure 38. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing south-southeast, 1975. Note the removal of the iron fence and marble cap as well as the general appearance of deterioration. Source: Kings Mountain National Military Park Archives, Box 3B, c 93.

These modifications appear to have been intended as “restoration” work but provided new elements of markedly dissimilar design from those likely included in 1856. The inscriptions are not visible in photographs from 1966 or 1972 (Figure 36, Figure 37).

By January 1974, the fence and stone wall were reported to be “battered and broken; several sections of the ironwork have been stolen.” The entire iron fence and the faces of the marble cap were removed by 1975. Photographs taken in 1975 show the cap inset from the faces of the concrete pedestal, suggesting that the inscriptions were on thin pieces of marble mounted to each of the eight sides (Figure 38, Figure 39, Figure 40). Repairs to the 1938 DAR stone and plaque appear to have been made in the mid-1970s (Figure 41). A 1978 photograph shows the fence in place and appears to show stucco patches to the pedestal and the former location of the cap (Figure 42). A pipe and chain fence had been added around the outside of the fence by 1978 in an attempt to keep visitors away from the iron fence. Development of the Cowpens National Battlefield during the late-1970s involved removal of nearby buildings and removal of most of the gravel road north of the monument, part of which was replaced by a trail along roughly the same route.

In 1979, the National Park Service made plans for the repair of the monument as a part of the development of Cowpens National Battlefield. A drawing dated April 24, 1979, shows plans for the repair of the fence and construction of a new gate markedly dissimilar to that shown in photographs taken between 1938 and 1972 (Figure 43). The area around the monument was cleared of trash, brush, and debris in the spring of 1979. In August of that year, the NPS approved a $10,000 contract for work including the repair and stabilization of the stone wall, repair and selective replacement of the iron fence, and cleaning and “refinishing” the masonry—with a coat of plaster—and metal on the monument itself. The work was planned for...
Figure 42. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing southwest, 1978. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield National Register Nomination.

Figure 43. Sheet from construction documents for fence repair, 24 April 1979. Note the design for a new gate entirely unlike that present from the 1930s to the early-1970s. Source: National Park Service.

Figure 44. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 26 September 1980. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives.

Figure 45. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing northeast, 26 September 1980. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives.

Figure 46. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing east, 26 September 1980. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives.

Figure 47. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument, facing east, 26 September 1980. Source: Washington Light Infantry archives.
completion in December, in preparation for the celebration of the 199th anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens in January 1980 (Figure 44 - Figure 47). A 1981 photograph shows the monument, wall, and fence after the completion of these repairs (Figure 48).

The plaster coating on the pedestal began to deteriorate by the mid-1980s. A 1992 condition assessment of the US Monument included recommendations for the Washington Light Infantry Monument, and repairs following these recommendations were completed in 1993. The only documentation of this project located to date is a series of photographs (Figure 49 - Figure 56). Work included re-stuccoing the monument’s pedestal, abrasive cleaning and painting of the iron fence. Plaster dating from the 1979-1980 project was removed, exposing the recessed sides of the cap as seen in the 1975 photographs (Figure 51, Figure 38, Figure 39, Figure 40). These recesses appear to have been filled with stucco when the pedestal was re-stuccoed (Figure 52).

It appears that workers used a green fiberglass mesh to reinforce the new stucco (Figure 57). The monument does not appear to have undergone any major repairs since 1993.

120. Binkley and Davis, Administrative History, 69.


Figure 52. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during installation of new stucco, facing north, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives.
PART I - DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

Figure 53. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during abrasive blasting of iron fence, facing northwest, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives.

Figure 54. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during abrasive blasting of iron fence, facing north-northeast, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives.

Figure 55. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during abrasive blasting of iron fence, facing northwest, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives.

Figure 56. Photograph of the Washington Light Infantry Monument during priming of iron fence, facing northwest, 1993. Source: Cowpens National Battlefield Archives.

Figure 57. Detail of 1993 stucco showing exposure of fiberglass mesh, 25 September 2017.
I.C Physical Description and Condition Assessment

Site

The Washington Light Infantry Monument is located within a lightly forested portion of the Cowpens Battlefield. The site features a grass groundcover that is mown short and no understory vegetation. The maturing trees surrounding the monument are widely spaced, resulting in a broken canopy. The lower portions of the trees are limbed to allow for long sight views through the landscape. The paved Battlefield Trail runs through the area, entering from the west, curving around the monument, and turning to the south on the east side of the monument. The area north and east of the monument is categorized as a vegetation restoration area.

Washington Light Infantry Monument

The Washington Light Infantry Monument is a masonry and cast iron object in a rural landscape within the Cowpens National Battlefield (Figure 58, Figure 59). The northeast face of the monument, facing the Green River Road, served as its historic façade. The monument rests on a granite base measuring roughly 3’-6”-square and 9”-high (Figure 60). The outer corners of this base exhibit erosion and damage. One corner of the base includes a 1”-square hole consistent with iron fence embedments of the 1840s and 1850s. The center of the northeast side the base contains a white marble tablet bearing the following inscription (Figure 61, Figure 62):

Figure 58. General view of monument, enclosure, and context, facing southeast, 25 September 2017.

Figure 59. General view of monument and enclosure, facing northeast, September 2017.

Figure 60. Southwest elevation of monument, facing east-northeast, 25 September 2017.
Figure 61. Marble plaque on northeast elevation (historic front) of monument base, facing southwest, 25 September 2017.

Figure 62. Marble plaque on northeast elevation (historic front) of monument base, facing south, 25 September 2017.

Figure 63. Northeast elevation (historic front) of monument, facing southwest, 25 September 2017.

Figure 64. North elevation of monument, facing south, 25 September 2017.

Figure 65. Northwest elevation of monument with 1938 DAR stone and plaque, facing southeast, 25 September 2017.
This tablet is the only section of historic marble and the only example of an original inscription surviving at the monument. The text is engraved in a “grotesque”-type sans serif typeface commonly used for monuments and grave markers during the period 1845 to 1865 with a mix of roman and italic text and characteristically expressive numerals. The monument’s other inscriptions, now lost, likely reflected similar typographic qualities. The recessed letters were originally gilded to highlight the inscriptions, but no trace of this gilding.

121. The top line of the inscription is not legible but appears to retain traces of “IR” or “IN” at a larger scale than the text below. It is possible that this line bore the name “WASHINGTON”.
122. An 1896 description gives a different text for the marble slab inserted into the granite base: “THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED / BY THE WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY / CAPT. L. M. HATCH, APRIL, 1856,” while the accompanying engraving shows “ERECTED BY / THE WASHINGTON / LIGHT INFANTRY,” Courtney, 15-16.
123. Cemetery monuments of the period typically used similar typefaces, including grotesque-type sans serif types and Didone-type serif types.
remains. Portions of the tablet are eroded, with the lower right-hand portion retaining some of its historic smooth face.

Above the square granite base, there is an octagonal pedestal of concrete covered with stucco, roughly 4'-5" in height (Figure 60, Figure 63 - Figure 68). The pedestal is now distorted after several re-stuccoing efforts, but measures roughly 3'-5" across at the base, with battered sides tapering in to form an octagonal top measuring approximately 2'-0" across. No trace of the original white marble cap remains visible, and the historic concrete of the pedestal is entirely concealed by unpainted stucco dating from 1993. This stucco is in fair to poor condition, with sections of green fiberglass reinforcing mesh exposed in several areas and signs of delamination around the base of the pedestal (Figure 57, Figure 61, Figure 69).

