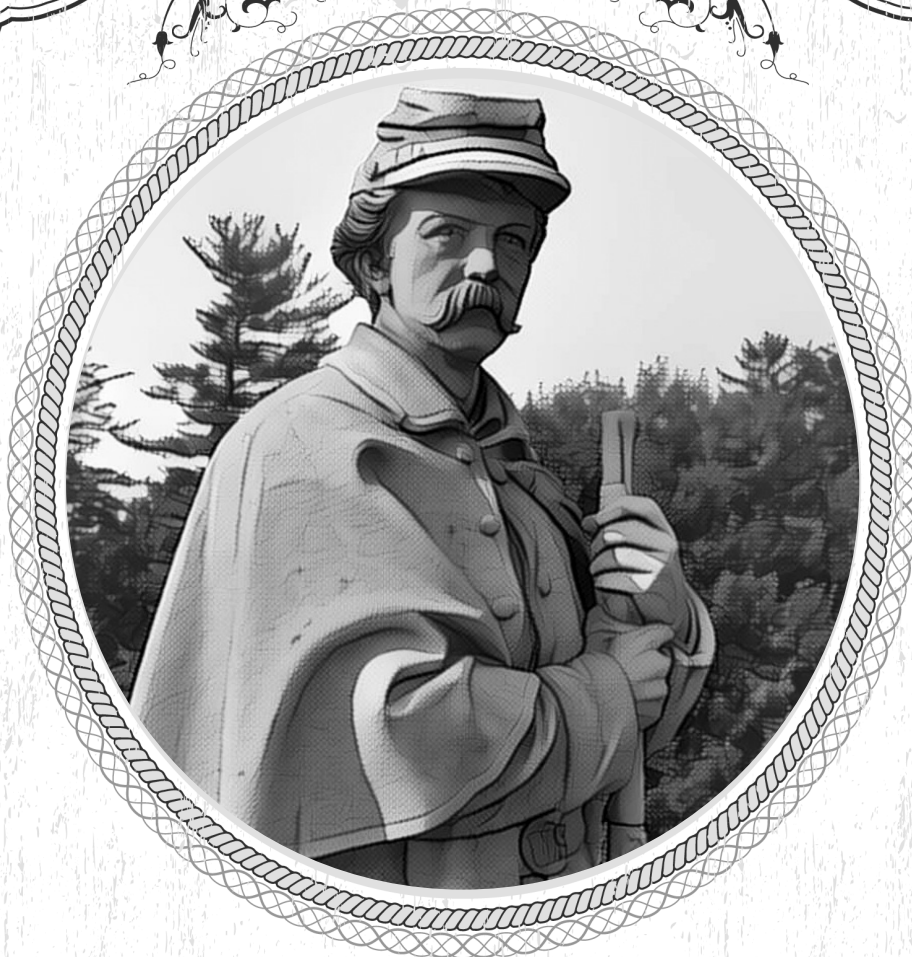


Antietam National Battlefield

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



ANTIEETAM
National Cemetery
at SHARPSBURG, MARYLAND.

Junior Ranger Program



Welcome to Antietam National Cemetery.

To earn your Junior Ranger badge and certificate, please complete at least four activities in this booklet and return it to the rangers or volunteers who work in the visitor center or cemetery. Please remember to be respectful while you visit the National Cemetery.

Activities begin on page 5. The level of difficulty for each is rated one through three stars, with one being the easiest.

Discover the Secrets of Sacred Ground

When you enter the iron gates at Antietam National Cemetery, you encounter the most sacred ground on the battlefield. These stone walls protect the graves of 5,000 military men and women who bravely served their country. During the Civil War, some fought and died on the fields that surround you. Others served in faraway lands in later American wars. All were veterans who earned the right—by their service to the United States of America—to be buried in a National Cemetery.

