

Monument to the British Soldiers who fell on April 19th, 1775

George Parsons

Arlington 250 Committee

Arlington Historical Society

Objective

- To obtain a letter of community support for a permanent memorial to the British soldiers who fell on April 19th, 1775

Background

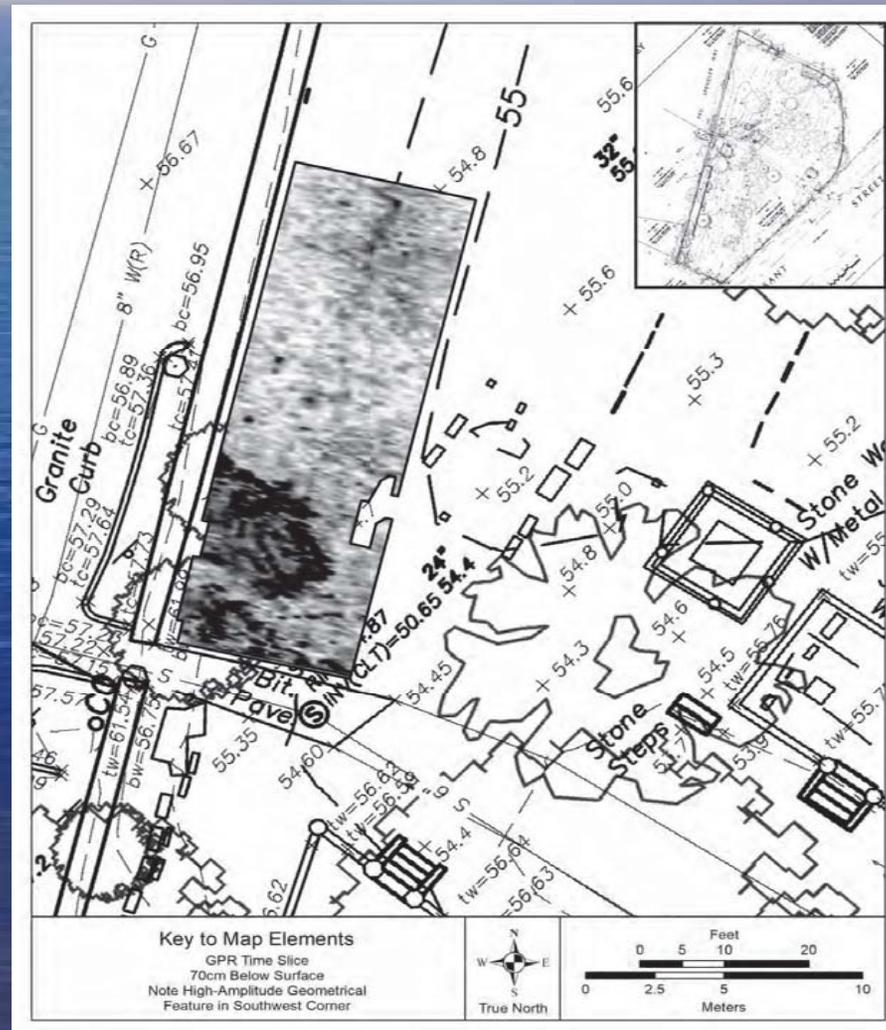
- Approximately 1700 British soldiers marched on Lexington and Concord on April 19th, 1775
- British Casualties totaled 273; 73 Killed, 174 wounded, 26 missing.
- Colonial casualties totaled 96; 49 killed, 41 wounded, and 5 missing.⁽¹⁾
- About 40 of the British dead fell in Menotomy and were buried in the Old Burying Ground ^(2,3)

