

**COL. EPHRAIM WILLIAM, JR.  
MONUMENT and GRAVESITE**  
*Historic Landscape and Preservation  
Planning Report with Restoration  
and Site-Related Improvements*  
Lake George-Glens Falls, New York  
Williams College

**Project Data**

Date: 2004-2005  
Size: 3± acres  
Context: Route 9 between Lake  
George and Glens Falls,  
New York



*Painting of Col. Ephraim Williams being shot*



*Historic image of the boulder and memorial*



*Freestanding interpretive sign and path  
down to the memorial obelisk*

**Project Description:**

Ephraim Williams, Jr., a Colonial in the King's army, was killed on September 8, 1755 while leading a force of British troops and Mohawk Indians south from their campsite on the shores of Lake George, New York. This battle was the beginning of the Battle of Lake George, was part of The French and Indian War, and was a seminal point in the history and territorial control of North America. In 1854, Williams College erected a white marble obelisk as a memorial to their founder atop the boulder where Col. Williams was killed and placed a small boulder on his gravesite. Both sites were enclosed with a fence. Col. Williams' will provided money for the establishment of a free school, which ultimately became Williams College.

Our goal was to rehabilitate these two landscapes so Williams College, its Alumni, and guests can enjoy these significant sites for many years. The project's objectives included the preparation of a historically sensitive plan that improved public access and pedestrian circulation, restored both historic fences, cleaned and replicated the white marble obelisk, provided vehicular parking and interpretive signs, plantings, and prepared a plan for future maintenance and management.

Our work included archival research to record the history and changes of the landscape, document and assess existing conditions, and establish the most appropriate treatment for each character-defining landscape feature. Treatment recommendations and budget projections guided the rehabilitation and properly informed us on the sensitive incorporation of modern day features. All of our work followed the guidelines established by *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Treatments of Historic Properties* prepared by the National Park Service, 1996.

**This project was recognized with a 2006 Merit Award from the Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.**



*Replicated memorial obelisk, restored fence, path, lawn and new sign.  
Restoration completed as part of the 250-year anniversary of Col. Wms'. death*