

ZOUAVE!

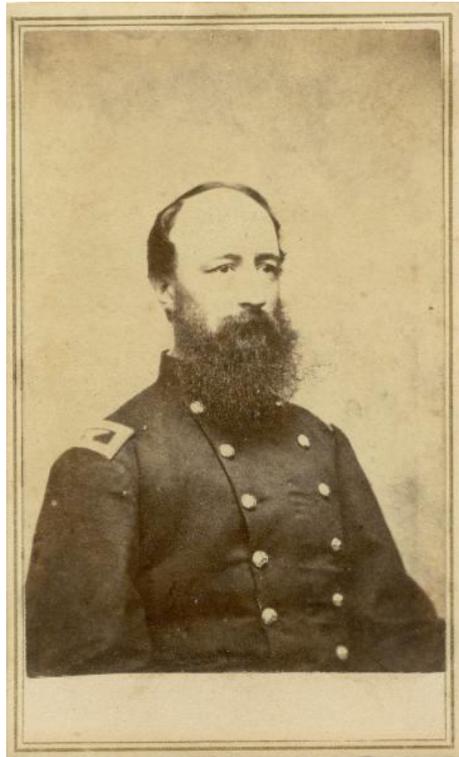


Established 2007

ISSN 1837-5553

No. 48 ❖ July 2011

Newspaper of the Anderson Zouaves - Living History & Research (62d NYSVV Co. F)



Colonel J.L. Riker
first Colonel of the Anderson Zouaves

NEW YORK PROJECT IDENTIFIES MORE THAN 4,000 CIVIL WAR GRAVES

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Green-wood Cemetery - Brooklyn

NEW YORK (AP) - The first Civil War casualty to be buried in Green-Wood Cemetery in Brooklyn was a 12-year-old drummer for a New York regiment.

Clarence McKenzie, a local boy fatally wounded in an accidental shooting in Maryland, was buried June 14, 1861, two months after the Union garrison at Fort Sumter surrendered to Confederate forces. He was followed to the grave 12 days later by Adolph Vincens, a 23-year-old London-born jeweler who was the first Civil War battle casualty buried at Green-Wood.

By the time the war ended four years later, about 200 other soldiers and sailors who died in the Civil War were buried at Green-Wood, established in 1838 in what

was then a rural section of Brooklyn. In the decades after the war, thousands of others would join their comrades _ and even some of their one-time enemies _ at the historic cemetery.

Today, the 478-acre expanse of greenery and statuary covering the cemetery's rolling hills is believed to be the final resting place of about 8,000 Civil War veterans.

A team of volunteers and Green-Wood staff has spent nearly a decade trying to identify all those graves. When the project began in September 2002, cemetery officials figured they had, at most, 500 veterans of the nation's bloodiest war buried here.

Using the cemetery's own burial records, plus government, military and privately owned documents available online, Green-Wood's project has identified the graves of about 4,600 Civil War veterans. Green-Wood historian Jeffrey Richman estimates 3,000 to 4,000 more are scattered among the cemetery's more than 560,000 total interments.

The Civil War dead buried at Green-Wood include unknown privates and famous officers, buglers and Medal of Honor recipients, Yankees from Maine to Iowa, fathers, sons and brothers, and even 75 Confederates, including two generals. None of the original gravestones for the Confederates gave any indication they had fought for the South, an intentional omission being rectified by the installation of new granite markers provided by Veterans Affairs.

Some of the gravestones and other markers at the previously known burial plots indicate that a person was a Civil War veteran, but most don't bear information or an insignia that would tip off researchers, Richman said. Some of the grave markers are so worn the inscriptions can't be read, while others are overgrown by grass or have sunken below ground level. Many of the veterans lie in unmarked graves, and it's only by checking the cemetery's detailed maps that individual burial plots can be located.

Part of the project includes placing new granite markers at the graves, marked and unmarked, of 2,000 of the Civil War veterans. So far, about 1,300 of the VA markers have been installed.

This Memorial Day weekend, the cemetery is hosting a three-day commemoration that includes re-enactors' encampments, an evening procession past the candlelit graves of the Civil War veterans and a gathering of some of their descendants, who will read their ancestor's name during a ceremony on Monday.

