FATHER OF
THE AMERICAN CAVALRY

High Mass of Dedication
Unveiling Ceremonies
Ball Festivities
of the

GENERAL CASIMIR PULASKI
Memorial Monument

Erected on Pulaski Plaza
Hartford, Conn.
Saturday, July 3, 1976

PRICE
$1.00
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FOREWORD

Over thirty years ago, an idea was born in the city of Hartford, Connecticut. A committee was formed to foster the construction of a monument honoring General Casimir Pulaski. For various reasons the attempt was unsuccessful.

Later, a second committee, well on its way in the planning for the project was frustrated in its efforts when the State of Connecticut had designed a major highway which would pass through Pulaski Circle when the monument was to have been constructed.

Finally, in 1972, with the added impetus of the approaching bi-centennial year, a third committee was formed for the purpose of erecting a bronze equestrian statue of General Casimir Pulaski commemorating his contributions to the cause of freedom having served in the Revolutionary War under the command of George Washington.

With redevelopment proceeding in Hartford, negotiations were taking place with Mayor Athanson, the Common Council, and the Redevelopment Agency to name the area adjacent to the Federal Building, Pulaski Plaza and the entire block, Pulaski Square. Permission was granted to erect the statue between the Federal Building and the Historic McCook House adjacent to Main Street.

A sub-committee, The Sculptor Selection Committee devoted countless hours in interviewing thirty sculptors from all over the world for the project. Granville W. Carter N.A. of New York City. With approval of Mayor Athanson, the Common Council, a contract was signed in the Spring of 1973 with a specification that the monument was to coincide with the bi-centennial celebration on July 4, 1976.

Three stages were involved in the culmination of this goal. In 1973 a sketch of the model was approved. One and a half years later in 1975 approval was given for a 1½ life size model of the statue. Early in 1976, the third stage, a 1½ life size clay model was given approval, clearing the way for casting the bronze in the foundry.

The 12 foot high pedestal for the monument constructed of Indiana limestone and Maine granite was designed by architect Edwin Fletcher AIA of New York City. With 10 foot equestrian portion of the bronze statue, the overall monument rises majestically 22 feet above ground level.

Funds for the project were raised through the diligence and enthusiasm of the many committees shown in this booklet with the help of thousands of Americans of Polish descent and their friends who supported the numerous fund raising activities throughout the State of Connecticut.

This project was, indeed, an exciting and once in a lifetime opportunity for any one involved to bring to completion a tremendous undertaking accomplished entirely through private funds.

Edward J. Kozlowski
We now mark the beginning of our 3rd Century as an independent Nation as well as the 200th Anniversary of the American Revolution. For two centuries our Nation has grown, changed and flourished. A diverse people, drawn from all corners of the earth, have joined together to fulfill the promise of democracy.

America's Bicentennial is rich in history and in the promise and potential of the years that lie ahead. It is about the events of our past, our achievements, our traditions, our diversity, our freedoms, our form of government, to a better life for all Americans.

The Bicentennial offers each of us the opportunity to join with our fellow citizens in honoring the past and preparing for the future in communities across the Nation. Thus, in joining together as races, nationalities, and individuals, we also retain and strengthen our traditions, background and personal freedom.

As we lay the cornerstone of America's 3rd Century, I commend the three Chairmen, Walter J. Przech, Reverend Anthony J. Bomboliski and Edward J. Kozlowski, the entire Memorial Committee, the Polish American Community, the Mayor of Hartford, the Common Council, the Redevelopment Agency, the citizens of Connecticut and other States, on the unveiling of the General Casimir Pulaski equestrian monument. Efforts such as this are helping to make our great national celebration a memorable and meaningful one for all.
July 3, 1976

General Pulaski Memorial Committee
of Connecticut
60 Charter Oak Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Friends:

The two hundred years of American History are filled with countless liberty-loving men and women who have believed in freedom and equality. Their efforts to prevent discrimination, to overthrow tyranny, and to right injustice have served to insure that life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness remain the undeniable rights of all Americans.

