

These Were Our Boys:

*Swanton's Fallen from the Civil
War to Afghanistan*

*Respectfully researched and compiled
by Trustee Suzie Kelleher*



Dedicated to the sons of Swanton who never returned...

This booklet is dedicated to the memory of forty-eight men from Swanton, Vermont, who gave their lives in service to the United States — from the Civil War through Afghanistan. These were our neighbors, classmates, brothers, and sons. They walked our streets, their laughter once echoing in the schoolyards by the Village Green, now home to the Town Clerk's Office, and from the halls of Swanton High School, now a residence for our elders. The very ground beneath our feet holds their memories, in places like where St. Anne's once stood, a place of learning now gone, but whose spirit remains in the stories of those who passed through it. They fished in the Missisquoi River and Lake Champlain. From Hog Island to the Village to Greens Corners, their footsteps echoed on Grand Avenue, First Street, and Canada Street. From these familiar places, they dreamed of futures that were tragically cut short as they carried the weight of duty far from home.

Some died in foreign fields with their comrades beside them. Others passed in silence, prisoners of war or lost to time. A few have never come home, their names etched in marble but their remains unrecovered.

This work seeks not only to remember their service but to restore their names to the heart of our town — not as statistics, but as stories. They were more than uniforms. They were young men with futures that were never lived and sacrifices that must never be forgotten.

We remember them not only for how they died, but for how they lived.

May their names always be spoken.

~Suzie Kelleher
Village Trustee
Memorial Day 2025

The Civil War (1861–1865)

The Civil War was fought between the Union (North) and the Confederacy (South) over states' rights and the expansion of slavery. Vermont, firmly Union-aligned, sent thousands of men into battle — including many from Swanton. These soldiers fought in brutal conditions, often far from home, and faced not only enemy fire but rampant disease, inadequate medical care, and long campaigns in unfamiliar terrain. The cost was immense. For a town like Swanton, the war left deep scars: sons who never returned, families who waited in vain, and names now etched in stone. Some of those lost were just boys. Others were seasoned men. Each served in defense of a Union that would one day become whole again.

Banner Placement: North end of Village Green Park at Grand Avenue, near the Goddess of Liberty statue

This banner honors all of the men of Swanton, Vermont, who served in the Union Army during the Civil War and gave their lives in service to their country.

The Civil War fallen section is divided between those that are listed on the tablets at the foot of the Goddess of Liberty statue in the Village Green Park and those through careful research of Compiled Military Service Records (CMSR) and other historical documents, were found to have been excluded when the statue was erected in 1869. Private William (Wilman) Micha is notably listed on the tablets twice. A *Vermont Daily Transcript* article dated Thursday 28 May 1868, refers to “thirty-one ‘Braves’ who went forth from Swanton to die upon the battlefield in the sunny south for their native land”. Not all who are listed died in battle; some succumbed to wounds or disease — common in the 19th-century army. All served their country and all deserve to be remembered.



Listed On the Tablets:

Cpl Martin B. Rugg

Corporal – U.S. Army, Co. A 1st Vermont Infantry

Died 16 August 1861 Brattleboro, Vermont

Burial: Carroll Hill Cemetery, Fairfax, Vermont

Martin B. Rugg was born in 1834, the son of Russell Rugg and Sarah (Wheeler) Rugg of Fairfax, Vermont. By 1860, he was residing in Swanton and working as an attorney-at-law, as shown in the federal census. At age 27, he enlisted for a three-month term in the 1st Vermont Infantry on 2 May 1861 at Rutland and mustered in on 9 May 1861 with the rank of corporal in Company A. Rugg mustered out at Brattleboro on 15 August 1861 and died the next day, 16 August 1861. The exact cause of death was not recorded in his CMSR, and remains unknown. He is buried in Carroll Hill Cemetery in Fairfax, Vermont, near his family. His government-issued headstone, supplied in 1879, correctly notes his service and date of death.

Martin B. Rugg's name is inscribed on the Civil War tablet beneath the Goddess of Liberty statue in Swanton's Village Green Park. However, the tablet incorrectly lists his date of death as 16 August 1864, a discrepancy when compared to official records. Despite the brevity of his service, Rugg was among Vermont's first to respond to the Union's call, representing the early sacrifices made even before large-scale battles defined the war.

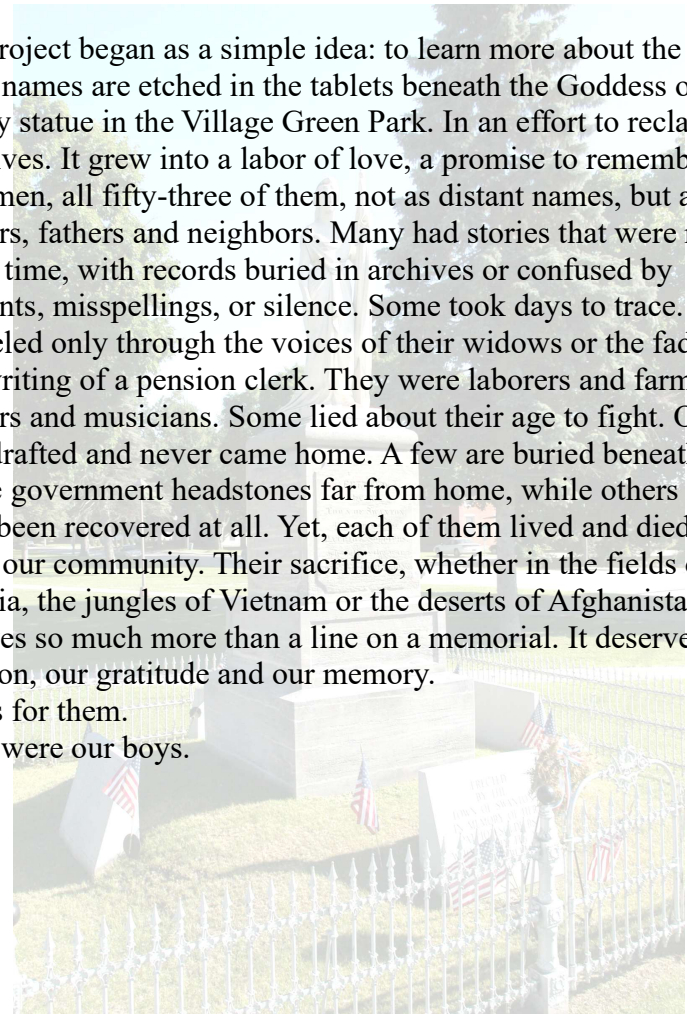
Final Thoughts

This project began as a simple idea: to learn more about the men who's names are etched in the tablets beneath the Goddess of Liberty statue in the Village Green Park. In an effort to reclaim their lives. It grew into a labor of love, a promise to remember these men, all fifty-three of them, not as distant names, but as sons, brothers, fathers and neighbors. Many had stories that were nearly lost to time, with records buried in archives or confused by misprints, misspellings, or silence. Some took days to trace. Others unraveled only through the voices of their widows or the faded handwriting of a pension clerk. They were laborers and farmers, scholars and musicians. Some lied about their age to fight. Others were drafted and never came home. A few are buried beneath simple government headstones far from home, while others have never been recovered at all. Yet, each of them lived and died with ties to our community. Their sacrifice, whether in the fields of Virginia, the jungles of Vietnam or the deserts of Afghanistan, deserves so much more than a line on a memorial. It deserves our attention, our gratitude and our memory.

This is for them.

These were our boys.

~smk



Global War on Terrorism: Operation Enduring Freedom



LCpl Anthony James “Chuckie” Rosa
Lance Corporal – U.S. Marine Corps, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines
9 July 1990 – 23 September 2010
St. Mary’s Cemetery, Swanton
Banner Placement: Canada Street

Anthony James Rosa, known to his family, friends, and neighbors as “Chuckie”, was born on 9 July 1990 in Vermont to Darci Berger and James Rosa. He was the grandson of Harold G. Berger, founder of H.G. Berger & Son Oil, a longtime family-run Swanton business. Chuckie enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served as a rifleman with Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 1, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward). Deployed to Helmand Province, Afghanistan, Chuckie was killed in action on 23 September 2010 while supporting combat operations. He was 20 years old. Chuckie was awarded the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Ribbon. His remains were brought home to Swanton, where he was laid to rest with full military honors at St. Mary’s Cemetery. He is remembered not just for how he died, but for how he lived: with humor, humility, and heart.

Pvt. William H. Spencer
Private – U.S. Army, Co. A, 1st Vermont Infantry
Died 18 August 1861, Brattleboro, Vermont
Burial: Church Street Cemetery, Swanton, Vermont

William H. Spencer was born around 1843 and resided in Swanton, Vermont. He was the son of William Spencer Sr., a farmer born in England, and Susan Spencer, a native of Canada East. In the 1860 federal census, 16-year-old William was living with his parents and younger siblings in Swanton.

He enlisted at the age of 18 during the initial call for volunteers at the outset of the Civil War. According to his Company Muster-in Roll from the Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR), he joined for duty at Rutland, Vermont on 2 May 1861 and officially mustered in on 9 May 1861 as a Private in Company A, 1st Vermont Infantry — a 3-month regiment raised to respond to President Lincoln’s call following Fort Sumter.

William’s unit served in the early defense of Washington, D.C., and saw action at Big Bethel on June 10, one of the first land battles of the war. He mustered out with his regiment on 15 August 1861 in Brattleboro, Vermont.

Tragically, William died three days later on 18 August 1861 in Brattleboro, likely of illness contracted during service — a fate common among early-war volunteers. According to the Swanton town death record, he was buried in the Church Street Cemetery in his hometown. His name appears on the Swanton Civil War honor tablets, a testament to his sacrifice.

There is no Company Descriptive Book (CDR) entry for William H. Spencer, and his CMSR contains only muster. His brief but honorable service reflects the sobering toll of the earliest volunteers.

Pvt Richard Columb

Private – U.S. Army, Co. K, 6th Vermont Infantry

Killed in action on 29 June 1862 at the Battle of Savage's Station, Virginia.

Burial: Unknown

Richard Columb was a carpenter from Swanton who enlisted for a three-year term on 15 October 1861 in Montpelier, sworn in by Colonel Elisha L. Barney. He joined Company K, 6th Vermont Infantry, at age 23.

According to his Company Descriptive Book, Richard was 5 feet 11 inches tall with a light complexion, gray eyes, and brown hair. He was born in Swanton and worked as a carpenter at the time of his enlistment. Richard's CMSR reads like a bureaucratic roller coaster. After the brutal Battle of Savage's Station — one of the earliest and most chaotic engagements of the Peninsula Campaign — his fate was unclear. The May–June 1862 muster roll listed him as *missing*. In the July–August roll, his status inexplicably shifted to *absent without leave*. It wasn't until November–December 1862 that the record returned to *missing in action*, and not until a report from the Adjutant General's Office on 15 December 1866 that his death in battle was formally acknowledged.

Even years later, the confusion persisted. As late as November 1872, a Treasury Department document regarding his back pay still stated, "No evidence of death." This lingering ambiguity likely delayed his mother Sophia Columb's ability to claim a pension, which was not granted until 1874 — more than a decade after her son's death. It is unknown whether Richard's remains were ever recovered. His final resting place has not been located.

Global War on Terrorism Operation Enduring Freedom

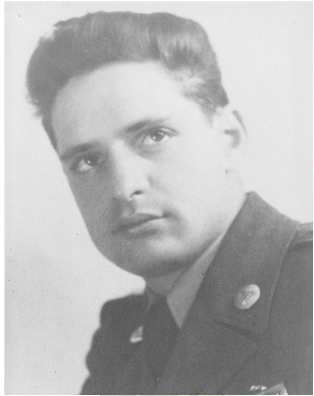
In the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the United States launched Operation Enduring Freedom, initiating military operations in Afghanistan with the goal of dismantling al-Qaeda and removing the Taliban from power. It marked the beginning of the Global War on Terrorism—an open-ended conflict spanning multiple countries and evolving over decades.

Unlike traditional wars, this era of conflict has no clear borders or uniformed enemy. American service members faced dangers not only from combat but from IEDs (improvised explosive devices), ambushes, and the mental toll of repeated deployments.