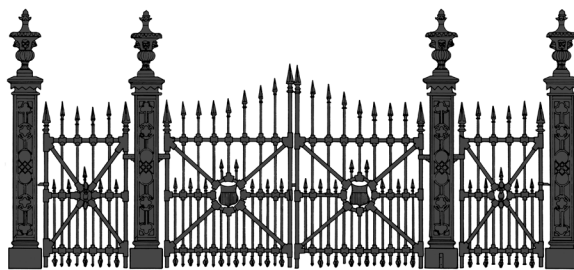
The Battle of Antietam occurred on September 17, 1862. It was the single bloodiest day in American history with approximately 4,000 soldiers killed. At the end of the battle, more than 23,000 people had been killed, injured, or listed as missing. More died of wounds or disease in the following weeks. The peaceful village of Sharpsburg became a

huge hospital and burial ground that extended many miles in all directions. Union soldiers buried the dead. Graves ranged from single burials to long, shallow trenches with hundreds of bodies. Soldiers even buried over 700 bodies on William Roulette's farm, which is still located behind the visitor center. Burial parties used everything from stone piles to wooden crosses and carved boards to mark the many graves.

The state of Maryland purchased the land for this cemetery in 1865. Work then began to locate the temporary graves of the soldiers on the battlefield and reinter (rebury) them in the new cemetery. On September 17, 1867, the fifth anniversary of the battle, the cemetery was ready for dedication. President Andrew Johnson attended the important ceremony.

Today Antietam National Cemetery is one of cemeteries of the National Cemetery Administration, a system started during the Civil War. There are 4,776 Union soldier remains (1,836 or 38 percent are unknown) buried here from the Battle of Antietam, South Mountain, Monocacy, and other actions in Maryland.

More than 250 post-Civil War dead are also buried here. Veterans and their spouses from the Spanish-American War, World War I and II, and the Korean War were buried here until the cemetery closed in 1953. A recent exception allowed the burial of local resident Patrick Howard Roy, a United States Navy fireman. Roy was killed during the attack on his ship, the USS *Cole*, and was buried in Antietam National Cemetery on October 29, 2000.



Meet Some of the Veterans

Sergeant George A. Simpson – Pennsylvania #3953, Company C, 125th Pennsylvania Infantry

Sergeant Simpson is the only soldier buried at Antietam National Cemetery who is also shown on a monument on the battlefield. Simpson was a color sergeant with the 125th PA Infantry. He was mortally wounded while carrying the regiment's flag. His brother, Randolph, was also wounded, but survived to witness the dedication of the regiment's monument on September 17, 1904. Their sister had the honor of unveiling the monument that depicts George holding the colors (regimental flag).

Private Harrison White – Pennsylvania #3751, Company B, 28th Pennsylvania Infantry

Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Private White was Union General George McClellan's cousin. Harrison served with Company B, 28th Pennsylvania Infantry, at the Battle of Antietam, and was near Dunker Church when he was shot. He was carried to a field hospital where he died that night. He was only 19 years old. No one knows if General McClellan visited his cousin at the hospital or if he knew Harrison had been mortally wounded.



Private White

May A. Lundberg - From West Virginia, Buried behind Indiana Section #4469



May Lundberg

May Lundberg is the only female veteran buried in Antietam National Cemetery. She was born in 1876 in Redwood City, California, the daughter of Swedish immigrants. During WWI she served as an officer in the Army Nurse Corps working at the American Hospital of Paris and for Red Cross Hospital in Paris. In the 1920s and 30s, May settled in New York City and continued her career. Records show that she visited France at least eight times as well as 16 other countries including Egypt, Poland, and Norway.

Captain Werner Von Bachele – Officers' Section, Company F, 6th Wisconsin Infantry

The commander of Company F, 6th Wisconsin Volunteers, was killed while leading his men through The Cornfield. His Newfoundland dog was his constant companion and was by his side when he was killed on the morning of the battle. After the battle, the dog was found lying dead upon Von Bachele's body. The dog must have perished guarding the body of his master, and was buried along with Von Bachele. The burial party may have reburied the remains of the dog along with Von Bachele.

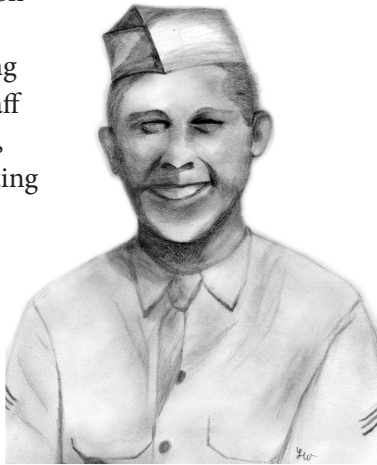
Corporal Mich'l Keefe – New York #786, Company I, 51st New York Infantry

Twenty year old Michael Keefe enlisted (signed up for duty) at Worcester, New York, on October 9, 1861. He started his military service as a corporal in Company I, 51st New York Infantry. At the Battle of Antietam, he was killed when his regiment tried to capture the Lower or Burnside Bridge from Confederate troops.