• (1) <https://www.nps.gov/mima/learn/historyculture/april-19-1775.htm#>

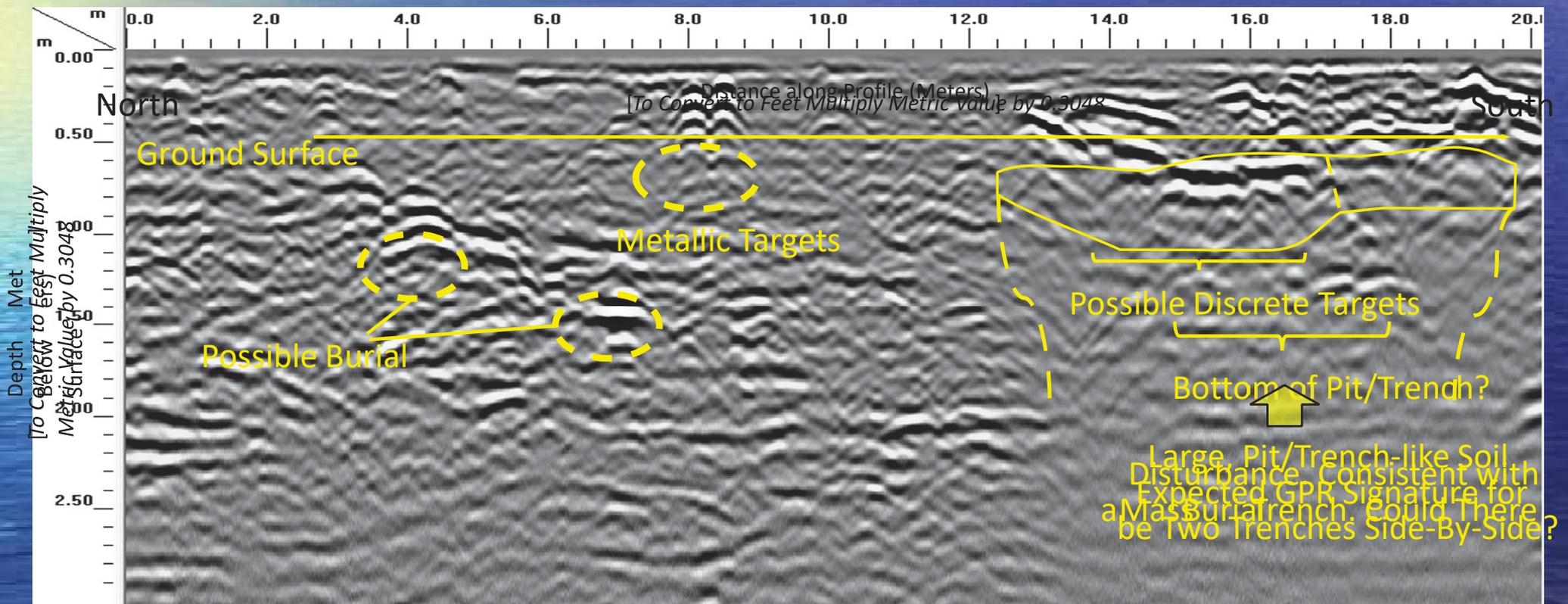
• (2) <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/49742/49742-h/49742-h.htm>, page 130

• (3) Samuel Abbot Smith, West Cambridge on the Nineteenth of April, 1775, January 1864 *West Cambridge Aid Society of West Cambridge*

Ground Penetrating Radar Study Old Burying Ground (Top View)