A slender, fluted cast iron Doric column rises from the center of the pedestal and measures approximately 6'-10" high (Figure 70). The shaft of the column tapers from 4-1/4" in diameter at the base to 3-1/2" just below the capital. The joint between the base and the bottom of the column shaft is irregular and is filled with sealant, possibly the result of the removal of a component that originally separated these two pieces (Figure 71). Several patched holes are evident along the shaft—some in the center of a flute or an arris, others offset—and may reflect past damage or attempts to attach flags or other items to the shaft (Figure 72). The cast iron shaft is visibly leaning to the east. The capital is topped by a square iron plate, above which rises a cast iron ball 7-1/2" in diameter (Figure 73). The ball was originally surmounted by an eagle with outspread wings based on that atop the pole of the Washington Light Infantry’s Eutaw Flag (Figure 17). The Eutaw flagstaff’s eagle finial appears to match a type of flagstaff finial used during the Civil War. This could suggest that the


existing flagstaff finial dates from the 1850s and was the one used as a model for the monument’s original eagle. All cast iron components are covered with multiple layers of weathered black paint. The cast iron remains in fair condition and the paint finishes are in fair to poor condition.

In front of the northwest face of the monument stands a rectangular slab of rock-face granite measuring 2’-6” wide by 10” deep by 20” high and bearing a bronze plaque (Figure 65):

**Figure 72:** Detail of holes and pock-marks in cast iron shaft, 25 September 2017.

**Figure 73:** Detail of cast iron column capital and mounting of cast iron ball, 25 September 2017.

**Figure 74:** North elevation of enclosure, facing south-southeast, 25 September 2017.

**Figure 75:** East elevation of enclosure, facing west-northwest, 25 September 2017.

The stone remains in fair to good condition, with staining evident around the plaque. The plaque is corroded and discolored. Three of the four rosettes covering the mounting screws are missing and the heads of the exposed screws are rusting and staining the bronze surface below.

### Stone Wall & Iron Fence

The monument sits within an enclosure formed by a low stone wall and iron fence installed between 1932 and 1936 (Figure 74 - Figure 77). This enclosure is roughly aligned with the angled faces of the octagonal pedestal and measures approximately 15’-6” east-west and 12’-4” north-south. The enclosure faces northwest, with a gate centered on this elevation (Figure 77). The wall is constructed of rough fieldstones crudely laid with a thick application of mortar to the interior and exterior faces of the wall. The corners contain cut stone piers into which are mounted the posts of the iron fence. The wall measures roughly 2’-0” high on the exterior and 1’-1” on the interior, reflecting...
Figure 76: South elevation of enclosure, facing north-northeast, 25 September 2017.

Figure 77: West elevation of enclosure, facing east-southeast, 25 September 2017.

Figure 78: Detail of typical condition with mortar at connection between wall and iron fence, 25 September 2017.

Figure 79: Detail of spalled mortar and former embedment hole in stone wall, 25 September 2017.

Figure 80: Detail of typical conditions at iron fence, 25 September 2017.
PART I - DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

a raised grade, now covered in white gravel, at the interior. The wall is approximately 9” thick at the center of each side, with radiused interior corners. Two large stones flank the gate on the northwest elevation. The stone wall is in fair condition, with evidence of mortar delamination and mortar loss on each face. This is particularly apparent at the base of the exterior face of the walls, possibly the result of frequent use of outdoor power maintenance equipment (such as the “weed-eater”) in the past.127

The iron fence rests on top of the stone wall and is connected to it by vertical extensions at each fence post and by a layer of mortar along the top of the stone wall (Figure 78, Figure 79). The northwest and southeast elevations of the fence feature paneled fence posts containing heart-shaped pairs of wrought iron scrolls and topped by finials of inverted heart-shaped scrolls. The fence panels consist of wrought iron scrolls attached to vertical bars, forming two layers of roughly “X”-shaped ornament along every other bar. The panels are topped by paired scrolls with a central spike above every other vertical bar. The gate is centered on the northwest elevation. The present gate, fabricated circa 1979, is dissimilar from that seen in photographs taken between 1936 and 1972. It has a pattern of arches in its lower half and a pattern of heart-shaped scrolls in the upper half. Historic photographs show that the previous gate had a much different design. The lower part was divided by vertical bars, above which was a horizontal panel with an elaborate wrought S-scroll. Above this piece was a panel with vertical bars and two central heart-shaped scrolls similar to, but larger and more elaborate than, the post finials. The gate was topped by a large horizontal S-scroll similar to that below. The iron fence is in fair condition overall, with weathered paint, localized areas of rust, and evident separation of components at several areas, particularly at the top rail of the fence panels (Figure 80). Near the enclosure are two stones with holes roughly 1”-square, possibly footers for the 1857 railing (Figure 81).

127. Park staff report that, at present, weed-eaters are not allowed to come into contact with the wall.
Page intentionally left blank
I.D Evaluation of Significance

Introduction

The Washington Light Infantry Monument (1856) is an early and architecturally significant Revolutionary War battle monument. The monument is a significant memorial work by prominent Charleston architect Edward Brickell White, who designed many built and unbuilt monuments in South Carolina. It is significant for its use of construction materials and technology, including cast-in-place concrete that may relate to both southeastern coastal building traditions and contemporary experiments with concrete construction. The Washington Light Infantry Monument is among the earliest Revolutionary War monuments in the United States and is significant for its place in the evolution of American military commemoration. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1978 as a contributing resource within the Cowpens National Battlefield.

Architecture

The Washington Light Infantry Monument was designed by Edward Brickell White (1806-1882), a prominent Charleston architect, known professionally as ”E. B. White.” Born in South Carolina to lawyer, painter, and playwright John Blake White (1781-1859) and Elizabeth (Eliza) Allston, White studied engineering at the United States Military Academy at West Point, graduating in 1826. Upon graduation, he was appointed Second Lieutenant of the Third Artillery and was on garrison and detached duty at locations throughout the United States until 1836. In 1832, while stationed at Fort Trumbull in New London, Connecticut, White married Delia Woodward Adams (1815-1897) of Boston, sister of Col. Julius W. Adams. He was on the staff of Gen. Eustace during the Black Hawk War (1832), and, between December 1832 and June 1836, he worked on topographical engineering projects related to the construction of Fort Pulaski (1829-1847) on Cockspur Island, Georgia, the expansion of Fort Adams (1798-1799/1824-1857) at Newport, Rhode Island, and the construction of a bridge across the Potomac River. White was appointed First Lieutenant of the Third Artillery in December 1835 but resigned from the Army in August 1836, surveying routes for several proposed railroad lines.

White settled in Charleston by 1839, establishing a successful practice as an architect, engineer, and surveyor. He was one of South Carolina’s most prominent architects of the 1840s and 1850s, designing numerous high-style Greek Revival and Gothic Revival public buildings. In 1850, White served on a committee investigating the structural collapse of a portion of the Smithsonian Institution building (1849-1855, James Renwick, Jr., architect). Peter Hjalmar Hammarskold (c.1815-1861) worked with White on the Charleston High School and College of Charleston projects in 1850. George Edward Walker (c.1810-1863) was working as an assistant to White as of 1854.

White joined the 3rd Battalion, South Carolina Light Artillery (“Palmetto Battalion”) of the Confederate Army during the Civil War. He resumed practice in Charleston after the Civil War, serving on the Board of Trustees of the College of Charleston.

and the Board of Supervisors of Charleston High School in 1865 (Figure 82). Post-war Charleston was economically depressed, and the city’s architects found fewer opportunities for work. White moved to New York in 1868, and the years 1867-1868 saw the departure of fellow Charleston architects Edward C. Jones and Francis D. Lee.

White continued to design projects in South Carolina but resided in New York until his death in 1882. White was survived by his wife Delia, one son, two daughters, and two brothers: Dr. Octavius A. White, also of New York, and another brother who was a physician at Charleston. White’s obituary stated that he was “an intimate personal friend” of Gen. Winfield Scott, Gen. Totten, Gen. W. S. Hancock, “and other prominent military men, and his genial spirits and rare intelligence made him hosts of friends in civil life.”