Meet Some of the Veterans

Maxwell Leo Swain – Maryland - #4446

Swain graduated from Hagerstown High School north of Antietam Battlefield and joined the United States Army just after graduation in 1944. By the time he reached Europe during World War II, he was Staff Sergeant in his regiment, the 423rd Infantry. Fighting on the front lines at the start of the Battle of the Bulge on December 16, 1944, he was killed by machine gun fire. Swain and five others were buried along a road in an unmarked grave. A few years later their grave was discovered and Swain's body was identified only because of an address book given to him by his mother that he had carried into battle. He and the five others were then buried in an American cemetery in Belgium. Finally on June 15th, 1949, Swain's remains arrived at his final resting place here at Antietam National Cemetery. His headstone lies at the end of the row in the front New York section.



Maxwell Swain

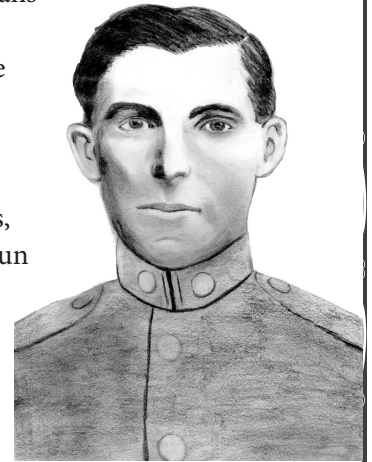
Corporal W. F. Adams – Massachusetts #980 Company F, 15th Massachusetts Infantry

Corporal William Adams started his military service on July 12, 1861. He was mortally wounded at the Battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862. Adams, age 22, died of his wounds at Smoketown Hospital, on November 7, 1862, and is buried in Antietam National Cemetery. William Adams had two brothers who served with the 34th Massachusetts. They both fought in the

Battle of New Market in Virginia on May 15, 1864. His brother George Adams was killed. Their brother John W. Adams was wounded, but survived and returned to West Brookfield, Massachusetts.

Alvey Luther Benner – Maryland #4260

Benner was born in 1900 and worked on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. He enlisted as a private in the American Expeditionary Force that fought in WWI. Over 100,000 Americans were killed and additional 200,000 were wounded while fighting in Europe. Alvey was killed on October 12, 1918, at only 18 years old, among the trenches, bunkers, barbed wire, and machine gun fire of that brutal war. He was initially buried in France, but Alvey's remains returned home to Antietam in 1921.



Alvey Benner

Patrick Howard Roy (located behind the Maine section near tree)

Killed by terrorists in October, 2000 while serving aboard the Navy ship USS *Cole*, Patrick grew up in Keedysville, Maryland, just a few miles away. Although the cemetery closed in 1953, Roy's family was given special permission to bury him here. He was only 19 years old.

Activity 1
(recommended for younger ages)

★
Cemetery Exploration

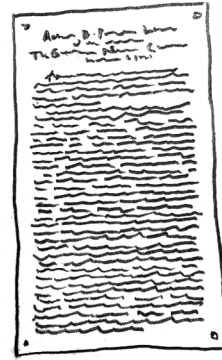
Instructions: Be on the lookout for the items below.
Circle three in a row to complete the activity, but try to find all nine!



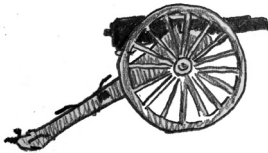
Cemetery Sign



Big Pine Tree



Gettysburg Address



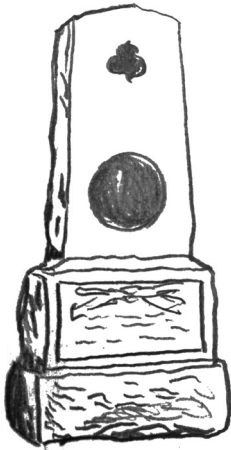
Cannon



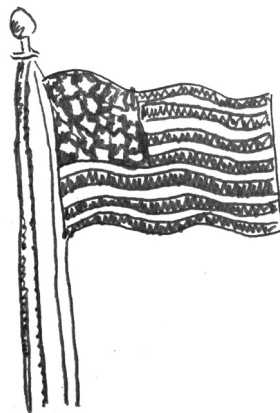
Gold Shield



Iron Tablet



Monument



Flag



Soldier Tombstone

Activity 2



Where Are These Soldiers From?

