

Alabama Heritage

The 167th at
Croix Rouge
Farm



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Alabama Heritage

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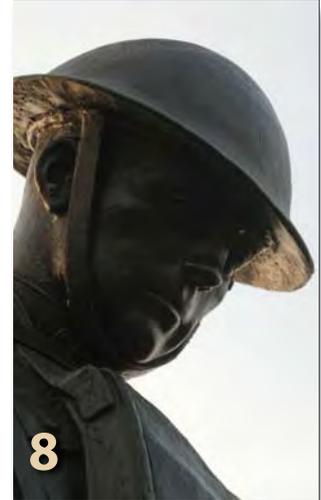
Cover: *The Croix Rouge Farm Memorial in France*
(Photo by Yannick Marques)
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FEATURES

“SEND ME ALL THE ALABAMIANS YOU CAN GET”: THE 167TH INFANTRY AT CROIX ROUGE FARM

BY NIMROD T. FRAZER

In planning a massive World War One offensive that they believed would clinch their victory, the Germans had overlooked the resolve of the Allies bolstered by the support of the newly arrived Americans—including the Rainbow Division and its 167th (Alabama) infantry.



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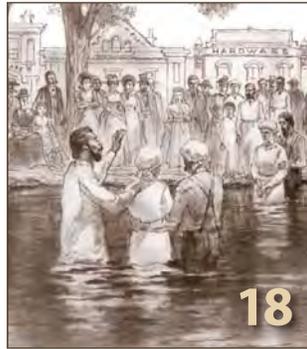
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BIRMINGHAM’S MAX HELDMAN

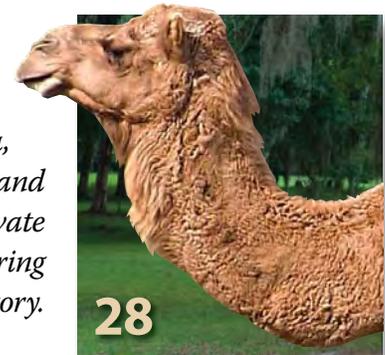
BY VIRGINIA POUNDS BROWN AND LINDA MCNAIR COHEN

Although his artistic pursuits took him to New York and Chicago, and his images appeared on the covers of national magazines, Max Heldman always considered Birmingham both his home and his favorite subject, one he drew throughout his career.

CAMELS IN CAHAWBA

BY LINDA DERRY

The appearance of camels in Cahawba, Alabama, in 1859 amused those who saw them as novelties and potential farm animals, but the story of the private importation of camels into the United States during the nineteenth century has a dark history.



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THE LAST BOMBING: THE STORY OF NINA MIGLIONICO

BY SAMUEL A. RUMORE JR.

Moderate members of the Birmingham City Council received many racially motivated threats during the 1960s, but they were never the target of a bomb until one was left at the home of councilwoman Nina Miglionico.



The Croix Rouge Farm Memorial

By Monique Brouillet Seefried

ON NOVEMBER 12, 2011, NEARLY A CENTURY after the beginning of WWI, a new American memorial was inaugurated on the site of the Croix Rouge Farm, to the south of the city of Fère-en-Tardenois, in Picardy, a region profoundly scarred by the fighting of WWI. It commemorates the historic Forty-second “Rainbow” Division, a National Guard Division, which claims to have seen more days of combat than any other American Division during the Great War.

This monumental bronze sculpture, by the acclaimed British sculptor James Butler, depicts an American soldier carrying a dead comrade. For Butler, the military pietà theme is at the core of this work. He notes:

My original idea was to portray the powerful bond between men on active service with a soldier carrying his dead comrade. However after working on the sculpture for some time the piece began to have a strong spiritual meaning for me. The dead soldier is limp as if his body had just been lifted from the battlefield. The figure holding the dead man began to have the presence of the Angel of Mercy. He is perfect—there are no battle scars on him and he is untouched by the grim conflict. I am not a religious man, but working on this sculpture I felt a strong spiritual guidance.

This memorial was erected on grounds that have remained unchanged since the days of the battle. The memorial was commissioned, thanks to the generosity of Nimrod T. Frazer, by the Croix Rouge Farm Memorial Foundation, an Alabama foundation that purchased what remains of the fortified farmhouse of the Croix Rouge and some of the land where the battle took place. Before being erected on these hallowed grounds, the memorial statue was exhibited in the courtyard of the Royal Academy of Arts in London during its 2011 Summer Exhibition.

The memorial includes the following inscription: “In filial piety, Nimrod Thompson Frazer erected this monument in the name of his father Sgt. William Johnson Frazer of Greenville, Alabama, a member of the D Company Assault Force.” The bronze casting was done by Black Isle Foundry located in Nairn, near Inverness, Scotland. The statue offers a moving tribute to the men who fought so valiantly.

Visitors are welcome at the memorial site; for more information, please see its website at <http://croixrougefarm.org/>.

President of the Croix Rouge Farm Memorial Foundation, Monique Brouillet Seefried, a French and American citizen, holds a PhD in history from the Sorbonne. (Photo of Croix Rouge Farm Memorial by Yannick Marques)

Alabama Heritage

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