White’s projects included:

- survey of the Cheraw & Waccamaw Railroad (surveyed c.1837, built 1849-1853 as the Cheraw & Darlington Railroad)
- survey of the Charleston & Wilmington Seaboard Railroad (surveyed c.1837, built 1847-1853 as the Wilmington & Manchester Railroad)
- Market Hall (1840-1841), Charleston
- St. Johannes Lutheran Church (1841–1842), Charleston
- Centenary Methodist Episcopal Church (1842), Charleston
- Huguenot Church (1844–1845), Charleston
- Grace Church (1847–1848), Charleston
- Trinity Episcopal Church (1847), Columbia
- project for a Palmetto Regiment Monument (1848), Columbia
- Chapel of the Cross (1854–1857), Bluffton
- Charleston High School (1840–1842)
- James Louis Petigru law office (1848), Charleston
- steeple (1848–1850) for St. Philip’s Church (1835-1838, Joseph Hyde, architect), Charleston
- renovation and expansion (1849, 1854) of the South Carolina State Arsenal (“The Old Citadel,” 1829-1830, Frederick Wesner, architect)/South Carolina Military Academy / the Citadel, Military College of South Carolina, Charleston
- project for a temple to John C. Calhoun (1850), Charleston
- expansion and remodeling (1850-1852) of Main Building/Randolph Hall (1828-1829, William Strickland, architect), College of Charleston
- Gatehouse/Porter’s Lodge (1850-1852), College of Charleston
- supervising architect of the United States Custom House (1853-1859/1870-1879, Ammi Burnham Young, architect), Charleston
- Washington Light Infantry Monument (1856), Cowpens
- Col. William Washington & Jane Elliott Washington Monument (1858), Charleston
- repairs (1866) to St. Michael’s Church (1751-1761), Charleston
- Charleston Gas & Light Company building (1876-1878)
- William Gilmore Simms Monument (1879), White Point Garden, Charleston (bust by John Quincy Adams Ward)
- Daniel Morgan Statue (1881), Spartanburg

131. John Morrill Bryan, Creating the South Carolina State House (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1999), 75.
136. The monument commemorates novelist, poet, and historian William Gilmore Simms (1806-1870), a native of Charleston. Simms published several popular novels between the 1830s and the 1850s and an influential History of South Carolina (1842). Simms wrote The Sword and the Distaff (1852), one of the most famous examples of Anti-Tom literature, a genre of pro-slavery works written in response to Harriet Beecher Stowe’s influential antislavery novel Uncle Tom’s Cabin (1852).
White’s selection to design the Washington Light Infantry Monument likely stemmed from his involvement with the organization, having served as its lieutenant colonel from 1844 to 1849.\(^{137}\) His past military experience may have influenced his involvement with the group. Following the American Revolution, the United States did not maintain a standing army and local and state militias supplemented the small number of professional soldiers. These militias were composed of both former professional soldiers as well as citizens lacking formal military training, and they that could be called up for service as needed. Local groups could also serve as social clubs, overlapping in membership with various fraternal organizations.\(^{138}\) It is likely that the Washington Light Infantry’s membership included White’s clients and business associates. It is unclear whether White had any other association with the Battle of Cowpens. His father was born at Eutaw Springs, South Carolina, in 1781, the same year as the Battle of Eutaw Springs. A detachment of the 1\(^{st}\) and 3\(^{rd}\) Continental Light Dragoons under Lt. Col. William Washington fought in the Battle of Eutaw Springs in September 1781, but this may be merely a coincidence.

In addition to the Washington Light Infantry Monument, White’s other known memorials are an unbuilt design for the Palmetto Regiment Monument (1848) at Columbia, an unbuilt temple (1850) to John C. Calhoun at Charleston, a monument to Col. William Washington & Jane Elliott Washington (1858) in Charleston’s Magnolia Cemetery, the William Gilmore Sims Monument (1879) at Charleston and the Daniel Morgan Statue (1881) at Spartanburg, the latter two featuring bronze statues by John Quincy Adams Ward (1830-1910). The two unrealized projects provide context for White’s approach to the design of public memorials leading up to his commission for the Washington Light Infantry Monument. These designs, known only from published descriptions, appear to foreshadow White’s juxtaposition of masonry and cast metal and the use of up-to-date architectural technologies.


\(^{138}\) Militia units provided most of the soldiers in the Mexican-American War (1846-1848) and during the early part of the Civil War, before the authorization of the draft in 1862. Following the Civil War, local militia units were largely obsolete, while state militias grew into the present National Guard, an evolution formalized under the Militia Act of 1903.

The proposed Palmetto Regiment Monument, commemorating members of the regiment who had died during the Mexican-American War (1846-1848), would have been “a rough natural Rock of pyramidal form, fifty feet square at the base and thirty-five feet high,” with “a massive bronze door” leading to an internal vaulted burial chamber to house the remains of up to 100 officers and soldiers. White’s own description, reproduced in newspaper articles, suggests an elaborate memorial design:

The pyramidal rock, to be surmounted by a trophy made entirely of bronze, and thirty-five feet in height—making the total height of the Monument seventy feet. The trophy to consist of a Funeral Urn, sacred to the memory of those who lie entombed below. An Eagle, with outstretched wings, and fierce beak, hovers over the Urn, personating the General Government, under the protective shadow of whose wings our departed heroes are, or should rest. At the foot of the Urn lies coiled and prepared for defence [sic] the Rattle Snake, typical of the Southern country; and towering over all rises the Palmetto tree, personating the State, who takes under her especial care the remains of her departed sons, cherishing their memory and honoring their names. Around the Urn and Palmetto tree, mingles with the cactus and bayonet Palmetto, are clustered banners, ordnance, military arms, and equipments [sic], which may be considered as spoils of war; and which, in connexion [sic] with the rock, form a striking and harmonious whole.\(^{139}\)

The monument was authorized by the South Carolina Legislature and was estimated to cost $25,000. The extensive program of allegorical sculpture was unusual in the context of American monuments of the period but would be seen on many built between the late 1860s and the 1920s. The project was not realized, although a cast iron Palmetto Regiment Monument was created in 1856 by Christopher Werner, incorporating an existing cast iron palmetto tree that he had produced c.1852, at roughly one quarter of the cost of White’s proposed design.\(^{140}\)

\(^{139}\) “Beautiful Design,” Richmond Enquirer (Richmond, Virginia), 22 December 1848, 2.

Within two years of his design for the Palmetto Regiment Monument, White had an opportunity to design an even larger public memorial. In September 1850, the Charleston Mercury reported that the City Council intended to build a temple to house a statue of recently-deceased South Carolina statesman John C. Calhoun (1782-1850), created by American sculptor Hiram Powers (1805-1873). The Council selected White’s design for the temple and the Mercury invited readers to visit its office to view a daguerreotype of the design. The temple was described as a white marble octagon on a plinth formed by eight steps, with an arched opening on each side and “a pier and attached Corinthian column” at each corner supporting an entablature with a modillion cornice. The frieze was to be “encircled with Acanthus and entwined with medallions, bearing the arms of the State, the City, and other appropriate insignia.” The building was to be topped by “a dome roof composed of sixteen enriched marble ribs” between which would span glass panels lighting the interior. These panels were to consist of two layers of glass, an exterior pane “being about an inch thick, will imitate white marble, and will be rendered semi-translucent by a chemical process of hydrofluoric acid. The interior panels will be of white glass, with appropriately enameled figures.” The dome would be capped with “an exquisite and highly wrought marble finial” rising to a total height of forty-six feet. The interior, roughly twenty-two feet across, would feature a frieze representing Calhoun’s funeral procession in Charleston and the interior was to be illuminated by gas lights at night “so managed as to throw a very soft and imposing light around the procession in Charleston and the interior was to be illuminated by gas lights at night “so managed as to throw a very soft and imposing light around the statue.” The article noted that the statue had been recovered, Powers could create a new version from his original model.141

In 1858, the Washington Light Infantry announced its plans to build a monument over the graves of Col. William Washington and Jane Elliott Washington in the Elliott Family Cemetery. The monument, designed by White, was to be dedicated on May 5, 1858. It was to be 14 feet high, of white Italian marble carved by W. T. White of Charleston, and to be sited on a mount between three and four feet in height. It was described as a Greek Doric column—based on those at the Temple of Theseus at Athens—raised on three steps and a pedestal. “A vine of ivy, springing from the base of the column, entwines its shaft and falls gracefully over its capital, and a rattlesnake, coiled around column and ivy, embraces both within its folds.” 142 The pedestal was to have “appropriate inscriptions” on its faces. The WLI was unable to build the monument over the actual graves, so they placed it in Charleston’s Magnolia Cemetery.