The mission shifted over time—from counterterrorism to nation-building, then back to counterinsurgency. U.S. forces operated in austere conditions, often embedded with Afghan National Army troops, relying on air support, special operations, and a network of allied coalitions.

Swanton lost one of its own in this new kind of war—a reminder that even in the most remote corners of the world, the sacrifice of small-town sons continues.





SFC George Edward Walker Jr.
Sergeant First Class – U.S. Army,
MACV Advisory Team 73
19 June 1931 – 26 May 1970
Riverside Cemetery, Swanton
Banner Placement: Foundry Street

George Edward Walker Jr. was born in Swanton to George E. Walker Sr. and Florence V. Rushlow. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and served during both the

Korean and Vietnam Wars. During his service in Korea, George was at one point listed as Missing in Action, one of the four Swanton boys unaccounted for during the Korean War. He returned to duty and continued his military career, eventually assigned to MACV Advisory Team 73 during his third tour — this time in Chuong Thien Province, South Vietnam. George was killed in action on 26 May 1970. At the time of his death, George was married to Margaret Walker, and they resided with their two sons in Fayetteville, North Carolina, near his last duty station at Fort Bragg. George was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, and Korean Service Medal among other honors. He is buried at Riverside Cemetery in Swanton.



Cpl Guy C. Martin
Corporal – U.S. Army, Co. K, 6th Vermont Infantry
Died of wounds on 5 July 1862.
Burial: Greenwood Cemetery

Guy C. Martin was born around 1840 to Jacob and Hannah (Lampman) Martin of Swanton. His father died in 1846, leaving Guy as the primary provider for his mother. He enlisted from Swanton at age 21 and was sworn in for a three-year term on 15 October 1861 in Montpelier by Colonel Elisha L. Barney. He mustered into Company K, 6th Vermont Infantry.

The Company Descriptive Book described him as 5 feet 10 inches tall, with a light complexion, blue eyes, and light brown hair. He was born in Westport, New York, and worked as a farmer before enlisting. Guy was wounded at the Battle of Savage's Station on 29 June 1862 — a brutal engagement during the Peninsula Campaign. According to his CMSR, he sustained a wound to the left arm on June 30 and another to the left leg by July 1. He was transported to Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn, New York, where he died of his wounds on 17 July 1862. The CMSR reflects the confusion common in wartime recordkeeping. Early muster rolls from May and June 1862 list him as *absent, wounded*, with notes indicating movement to a hospital on July 1. Later muster rolls — through July, August, and into October — continued to list him as *absent sick*. A November–December entry ambiguously references “Fortress Monroe.” Finally, the January–February 1863 muster roll acknowledges his death from wounds received in action, with multiple conflicting notations of the date — including one marked in red ink stating he died on 5 July 1862, though this contradicts hospital records.

His body was laid to rest at Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. His mother, Hannah Martin, filed for and received a dependent mother's pension in 1864.

Pvt John H. Stearns

Private – U.S. Army, Co. F, 7th Vermont Infantry

Died of Disease – 17 July 1862 Camp Parapet, Louisiana

Burial: Unknown

John H. Stearns was born in Sheldon, Vermont, the son of Josiah and Julia Stearns. He enlisted in Swanton on 3 December 1861 at age 19. He was sworn in for a three-year term by Colonel Albert B. Jewett and mustered into Company F, 7th Vermont Infantry on 12 February 1862. He was described in his Company Descriptive Book as 5 feet 10 inches tall, with a fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. Born in Sheldon, Vermont, John was working as a farmer before he joined the Union Army. He was part of an eight-company expedition that departed New York by steamer in March 1862, bound for New Orleans and the Mississippi River campaign. The regiment moved upriver to Baton Rouge and later encamped at Camp Parapet, near present-day Metairie, Louisiana.

John's CMSR shows that by 10 June 1862, he was listed as *absent, sick* at Camp Parapet. The July–August muster roll recorded his death on 17 July 1862 at that same location. The regimental returns for August 1862 confirm this loss, noting simply: "Died July 17, Camp Parapet, LA." He served under Captain Lorenzo D. Brooks, who would later be killed in action just days after John's death. Pvt Stearns died not in battle, but from disease — the most common and deadly threat faced by Civil War soldiers. His final resting place is unknown.



SP4 Reginald Peter Begnoche

Specialist 4 – U.S. Army, 1st

Cavalry Division (Airmobile)

9 July 1948 – 4 September 1969

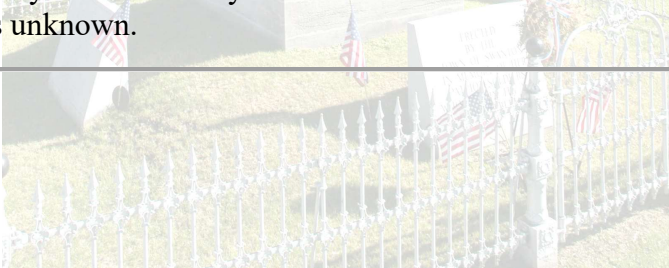
Mount Calvary Cemetery, St. Albans, Vermont

Banner Placement: Depot Street

Reginald was born in Swanton to Joseph and Rita Begnoche. A proud Vermonter, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) — one of the most heavily engaged

units in Vietnam.

He was killed in action on 4 September 1969 in Biên Hòa Province, Republic of Vietnam. He was just 21 years old. Reginald is buried at Mount Calvary Cemetery in St. Albans, not far from the town where he was born. His memory lives on in Swanton, where he is remembered for his youthful energy and quiet bravery.



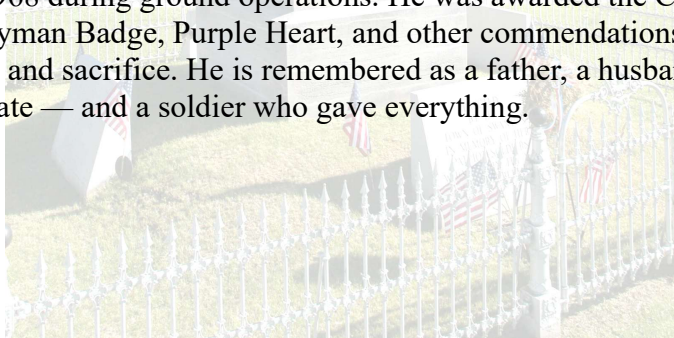
Vietnam War



SSG Sanford René Gaboriault
Staff Sergeant – U.S. Army,
Company B, 1st Battalion, 69th
Armor Regiment
25 August 1939 – 6 May 1968
Mount Calvary Cemetery, St.
Albans, Vermont
Banner Placement: 21
Merchants Row

Sanford was born in St. Albans, Vermont to René Gaboriault and Betty Fairbanks. He moved to Swanton with his family during high school and graduated from

Swanton High School. In 1960, Sanford married Jeanne Remillard, and together they had a son. He served with Company B, 1st Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment in Military Region 2 – Binh Dinh Province, Republic of Vietnam. Sanford was killed in action on 6 May 1968 during ground operations. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Purple Heart, and other commendations for his service and sacrifice. He is remembered as a father, a husband, a classmate — and a soldier who gave everything.



Capt Lorenzo Dow Brooks

Captain – U.S. Army, Co. K, 7th Vermont Infantry

Killed in Action – 23 July 1862, Vicksburg, Mississippi

Burial: St. Albans Point Cemetery

Lorenzo Dow Brooks was born on 20 April 1833 in St. Albans, Vermont, the son of Alonzo W. Brooks and Martha Weeks Brooks. By the 1860 census, he was living in Swanton and working as a merchant, residing with his paternal first cousin Asahel A. Brooks and family. He enlisted from Swanton on 22 November 1861 for a three-year term and was sworn in by Colonel A.B. Jewett. According to the Company Descriptive Book, Brooks stood 5 feet 9 inches tall, with a fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. He was born in St. Albans and worked as a merchant prior to his commission. He was promoted to Captain on 9 January 1862 and mustered in at Rutland on 12 February 1862, assuming command of Company K, 7th Vermont Infantry. Captain Brooks led his men through the Gulf Coast expedition, including operations around New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and the Mississippi River. According to his CMSR, he was killed on 23 July 1862, reportedly by cannon fire aboard the steamer Ceres near Vicksburg, Mississippi. Some documents also reference the location as near “Hassenton, Miss.” The July–August 1862 muster roll confirms: “Killed near Vicksburg, Miss., July 23, 1862, by cannon shot on board the steamer Ceres.” Earlier records list him at Camp Parapet, Louisiana, through 4 June 1862.

Captain Brooks was the commanding officer of Pvt. John H. Stearns, who died of disease just six days earlier at Camp Parapet. His death was among the earliest officer casualties suffered by the 7th Vermont Infantry. His remains were recovered and returned to Vermont, where he was buried with honor at St. Albans Point Cemetery.

Pvt Joseph Columb

Private – U.S. Army, Co. K, 6th Vermont Infantry

Died of disease on 20 August 1862.

Burial: Unknown

Joseph Columb was born in Swanton, Vermont, and enlisted for a three-year term on 15 October 1861 in Montpelier, sworn in by Colonel Elisha L. Barney. He was mustered into Company K, 6th Vermont Infantry the same day. According to the Company Descriptive Book, Joseph was 27 years old, 5 feet 7 inches tall, with a fair complexion, gray eyes, and dark brown hair. He was listed as a musician by occupation, suggesting he may have served as a regimental fifer or drummer. Joseph's CMSR reveals a series of conflicting notations, typical of Civil War recordkeeping. Muster rolls from July through December 1862 list him as *absent sick*, beginning 19 August 1862. Later returns and casualty reports confirm he died of disease on 20 August 1862 at Yorktown, Virginia. His muster-out roll initially listed "place and cause unknown," but was later amended in red ink to reflect the correct date and location: "Died Aug. 20, 1862, at Yorktown, VA, vide D&DR." His name also appears in some records as Joseph L. Colomb.

He left behind a wife, Sophia (Freeman) Columb, and at least two young sons — Louis, born around 1860, and possibly John, who may have been born shortly before Joseph's enlistment. Sophia filed for a widow's pension on 12 February 1864, and a minor's pension for the children was later filed on 10 September 1866, with J.B. Marvin listed as their guardian.

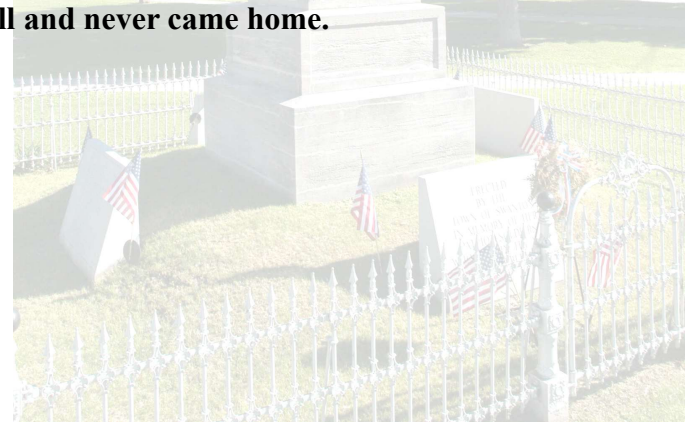
Joseph's final resting place is unknown. Like so many lost to disease in the swampy southern theaters of the war, his name endures even as his grave does not.

The Vietnam War

The United States' involvement in Vietnam began in earnest during the 1950s as part of Cold War efforts to contain the spread of communism. What started as military advisory support escalated into a full-scale conflict following the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution in 1964. American forces were deployed to support the South Vietnamese government against the North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong insurgents, who were backed by the Soviet Union and China.

Unlike previous wars, Vietnam was a conflict without clear front lines. Dense jungles, booby traps, ambushes, and guerilla warfare defined much of the fighting. Soldiers often faced an invisible enemy and endured intense psychological strain in a war that grew increasingly unpopular at home.

More than 58,000 Americans died in Vietnam before U.S. combat operations ceased in 1973, and Saigon fell in 1975. The war left a lasting impact on American foreign policy, veteran care, and public trust in government. Among the dead were sons of small towns like Swanton—young men who answered the call and never came home.

