

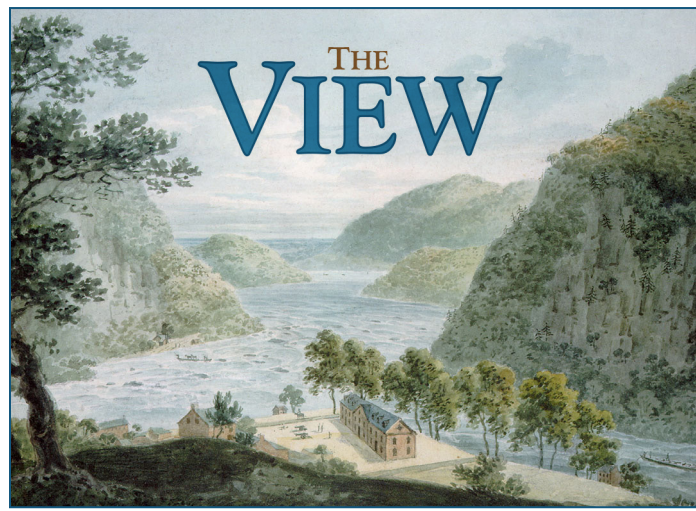
Winter 2025

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“Junction of the Potomac and Shenandoah, Virginia,” by William Roberts, dating from 1808-1809. This is one of the oldest known prints of Harpers Ferry. In 1783, Thomas Jefferson declared that this view was “worth a voyage across the Atlantic.” (Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, Winston-Salem, North Carolina)

HFPA Grateful For Support Heading Into New Year

Harpers Ferry Park Association would like to wish our supporters a Happy 2025!

If you visited the park last year, reserved a private guided tour, donated in some way or purchased something in the Park Bookshop, you’ve helped make our work possible, and we are grateful for your support!

If you are not an HFPA Supporter yet, we encourage you to become a part of this special group. This year, Lockwood, Shenandoah, Potomac, and Benefactor supporters will receive a new mug when joining or upon renewal.

All of our supporters will receive a special HFPA keychain if they have not received one previously.

Supporter perks include camaraderie with others who share a love of HFNHP, early notice of new programs and book releases, quarterly newsletters and an invitation to our annual membership picnic.

See the back of this newsletter or go to <https://www.harpersferryhistory.org/harpers-ferry-supporters> for more information on becoming a Supporter.

Our newest option, Next Gen Supporter, makes a great gift for family or friends between the ages of 16 to 34. This tier was designed to help



Lockwood, Shenandoah, Potomac and Benefactor Supporters will receive this new HFPA mug!

spread the word about the importance of national parks to a younger demographic.

Next Gen Supporter cost is based on age. For example, Supporters who are 16 years of age will pay \$16. Other Supporter tiers are in the works, so watch for more announcements this year!

Again, we are so grateful for your support in carrying out the mission of HFPA: Enhancing visitor experience by supporting the park’s interpretive and educational programs and providing aid to conservation and preservation projects at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.



All supporters are encouraged to the HFPA yearly membership picnic, which features great food, fun, special speakers and giveaways!



Charter Member Profiles Wanted

We would love to highlight Charter members in a new monthly segment of the E-newsletter. If you have an interest in being profiled, reach out to HFPA’s Membership, Sales and Visitor Experience Specialist Nicole Hopkin at nhopkin@hfpawv.org

Also, HFPA needs updated contact information for all Charter members. Please send your current home address, phone number and email address to Hopkin at the email address listed above or call 304-535-6881.

On This Day In Harpers Ferry History

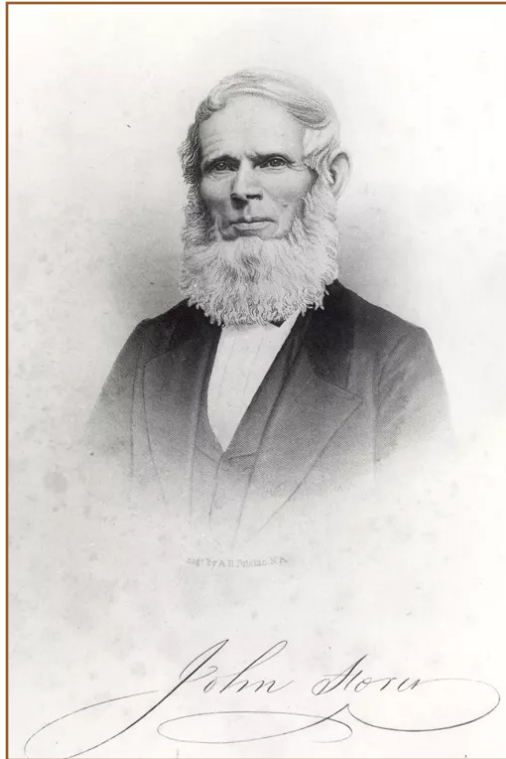
John Storer, a merchant and philanthropist from Stanford, Maine and the namesake of Storer College in Harpers Ferry, was born on January 18, 1796.