White’s 1882 obituary states: “He designed the monument to Col. William Washington, of Revolutionary fame, which is situated at Eutaw Springs, S. C., and is commemorative of the battle at that place.” 143 No monument from this period is documented at Eutaw Springs, although the Eutaw Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution dedicated a monument on the battlefield in 1912.144 It is possible that this is a mistaken reference combining the Washington Light Infantry Monument at Cowpens—the inscription of which named Eutaw Springs—and the grave marker of William Washington and Jane Elliott Washington.

There are at least two other Washington Light Infantry Monuments in South Carolina, neither of which appear to have been designed by E. B. White. The Washington Light Infantry Monument (1870), a Gothic Revival obelisk of Tennessee marble located in Charleston’s Magnolia Cemetery, commemorated the militia’s members who served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.145 This may have been designed by W. T. White, “an old member of the corps”—apparently the same W. T. White who served as stone carver on the 1858 monument to William and Jane Washington—who submitted at least two designs for it in 1869.146 Another is the Washington Light Infantry Monument (1891), a granite obelisk in Charleston’s

141. “Calhoun’s Temple and Statue,” Tri-Weekly Commercial (Wilmington, North Carolina), 17 September 1850, 2

142. “Monument to Col. Washington,” Yorkville Enquirer (York, South Carolina), 18 March 1858, 2


Washington Square, listing various battles in which that the group has participated.147

Construction Materials

The Washington Light Infantry Monument’s pedestal is concrete, an atypical material for a monument during this period. A description published in the Charleston Mercury on April 18, 1856, noted “The foundation of the monument will be of concrete, composed of cement, and sand and shells from Fort Moultrie, mixed with water from Eutaw Spring.”148 The use of concrete may suggest that architect E.B. White or the monument’s builders were aware of traditional southeastern coastal building traditions (tabby) and may also have been interested in contemporary experiments with concrete construction. The 1840s and 1850s saw early experiments with concrete and architectural terra cotta in the United States and the monument may be significant as an early example of the use of concrete for a public monument.

Tabby, a concrete made with lime from burned oyster shells mixed in equal parts with water, sand, and aggregate (shells, gravel, or stone) is documented in building construction along what is now the southeast coast of the United States during Spanish colonial settlement in the sixteenth century.149 It was typically poured in layers into wooden forms, gradually building up walls. Tabby remained in use in the coastal southeast into the early nineteenth century.150 The Romans used a strong and durable concrete, but the technology was lost for more than a thousand years after the fall of the Roman Empire. Experimental concrete was produced in England in the 1750s but deteriorated quickly in wet conditions. Artificial hydraulic lime cements were developed during the 1810s and 1820s, with modern Portland cement being developed in the 1850s in England and Germany. Portland cement became more common in the United States after the 1870s, gradually displacing traditional lime putty mortars around 1900.

Early monolithic poured concrete is often referred to as “grout.” One of the earliest known concrete buildings in the United States was the Milton House (1844/1867, Joseph Goodrich, builder), a hotel at Milton, Wisconsin.151 Further experiments with concrete wall construction in the United States during the 1850s were sparked in part by the influential book A Home For All, or The Gravel Wall and Octagon Mode of Building (1853) by phrenologist Orson Squire Fowler (1809-1887).152 Fowler, citing the Milton House, argued that concrete was “nature’s building material,” being “abundant everywhere, cheap, durable.”153 The material appeared to offer great promise, particularly in regions where building stone and clay for brick-making were difficult to procure.

Edward Brickell White’s use of concrete does not appear to be documented, but he is known to have employed another experimental material of the 1840s and 1850s: architectural terra cotta. White’s porticoes (1850-1852) at the College of Charleston’s Main Building (Randolph Hall) and Charleston High School included terra cotta

153. O. S. Fowler, A Home For All, or The Gravel Wall and Octagon Mode of Building (New York: Fowler & Wells, 1853), 16, 19.
capitals. These are some of the earliest known pieces of architectural terra cotta in the United States made by the country’s first architectural terra cotta manufacturer, Tolman, Luther & Company (est. 1848) of Worcester, Massachusetts. White was part of a group of Charleston architects and builders of the 1850s who made use of architectural terra cotta manufactured in industrial New England. Documented examples included the terra cotta window hoods (from Worcester, Massachusetts) used on the Mills House Hotel (1853, John E. Earle, architect, demolished 1968), terra cotta window hoods (by Tolman, Luther & Company) used on the remodeling (1853, Peter Hjalmar Hammarshold, architect) of the John Rutledge House (1763), the reconstruction (1852-1854, Francis D. Lee, architect) of the Unitarian Church (1774-1878), the Charleston Club (1853-1854, Barbot & Seyle, architects; demolished), the Bee Row rowhouses (c.1853-1854), the remodeling (c.1855) of the Smith Building (c.1801-1815), and the remodeling (1856) of the Guard House (1838-1839, Charles F. Reichardt, architect; demolished).

Evidence uncovered to date suggests that the Washington Light Infantry Monument’s concrete pedestal may have combined the technologies of traditional tabby from coastal South Carolina with contemporary experiments in concrete. Future analysis of the concrete’s composition would help to establish its relationship to traditional and innovative concrete construction. Future research may ascertain the extent of experiments with concrete and architectural terra cotta in South Carolina during the 1850s, providing greater insight into the Washington Light Infantry Monument’s place in a statewide contest of antebellum experimental construction technology.

**Revolutionary War Battle Monuments**

The Washington Light Infantry Monument is among the earliest Revolutionary War monuments in the United States and is significant for its place in the evolution of American military commemoration. Although monuments to the Founding Fathers had been built—as seen in the Washington Monument (1815-1829) at Baltimore and the Washington Monument (1848-1854/1877-1884) at Washington, DC (both designed by Robert Mills)—and markers commemorating individual heroes of the Revolution were sometimes placed at battlefield sites or graves, monuments to an entire battle or group of soldiers placed on the battlefield itself were uncommon prior to the 1870s. The monument was part of the first generation of Revolutionary War monuments, built sporadically between the 1790s and the 1850s, and may have been the first battlefield monument built in the South.

