

CIVIL WAR VETERANS BACKGROUND ESSAY

This vignette shows a number of wounded veterans from the United States Colored Troops (USCT) who attended the July 4th event outside Lexington in 1867. They listened to the speeches from a wagon decorated to honor them.

Many 4th of July events today include some way to honor veterans. This honor was especially important to the USCT veterans. They were not generally given the same honors as white veterans of the Union Army.

It was not until 1924 that a monument was built in Kentucky to honor USCT soldiers. You can visit the monument today in Frankfort.

