

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM

Type of Memorial (check all applicable)

☐ Monument ☐ with Sculpture ☐ without Sculpture ☐ with Cannon ☐ standalone Cannon
☐ Historical Marker ☐ Plaque ☒ Other (flag pole, G.A.R. buildings, stained glass windows, etc.)

Note: try to record items separately. Cannons near monuments should be recorded & photographed separately, etc. Thank you.

Affiliation

☐ GAR ☐ MOLLUS ☐ SUVCW ☐ WRC ☐ ASUVCW
☐ LGAR ☐ DUVCW ☒ Other

If known, record name and number of post, camp, corps, auxiliary, tent, circle or appropriate information of other groups:

Wabash County, Indiana

Original Dedication Date November 2, 1899 Please consult any/all newspaper archives for a local paper's article that would have information on the *first* dedication ceremony and/or other facts on the memorial. Please submit a copy of your findings with full identification of the paper & date of publication. Thank you.

Location

59 W. Hill St.

The Memorial is *currently* located at: (site of the Wabash County Superior Court)

Street/Road address or site location _____ GPS Coordinates 40.798581 N 85.822329 W 

City/Village &/or Township Wabash 

County Wabash  State Indiana  Zip Code 46992 

The front of the Memorial faces: ☒ North ☐ South ☐ East ☐ West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name Wabash County Superior Court

Dept./Div. _____

Street Address 59 W Hill St

City Wabash State IN Zip Code 46992

Contact Person _____ Telephone (260) 563-0661 ext _____

Is Memorial on the National Register of Historic Places ☐ Yes ☒ No ID # if known _____

It is within the area covered by NRHP #88000447 (Old [or West] Wabash Residential District) but not listed.

For Monuments with/without sculpture:

Physical Details

Material of Monument or base under a Sculpture or Cannon = ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Metal ☐ Other

If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) _____

Material of the Sculpture ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Metal ☐ Other Is it hollow or solid? _____

If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) _____

For Historic Marker or Plaque:

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = _____

For Cannons with/without monument:

Material of Cannon = _____ Bronze _____ Iron _____ Type of Cannon (if known) _____ Rifled _____ Yes _____ No

Markings: Muzzle _____ Base Ring/Breech _____

Left Trunion _____ Right Trunion _____

Is inert ammunition a part of the Memorial? _____ Yes _____ No

[For camp/department monuments officer's use: Cannon on list of known ordnance] _____ Yes _____ No

For Other Memorials: (flag pole, G.A.R. buildings, stained glass windows, etc.)What best describes the memorial Memorial building with two statues (soldier/sailor) flanking the entrance stairsMaterials of the Memorial Bedford stone (Indiana limestone)**Complete for All Memorials****Approximate Dimensions** (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points

_____ Height _____ Width _____ Depth or _____ Diameter

For Memorials with multiple Sculptures, please record this information on a separate sheet of paper for each statue (service, pose, etc) and attach to this form. Please describe the "pose" of each statue and any weapons/implements involved (in case your photos become separated from this form). Thank you!

Markings/Inscriptions (on stone-work / metal-work of monument, base, sculpture)Maker or Fabricator mark / name? If so, give name & location found J. C. Gault (architect), W. B. McMullen (builder)

Please attach legible photographs of all text &/or Record the text in the space below. Please use the addendum – narrative sheet if necessary.

{entryway arch}

Dedicated In Memory Of The
 Union Soldiers of Wabash County
 Nor Shall Their Story Be Forgot Or Honor Points The Hallowed Spot
 While Fame Her Record Keeps Where Valor Proudly Sleeps

Environmental Setting

(The general vicinity and immediate locale surrounding a memorial can play a major role in its overall condition.)

