



A UNIQUE RESOURCE FOR

African American Studies • Civil War History
New England History

On the Other Side of Glory: Berkshire Men of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment tells the stories of the 82 men from the Upper Housatonic Valley who served in the "Glory" regiment. It provides the context necessary to help us appreciate the sacrifices the men and their families made in the pursuit of freedom and equality.

Twenty-three of the men made the ultimate sacrifice—dying during the war, in battle or from disease. The book provides an overview of the role of Berkshire men in the Civil War and a history of their recruitment for the 54th, their training, and their service in the South from 1863 to 1865. It touches on their lives before the war and also examines in detail the lives of those who returned home, in the contexts of continuing racism and discrimination in the North and the emergence of Black communities in the region. The book features 75 photos and illustrations, maps, a timeline, a full bibliography, and an index.

TO ORDER

On the Other Side of Glory: Berkshire Men of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment by David Levinson and Emilie Piper
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The African American Heritage Trail is a project of the
Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area



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And we shall win.

The past promised it, the present foretells it.

Thank God for John Brown!

Thank God for Garrison and Douglass!

Sumner and Phillips, Nat Turner and

Robert Gould Shaw, and all the

hallowed dead who died for freedom!

Thank God for all those today,

few though their voices be, who have not

forgotten the divine brotherhood of all men,

white and black, rich and poor, fortunate

and unfortunate.

—W. E. B. Du Bois, 1906.

SELECTED RESOURCES

Berkshire Athenaeum, One Wendell Ave., Pittsfield, Mass., maintains the county's major local history collection. www.pittsfieldlibrary.org.

Chesterwood, a National Trust Historic Site, off Rt. 183 in Stockbridge, Mass., was the country home, studio, and gardens of sculptor of public monuments Daniel Chester French. www.chesterwood.org.

Norfolk Historical Museum, on the town green, has an exhibit on African Americans in Norfolk, including its Civil War soldiers. www.norfolkhistoricalsociety.com.

The **Samuel Harrison Society** restores and preserves Reverend Harrison's homestead on Third St. in Pittsfield and uses it as a place to teach the values embodied in his life. The house is on the National Register of Historic Places. www.samuelharrison.org.

Sheffield Historical Society maintains seven historical structures and collects, preserves, and exhibits records and materials to stimulate the study of local history and interpret the town's past. www.sheffieldhistory.org.

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Emilio, Luis F. (1995). *A Brave Black Regiment; The History of the Fifty-Fourth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, 1863-1865*. New York: Da Capo Press. (Original work published 1894.)

PHOTO AND TEXT SOURCES

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Barnes & Farnum, (comp.). (ca. 1904) Atlas of Berkshire County. Pittsfield, MA: Barnes & Farnum.

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Berkshire County Eagle, March 18, 1863.

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Lenox Library, Lenox, Mass.

Massachusetts Historical Society, Boston, Mass.

New York Times, July 31, 1863.

Ron Blant, Courtesy of Chesterwood, a National Trust Historic Site, Stockbridge, Mass.

Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, Lenox, Mass.

Sheffield Historical Society, Dewey Research Center, Sheffield, Mass., Carrie Smith Lorraine Photos.



Edward and Lucy Crozier, ca. 1890-1900.

54TH MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEER INFANTRY REGIMENT TRAIL

The 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment Trail honors the men from Berkshire and Litchfield counties who served in the "Glory" Regiment by directing visitors to places they lived, went to church, are remembered, and are buried.

The **African American Heritage Trail** encompasses 29 Massachusetts and Connecticut towns in the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area. The trail celebrates African Americans in the region, ordinary people of achievement and those who played pivotal roles in key national and international events—W.E.B. Du Bois, Elizabeth "Mumbet" Freeman, James Weldon Johnson, Rev. Samuel Harrison, James VanDerZee, and others.

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54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment Trail



TRAIL GUIDE

A PART OF THE
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