

Chapter Contacts

Please forward to your members!



As a geographical area....New Zealand seems to have more aviation enthusiasts per capita than anywhere else. Or at least, enthusiasts with the drive to rebuild really OLD airplanes where they can, and BUILD exact replicas where they can't. I mean, how many of the smaller countries in the world have seen built new AIRWORTHY exact copies of the plywood wonder, the de Havilland Mosquito?



Or Fokkers?

So I think you'll find interesting the lead article this month: a photo tour of "The Old Stick and Rudder Company Museum" at Hood Airfield on North Island, New Zealand. Besides that article, check it out at these links....

<http://hoodaerodrome.org.nz/gallery/nggallery>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D9YDPP6lx3M>

....and many more.....

And nowto everybody's favorite part of Sprue Examiner:

Old Rumors/ New Kits 2G

....where I first floated right through the ships, then most of the airplanes. And **WOW!**can you believe it? Another 1/32nd Bf-109G! AND another 1/32nd P-51D! **Be still, my heart!!** *If you think I jest, you're right ...and somebody will likely judge me "Politically Incorrect" too! I don't really have anything against either ...but really?*

But thenaircraft product reporter Randy Bumgardner (also chapter El Presidente) mentions an outfit called *Civilized Models*, which I discover on their website (<https://www.civilizedmodels.com/>) to be an American company of the classic "cottage model company" genre: to quote from the website: "...I am a one man shop and I do it all...from masters, rubber, resin, vac-forming, artwork, decals, box art, Instructions, packaging, shipping, and everything in between...Thanks for your time and continued support..... " **They (he)** have done LOTS of classic "Unlimited" racers



...but the exciting news for many might be the upcoming BD-5J in both 1/48th and 1/32nd.



But the armorenthusiasts will find they haven't been forgottenpage after page of new stuff in fact, and

Finallythere are the FIGURES. Several of the new offerings are to me in the “bad-dream-don't-scare-the-little-kids” category; but as they say in scale modeling: to each, his own.

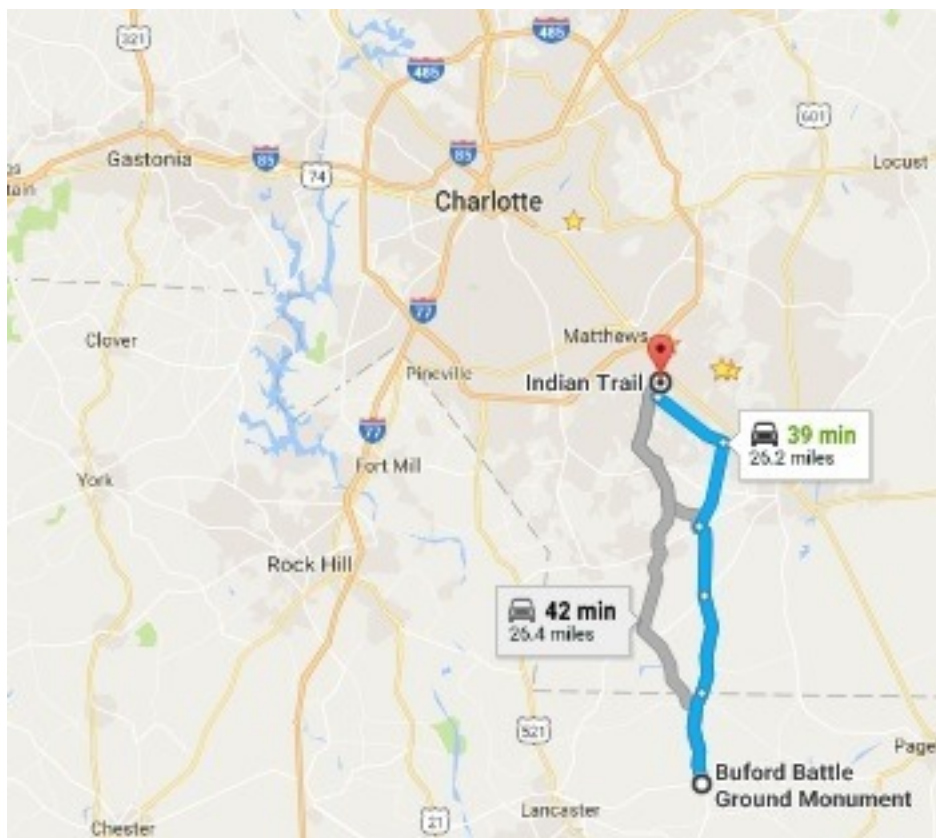
Your scribe has never been a figure modeler, but what really grabbed my attention was Andrea's new white metal 54 mm (1/32nd) kit titled “Cossack Attack”! (For more spectacular views of this action vignette see [http://www.andreaeurope.com/en/1/andrea-miniatures/107/the-napoleonic-wars/2383/s7-s06-cossack-attack-1812-130.html#!prettyPhoto\[gallery1\]/4/](http://www.andreaeurope.com/en/1/andrea-miniatures/107/the-napoleonic-wars/2383/s7-s06-cossack-attack-1812-130.html#!prettyPhoto[gallery1]/4/))



