

As we examine military figures of the past, we realize the truth of their personage and battlefield expertise. Take William Wallace...the true story of Hollywood's "Braveheart" may be a little different.

Celebrated by historians of the nineteenth century as a national hero, debunked by professional historians as a self-serving renegade and immortalized once more courtesy of Mel Gibson and the big-screen "Braveheart," Wallace is one of those larger-than-life figures whose epic romance refuses to go away. Two ancient histories and bardic poems, which date from the fifteenth century does nothing to strip Wallace of his heroic importance, but makes him much less of a people's champion and even less of a solo act.

