



# Rebel Underground

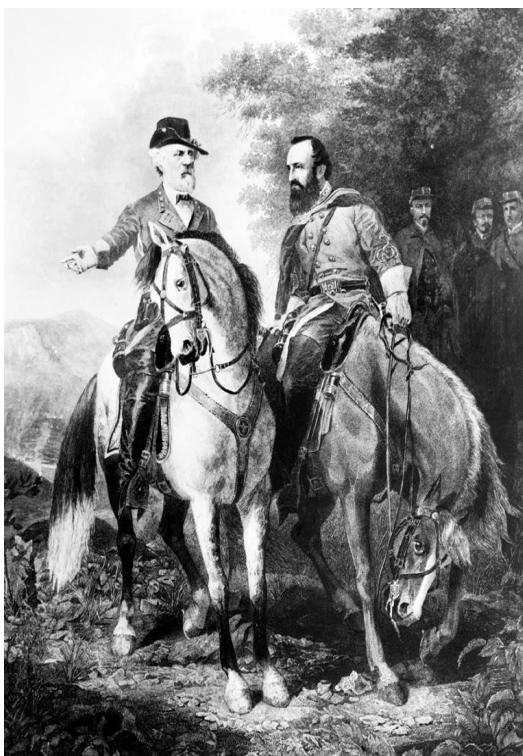
Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Major John C. Hutto Camp #443  
Jasper, Alabama

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The Major John C. Hutto Camp honored General Robert E. Lee & General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson during our January Meeting.

**Major John C. Hutto Camp**

**February Meeting Notice**

**Sunday, 19 February 2017 - 2:30 pm**

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Jasper Mayor the Honorable David O'Mary will be our speaker for February. Have your heritage and history questions ready to ask our newly elected Mayor.

Check out the color version of February's Hutto Camp Newsletter online at:  
<http://www.huttocamp.com/news>

The Model 1841 Mississippi Rifle is considered by many to be one of the handsomest rifles ever issued to U.S. troops. It was also one heck of a shooter.



## **The Model 1841 “Mississippi Rifle”**

The Model 1841 rifle was used during the War of Northern Aggression by both Union & Confederate soldiers. The Model 1841 Mississippi Rifle is considered by many to be one of the handsomest rifles ever issued to troops. It was also a heck of a shooter.

When America began to manufacture its own weaponry, muskets were at the top of the list, though rifle corps were also recognized as being important supplements to

regular troops. Accordingly, beginning with the Model 1803 Harpers Ferry flintlock, U.S. ordnance types produced a selection of rifled arms for what were then considered elite

units.

Most of these arms were tip-notch examples of weaponry, but in 1846, Harpers Ferry began building a superb .54 cap-lock that topped all the rest. Officially termed “U.S. Percussion Rifle, Model 1841,” before the war, it was truly a handsome piece. Like most military rifles of the period, the ‘41 was considerably lighter and shorter than a standard infantry musket. Many modern-day enthusiasts consider this arm to be among the most beautiful ever to be issued to troops.

Because of the ‘41's resemblance to a Germanic-styled arm, the 1841 was often called Yaeger, but it was during the Mexican War, (1846-1848) when spirited employment in the hands of Col. Jefferson Davis’ Mississippi riflemen at the battle of Buena Vista presented the piece with its most common nickname, Mississippi Rifle. By the bye, Davis would later become a senator from Mississippi, Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce, and ultimately President of the Confederate States.

Highly accurate and well balanced, these guns were sold to some soldiers after the Mexican War for their cost of \$14.50. Later as Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce,, Jefferson Davis had many of these guns rifled to a standard .58 caliber and fitted for a bayonet in various configurations.

As noted above, initial construction of the 1841 was at the Harpers Ferry Armory, but demand for the piece was such that contracts were let out to other private makers. One of these individuals was John Griffiths, who

later sold his machinery and tooling to Eliphalet Remington who secured a contract with the military to build 500 rifles at a cost of \$13 each.

On the night of October 16, 1859 John Brown and his Raiders invaded the armory at Harpers Ferry where the “Mississippi Rifle” was under production, and approximately 100,000 of the rifles were stored. *Midnight Rising, John Brown and the Raid that Sparked the Civil War*, pg 131.

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Milwaukee Yankee Old Soldier's Home - Old Main Building built in 1866, and partially financed by Southern taxes.



Inside the spacious Theater on the grounds of the Milwaukee Old Soldier's Home

A month before his assassination, President Lincoln signed legislation to create a national system of homes for disabled Yankee veterans. Established in 1867, the Milwaukee Soldiers Home is one of the three original Soldiers Homes in the country, with some of the oldest buildings in the VA system. It is the only Soldiers Home that retains the majority of its recuperative village and designed landscape.

