

On a Great Battlefield: The Making, Management, and Memory of the Gettysburg National Military Park, 1933–2013. By JENNIFER M. MURRAY. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2014. 328 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$49.)

Few sites in the United States are more universally considered sacred than the battlefield at Gettysburg. How that ground has been preserved, maintained, and interpreted, however, has not always met with universal approval. In *On a Great Battlefield*, Jennifer M. Murray effectively demonstrates how succeeding generations have shaped the physical appearance of the battlefield park and how the National Park Service has often clashed with local residents and special interest groups in interpreting the battle for its visitors.

Beginning in 1933, when authority over the Gettysburg National Military Park transferred from the War Department to the Department of the Interior, Murray shows how the context of the times shaped the battlefield park. The Depression brought work crews and funding for new roads, but the transfer from the War to the Interior Department also brought a shift in focus from administering a military site for use by future soldiers to emphasizing the natural landscape, which entailed planting trees and allowing historic vistas to become overgrown. While World War II saw a surge in visitors who saw a parallel between the struggle at Gettysburg and the struggle against fascism, it also saw park resources sent to scrap metal drives. The postwar era saw attempts to lure tourists to Gettysburg as a means of ensuring the site remained a national park. Murray powerfully depicts how the influence of the civil rights movement and social history sparked an evolution in the park's programming and interpretation. The theme for observances of the battle's centennial in 1963 was "High Water Mark," which emphasized military aspects and a reconciliationist narrative; in contrast, the 150th anniversary was built around the notion of "A New Birth of Freedom," placing the battle within the context of slavery and emancipation.

Relying on park records and reports, Department of the Interior documents, newspapers, and interviews, Murray convincingly argues that while each generation of park officials has dealt with similar issues—restoration of the field to 1863 conditions, improving interpretative programs, attempting to contain creeping commercialization—recent decades have seen an increase in national attention paid to management decisions, so that park superintendents do not enjoy the degree of autonomy that they once did. Another constant has been the role of outside groups—especially the Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association, Licensed Battlefield Guides, Friends of the National Parks at Gettysburg, and the Gettysburg Foundation—in influencing the management of the park.

Murray praises John Latschar, park superintendent from 1994 to 2009, for the "far-reaching changes to both the battlefield's physical landscape and its interpretive trajectory," stating that these "unprecedented accomplishments are owed

to [his] management, persistence, and commitment" (193–94). Unfortunately, the book does not discuss the controversy spawned by Latschar's decision to retire from the National Park Service and accept the position of president of the Gettysburg Foundation—a decision later reversed. This is a minor criticism, however, and should not detract from an otherwise fine study that opens our eyes to the way in which local politics, special interest groups, individual administrators, and broader world issues have impacted the management of the Civil War's most famous battlefield.

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Making Good Neighbors: Civil Rights, Liberalism, and Integration in Postwar Philadelphia. By ABIGAIL PERKISS. (Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2014. 248 pp. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$35.)

In *Making Good Neighbors*, Abigail Perkiss presents a detailed history of West Mount Airy, one of the first neighborhoods in the nation to embrace racially integrated living, and explores the self-conscious efforts of the West Mount Airy Neighbors Association (WMAN) to draw local, national, and international attention to the efforts of its well-educated and historically minded community members.

Perkiss begins her study by presenting some historical background on the relationship between race and residence in Philadelphia and other American cities from the 1910s into the 1950s, discussing Supreme Court decisions and discriminatory federal mortgage lending policies to provide context. She then moves through the efforts of George Schermer and WMAN in the 1950s to create a stable interracial community of middle-class homeowners; the regional, national, and international marketing Mount Airy in the 1960s as a model for interracial living; and the varying meanings of integration to Mount Airy's African American residents and to prominent black Philadelphians, led by NAACP chapter president Cecil B. Moore, who opposed it. She charts the struggle in the 1970s to maintain stable, integrated public schools as well as the fracturing of interracial amity during this decade as an ethos of African American empowerment, rising rates of crime, and an influx of poorer black families threatened intentional residential integration and integrated public schooling alike. Finally, Perkiss tracks the history of West Mount Airy in the 1980s, which was marked by a shift in community focus from racial integration to inclusion of gays, progressive Jewish scholars and activists, and young professionals.

To better understand this neighborhood history, Perkiss conducted oral history interviews with close to fifty current and former residents of Mount Airy and made use of oral history interviews on deposit at the Germantown Historical