

2ND QUARTER INDIVIDUALIZED FIELD TRIP**Civil War Public Sculpture**

Robert Gould Shaw and the 54th Massachusetts Infantry
Augustus Saint-Gaudens (Sculptor)

&

The Spirit of Freedom (The National Memorial to African American Soldiers and Sailors of the Civil War)
Ed Hamilton (Sculptor)

Directions:

1. Visit the National Gallery of Art, West Building and study the 1900 plaster version of the *Shaw Memorial* and use the appropriate Sculpture Analysis Worksheet to help you.
2. Read the pamphlet/publication regarding the *Shaw Memorial* and answer the related worksheet. (200 points)
3. Take two photos of you standing in front of the *Shaw Memorial*. You will attach one in your journal and one will go up on “Clio’s Corner”. (50 points)
4. Visit the *Spirit of Freedom* and study the sculpture from all angles.
 - This sculpture is located on U Street. Take the Green Line of the METRO and exit at the U Street – Cardozo Station stop. The sculpture is at the top of the escalator of the METRO stop. Please note that you will be in the Shaw neighborhood of Washington, D.C., so named for Robert Gould Shaw. If you choose to drive it is across the street from Ben’s Chili Bowl. Parking is very limited.
5. Take two photos of you standing in front of the *Spirit of Freedom*. You will attach one in your journal and one will go up on “Clio’s Corner”. (50 points)

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6. Respond, in your journal, to each of the following Journal Entries:

- A. Comment on your visits and what you studied. Compare and contrast the two memorials.
- What impression did each leave on you?
 - Which memorial was a more effective piece of sculpture in conveying the story of African-American participation in the Civil War? Why?
 - Which sculpture, in your opinion is a better piece of artwork? Why?

B. Saint-Gaudens recorded the following in his autobiography years after the 1897 dedication of the *Shaw Memorial* on Boston Common:

“The impression of those old soldiers, passing the very spot where they left for the war so many years before, thrills me even as I write these words. They faced and saluted the relief. With the music playing, “John Brown’s Body”, a recall of what I had heard and seen thirty years before from my cameo-cutters window. They seemed as if returning from the war, the troops in bronze marching in the opposite direction, the direction in which they had left for the front, and the young men there represented now showing these veterans the vigor and hope of youth. It was a consecration.”

- Based on all the components of this assignment, that you have made, what would the ghost or spirit of Saint-Gaudens say if chanced to see the *Spirit of Freedom*? Why?

C. *The Shaw Memorial* was dedicated on Boston Common in 1897. This monument is to a single regiment. The *Spirit Of Freedom* was dedicated in 1997 in Washington, D.C. Why do you think that it took 100 years to dedicate a national memorial to the contributions of African-Americans during the Civil War?

D. Choose one of the many poems written about the *Shaw Memorial and the 54th Massachusetts Infantry*. Place a Xeroxed copy of the poem in your journal and analyze the poem. What does the poem say to you? Why?

Due Dates: Periods 1 & 7 Wednesday, January 17
 Periods 2 & 4 Tuesday, January 16

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