Following the Civil War, Storer joined the Freedmen's Bureau and the Freewill Baptists of New England to fight for the cause of educating those who were newly freed from slavery.

When the 13th Amendment was ratified at the end of the Civil War, most of the four million enslaved people who were freed wanted two things - to find family members and get an education.

Nathan Brackett, a Free Will Baptist minister in Harpers Ferry, was a primary force behind the founding of Storer College in 1867.

Using Lockwood House as a base of operations, Brackett worked to help set up primary schools throughout the eastern panhandle of West Virginia.



By 1867, Brackett supervised over 15 teachers and schools for 2,500 students in the Shenandoah Valley.

When Storer heard of this effort, he offered a \$10,000 matching grant to the Freewill Baptists of New England.

The goal was achieved through donations, mortgage assets and government funds, helping to further create a safe place for education in a world where none had existed previously.

Learning was not the only goal of those who spearheaded Storer College. A sense of community was fostered as the college owned land in and around the town and profited from a summer boarding house business.

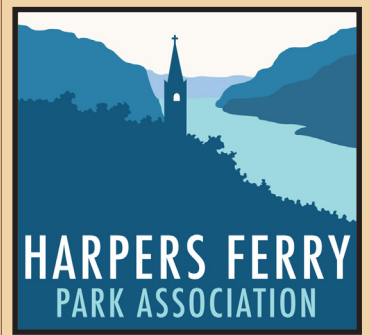
By leveraging funds and selling surplus property to graduates and their families, Storer College also enabled many of the Black citizens of Harpers Ferry to own real estate. Eventually the college taught students of all races.

The school survived for 88 years, until the Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board* decision in 1954 ended segregation in public schools.

Storer College closed its doors in 1955 after providing an education to more than 7,000 students. Go to <https://www.nps.gov/hafe/learn/historyculture/storer-college.htm> to read more about the story of Storer College.



The Lockwood House still stands today as a testament to the efforts of John Storer, Nathan Brackett and countless teachers who furthered education and helped foster a sense of community for thousands of students.



The View is published by the Harpers Ferry Park Association (HFPA), an Official National Park Cooperating Association that supports the mission of the National Park Service.

The Association operates the Park Bookshop in Harpers Ferry NHP. Profits from sales are returned to the park to support interpretive and educational programs to enhance your visit.

You are invited to join this unique organization and be a part of Harpers Ferry's special family. For more information call (304) 535-6881, e-mail us at info@hfpawv.org, or visit our website at www.harpers-ferryhistory.org.

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Upcoming HFPA Programs

George Washington Slept Here | History on Tap
Thursday, February 20, 2025 | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Alstadts Ale House

Join former Harpers Ferry interpretive park ranger David Fox to explore the links between Harpers Ferry and various chief executives before, during and after their terms in office. Some of these individuals had a significant impact on the town and its history!

Space is limited, so registration is encouraged but not required. Please note that this program involves climbing a flight of stairs.

Harpers Ferry Trivia Night
Friday, February 28, 2025 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM | The Barn of Harpers Ferry

Join us for Harpers Ferry Themed Trivia Night!

Test your knowledge with trivia questions that will challenge even the most seasoned locals and educate those just passing through.

This night promises to be a lively blend of learning, laughter, and lighthearted rivalry, so brush up on your Harpers Ferry trivia! Group and solo players are welcome.

Don't miss this opportunity for a memorable night of camaraderie and competition hosted by the Harpers Ferry Park Association in collaboration with The Barn of Harpers Ferry.



The Woman Who Saved History | History on Tap
Thursday, March 20, 2025 | 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM | Alstadts Ale House

Step into the world of Kate Field, a trailblazing journalist, lecturer, and entrepreneur whose bold vision forever linked her to Harpers Ferry.

Discover how Field's advocacy for the preservation of John Brown's Fort made her a key figure in the town's legacy. Through compelling storytelling and historical insight, explore her enduring impact on Harpers Ferry and the broader movement to protect America's cultural landmarks.

Space is limited, so registration is encouraged but not required. Please note that this program involves climbing a flight of stairs.



Kate Field is pictured in this undated photo.



Scan the QR code or visit <https://www.harpersferryhistory.org/programs-workshops> to register for programs or workshops.

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Plans Underway for America 250 Celebration

July 4, 2026, will mark the United States Semiquincentennial—250 years since the Founders signed the Declaration of Independence.

Those old enough to remember America's Bicentennial in 1976 may recall spectacular fireworks, parades, the Bicentennial Quarter, fire hydrants painted red, white, and blue, and classmates wearing tri-cornered hats and white stockings. Commemorations focused on the historic events leading to the United States becoming an independent nation.



