

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

PLEASE:

- Type or print, using a ball-point pen, when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- Do not guess at the information. An answer of, "Unknown," is more helpful.
- Include a photograph of each viewable side and label it with name & direction of view.

- Thank You.

Type of Memorial

Monument *with* Sculpture Monument with *Cannon*
 Monument *without* Sculpture Historical Marker Plaque

Affiliation

G.A.R. (Post Name & No. E. J. Griggs Post no. 97) M.O.L.L.U.S.
 W.R.C. (Corps Name & No. _____) Other Allied Order
 SUVCW (Camp Name & No. _____) (Please describe below)
 DUVCW (Tent Name & No. _____)
 Other: _____

Original Dedication Date 9/15/1885 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

The Memorial is *currently* located at:

Street/Road address or site location Town Common, Belchertown, MA
City/Village _____ Township _____ County _____

The front of the Memorial faces: North South East West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner (of private cemetery that Memorial is located in)...

Name Town of Belchertown Dept./Div. _____
Street Address PO Box 670 (2 Jabish St)
City Belchertown State MA Zip Code 01007-0670
Contact Person Gary Brougham Telephone (413) 323-0403

If the Memorial has been moved, please list former location(s)...

Never moved

Physical Details

Material of Monument or base under a Sculpture or Cannon = Stone Concrete Metal Undetermined
If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) Cast Zinc

Material of the Sculpture = Stone Concrete Metal Undetermined
 If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) Cast Zinc
 If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" hollow

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = zinc

Material of Cannon = Bronze Iron - Consult known Ordnance Listing to confirm
 Markings on muzzle = _____
 Markings on Left Trunion _____ Right Trunion _____
 Is inert ammunition a part of the Memorial? If so, describe _____

Approximate Dimensions (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points
 Monument or Base: Height 28' Width 77 11/16" Depth 77 3/4" or Diameter _____
 Sculpture: Height _____ Width _____ Depth _____ or Diameter _____

For Memorials with multiple Sculptures, please record this information on a separate sheet of paper for each statue 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 _____
Monumental Bronze Co., Bridgeport, CT

The "Dedication Text" is formed: cut into material raised up from material face

Record the text (indicate any separation if on different sides...) Please use additional sheet if necessary.

2nd level:(south)Gettysburg, (west) Wilderness, (north) Yorktown, (east) Fair Oaks-Port Hudson. 3rd level has the names of the "Living Belchertown Soldiers of the War of the Rebellion". next level: (South)"Dedicated to the memory of those who fought and died from this town in the rebellion 1861-1865 and all soldiers now citizens of Belchertown. Also in memory of those from Belchertown who served in the Revolutionary or any Colonial or any United States War"., (West) "Roll of the Honored Dead who went from Belchertown and fought in defence of Liberty and their Country."(list of Names), (North)" Soldiers of the Revolution. Died in the Service."(list of Names), (East)"Soldiers of the war of the Rebellion now citizens of Belchertown who enlisted elsewhere." (list of names). Next level:(S) "Erected 1884", (w)image of sailor and anchor, (N)stack of 3 rifles, (E) Soldier standing at rest. For the balance, please see Ron Harvey's Report

Environmental Setting

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

Type of Location

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Town Square" | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office | <input type="checkbox"/> School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Building | <input type="checkbox"/> State Capitol | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus | <u>Town Common</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | _____ |

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

Overall Description

Briefly describe the Memorial (affiliation / overall condition & any concern not already touched on).
Basically the monument is leaning in 2 different directions(bend in the middle)

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. Thank you.

Inspector Identification

Date of On-site Survey 2004

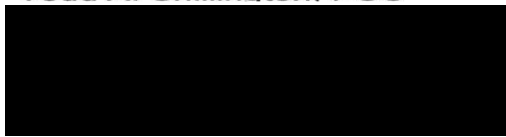
Your Name Edward T. Knight

Address 50 Eskett Rd City Belchertown

State MA Zip Code 01007-8902 Telephone [REDACTED]

Please send this completed form to:

Todd A. Shillington, PCC



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
National Civil War Memorials Committee