Jeanne Vincens, whose ancestor was mortally wounded at Big Bethel, Va., plans to take part in the ceremony. She helped acquire a VA marker for Adolph Vincens' grave several years ago. So, she knows what some of the other descendants will be experiencing when they see their ancestor's grave and remember the sacrifices made 150 years ago. "It's very, very emotional," said Vincens, a 57-year-old information technology manager from Richmond, Va. "It's really a culmination of a lot of family history, and then being able to honor this person to make sure they're going to be remembered."

The cemetery's project includes compiling brief biographies for each Civil War veteran interred at Green-Wood. Some 4,600 are included on a compact disc the cemetery is selling for \$10 each. According to the information on the CD, burials of Civil War veterans at Green-Wood continued through the 1930s and into early 1941, when 94-year-old Henry Stamm and 101-year-old Joseph H. Smith of East Orange, N.J. were laid to rest.

With several thousand graves still to be identified, Richman said it's unclear if Stamm and Smith were the last in a long blue and gray line to be buried at the cemetery, a line led 150 years ago by the drummer boy from Brooklyn.

Picture credit:

<http://www.bridgeandtunnelclub.com/bigmap/brooklyn/greenwood/gravesites/index.htm>

Contributed by Neil Chippendale

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THE ANDERSON ZOUAVES

from the manuscript of
Pocket History of the Anderson Zouaves
Volume 2: In Pen and Press
Edited by David Sanders



In celebration of the Regiment's 150th Anniversary, the ZOUAVE! is pleased to present material from the upcoming 2nd Volume of the Pocket History of the Anderson Zouaves.

The ZOUAVE! will feature copy from this manuscript to celebrate the history of the Regiment, as a lens to commemorate the 150th anniversary milestones of the Great Rebellion.

Song of the Regiment [July 1861]

The men have the following popular song, written by a Miss Edda Middleton, and dedicated to Major Dayton. They sing it with a good deal of enthusiasm:

TUNE—THE RED WHITE AND BLUE.

When Sumter, the shrine of the nation,
Was struck by black Treason's command,
And our flag, from its world-renowned station,
Was dragged and defiled in the sand,
A shout that presaged desolation
To the homes of the traitorous crew
Shook the earth to its firmest foundation—
The shout for "the red, white and blue."

Chorus.

Three cheers for the Anderson Zouaves!
Three cheers for the Anderson Zouaves!
Our flag shall yet wave over Sumter,
Placed there by the Anderson Zouaves.

And when our strong Temple was burned
And battered by Treason's red hand,
Its flames to fierce lightning's were turned,
Its smoke to black clouds o'er the land;
The storm iron hail stones was spouting,
As South on the north wind it flew;
And iron-mouthed thunders were shouting,
"All hail to the red, white and blue."

(Chorus as above.)

Then Anderson, faithful for ever,
Called forward, to lead in the van,
Those who will dishonor him never,
His Zouaves, his invincible clan.
Then strike for home, country and glory—
For loved ones we always strike true:
His name lives forever in story
Who falls 'neath "the red, white and blue."

(Chorus as above.)

The cup—not the wine cup—bring hither,
Salt tears fill it up to the brim;
It is wreathed with no wreath that will
wither—
The prayers of our loved ne'er grow dim.
Thus pledge we our Patron and Heaven,
As patriots, brave, pure and true:
To our country shall Sumter be given,
Or we fall 'neath "the red, white and blue."

Chorus.

Three cheers for the Anderson Zouaves!
Three cheers for the Anderson Zouaves!
Our flag shall yet wave over Sumter,
Placed there by the Anderson Zouaves.

NY Military Museum – Civil War Newspaper Clippings

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

Thoroughly Armed and Equipped [1 July 1861]

Eight companies belonging to this regiment have been mustered into United States Service; the other two will be mustered in to-day. The whole of the regiment will be thoroughly armed and equipped by Wednesday. The men are all quartered at Salterville N.J. and are rapidly becoming proficient in drill and soldierly bearing; they will start...some time during the next ten days. Col. J LAFAYETTE RIKER has been presented with a valuable and handsome horse.

New York Times, July 1861.

Col. R. Made a Patriotic

Address

[2 July 1861]

Anderson Zouaves.

