

November 21 Scott Hartwig – “Antietam: The Soldiers' Experience”

Although soldiers on both sides had already experienced hard fighting in the Seven Days Battles and Second Manassas Campaign, the battle of Antietam still shocked those who took part in it. This is the story of how the soldiers, both enlisted men and officers, experienced the battle, not just the shooting part, but the mental and physical preparation for combat, how some withstood the frightful shock of battle while others crumbled; the experience of the wounded, the burial of the dead, the psychological trauma , and ultimately, how it was remembered by its survivors.



About our Speaker:

D. Scott Hartwig was the supervisory park historian at Gettysburg National Military Park and retired in 2014 after a 34-year career in the National Park Service, nearly all of it spent at Gettysburg. He won the regional Freeman Tilden Award for excellence in interpretation in 1993, and was a key player for the design of all aspects of the current Gettysburg museum/visitor center. He is the author of *To Antietam Creek: The Maryland Campaign from September 3 to September 16*, published in September 2012 by Johns Hopkins University Press, and of *I Dread The Thought of the Place: The Battle of Antietam and End of the Maryland Campaign*, also published by Johns Hopkins in August 2023.