Type of Location

☐ Cemetery ☐ Park ☐ Plaza/Courtyard ☐ "Town Square" ☐ Post Office
☐ School ☐ Municipal Building ☐ State Capitol ☒ Courthouse ☐ College Campus
☐ Traffic Circle ☐ Library Other: _____

General Vicinity

☐ Rural (low population, open land) ☐ Suburban (residential, near city) ☒ Town ☐ Urban / Metropolitan

Immediate Locale (check as many as may apply)

☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial ☒ Street/Roadside within 20 feet ☐ Tree Covered (overhanging branches)
☐ Protected from the elements (canopy or enclosure, indoors) ☐ Protected from the public (fence or other barrier)

Any other significant environmental factor _____

[To detail the condition of a monument used the addendum form for *Monument's Condition*]

Submission of this form requires at least one type of identification so that you may be contacted regarding the information on this form. This information will most likely be in the public domain. Your name is required; please include one (or more) pieces of contact information.

1. If a member of an Allied Order, the name of your camp, auxiliary, tent, circle or corps; along with your department;
2. Physical Address;
3. Phone Number
4. E-Mail address.

By submitting this, you are allowing the posting of this information on the internet.

Inspector Identification _____ Date of On-site Survey 18 January A. D. 2025
 Your Name Sumner Gary Hunnewell
 Address 2030 San Pedro Dr.
 City Arnold State MO Zip Code 63010
 Telephone () _____ E-Mail _____

Are you a member of the Allied Orders of the G.A.R.? If so, which one?

SUVCW, Dept. of Missouri, Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp #47 / US Grant Camp #68

Supplemental Background Information

In addition to your on-site survey, any additional information you can provide on the described Memorial will be welcomed. Please label each account with its source (author, title, publisher, date, pages). Topics include any reference to the points listed on this questionnaire, plus any previous conservation treatments - or efforts to raise money for treatment. Photographs & GPS Co-ordinates are very much desired.

Pages 4 & 5 attached to this electronic file are the Monument's Condition and the Narrative forms. Only the Monument's Condition form is required if you are requesting grant money using form CWM-62 *SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form and Instructions*.

Please mail (or e-mail pdf, and picture files) to:

Walt Busch, PDC, Chair, 1240 Konert Valley Dr., Fenton, MO 63026, cwmemorials@suvchw.org (314) 630-8407

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Civil War Memorials Committee.

>This form may be photocopied.<

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SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM
ADDENDUM – MONUMENT'S CONDITION

Completion of this form is required when requesting grant money using form CWM-62 *SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form and Instructions*.

Condition Information

Structural Condition (check as many as may apply)

The following section applies to Monuments with Sculpture, and Monuments without Sculpture including the base for Monuments with Cannon. Instability in the sculpture and its base can be detected by a number of factors. Indicators may be obvious or subtle. Visually examine the sculpture and its base.

	Sculpture	Base
If hollow, is the internal support unstable/exposed? (Look for signs of exterior rust)	_____	_____
Any evidence of structural instability? (Look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)	_____	_____
Any broken or missing parts? (Look for elements (i.e., sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)	_____	_____
Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? (Also look for signs of uneven stress & weakness in the material)	_____	_____

Surface Appearance (check as many as may apply)

	Sculpture	Base
Black crusting	_____	_____✓
White crusting	_____	_____
Etched, pitted, or otherwise corroded (on metal)	_____	_____
Metallic staining (run-off from copper, iron, etc.)	_____	_____
Organic growth (moss, algae, lichen or vines)	_____	_____
Chalky or powdery stone	_____	_____
Granular eroding of stone	_____	_____
Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)	_____	_____
Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)	_____	_____
Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe...	_____	_____

Does water collect in recessed areas of the Memorial? ____ Yes ☒ No ____ Unable to tell

Surface Coating

Does there appear to be a coating? ____ Yes ☒ No ____ Unable to determine

If known, identify type of coating.

____ Gilded ____ Painted ____ Varnished ____ Waxed ____ Unable to determine

Is the coating in good condition? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Unable to determine

Basic Surface Condition Assessment (check one)

In your opinion, what is the general appearance or condition of the Memorial?