General Pulaski was one of these Soldiers of Freedom. His contribution to the American Revolutionary War effort was monumental. Joining the Continental Army in 1777, his extraordinary bravery and skill at Brandywine earned him the appointment of Brigadier General. With his self-organized body of cavalry and light infantry, he brilliantly defended Charleston. The valor of Pulaski's Legion was exceeded by none. General Pulaski died gallantly, losing his life in the attack on Savannah in 1779.

Today we pay tribute to General Pulaski -- because he fought and died to make men free, the greatness of American Democracy stands alone in History.

Sincerely,

Lowell Weicker, Jr.
United States Senator

July, 1976

General Pulaski Memorial Committee

Dear Friends:

Greetings on behalf of the City of Hartford.

It is indeed my pleasure to convey heartfelt congratulations to you for the outstanding accomplishments you have made in bringing to fruition the dreams of many members of the Polish community, as you gather to honor the memory of General Pulaski.

The General Pulaski Monument Dedication Ceremony is an historic achievement among your many contributions to the growth and development of the City of Hartford. And will stand as a permanent example to all people of the fruits of dedication and commitment to duty. It is indeed a supreme victory.

The Polish community has consciously striven to maintain a creative posture in Hartford, and in so doing has contributed greatly toward the enhancement of the theme of our city "After the Clouds the Sun". You have further promoted harmony and understanding among our residents by performing with integrity and deep concern for others. I am proud to be part of such a vibrant and cohesive community.

As we join in paying tribute to the memory of an outstanding citizen, let us also take time to rededicate ourselves to the future improvement of life among all people by unity under the banner of brotherly love in order that we may have justice for all and peace among men.

As Mayor of Hartford, and in behalf of the residents of Hartford, I salute you on this momentous occasion.

Faithfully yours,

George A. Athanson
Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
200 MAIN STREET
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06103
PHONE: 203/596-3300

GEORGE A. ATHANON
MAYOR
Messages from Our Two Honorary Chairmen

Today marks a red-letter day in the history of Polish-Americans in Connecticut and especially in Hartford. Under the leadership of Mr. Walter Przech, this state-wide endeavor now comes to its fruition. For those of Polish descent, it is a symbol of worth, unselfishly embraced and laudably achieved. For other Americans, it is a reminder that the United States of America is an amalgam of various native cultures and of many facets. For all the world, it is a sermon in sculpture reminding us of the beauty of chivalry, the worth of unselfish loyalty, the price of liberty.

General Casimir Pulaski lives in the history of the United States because he gave his life for our freedom and independence. “Greater love than this no man hath—that he lays down his life for his friends.” General Pulaski and his Legion played a not insignificant role in the Revolutionary War and brought distinction, honor and glory to our armed forces. At Brandywine, Trenton and especially Savannah, they gave dramatic proof of the cost of independence.

Treasure that lesson, cherish that heritage, my fellow-Americans, for it is a lofty heritage and a worthwhile lesson in serving the best that is in us. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty and eternal generosity and loyalty are the price of survival and strength. We thank everyone who contributed to this patriotic endeavor. We congratulate you that, along with other mementoes of our Nation’s Bicentennial, this monument of General Pulaski will stand as a magnificent testimonial to patriotism, loyalty, bravery and love of freedom.

Father Anthony J. Bomboliski

The General Casimir Pulaski monument is one of the largest private enterprises constructed in the United States of America towards the Bicentennial celebration of our country.

What a great honor it has been to serve with such an outstanding and enthusiastic committee. With an initial nucleus of a handful of individuals under the dedicated chairmanship of Mr. Walter J. Przech and the spiritual guidance of Honorary Chairman Reverend Father Anthony Bomboliski, the project took off in 1972 and the momentum accelerated year by year.

From the selection of the prestigious and talented sculptor Mr. Granville W. Carter N.A., to the various fund raising activities, to the approvals of the three phases of the monument, the holy mass of dedication, the parade, the unveiling ceremony and the preparation of this booklet, I am pleased to say I had the honor and privilege to have participated in this most historic and auspicious occasion.

May the spirit of this statue of General Pulaski live on and remind us all that freedom is a precious commodity that must be fought for to be preserved and never should be taken for granted.

