

M: 26-11-13, Confederate Monument  
Montgomery County  
Capsule Summary

The Confederate Monument in Rockville stands on the east side of the Red Brick Courthouse. The life-sized bronze cavalry private gazes south from atop a light gray granite pedestal, across a lawn toward a parking lot and Jefferson Street.

The monument, dedicated on June 3, 1913, is significant for its commemoration of the people of Montgomery County who served the Confederacy. It is a customized example of the common soldier memorial, a type first used after the Civil War and popular through the First World War. The monument also represents Rockville's response to the City Beautiful movement.

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Confederate Monument

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number Red Brick Courthouse, Courthouse Square  not for publication

city, town Rockville  vicinity of congressional district 8th

state MD county Montgomery

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: commemorative

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Montgomery County (Department of Facilities and Services)

street & number 110 N. Washington St. telephone no.: (301) 217-6055

city, town Rockville state and zip code MD 20850

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber

street & number Courthouse Square folio

city, town Rockville state MD 20850

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. M:26-11-13

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move <u>1971; 1979</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Confederate Monument in Rockville stands on the east side of the Red Brick Courthouse. The life-sized bronze cavalry private gazes south from atop a light gray granite pedestal, across a lawn toward a parking lot and Jefferson Street.

The statue stands with arms crossed, left leg forward with toe beyond the edge of a low bronze plinth, sabre on his left hip, and a pistol on his belt. The granite pedestal, square in plan, is topped with a hipped, rockfaced cap set off by cavetto molding and a smooth fascia below. The die of the pedestal (the central section which carries the inscription) tapers slightly and is rockfaced on all sides; on the south face the rusticated finish frames a smooth raised panel with the inscription:

TO  
OUR HEROES  
OF  
MONTGOMERY CO.  
MARYLAND  
THAT WE THROUGH LIFE  
MAY NOT FORGET TO LOVE  
THE THIN GRAY LINE  
ERECTED A.D. 1913

Below the die is a stepped base, with two smooth and shallow hipped steps supported by two rock faced, hipped bases. The second base (above the lowest first base) is smooth on the south side and carries the insignia of the Confederate Sons of America (the intertwined letters C, S and A within a laurel wreath), flanked by the dates 1861 and 1865, all carved in relief.

The monument stands in a small park on the east lawn of the Red Brick Courthouse. Dogwood and tulip magnolia have been planted close to the statue and the park is bounded by hollies. The monument is visible to pedestrians moving around the courthouse complex from a covered walkway at the edge of the park.

In spring 1993 the statue was in good repair but exhibited a great degree of light green copper sulfate corrosion. The granite pedestal carried a small amount of copper staining and some general soiling. The mortar joints appeared to be sound. Tree limbs had grown too close to the monument.

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7.1 Description

The monument was cleaned and waxed in May 1994 by the  
Maryland Military Monuments Commission.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1913 Builder/Architect Falvey Granite Co.

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Rockville Confederate Monument is significant for its commemoration of the people of Montgomery County who served the Confederacy. It is a customized example of the common soldier memorial, a type first used after the Civil War and popular through the First World War. The monument also represents Rockville's response to the City Beautiful movement.

The monument was first suggested in 1909 at a memorial service for a veteran at Monocacy Chapel, Beallsville, by Richard Poole Hayes, a veteran of fellow Montgomery countian Lt. Col. Elijah Veirs White's 35th Battalion, Virginia Cavalry, C.S.A.<sup>1</sup>

The monument was sponsored by the E. V. White and Ridgely Brown chapters of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Ridgely Brown Camp of the United Confederate Veterans. The Washington firm of Michael J. Falvey, Falvey Granite Company, built the statue at a cost of \$3,600. Col. Spencer C. Jones, said to have been the model for the head of the statue (no evidence has been found), played a major role in the planning and fund raising, but due to illness was unable to serve as master of ceremonies at the dedication on June 3, 1913. The present owner of the Falvey Company, Merle L. Cox, has suggested that the statue may have been sculpted by Fred E. York, an artist who worked for the company during the 1920s and 1930s, but company records do not exist for the period prior to 1927.<sup>2</sup>

Susan Soderberg has pointed out that the Rockville monument was erected during the second, reconciliation stage of

<sup>1</sup>Susan C. Soderberg, "The Confederate Monument and its Symbolism." The Montgomery County Story 36, no. 3 (August 1993): 261-262.