☒ Well maintained ____ Would benefit from treatment ____ In urgent need of treatment ____ Unable to determine

Briefly describe the Memorial (affiliation / overall condition & any concern not already touched on) .

Inspector's Name Sumner Gary Hunnewell Date 24 November A. D. 2025













DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF THE
UNION SOLDIERS OF WAR
WHOSE NAMES ARE HERE RECORDED
THEIR DEEDS SHALL NOT BE FORGOTTEN
WHILE FAME HER RECORD KEEPS

1861

USE EAST SIDE
ENTRANCE
←

SPANISH
AMERICAN WAR
1898-1901

WORLD
WAR
1917-1918





DEDICATED IN MEMORY OF THE
UNION SOLDIERS OF WABASH COUNTY
NOR SHALL THEIR STORY BE FORGOTTEN OR HONOR POINTS THE HALLOWED SPOTS
WHILE FAME HER RECORD KEEPS WHERE VALOR PROUDLY SLEEPS

1861

1865

USE EAST SIDE
← ENTRANCE







W Hill ST
W Wabash ST

Wabash
City
Park
→

UNITED STATES
UNITED FUND





ative.

At a meeting of James H. Emmet post, No. 6, G. A. R., at Wabash, the members by unanimous vote decided to request the county commissioners to appropriate \$25,000 for the erection of a memorial hall instaed of a soldiers' monument, as proposed.

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...in existence for over thirty years.

The Wabash county commissioners yesterday selected the plans for the new \$25,000 memorial hall, which is to be built there instead of a monument to Wabash county soldiers. Three sets of plans were submitted by J. E. Crain, Logansport; J. C. Gault, Fremont, O., and Wing & Mahurin, Fort Wayne, and Gault's plans were adopted. Work on the structure will commence this fall.

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The cornerstone of the Soldiers' Memorial hall, at Wabash, will be laid early next month.

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Work Resumed Monday.

Contractor W. B. McMullen, of Huntington, put a force of men to work on Memorial hall this morning and window frames on the south, east and west sides were placed in position. Every minute of time will be occupied and the building will be completed as early as possible.

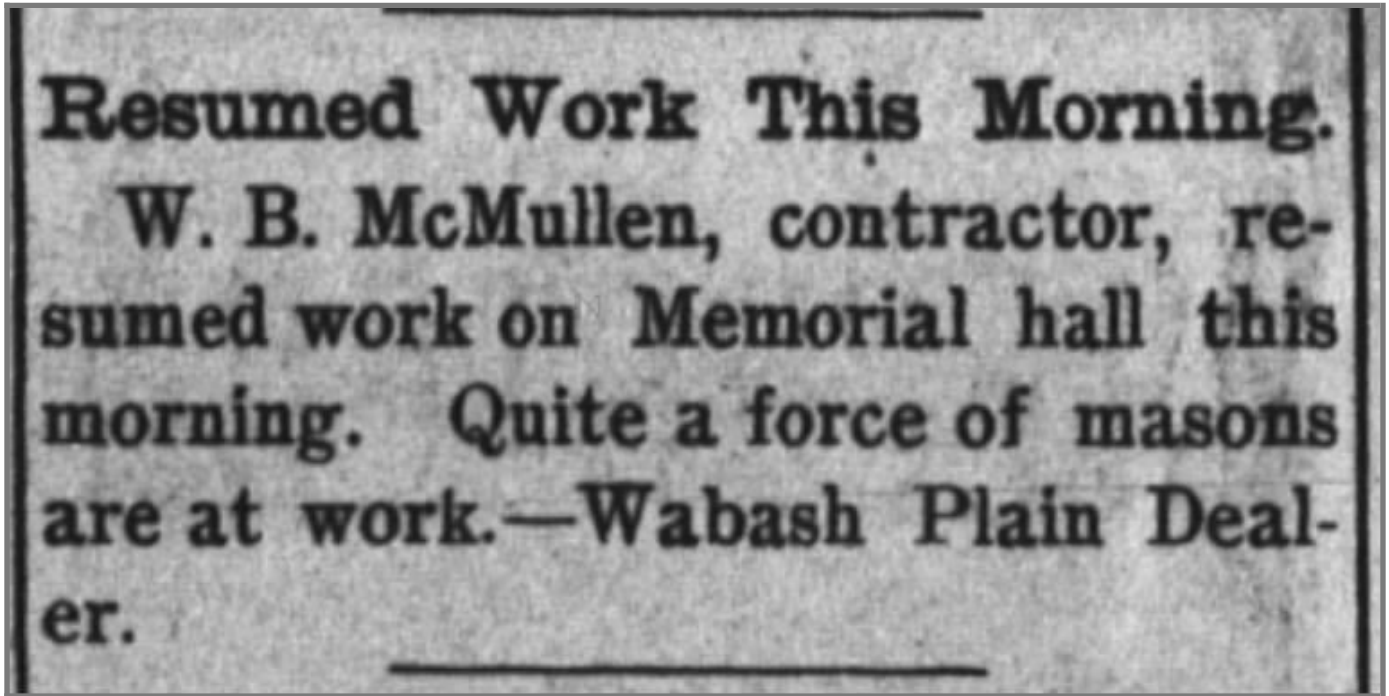
If the weather is favorable, it may be ready for dedication on Memorial day.—Wabash Plain Dealer.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/1070467894/>