Very Truly Yours,
Edward J. Kozlowski

Editor’s Note:

Edward J. Kozlowski was born on July 9, 1926 in Bridgeport, Conn., moved to Milford, Conn. in 1928 and has lived there ever since. He graduated from Milford Prep and Milford High School. He received his degree in Mechanical Engineering at Clarkson College of Technology in Potsdam, N.Y.

Mr. Kozlowski is a veteran of World War II, having served in the U.S. Navy from 1943-1946 in the Pacific theater of war. He was honorably discharged as a Second Class Petty Officer, Torpedoman.

Ed is married to the former Theresa Francik and they have four sons. He has served on many committees in the industrial and civic fields. He is the former Mayor of Milford, Conn. 1969-1971, former State Commissioner of Public Works 1971-1973 and former State Commissioner of Motor Vehicles 1973-1975 under Governor Thomas J. Meskill. He is currently the Director of Corporate Security of Harvey Hubbell Inc., at Orange, Conn.
July 3, 1976

My very best wishes to all who have gathered here for the dedication ceremony of the General Pulaski Monument.

The dedication of the Monument in Hartford is a tribute to the commitment and perseverance of all who have labored diligently for the past 25 years to bring this notable project to fruition.

Polish-American groups throughout our state are to be commended for their support of the project and for having raised $126,000 through private donations.

The sculpture by Granville Carter is a magnificent tribute to the memory of General Casimir Pulaski. The monument will serve as a reminder to the citizens of our state of the courage and dedication to the principles of freedom and independence exhibited by General Pulaski.

The General's heroic actions during the American Revolution were an inspiration to the colonists for whom he fought. His love of liberty and justice, nurtured in the battle for freedom in his native Poland, encouraged our colonial ancestors in their efforts to establish a new and vibrant nation.

The people of our state are proud of the role General Pulaski played in the American Revolution. They are also grateful to all who helped bring into being the splendid General Pulaski Monument which is a treasured addition to the heritage of our state and nation.

 signatures
ELLA GRASSO
Governor
Granville W. Carter, sculptor of the General Casimir Pulaski Monument, was born in Augusta, Maine where as a youth he began carving horses in wood. Early success and acclaim with those creations launched him into an impressive career which has over the years reached international fame. Following education in the Augusta public schools and Coburn Classical Institute his serious study of art began at the Portland School of Fine and Applied Art and continued in New York City at the National Academy School of Fine Arts and the New York City School of Industrial Art. His first teacher in sculpture was the famed John Flanagan, creator of our Washington Quarter. In addition to prizes won as a student Carter was awarded two Tiffany Fellowships enabling him to study abroad for two years in Paris and Rome. There he attended the Grand Chaumiere de Paris and the Scuolo del Circolare Internazionale di Roma and was in residence one year at the American Academy in Rome.

While a student at the National Academy, Carter came to the attention of internationally-renowned sculptor, Herbert Haseltine, whom he began assisting over a period of ten years. During that association he enjoyed the rare opportunity of assisting on three equestrian statues: the famed race horse, Man O’ War, located in Lexington, Kentucky, a monument to the British Field Marshall, Sir John Dill, who coordinated in Washington the British and American military effort during World War II, and the beautiful George Washington which stands at the foot of the Pilgrim Steps of the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. For short periods of time he also assisted the distinguished sculptors Bryant Baker, Joseph Kiselewski, and Sidney Waugh and Carter’s reputation began to emerge.

Progressively an impressive series of works by Granville Carter have been created serving as focal points of artistic and historical interest from his native state of Maine to Texas. So popular did his Official Sesquicentennial Medal for Maine become that its proceeds meaningfully funded the Maine League of Historical Societies and was used as gold embossments on both covers of its widely circulated book, “Maine a Guide Down East”. A panel of the silver and bronze issues of this medal was presented by the Governor to the Smithsonian Institute for permanent display.

His medals have won the important Lindsey Morris Memorial Prize of the National Sculpture Society. Several were created to complement the collection of busts in the Hall of Fame for Great Americans at New York University. One of these portrait medals, George Washington, together with the Pulaski Monument Dedication Medal were acquired recently by the Museum of Medals in Wroclaw, Poland. Plaques from his Thomas Edison Medal have been acquired for the Edison National Homes in New Jersey and Florida. His work on the bronze bust of Jane Addams for the Hall of Fame led directly to the commission of a massive bust (three times life size), Alexander Stewart, founder of Garden City in New York. It is mounted on a granite pedestal which is a segment of one of the columns of the demolished Pennsylvania Railroad Station in New York City; this was done because of historical ties.

