

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:

William H Bartlett Post 3 GAR, Dept of MA

Original Dedication Date September 5, 1887 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

Mayflower Hill Cemetery

The Memorial is *currently* located at:

Street/Road address or site location 241 Broadway GPS Coordinates 41°55'10.5" N 71°05'17.7W

City/Village &/or Township Taunton

County Plymouth State MA Zip Code 02780

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

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name City of Taunton

Dept./Div. _____

Street Address 90 Ingell Street

City Taunton State MA Zip Code 02780

Contact Person _____ Telephone (508) 821-1431 ext _____

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

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.) Granite

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

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

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 [In GAR plot, surrounded by headstones of Union soldiers & sailors.](#)

Materials of the Memorial _____

Complete for All Memorials**Approximate Dimensions** (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points[21 ft](#) _____ 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 [Melzar Hunt Mosman Ames Manuf Co, design input Taunton's Abner Coleman.](#)

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

[The Mayflower Hill Cemetery GAR \(Grand Army of the Republic\) Monument is one of Taunton, Massachusetts most significant Civil War memorials. Located within the cemetery's GAR plot, the monument rises above rows of white marble government headstones marking the graves of Union soldiers and sailors. Topped by a bronze statue of a Union soldier standing at parade rest, the monument provides a place of remembrance in the peaceful setting of Mayflower Hill Cemetery, away from the bustle of Taunton Green, where the city's other major Civil War memorial stands.](#)

[Dedicated in 1887, the monument commemorates the approximately 1,700 men from Taunton who served in the Union Army during the American Civil War. Unlike many memorials that honor only those who died, this monument recognizes the service and sacrifice of all of Taunton's Civil War veterans. Its dedication drew more than 10,000 attendees, reflecting the community's deep appreciation for those who served. Major General Darius N. Couch, one of Massachusetts highest-ranking Civil War officers and a native of Taunton, delivered remarks during the ceremony, while Brevet Brigadier General William Cogswell of Salem gave the principal oration](#)

[The soldier statue was cast by Melzar Hunt Mosman of the renowned Ames Manufacturing Company, one of Massachusetts leading producers of Civil War monuments. Contemporary newspaper accounts identify Taunton artist Abner Coleman as the monument's designer. Although surviving records do not clearly establish whether Mosman sculpted the figure or solely supervised its casting, both men played important roles in the monument's creation.](#)

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 8/3/2026
 Your Name Donald McKinnon
 Address 659 Central Turnpike
 City Taunton State MA Zip Code 011590
 Telephone (508) 649-6490 E-Mail don.mckinnon73@gmail.com

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

Willie Grout Camp #25 Department of Massachusetts

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.

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) .

The memorial bars the markings of the GAR and is dedicated as such. It is in a cemetery that is on a main road, but not well seen by people.

Inspector's Name Donald McKinnon Date 8/4/2026

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM
ADDENDUM – NARRATIVE

[Generally used to record the text of monuments, but may be used for any other useful information, such as if the monument has been moved or if you have information about the day of dedication. May repeat use of page as often as necessary.]

The Memorial is *currently* located at: Mayflower Hill Cemetery

Street/Road address or site location _____

241 Broadway

GPS Coordinates 41°55'10.5" N 71°05'17.7W

City/Village and/or Township Taunton

County Plymouth

State MA

Zip Code 02780

TEXT

Con't from above

Among the notable veterans buried in Mayflower Hill Cemetery is Corporal Lowell M. Maxham of the 7th Massachusetts Infantry, a recipient of the Medal of Honor for extraordinary bravery during the Second Battle of Fredericksburg on May 3, 1863. Despite being severely wounded and under intense enemy fire, Maxham helped lead the assault that captured the Confederate position on Marye's Heights and was among the first to plant his regiment's colors on the enemy works.

Today, the GAR Monument remains the focal point of Memorial Day observances in Mayflower Hill Cemetery. Each year, local veterans organizations and volunteers place American flags on the graves of veterans, ensuring that the service and sacrifice of Taunton's Civil War soldiers continue to be remembered by future generations.

Inspector's Name Donald McKinnon

Date 8/4/2026

RECOGNIZED AT LAST.

Taunton's Soldier Dead Re-
memberedIn a Handsome and Substantial
Monument.How the Memorial Originated and How
It Culminated.

