NOAA’s Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, City of Newport News and The Mariners’ Museum to dedicate three Monitor Trail signs

NOAA’s Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, along with the City of Newport News and The Mariners’ Museum will dedicate three Monitor Trail signs that honor the Civil War’s Battle of Hampton Roads that took place in 1862 off the shores of Newport News, Virginia.

Two of the signs give visitors to Monitor-Merrimac Overlook Park details of the battles that occurred near there on March 8 and March 9, 1862. The third sign provides an overview of Monitor National Marine Sanctuary and its role in protecting and conserving the USS Monitor.

The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremony on March 8, at 11:00 a.m., at Monitor-Merrimac Overlook Park. The park is located between 1500-1546 16th Street in Newport News, Virginia. Officials from the City of Newport News, NOAA’s Monitor National Marine Sanctuary, and The Mariners’ Museum will speak at the dedication ceremony.

From Brooklyn, New York, to Beaufort, North Carolina, a series of Monitor Trail wayside signs are being installed to tell the story of the Civil War ironclad USS Monitor from conception to construction; from battle to sinking; and from discovery in 1973 to present day. Currently, four trail signs have been installed.

Managed by NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Monitor National Marine Sanctuary was designated in 1975 to protect the wreck of the famed Civil War ironclad USS Monitor, which sank during a storm 16 miles off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina in 1862.

NOAA’s mission is to understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, from the depths of the ocean to the surface of the sun, and to conserve and manage our coastal and marine resources. Join us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and our other social media channels.

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