The purchase of a one-acre plot surrounding the Washington Light Infantry Monument a few months after its construction and the presentation of this plot to the Washington Light Infantry established a commemorative property open to the public but held by a private organization. The site would remain publicly accessible under the control of the Washington Light Infantry and, from 1928, the Daughters of the American Revolution, until the creation of Cowpens National Battlefield.
The first known Revolutionary War memorial, honoring Gen. Richard Montgomery, was installed in 1777 in the rear wall of St. Paul's Chapel (1766) in New York. The first two known Revolutionary War monuments—designed as freestanding outdoor objects rather than wall-mounted ornaments within a church—were both built in the Boston area and were made of painted and gilded wood. The first, the Monument to American Independence, was designed by Charles Bulfinch and built on Boston’s Beacon Hill in 1789-1790. It consisted of a Roman Doric column standing on a pedestal and topped by a gilded ball and eagle. The monument was removed in 1811, when the hill was lowered for speculative real estate development. The second was built two miles away at Charlestown, Massachusetts, in 1794 to commemorate Major General Joseph Warren, killed in the Battle of Bunker Hill. Built by the King Solomon Lodge, Free & Accepted Masons, the wooden monument, consisting of a pedestal topped by a square tapered column bearing an urn, was removed around 1825 to make way for the Bunker Hill Monument.

The third known monument of this type was the first to be built of permanent materials and is the earliest to survive today. The Revolutionary War Monument on the Common at Lexington, Massachusetts, dedicated on July 4, 1799. It consists of a granite obelisk on a pedestal with a slate tablet (replaced by a marble facsimile in 1835) commemorating eight men who died on the site on April 19, 1775. The inscription including the following passages:

Sacred to Liberty & the Rights of mankind!!!

The Freedom & Independence of America,

Sealed & defended with the blood of her sons.

This Monument is erected

By the inhabitants of Lexington

Under the patronage and at the expense of

Material evidence of a historical or commemorative consciousness was also absent in the colonies outside New England. Colonists in general did not develop an appreciation of monuments until they became Americans after the Revolution... The war did, however, produce heroes for Americans, providing names and stories ready to be invoked as independence created the need for defining a common purpose, principles, and past. Thus was born the necessity for monuments.

The addition of the 1932 US Monument on a separate parcel reflects a continuation of this monument-focused commemorative approach to preservation of the Cowpens site prior to the creation of the Cowpens National Battlefield. This limited, monument-focused approach contrasts with the trend in battlefield preservation after the United States Centennial of 1876, where large sections of battlefield sites, like Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, were acquired to preserve the land upon which the battle occurred. Those battlefield sites became pastoral open spaces interpreting significant historical events and commemorating individual heroes, furthering a national patriotic identity and a national mythology while often highlighting a particular city or region’s role in American history.

Battlefield parks showed strong influence from the rural cemetery movement that had dominated American approaches to commemorative open space between the 1830s and the 1870s, offering greenspace with scattered monuments and memorials. Like rural cemeteries, battlefield parks providing a suitable environment for a range of activities, from patriotic assemblies and veterans' memorial events to family picnics in a historically and morally edifying setting. Attitudes towards war and military commemoration evolved between the 1790s and the 1870s. The placement of monuments to past events, with inscriptions presenting the narrative that the builders intended future generations to hear, was uncommon in the United States until after the 1790s.

Blanche M. G. Linden has noted:

158. Blanche M. G. Linden, Silent City on a Hill: Picturesque Landscapes of Memory and Boston’s Mount Auburn Cemetery (Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2007), 97.


160. Blanche M. G. Linden, Silent City on a Hill: Picturesque Landscapes of Memory and Boston’s Mount Auburn Cemetery (Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2007), 97-98.
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
To the memory of their Fellow Citizens…
Who fell on this field, the first victims to the
Sword of British Tyranny and Oppression…
The Die was cast !!!
The Blood of these Martyrs
In the cause of their God and their Country
Was the Cement of the Union of these States, then
Colonies, and gave the spring to the Spirit, Firmness
And Resolution of their Fellow Citizens,
They rose as one man to Revenge their Brethren’s
Blood, and at the Point of the Sword, to Assert
And defend their Native Rights,
They Nobly dar’d to be Free!!
The contest was long, Bloody and Affecting.
Righteous Heaven Approved the Solemn Appeal
Victory crowned their Arms; and
The Peace, Liberty, and Independence of the United
States of America was their Glorious Reward.

Built in the year 1799. 161

Only five Revolutionary War battle monuments are known to have been built in the United States between 1800 and 1850. During this period, one monument—the Battle Monument (1815-1825, J. Maximilian M. Godefroy, architect) at Baltimore, commemorating those who died during the Battle of Baltimore during the War of 1812—reflects the introduction of high-style battle memorials in the United States. 162 Public monuments offered the potential to highlight local heroes and a region’s role in the Revolution while also serving as ornaments to urban neighborhoods and sources of civic pride and identity, playing into the competition between growing cities. 163 Large cities like Baltimore and Boston—the third and fourth largest cities in the United States, respectively, in both 1810 and 1820—had large populations, presenting a wide pool of potential funding for civic monuments. In most of the country, sites and buildings associated with the Revolution often served as informal memorials, even if later alterations had radically changed their appearance.

Benson J. Lossing’s The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution (1850-1852) chronicles the author’s 1848-1849 tour of Revolutionary War sites, providing a mixture of history and travel narrative lavishly illustrated with portraits and images of buildings, sites, objects, and documents associated with the Revolution. Lossing illustrated and described many monuments, giving a comprehensive view of the state of commemoration of Revolutionary War sites as of the late 1840s. Most of the monuments shown honored individual leaders—including some unrelated to the American Revolution—including the following representative sample:

- Dr. Joseph Warren’s Monument (1794, demolished c.1825) at Charlestown, Massachusetts (on the site of the Bunker Hill Monument), honoring a hero of the Battle of Bunker Hill widely regarded as a martyr to the American cause
- Washington Monument (1815-1829, Robert Mills, architect) at Baltimore, honoring George Washington
- Baron DeKalb Monument (1825-1827, Robert Mills, architect) at Camden, South Carolina, honoring a Bavarian-French Major General in the Continental Army killed during the Battle of Camden
- Thomas Paine Monument (1839/1899, John Frazee, architect and sculptor, moved 1905) in New Rochelle, New York, honoring

161. The bodies of seven of the eight men listed on the tablet were reinterred under the monument in 1835. At this time, the original slate tablet was replaced by a marble copy and an iron fence was built around the monument. Lisa Mausolf, Revolutionary War Monument, Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey, October 2009, http://historicsurvey.lexingtonma.gov/objects-structures/revwarmon906.pdf; Linden, 98.

162. Linden, 104.

163. Linden, 109.
a Founding Father, political activist, philosopher, and political theorist
- David Humphreys Monument in the Grove Street Cemetery at New Haven, Connecticut, marking the grave of George Washington’s aide de camp
- A slate slab (pre-1849) at Kings Mountain commemorating Maj. William Chronicle, Capt. John Mattocks, William Robb, and John Boyd, who died in the battle of Kings Mountain on October 7, 1780, also noting the death of the British Col. Ferguson.¹⁶⁴

Lossing documented only six battle or unit monuments, all in the northeast:
- Revolutionary War Monument (1799) at Lexington, Massachusetts
- Paoli Massacre Monument (1817, replaced 1877) at Paoli, Pennsylvania
- Goshen Monument (Battle of Minisink Monument) (1822, replaced 1862) at Goshen, New York
- Bunker Hill Monument (1825-1843, Solomon Willard, architect) at Charlestown, Massachusetts
- Groton Monument (1825-1830/1881, Ithiel Town & Alexander Jackson Davis, architects) at Groton, Connecticut
- Wyoming Monument (1833, Thomas U. Walter, architect) at Wyoming, Pennsylvania.¹⁶⁵

The Bunker Hill Monument and Lexington monuments were in the immediate area of Boston, while the others were in smaller cities located in a densely-settled region of the country, all within roughly 130 miles of New York City. The construction of these early monuments was likely facilitated by the large local and regional populations, providing a wider base for fundraising and the collateral value of civic improvements helpful to local boosters. These monuments were designed by some of the most prominent architects in the United States, including Town & Davis and Thomas U. Walter.¹⁶⁶

Although the Washington Light Infantry Monument was more modest than most of these northeastern examples, it reflects local commemoration of a battle in rural South Carolina, far from urban Charleston, and was designed by one of the state’s most prominent architects.¹⁶⁷ Few pre-1870 Revolutionary War battle monuments are known to have been built in the South. The Moores Creek Patriot Monument (1857) near Currie, North Carolina, is roughly contemporary and of similar scale. It follows the design of a high-style cemetery marker of the 1850s, with a stone obelisk on a pedestal.¹⁶⁸ It is possible that other battle monuments existed and were either not documented by Lossing or were built after 1849 and were removed upon the installation of more imposing replacements between the 1870s and the 1930s.