For several years he participated in the sculptural adornment of the Washington Cathedral (the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.) where now carved in limestone can be seen his commissioned pieces. They include Saint Augustine of Canterbury, two heroic sized Archangels Michael and Gabriel which flank the great rose window some ninety feet above the entrance to the South Transept, and a series of thirty one works (Bosses) for the clerestory of the central nave depicting the Passion in some sixty figures. He also did the Central Tower Dedication Medal. The distinguished architect of the Washington Cathedral, Philip Frohman, and Carter were jointly honored when the Henry Hering Memorial Medal, given for outstanding collaboration on architectural sculpture, was awarded them in 1968. The Archangels Michael and Gabriel are featured in Goode’s book, “The Outdoor Sculpture of Washington,” and also in “For Thy Great Glory,” by Feller and Fishback.

In 1971 Carter completed one of his best known commissions, the heroic sized historical statue, “West Texas Pioneer Family”. This monument in bronze for which a two square-block park was created in downtown Lubbock has become a classic example of American monumental sculpture. An editorial written in the Lubbock Avalanche Journal at the time of its dedication correctly predicted its expanding acceptance and popularity.

A prodigious assortment of busts, fountains, figures, reliefs, and medals, in addition to the monumental sculpture has earned for Carter recognition from many sources. His works have been exhibited both in the United States and Europe and have been written about in many newspapers and other publications. The Gold Medal of the American Artists Professional League was awarded to him in 1970 and in January of this year he was presented the coveted Salus Award by the American Numismatic Society (the first presentation of that award since 1970) for, “Signal achievement in the art of the medal” and made a Life Member of the Society. He is a Fellow of the National Sculpture Society, Fellow of the American Artists Professional League, was elected A.N.A. in 1964 and received his N.A. in 1970 from the National Academy of Design. (N.A. in sculpture is limited to fifty sculptors in the United States.) He serves on the Board of Directors of the National Sculpture Society, the American Artists Professional League, the Council of American Artist Societies and also on the Editorial Board of the National Sculpture Review. He is listed in Who's Who in America, Who’s Who in American Art, National Register of Prominent Americans, Honorarium Americana, Community Leaders of America, and the Dictionary of International Biography.

With his reputation continuing to grow (the Pulaski Monument is the first heroic sized equestrian commission in the United States in twenty years) what little free time he has outside his Baldwin, New York studio has been scheduled to permit him to instruct at the National Academy — an assignment he has relished for the past eight years.

Granville’s wife Senta, is a noted artist in her own right, famed for her illuminated manuscripts and calligraphy, while their daughter, Julie, is a Freshman at Bates College and their son, Richard, is a student at Baldwin Junior High School.
Casimir Pulaski Soldier of Liberty

There are names to conjure with, and such a name is Pulaski. A man who, during his life and 200 years later, evokes an image of chivalry, loyalty, gallantry, and heroism. Pulaski's life is identified with the cause of liberty.

Casimir Pulaski, a younger son, was born in 1747 in a small mansion, Winiary, near Warka, to an influential magnate, Joseph Pulaski. In his family home he learned those virtues which guided his steps and nurtured his character: faith in his religion, Catholicism; love for his country, Poland; loyalty to his friends; chivalry. But his temperament was tempestuous, brooked no insult, was free of deceit, and demanded personal freedom, a Polish birthright. His ideals have become a symbol and a legacy to us all, both in the United States, for which he give his life, and in Poland, which give him life and shaped his character.

As a young man, Pulaski saw the tragedy of a country slowly losing its remaining freedoms and, more important to many who thought as Pulaski did, in danger of losing its honor. As a pageboy to Prince Charles, the Duke of Courlandia, still nominally a Polish province, he perceived the impotence of the Polish prince and the reality that the Russians ran the province.