The corner stone containing the
copper box full of records was laid at
the Memorial Hall, G. A. R., at Wa-
bash Friday.

Quite a number of the members of

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WILL BE COMPLETED.

Contractor McMullen Makes Satisfactory Arrangements.

The following is taken from Thursday's Wabash Plain Dealer:

"At a meeting of the bondsmen of Contractor McMullen and the board of county commissioners, Wednesday afternoon, an agreement was entered into whereby the former will take the twenty per cent. held back from the estimates of the work and complete Memorial hall.

"The hall, as it has stood during the past months, has been an eyesore and disgrace to Wabash county, and the citizens will be pleased to learn that there is a prospect of its early completion. The commissioners held back the sum of \$4,189.20 to meet just such contingencies as came up. This sum is to be paid over to John B. Latchem, of this city, and William Dimond, of Huntington, who were appointed as trustees of the bondsmen, to be paid out as the work on the hall is completed.

"The work of finishing the hall will be commenced at once. The glass for the windows has already been ordered from a Cincinnati house."

ELEGANT G. A. R. ROOMS.

Wabash, Ind., July 19.—James H. Emmet Post, No. 6, G. A. R., will next week move from the old Union Hall block, where it has held its meetings for nearly a quarter of a century, to the magnificent new post room on the

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second floor of Memorial hall, just completed at a cost of \$30,000. The new room is said to be finer than that occupied by any post in the state. The walls are covered with beautiful paintings of war scenes and the portraits of distinguished federal commanders.

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W. B. McMULLEN

Sues Wabash County Commissioners for \$6,000.

W. B. McMullen, who built the St. Mary's Catholic church in this city and whose family, during the time the church was being built were residents of this place, has through his attorneys, France & Dungan, brought the following suit in the Wabash circuit court, particulars of which are from the Wabash Plain Dealer:

This morning W. B. McMullen, contractor for the erection of Memorial hall, by his attorneys, France & Dungan, of Huntington, commenced damage proceedings in the circuit court against the board of commissioners of Wabash county, in the sum of \$6,000.

The plaintiff in his complaint alleges that on the 4th day of October, 1897, the defendants adopted plans and specifications for the erection of Memorial hall in the city of Wabash; that the plaintiff was awarded the contract for the erection of the building; that he completed his work according to the plans and specifications and the building was accepted as fully completed on—day of—1899, the plaintiff further avers that by order of the defendant he performed extra work not required by the plans and specifications in the sum of \$— as shown by the bill of particulars. (Here follows a long list of extra work alleged to have been performed by order of the commissioners.)