¹⁶⁴. Lossing also included monuments unrelated to the Revolution but considered sites of historical interest. These included the Wolfe-Montcalm Monument (1827) in Quebec City, commemorating two generals who died in the Battle of the Plains of Abraham (1759) during the French and Indian War (Seven Years’ War), and the Uncas Monument (1833/1841) at Norwich, Connecticut, honoring Uncas (c.1588-c.1683), the first Sachem of the Mohegan tribe. Benson J. Lossing, The Pictorial Field-Book of the Revolution, Vol. I (New York: Harper & Bros., 1850), 205; Vol II (1852), 30, 390, 634, 668, 853.
¹⁶⁶. Town & Davis (1829-1844) was one of the earliest and most influential professional architecture firms in the United States, with Ithiel Town (1784-1844) and Alexander Jackson Davis (1803-1892) being two of the most successful architects of their generations. Thomas Ustick Walter (1803-1887) designed Moyamensing Prison (1832-1835, demolished 1968) in Philadelphia, served as the Architect of the Capitol, planning the building’s major expansion (1851-1859, 1855-1865), and was a founder and early president of the American Institute of Architects. Solomon Willard was a notable Boston architect whose other projects included Divinity Hall (1826) at Harvard Divinity School and the Bowdoin Street Church (1831-1833) at 33-35 Bowdoin Street for the congregation led by Lyman Beecher. William W. Weiland, Memoir of Solomon Willard (Boston: Bunker Hill Monument Association, 1865), 229; Douglass Shand-Tucci, Built in Boston: City and Suburb, 1800-2000 (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1999), 17.
¹⁶⁷. Charleston had a population of about 40,000 in the 1850s, roughly one quarter that of Boston and one sixteenth that of New York.
¹⁶⁸. The Moores Hill Patriot Monument was built by the Wilmington Stone & Granite Works, with the obelisk being fabricated in Philadelphia and shipped to the site in 1857. The Patriot Monument was placed on a new base in 1906 and was relocated in 1974. The monument is 20 miles from Wilmington, North Carolina, which had a population of more than 9,500 by 1860, making it the largest city in the state. University of North Carolina, “Moores Creek Patriot Monument,” Commemorative Landscapes of North Carolina, accessed 8 January 2017, http://docsouth.unc.edu/commland/monument/306/
A busy period of monument-building began in the late-1860s and continued into the 1920s. The 1850s saw the design of two memorials at Plymouth, Massachusetts, a canopy (1859-1867, demolished 1919) over Plymouth Rock and the National Monument to the Forefathers (Pilgrim Monument) (1859-1888), both celebrating the arrival of the Mayflower Pilgrims in 1620 and both designed by Boston architect Hammatt Billings. The completion of the Plymouth Rock canopy coincided with post-Civil War interest in the unifying narratives of early Anglo-American settlement and the American Revolution. General interest in American history increased around the Centennial celebrations of 1876, leading to further commemorations, particularly in the northeast. This growing historical consciousness and desire to memorialize past events overlapped with a boom in construction of Civil War memorials, making the war monument—for battles, units, and state-wide soldiers’ and sailors’ monuments—the subject of many national and international architectural design competitions.

In the late 1870s, Congress selected eight battlefield sites for federally-funded monuments commemorating the centennial of the Revolution. Among these were the Kings Mountain Centennial Monument (1880, F. A. McNinch, Charlotte, North Carolina, builder) at Kings Mountain National Military Park near Blacksburg, South Carolina, and the Daniel Morgan Statue (1881, Edward Brickell White, architect) at Spartanburg, South Carolina. The Daniel Morgan Monument overtly points toward national unity, with inscriptions like “1781. ONE PEOPLE. No North, No south, No East, No West. A COMMON INTEREST. One Country—One Destiny. 1881,” and the note that it was funded by the state governments of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

The emergence of the City Beautiful movement in the 1890s provided greater demand for monuments as elements within larger designed landscapes—often parks, plazas, or boulevards—creating features and focal points within high-quality urban civic space. Revolutionary War monument construction also experienced a boom during the 1930s, as federal New Deal programs created jobs throughout the depression-ravaged country by building public facilities, including parks and monuments. The US Monument (1932) at Cowpens National Battlefield is a granite obelisk typical of the Stripped Classicism—influenced by the contemporary Art Deco and International styles—popular for monuments and civic buildings during the 1930s and 1940s.

The Washington Light Infantry Monument is significant as an early Revolutionary War monument commemorating a specific unit and placed on the battlefield itself. It may be the earliest such monument in the South and forms a pendant to the Daniel Morgan Statue, both being designed by Edward Brickell White at very different points in his career and in different national contexts. The monument offers an opportunity for park visitors to learn about Americans’ evolving attitudes toward commemoration since the American Revolution.

II Treatment and Use

Introduction

The Washington Light Infantry Monument currently serves as a commemorative monument at Cowpens National Battlefield. The monument was identified in a 1976 Master Plan for the national battlefield and a restoration treatment was recommended. The document states that the Washington Light Infantry Monument “should be retained at its present site and [be] refurbished. A metal eagle which once topped this monument was removed long ago but has been preserved by the Spartanburg Museum. By negotiation with the Museum, it could be returned and again placed on the monument when the latter is refurbished.”171

The monument has not undergone any major repairs since a 1990s effort to repair plaster on the base of the structure.

Laws, Regulations, and Functional Requirements

Applicable laws, regulations, and requirements that apply to the treatment recommendations include the following:

- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). This act mandates that federal agencies, including the NPS, take into account the effects of their actions on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment.
- National Park Service Cultural Resources Management Guideline (Director’s Order 28). This order requires planning for the protection of cultural resources on park property.
- Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties

Recommended Ultimate Treatment


Restoration of the monument to its 1856-1857 appearance

One alternative for treatment would be for the Washington Light Infantry Monument to receive a restoration treatment, returning it to its appearance in 1856-1857. The monument suffered vandalism and damage within a year after its completion and was reported to be in ruinous condition by the 1870s, limiting its period of significance to the time of its completion (the monument in 1856 and the iron railing in 1857).

The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties defines Restoration as follows:

Restoration is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project. The Restoration Standards allow for the depiction of a building at a particular time in its history by preserving materials, features, finishes,

and spaces from its period of significance and removing those from other periods.172

The following work is needed to facilitate an accurate and appropriate restoration of the monument to its 1856-1857 appearance:

The following conditions are needed for the restoration work:

- The work itself should be completed by skilled craftspeople experienced in working with historic masonry and ironwork.
- Demolition and restoration work should be supervised by historic preservation professionals who can document the process and any discoveries that can inform the restoration.
- The restoration should be treated as an educational and programming opportunity, offering the potential for visitors and community members to observe and learn from the process.