The United States of America included 34 states when the Civil War started. After decades of struggle over the question of slavery, 11 states seceded, or broke away from, the Union government to form the Confederate States of America. The war began in April 1861 when Confederates fired on Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina. Fifteen months later, 23,000 soldiers were killed and wounded at Antietam.

Only Union soldiers are buried here at the cemetery.

Instructions: Using the list of states on the cemetery map inside the gate, circle those states on the map below. These are the states where the soldiers buried here were from.

Special Note: This map shows the nation at the time of the September 1862 battle. The state of West Virginia was not created yet, so you may write that label. West Virginia became a state on June 20, 1863, when the western part of Virginia seceded and formed a new Union state.

Bonus Question: How many stars appeared on the Union flag at Antietam in 1862?

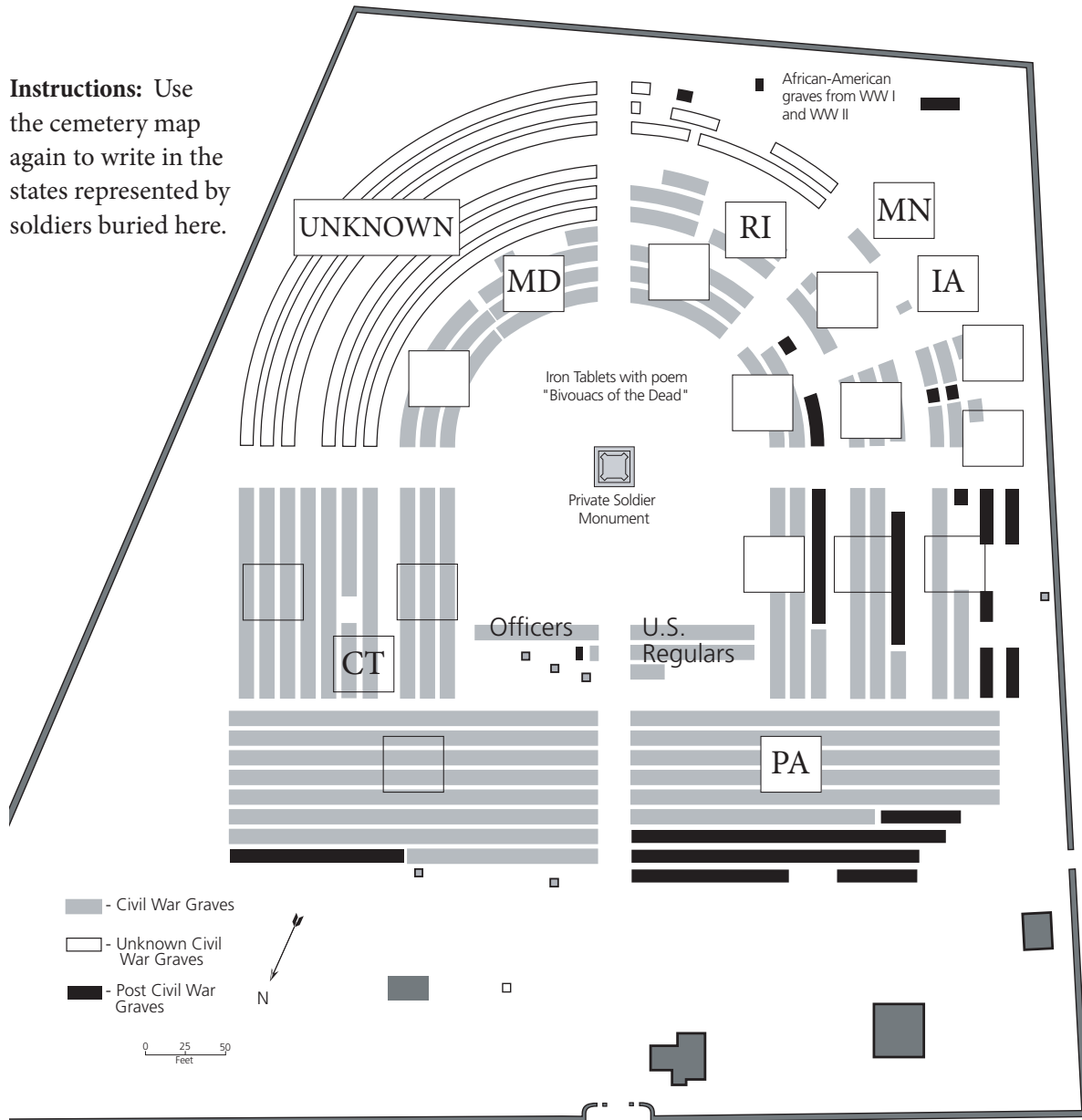


Activity 3



Antietam National Cemetery Map

Instructions: Use the cemetery map again to write in the states represented by soldiers buried here.