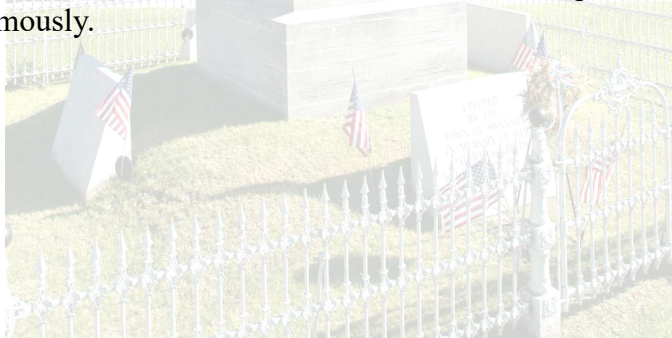




Pvt Joseph Rene Lauzon
Private – U.S. Army, Company C, 27th
Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry
Division
14 December 1926 – 12 January 1951
St. Mary's Cemetery, Swanton
Banner Placement: 108 First Street

Joseph Rene Lauzon, known to his family as Rene, was born in Quebec to Andrew S. Lauzon and Theresa C. Dupuis and immigrated to Vermont with his family in the late 1930s. By 1950, the family had settled in Swanton, where Rene enlisted in the U.S. Army and was

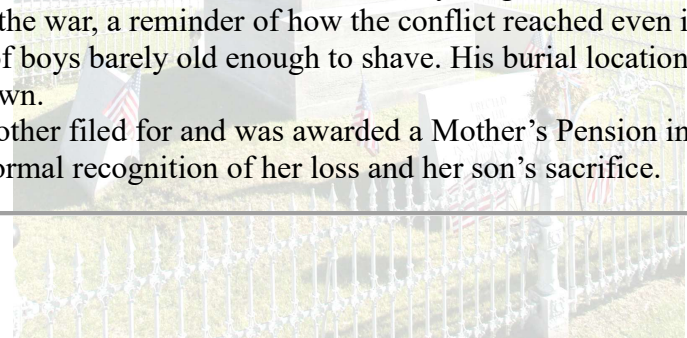
assigned to Company C, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. He was sent to Korea and engaged in fighting near Yongdong-po, during which he was reported Missing in Action. He was later declared Killed in Action on 12 January 1951. Rene was returned home and buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in Swanton. His sacrifice was one of several that weighed heavily on Swanton during the war — another of the four MIAs the town mourned during the Korean conflict. He was awarded the Purple Heart posthumously.



Drummer Erastus Stearns
Drummer – U.S. Army, Co. F, 7th Vermont Infantry
Died of Wounds – 30 August 1862
Burial: Unknown

Erastus Stearns was born in Swanton, Vermont, the son of William H. Stearns and Arathusa (often recorded as Arrisa) Smith Stearns. He was just 15 years old when he enlisted in the Union Army on 10 February 1862, sworn in by Colonel A.B. Jewett for a three-year term. Described in his Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR) as 5 feet 3 inches tall, with a fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair, Erastus was a farm boy who left home to serve as a drummer with Company F, 7th Vermont Infantry. He mustered in at Rutland on 12 February 1862 and joined the regiment's expedition to Louisiana. Like his older comrade Pvt. John H. Stearns, Erastus served under Captain Lorenzo Dow Brooks during the early operations in and around Baton Rouge. Tragically, Erastus was killed on 20 August 1862 by the explosion of a shell while aboard the steamer *Laurel Hill* near Baton Rouge — just weeks after the deaths of both Captain Brooks and Pvt. Stearns. The July–August 1862 muster roll states: “Killed by explosion of shell at Baton Rouge, LA, Aug 20, 1862, on board steamer *Laurel Hill*.” He was one of the youngest Vermonters to die in the war, a reminder of how the conflict reached even into the lives of boys barely old enough to shave. His burial location is unknown.

His mother filed for and was awarded a Mother's Pension in 1866 — a formal recognition of her loss and her son's sacrifice.



Pvt Joseph E. Joyal

Private – U.S. Army, Co. F, 7th Vermont Infantry

Died of Disease as Prisoner of War – 23 September 1862

Burial: Chalmette National Cemetery, Section 61, Grave 4805

Joseph E. Joyal was born in 1817 in Swanton, Vermont, the son of Joseph and Lydia Joyal. In the 1860 census, he appears under the name Joseph Joli, a variant spelling of the French surname, living with his parents and working as a joiner. At enlistment, he claimed to be 42, but was in fact closer to 45, one of the oldest Swanton men to serve in the Civil War. He enlisted on 7 December 1861 in Swanton, sworn in by Colonel A.B. Jewett, and was mustered into Company F, 7th Vermont Infantry on 12 February 1862 at Rutland. He was described as 5 feet 9 inches tall, with a fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. Deployed to the Gulf Coast, Joyal soon fell ill. He was listed as *absent sick in New Orleans* beginning 6 August 1862 and died on 23 September 1862 at the Marine Hospital there. His cause of death was listed as typhoid fever (noted in records as “delirium tremens fever,” an archaic and possibly confused label for a febrile illness). He is buried at Chalmette National Cemetery, Section 61, Grave 4805.

After his death, Margaret E. Joyal, his widow, filed for a pension. The case was complicated: Margaret testified that she and Joseph had married in Mooers, New York, but that he had destroyed their marriage certificate in a drunken rage two to three years after their wedding. The wife of the local Justice of the Peace confirmed that no record survived. However, two eyewitnesses testified to the marriage, and in 1867, the federal government accepted the claim. Margaret was awarded a widow’s pension of \$8.00 per month, retroactive to the date of Joseph’s death. In 1875, the Treasury Department launched a review, asking the Pension Bureau for all evidence related to the legality of the marriage. Despite the scrutiny, Margaret’s pension remained in force. She received benefits until her death on 28 July 1905, when her file was officially stamped “DROPPED – DEATH.”



Cpl Maurice P. Gardner

Corporal – U.S. Army, 2nd Infantry Division

1932 – 28 January 1951

**Tablets of the Missing, National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), Honolulu, Hawaii
Banner Placement: 69 First Street**

Maurice was the son of Alvarez J. Gardner and Irene A. Laporte. He was a member of the Swanton High School

Class of 1950 and enlisted shortly after graduation. Maurice completed basic training at Fort Dix, and initially served with the 9th Infantry Division before transferring to the 2nd Infantry Division.

He deployed to Korea with the 2nd ID and was engaged in heavy combat when he was listed as Missing in Action on 28 January 1951. He was never recovered and is still listed as unaccounted for. His name is inscribed on the Tablets of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu. Maurice was one of the four Swanton boys listed as MIA during the Korean War — a loss deeply felt by the town and remembered to this day.

Korean War



PFC Duncan A. Campbell Jr.

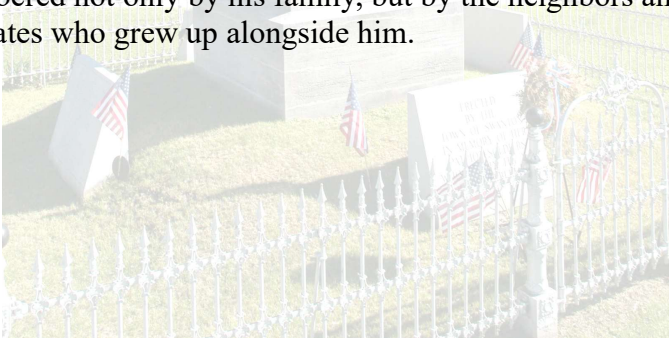
Private First Class – U.S. Army, 3rd Infantry Division

18 December 1931 – 26 November 1950

Riverside Cemetery, Swanton

Banner Placement: Grand Ave

Duncan was born in Swanton on 18 December 1931 to Duncan A. Campbell Sr. and Lucille I. Dixon. He was raised on Jewett Street and attended Swanton High School. At the outbreak of the Korean War, Duncan enlisted in the U.S. Army and was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division. He was reported Missing in Action during combat operations in Korea and later confirmed Killed in Action on 26 November 1950 at Taemi-Dong, South Korea. His remains were recovered and returned to Swanton, where he was buried with full military honors at Riverside Cemetery. At one point during the Korean conflict, Duncan was one of four Swanton boys listed as MIA — a sobering measure of the war's reach into this small Vermont town. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. Duncan's sacrifice is remembered not only by his family, but by the neighbors and classmates who grew up alongside him.



Pvt William L. Micha/Wilman Micha

Private – U.S. Army, Co. C, 5th Vermont Infantry

Died of Wounds as Prisoner of War – 28 September 1862

Wounded: 29 June 1862, Battle of Savage's Station, Virginia

Burial: Philadelphia National Cemetery (formerly Glenwood Cemetery), Section B, Site 403

William L. Micha was born in Franklin County, Vermont, and enlisted from Swanton at age 19. According to the Company Descriptive Record he stood 5 feet 10 inches tall with a light complexion, gray eyes, and dark hair. A farmer by occupation, he enlisted on 22 August 1861 for a three-year term, sworn in by Sheridan, and was mustered in on 16 September 1861 at St. Albans. William was wounded and reported missing following the Battle of Savage's Station on 29 June 1862. His CSMR reflects more than a year of uncertainty, as muster rolls listed him as "absent sick in General Hospital since 29 June 1862," with occasional notations suggesting he was wounded and presumed dead, though no confirmation had been received. A prisoner of war record later revealed that Micha had been captured and confined at Prison No. 4 in Richmond, Virginia, with a gunshot wound to the left leg and an amputation of his left arm. By 25 July 1862, he appeared on sick and wounded lists at City Point, Virginia, and was later transferred to Camp Parole, Maryland.

He ultimately died at Broad and Cherry Street Hospital in Philadelphia on 28 September 1862, from exhaustion caused by his wounds and amputation. His hospital record, listing him erroneously as "William S. Mickey," delayed official confirmation of his death. In 1873, the War Department issued a memorandum confirming that William S. Mickey and William L. Micha were the same individuals.

He is buried at Philadelphia National Cemetery, formerly Glenwood Cemetery. His name appears twice on the Civil War tablets beneath the Goddess of Liberty statue in Swanton — a reflection of the long period of confusion surrounding his fate.

Cpl Henry F. Hogle

Corporal – U.S. Army, Co. F, 7th Vermont Infantry

Died of Disease – 28 September 1862

**Burial: Burial: Chalmette National Cemetery, Section 61,
Grave 4820**

Henry F. Hogle was born in 1832 in Canada, the son of Guy F. Hogle and Hannah Snyder. By the time of the 1860 census, he was living in Swanton, Vermont, listed under the variant spelling Henry Hugh. He married Sarah Moore, and the couple had at least two children: Louisa (age 6) and Arthur (age 1), both appearing with them in the Swanton household that year. Henry enlisted as a corporal in Company F, 7th Vermont Infantry, one of the eight companies deployed to the Gulf Coast in early 1862. The regiment saw service in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Camp Parapet. He died of disease on 28 September 1862 at Orleans Hospital, likely in New Orleans — a tragic but common fate in the fever-prone southern theaters of the war. While his CMSR has not been located online, Henry's service and death are confirmed through multiple federal records. His widow, Sarah Moore Hogle, filed for a pension on 24 April 1902, and a minor's pension was filed on 8 November 1865 on behalf of their children. Later records confirm that Sarah remarried, appearing in Civil War pension files under the name Sarah Aseltine, and that her claim was transferred to the Civil War Remarried Widow Division in 1917. Henry is buried at Chalmette National Cemetery in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, among thousands of Union soldiers who died during the Department of the Gulf campaigns. Henry is buried with honor at Chalmette National Cemetery in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana, in Section 61, Grave 4820 — one among thousands of Union soldiers who never made it home but are remembered in sacred ground.

The Korean War (1950–1953)

"The Forgotten War"

After World War II ended in 1945, the world quickly split into two spheres of influence: democratic nations led by the United States and communist nations led by the Soviet Union.

Tensions rose during what became known as the Cold War—a global standoff that never erupted into direct combat between the superpowers but fueled numerous proxy wars.

