



A Look Back

As the National Society celebrates its 125th Anniversary in 2015, each issue of Daughters newsletter includes a look back at a moment from the organization's history.

After the small village of Tilloloy, France, was occupied by the Germans for three years during World War I, not one house was left standing. Former President General Julia G. Scott, who served as chair of the War Relief Committee during the administration of President General Sarah E. Guernsey, learned of this situation in 1917 from Madame Jusserand, the wife of the French Ambassador to the United States. An appeal went out to the chapters to raise \$50,000 by a per capita tax of \$.50, and almost all of the money was raised by the end of the Guernsey Administration. The funds were kept in America until conditions in France should warrant their use.

Mrs. Guernsey and her sister visited Tilloloy during the summer of 1919 to consider the best use of the funds. The French government would rebuild the village with money paid to them by the Germans, so it was suggested that the

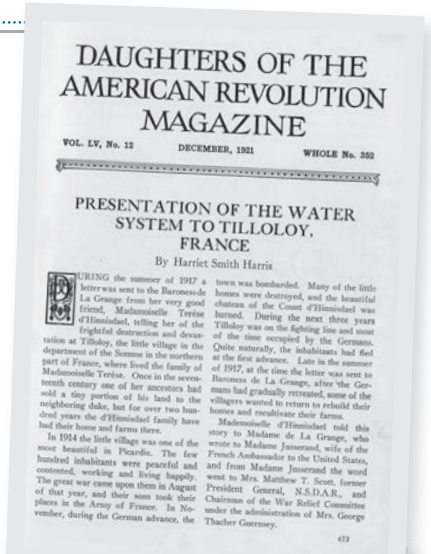


While in Tilloloy, France, in October 2014, President General Lynn Young visited the memorial fountain commemorating the DAR's reconstruction of the town's municipal water system.

National Society install a complete water system in the village. Plans for the water system included an artesian well, a large reservoir, a windmill, 10 or 12 small hydrants along the roads, two fire hydrants, and two watering troughs for animals, one of which would also serve as a decorative fountain.

In June 1920, plans and estimates for the work were submitted to then-President General Anne R. Minor. The plans were approved with a few suggestions, and authority to proceed with the work was given. Work began in November 1920 and was completed in August 1921. Mrs. Minor went to

France to attend the installation ceremony. Many distinguished guests from both countries attended, and the local roads were decorated to honor the DAR. At the conclusion of the dedication 70



A DAR Magazine article from the period details relief work for the village of Tilloloy. The inscription over the entrance arch to Tilloloy, France, reads "Blessed be the Daughters of the American Revolution."

participants enjoyed a luncheon, followed by a tour of the village.

The December 1921 issue of the *Daughters of the American Revolution Magazine* contains an interesting article with pictures of the village and the water system. For access to the full article, as well as all DAR Magazine issues published between 1892 and 2010, explore the Digital Magazine Archive, available via the DAR Magazine Committee website at www.dar.org/members/darmagazine.



Units Overseas National Chair Virginia Lingelbach, France State Regent Dominique Favreul, President General Lynn Young, Tilloloy Mayor Gerard Comyn and Rochambeau Chapter member Lucy Morin at the memorial fountain in Tilloloy