

National Civil War Museum Advisory Council Member

<u>Member Contact</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Location</u>
<p>Brion Fitzgerald Deputy Superintendent</p> <p>Brion Fitzgerald is the Deputy Superintendent of Gettysburg National Military Park. He is responsible for the long-term strategic planning as well as day-to-day operations for the battlefield and the Eisenhower National Historic Site.</p> <p>Mr. FitzGerald is a 32-year veteran of the National Park Service. He started in 1978 in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park as a backcountry ranger. He has worked through a succession of Park Ranger positions at Joshua Tree National Park, Gulf Islands National Seashore, Saguaro National Park, and Everglades National Park. He was Chief Ranger at Assateague Island National Seashore for 7 years prior to coming to Gettysburg National Military Park in 1995 as Chief of Interpretation, Protection and Museum Services for Gettysburg, with oversight over protection and museum services at the Eisenhower National Historic Site as well. He currently serves as the Deputy Superintendent and Chief Ranger for the two park areas.</p> <p>Mr. Fitzgerald has a bachelor's degree in park management from East Carolina University and has served as an enlisted member and officer with the U. S. Coast Guard Reserves for 19 years. He currently holds the rank of Commander in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserves, stationed at Sector New York.</p> <p>He lives in Fairfield, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Mary Robinson. They have three children.</p> <p>Since 1933, the National Park Service has cared for Gettysburg National Military Park as a symbol of America's struggle to survive as a nation, and as a lasting memorial to the armies and soldiers who served in that great conflict. The Battle of Gettysburg was a turning point in the Civil War. The Union victory in the summer of 1863 that ended General Robert E. Lee's second and most ambitious invasion of the North was the war's bloodiest battle with 51,000 casualties. It also provided President Abraham Lincoln with the setting for his most famous address.</p> <p>The park has experienced a period of transition beginning with the rehabilitation of the battlefield landscape and construction of a new Museum and Visitor Center, which was completed in Spring 2008. The battlefield rehabilitation project returned the Gettysburg landscape as close as possible to its 1863 appearance. The Gettysburg Museum and Visitor Center was funded through donations coordinated by the Gettysburg Foundation. The newly renovated Gettysburg Cyclorama opened to the public in late September of 2008.</p> <p>The life of the Civil War soldier is a main feature of the new Museum and Visitor Center. Many of the objects on display are directly related to the people and places highlighted in each display case. Thousands of items in the collection relate to the Civil War soldier.</p> <p>Gettysburg National Military Park offers a full range of summer programs (mid-June through mid-August), battlefield walks, evening campfire programs, and other special events including living history groups and band concerts.</p> <p>For more information, visit www.nps.gov/gett/.</p>	<p>Gettysburg National Military Park</p>	<p>Gettysburg, PA</p>