One of the first of these was the Korean War.

Korea, which had been occupied by Japan, was divided after World War II at the 38th parallel—the North under Soviet influence and the South under U.S. and Western-backed control. On June 25, 1950, North Korean troops invaded South Korea, hoping to reunify the peninsula under communism.

The United States and United Nations responded swiftly, deploying troops to defend South Korea. Among them were young men from Swanton and across Vermont. They fought in harsh terrain and extreme weather—from the Pusan Perimeter to the icy mountains near the Chosin Reservoir.

The war seesawed for three years, with brutal combat and high casualties. On July 27, 1953, an armistice was signed—but not a peace treaty. To this day, North and South Korea remain technically at war, separated by the heavily fortified Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

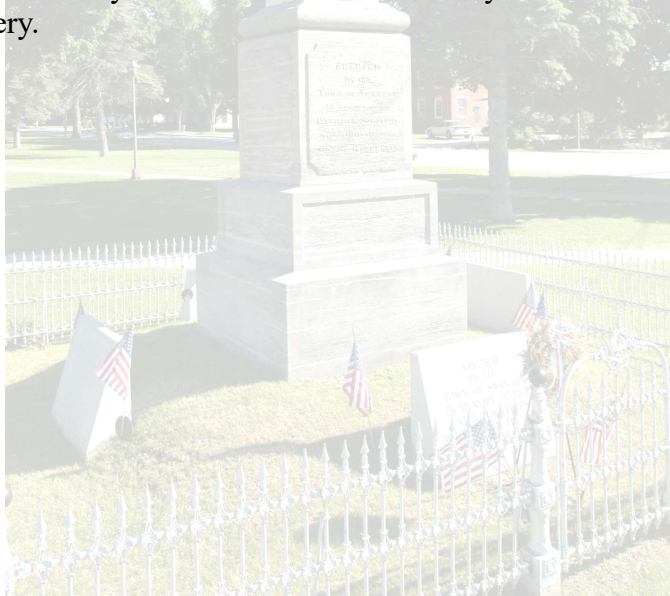
The Korean War is often called "The Forgotten War," overshadowed by World War II and Vietnam—but its cost was real, and Swanton remembers those who gave everything in that faraway land.



1LT Homer H. Lashway
First Lieutenant – U.S. Army Air Forces
13 September 1920 – 16 August 1944
Riverside Cemetery, Swanton
Banner Placement: Corner of Grand Ave
and Jewett Street

Born in Swanton to Homer C. Lashway and Ida M. Lemieux, Homer enlisted on 28 January 1942. He trained at Maxwell Field, Alaska, Midland, and San Marcos, Texas. He served as a B-24 navigator in England and Italy, flying a total of 52 missions. After

completing his tour, Homer returned home on furlough. While reporting back for reassignment, he died in an accident in Atlantic City, New Jersey. He was buried with military honors at Riverside Cemetery.



Pvt James D. Mason
Private – U.S. Army, Co. A, 5th Vermont Infantry
Died of Disease – 25 October 1862, Carrollton, Louisiana
Burial: Unknown

James D. Mason was born around 1840, likely in Franklin County, Vermont. At the time of the 1860 census, he was living in Swanton with his older brother Orville Mason, a carriage trimmer. James, then about 20, was listed as a journeyman, likely working under Orville in the carriage trade.

He enlisted on 22 November 1861 in Swanton, sworn in by Colonel A.B. Jewett, and was mustered into Company F, 7th Vermont Infantry. According to his descriptive record, James was 22 years old, stood 5 feet 8 inches tall, with a fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. His occupation was listed as trimmer, indicating his specialized work in carriage finishing.

While serving in Louisiana during the summer and fall of 1862, James was placed on daily duty as Acting Drum Major for the regiment — a noteworthy responsibility for an enlisted man. However, like many Union soldiers stationed in the South, he succumbed to illness. He died on 25 October 1862 at a hospital in Carrollton, Louisiana, just outside New Orleans. Muster rolls and official returns confirm the cause of death as disease, though the specific illness was not named.

His remains were not returned home, and his exact burial location is unknown — though likely in or near the Carrollton military hospital cemetery.

In 1863, James's older brother Orville honored his memory by naming his newborn son after him. It was a quiet but lasting act of remembrance — ensuring that even though James's life ended far from Vermont, his name lived on in the family and town he left behind.

Pvt Oscar Bliss Hubbard

Private – U.S. Army, Co. K, 13th Vermont Infantry

**Died of Disease – 16 May 1863, Camp Convalescent,
Alexandria, Virginia**

Burial: Georgia Plain Cemetery, Georgia, Vermont

Oscar Bliss Hubbard was born in 1843 in Swanton, Vermont, the son of Curtis B. Hubbard and his first wife, Sarah. According to the Company Descriptive Book, at the time of his enlistment, he was a 19-year-old farmer. According to the Company Descriptive Book, Oscar stood 6 feet tall, with a dark complexion, gray eyes, and brown hair. His CMSR shows he enlisted on 11 September 1862 at Highgate for a nine-month term and was mustered into Company K, 13th Vermont Infantry on 10 October 1862 at Brattleboro. On 7 January 1863, he was promoted to corporal by order of Colonel F.V. Randall, and again on 10 April 1863, possibly a formal reaffirmation of rank during company reorganization.

The 13th Vermont was assigned to defensive duties near Washington, D.C., including picket and patrol work. In the spring of 1863, while encamped at Camp Carusi, disease swept through the regiment. On 16 May 1863, Oscar died of typhoid fever, one of the most common and deadly illnesses of the war.

His death was recorded in the company returns, the muster-out roll, and later verified by the Adjutant General's Office. He was only 19 years old.

Oscar's body was brought home and laid to rest in Georgia Plains Cemetery in Georgia, Vermont — a rare and honorable return at a time when many soldiers were buried near where they fell.

Oscar's half-brother Frank Hubbard, son of Curtis B. Hubbard and his second wife Jane Hale, is the great-great-grandfather of David Hubbard. David served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam Era and today maintains the Hubbard Farm on Vermont Route 207 in Swanton. Oscar's legacy lives on not only in the pages of history, but in the continued service and stewardship of his family.



Pfc Gilbert M. Gamache

***Private First Class – U.S. Army, 103rd
Infantry, 43rd Infantry Division***

8 January 1921 – 13 May 1945

St. Mary's Cemetery, Swanton

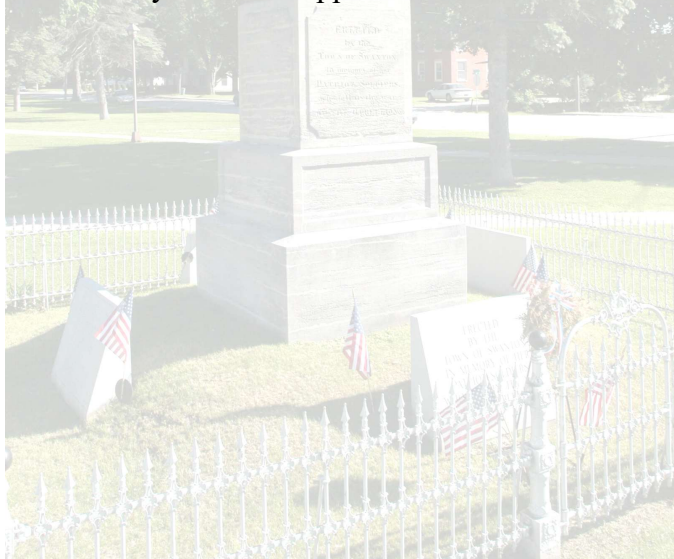
Banner Placement: South River Street

Gilbert was born in St. Albans to Alphege Louis Gamache and Marie Rose Yvonne Chevalier. He enlisted with the Vermont National Guard in March 1941 and trained at Camp Blanding, Florida. He served with the 103rd Infantry Regiment, 43rd Infantry Division in the Pacific Theater. He survived the sinking of the USS President Coolidge after it struck mines and later deployed to Luzon. On 13 May 1945, just days after V-E Day, he was killed by enemy machine gun fire in the Philippines. He was awarded the Purple Heart and buried at St. Mary's Cemetery in Swanton.



Tec 5 Paul J. Loiselle
Technician Fifth Grade – U.S. Army, 1023rd
Engineer Treadway Bridge Company
3 July 1913 – 28 December 1945
Manila American Cemetery, Philippines
Banner Placement: Corner of First Street and
York Street

Paul was born and raised in Swanton, the son of George L. Loiselle, Swanton's longtime Town Clerk, and Margaret Mulligan Loiselle. The family lived at 12 York Street. Paul was drafted and inducted into the U.S. Army in 1942 and served with the 1023rd Engineer Treadway Bridge Company. He trained at Camp Shelby, Camp Blanding, and Camp Adams and deployed to the Pacific. He died in service (classified as DNB – Died Non-Battle) on 28 December 1945. He is buried at the Manila American Cemetery in the Philippines.



Pvt Merritt B. Aseltyne
Private – U.S. Army, Co. F, 10th Vermont Infantry
Died of Wounds – 27 December 1863
Burial: Alexandria National Cemetery, Section A,
Site 961-9

Merritt B. Aseltyne was born in Swanton, Vermont, the son of Enos Aseltine and Ruth Folsom. According to the Company Descriptive Book, at the time of his enlistment, he was a 19-year-old farmer, standing 6 feet 1 inch tall, with a dark complexion, gray eyes, and brown hair. His CMSR shows he enlisted from Swanton on 15 August 1862, mustering into Company F, 10th Vermont Infantry on 1 September 1862 at Brattleboro for a three-year term. The regiment soon joined the Army of the Potomac, engaging in numerous operations throughout Virginia. On 27 November 1863, during the Battle of Locust Grove, Merritt sustained a devastating gunshot wound to the left foot, shattering the cuneiform bones. He was transported from the field and admitted to the Third Division General Hospital in Alexandria, Virginia, on 4 December 1863. Despite surgery — including an amputation at the knee on 14 December — infection set in. His hospital records describe a decline beginning 20 December, marked by chills and increasing internal complications. Merritt died one week later, on 27 December 1863, from complications of his wounds. A postmortem exam noted fluid in the chest cavity and around the heart. Merritt's remains were interred in Alexandria National Cemetery, in Section A, Site 961-9, among fellow Union dead who never returned home. The Adjutant General's Office and Surgeon General's Office both later affirmed his death from wounds received in action. His father later applied for arrears and back pay, and his case was cited in federal pension files as late as 1878. He is remembered not only for his service, but for the extraordinary pain he endured in his final days.

Pvt Otis H. Brainerd

Private – U.S. Army, 1st Vermont Cavalry

Died of disease after being held as a prisoner of war on 4 Jan 1864.

Burial: Greenwood Cemetery, St. Albans

Otis H. Brainerd was born in Vermont around 1844 to Henry L. Brainerd and Caroline Olds Brainerd. His CMSR shows he enlisted in the 1st Vermont Cavalry on August 19, 1862, at the age of 18, and was mustered in at St. Albans ten days later. The Company Descriptive Book described as having blue eyes, light hair, and a light complexion, he stood 5 feet 8 inches tall and worked as a farmer. He received both his bounty and a horse valuation of \$100. Brainerd experienced a harrowing wartime trajectory. On March 17, 1863, he was captured near Dranesville, Virginia, during an engagement at Herndon Station. He was confined and later delivered on parole at Richmond, Virginia, and rejoined his regiment on May 18, 1863. Just weeks later, he was again reported missing in action on July 6, 1863, during the cavalry fighting at Hagerstown, Maryland, following Gettysburg. He was confirmed to have been captured and was once again paroled at Richmond on December 27, 1863.

Following his parole, he was admitted to the hospital at Camp Parole in Annapolis, Maryland. Sadly, he died there on January 4, 1864, at the age of 19. Official records list the cause of death as apoplexy. His body was returned to his family and he was laid to rest at Greenwood Cemetery in St. Albans, Vermont.



Cpl Charles “Charlie” Peter DaPrato Jr.

