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Book Review: The Making of a Memorial: The Huntsville Madison County Veterans Memorial, by John J. Perry and David R. Carney

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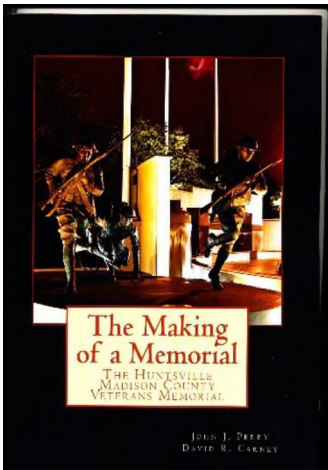
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Book Review

John J. Perry and David R. Carney; The Making of a Memorial, 2017, Nightsky Publishing, New Market, AL 35761



I know book reviews are supposed to address the good and the not so good of a book and clearly expose the intent of the author and judge if the author meets his objective. The intent and objectives were met and the text is an adequate representation of the largest Veterans memorial in the southeast United States and a rival to any memorial in

Washington D.C.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, Twickenham Town Chapter launched an effort that took many years to reunite a plaque listing 84 men that served in the American Revolution and subsequently became local residents and were interred in graveyards throughout the county. The plaque, mounted on a large bolder was dedicated in 1939 and graced the Court House grounds until the new court house was built in the late 60's and subsequently misplaced. Finally found, the bolder and plaque were united and dedicated recently along Patriots Walkway at the Memorial.

During that ceremony, I had the opportunity to meet Brigadier General (Retired) Robert A. Drolet, the leader of the Memorial Park project. I immediately challenged him to provide the Historical Society a document detailing the concept, design, and effort that made this remarkable landmark in Huntsville a reality. His response; "I don't write." But, John J. Perry and David R. Carney do and they assembled a very comprehensive 239-page document that tells, not only the story of the park but the local service members that posed for the statues, letters from the family of fallen soldiers, biographical sketches of the fallen and much much more.

There are ample photographs and easy to follow illustrations and, to be fair, the Table of Contents listing the pages of different section's is not always correct but who cares. The book is a treasure of veterans antidotes and perceptions of those instrumental in it's creation and a fine addition for local veteran's families and friends to treasure.

The Veterans Memorial Foundation is marketing the book as a fundraiser for the Foundation. Proceeds will be used to continue the recognition of local Veterans in the years ahead.

Books may be acquired by contacting Carney50@mchsi.com or phoning 256 694 9125

The Editor