CT - Connecticut
DE - Delaware
IL - Illinois
IN - Indiana
IA - Iowa
ME - Maine

MA - Massachusetts
MD - Maryland
MI - Michigan
MN - Minnesota
NH - New Hampshire
NJ - New Jersey
NY - New York

OH - Ohio
PA - Pennsylvania
RI - Rhode Island
VT - Vermont
WI - Wisconsin
WV - West Virginia

Activity 4



Where are the Confederate Soldiers?

Only Union dead are buried in Antietam National Cemetery. Confederate remains were reburied in Washington Confederate Cemetery in Hagerstown, Maryland; Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Frederick, Maryland; and Elmwood Cemetery in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. Approximately 2,800 Confederates are buried in these three cemeteries –over 60 percent of whom are unknown.

Instructions: List two reasons why you think the Confederate soldiers were buried elsewhere?

1)

2)

Bonus Question: Why do you think that 60 percent of the Confederate soldiers are unknown and 38 percent of the Union soldiers are unknown?



Activity 5



The Gettysburg Address

On the morning of November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln talked to a crowd of over 15,000 people at the dedication ceremony for another National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He spoke for less than two minutes, and the

entire address was only 272 words long, but it is now known as one of the greatest speeches in American history. The words to the speech are found on the lodge building to the right as you enter the cemetery.

Instructions: Fill in the missing words below.

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in _____, and dedicated to the proposition that _____.

Now we are engaged in a _____, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great _____ of that war. We have come to

dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here _____

that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense,

we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The _____,

living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract.

The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can _____ what

they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they

who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here _____ to the great

task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause

for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead

shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of _____—and

that _____, _____, _____,

shall not perish from the earth.

Activity 6

★★★

Timeline

Antietam National Cemetery has witnessed 150 years of history including the burial of soldiers from many American wars.

Instructions: Put the events below in order from oldest (1) to the most recent (12).

- _____ World War I, 1914-1918
- _____ The Army of Northern Virginia surrendered at Appomattox Court House, Virginia signalling the end of the Civil War, April 9, 1865
- _____ Spanish-American War, 1898
- 1** _____ April 12, 1861, Confederate artillery opened fire on Union forces at Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, starting four years of Civil War, April 9, 1865.
- _____ Battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862
- _____ November 1, 1864, Enslaved persons in Maryland were freed when the Maryland General Assembly wrote a new state constitution that made slavery illegal.
- _____ An exception to the closure of the cemetery was made for the burial of Navy sailor Patrick Howard Roy who was killed on the U.S.S. *Cole*, October 12, 2000.
- _____ World War II, 1941-1945
- _____ Five days after the Battle of Antietam, President Abraham Lincoln signed the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation. On January 1, 1863 “all persons held as slaves” within the rebellious states “are, and henceforward shall be free.”
- _____ My visit to the Antietam National Cemetery
- _____ Antietam National Cemetery was dedicated on the fifth anniversary of the battle in 1867.
- _____ Korean War, 1950-1953

This old cemetery
has seen a lot!



Activity 7



The Private Soldier Monument

The granite monument in the center of the cemetery stands over 44 feet high, weighs 250 tons, and is made up of 27 pieces. The soldier on top is over 21 feet tall. Two pieces joined at the waist make up the soldier statue, which represents a Union infantryman (a soldier on foot) facing north.

The monument cost \$32,000 and was dedicated on September 17, 1880. The soldier statue's journey was delayed for several months when the section from the waist up fell into the Potomac River at Washington, DC. When retrieved, it was moved by barge on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and then dragged using large wooden rollers through Sharpsburg to the cemetery.

Instructions: Complete the following three tasks.

- 1) The writing on the monument reads:

- 2) Why do you think the soldier is facing north?