Corporal – U.S. Army Air Forces

21 November 1918 – 12 November 1944

St. Mary’s Cemetery, Swanton

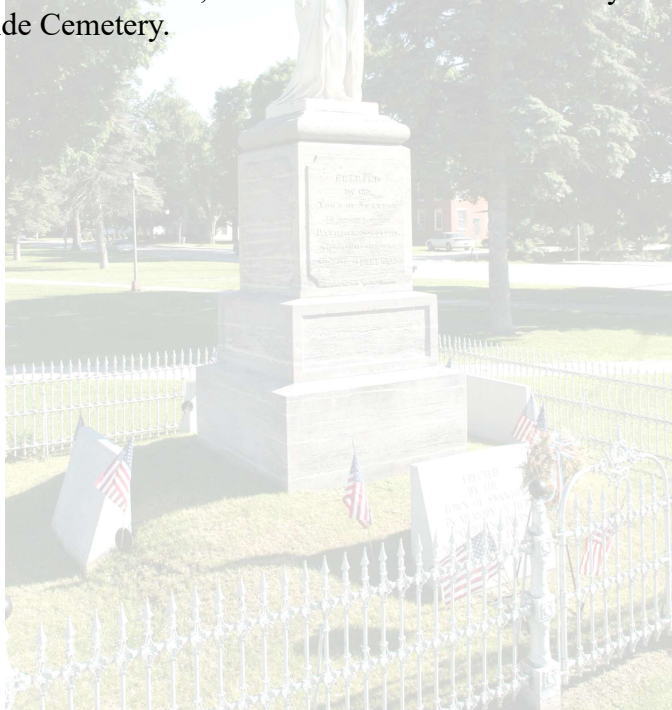
Banner Placement: Merchants Row

Charles was born in Swanton to Peter DaPrato and Caroline Cardosi DaPrato, both Italian immigrants. He entered service on 14 April 1942, completing basic training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, followed by training at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, and Columbia, South Carolina. Charles saw action in New Guinea and the Philippines and was killed in action on 12 November 1944 in the battle of Leyte. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart. His body was returned home in September 1948 and buried at St. Mary’s Cemetery. His older brother Frank DaPrato served in World War II and later became a Village Trustee and Franklin-Grand Isle legislator. In a *Vermont Sunday News* article published in 1956, neighbors remembered Charlie as a cheerful boy with a kind heart — a familiar sight on his paper route, often feeding scraps to the dogs who followed him from house to house. He was loved for his warm smile and his sense of quiet duty. The Veterans of Foreign War Post #778 is named in his honor.



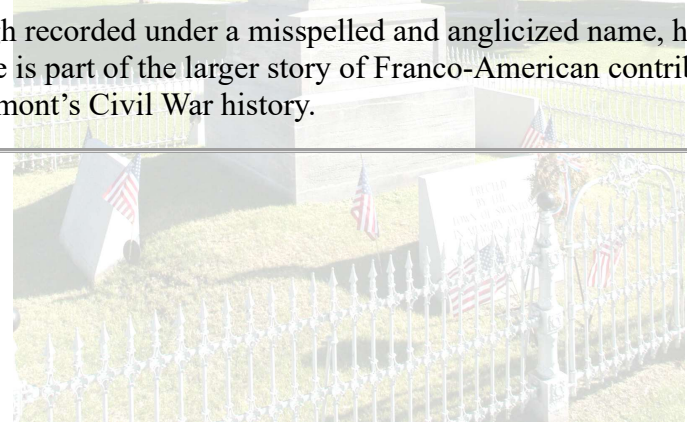
S/Sgt Walter C. Ryea
Staff Sergeant – U.S. Army Air Forces
9 January 1922 – 3 March 1944
Riverside Cemetery, Swanton
Banner Placement: First street & Pine Street

Walter was born in Swanton to Emmett C. Ryea and Lillian Cook Ryea. A graduate of Swanton High School, he enlisted in the Army Air Forces and trained as a flight engineer. He served in the Mediterranean Theater and was reported Missing in Action on 3 March 1944 during a mission over Italy. He was later declared Killed in Action. His body was returned home in 1949, and he was buried with military honors at Riverside Cemetery.



Pvt Isaiah Raymo
Private - U.S. Army, Co. K. 6th Vermont Infantry
Killed in action on 5 May 1864 at the Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia

Isaiah Raymo enlisted under that name on December 21, 1863, in Burlington, Vermont, and was mustered in on January 5, 1864. According to the Company Descriptive book, he was 44 or 45 years old, with black eyes, gray hair, and a dark complexion, standing 5'7". He was a laborer by trade, born in the Province of Canada. Raymo's true identity was Nazaire Raymond, born May 29, 1812, in L'Acadie, Quebec. By 1850 he had settled in Swanton, Vermont, where he lived with his wife Flavie (née Tiriak) and their six children: daughters Julia, Philoma, Marcelline, Mary, and Flora, and son Julien. He was one of many French-Canadian immigrants who answered the call to serve the Union late in the war. According to his CMSR, Nazaire (Isaiah) Raymond was killed in action on May 5, 1864, during the brutal Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia. His body was never recovered from the battlefield. His widow, listed as "Flavilla Rams," filed for a pension on April 24, 1866. Though recorded under a misspelled and anglicized name, his service is part of the larger story of Franco-American contributions to Vermont's Civil War history.





COL Elisha L. Barney
Colonel – U.S. Army, Co. K, 6th Vermont Infantry
Killed in action 10 May 1864

Elisha L. Barney was born in Swanton, Vermont to George E. Barney and Eunice Diana Goodrich. A merchant by trade. According to the Company Descriptive Book he was 29 years old at the time of enlistment on October 15, 1861, at Montpelier. He stood 5 feet 11 inches tall with a light complexion, gray eyes and brown hair. According to his CMSR, he was originally mustered in as Captain of Company K, 6th Vermont Infantry. Over the course of the war, he rose steadily through the ranks—promoted to Major in 1862, Lieutenant Colonel in December 1862, and finally to Colonel on March 18, 1863, upon the resignation of Col. O.S. Tuttle. Barney served with distinction and was wounded in action at Crampton's Gap in 1862 while still a Captain. He later took part in numerous engagements with the 6th Vermont including Yorktown, Williamsburg, Savage Station, Fredericksburg, Marye's Heights, and Salem Heights. He was mortally wounded on May 5, 1864, in the Battle of the Wilderness and died five days later on May 10. At the time of his death, he held the full rank of Colonel. He was married first to Sarah Burton, who died in 1859. They had one son, George Franklin Barney, who was raised by his paternal grandparents. In the 1860 census, Elisha and George lived with Elisha's parents. He later married Martha Blake in 1862. Barney is buried in Church Street Cemetery in his hometown of Swanton, Vermont.



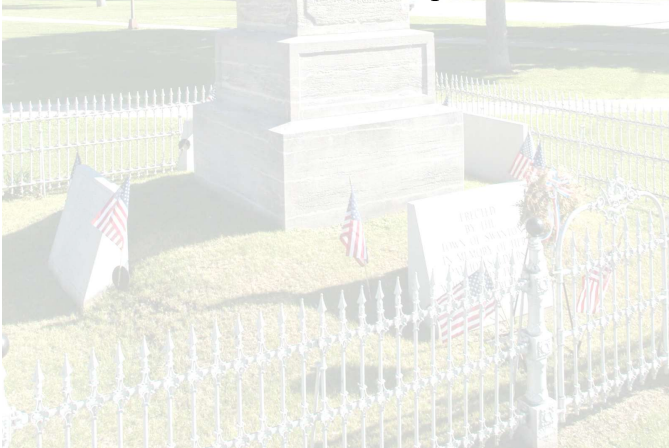
1LT Roland E. Tetrault
First Lieutenant – U.S. Army, Co. C, 31st Tank Battalion, 7th Armored Division
22 November 1919 – 20 September 1944
Netherlands American Cemetery, Margraten, Holland
Banner Placement: Corner of First and Greenwich Street

Roland was born in Swanton to Ovila Pierre Tetrault and Lulu Belle Tatro. He was married in 1941 to Doris Hemingway, and together they had a son, Terrance, born in 1943. Roland entered service in 1942 and trained as a tank commander. He was deployed to Europe as part of the 7th Armored Division. He was killed in action in the Netherlands on 20 September 1944 when his tank was hit during the liberation of Nijmegen. Roland was awarded the Purple Heart and is buried at the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten.



Pvt Frederick D. “Freddie” Tanner
Private – U.S. Army Infantry
23 March 1924 – 11 June 1944
Tablets of the Missing, Manila American Cemetery; Cenotaph at Riverside Cemetery, Swanton
Banner Placement: 68 South River Street

Freddie was born in St. Albans, Vermont to James E. Tanner and Myrtle Laroe Tanner and raised in Swanton. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on 19 February 1943 and trained as an infantryman. Freddie was assigned to the China-Burma-India Theater, where he participated in the Myitkyina campaign in the Kachin region of northern Burma. He was killed in action on 11 June 1944. His remains were never recovered and as of 2025, he remains listed among the Army’s unaccounted-for fallen. Freddie is memorialized on the Tablets of the Missing at the Manila American Cemetery, and a cenotaph stands in his honor at Riverside Cemetery in Swanton — a place for family and community to remember him. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.



Pvt Alanson Watson
Private – U.S. Army, Co. F, 10th Vermont Infantry
Killed in action on 1 June 1864 at the Battle of Cold Harbor, Virginia.
Burial: Unknown

Alanson Watson was born in Highgate, Vermont, to Enoch and Betsey Watson. According to the Company Descriptive Book, he stood 5 feet 10½ inches tall, with a dark complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. A farmer by occupation, he enlisted at age 26 in Swanton on August 18, 1862, and mustered into Company F, 10th Vermont Infantry, at Brattleboro on September 1, 1862, for a three-year term. His CMSR reflects that he received \$215 in bounty and \$200 premium for his enlistment.

Alanson married Ann Eliza Micha on March 22, 1860, in Swanton. They had at least one son, Addison A. Watson, whose death record later identified Eliza Mason (a remarried version of Ann Eliza Micha) as the mother. After Alanson’s death, Eliza appears to have moved to New Hampshire and remarried, though Alanson’s mother, Betsey Watson, filed for his pension on April 13, 1880. Military records show that from July 1863 onward, Alanson was consistently detailed as a teamster, primarily in the Quartermaster and Ammunition Trains. Notably, a Company Muster Roll from November–December 1863 lists him as “detailed as teamster in Ammunition Train since July 28, 1863.” Throughout late 1863 and early 1864, he remained absent from his company while performing this critical logistical role.

Despite his detached duty, Alanson returned to combat duty in time for the Overland Campaign. He was killed in action at Cold Harbor, Virginia, on June 1, 1864. His final statement was issued on August 24, 1864. His burial location is unknown.

Pvt Francis Curtis

Private – U.S. Army, Co. F, 17th Vermont Infantry

Died of Wounds – 17 June 1864, Washington, D.C. (from injuries at the Battle of Cold Harbor)

Burial: Arlington National Cemetery, Plot 13-6280

Born François Casistra on February 28, 1828, in St-Hyacinthe, Quebec, he was baptized the next day at Notre-Dame-du-Rosaire. He was the son of Firmin Casistra and Louise Languirand. By the 1860 census, he had settled in St. Albans, Vermont, with his wife Julia and their two-year-old daughter Melissa.

According to the Company Descriptive Book, Francis Curtis was 31 years old at enlistment, stood 5 feet 9 inches tall, and had a dark complexion, dark eyes, and dark hair. He enlisted at Swanton on February 8, 1864, under the authority of the town selectmen and was mustered in on March 3, 1864, at Burlington. His CMSR shows he was initially assigned to Company D, 17th Vermont Infantry, and transferred to Company F on May 1, 1864. He received a \$60 bounty, with \$240 still due, and \$13 in advance pay. Private Curtis was wounded in action during the assault on Cold Harbor, Virginia, on June 3, 1864. He was transported to Carver General Hospital in Washington, D.C., where he died of his injuries on June 17. The CMSR notes the cause of death as a gunshot wound to the right leg followed by pyemia.

His widow, Julia Curtis, filed for a pension on September 7, 1864. He is buried with honor at Arlington National Cemetery, Plot 6280.