Wherefor the plaintiff demands judgment in the sum of 6,000.

[The commissioners at a recent session allowed Mr. McMullen \$400 extra work claimed to have been preformed, but from the above proceedings it appears he declined to accept the allowance.]

Capital City will be completed about Oct. 20.

Indianapolis Man to Speak.

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WABASH, Ind., Oct. 17.—The G. A. R. and citizens' committees appointed to prepare a programme for the dedication of the new \$40,000 Soldiers' Memorial Hall, erected here by Wabash county, have completed their work. John L. Griffiths, of Indianapolis, has accepted the invitation to deliver the address of the occasion, which will be a most important one.

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WABASH MEMORIAL HALL

**FINE NEW BUILDING DEDICATED TO
THE WABASH COUNTY SOLDIERS.**

**Big Oiler Struck in Delaware County
While Drilling for Gas—Elec-
trical Plant Tested.**

Special to the Indianapolis Journal.

WABASH, Ind., Nov. 2.—The dedication of the handsome new Soldiers' Memorial Hall here to-day was a most auspicious event, in spite of the stormy weather. The outdoor exercises were dispensed with, but the large building was crowded and the programme was faithfully followed. Hon. Alvah Taylor, president of the day, made a few introductory remarks and after the invocation by Rev. G. E. Ireland a large choir sang the "Soldiers' Chorus." County Commissioner George W. Pressler delivered a short address, formally presenting the beautiful building to the soldiers of Wabash county, and Rev. Dr. Charles Little, for the citizens, responded happily. Capt. B. F. Williams spoke for the soldiers and Mrs. Grace Oswald, of Roann, district president of the Woman's Relief Corps, made a response for the corps. The choir sang the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and Hon. John L. Griffiths, of Indianapolis, made the address of the day.

The hall has been almost two years in building. Originally it was the purpose to erect a soldiers' monument, but the question of constructing an edifice which would combine the beauty of a shaft with the utility of a public building was at last decided in favor of the latter and no one now regrets the decision. The building is of Bedford stone and its interior is conveniently arranged.

MEMORIAL HALL.

HANDSOME, NEW STRUCTURE
DEDICATED AT WABASH
THURSDAY.

GOT OIL INSTEAD OF GAS

A Monster Oiler Opened Up Four
Miles North of Muncie.

Brigdegroom Shoots Himself
Just Before He Would Have
Been Married.

WABASH, Ind., Nov. 3.—The first soldiers' memorial hall built in Indiana, under the law authorizing the collection of special tax in each county for a soldiers' monument was dedicated here Thursday. The structure cost \$40,000 and is one of the most beautiful public edifices in the west. The principal address was made by Hon. J. L. Griffith, he eulogizing the dead soldiers. George Ressler, county commissioner, on behalf of Wabash county, made a speech presenting the hall to the citizens, and responses were delivered by Rev. Charles Little for the citizens, B. F. Williams for the grand army, and Miss A. L. Oswald Roann for the Woman's Relief Corps.

SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL HALL.

**The First Structure Built Under the New
Indiana Law Dedicated at
Wabash, Ind.**

WABASH, Ind., Nov. 4.—The first soldiers' memorial hall built in Indiana, under the law authorizing the collection of special tax in each county for a soldiers' monument was dedicated here Thursday. The structure cost \$40,000 and is one of the most beautiful public edifices in the west. The principal address was made by Hon. J. L. Griffith, he eulogizing the dead soldiers. George Ressler, county commissioner, on behalf of Wabash county, made a speech presenting the hall to the citizens, and responses were delivered by Rev. Charles Little for the citizens, B. F. Williams for the grand army, and Miss A. L. Oswald Roann for the Woman's Relief Corps.

https://www.newspapers.com/image/1072350010/

Monuments stand as mute reminders of the Civil War

By Steve Jones
For the Chronicle-Tribune

Memorial Hall, the Parrott cannon on the Memorial Hall lawn and the sign designating the site of Camp Pettitt at Columbus and Chestnut streets are visible reminders in Wabash of the Civil War.