TAUNTON, Aug. 27.—On September 5, Post 3, G. A. R., of this city, assisted by visiting veterans, will unveil a monument erected to the memory of the soldiers of the rebellion in the G. A. R. lot at Mayflower Hill Cemetery.

As far back as 1868 the mayor, Edward H. Bennett, in his inaugural address urged upon the city government the duty and obligation of the city to erect some enduring and appropriate memorial as a tribute to the memory of her heroic dead. Again in 1868 and 1869 did Mayor Rhodes and his successor, Hon. D. L. Mitchell, during the three years following make the same recommendation.

All this time public sentiment was strongly in favor of some action, but the burden of a war debt rested upon the city, and it was argued that, until that was discharged, the project ought to be postponed. In 1873 the last dollar of that debt was paid, and Mayor Fox proposed that the event be commemorated by the erection of a monument to the soldiers.

In the previous year a committee had been upon the subject, on the petitions of the surviving veterans in the city, to procure plans and estimates for a monument, and, as a consequence, reported in favor of a design, by Martin Milmore, which the sculptor agreed to furnish for \$25,000.

This report was accepted and adopted by the Common Council, but after a year's struggle was finally killed in the Board of Aldermen, so that the following year when the debt was liquidated, the friends of the measure were too disheartened to take up the fight again, and it was not until 1874 that another effort was attempted.

This came nearest to being successful than any before or since, so far as the city was concerned. A committee was appointed, the ground, now so well known and so often trodden, was gone over once more, and in September of that year the committee submitted three designs to the City Council expressing a preference for that of

George Keeler of Hartford, Conn., which might have been erected at a cost of \$20,000.

As the city government and the mayor were in earnest this year, a great deal of time and discussion was given to this report, which was finally rejected, and the Mayor was instructed to see on what terms the Milmore design, which a committee of a former year had recommended, could be built. He reported that Joseph Milmore would furnish it for \$20,000, and finally after postponing definite action until the last session of the year, this City Council covered themselves with glory by voting to adopt the Milmore plans, and went out of office at the time without making any provision for funds to carry out their patriotic resolve. That important item in the consummation of the good work was left for their successors to attend to, which it is unnecessary to say they did not.

In 1881 the monument was dropped and a memorial hall was proposed, and though the aldermen voted in favor of the building of one to cost not exceeding \$40,000, the other branch sat down upon it, and the matter in Taunton today looks around in vain for such a structure. A final effort was made in 1882. The longest petition ever presented to the City Council, and containing the names of almost every citizen of prominence in the place, was the occasion of a committee being appointed to consider the question, and though this committee gave a great deal of time and thought to the matter, their efforts came to naught through the opposition of certain parties who at that time had not intervened in the scheme for the building of a new city hall, and thus ended all further efforts with the city.

About a year ago Post 3 associated a committee, of which Commander A. R. Blake was chairman and Post Commanders Limes and Anthony secretary and treasurer, respectively, to consider the question of a monument, and also to devise ways and means to secure the funds necessary to procure the same.

Then commenced an earnest and determined effort toward the desired end. By means of

Public Entertainments
and private subscriptions the committee had the satisfaction of announcing in May last that success had crowned their meritorious work.

Plans for the monument were made by Eugene Coleman, a member of the post, which were accepted, and the result is the monument, a cut and description of which is presented.

General William Cogswell of Salem will deliver the oration at the ceremonies, and among the distinguished guests expected are Generals Scribner, Gore and Conch. Governor Ames and the department commander and staff of the G. A. R.

A box will be enclosed in the second stone in the pedestal containing a list of all the men who were enlisted from Taunton, a roll of the post, a list of subscribers to the monument, a copy of this issue of the Boston Globe and also of the local papers.



Description of the Monument.
The base is of Concord granite 2 by 7 feet, surmounted by a die 3 feet 2 inches square, on which is a bronze tablet inscribed:

ERECTED BY
WM. H. BARTLETT, POST 3, G. A. R.
DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS,
1887.

