

Civil War Soldiers' Monument



**MONUMENT INSCRIPTIONS: On Base: In Memoriam Perpetuam, 1864 On Tablet:
Pro Patria Mortui Sunt (“They have died for their country”)**

Stay tuned for Newton Civil War-themed events

Welcome to the City page for the Soldier’s Monument to Newton’s Civil War soldiers. Located in Newton Cemetery on Walnut Street in Newton Centre, the Soldier’s Monument bears the names of 61 Newton soldiers who were killed or died from service in the Civil War. Erected in 1864, the Newton Soldier’s Monument is believed to be the second oldest monument to Civil War dead in Massachusetts, and is one of the earliest in the Northeast to be built while the conflict was still in progress. By 1862, in the early days of the war, Newton lost at least 14 men. The monument is a stone obelisk and an entablature made from granite and marble, and was designed and carved by Chester Mitchell of the Mitchell Granite Company in Quincy. The Monument project became a *cause celebre* in Newton, prompting over 1200 donors to contribute funds, and over 1100 public school children to contribute a dime each to the cause. The obelisk, entablature, and structural curbing on the knoll cost approximately \$5,500 to build. The Soldiers’ Monument was dedicated on July 23, 1864, in a ceremony marked by songs, poems, speeches, and sermons. There are no burials on the site of the Newton Soldiers’ monument, but about a third of the men on the monument are buried in Newton Cemetery. At the time of the 1864 dedication, 43 names were inscribed in alphabetical order on two of the three marble panels of the entablature. Eighteen Newton soldiers who died after the dedication ceremony were soon added to both marble tablets. The central marble panel in the entablature remains blank.

Special thanks to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and Newton taxpayers for

funding its recent restoration! Visit the Monument during Newton Cemetery's hours of operation.

Directions: Once inside the Cemetery from Walnut Street, bear left at the fork and proceed straight about 100 yards. The obelisk will be on the small hill right in front of you. The entablature bearing the 61 names is down the same hill to the right

SOLDIERS BIOGRAPHIES: With the new year comes the 150th birthday of the Newton Civil War Soldiers' Monument, and renewed attention paid to the 61 Newton men who died serving their country and whose names appear on the monument. Eight of them lost their lives in January during the war, and their brief biographies will be featured here. By year's end biographies of all 61 men will be posted here, the Newton Patch, and Facebook. Most of this information was obtained from www.ancestry.com, but a full bibliography is available upon request.

Orlestus J. Adams, William B. Neff, and Stephen L. Nichols

John Allen

George Baker

Lemuel F Bassett

George H. Baxter

William Rogers Benson

Theodore L Brackett

Joseph Berry Breck

Lowell M Breck

Leroy S Bridgman

Eben R. Buck

Reuben Little Butler

Ferdinand Champion

Gilbert A. Cheney

Thomas W. Clifford

Seth Cousens, Jr.

Frederick A. Cutter

Thomas Duran

William Fell

John Forsyth

William N Freeman

William L Gilman

Patrick Haggerty

Henry Clay Harrington

William A. Harris

Leopold H. Hawkes and Thomas L. Jackson

William Henry Johnson

Albert Asaph Kendall

George Kimball

Jefferson Lakin (Larkin)
Henry T Lawson
Charles Leavitt
Elliot Littlefield
Edward Lyman
Michael Martin
John McQuade
Daniel Miller
John Myers (Meirs)
George Hale Nichols
Thomas C. Norcross
William E Parker
Albert F. Potter
Joseph Robbin Pratt
William J. Rand, Jr.
William H Rice
George Rich
Matthew T.H. Roffe
John Blasdell Rogers
Daniel Sanger
Edward H Toombs
Lucius Fuller Trowbridge
Michael Vaughn
Harvey L Vinton
Charles Ward
Grafton H. Ward
Alfred Washburn
Lieut. Eben White
Samuel F. Woodward

Donations are being collected by Historic Newton, Inc. for the rededication ceremony and for a long-term maintenance fund for the Monument. Please specify your fund choice.