

A SESQUICENTENNIAL ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ MOMENT

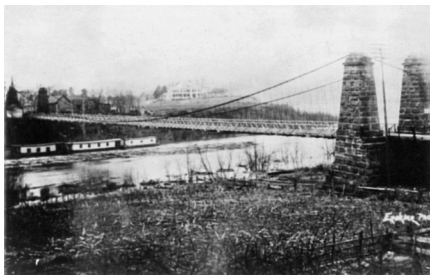
Nov. 10-16, 1861

MEN DIDN'T ALWAYS ACT HONORABLY DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

After guaranteeing safety to a Union recruit attempting to swim across the Guyandotte River, former Cabell County Sheriff Wilson B. Moore pointed his pistol at the man and "discharged its contents into his head, literally blowing his brains out, mutilating his head in a shocking manner."

That account illustrates the brutality surrounding the events of the November 1861 Battle of Guyandotte, which is now a Huntington historic district.

Although the battle was technically a Confederate victory, it could also be described as



Photograph provided by Jack Dickinson

a Union massacre, as Federal loyalists were often murdered. In addition to killing civilians, the Confederates also burned the town as they left.

The decimated town of Guyandotte is a vivid reminder, not only of the brutality of war, but also of the animosity between supporters of the opposing sides of the war in western Virginia.

This sesquicentennial moment is brought to you by the West Virginia Sesquicentennial Commission and the West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

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