Yesterday the last company of the Zouaves, under Col. Riker, was mustered into the United States service. Capt. Johnston addressed his company in a stirring address, which was enthusiastically received by the men. Capt. Johnston enjoys the confidence of his men, and is well sustained by Lieut. G. T. J. Lewis, until recently, and for many years a non-commissioned officer of the 7th regiment. Col. Riker and the regimental Staff were also sworn into the service, on which occasion Col. R. made a patriotic address, which was vociferously cheered by the men, who were drawn up in line to hear his remarks. The regiment contains 950 men, and is expected to leave for Washington during the coming week.

New York Times, Tuesday, July 2, 1861

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

The Fine Body of Troops

[2 July 1861]

The Anderson Zouaves.

The whole of this regiment has now been mustered into the United States service : it is expected that it will be ordered to the seat of war immediately. The gentlemen who have brought this regiment to its present standard of excellence, deserve great credit for the patience and determination which they have manifested throughout the most trying difficulties. With scarcely any pecuniary assistance they have sustained a large body of men during a period of nearly two months, the greater part of the expense falling upon Col. J. L. Riker and Lieut.-Col. H. S. Tisdale. Other regiments have been aided to the extent of thirty, forty and even sixty thousand dollars by the Union Defence Committee. Notwithstanding this, the Anderson Zouaves will compare favorably with any other regiment, as is shown by the following

certificate of the United States Medical inspector :

New-York, June 30, 1861.

Col. J. Lafayette Riker :

Dear Sir : In the examination of the fine body of troops under your command, known as the Anderson Zouaves, I found a far less proportion of them to be physically disqualified than I have found in any of the regiments I have examined during the present war, and I cheerfully testify to their general superior condition. The scarcity of boys and old men was also quite a remarkable feature.
N. R. Moseley, M. D.,
Medical Inspector.

New York Times, Tuesday, July 2, 1861, Page 8.

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

Celebration By The Anderson Zouaves

[6 July 1861]

At Camp Lafayette the Anderson Zouaves manifested their patriotism in a spirited but perfectly decorous manner, the good cheer supplied by their liberal, colonel being in no way abused by the noble fellows under his command. Mr. Isaac Isaacks (who is an honorary member of the staff) was especially active, and supplied a large brass field piece which was served by a squad of experienced artillerists, principally from Capt. La Fata's company, advance guard. The men at the gun sent their noisy compliments across Newark Bay to their opposite neighbors greeting them In a true Fourth of July fashion, and what with the booming of cannon across the water, the sound of the bugle, the beat of the drums, the shrill notes of the fife the miniature musketry of crackers and torpedoes, the flags flying and the frequent discharge of pistols and rifles, the camp of the Anderson Zouaves, presented the spectacle of a special Fourth of July on a small scale. In the evening, a national salute was fired from the high bank near the hotel, and a splendid display of fireworks was added to the interesting features of the occasion. Roman candles set

pieces, and other pyrotechnical attractions were supplied in profusion and a speech full of patriotic fervor and eloquence, from Col. Riker, and which was listened to by a large auditory of fair ladies and gallant Zouaves, the appropriate finale to a day in camp, which every one present will remember as one of the most pleasing occasions of his life.

New York Times, Saturday, July 6, 1861.

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Preaching in Union Square. [8 July 1861]

Religious exercises were held at the recruiting quarters of the Anderson Zouaves, Union-square, yesterday afternoon, Rev. Mr Russell officiating. A sermon was also preached in the evening, at the same place, by Rev. Mr. Harris. The large attendance which characterized these meetings when they were first commenced, has considerably decreased since the Zouaves have been encamped at Salter's Bay, N. J., the presence of the soldiers at the tent, doubtless, having much to do in getting so many persons together. The discourses delivered yesterday were of a practical nature, and were listened to with interest by those present.

New York Times, Monday, July 8, 1861.

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

Enlisting Musicians [12 July 1861]

Chenango County

Mr Matthew G. Griswold, principal Musician of the Anderson Zouaves, Col. Riker, will be at Norwich Monday and Tuesday, the 15th and 16th: at Oxford, on Wednesday the 17th, and at Greene, on Thursday, the 18th inst., for the purpose of enlisting musicians for the Anderson Zouave Regiment, which has already been sworn in for the war.

Utica Morning Herald, Friday, July 12, 1861 Page 2.