Just as war's euphoria gripped Wabash County recently at the beginning of Desert Storm, so did excitement grasp the county on April 13, 1861. That was the day county people learned of the attack on Fort Sumter; the act signaling the beginning of the Civil War.

Although the Confederate attack occurred April 12, word of the battle, sent by telegraph, did not reach Wabash until the next day. Notices went up immediately urging citizens to attend a meeting that night at the Wabash County Courthouse.

Driven by war fever, county people were wild with excitement. Crowds from throughout the county came to the courthouse meeting. A recruiting office set up at the courthouse began accepting enlistments. A second major rally was held that night at Ashland (now LaFontaine).

Fort Sumter fell April 14. Notices went up again for a second courthouse rally the next night. Thousands attended.

By Friday, April 19, 150 Wabash County men had volunteered for military service. They formed Company H of the Eighth Regiment of Indiana Volunteers. The men left Wabash by train for Indianapolis April 23. On July 11, Co. H's soldiers became the first county men bloodied in battle during the battle of Rich Mountain, W. Va.

By 1862, Wabash was one of Indiana's most important Civil War recruiting stations. Camp Pettitt processed several thousand recruits before the war ended.

The last county infantrymen of the war joined the 153rd Infantry in March 1865, but saw no action because Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Gen. U.S. Grant on April 9.

But between the first and the last, hundreds of Wabash County men fought for the Union cause. Many were killed in action; others died from wounds or from disease.

Wabash County Civil War veterans served in bloody, deadly places battles raged: Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Mission Ridge, Kennesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Mobile Bay, Gettysburg, Bull Run, Pea

Ridge. They served with Gen. Sherman during the March to the Sea, at Vicksburg and in many other major campaigns where shot and shell flew.

When the county's warriors returned home at war's end, they resumed their lives; and many joined the Grand Army of the Republic.

The GAR was a national organization open to men who fought for the North in the Civil War between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865.

Wabash GAR Encampment Post No. 1 was organized Sept. 1, 1866. Because of a lack of strong leadership, the post dissolved in 1868. The post was reformed in 1880, and became the Emmett Post No. 6 in 1883. The post was named for James H. Emmett, the first county soldier killed during the Civil War.

Post member Capt. B.F. Williams led a drive to erect a memorial to the county's Civil War veterans. Some people suggested a simple, inscribed stone memorial. GAR members proposed a Memorial Hall building. In 1885, county commissioners authorized spending \$25,000 for such a building.

Building construction began in 1897, and was finished two years later.

GAR members held weekly meetings and social functions in Memorial Hall.

