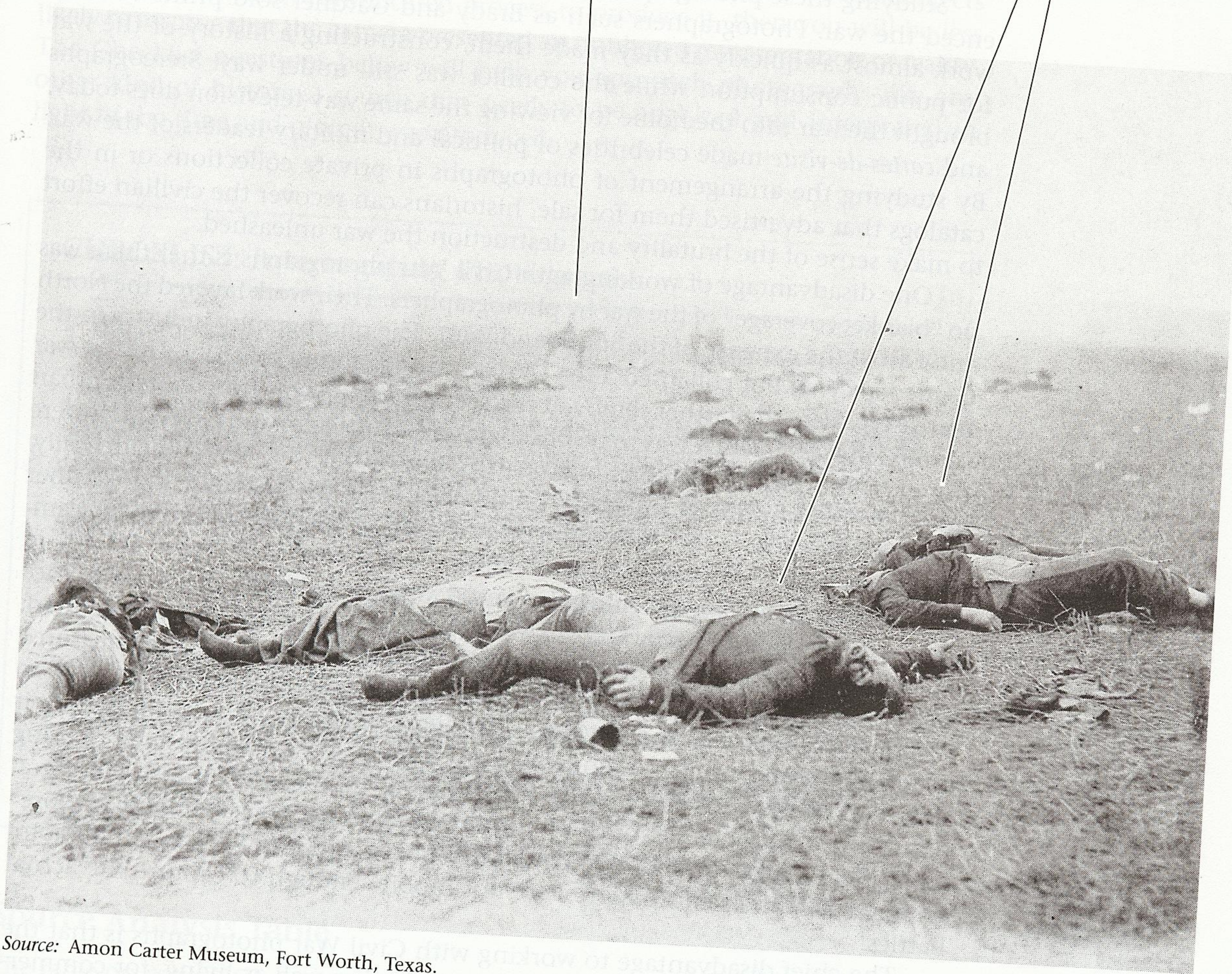


The photo's title, "A Harvest of Death," calls to mind the fields on which the battle took place and invokes popular images of the Grim Reaper

Compare the shadowy figure on horseback to Washington's figure in Trumbull's painting

No evidence here that these dead soldiers ever saw the faces of their enemy



Source: Amon Carter Museum, Fort Worth, Texas.

the horizon. Their horrible disfiguration is most evident on the figure in the foreground, whose mouth gapes open and whose face, stomach, and hands have bloated in the process of decomposing. Off in the distance, a figure shrouded in mist appears on horseback, but this is not the confident commanding officer of Trumbull's painting. Rather, it is a ghostly presence surveying the battlefield, a Grim Reaper-like figure come to collect his harvest. Unlike Trumbull's painting, this photograph shows no evidence that these soldiers died heroic deaths or even saw the faces of their enemy. They are as anonymous as they are lifeless. This image, one of the most widely reproduced battlefield photographs of the Civil War, challenges the notions of military sacrifice and valor celebrated in