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

Fine Active Young Fellows [12 July 1861]

The Anderson Zouaves

This regiment is quartered at Salterville, N. J., and numbers about 900 men, all of whom are fine active young fellows. Col. J. Lafayette Riker will be prepared, and expects to march, in a few days.

New York Times, Friday, July 12, 1861.

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

They Have Not Received a Cent [13 July 1861]

The Anderson Zouaves

The men of this regiment are anxiously expecting their pay. Many of them enlisted with the understanding that the corps would be accepted, and that they would be in immediate receipt of something for their services. As it is, though the men have been in quarters for the last seven weeks, they have not received a cent. It is time that something should be done for this regiment, and the men should be properly clothed and equipped. Complaints are reaching us daily that the families of the men who have enlisted in this regiment are being neglected, and it behooves the Union Defence Committee, or those who are in power, to ameliorate the condition of the wives and families of those who are anxious and willing to defend our flag and constitution.

New York Times, Saturday, July 13, 1861

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A Gala Time [17 July 1861]

The Anderson Zouaves

This regiment was transferred on Monday from Saltersville, N. J., to the

barracks on Riker's Island. The trip up and around the bay on the camp steamer, Major Anderson, was made the occasion of quite a gala time among the soldiers, who had a little field piece along and fired any number of salutes on the way. The regiment expect to be detained but a short time before departing to the seat of war. An exhibition drill of Captain La Fata's magnificent company of French Zouaves—the advance guard of the regiment will be given shortly to raise funds in aid of the corps.

New York Times, Wednesday, July 17, 1861.

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

Camp Astor **[19 July 1861]**

The Anderson Zouaves

The encampment of the Anderson Zouave Regiment, at Riker's Island, has been named Camp Astor, in compliment to John Jacob Astor, Jr., Esq.

New York Times, Friday, July 19, 1861, Page 8.

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

So Extremely Wretched **[23 July 1861]**

The Anderson Zouaves

This Regiment, numbering 800 men, is encamped at Riker's Island, having proceeded thither from Salter's Bay over a week ago. Up to a late hour last night, no orders had been issued for their departure to the scene of battle, and even if such orders had been promulgated, the condition of the men is so extremely wretched, that it is doubtful if they could have been enforced. The Regiment has been unable to obtain the requisite military supplies from any source, and is greatly deficient in clothing and shoes. The men are strongly adverse to moving forward to an engagement, unless fully prepared and well provided.

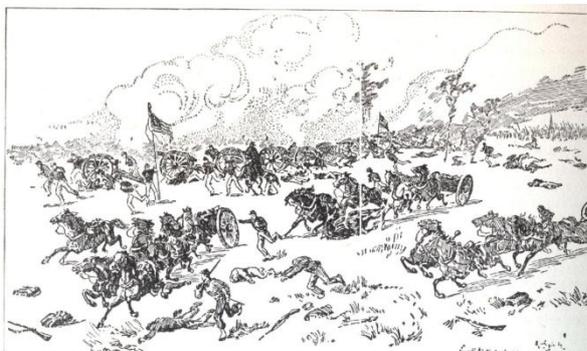
New York Times, Tuesday, July 23, 1861, Page 8.

Anderson Zouaves Newspaper Clippings. 62nd NYSV Co. I Homepage

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THE STAMPEDE BECAME EVEN MORE FRIGHTFUL

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Samuel J. English was a Corporal in Company D of the Second Rhode Island Volunteers. Shortly after the Battle of Bull Run, he wrote his mother a letter describing his experience. We join his story in the early morning hours before the battle.

"Sunday, the 21st about 2 o'clock the drums beat the assembly, and in ten minutes we were on our march for Bull Run having heard the enemy were waiting to receive us, our troops then numbering 25 or 30 thousand which were divided into three columns ours under Col Hunter taking the right through a thick woods. About eleven o'clock as our pickets were advancing through the woods a volley was poured in upon them from behind a fence thickly covered with brush; the pickets after returning the shots returned to our regiment and we advanced double quick time yelling like so many devils.

