

## Historians Join Headstone Battle

The Chemung County Historical Society has entered the battle to get a historical headstone moved to the Newtown Battlefield.

The marker honoring American Continentals, British and Indians who died in the Battle of Newtown is now on private property near a dump in the Town of Ashland. It carries the date of the battle, Aug. 29, 1779.

In a letter to Donald E. Ryan, regional manager for the Finger Lakes State Parks Commission, Mrs. Martha B. Kelsey said, "This monument, though battle-scarred by recent generations, should without question be preserved and placed in an area where it might be observed and appreciated by the greatest number of people possible."

Mrs. Kelsey, Chemung County historian, continues: "I have discussed the plight of this marker with the president of our Chemung County Historical Society, Asaph Hall, and the curator of our museum, Mrs. Charles Brayton.

"We agree wholeheartedly that the marker should be moved to the Newtown Battlefield Reservation and would appreciate your continued consideration of this move."

Ryan had said that the state parks commission would investigate the old headstone to determine its specific historical value. He had indicated informally that there would be merit in moving it to the hillside park known popularly as Sullivan's Monument.

## Historians Join Headstone Battle, Star-Gazette (Elmira, NY) Dec.13,1966

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