

Trumbull County Veterans' Memorial

Warren, Ohio • Dedicated November 11, 2008

History of the Trumbull County Veterans Memorial

A memorial to World War II veterans was a vision of Marine 1st Lt. William Muter, a Vietnam veteran, formerly of Warren.

To that goal, Muter had commissioned a life-size bronze statue of a WWII marine, complete with exact detail uniform and equipment. He formed the Western Reserve Veterans' Memorial Association to raise the money to complete and place the statue in Monument Park in downtown Warren.

Following Muter's untimely death in 2007, the association sought assistance from the Trumbull 100 to find a way to complete Muter's vision and properly honor the veterans of WWII.

A steering committee of community leaders and veterans was formed. It decided the statue should be the centerpiece of a fitting memorial to all veterans; thus was born the idea of the Trumbull County Veterans' Memorial. Ground was broken on Memorial Day, May 26, 2008.

In cooperation with The Western Reserve Veteran's Memorial Association, Tribune Chronicle, Trumbull

100, and the City of Warren, the project was launched in the fall of 2007. Baker, Bednar and Associates donated architectural services and produced the stunning design of the memorial. The Jack Gibson Construction Co. and the Mahoning Valley Building Trades Asso. donated contractor services and labor for the project. The Tribune Chronicle coordinated the sale of named bricks and pavers to fund the project.

The statue, the only one of its kind is the work of New York sculptor Robert Eccleston. It is a replica of a Marine depicted in the painting, "BAR on the Beach", a scene from the battle of Iwo Jima during World War II, painted by retired Marine Colonel Charles Waterhouse. (BAR is the acronym for Browning Automatic Rifle which is the firearm the Marine is holding.)

The Trumbull County Veterans' Memorial was dedicated on Veterans Day, November 11, 2008. Roger Ailes, Chairman & CEO of Fox News was the guest speaker.

Trumbull County Veterans' Memorial Committee members

David Kostolansky, Chair
Randy Baker
Allen Briggs
Richard Ellers

Ned Gold
David Hamilton
Charles Jarvis
Shelley Odille

Jim Rapone
Sue Shafer

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With Gratitude...

A project of this magnitude cannot be undertaken without the support of the community. Please join us in thanking those who contributed to its success:

Warren Western Reserve Building & Construction Trades Council

- Bricklayers #88 & #43
- Cement Masons #179
- Electricians #573
- Laborers #935
- Millwrights/Piledrivers #1871
- Structural Ironworkers #207

Supporting organizations:

- Adgate Garden Center
- Roger Ailes
- Baker, Bednar & Associates
- Brick Well Company
- CVS (Market & Chestnut St)
- City of Warren, Ohio
- Community Foundation of the Mahoning Valley
- Executive Landscaping, Inc.
- First Place Foundation
- Frank & Pearl Gelbman Foundation
- Jack Gibson Construction Co.
- Harrington. Hoppe & Mitchell Ltd.
- Home Savings Charitable Foundation
- Joe Yochman Excavation
- L.E.C. Limited
- Lafarge, Warren Plant
- Lynn, Kittinger & Noble
- May's Towing
- Paige & Byrnes Insurance, Inc.
- Pipelines, Inc.
- R&J Trucking/Corry Pit
- Ranier Devido Stone Co., Inc.
- Rotary Club of Warren
- Severstal - Warren Plant
- State of Ohio
- Super Green Lawn Service
- The Trumbull 100
- Tribune Chronicle
- Trumbull County Tourism Bureau
- Trumbull Memorial Hospital
- Robert Ewing Van Fossan Family
- Warren Area Chamber of Commerce Education, Civic & Cultural Foundation
- Warren City Schools
- Warren Concrete & Supply Co.
- Youngstown Foundation

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History of Monument Park • Warren, Ohio

The Quinby family, founders of Warren, donated the land for what is known as **Monument Park**. Custom at the time dictated that monuments be placed in public places where they could be a constant reminder of the sacrifices made by others, as well as an inspiration.

The largest monument, made of bluish-gray Quincy marble sculpted by Lorado Taft, was erected in honor of area soldiers and sailors who gave their lives for their country during the Civil War. Although **Soldiers' Monument** is inscribed as dedicated on July 4, 1890, the dedication was actually held on Sept. 23, 1890, with President Rutherford B. Hayes as speaker. The bronze infantryman statue, on the east side, was the main reason for the late dedication. After the infantryman statue had been set in place, the monument committee was displeased with the musket which formed a part of the figure's equipment. The statue was removed and shipped back to Chicago for remodeling and was not returned in time for the original dedication date.

A Civil War era cannon sits at the south end of the park and honors...

The "**Spirit of The American Doughboy**" statue was sculpted by Ernest Moore Viquesney and erected by the Clarence Hyde Post #278 American Legion. Pvt. Clarence Hyde was the youngest soldier from Trumbull County to die in World War I. It was dedicated on what was known at the time as Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1941 and was purchased using funds from a 1918 War Chest Fund. Warren H. Atherton, National Chairman of the National Defense Committee of the American Legion was the speaker at the dedication.

Conservation treatment was performed in 1991 and again in 2003. The Doughboy was rededicated Nov. 11, 2003. In 2008 the statue became a valued part of the new Trumbull County Veterans' Memorial.

A monument to **Vietnam War** veterans was dedicated August 22, 1982. The Trumbull County Vietnam Veterans Association worked about a year to raise the necessary funds. Charles Burns was chairman of the association and Rick Harvey was the author of the monument's inscription.

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History of Monument Park • Warren, Ohio • continued

A cannon in memory of the soldiers and sailors of the **Spanish-American War** sits at the north end of the park. A plaque at the site reads: "This Cannon was presented to Warren Camp #100 United Spanish War Veterans of Warren, Ohio by the U.S. Government and erected to the memory of the Soldiers and Sailors of the Spanish American War" 1898- 1902.

A monument to those who served during the **Korean War** was dedicated on Armed Forces Day, May 20, 2000. Robert Mangold was the speaker. The project was directed by Bob Brothers, Roger Gardner, Herbert Lucy and Wayne Westover.

The first school in Warren opened in 1804 with classes held in a **log cabin** that stood on the eastern bank of the Mahoning River, at the northern end of this park. The 18x28 foot building had one door, five windows that were covered with greased paper, and a fieldstone fireplace. Students sat on crude slab wood benches facing the walls, where shelves held their books.

In 1838 a replica of this first schoolhouse was constructed and stood until 1988 when it was demolished due to its deteriorated condition. It was replaced with a new log cabin which was dedicated on July 6, 1988 and stands in the park today.

Other monuments in the park are:

- A plaque in memory of the Old Erie Masonic Lodge chartered in 1803.
- A memorial to Gold Star Mothers of all wars.
- A 16,000 pound ingot which contains steel souvenirs symbolizing the beginning of the second century of steel-making in America dedicated July 7, 1965.
- A marker to honor African-American soldiers lost in service in WWII.
- A monument to Women who served in the armed forces.
- A memorial to Copperweld Steel employees lost in service in WWII.
- A monument to honor veterans who were POW and MIA.
- A memorial honoring Warren City Police Department heroes dedicated in 2006 by FOP Lodge #34.
- A monument to all veterans from the Polish Legion of American Veterans #164.
- A time capsule to be opened in 2099. *(Credit to Grace Allison)*