GETTYSBURG

ERECTED

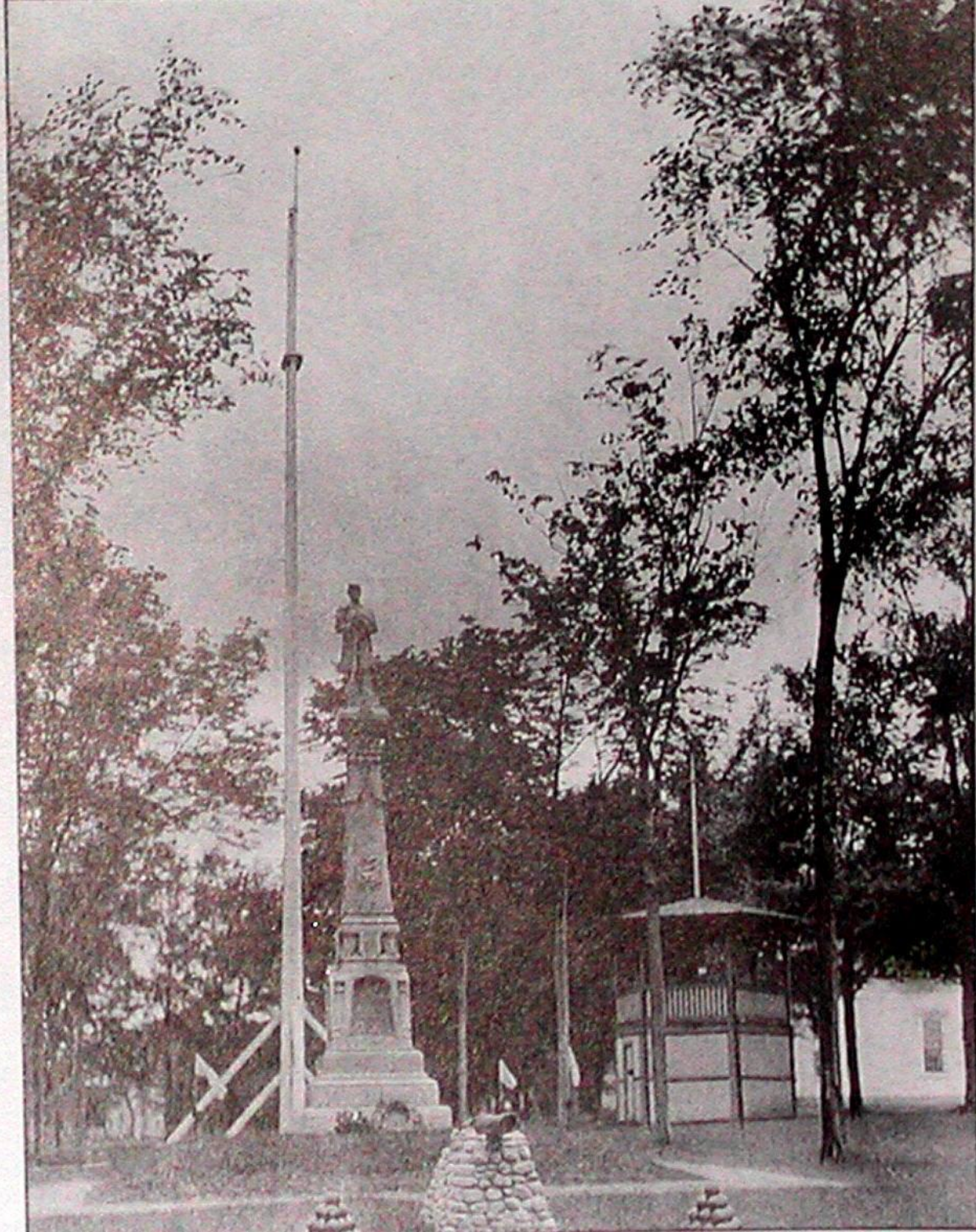
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SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF THE REBELLION, NOW CITIZENS
OF BELCHERTOWN, WHO ENLISTED ELSEWHERE



THE TOWN COMMON, BANDSTAND,
AND SOLDIERS' MONUMENT. The
Farmers and Mechanics Club built the
bandstand in 1878. Erected in 1885, the
Soldiers' Monument commemorates
those who served in the Revolution and
the Civil War. Two hundred eighty-
nine men from Belchertown fought in
the Civil War with 27 fatalities. A ship's
mast flagpole commemorating the
sinking of the battleship *Maine* during
the Spanish-American War was
replaced by a flagpole in 1961.





GETTYSBURG





THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC IN FRONT OF THE GOULD BLOCK. There was a meeting room on the second floor of the Gould Block where the GAR convened. In the early 1900s, the Union Grange took over the space and met there until 1973. The Grand Army of the Republic initiated the project of building the Soldiers' Monument on the common. Funds were raised by subscription and from a town appropriation.

The E. J. Griggs Post No. 97, Grand Army of the Republic of Belchertown, Mass was instrumental in the erection of the monument. At the Annual Town Meeting in March, 1884, the town voted to "Appropriate the sum of \$850 dollars for the purpose of a soldiers monument provided a like amount be raised by subscription for that purpose." Resting in the archives of the Stone House Museum of the Belchertown Historical Association, is a document that gives the names of townseople who contributed a matching sum towards the erection of the monument. Among the substantial contributors to the monument were Myron P. Walker of Belchertown, who was a drummer boy with the 10th Mass Regt. Company C; and the Clapp brothers who built Clapp Memorial Library. But most gave what they could, one, two, five and ten dollars. In all some one hundred and twenty seven names are listed on the document.

The monument was manufactured by the Monumental Bronze Company of Bridgeport, Ct. and was made of cast zinc, or "white bronze". The monument was listed as No. 238 and the soldier No. 220 in their catalog. All over New England you can see similar monuments, with towns making their choices by choosing different styles. The monument sits on a raised knoll with the base of the monument 6 1/2 feet square sculpted in what is termed the rough ashler style, resembling unhewn stone. The second base contains in large raised letters the names of "Gettysburg", "Fair Oaks", "Wilderness", and "Port Hudson"; for the Civil War battles in which Belchertown men served; and "Yorktown" for the Revolutionary War. On the shaft, below the life size Union soldier, standing at the top, with his rifle at parade rest, are grouped in relief, flags, ammunition, arms and drums. Further down in monogram is the date of July 4, 1884 and underneath on the die, appears the dedicatory inscription, showing that the monument was set up in memory of the soldiers of the war for the Union, including those now citizens of the town, and also of soldiers in all former wars including the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. On the east the shaft bears in relief the figures of a mounted horseman and a sailor; on the west the Grand Army badge and an infantry soldier; on the north the medallion of Washington and a stack of muskets.

There was a difference of opinion for awhile as to where the monument should be placed. The center of the common was chosen but some felt that the two rows of trees would hide the monument. They wanted to place it either at the north or south end of the common so it could be seen from the road. A town meeting was called to decide and evidently the first choice prevailed. The monument was finally dedicated on September 15, 1885

Attached are copies of newspaper articles from the Springfield Republican newspaper on the festivities of the day.