It has caused me to go off on one of my tangents. Sorry, but I don't seem to have control of these events. Your recourse to avoid a history lesson is always the "delete" button.

My interest didn't come from any great interest in Napoleon losing one of his infantryman to a Cossack's sabreafter all, said victim was only one of more than a third of a MILLION troops Napoleon lost on his disastrous foray into Russia. This one probably had a more mercifully death than the many more lost to the famed Russian leader, "General Winter", on that retreat across the frozen steppes.

Rather, I WAS struck by the similarity of the pose to that identified with a similar military disasterthis one happened to Americansa couple of hundred of themjust across the border in South Carolina, a little over twenty-six miles from where I'm sitting, here in the southeastern Charlotte 'burbs.



I would confidently bet that 95% of EVERYONE in even this area would NOT know what happened there during the Revolutionary War; and beyond that not know why it is so important to them.

Simply put, the military disasterusually called a “massacre”that happened right here became a rallying cry and turning point in the American Revolution.

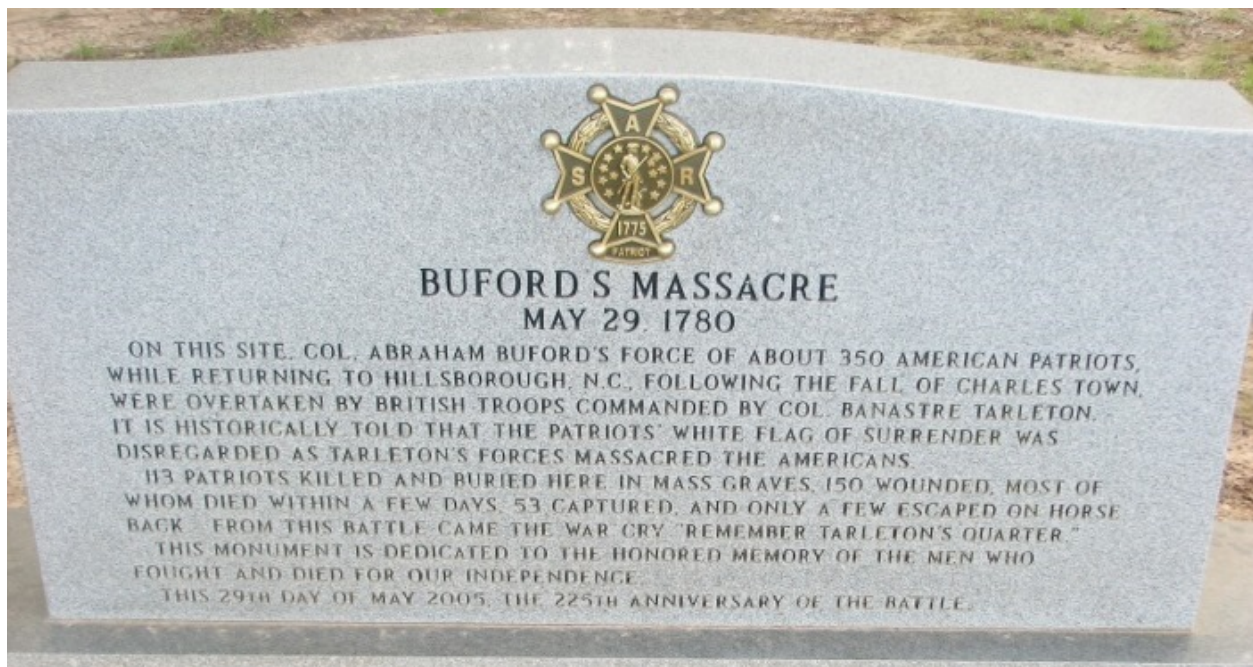
That war had not been going well at all for the rebels.