Based on available information the restoration work should be assumed to include:

- Disassemble the 1930s fence and stone wall, setting aside fence components for reuse. Remove gravel. Remove historic fence stones from the ground outside the existing 1930s fence, documenting their location before placing them in storage on site. Clean all cast iron components to remove corrosion and paint down to bare metal. Patch damaged metal components and fabricate missing elements and new fence sections as required. Discard c.1979 gate; reuse metal components where applicable. Fabricate new gate matching the design shown in historic photographs. Paint all metal components with electrostatic paint matching the first period color documented through historic finish analysis. Install new fence to form 30-foot square enclosure around the monument, treating the northeast elevation of the monument (with the surviving stone tablet) as the front of the enclosure. Relocate existing trail outside the limits of the fenced enclosure. Set fenceposts in stone or concrete bases on adequate footings. Consider paving the space within the fence with stone slabs to correspond to the 1857 description.
- Remove modern stucco finish from pedestal using gentlest means possible, avoiding damage to underlying historic concrete. Patch concrete with compatible patching mixture, maintaining historic geometry. Depending on the condition of the historic concrete, a compatible stucco coat may be required. Refer to Preservation Brief 27: Preservation of Historic Concrete https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/15-concrete.htm
- Remove modern infill from the top of the concrete pedestal. Fabricate new octagonal marble cap with inscriptions following the 1856-1857 descriptions and using typefaces and designs following evidence from the surviving base tablet and the recommended survey of Edward Brickell White-designed buildings and monuments and William T. White-carved monuments of the 1850s in Charleston. Consider using white granite instead of white marble if stone of compatible appearance can be found and can be provided with a matte finish; granite may prove more resistant to both acid rain and vandalism, providing

a longer-term solution. Gild the interior of the recessed letters or use an exterior-grade gold providing a realistic gilt effect.

- Disassemble cast iron components and conduct historic finish analysis. Clean all metal components to remove corrosion and paint down to bare metal. Patch damaged metal components and fabricate missing elements as required. Paint all metal components with electrostatic paint matching the first period color documented through historic finish analysis. Reassemble cast iron components following completion of all masonry work. Refer to Preservation Brief 27: The Maintenance and Repair of Architectural Cast Iron https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/27-cast-iron.htm

- If the original eagle can be located and is in suitable condition for restoration and reinstallation, it should be restored and reinstalled following the work outlined for the cast iron components. If the eagle cannot be located, it is recommended that the Eutaw flagstaff’s eagle be 3D scanned and that a facsimile be produced at the appropriate scale using digital fabrication. This eagle could be of reinforced fiberglass or another material. It should be gilded or painted with an exterior-grade gold paint providing a realistic gilt effect and should be installed atop the cast iron ball. Refer to Preservation Brief 16: The Use of Substitute Materials on Historic Building Exteriors https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/16-substitute-materials.htm

- Relocate 1938 DAR stone and plaque and modern interpretive signage to a visible location outside the front (northeast) side of the restored enclosure. Clean bronze plaque, replace ferrous metal screws with stainless steel screws, replace missing rosette covers at screw fasteners. Update modern interpretive sign to incorporate the monument’s historical and architectural significance and information on the restoration.

### Additional Future Research to support Restoration

**Work by NPS staff:**

- Place a public appeal for historic photographs and lost components in the Gaffney and Spartanburg media and on social media
- Coordinate with the Washington Light Infantry (WLI) on an appeal for historic photographs and lost components in the Charleston area among past and present WLI members and their families
- Search for early photographs in the possession of the South Carolina DAR, Daniel Morgan and Battle of Cowpens Chapters of the DAR, and local institutions

**Scholarly research by a team of historic preservation professionals and architectural historians:**

- Locate image of Edward Brickell White’s rendering published in the Charleston Courier on April 17, 1856
- Research Spartanburg donors and potential connections to the Mount Vernon Ladies Association and other early historic preservation efforts
  - Consultation with Lydia Mattice Brandt, Associate Professor in the School of Visual Art and Design at the University of South Carolina, and Ann Bay, who is writing a biography of Ann Pamela Cunningham, found no connection between the known Spartanburg donors and the Mount Vernon Ladies Association.173
- Survey Edward Brickell White-designed buildings and monuments and William T. White-carved monuments of the 1850s in Charleston for comparison with the WLIM’s inscriptions and to provide precedents for restoration of the marble cap inscriptions

**Physical investigations by a team of historic preservation professionals:**

- Conduct archaeological investigation to locate footings of the 1857 fence, potential evidence of lost features, and potential

---

Evidence from the 1856 encampment
- Conduct concrete analysis to determine the composition of the pedestal, confirm its composition, and determine a compatible patching formula
- Conduct historic finish analysis
  - on cast iron (base, several points on column, capital, ball, and the eagle if it can be found; disassembly of the cast iron may be necessary to find a sample of early finishes)
  - on cast iron fence (to compare with the monument)

Alternative Treatments
One considered alternative for treatment would be for the Washington Light Infantry Monument to receive a Preservation treatment, maintaining its current appearance. The monument would be maintained largely as it has appeared since the mid-1930s, maintaining the alterations from the 1979-1980 and 1993 repair projects. This treatment would include far less work than a restoration to the period of significance but would also severely limit visitors' ability to understand the monument’s historic appearance and its significance as an early Revolutionary War battlefield monument.

The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties defines Preservation as follows:

**Preservation** is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction... The Standards for Preservation require retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric along with the building’s historic form.

A preservation treatment would not preclude the research and investigation leading to an ultimate restoration treatment. For this reason, a preservation treatment could serve as an intermediate level of treatment to stabilize and maintain the resource in its existing condition until research and investigation are completed and funding can be secured for a restoration treatment.

A preservation treatment should include:
1. Remove plant growth, leaves, and other debris from gravel within fence. Avoid the use of chemical pesticides or leaf blowers, which may damage historic materials. Assume major cleanups in spring and fall with monthly monitoring the rest of the year.
2. Regularly monitor and remove small trees and invasive woody plants that sprout within ten feet of monument enclosure.
3. Avoid the use of outdoor power maintenance equipment (such as the “weed-eater”) near stone, concrete, or metal components. Refer to Preservation Brief 48: Preserving Grave Markers in Historic Cemeteries [https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/48-preserving-grave-markers.htm](https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/48-preserving-grave-markers.htm)
4. Regularly monitor masonry and locate missing stones or bricks. Store dislodged material in safe location for later repairs.
5. Provide selective patches to the 1993 stucco finish at areas where the underlying green fiberglass reinforcing mesh is now exposed.
6. Repaint existing cast iron using a rust-inhibiting paint finish. Avoid complete removal of existing finishes until historic finish analysis can be completed.
7. Remove corrosion from ferrous metal screws on 1938 DAR plaque. Apply oil to these screw heads at least twice per year to inhibit future corrosion.
8. Selectively remove areas of corrosion and touch-up paint on iron fence. Monitor fence for new corrosion or damage and anticipate selective maintenance once per year.

Resilience to Natural Hazards
The Washington Light Infantry Monument is susceptible to threats associated with climate variability and environmental pollution. The monument’s location appears to be less vulnerable to flooding but may be affected by rising temperatures, changes in precipitation patterns, acid rain, and increased frequency of severe weather. Specific threats include increased
crystallization of efflorescent salts due to increased evaporation rates, sulfur dioxide deposits corroding concrete and metal components, wind damage and weathering, damage from potential future wildfires, and added stress from sudden thermal change.\textsuperscript{174}

Cultural resources including historic buildings “are fixed in place or derive much of their significance from the place within which they were created. Many are non-living, and all are unique. As a result, the capacity of cultural resources to adapt to changing environments is limited.”\textsuperscript{175}

As stated in the Director’s Policy Memorandum 14-02, “NPS cultural resource management must keep in mind that (1) cultural resources are primary sources of data regarding human interactions with climate change; and (2) changing climates affect the preservation and maintenance of cultural resources.”\textsuperscript{176}

An increase in temperature can lead to the “increased crystallization of efflorescent salts due to increased evaporation rates, leading to increased rates of structural cracking and deterioration.”\textsuperscript{177}

Higher relative humidity, resulting from higher temperatures, would increase the moisture absorption rates for brick and porous stone. This increased moisture absorption would result in the decrease of crystallization and dissolution of salts within the masonry. The increased moisture would also increase the rates of growth of vegetation on masonry surfaces and increase the rate of corrosion of ferrous metal features.\textsuperscript{178}

A decrease in precipitation may be expected to increase the levels of salt deposits that collect on the surfaces of masonry and porous stone. These salt deposits would then be infiltrated into the porous stone during a rain event. This cycle would cause spalling and fractures in the material.

