

T-934, Confederate Monument
Talbot County
Capsule Summary

The Confederate Monument in Easton stands in the landscaped green south of the brick walk in front of the Talbot County Courthouse. The life-sized sheet copper statue of a color bearer faces east from atop a granite pedestal with the raised inscription, "TO THE TALBOT BOYS."

Dedicated in 1916, the monument is significant for its commemoration of those from Talbot County who served in the Confederacy. It is also representative of the stock or mass-produced war monuments popular from the time of the Civil War until the Great Depression.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. T-934

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Confederate Monument

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Courthouse, Washington St.

not for publication

city, town Easton

vicinity of

congressional district 1st

state Maryland

county Talbot

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 type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other:commemorative

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

name Talbot County, c/o County Manager

street & number Courthouse, 11 N. Washington St.

telephone no.: (410) 822-2807

city, town Easton

state and zip code MD 21601

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Courthouse

liber

street & number 11 N. Washington St.

folio

city, town Easton

state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. T-934

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved

date of move _____

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

8. Significance

Survey No. T-934

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1916 **Builder/Architect** Mullins Sheet Metal Manufacturing 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.

T-934, Confederate Monument
Talbot County
7.1 Description

The Confederate Monument in Easton stands in the landscaped green south of the brick walk in front of the Talbot County Courthouse. The life-sized sheet copper statue of a color bearer faces east from atop a granite pedestal.

The young soldier stands with chin up, hat tipped back, holding a Confederate flag at his left side with both hands, his right arm across his chest. The flag unfurls behind his back and around to his right. The figure stands on a wagon wheel and wears a C. S. A. belt buckle. The base of the statue carries the identification:

MANUFACTURED BY
W. H. MULLINS CO.
SALEM, OHIO

The dark gray granite pedestal is rectangular in plan, aligned with its transverse forward. It is rock faced on four sides, and stands on a rock faced plinth. The east (front) side of the pedestal carries a smooth, unpolished recessed panel with the raised inscription:

TO THE TALBOT BOYS
1861-1865
C. S. A.

The longitudinal sides of the pedestal carry highly polished recessed panels with inscribed lists of names. The south side lists forty-two names in two columns; the north side lists twenty-six names. On the south side of the smooth hipped cap of the rusticated plinth there is a bronze plaque with the inscription:

CITIZENS AFTER WAR
(six names)

A similar plaque is found on the north side of the plinth with five names.

In the summer of 1992 the statue exhibited extensive light green copper sulfate corrosion on the skyward surfaces and black copper sulfide corrosion on undercuts and protected areas. The granite was in good condition, with general soiling. The plaques were uniformly light green. The monument was cleaned with walnut shell air abrasive and waxed in May 1994.

T-934, Confederate Monument
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8.1 Significance

The Confederate Monument in Easton is significant for its commemoration of those from Talbot County who served in the Confederacy. It is also representative of the stock or mass-produced war monument popular from the time of the Civil War until the Great Depression.

At the Battle of Gettysburg, the Union's First Eastern Shore Regiment included men of Trappe's Company H, who were sent to Culp's Hill on July 3, 1863. There they fought troops of the First Maryland Confederate Regiment, which also included men from the Trappe area. The color sergeants for each side were cousins, both from Trappe: Robert W. Ross for the Union and P. M. Moore, fatally wounded, for the Confederates.¹

The monument was sponsored by a committee formed in 1913, chaired by Gen. Joseph B. Stein. After consideration of a statue of local Adm. Franklin Buchanan, it was agreed to honor "all the boys in gray." The base was erected in July 1914; the statue was dedicated in June, 1916. Efforts in 1914 to raise funds for a Union monument were unsuccessful.²

The solitary common soldier monument was popularized after the Civil War, in recognition of the loss of 600,000 men, most of whom were privates and non-commissioned officers. The common soldier monument was symbolic of the democratic ideal of the individual. The form dates back to the Greeks; with one exception noted by Panhorst, Western sculpture celebrated the great and the famous until the first American statue of the common soldier by Randolph Rogers, designed in 1863 and dedicated in 1867.³

After the Civil War and until the Great Depression, the American monument industry produced hundreds of mass-produced monuments. The maker of the Easton monument, the Mullins Sheet Metal Manufacturing Company of Salem, Ohio, was one of the few that could maintain a sizable inventory.⁴ Another Mullins monument, a sheet copper World War I Doughboy, is found in Funkstown, Washington County.

¹Dickson J. Preston, Talbot County: A History (Centreville, MD: Tidewater Publishers, 1983), 280.

²Susan C. Soderberg, Lest We Forget: A Guide to Civil War Monuments in Maryland (Shippensburg, PA: White Mane Publishing Company, 1995), 115-116.

³Michael W. Panhorst, "Memorial Art and Architecture in a Vernacular Mold: Mass-Produced War Monuments in the United States, 1861-1929" (unpublished paper presented at the Vernacular Architecture Forum Conference, Staunton, Virginia, 1988), 2, 14.

⁴Ibid., 5.

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MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

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): Mullins Sheet Metal Manufacturing Company, Salem, Ohio



T-934
 Confederate Monument
 Talbot County
 USGS Easton MD
 1:24,000



TO THE TALBOT BOYS
1891-1865
C. S. A.

T-934

TALBOT CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

TALBOT CO., MD

N. KURTZ

8/92

NEG - MD SHPO

EAST ELEV.

1/2



T - 934

TALBOT CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

TALBOT CO., MD

N. KURTZ

8/92

NEG - MD SAPO

NORTH ELEV.

2/2