The site is so modest that it's easy to drive past within a very few yards, and not even be noticed. No National Military Park, no park rangers in “Smokey the Bear” hats explaining how everything went

down, no gift shop with all the trinkets and post cards, no school busses full of kids, and no young guys trying to make out with their dates; all in the name of “History”.

For that matter, even two hundred thirty-seven years later, the two sides still don't agree on what happened here. Our side insists that one of King George's cavalry units had ridden down a retreating rebel infantry unit and hacked them to death, much like our Cossack and the unfortunate Frenchman, and even as they tried to surrender. That's what the marker says.



The Brits insist that's not what happened at all.

But dead is dead; and the victims can't tell us what happened. Today, historians don't even know the names of the many soldiers who lie under this mass grave cairn.



So, you might say....that what happened here depends on your viewpoint.

The English still think their famed cavalry leader at the battle, Banastre Tarleton, was a hale fellow. He evidently had a propensity to bedding other men's wives, but they say really not all that bad a character. And admittedly, when Mel Gibson made his "The Patriot" movie, he so distorted events concerning Tarleton that the movie's villain had to be renamed from Tarleton to "Tavington". But still, the movie severely incensed the British. (An interesting read here https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Patriot_%282000_film%29)

But whatever the truth, we know that the real event was turned into a shining example of propaganda which caused many Americans to choose sides, who had been “sitting on the fence” and still considered themselves Englishmen. There was a sea change in attitudes, and a few months after the “Buford Massacre” on January 17, 1781, Tarleton was soundly defeated by an inferior rebel force at another battle in the then-South Carolina backwoods. (It’s called “The Battle of Cowpens” because the area had been just that: cow pens! More importantly, some military analysts have called American General Daniel Morgan’s successful battle plan at Cowpens “...the only example of original generalship on either side during the entire war”. <http://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/battle-of-cowpens>)

However, where in the Gibson movie’s final gory finale “Tavington” gets skewered; the last thing seen of the real Tarleton at Cowpens was the butt of his horse going over the hill: he eventually made it back to England, where he wrote books blaming his commanding general for the loss of the colonies, was elected to Parliament, promoted to General, and fifty-three years after this event died an old man in his bed at the age of seventy-eight.

Another viewpoint....at what is variously called “The Waxhaw Massacre” or “The Buford Massacre” (after the American commander); was that of a local widow and her two sons. Scots-Irish Presbyterians only a few years removed from Northern Ireland, the mother, who had already lost her eldest son to the war and already had no love for the English, had her attitude solidified as they helped care for the wounded and bury the dead. Eventually mother and the middle son lost their lives to the war, so that only the youngest son* would survive, an orphan at age fourteen with a burning hatred of all things English. After a stirring military career capped by the Battle of New Orleans in a later war with the English, backwoodsman Andrew

Jackson would ride that fame and carry that attitude all the way to the White House.

*So, that's what I thought of.....*when I saw that figure of the Cossack riding down the French soldier from the Napoleonic Wars!



IPMS/USA 6390

* **Historians have thus far** been unable to determine exactly where Jackson had been born in the Waxhaws region on the then-inexact border between between the Carolinas, so today BOTH states claim Andrew Jackson as a "Native Son"!

The "Waxhaws" name comes from the Native American tribe who had called home what is today the Carolinas piedmont border area. The tribe had been wiped out by the Europeans' smallpox as well as the

little-remembered early 18th century Yamasee war which pitted numerous Native American tribes against the colonists and had threatened the South Carolina colony's existence. The vacuum caused by the Waxhaws disappearance was filled by the newly-arrived Scots-Irish immigrants, nearly all Presbyterians with no love for the Church of England. They struggled down "The Wagon Road" from Pennsylvania; the best lands in northern colonies having already been staked out by earlier waves of settlers.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waxhaws>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yamasee_War