An increase in heavy rain events would stress the monument’s ability to shed water, allowing water to find cracks and crevices into the interior of the pedestal and shaft. The infiltration of water into the interior will result in increased pressure on the masonry. The extreme rain events will result in accelerated decay of masonry due to increased extremes of wetting and drying. The extreme cycle of wetting and drying will also increase the deposition and the eventual infiltration of salts into the porous material of the structure.

Carbon dioxide, sulfur oxide, and nitrogen oxide from fossil-fuel-based power generation, automobile exhaust, and industrial pollution cause acid rain, which has been widely documented as a cause of deterioration of historic buildings and monuments, particularly stone and concrete materials and metals. Threats associated with extreme weather events include damage from wind, rain, and wind-borne debris.

**Implications – Adapting to Natural Hazards and increase Climate Variability**

According to NPS documents, impacts to buildings and structures related to temperature and drought extremes include: deterioration, conflagration, and desiccation.\textsuperscript{179} A loss of resource integrity may occur over time from conditions related to climate variability and its impacts. Typically, documentation is one of the first mitigation techniques undertaken in response to deterioration. This document, which includes narrative, photographs, measured drawings, and recommendations, fulfills this first step in the mitigation process.

This resource exhibits signs of previous deterioration and recommendations for repair are included in this document. The treatment recommendations also address many of the threats inherent from climate variability. The ultimate restoration treatment would be designed to present a more stable exterior better able to withstand these pressures than the monument’s present condition.


\textsuperscript{176} John B. Jarvis, February 10, 2014, 2.

\textsuperscript{177} Rockman, *Cultural Resource Climate Change Strategy*, 20.

\textsuperscript{178} Ibid.

Page intentionally left blank.
Bibliography

“The Absent-Minded D. A. R.” Laurens Advertiser (Laurens, South Carolina), 21 February 1906.

“Acre of Land is Given Back.” Cherokee Times (Gaffney, South Carolina), 18 May 1928.

“The Agricultural Fair.” Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 15 October 1857.


“Battleground Monument is Now Being Neglected.” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 31 March 1916.


“Beautiful Design.” Richmond Enquirer (Richmond, Virginia), 22 December 1848.


“By Magnetic Telegraph.” The Baltimore Sun, 18 March 1850.

“Calhoun’s Temple and Statue.” Tri-Weekly Commercial (Wilmington, North Carolina), 17 September 1850.


Charleston Daily News, 10 November 1866.

Charleston Mercury, 18 April 1856.


“Cowpens Ground is Given to Daughters.” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 15 May 1928.

“Cowpens’ Infantry Monument.” Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 7 May 1857.


“Cowpens Monument.” The Abbeville Press & Banner (Abbeville, South Carolina), 2 May 1856.

“Cowpens Monument Bill Introduced.” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 23 August 1919.

“The Cowpens Monument Discussion.” The Cherokee Times (Gaffney, South Carolina), 22 September 1922.

“Cowpens Shaft and Battle Plans.” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 16 October 1926.

“Daniel Morgan Chapter Meets to Arrange Picnic.” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 25 April 1918.


BIBLIOGRAPHY


Easley Messenger (Easley, South Carolina), 27 June 1884.


Edgefield Advertiser (Edgefield, South Carolina), 4 June 1856.


“Fancy Iron Work.” Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 19 February 1857.


“First Cowpens Monument Erected by W.L.I. in 1856.” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 14 June 1932.


Fowler, O. S. A Home For All, or The Gravel Wall and Octagon Mode of Building. New York: Fowler & Wells, 1853.


“High School of Charleston.” Charleston Daily News, 12 October 1865.


“Messrs. Durant & Hamlin.” Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 19 February 1857.

“Monument Railing.” Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 9 April 1857.

“Monument to Col. Washington.” Yorkville Enquirer (York, South Carolina), 18 March 1858.


Racine, Philip N. Living a Big War in a Small Place. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2013.

“Raise the Flag on Field of Cowpens.” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 14 June 1917.


“A Visit to Cowpens.” Lancaster News (Lancaster, South Carolina), 22 April 1857.


“The Washington Light Infantry.” Carolina Spartan (Spartanburg, South Carolina), 24 April 1856.


“York People Will Attend Unveiling.” Gaffney Ledger (Gaffney, South Carolina), 11 June 1932.

Yorkville Enquirer (York, South Carolina), 25 April 1919.
Appendix

Period Plans

A1  Restored Elevation of Northeast Front of Monument, 1856
A2  Elevations of Northeast Front of Monument, 1919-2016
A3  Possible Appearance of Washington Light Infantry Monument Railing in 1857 Assuming 1930s Fence Contains Parts of 1857 Railing (Option A)
A4  Possible Appearance of Washington Light Infantry Monument and Railing in 1857 Assuming 1930s Fence Contains Parts of 1857 Railing (Option B)
A5  Possible Appearance of Washington Light Infantry Monument and Railing in 1857 Assuming 1930s Fence Contains Parts of 1857 Railing (Option C)
A6  Elevations of Stone Wall and Iron Fence, 1936 (A)
A7  Elevations of Stone Wall and Iron Fence - Southeast, 1936

Existing Documentation

B1  Elevations of Stone Wall and Iron Fence, 2017 (A)
B2  Elevations of Stone Wall and Iron Fence, 2017 (B)

Site Plans

B3  Washington Light Infantry Monument, 2017
RESTORED ELEVATION OF NORTHEAST FRONT OF MONUMENT, 1856

BASIS ENGRAVING

SCALE IN FEET

PLAN
ELEVATIONS OF NORTHEAST FRONT OF MONUMENT, 1919–2016

SCALE IN FEET

±3'-1"
Page intentionally left blank
ELEVATIONS OF STONE WALL AND IRON FENCE, 2017

SCALE IN FEET

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

NORTHEAST ELEVATION
Page intentionally left blank
ELEVATIONS OF STONE WALL AND IRON FENCE, 1936 [SEE FIGURE 27]

SCALE IN FEET

CAST IRON
MARBLE
STUCCO

IRON FENCE
STONE WALL

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

NORTHEAST ELEVATION
Page intentionally left blank
ELEVATIONS OF STONE WALL AND IRON FENCE, 1936 [SEE FIGURE 27]
Page intentionally left blank
POSSIBLE APPEARANCE OF WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY MONUMENT AND RAILING IN 1857
ASSUMING 1930S FENCE CONTAINS PARTS OF 1857 RAILING

SCALE IN FEET
Page intentionally left blank
POSSIBLE APPEARANCE OF WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY MONUMENT AND RAILING IN 1857
ASSUMING 1930s FENCE CONTAINS PARTS OF 1857 RAILING

SCALE IN FEET
POSSIBLE APPEARANCE OF WASHINGTON LIGHT INFANTRY MONUMENT AND RAILING IN 1857 ASSUMING 1930s FENCE CONTAINS PARTS OF 1857 RAILING

SCALE IN FEET
Page intentionally left blank
Cowpens National Battlefield
338 New Pleasant Road
Gaffney, SC 29341

www.nps.gov/cowp