ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

Lest We Forget: Memorial Art and Architecture on Civil War Battlefields

By Michael W. Panhorst, Ph.D.

Resources

If you can read only one book

Author	Title. City: Publisher, Year.
Panhorst, Michael W.	The Memorial Art and Architecture of
	Vicksburg National Military Park. Kent, OH:
	Kent State University Press, 2015.

Books and Articles

Author	Title. City: Publisher, Year. "Title," in
	Journal ##, no. # (Date): #.
Abernathy, Alonzo, comp.	Dedication of Monuments Erected by the
-	State of Iowa Commemorating the Death,
	Suffering, and Valor of Her Soldiers on the
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	Missionary Ridge, Shiloh, and in the
	Confederate Prison at Andersonville. Des
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Adams, Adeline	The Spirit of American Sculpture. New York:
	National Sculpture Society, 1929.
Brown, Daniel A.	Marked for Future Generations: The Hazen
	Brigade Monument. Murfreesboro, TN:
	Stones River National Battlefield, 1985.
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	Fiftieth Anniversary of the Battle of
-	Gettysburg; Report of the Pennsylvania
	Commission, December 31, 1913.
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Shiloh National Park (Charleston, SC: The

History Press, 2012).

Savage, Kirk	Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves: Race,
Savage, Mik	War, and Monument in Nineteenth-Century
	America. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University
	Press, 1997.
Toft I and a	,
Taft, Lorado	The History of American Sculpture. New
C 11 D' 1 1W/ /	York: The Macmillan Co., 1903.
Sellars, Richard West	Pilgrim Places: Civil War Battlefields,
	Historic Preservation, and America's First
	National Military Parks, 1893–1900. Ft.
	Washington, PA: Eastern National, 2005.
Sloan, Katharine A., and Helen S.	Vicksburg: A Photographic Journey with
Schwartz	Voices from the Past. Langhorne, PA:
	Artistry in Photography 2008.
Smith, Timothy B.	The Golden Age of Civil War Battlefield
	Preservation: The Decade of the 1890s and
	the Establishment of America's First Five
	Military Parks. Knoxville: University of
	Tennessee Press, 2008.
,	A Chickamauga Memorial: The
	Establishment of America's First Civil War
	National Military Park. Knoxville:
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Vanderslice, John M.	Gettysburg: A History of the Gettysburg
	Battle-Field Memorial Association.
	Philadelphia, PA: Gettysburg Battle-Field
	Memorial Association, 1897.
Veteran Organization of the Fifth New	Dedication Services at the Unveiling of the
York Volunteers	Bronze Statue of MajGen. G. K. Warren at
	Little Round Top, Gettysburg, Pa., August 8,
	1888 (Brooklyn: Press of Brooklyn Daily
	Eagle Book Printing Department, 1888).

Organizations

Web Resources

URL	Name and description
http://sirismm.si.edu/siris/aboutari.htm	Inventory of American Sculpture at the
	Smithsonian Institution is an on-line
	database cataloguing American sculpture in
	public and private hands.
www.casualclicks.com	This website documents the creation of the
	monument to the Ninth Regiment
http://www.casualclicks.com/vicksburg_de	Connecticut Volunteers at Vicksburg, which
dication.html	was dedicated in 2008.

Other Sources

Scholars

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Michael W. Panhorst	panhorst@hotmail.com
Timothy B. Smith	tims@utm.edu

Précis

Even as the Civil War raged, soldiers began erecting monuments where they fought and buried the dead. Monuments raised before the 25th anniversary of the war were funereal in character. Those raised between the 25th and 50th anniversaries memorialized the fallen as well as the survivors on the ground where they displayed their courage, and a few reflect the sectional reconciliation that was occurring nationwide—fostered in part by the formation of national military parks and joint veteran reunions held on the fields. However, the skin color of all of those commemorated was white. The first battlefield monument to African Americans was erected at Vicksburg in 2004. By the dedication of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial at Gettysburg in 1938, most of the white Union troops who had served on the major battlefields had been commemorated with markers or monuments, and the popular perception of the war had evolved to one that recognized it not as the culmination of the nation's division over slavery or states' rights, but the cauldron in which the nation was reunited for all time. Twenty-five years later, during the Centennial of the war several southern states finally found the incentive and funding to build memorials to their sons who had earlier fought the federal government in a lost cause. On the eve of the sesquicentennial, a few memorials were placed for individuals and groups whose service had not been properly commemorated in the past. The common thread that ties together

these thousands of Union and Confederate memorials erected over the course of 150 years is the concept of site-specific commemoration. The art and architecture of Civil War battlefield monuments memorialize the courage and sacrifice of soldiers and the resultant reunification of the nation on the ground where these soldiers fought and died for their respective ideals of freedom. Many provide vivid images that illustrate as well as commemorate the heroism. Some personify cultural ideals such as War, Peace, Liberty, Patriotism, Fame, Victory, Duty, Diligence, Fortitude, Reconciliation, and History itself. All the monuments were designed, constructed, and dedicated "Lest We Forget" the soldiers and the consequences of their courage.