- 3) The statue cost \$32,000 in 1880. Because of increasing costs over time, a dollar in 1880 would be worth about 22 dollars today. How much would it cost to build the statue now?
(Hint: Multiply 32,000 by 22)



★ ★

Find a soldier that you have met in this booklet or choose another on your own. Use the map to help find the location of graves by state (except for regular army veterans and officers—they have separate sections). The grave stones are numbered within each section. On Civil War era gravestones, the writing will face in, towards the Private Soldier Monument. On post-Civil War graves, the writing will face out, towards the stone walls of the cemetery.

1) Mark the soldier's name on the cemetery map.

3) Use this space to write a letter to the soldier.

[illegible]

Activity 9



Unknown Soldiers

Of the 4,776 Union graves at Antietam National Cemetery, 1,836 or 38 percent of the dead remain unidentified. All of the unknown soldiers are marked with small square stones. These stones contain the grave number, and if you look closely on a few stones, a small second number represents how many unknown dead are buried in that grave. A few larger, traditional stones (mostly in the state sections) also mark unknown soldiers' graves.

Bodies can now be identified in many ways. Low-tech methods include visual identification or checking a driver's license. High-tech approaches include DNA analysis and dental record comparison.

Instructions: List three ways to identify soldiers who were killed at the Battle of Antietam

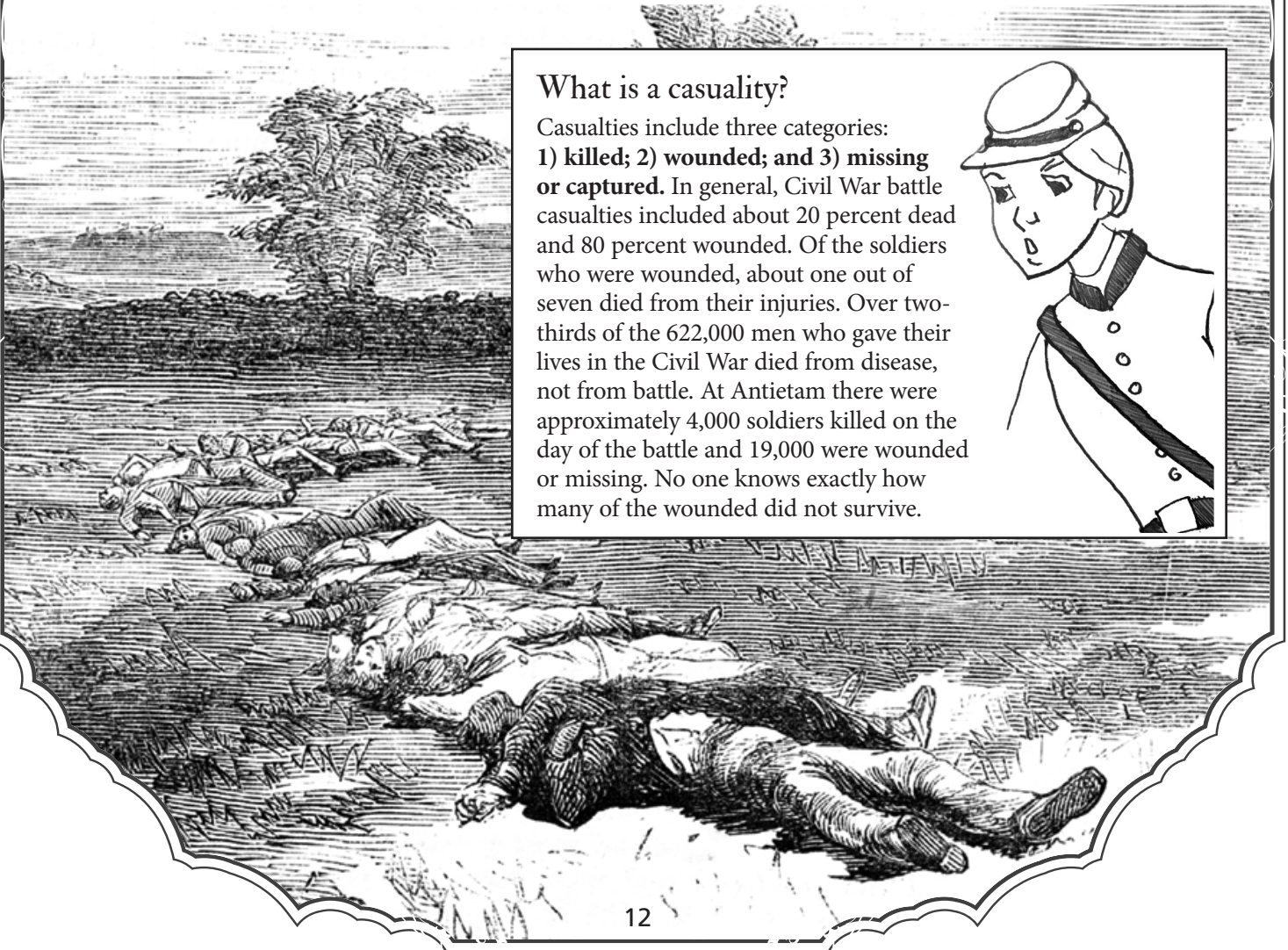
- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Bonus question: Why are some unknown graves in specific state sections? For example, how would you know to bury an unknown soldier in the Pennsylvania or New York section?

