Think Christmas Witness Trees

Two mighty trees, before nature claimed them in this century, stood watch over critical events at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. These "Witness Tree" products are available on a very limited basis and were present at the time of the battle. But there are only a handful remaining. Discoloration due to lead striations of bullets and shells and other irregularities can be observed.

One of these "witness trees", a large oak, observed Longstreet's men as they formed for the assault on the Peach Orchard, Wheatfield and Round Tops on 2 July, 1863. Soldiers from Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Maine, Michigan, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and New York fought on this ground.

The other, a honey locust tree, had a bird's eye view of Cemetery Hill, and witnessed the panicked Federal troops falling back to its protection on the afternoon of 1 July 1863. On July 2, Federal artillery canvassed the Hill, shooting hundreds of rounds, and along with infantry, withstood attack after attack from the Confederates. The most momentous battle of the Civil War culminated at the base of this Hill on July 3 with the repulse of Pickett's Charge. The tree withstood shot and shell, and provided cover and shade to the soldiers that preserved the Union. Because Cemetery Hill played a decisive role in that battle, it was selected as the final resting place for over 3,500 soldiers. President Lincoln spoke at the dedication ceremony, giving his immortal address on November 19, 1863 in its shadow.

Longstreet Tree prices

Desk pen & wood case...\$39.95 Clock...\$49.95 Minie Ball Paperweight \$24.95 Battlefield minie ball on stand...\$19.95 Magnet with RE Lee image...\$14.95

Lincoln Tree Prices

Writing pen in wooden case #205/500...\$49.95
Paperweight with Lincoln image ...\$14.95



Items are available for purchase at the Gift Shop or by calling the museum sales desk at 817-246-2323