

# THE CUFFEYTOWN THIRTEEN



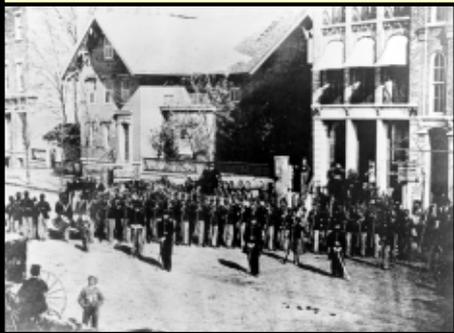
*Patriot Heroes*



Thirteen African American veterans of the Civil War are interred nearby at the Cuffeytown Historic Cemetery. They served in the 5th, 10th, and 36th United States Colored Troops infantry regiments organized in 1863 and 1864, after the Emancipation Proclamation authorized the recruitment of blacks for the U.S. Army and Navy. The 5th USCT, organized in Ohio in August 1863, fought in North Carolina as well as in the Virginia battles of the Crater at Petersburg, New Market Heights, and Fair Oaks. The 10th USCT was organized in Virginia in November 1863 and fought in 1864 at the Battle of Wilson's Wharf (Fort Pocahontas). The 36th USCT, organized from the 2nd North Carolina Colored Infantry in February 1864, fought in the Battle of New Market Heights, the Appomattox Campaign, and in North Carolina. The 5th USCT was demobilized in North Carolina in September 1865, while the 10th and 36th USCT were ordered to Texas after

the war and mustered out there in 1866.

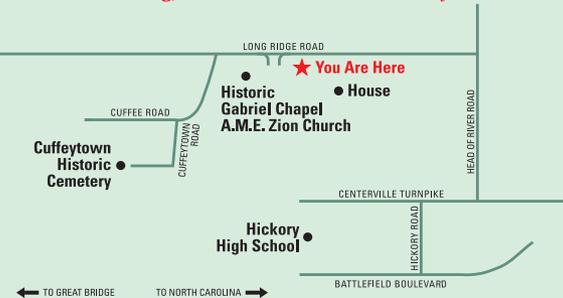
About 200,000 African Americans served in the U.S. Army and Navy during the Civil War, fighting for freedom and the restoration of the Union. Free blacks founded Cuffeytown long before the war. The veterans and other residents established the Gabriel Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church in 1866.



5th USCT, Delaware, Ohio - Ohio Historical Society



Flag, 5th USCT - Ohio Historical Society



*In the darkness of their bondage,  
In the depths of slavery's night,  
Their muskets flashed the dawning,  
And they fought their way to light.*  
- Paul Laurence Dunbar,  
"The Colored Soldier"



Unidentified brothers in arms, ca. 1863-65 - Library of Congress

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### 5th USCT

Pvt. Walter Smith, Co. I

### 10th USCT:

Sgt. William Coffey, Co. G  
Pvt. Bluet Cuffey, Co. H  
Corp. Emerson Cuffey, Co. G  
Pvt. Lemuel Cuffey, Co. F  
Sgt. Wilson Cuffey, Co. H  
Sgt. William Cuffey, Co. F  
Corp. Levi Sevils, Co. H  
Pvt. Cornelius Smith, Co. F  
Pvt. James W. Smith, Co. F  
Pvt. Samuel Smith, Co. H  
Pvt. John Whitehurst, Co. H

### 36th USCT:

Sgt. Thomas Van, Co. C