GPR Study OBG Depth Profile



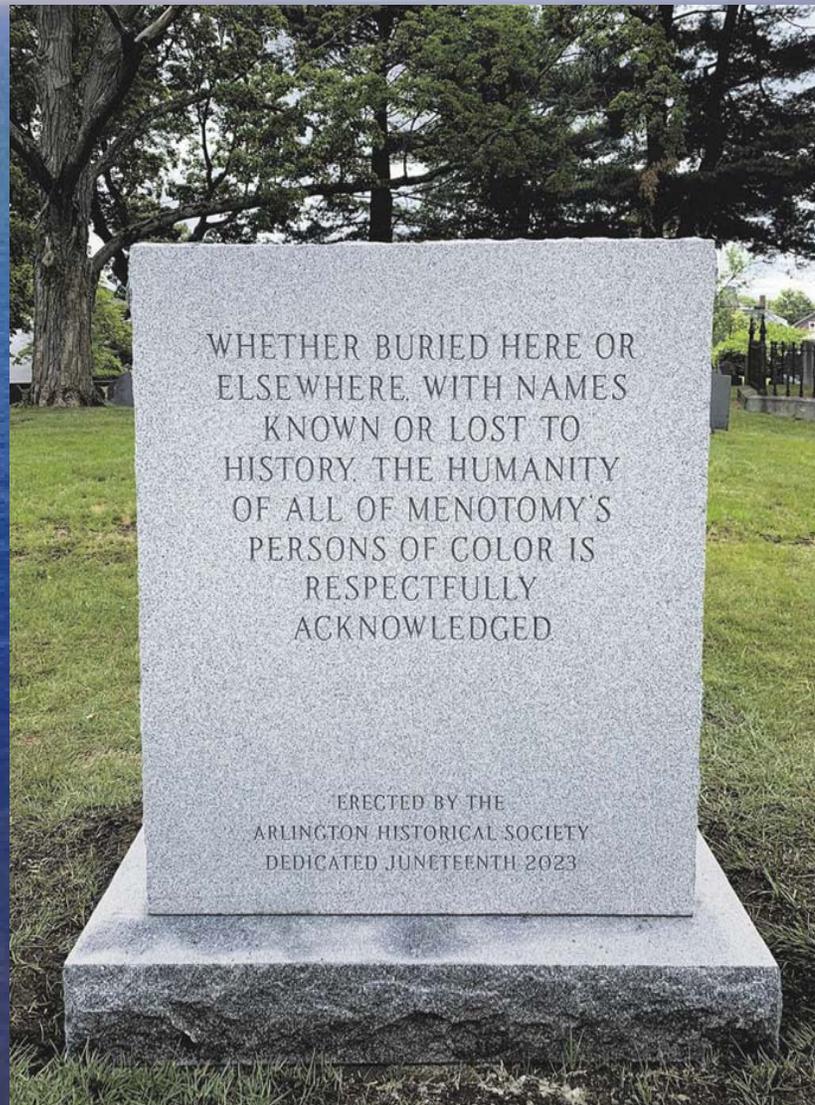
British Flags on the Mass Grave



Model for the Proposed Monument



Model Reverse Side Cenotaph



Possible Inscription

British and Commonwealth
Remembrance Project

Here lie the bodies of British Soldiers
who died on April 19th, 1775

They answered the call of King & Country

Dulce Et Decorum Est Pro Patria Mori

Proposed Budget

- Granite Monument Cost \$8,560 (from invoice for enslaved peoples' monument 2023 plus 7% for inflation)
- Concrete Ground Slab for Monument Cost \$500
- Granite Slab Under the Monument Cost \$500