Tec5 George E. LeDuc

Technician Fifth Grade – U.S. Army

11 January 1919- 18 May 1944

**Manila American Cemetery Plot J Row 15
Grave 7**

Banner Placement: To Be Determined

It is with great sadness that I recognize that I omitted Tec5 LeDuc from the first round of banners. I will correct this omission in the next round. My sincere apologies to the LeDuc family.

Technician Fifth Grade George Etienne Raoul LeDuc was born in Saint Cesaire, Quebec, Canada on the 11th of January 1919 to Conrad and Rose Emma Benjamin LeDuc. He was one of eight children. His family immigrated to Swanton, Vermont, running a dairy farm. In George's 16 October 1940 draft card, he lists his address as R.F.D #1 Swanton, Vermont. Working for Smith Brooks on Route 78 in Swanton. According to an article in *St. Albans Daily Messenger* dated 14 June 1944 "George E. Leduc, technician fifth grade, is reported killed in action on Wake Island May 18, according to word received yesterday from the War Department by his parents". The last letter to his mother was written on 14 May, and he wrote "Am getting along swell. Don't worry about me, just wait for me to come home, which will be sooner than you probably think. I expect that by next year at this time I will be with you. I am so thankful for a swell mother like you."

George served with the 593rd Engineer Shore Regiment. He was awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart for his actions in Wake Island.

Aside from George, the LeDuc family had two other sons in service Private Roland LeDuc in the U.S. Army Air Force and Andrew LeDuc in the U.S. Navy.



Sgt Emerson N. Martin
Sergeant – U.S. Army Air Forces, 10th Squadron,
60th Troop Carrier Group
18 May 1917 – 27 August 1943
North Africa American Cemetery, Carthage,
Tunisia
Banner Placement: 78 First Street

Emerson was born in Swanton to Theodore Emerson Martin and Mabel Mary Bertrand Martin. He graduated from St. Anne's Academy and, during the Depression, worked a variety of jobs including farmhand and mill worker. He enlisted in the Army Air Forces in January 1942 and trained as a crewman in the 60th Troop Carrier Group. He was stationed in England, Scotland, and North Africa, where he participated in major transport operations. Emerson was killed in a non-combat aviation accident in Tunisia on 27 August 1943. He was the first Swanton man to die in uniform during World War II. A solemn memorial Mass was held at the Church of the Nativity. He is buried at the North Africa American Cemetery in Carthage, Tunisia.



Pvt Charles Brow

Private - U.S. Army Co. F 10th Vermont Infantry
Died of typhoid fever on 18 Jun 1864 Washington D.C.
Burial: Arlington National Cemetery Plot 6563

Charles W. Brow was born in Swanton, Vermont, the son of John Brow and Susannah Howard. According to the Company Descriptive Book, he was 20 years old at enlistment, 5 feet 4½ inches tall, with a fair complexion, gray eyes, and brown hair. His occupation was listed as farmer.

He enlisted on July 21, 1862, at Swanton under Capt. H. Platt for a three-year term and was mustered in at Brattleboro on September 1, 1862. His Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR) documents the payment of a \$25 bounty and \$21 premium. Throughout his service, he appeared regularly on company muster rolls, and in September–October 1863 was noted for stopping 45 cents for missing issued equipment.

Charles fell ill in June 1864. His CMSR shows he was recorded sick in the General Hospital as of June 19 and later listed as a patient in the U.S.A. Hospital, 6th Army Corps, at City Point, Virginia, then transferred to Ward 10 at Carver General Hospital in Washington, D.C. There, he succumbed to typhoid fever on July 18, 1864.

His body was interred at Arlington National Cemetery with military honors. A mother's pension was filed by Susannah Brow in 1864 and awarded shortly thereafter. Though his name appears as both Charles M. and Charles W. Brow in official paperwork, affidavits in the pension file confirm they refer to the same soldier. He served alongside his brother, Benjamin F. Brow, who survived the war and died in 1908.

Pvt Phillip Arseno

***Private – U.S. Army, Co. F, 10th Vermont Infantry (formerly
Battery F, 1st Vermont Heavy Artillery)***

Died of Wounds – 3 July 1864, Cold Harbor

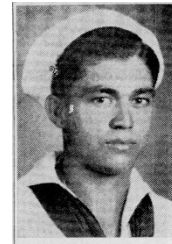
Burial: St. Albans Bay Cemetery

Phillip Arsenault Jr., born in 1840 in Swanton, Vermont, was the son of Phillip Arsenault and Josephine Gilbert. He enlisted on July 21, 1862, at the age of 22, joining Company F of the 10th Vermont Infantry for a three-year term under the enlistment of H. Platt. He was mustered in at Brattleboro on September 1, 1862. According to the Company Descriptive Book, Arsenault was 5 feet 7.5 inches tall with a fair complexion, grey eyes, and brown hair. His occupation was listed as a clerk.

Arsenault was appointed corporal on September 1, 1862, but was reduced to the ranks on April 24, 1863, for disobedience to orders of a superior officer. On June 1, 1864, during the Battle of Cold Harbor, he was seriously wounded. He was admitted to a general hospital and later transferred to the U.S. General Hospital in Springfield, Massachusetts. According to hospital records, the gunshot wound entered his right foot, shattering the bones of the big toe and passing through the dorsum of the foot and instep — a grievous and complicated injury. Despite efforts to treat him, including water dressings, his condition worsened. Phillip Arsenault died of his wounds on July 3, 1864. His CMSR confirms his service details, reduction in rank, wounding at Cold Harbor, hospitalization, and death. The Company Muster-out Roll also noted \$34.19 in clothing drawn, \$25.00 of bounty paid, and \$75.00 still due.

He is buried at St. Albans Bay Cemetery under the name Phillip Arsino, an anglicized spelling of Arsenault. His sacrifice is memorialized among Swanton's fallen.

World War II



CRM Bernard P. Fournier

Chief Radioman – U.S. Navy

28 January 1909 – 29 July 1943

Riverside Cemetery, Swanton

**Banner Placement: 46 Grand Avenue (at Second
Street by Veterans Memorial Park)**

Bernard Peter Fournier was born in Highgate, Vermont to Dominia Joseph Fournier and Analda Marie Rosalinda Masse Fournier. He was raised in Swanton and enlisted in the United States Navy in 1928. He served aboard numerous vessels including the USS Mayflower, formerly the Presidential Yacht, and was a seasoned radio specialist. During World War II, Bernard served aboard the USS Houston and later in the Philippines.

Following the fall of Corregidor, Bernard was taken as a prisoner of war by the Japanese. He died in captivity on 29 July 1943 in Yokohama, Japan. His death was reported months later and was deeply mourned in Swanton, where he was well known and respected. He is buried at Riverside Cemetery with full military honors.

The Road to World War II

The First World War was called “the war to end all wars,” but peace didn’t last. The Treaty of Versailles in 1919 imposed harsh penalties on Germany, which led to economic collapse, political unrest, and the rise of extremist leaders. In the 1930s, dictators began seizing power across Europe and Asia—most notably Adolf Hitler in Germany, Benito Mussolini in Italy, and Emperor Hirohito’s military government in Japan. These Axis Powers launched aggressive campaigns of expansion. Germany invaded neighboring countries in Europe, Japan occupied parts of China and Southeast Asia, and Italy attacked North Africa. The United States, still weary from the Great War, tried to stay neutral.

Everything changed on December 7, 1941, when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, killing over 2,400 Americans. The next day, the U.S. declared war on Japan. Days later, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States. World War II had become truly global.

This time, the lines were clear:

The Allies – including the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union, France, and China – fought against

The Axis Powers – Germany, Italy, and Japan.

World War II was the deadliest conflict in human history. It was fought across oceans and continents, from the beaches of Normandy to the islands of the Pacific. Millions died, including civilians caught in bombing raids, concentration camps, and genocide. Swanton, like towns across America, sent its sons and daughters to fight—and mourned those who did not return.

LT Samuel S. Brown

Lieutenant – U.S. Army Co. A 17th Vermont Infantry

Died of typhoid fever 5 July 1864 Washington D.C.

Burial: Church Street Cemetery, Swanton

Samuel G. Brown Jr. was born in Swanton, Vermont, in 1842 to Samuel G. Brown Sr. and Anne M. Crawford. According to the Company Descriptive Book, Samuel was 21 years old at enlistment, a merchant by occupation, with light eyes and dark hair. He enlisted on November 12, 1863, in Swanton for a term of three years and was mustered in on January 5, 1864, at St. Albans. Upon enlistment, he was immediately appointed First Lieutenant by the Governor of Vermont (John Gregory Smith, 1863–1865), a testament to either his leadership potential or his family's standing in the community.

His CMSR notes that in the May/June 1864 muster roll, Samuel was listed as "absent sick since June 16th." On July 2, he was admitted to Campbell General Hospital in Washington, D.C., with a diagnosis of typhoid fever. He died there on July 4, 1864, at the age of 21. His body and personal effects were returned to his father in Swanton, and he was interred in the Brown family plot at Church Street Cemetery.

Samuel’s older brother, 1LT Stephen F. Brown, also served with distinction in the Civil War. Stephen was an officer in Company K, 13th Vermont Infantry, and was severely wounded at the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House on May 12, 1864. His right arm was amputated as a result of the wound. Stephen survived his injuries and lived until 1903.

Samuel G. Brown Jr.'s dedication and untimely death are emblematic of the young Vermonters who stepped forward to serve their country and paid the ultimate price not only in battle, but in the hospitals that followed.

Pvt. Albert Belloir

Private – Co. F, 10th Vermont Infantry

Died of wounds, 22 June 1864, David's Island Hospital, New York Harbor

Burial: Philadelphia National Cemetery, Section B, Grave 403

Albert Belloir was born in Swanton, Vermont, and enlisted there on 5 August 1862 sworn in by H. Platt. He was 20 years old, stood 5 feet 10 inches tall, with fair complexion, blue eyes, and brown hair. He worked as a wheelwright. He officially mustered into Company F, 10th Vermont Infantry on 1 September 1862 at Brattleboro. He received a \$25 bounty at enlistment and was due an additional \$75. His clothing account shows \$29.05 advanced. He was last paid on 29 February 1864. Belloir served faithfully and was detailed as a guard at Corps Headquarters from September 1863 through early 1864. He was wounded during the Battle of Cold Harbor on 1 June 1864, sustaining a gunshot wound to the left shoulder. The bullet entered near the acromion process, passed beneath the skin, fractured the fourth dorsal vertebra, and exited his left side. Several bone fragments were removed during treatment. Initially admitted to the 1st Division Hospital in Alexandria, Virginia, he was transferred to DeCamp U.S. General Hospital on David's Island, New York Harbor. Despite medical efforts, he succumbed to his wounds on 22 June 1864. He was originally buried at Glenwood Cemetery and later reinterred at Philadelphia National Cemetery, Section B, Grave 403.

His mother, Almira Belloir of Swanton, was widowed and dependent on his labor for support. She received a mother's pension beginning in 1866. Numerous variant spellings of his surname appeared in the military records — including Ballou, Bellows, Belvin, and Belliss — but all were officially confirmed to refer to the same soldier. While the Swanton Civil War memorial tablets record his date of death as 22 July 1864, every military, hospital, and pension record confirms that Albert Belloir died on 22 June 1864 from wounds received in action.

