

The Memory Statue

South Main Street



Form No.	904
Town	Sherborn
Address	South Main Street
Historic Name	The Memory Statue
Ownership, 1981	Town of Sherborn
" Original	Town of Sherborn
Constructed	1924
Dedicated	October 1924
Source	Anne C. Shaughnessy - <u>The History of Sherborn, 1974</u>
Sculptor	Cyrus Dallin
Individual or Group respons. for monument	
Condition	Good
Importance of monu- ment to area	Great
Monument endangered by	Not Applicable
Location of inscription	Set into stonework are bronze plaques with names of Sherborn war dead, 1676-1918
Entire Inscription	"In Memory of the men of Sherborn who gave their lives in defense of their country."



Foundation	Base
Material	Granite
Setting	In front of old burial ground opposite key intersection
size	Bronze statue of a woman is 8 feet tall, base measures 30 by 20 feet
Recorded	July 1981 by Edward W. Gordon

DESCRIPTION OF MONUMENT

This memorial is constructed of Concord N.H. Granite. A full length, bronze statue of a woman is centered against a Roman Doric architectural backdrop. Eight feet tall and draped in a flowing hood and robes, the woman holds her right hand to her cheek while her left arm encircles the helmet of a fallen hero. The helmet is wreathed with a chaplet of laurel. Her downcast face is "in an attitude of pensive remembrance". The graceful curving lines of this statue contrast with the rigidity of its granite architectural setting. On either side of the statue bronze tablets have been set into the stonework which bear the names of the honored dead of five wars. This memorial is built upon a foundation of concrete and stone - it measures 30 by 20 feet.

HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF MONUMENT

The Memory statue was erected to memorialize Sherborn citizens who gave their lives for their country in five wars between 1676 and 1918. Its 1924 dedication coincided with the 250th anniversary of Sherborn's incorporation. It was given to the town by William B. H. Dowse, a successful lawyer, businessman and philanthropist. He also provided funds for the Dowse Memorial Building's construction (1914). The bronze memory statue was sculpted by Cyrus Dallin of Arlington Heights, Ma. (1867-1944). He is best known for works such as the Equestrian statue of Paul Revere (Boston Old North Church) and the Indian on horseback on the Boston Museum of Fine Arts front lawn - The Appeal to the Great Spirit. Memory's architectural setting was designed by the Boston architect William Ware Dinsmore. He designed the Windom New Hampshire Public Library. 1885 is the first year he is listed in Boston business directories.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES

- Anne C. Shaughnessy – The History of Sherborn, 1974
- 250th Anniversary of the Town of Sherborn Compiled by the committee of 50, 1925
- Boston Public Library architects file.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

The bronze tablets surrounding the statue in left to right order contain the following inscriptions:

**THIS MEMORIAL IS ERECTED
AND PRESENTED TO THE TOWN
OF SHERBORN - HIS BIRTHPLACE
by
WILLIAM BRADFORD HOMER DOWSE
1924**

**KING PHILIPS WAR
HENRY ADAMS**

JONATHAN WOOD

REVOLUTIONARY WAR
JONATHAN HOLBROOK
CALEB LELAND

WAR OF 1812
JAMES DOWSE
ISAIAH WOODCOCK

CIVIL WAR
RUFUS S. BABCOCK
WILLARD GILMORE
JAMES W. GREEN
WILLIAM F. HILL
CHARLES HOLBROOK
EDWARD HOLBROOK
CHARLES H. HOWARD
GILBERT H. LELAND

CIVIL WAR
JAMES W. MANN
NOYES MANN
THEODORE PRATT
EDGAR C. RUNDLETT
AVERY SYLVESTER
THOMAS TABER
EDMUND T. WHITNEY
ASA W. WOOD

SPANISH WAR
ROBERT H. DOWSE

WORLD WAR
WILLIAM A. BOSWORTH

IN MEMORY OF
THE DONORS FORBEARS
ELEAZER DOWSE 1728-1807 REVOLUTIONARY
WAR
JOSEPH DOWSE 1760-1839 REVOLUTIONARY WAR
BENJAMIN DOWSE 1784-1866
REV. EDMUND DOWSE 1813-1905 CIVIL WAR