SubTotal \$9,560

10% Contingency \$956

Grand Total \$10,516

Funding

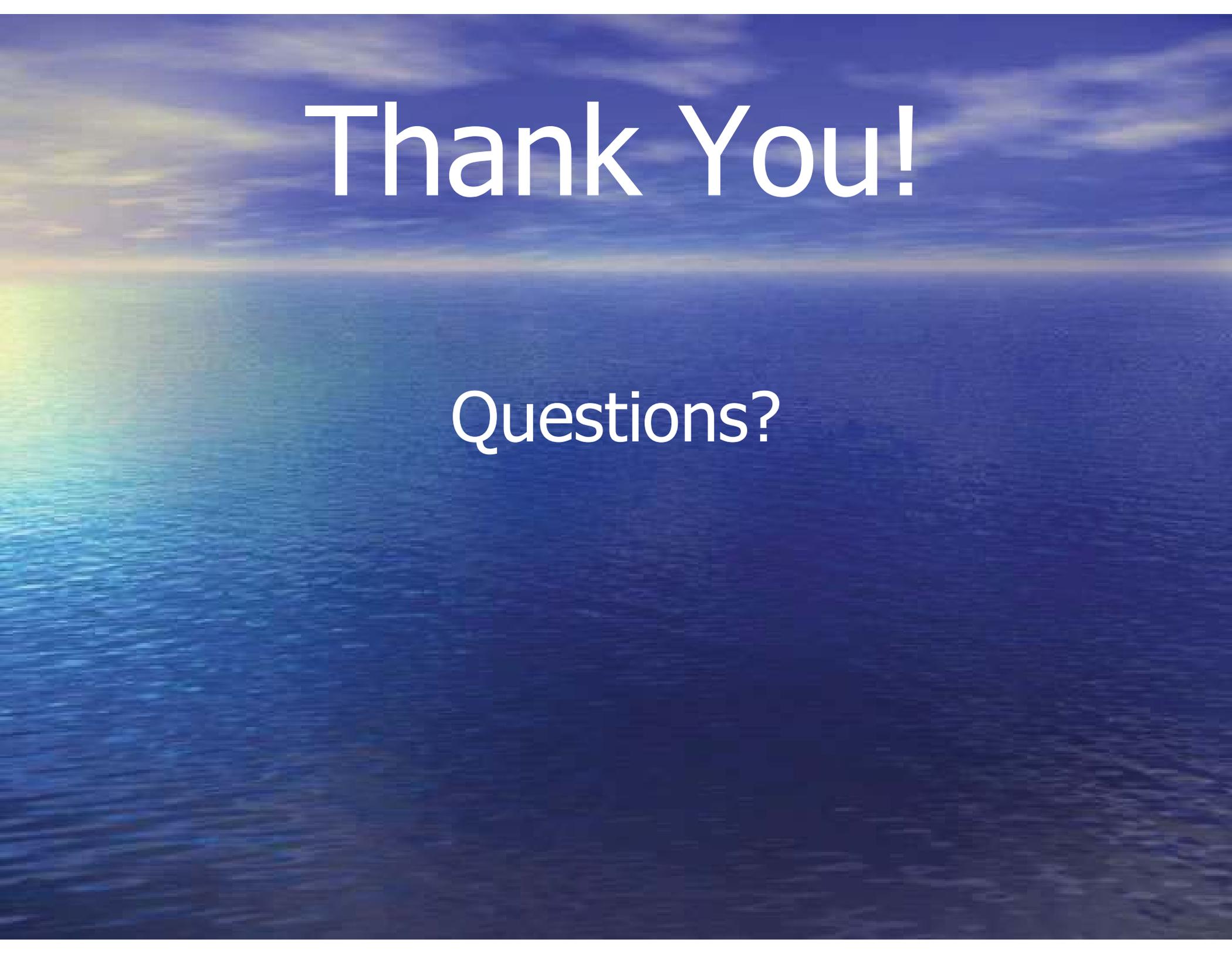
- Arlington 250 has pledged \$2500
- Arlington Historical Society has pledged \$2500
- British and Commonwealth Remembrance Project has pledged \$2000
- A grant is being submitted to Freedom's Way for \$3200 and was ultimately successful

Proposed Community Support Letters for Freedom's Way Grant

- Arlington Historical Society
- Arlington 250 Committee
- Arlington Historical Commission
- Arlington Cemetery Commission
- Others?

Summary

- There is good historical and physical evidence that fallen British soldiers were buried in the OBG
- Soldiers in any age have little say in where they are sent and what they are asked to do
- These men, in addition to being soldiers, were someone's child, sibling and/or parent
- The townspeople of Menotomy appear to have cared for two mortally wounded soldiers who died weeks after the battle
- A permanent memorial to them would be fitting



Thank You!

Questions?