<sup>2</sup>Ibid., 262, 264.

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8.1 Significance

memorialization after the Civil War. It was intended more as a tribute to the soldiers, some of whom had fought in the Spanish-American War alongside Union veterans, than to a lost cause; it also coincided with a political trend toward nationalism and patriotism. Although many of the powerful people in the county were Confederate veterans, it was recognized that economic growth and progress required compromise and unity.<sup>3</sup>

By the first decade of this century public preference was turning away from stock, catalogue memorials toward the Beaux-Arts ideal that had been made popular by the "White City" of the Chicago World's Columbian Exposition of 1892-93. The subsequent City Beautiful movement sought to improve urban areas by integrating parks, monuments and sculpture with public buildings. Equally important to planners was the opportunity to uplift the morals and aesthetic taste of the public.<sup>4</sup> The Rockville monument reflected the town's response to the City Beautiful movement.

Instead of purchasing a mass-produced common soldier memorial, the citizens of Rockville ordered a custom designed bronze statue, possibly modeled after a local veteran. The pedestal was designed of rusticated granite in the Romanesque Revival style. The monument was originally sited in a triangular park across East Montgomery Avenue from the front of the 1891 Romanesque Revival courthouse. The relationship of placement and style between statue and courthouse helped to define the town center. The statue was moved to its present location on the east side of the courthouse in 1971, when the street was closed to through traffic and the downtown area was redesigned.

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<sup>3</sup>Ibid., 268-270.

<sup>4</sup>Michael W. Panhorst, "Brief History of Outdoor Sculpture and Monuments in the United States of America," in SOS! Handbook, ed. Paula R. Peters (Washington, DC: National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property, 1992), 45.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M:26-11-13

Panhorst, Michael W. "Brief History of Outdoor Sculpture and Monuments in the United States of America." In SOS! Handbook, ed. Paula R. Peters. Washington, DC: National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property, 1992.  
Soderberg, Susan C. "The Confederate Monument and its Symbolism." The Montgomery County Story 36, no. 3 (August 1993).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name USGS Rockville, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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## Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the monument consists of an 8' square centered on the monument.

## List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy Kurtz, Monuments Survey Administrator

organization Maryland Historical Trust

date 4 April 1994

street & number 100 Community Place

telephone (410) 514-7648

city or town Crownsville

state MD 21032

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: ~~Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438~~

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

M:26-11-13  
Montgomery County

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA  
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban  
Dominance (1870-1930)

Historic Period Theme(s): Social/Educational/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: Object