In 1768, Joseph Pulaski, Casimir's father, was one of the chief signatories and creators of a Confederation that took as its aim the driving out of the Russians from the territory of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. There were in Poland those, among the Polish aristocracy who thrived on dissension, instability, and chaos and who opportunistically accommodated with the growing influence and power of the Russian Empire in its meddling in Polish internal affairs. But, there were also those clustered around the brilliant King of Poland, Stanislaw Poniatowski, who saw the struggle as an attempt to preserve the country while building up its political, intellectual, administrative, and military power. The efforts of that group were eventually crowned by Europe's most progressive constitution, signed on the third of May, 1791. This document, which strengthened the administrative offices of the country, was the first liberal constitution of Europe since it enfranchised all citizenry. But even prior to its signing, the King created the first Ministry of Higher Education in the world (1773) as well as the Collegium Nobilium to train professional officers. Amongst the most outstanding alumni of this latter institution was Thaddeus Kosciuszko.

While the King and his advisors labored to build the country by starting with the foundations, the abuses and humiliations perpetrated on the Polish nation and its people by the Russian Ambassador, Repnin, in Warsaw, and the excesses of the numerous Russian army garrisons encamped in Poland enraged all patriotic citizens.

The Confederation was an expression of impatience with the political strategy of the Polish King and was directed at the Russians and its goal was the cleansing of Poland of Russian control. It needs to be emphasized that the situation was quite peculiar in that the King and the Royal Army were at best neutral in this strife, though at times they took action against the Confederates in the protection of certain major royal Polish cities. At times some of the royal regiments and frequently its men and officers joined the Confederacy. But, it is also tragically true that at times the Confederation had the hallmarks of a civil war and that not all Polish patriots necessarily approved of the Confederation and its strategy and tactics.

The dilemma of the Polish nation at the end of the eighteenth century has persisted to this day, in the question of whether it is better to swallow a bitter pill of ignominy for the potential sake of a better future or to stake all on a fight to achieve liberty. Casimir Pulaski and his whole family identified with those who could no longer brook the ingenuity of Russian agents in the everyday life of the Polish Lithuanian Commonwealth.

Pulaski, at the tender age of twenty, was made a Colonel of the Confederation, and during the four year struggle, distinguished himself as a most outstanding officer. Eventually, Pulaski was elected Marshall by one of the Polish provinces as recognition of the brilliance of his fight against the Russians. The genius of his cavalry tactics, his leadership, his organizational skills, continually breathed new life and spirit into a cause which appeared to be doomed. The brilliant defense of Czestochowa brought him fame throughout Europe, and the King of Poland through his envoys attempted to persuade Pulaski to cease his military activities and to throw in his lot with the King. Stanislaw Poniatowski was already aware of the budding intent to partition Poland by its two rapacious neighbors, Prussia and Russia. This historical theme of the two enemies has persisted to this century as a nightmare that threatens Poland's freedom. In retrospect, Pulaski's ineptitude as a politician was apparent in his refusal to bolster the King and unite the nation. Yet, possibly King Poniatowski was also strengthened in his diplomatic efforts by the determination of those like Pulaski to wage war, however helpless, rather than submit to tyranny. After four years of fighting, the Confederacy was losing heart. Pulaski attempted to revitalize the struggle and made a tragic and unsuccessful attempt to kidnap the King of Poland, losing much sympathy in the country and being branded, unjustly, as a would-be "regicide".

The next few years were spent in exile in Turkey, which, being at war with Russia, was actively promoting the creation of a Polish Legion. The efforts did not bear the fruit that Pulaski desired and his exile then took him to France which in turn led to an introduction to Benjamin Franklin and his com-
The Architect — Edwin D. Thatcher

The pedestal of the monument has been designed by Edwin D. Thatcher, Architect, of New York City. Mr. Thatcher is a member of the American Institute of Architects and, as an Allied Professional Member, is a Vice-President of the National Sculpture Society.
500 Bronze Medals were Struck to Commemorate this Historic Occasion at the Medallic Art Company — Danbury, Connecticut

Obverse and Reverse of Dedication Medal by G. W. Carter

Banner of the Pulaski Legion flown in battle during the Revolutionary War

Obverse. Reverse.