Pvt Henry Enos Westover

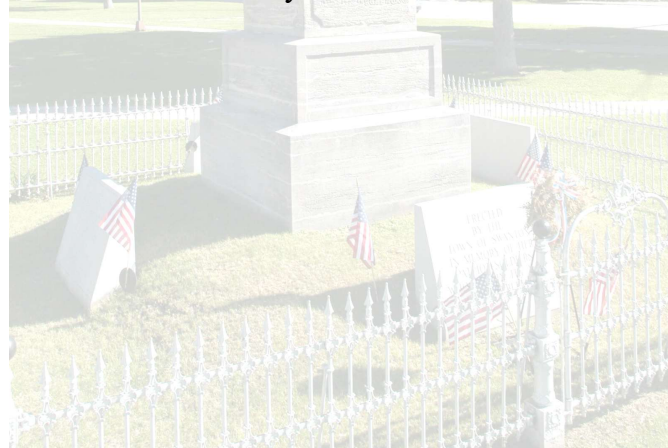
Private – U.S. Army, Co. G and Co. F, 59th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division

8 November 1887 – 15 October 1918

Riverside Cemetery, Swanton

Banner Placement: Veterans Memorial Park

Henry was born on 8 November 1887 in Montgomery, Vermont to Charles Westover and Alice Deline. By 1917, he was working in Swanton as a laborer. He was inducted in April 1918 and assigned to Company G, later transferred to Company F of the 59th Infantry, 4th Division. He married Anna Bouchard on 14 June 1918 in Swanton and was sent overseas in July 1918. Henry was reported Missing in Action on 15 October 1918 during intense fighting in France. He was later confirmed killed in action. His remains were returned to the U.S. aboard the *Cantigny* in 1921 — the same ship that carried Leonard Lord home — and he was reinterred at Riverside Cemetery, Swanton. He is buried with his second wife, Anna. Henry's final resting place lies quietly under Vermont skies, a reminder of one of the many who never saw the Armistice.



Pvt Holden Silas Corey

Private – U.S. Army, Battery B, 20th Field Artillery

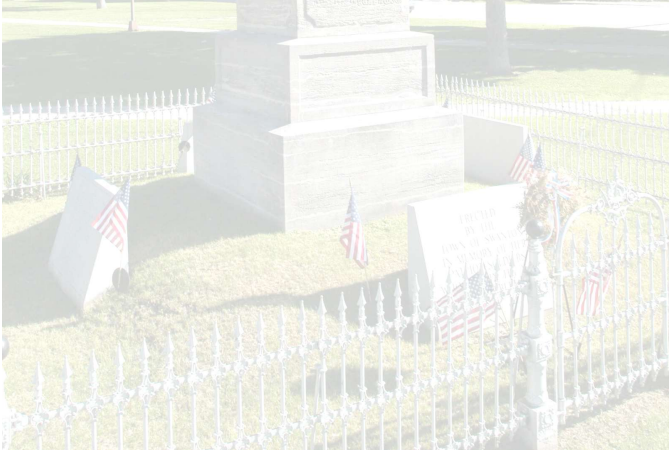
27 November 1895 – 6 October 1918

Saint Mihiel American Cemetery, Thiaucourt, France

Banner Placement: Veterans Memorial Park

Holden was born on 27 November 1895 in Sheldon, Vermont to Allen Corey and Lilly Kittell. By the time of the war, he was living in Swanton and supporting his widowed mother and five sisters. He registered for the draft in June 1917 and trained at Camp Shelby, Mississippi with the 20th Field Artillery. He deployed to France and was killed in action during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive on 6 October 1918 — just five weeks before the Armistice. He was buried in France at the Saint Mihiel American Cemetery.

In 1929, his mother Lilly Corey traveled to France as part of the U.S. Gold Star Mother's Pilgrimage to visit her son's grave. Holden's sacrifice — like so many from that generation — lies beneath the poppies of France, but his memory is carried home in Swanton.



Pvt. Martin L. Clark

Private – Co. F, 1st Vermont Heavy Artillery

Died of disease as a Prisoner of War 31 August 1864

Burial: Grave #7345, Andersonville National Cemetery,

Georgia Cenotaph: Church Street Cemetery, Swanton

Martin L. Clark was born in Swanton, Vermont, and adopted as a young child by Lawrence D. Clark and Esther Salome (Barney) Clark. He worked as a farmer and enlisted in Burlington on 13 November 1863. According to the Company Descriptive Book, he was 18, standing 5 feet 7 inches tall with a light complexion, hazel eyes, and light hair. He was mustered in on 18 November 1863, five days after enlistment, and was sworn in by Capt. Noble of the Provost Marshal's office. Initially assigned to Battery C by error, Clark was transferred to Company F, 1st Vermont Heavy Artillery. He enlisted under War Department Circular No. 98 and was due a \$100 bounty, with \$25 paid and further amounts recorded as due to his recruiting officer, J.A. Jewett. His military records list him as present for duty through spring 1864. On June 23, 1864, during the Union campaign near Petersburg, Virginia, Clark was captured and held as a prisoner of war. He was confined at Richmond, transferred to Lynchburg, and eventually sent to the notorious Andersonville Prison in Georgia. Prisoner of War memoranda confirm his transfer path and final confinement at Andersonville. Martin L. Clark died on August 31, 1864, at the Andersonville Prison hospital of diarrhea, brought on by exposure, malnutrition, and poor treatment. He was buried in Grave #7345 at Andersonville National Cemetery. A cenotaph in his honor stands at Church Street Cemetery in Swanton. It bears the inscription: *"Died Aug. 31, 1864, while prisoner of war at Andersonville, Ga. Æ. 16 Yrs. & 6 Ms."* His adoptive father, Lawrence D. Clark, was himself a Union veteran, serving as a Captain in the 1st Vermont Infantry and later promoted to Major of the 13th Vermont Infantry.

Henry Jersey

Private – Battery L, 5th U.S. Artillery (Regular Army)

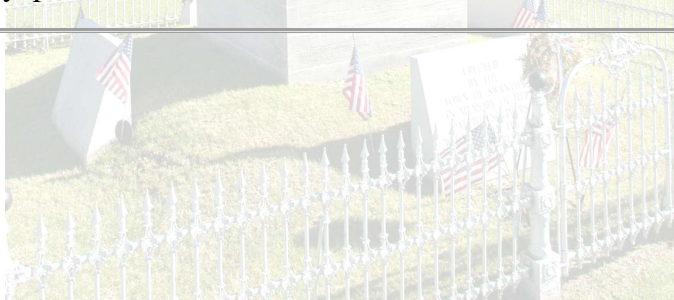
Died 11 September 1864, Harper's Ferry, West Virginia

Burial: Cenotaph located at Church Street Cemetery, Swanton,

Henry Jersey, son of Henry and Catherine Jersey of Swanton, Vermont, served in Battery L of the 5th U.S. Artillery, Regular Army. He died of typhoid fever on 11 September 1864 at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, according to the *Register of Deaths of U.S. Volunteers* and the burial ledger of the 5th Artillery. These records consistently record his name as Henry Jersey, without variation. Despite multiple modern sources listing his death year as 1865, all official military documentation confirms the correct date as 11 September 1864. The discrepancy on his cenotaph is likely the result of a clerical error during the application for his headstone. Although his remains were not returned home, his family honored his sacrifice with a cenotaph at Church Street Cemetery in Swanton. He is also listed among Swanton's fallen on the Civil War tablets beneath the Goddess of Liberty statue.

His mother, Catherine Jersey, applied for a pension in 1869, followed by his father, Henry Jersey Sr., in 1879.

Documentation: No CMSR located; confirmed via *Register of Deaths of U.S. Volunteers*, U.S. Army burial ledger for 5th Artillery, pension index cards, and the 1860 U.S. Census.



Pvt Edward C. Desabo

Private – U.S. Army, Co. B, 103rd Machine Gun Battalion, 26th Infantry Division

July 1897 – 20 July 1918

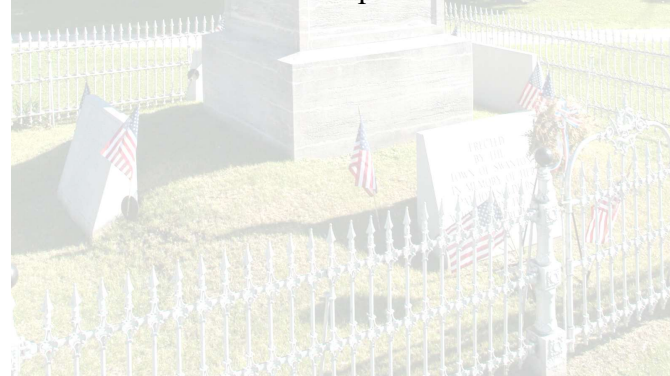
Aisne-Marne American Cemetery, Belleau, France

Banner Placement: Veterans Memorial Park

Edward C. Desabo — also recorded as Desabe, Desabbo, Desabeau, and Desaiabe — was born in July 1897 in New York City to Swiss-born parents Frank and Josephine Desaiabe. In the 1900 census, the family appears in Manhattan, and Edward was living in Swanton, Vermont by the time of his service in World War I. He was assigned to Company B, 103rd Machine Gun Battalion, 26th “Yankee” Division — the same unit as Leonard Lord — and deployed to France. He was killed in action on 20 July 1918 during the Second Battle of the Marne. He is buried in Plot A, Row 5, Grave 19 of the Aisne-Marne American Cemetery in Belleau, France.

Private Desabo was cited in General Orders No. 22, Headquarters, 26th Division, dated 15 March 1919 for distinguished service.

Though his remains never returned home, his sacrifice is honored in the soil of France and in his adopted hometown of Swanton.



World War I



Cpl Leonard Antoine Lord
*Corporal – U.S. Army, Co. B, 103rd Machine Gun
Battalion, 26th Infantry Division*
20 August 1897 – 20 July 1918
Riverside Cemetery, Swanton
Banner Placement: Veterans Memorial Park

Leonard was born on 20 August 1897 in Swanton, Vermont, to Samuel Lord and Louisa Roy. He enlisted as a Private with Company B of the 1st Vermont Infantry (Vermont National Guard) on 14 May 1917 at Fort Ethan Allen. On 23 August 1917, he was transferred to the 103rd Machine Gun Battalion, 26th “Yankee” Division and deployed to France for active duty on 3 October 1917. In a letter published in the *Swanton Courier* on 25 April 1918, Leonard wrote: “My conscience told me plainly that my duty was to enlist and fight for my country, and nothing could stay me from my purpose.” Leonard was killed in action at Bois Brulé, France on 20 July 1918. He had been promoted to Corporal two months before his death. Though originally buried with military honors at the American Cemetery at Vignat, France, his father had his remains disinterred and returned home in 1921. Leonard is buried at Riverside Cemetery in Swanton. He was the first Vermonter killed in action during the Great War. The Swanton National Guard Armory was later named in his honor.



2nd Lt. Horace A. Hyde
Second Lieutenant – Co. B, 1st Vermont Cavalry
Died of disease as a Prisoner of War 15 September 1864
Burial: Unknown, likely Camp Oglethorpe cemetery, Macon, Georgia

Horace A. Hyde was born in Colchester, Vermont, to John and Mary Hyde. By 1860, he was living in Swanton with his wife, Frances E. Keyes of Highgate, and their four-month-old son Edgar. A carpenter by trade, Hyde enlisted at St. Albans on 18 September 1861 and was mustered in on 19 November 1861 at Burlington by Capt. Conger, joining Company B, 1st Vermont Cavalry for a three-year term. According to the Company Descriptive Book, Hyde was 34 years old, 5 feet 9½ inches tall, with a light complexion, blue eyes, and light hair. Initially serving as a sergeant, Hyde was hospitalized in Newark, New Jersey, between July and October 1862. He was promoted to 1st Sergeant on 19 February 1863, and to 2nd Lieutenant on 1 April 1863, by order of Col. E.B. Sawyer, though his commission was never formally mustered due to the events that followed. On 11 October 1863, during the Battle of Brandy Station, he was captured and confined at Richmond, then transferred to Andersonville Prison in March 1864, and finally to Camp Oglethorpe in Macon, Georgia, on 25 August 1864. Horace A. Hyde died on 15 September 1864 at Camp Oglethorpe of disease, likely worsened by malnutrition and poor conditions. His death was confirmed in Adjutant General correspondence and pension documents. Although many assume all POW deaths in Georgia occurred at Andersonville, Hyde's death and burial took place in Macon. His final resting place is unknown but was most likely an unmarked grave near the camp. The Swanton Civil War tablets correctly list Macon as the place of death but incorrectly give the date as 27 September 1864. His widow Frances remarried Charles F. Smith of Canada in 1865. His son Edgar later received a minor's pension. No cenotaph or memorial marker for Lt. Hyde is known to exist in Vermont.