Historic Environment: Town

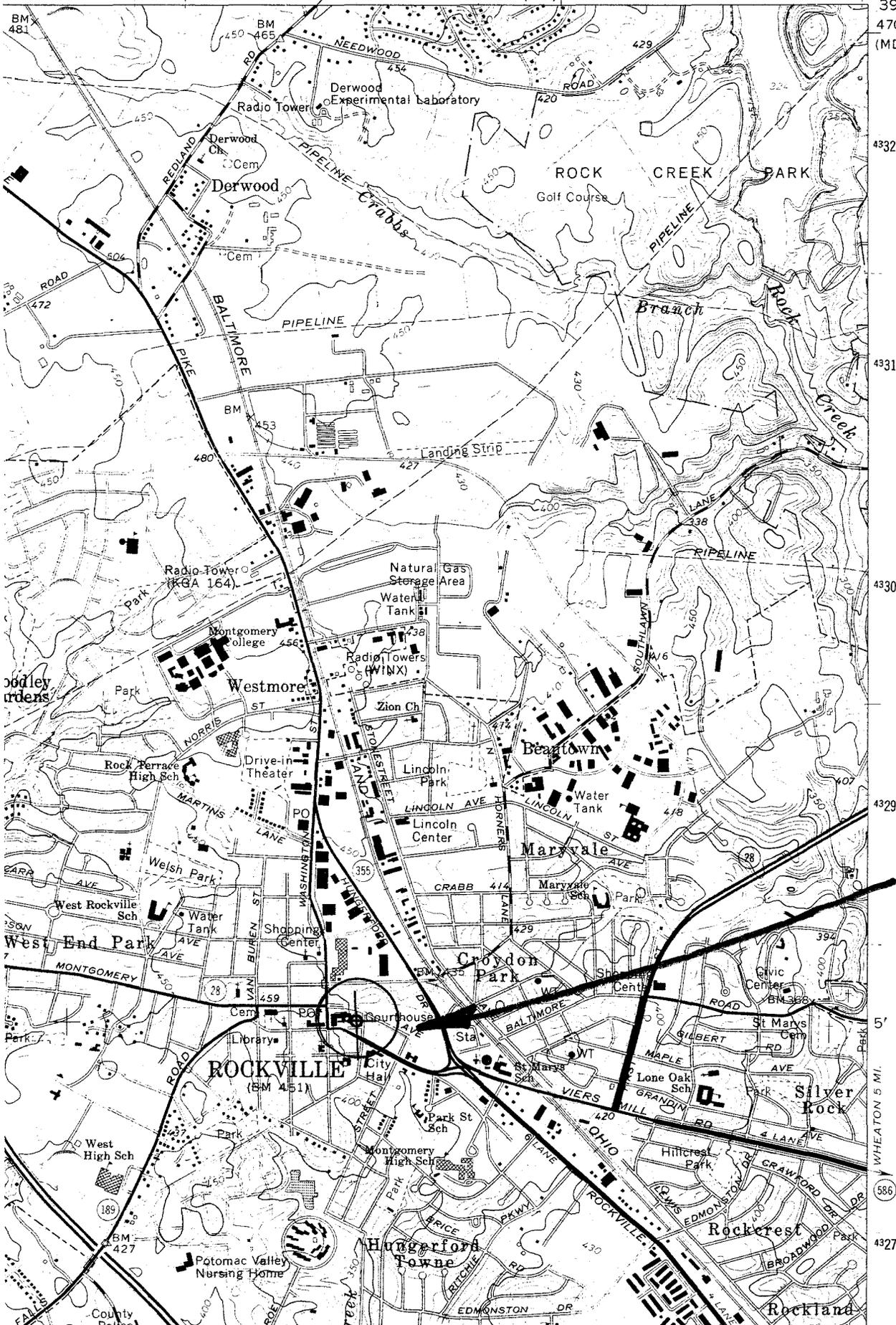
Historic Function(s) and Use(s): RECREATION AND  
CULTURE/monument

Known Design Source(s): Falvey Granite Company, Washington,  
DC

ROCKVILLE QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND-VIRGINIA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
SW/4 ROCKVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE

5562 II NE  
(SANDY SPRING)

GROVE 1.1 MI. 10' 313 REDLAND 1.6 MI. 314 760 000 FEET (MD.) 315 316 77°07'30" 39°07'30"



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Confederate  
Monument  
USGS Rockville MD  
1:24,000  
Montgomery County

WHEATON 5 MI. 586



TO  
OUR HEROES  
OF  
MONTGOMERY CO.  
MARYLAND

THAT WE THROUGH LIFE  
MAY NOT FORGET TO LOVE  
THE THIN GRAY LINE  
WRITTEN A. D. 1942

1861



1865

M: 26-11-13

CONFEDERATE

MONUMENT

MONTGOMERY CO. , MD

X. KURTZ

4/93

NEG- MD SHPO

S. ELEV.

1/2



M: 26-11-13

CONFEDERATE

MONUMENT

MONTGOMERY CO., MD

N. KURTZ

4/93

NEG-MD SHPO

EAST ELEV.

2/2