The buildings and landscape were asylums – places of refuge and healing – aiding Yankee veterans' recuperation and easing their transition back into society. In 1867 no such place existed for Confederate Veterans. Each southern state provided for its veterans the best they could without any federal assistance, including paying any pension the veterans were entitled to, and provided a place

to live out their last days,.

There are about 48 historic resources and 90-plus acres of designed landscape at the Milwaukee Soldiers Home. The district was designed to create the appearance and feeling of a village and includes a post office, library, recreation hall, theater, chapel and recreation areas.

The Milwaukee Soldiers Home was later transferred to the Veterans Administration and continues today as a hospital and national cemetery for all veterans. Notice the extensive architectural design of the buildings and imagine the expense to construct these elaborate buildings. Southern taxes built and supported these facilities during Reconstruction.

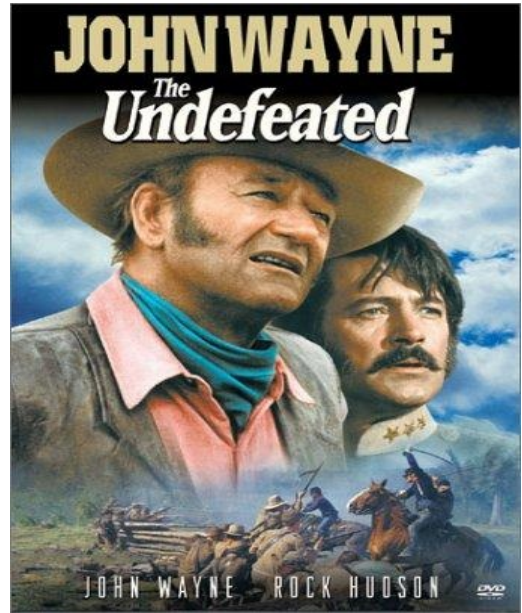
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*The Undefeated* - starring John Wayne - Rock Hudson (1969) - The opening scene shows a Confederate flag. Union Calvary Colonel John Wayne attacks the Confederate Infantry unit with heavy loses on both sides. A courier rides up excitedly telling Wayne the war is over. Wayne looks around at all the dead bodies, and orders a flag of truce to go talk to the Confederate in charge. The Confederates greet the Union soldiers and a conversation ensues.

Confederate soldier, "I be a Sergeant Sir, can I be of any service to you'll?"

Wayne, "I'd like to talk to your commanding officer."

Confederate soldier, "Who be giving orders



today, Jim?"

Confederate Major comes forward.

Wayne, "Major, I just received word that Lee surrendered to Grant three days ago."

Confederate Major, "Yes Sir."

Wayne, "You knew it."

Confederate Major, "We received word yesterday."

Wayne, "I don't think you understand Major. The war is over."

Confederate Major shaking his head, "No Sir."

Wayne, "You telling me that you intend to keep fighting?"

Confederate Major, "Haven't we just proven it, Sir?"

Wayne, "But why?"

Confederate Major, "Because this is our land, and you're on it."





## SLAVERY in MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts was the first slave- holding colony in New England, though the exact beginning of black slavery in what became Massachusetts cannot be dated exactly.

Slavery there is said to have predated the settlement of Massachusetts Bay colony in 1629, and circumstantial evidence gives a date of 1624-1629 for the first slaves.

"Samuel Maverick, apparently New England's first slaveholder, arrived in Massachusetts in 1624 and, according to [John Gorham] Palfrey, owned two Negroes before John Winthrop, who later became governor of the colony, arrived in 1630."

Lorenzo Johnston Greene, *The Negro in Colonial New England, 1620-1776*. N.Y.: Columbia University Press, 1942, p.16.

The first certain reference to African slavery is in connection with the bloody Pequot War in 1637. The Pequot Indians of central Connecticut, pressed hard by encroaching European settlements, struck back and attacked the town of Wetherfield.

A few months later, Massachusetts and Connecticut militias joined forces and raided the Pequot village near Mystic, Connecticut. Of the few Indians who escaped slaughter, the women and children were enslaved in New England, and Roger Williams of Rhode Island wrote to Winthrop congratulating him on God's having placed in his hands "another drove of Adams' degenerate seed." But most of the men and boys, deemed too dangerous to keep in the colony, were transported to the West Indies aboard the ship *Desire*, to be exchanged for African slaves. The *Desire* arrived back in Massachusetts in 1638, after exchanging its cargo, according to Winthrop, loaded with "Salt, cotton, tobacco and Negroes."

"Such exchanges became routine during subsequent Indian wars, for the danger of keeping revengeful warriors in the colony far outweighed the value of their labor."

In 1646, this became the official policy of the New England Colonies. In Massachusetts, the shortage and expense of free, white labor motivated the quest for slaves.