On our arrival into the open field I saw I should judge three or four thousand rebels retreating for a dense woods, firing as they retreated, while from another part of the woods a perfect hail storm of bullets, round shot and shell was poured upon us, tearing through our ranks and scattering death and confusion everywhere; but with a yell and a roar we charged upon them driving them again into the woods with fearful loss. In the

mean time our battery came up to our support and commenced hurling destruction among the rebels.

Next, orders were given for us to fall back and protect our battery as the enemy were charging upon it from another quarter, and then we saw with dismay that the second R. I. regiment were the only troops in the fight; the others having lagged so far behind that we had to stand the fight alone for 30 minutes; 1100 against 7 or 8 thousand. It was afterwards ascertained from a prisoner that the rebels thought we numbered 20 or 30 thousand from the noise made by us while making the charge. While preparing to make our final effort to keep our battery out of their hands, the 1st R.I. regiment then came filing over the fence and poured a volley out to them that drove them under cover again; they were followed by the New York 71st and the Hampshire 2nd regiments, with 2,000 regulars bringing up the rear who pitched into the "Sechers" most beautifully.

Our regiments were then ordered off the field and formed a line for a support to rally on in case the rebels over powered our troops. When the line had formed again I started off for the scene of action to see how the fight was progressing. As I emerged from the woods I saw a bomb shell strike a man in the breast and literally tear him to pieces. I passed the farm house which had been appropriated for a hospital and the groans of the wounded and dying were horrible.

I then descended the hill to the woods which had been occupied by the rebels at the place where the Elsworth zouaves made their charge; the bodies of the dead and dying were actually three and four deep, while in the woods where the desperate struggle had taken place between the U.S. Marines and the Louisiana zouaves, the trees were spattered with blood and the ground strewn with dead bodies. The shots flying pretty lively round me I thought best to join my regiment; as I gained the top of the hill I heard the shot and shell of our batteries had given out, not having but 130 shots for each gun during the whole engagement. As we had nothing but infantry to fight against their batteries, the command was given to retreat; our cavalry not being of much use, because the rebels would not come out of the woods.

The R.I. regiments, the New York 71st and the New Hampshire 2nd were drawn into a line to cover the retreat, but an officer galloped wildly into the column crying the enemy is upon us, and off they started like a flock of sheep every man for himself and the devil take the hindermost; while the rebels' shot and shell fell like rain among our exhausted troops.

As we gained the cover of the woods the stampede became even more frightful, for the baggage wagons and ambulances became entangled with the artillery and rendered the scene even more dreadful than the battle, while the plunging of the horses broke the lines of our infantry, and prevented any successful formation out of the question. The rebels being so badly cut up supposed we had gone beyond the woods to form for a fresh attack and shelled the woods for full two hours, supposing we were there, thus saving the greater part of our forces, for if they had begun an immediate attack, nothing in heaven's name could have saved us. As we neared the bridge the rebels opened a very destructive fire upon us, mowing down our men like grass, and caused even greater confusion than before. Our artillery and baggage wagons became fouled with each other, completely blocking the bridge, while the bomb shells bursting on the bridge made it "rather unhealthy" to be around. As I crossed on my hands and knees, Capt. Smith who was crossing by my side at the same time was struck by a round shot at the same time and completely cut in two. After I crossed I started up the hill as fast as my legs could carry and passed through Centreville and continued on to Fairfax where we arrived about 10 o'clock halting about 15 minutes, then kept on to Washington where we arrived about 2 o'clock Monday noon more dead than alive, having been on our feet 36 hours without a mouthful to eat, and traveled a distance of 60 miles without twenty minutes halt.

The last five miles of that march was perfect misery, none of us having scarcely strength to put one foot before the other, but I tell you the cheers we rec'd going through the streets of Washington seemed to put new life into the men for they rallied and marched to our camps and every man dropped on the ground and in one moment the greater part of

them were asleep. Our loss is estimated at 1,000, but I think it greater, the rebels lost from three to five thousand."

References:

Samuel English's letter appears in Rhodes, Robert H. (editor), All for the Union (1985); Buel, Clarence, and Robert Underwood, ed., Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, vol I (1888, reprinted 1982); Foote Shelby, The Civil War, A Narrative, Fort Sumter to Perryville (1986); McPherson, James M., Battle Cry of Freedom

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ZOUAVE! is a publication of the Living History
Resource Group. Unless otherwise stated, all content is
produced by the editor, David Sanders.