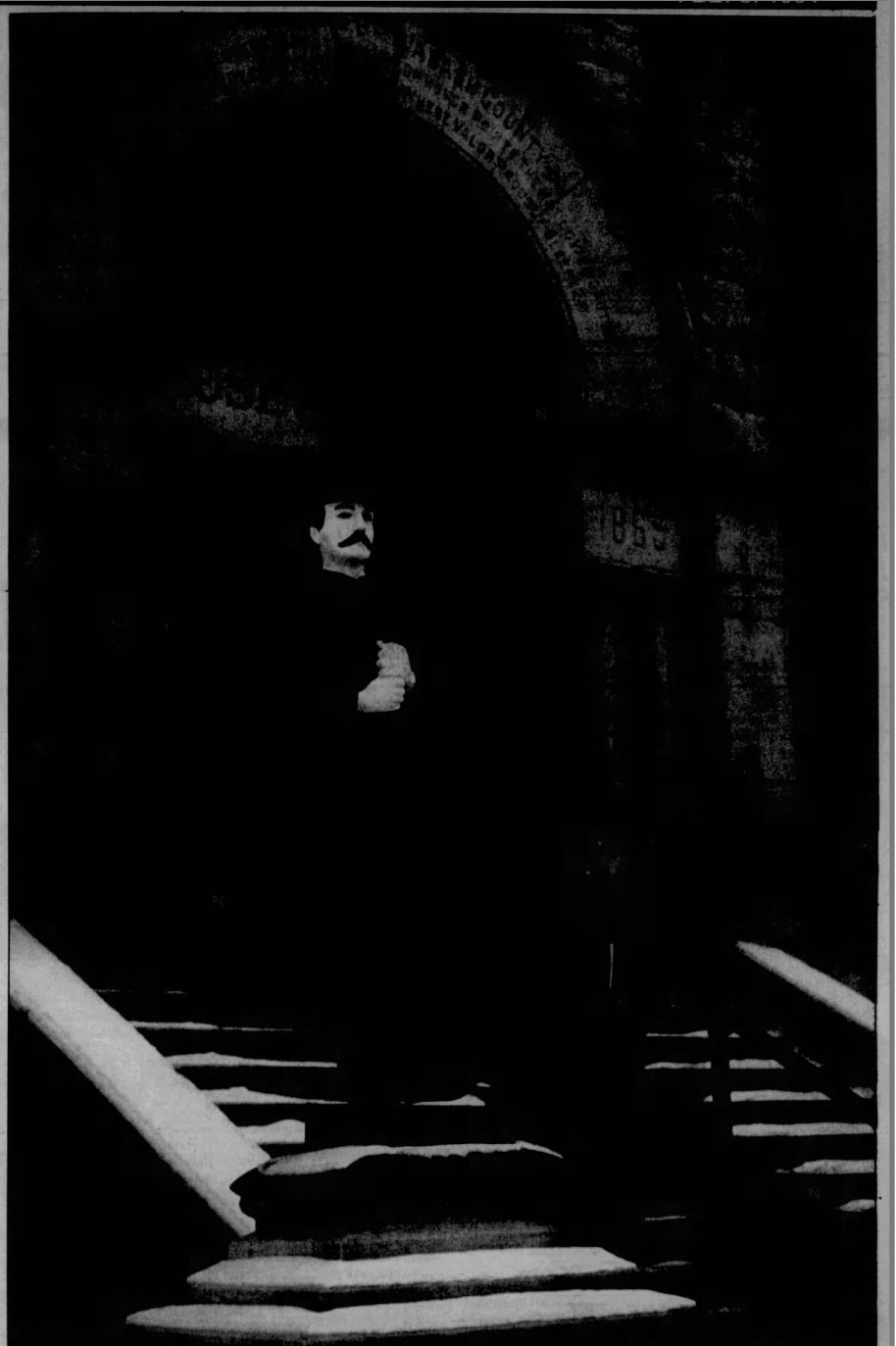
The Parrott cannon mounted on Memorial Hall's lawn was placed there in 1902. The year before, GAR members asked the U.S. government to furnish two cannons for display purposes. The Parrott cannon came from Fort Jefferson on Garden Key in Florida's Dry Tortugas.

By 1932, only 10 GAR members answered the annual roll call.

The county's last Civil War veteran and GAR member, William Enyeart, Liberty Mills, died at age 98 on Jan. 30, 1945.

Enyeart and GAR companions who went before him were the end of an era in Wabash County. They were the boys and the men who left Wabash County farms, villages and towns. They were the men and boys who fought a war of musket and artillery fire amid flying regimental flags, flashing swords, thundering cavalry charges and rattling drum rolls.

Memorial Hall, the Parrott cannon and the Camp Pettitt sign stand today, reminders of those men from Wabash County who served in the Civil War . . . Oh, so long ago.



Wabash bears many reminders of its participation in the Civil War.

Steve Jones / Chronicle-Tribune

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Nov 22, 2025