In 1645, Emanuel Downing, brother-in-law of John Winthrop, wrote to him longing for a "juste warre" with the Pequots, so the colonists might capture enough Indian men, women, and children to exchange in Barbados for black slaves, because the colony would never thrive "untill we gett ... a stock of slaves sufficient to doe all our business." Lorenzo Johnston Greene, *The Negro in Colonial New England, 1620-1776*. N.Y.: Columbia University Press, 1942, p.62.

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### **State bill would protect Alabama's historical monuments by Jordan LaPorta**



Confederate memorial in Linn Park  
Birmingham, Alabama

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Out of fear that history is being erased, State Sen. Gerald

Allen (R-Tuscaloosa) plans to introduce the Alabama Memorial Preservation Act in the Senate when the legislative session begins on February 7. If passed, the act would prohibit the removal, renaming, or alteration of any statue, memorial, or monument over fifty years old located on public state, county, and city properties.

“I am concerned about politically-correct efforts to erase entire portions of American history, and oftentimes these efforts to remove a statue or a monument are done in haste and without public knowledge,” Allen said. “I believe our children and grandchildren should remember history as it happened – the good and the bad.”

Dozens of cities across the state contain their own Confederate monuments that were constructed post-reconstruction. Montgomery, for instance, has the Monument to Confederate Soldiers and Sailors on the grounds of the State Capitol. Partially funded with state grants, the monument has stood since 1886, and the person who laid the cornerstone was none other than CSA President Jefferson Davis.

Montgomery is also home to numerous civil rights movement monuments including the Civil Rights Memorial, located on Washington Avenue. The granite display contains the names of 41 people who died during the fight for civil rights.

“I have had numerous discussions with other legislators, historians, and interested citizens, and this version will reflect their input. I am

very confident the Memorial Preservation Act will receive final passage this year,” Allen remarked. “My intent is to preserve memorials to all of Alabama’s history – including the Civil War, the World Wars, and the Civil Rights movement – for generations to come.”

Allen proposed a similar bill last year, but it failed to gain enough support in the Alabama House of Representatives before the session ended.

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Gurganus, John Washington, Jr., a son of John Washington and Sarah (Earnest) Gurganus, was born 27 April 1831, on Indian Creek, near Liberty Hill Church, Walker County. In

early manhood he located on a farm nine miles south of Oakman, where he was a prosperous farmer and a good citizen. On 15 September 1861, he enlisted at Tierce’s Store, on Lost Creek, as a private in Company K, Fiftieth Alabama Infantry, under Captain John C. Hutto, and served until the close of the war. Returning to his

farm the village of Gurganus grew up on his homestead and he served as its postmaster for many years. He was also a justice of the peace, a notary public, and took active part in the Democratic party, and in the support of the Methodist Church. He died on 07 September 1919, and is buried in the Fairview Graveyard. He was married to Melissa Waller, who was born in Hale County, Alabama on 11 April 1833, and died 13 November 1894, and is buried in Fairview Graveyard. *Census of Confederate Soldiers, 1907; Moore’s Alabama, Vol. III, page 139; Gravestones*

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### **Battle of Selma canceled by Blake Deshazo**



Re-enactors won’t take the battlefield in April for the annual Battle of Selma due to the city of Selma’s request for the nonprofit group to pay more than \$22,000 for city services.

News of the event’s cancellation broke

Tuesday night when the Facebook event for the battle was canceled. The April 1865 Society confirmed the event's cancellation in a press release Wednesday.

James Hammonds, president of the society that puts on the event, said the request came from the city at short notice, which gave the society little time to do anything other than cancel the re-enactment. "We only had three months to go when we got this bombshell," Hammonds said Wednesday.

"We're very sorry that it came to this, and we're disappointing a lot of people by doing it. I only hope that the city will show enough support for the battle and maybe enough people with influence on the mayor can go to him and tell him it is actually a good economic thing for the city."

Hammonds said the society has historically had a budget around \$29,000, and the city's request of \$22,054.22 was a 76 percent increase. The letter making the request was dated Jan. 24. The battle was scheduled for April 20-23. The letter, signed by Mayor Darrio Melton's Chief of Staff Ollie Davidson, said, "Thank you for your service request. Unfortunately, due to down economic times the [city] can no longer give in kind services."

The release from the April 1865 Society said the city did not charge them for services in the past.

## HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

Commander . . . . .	James Blackston
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Cmd. . . . .	John Tubbs
2nd Lt. Cmd. . . . .	Jeremy Jackson
Adjutant . . . . .	Trent Harris
Chaplain . . . . .	Barry Cook
Communications. . . . .	Gene Herren
Facebook . . . . .	Brandon Prescott
. . . . .	Jeremy Jackson
Newsletter Editor . . . . .	James Blackston

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