What is a casualty?

Casualties include three categories:

1) killed; 2) wounded; and 3) missing or captured. In general, Civil War battle casualties included about 20 percent dead and 80 percent wounded. Of the soldiers who were wounded, about one out of seven died from their injuries. Over two-thirds of the 622,000 men who gave their lives in the Civil War died from disease, not from battle. At Antietam there were approximately 4,000 soldiers killed on the day of the battle and 19,000 were wounded or missing. No one knows exactly how many of the wounded did not survive.



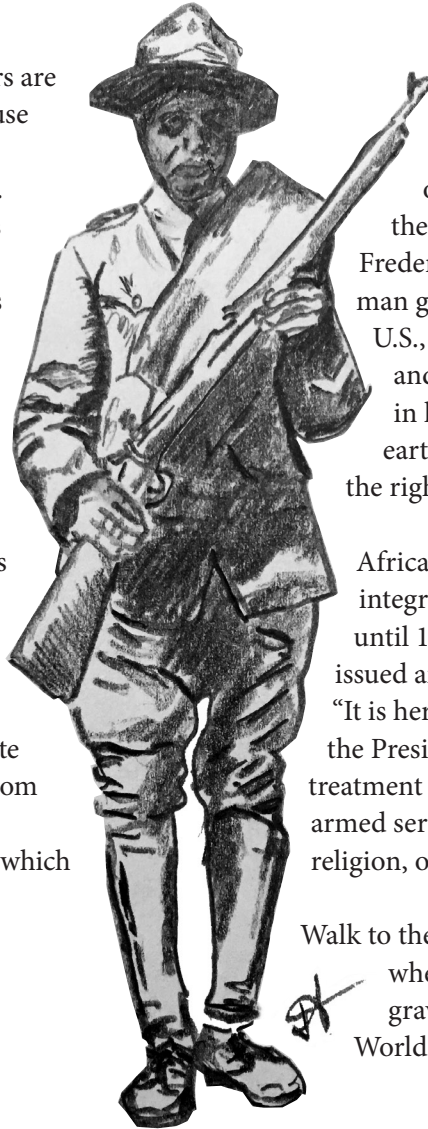
Activity 10

★★★

“An Eagle on His Button”

No African American Civil War soldiers are buried in this National Cemetery because the Battle of Antietam occurred before they could join the United States Army. On January 1, 1863, President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation officially made it possible for African Americans to participate in the war. By the end of the war, approximately 180,000 African American soldiers had joined the fight.

Duty was hard for all Civil War soldiers, but for African American soldiers, it was even more difficult because of racism. They had signed up to fight, but many were tasked with cooking, building forts, or tending livestock. African Americans were even paid less than white soldiers—only \$10 dollars per month, from which \$3 was taken for clothing. White soldiers were paid \$13 per month, from which no clothing charge was kept back.



In spite of the extraordinary hardships, African American soldiers served with honor and stood out in many battles. Of their service to the nation, African American statesman Frederick Douglass said, “Once let the black man get upon his person the brass letters U.S., let him get an eagle on his button, and a musket on his shoulder and bullets in his pockets, and there is no power on earth which can deny that he has earned the right of citizenship in the United States.”

African American soldiers were not fully integrated into the United States military until 1948 when President Harry S. Truman issued an executive order which stated, “It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin.”

Walk to the back-right corner of the cemetery where you will notice a few separate graves of African American soldiers from World War I and World War II.