On this die rests a plinth of Westerly granite, on the four sides of which, in gilded letters, are respectively the words "Veterans," "Army," "Navy," "1861-1865," which tell the whole story of the monument. The pedestal is surmounted by a figure of an infantry soldier at parade rest, dry good and cast in bronze by Monahan of this city. 7 feet 2 inches in height, the entire height of pedestal and figure being 10 feet 6 inches. The pedestal was built by John B. Sullivan of Taunton, and the accompanying design was made especially for the Globe by W. F. Hersey, a rising young artist of this city.

Business Troubles.

TAUNTON'S HONORED DEAD

Unveiling of the Soldiers' Monument.

Orator of the Day General Cogswell Delivers a Stirring Address.

Visiting Posts from New Bedford, Fall River and Providence.

TAUNTON, Sept. 5.—As an observance of Labor day the Soldiers' monument was unveiled in this city today. Large crowds flocked from all the towns round about, and in keeping with the occasion the city was decked in holiday garb.

About noon the visiting posts from New Bedford, Fall River, Providence and elsewhere began to arrive and were escorted to Armory Hall, where a collation was in waiting for them. At 1.30 p. m. the procession, under command of Commander Alden H. Blake, was formed on City square and took up its line of march for Mayflower Hill cemetery, about 800 men in line. The ceremonies, a programme of which has already been published in THE GLOBE, were then carried out.

The address of Captain Washburn, in describing the labors attending upon the work of procuring the means to carry on the work consummated today, contained in conclusion this admonition: "To you, comrades of Post 3, let me address a word or two. Let us not think because we have built this memorial that our work is done. The dead have been remembered. The living must be cared for. The veterans whose locks are growing thin, whose steps are slow and weary; the widow whose all was given for her country, the mother whose aged eye still beholds in her memory the boy who was to have been her staff in her old age, just as he was when he left her side, and whose body sleeps in an unknown grave—all these demand your tender, never ceasing care."

"The time will come, as human life must end, when the last comrade of this post will come to this spot, will look upon this monument and will recall the events of today. Let him remember that all the watchwords of our grand organization—fraternity, charity, loyalty—have been fulfilled through all time to the very letter of the promise."

The orator of the day was General William Cogswell of Salem, who spoke in substance as follows:

Today, 22 years after the victory over that great rebellion for slavery and against freedom; after the great cause of liberty has been forever won, we come to dedicate a monument to the memory of its dead heroes here, and standing under its shadow in the presence of these comrades who with them fought the good fight and saw them die—before this multitude who helped sustain their right arms raised to strike the foe and who gather here today to do honor to their glorious memories—remembering how bravely they fought, how more than gloriously they died, mindful of all they left dear behind them, as well as of the glory which awaited them; alive to the disappointments and disasters and failures which ever and anon attended them, not forgetting how they hoped on, hoped ever, until the not dreaded but rather welcome summons came to them at last in the language of their own chief martyr in the cause spoken at Gettysburg. I say to you today, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate this ground. The brave men living and dead who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add to or detract from.

No public square presents its sacred history and its priceless lesson. On this soldiers' lot, on this Mayflower hill, it stands on the bosom of its own dead, beautiful in design, significant of valor, of love of country, of great truths, and a benediction, commemorative of what the men of Taunton did in 1861-65 that liberty might not perish from the earth. Its story is of men dead on the field of honor. Its story is of the American volunteer who left home to fight his country's battles and died that it might live.

It tells not alone of the glory of the dead, but of the tears, the sacrifices, the agonies of the wife and mother left at home. Its story is of the great war itself, of a great people, of the part which was a full part, that Taunton took of her long roll of the loyal dead, of the heroic dead, the nation's dead.

You can look upon it without a blush—all can stand before it in solemn contemplation of its great significance, in wonder at the magnificent tale it tells, in pride at the achievement it records, in amazement at the sublimity and grandeur of the example it speaks to us, in glorious congratulations that the brave and gallant men for whose memory it stands forever were our men, our fathers, our brothers, our sons, our countrymen; from it drink in new inspiration for the future, so that we may show if need be that these men fought for no recumbent sons, but for children who will see that no detriment shall come to the Republic which they have saved, and in memory of the men for whom it stands.





VETERANS

DIRECTED BY
WILLIAM H. PARTLETTS
POST NO. 3,
DEPARTMENT OF
MASSACHUSETTS,
GRAND ARMY OF
THE REPUBLIC,
1887.