America's Semiquincentennial will take a different approach. The National Park Service "will inspire a more perfect union by providing opportunities for celebrating, commemorating, and contemplating the meanings of the words in the Declaration and their relevance to our lives today."

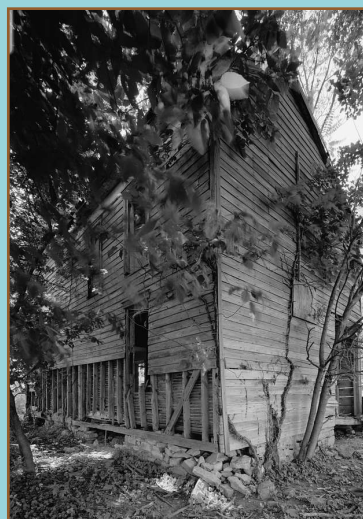
Harpers Ferry's unique history of protests, uprisings, innovation, and education make it a germane setting for visitors to reflect on the American experiment and its continual challenge to form a more perfect Union. HFPA is excited to support Harpers Ferry National Historical with its goal to create connections between the natural and historic resources of the park and the visitors' understanding of America 250's ideals. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for who?

Of course, special events come with expenses. For some of our 2025 special hikes and programs, we'll be asking participants for a \$10 donation. While we'll also be seeking grants, please consider donating to HFPA toward the America 250 programs at Harpers Ferry NHP. With your help, we'll be able to bring in exceptional speakers, musicians, and artists to provide unforgettable experiences. Thanks in advance for your generosity!



A blanket of stars envelopes John Brown's Fort on a chilly Fall evening. HFPA Staff Photo.

Demolition To Restore Landscape



An undated photo of a farmhouse on the Henkle property. *Library of Congress photo*

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (HFHP) recently announced that five structures on the Jacob Henkle Farm House site west of Millville Road in Harpers Ferry will be demolished.

According to the National Park Service, the structures were built in the early twentieth century and operated as part of Henkle's farm. Demolition is expected to begin in late January and should continue for approximately one month.

"Not only will the careful removal of the structures address a major safety concern, but this will also help fulfill portions of the park's 2010 General Management Plan, which called for the Schoolhouse Ridge area of the park to be managed as an 1862 battlefield landscape,"

Welcome new supporters!

Anna Bailey
Orem, UT
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Harper Ferry, WV
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Harpers Ferry, WV
Rebecca Harriett
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Benefactor Supporters

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Hamilton, VA
Ed Wheelless and Chris Craig
Harpers Ferry, WV
Jim and Suzanne Silvia
Taunton, MA
Hilary and Noah Mehrkam
Washington, D.C.
Adam Hodges-LeClaire
Haverhill, NH

Donations Received

Martha Ehlman
Deborah Fleming
Mary C. Glenn
Barbara Onofrey
Daniel Wayland
West Virginia Division of Culture and
History

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Harpers Ferry Park Association

Post Office Box 197
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425



Published for the Supporters and Friends of the Harpers Ferry Park Association, the official Cooperating Association for Harpers Ferry National Historical Park.

Support Harpers Ferry National Historical Park!

To view detailed descriptions of our Supporter categories and benefits, or to join online, visit www.harpersferryhistory.org

Basic Supporter Benefits: 15% discount on every item in the Park Bookshop; additional Supporters-only sales throughout the year; discount at most national park bookshops around the country; discounted tickets and early registration for our unique fundraisers and educational workshops; subscription to *The View*, our quarterly newsletter; monthly e-newsletter with the most up-to-date information on events at Harpers Ferry; invitation to our Annual Supporter Meeting and Picnic.

I wish to become a Harpers Ferry Park Association Supporter.

I wish to continue being a Supporter.

I am not interested in receiving Supporter benefits, but I would like to make a contribution in the amount of _____ to aid the mission of the Harpers Ferry Park Association.

I am a Charter Supporter and would like to make a donation of _____.

Check if this is a new address for you.

Please enroll me in the following Supporter category (check one):

\$16-\$34 NextGen – Geared toward Supporters 16-34. Cost is based entirely on your age. Example: If you are 21, then the cost will be \$21.

\$35 Peregrine – Basic Supporter tier.

\$55 Wayfarer – Best choice for frequent visitors (includes annual pass)

\$75 Marmion – Great option for families with children or furbabies.

\$100 Lockwood – Supporter tier with additional benefits.

\$250 Shenandoah – Supporter tier with additional benefits.

\$500 Potomac – Supporter tier with additional benefits.

\$1,000 Golden Anniversary Benefactor – Legacy Supporter with special benefits.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone

E-mail

Please clip and mail with check or money order:

Harpers Ferry Park Association
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Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

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