Instructions: Answer the following questions.

- 1) Why do you think these graves are in this far corner of the cemetery?
- 2) Do you think it is right that they are here?

Activity 11

(recommended for younger ages)

A Soldier's Journey

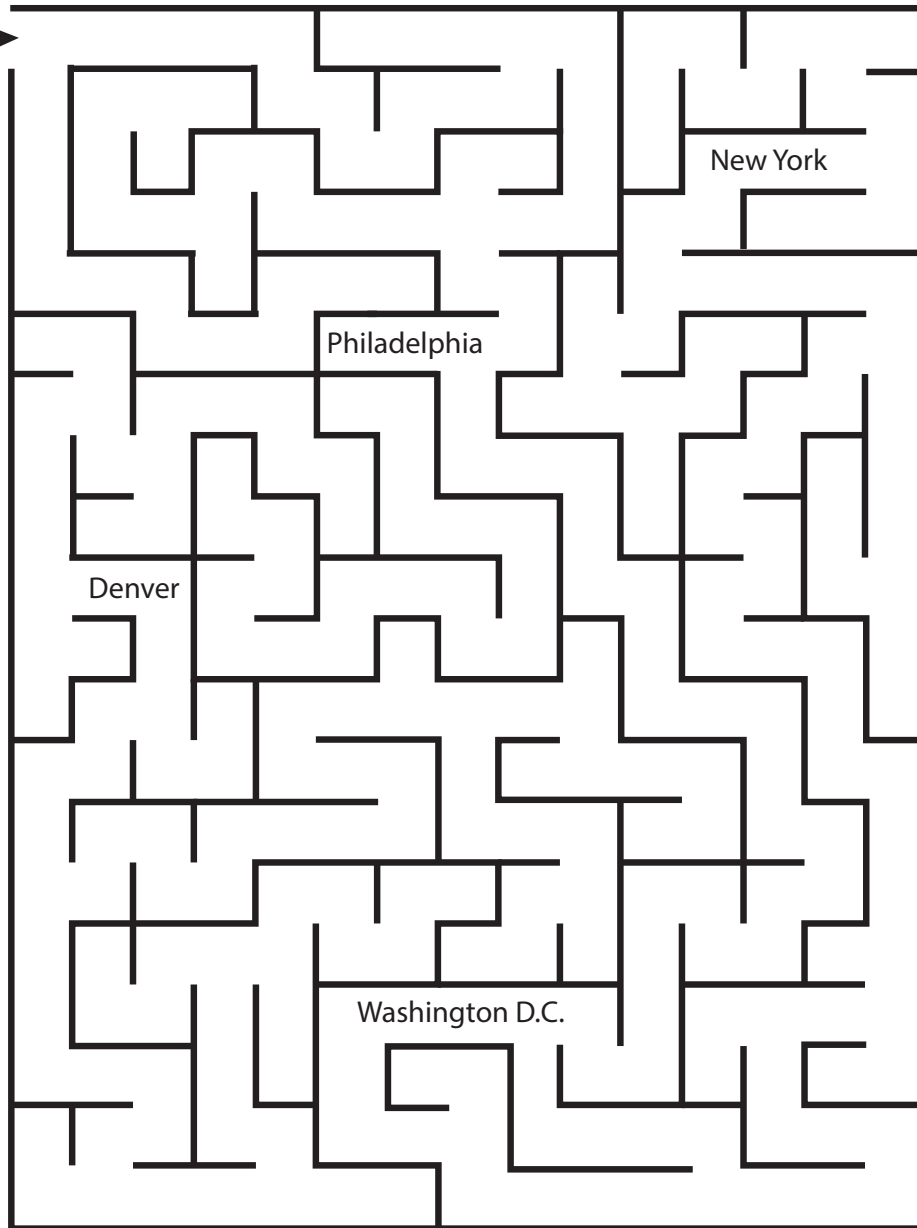
The Private Soldier Monument in the center of the cemetery had a remarkable journey. Carved in Rhode Island by James Pollette, the statue was moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1876

for the Centennial Exposition. It was taken apart and moved to Washington, DC. Then the statue traveled up the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to Sharpsburg and was placed here in 1880.

Instructions: Help the Private Soldier travel through the maze to get to the cemetery.



Westerly,
Rhode
Island



Pick your
path wisely!

Antietam
National
Cemetery