Cpl John Louiselle

Corporal – U.S. Army, Co. F, 10th Vermont Infantry

Killed in action on 19 September 1864 at the Battle of Winchester, Virginia

Burial: Church Street Cemetery (cenotaph), Swanton

John Louiselle (also recorded in records as *Loiselle*, the original French-Canadian spelling) was born about 1831 in Alburgh, Vermont, and was residing in Swanton with his wife Eliza by 1860. He enlisted on 15 August 1862 and mustered in on 1 September 1862 at Brattleboro, Vermont, for a three-year term of service with Company F, 10th Vermont Infantry.

According to the Company Descriptive Book (CDR), he was 31 years old at enlistment, stood 5 feet 10 inches tall, with a dark complexion, gray eyes, and black hair. His occupation was listed as farmer. He was appointed Corporal on 10 June 1864 by order of Lt. Col. Chandler (CDR, June 1864 muster roll).

His Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR) shows he served faithfully through the Overland Campaign and into the Shenandoah Valley. He was killed in action on 19 September 1864 during the Third Battle of Winchester, also known as the Battle of Opequon — a major Union victory that came at a high cost. His final statement was completed at Camp near Middletown, Virginia, on 20 October 1864, confirming his death in battle and closing out his military accounts (CMSR, final statement and muster-out roll).

John left no children. His widow Eliza filed for and received a pension beginning 19 September 1864. She remained in Swanton until her death in 1904. Although his burial location is unconfirmed, the Swanton town records list Church Street Cemetery, where a cenotaph was placed. His death was later certified by town clerk J. George Loiselle in 1921.

Cpl John Louiselle's name is honored on the Swanton Civil War tablets. His story reflects the service and sacrifice of the many French-Canadian Vermonters who fought to preserve the Union.

Between Wars: A Nation in Transition

After the Civil War ended in 1865, the United States turned inward. While it engaged in smaller overseas conflicts such as the Spanish-American and Philippine-American Wars, the country largely avoided European entanglements. For the next fifty years, Swanton saw no military losses in foreign wars—until the world changed in 1914.

World War I began in Europe as a clash between two major alliances: the Allied Powers (including Britain, France, and Russia) and the Central Powers (primarily Germany, Austria-Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire). The war erupted over nationalism, militarism, and tangled alliances, but quickly became a brutal and global conflict.

At first, the United States stayed out. But by 1917, German U-boat attacks on American ships and the intercepted Zimmerman Telegram (which revealed a German proposal encouraging Mexico to attack the U.S.) pushed the nation to act. President Woodrow Wilson asked Congress for a declaration of war, framing it as a fight “to make the world safe for democracy.”

The U.S. joined the Allied Powers, fighting against the Central Powers.

This was not a war of open fields and bayonet charges. It was a war of trenches—grinding, miserable, and deadly. Soldiers fought and died in networks of muddy ditches that stretched for hundreds of miles. Poison gas, machine guns, and artillery barrages created horrors never before seen in combat.

Swanton's first casualty in the Great War was Corporal Leonard Lord. He was one of the more than 50,000 Americans who gave their lives on foreign soil during World War I.

Pvt James Maloney

Private – U.S. Army, Co. A, 17th Vermont Infantry (formerly Co. K, 13th Vermont Infantry)

Died of disease on 4 October 1864 in Washington, D.C.

Burial: Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia

James Maloney was born in Ireland around 1820. By the 1850s, he had settled in Swanton, Vermont, working as tanner. By 1860 he lived with his wife Ellen and their children Ellen, James, Mary, and Thomas, all born between 1855 and 1860. Maloney first served in the Union Army during the Civil War in Company K of the 13th Vermont Infantry, enlisting on 11 September 1862 and mustering out on 21 July 1863 at Brattleboro. His initial term of service completed, he reenlisted at the age of 43 on 9 August 1863 in Highgate, this time joining Company A of the 17th Vermont Infantry for a term of three years. He mustered in at St. Albans on 5 January 1864. According to the Company Descriptive Book, Maloney stood 5 feet 7½ inches tall, had light complexion, dark eyes, and gray hair. He served in several engagements throughout 1864 and was recorded in action on May 12, 26, and 31; and June 3 and 7.

Maloney fell ill during service and was admitted to the U.S.A. Depot Field Hospital at City Point, Virginia on 12 September 1864. He was later transferred to Mount Pleasant General Hospital in Washington, D.C. He died there of chronic diarrhea on 4 October 1864 at 12 PM. His medical and death records list his hospital number as 16321. The record of death and interment confirms the cause as chronic diarrhea and notes that he left behind his wife Ellen in Highgate. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery and is honored with a headstone in Section 13. His widow, Ellen Maloney, applied for and received a pension, which later extended to their children. James Maloney's final statement of discharge cites his honorable service and death in Washington, D.C., while in the line of duty.

Pvt James T. Lamphere

Private – U.S. Army, Co. B, 7th Vermont Infantry

Died of disease on 4 October 1864 at Sea died aboard transport en route north

Burial: Unknown

James Theodore Lamphere was born around 1825 in Vermont, the son of Adam and Lucinda Lamphere. He married Mary Ann Crawford in Franklin County on 17 June 1847. The couple lived in Swanton, Vermont, and had at least three children: Jane, Polly, and George. Census records list James as a farm laborer under various spellings of the surname — including “Lamphfear,” “Lamphier,” and “Lamphe.” In his son George's death record (1913), he is recorded as “Theodore Lamphere,” and Mary Ann appears in multiple records under the name Mary Ann Crawford.

James enlisted as a private on 21 December 1863 in Company B, 7th Vermont Infantry and officially mustered in on 29 December 1863 at Greenbush, Vermont. During the summer of 1864, while stationed in Louisiana, he became seriously ill with chronic diarrhea, then experienced a relapse. He was admitted to Marine General Hospital in New Orleans on 31 August 1864 and furloughed on 27 September 1864. While being sent north, he died on 4 October 1864 aboard a hospital transport near New York City. His widow Mary Ann filed for and was granted a pension on behalf of herself and their minor children.

“Became much worse...was paroled or discharged and sent home, and I have heard that he died on his passage.” — Capt. Parker, 7th Vermont Infantry

Though his final burial location is not recorded in the available documents, there is no evidence of reinterment or cenotaph in Vermont.



Cpl John M. Aseltyn
Corporal – U.S. Army, Co. F, 10th Vermont
Infantry
Killed in action on 19 October 1864 at the
Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia.
Burial: Winchester National Cemetery,
Winchester, Virginia (Section 2, Site 4204)

John Aseltyn was born around 1843 in Swanton, Vermont. According to *New England Families: Genealogical and Memorial*, he was the son of John Aseltine (b. 1809, d. 1845) and Irene Folsom, who later married Henry Powers. His siblings included Matilda D., who died in childhood, and Alanson Marshall Aseltine, who survived the war. According to his Company Descriptive Roll, John stood 5 feet 11½ inches tall, with a fair complexion, blue eyes, and light hair. A farmer by occupation, he enlisted in Swanton on 16 August 1862 for a three-year term. He mustered in at Brattleboro on 1 September 1862 with Company F, 10th Vermont Infantry. John served faithfully for over two years. In the January–February 1864 Company Muster Roll, he is recorded as having been promoted to Corporal on 1 January 1864, by Regimental Order No. 1. The regimental returns for June–August 1864 note he was assigned to color guard duty, an assignment of honor and danger. He was killed in action at the Battle of Cedar Creek, Virginia, on 19 October 1864, a pivotal battle in General Sheridan’s 1864 Shenandoah Valley campaign. His Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR) indicates he died of a gunshot wound, and his final statements were filed 11 November 1864. John was buried at Winchester National Cemetery, in Section 2, Site 4204.

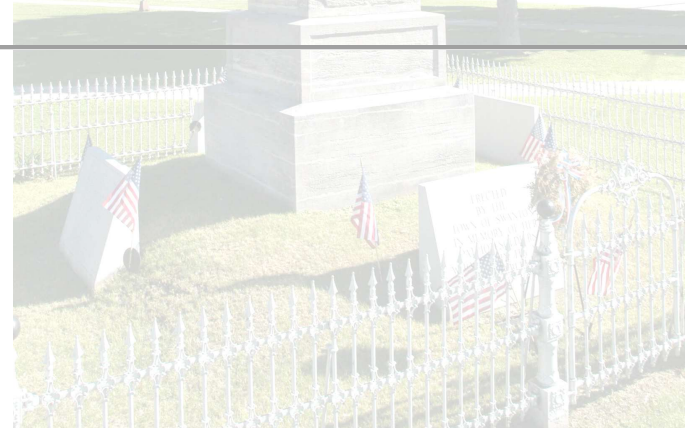
Private Patrick Dolan (also Dolin)
Private – Co. B, 3rd Vermont Infantry
Killed in action 3 June 1864 at Cold Harbor, Virginia
Burial: Unknown

Patrick Dolan was born in Swanton, Vermont, and worked as a laborer. He was drafted into Company B, 3rd Vermont Infantry, and mustered in at Burlington on 16 July 1863 for a three-year term. His Regimental Descriptive Book lists him as 21 years old, 5 feet 6¾ inches tall, with a dark complexion, dark eyes, and dark hair.

He joined his unit in Virginia and served through the autumn and winter campaigns of 1863–64. On 3 June 1864, during the infamous assault at Cold Harbor, Private Dolan was killed in action. Government records note he was due \$75 in bounty and had not received his full pay.

His mother, Catherine Dolan, filed for and received a mother’s pension on 1 December 1876. The CMSR and Surgeon General’s Office both confirm his death in battle on 3 June 1864.

Citations: Company Descriptive Book (3rd VT Inf, Co. B); CMSR; Surgeon General’s death report; Mother’s Pension #212,621.



Pvt Alexander Petitt

Private – U.S. Army, Co. B, 7th Vermont Infantry

Died of Disease – 10 April 1864 (POW)

Burial: Barrancas National Cemetery, Florida

Alexander Petitt was born in Alburgh, Vermont, around 1842. He later moved with his family to Stanbridge and then Pike River, in Quebec (Canada East). At the time of his enlistment, however, his residence was listed as Swanton, Vermont, indicating he returned across the border specifically to volunteer.

Petitt enlisted as a private in Company B, 7th Vermont Infantry on 15 December 1863. He died less than four months later, on 8 April 1864, at the regimental hospital near Barrancas, Florida. The cause of death was officially listed as “consumption” (tuberculosis), contracted in the line of duty.

His mother, Julia Ann Petitt of Pike River, applied for a pension following his death. Her case became the subject of an 1888 fraud investigation, as some claimed she was not truly his mother. Julia insisted she had married Alexander’s father, Abijah Petitt, decades earlier in Alburgh, and that her son had regularly sent wages to support her before and after enlisting. Sworn depositions from multiple witnesses—including townspeople and a judge—ultimately affirmed her identity and her son’s support.

The pension was approved in 1867 and reaffirmed in 1888, despite intense scrutiny. Her final declaration, written in a shaky hand, reads:

"I... ask for a pension... on account of the death of my son Alexander Petitt in service of the United States..."

Though Alexander died far from home and was buried near the Gulf Coast, his name and sacrifice are remembered here in Swanton—where he enlisted with the Union cause.

Civil Fallen not on the Tablets

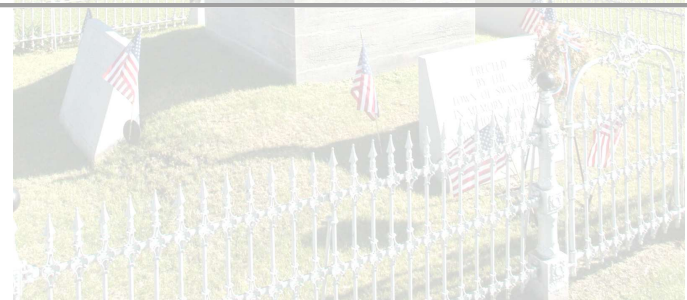
Pvt William A. Henry

Private – U.S. Army, Co. C, 5th Vermont Infantry

Died of Wounds – 17 April 1862, Battle of Lee’s Mills, Virginia

Burial Location: Unknown

William A. Henry enlisted on 21 August 1861 in Swanton, Vermont, and mustered in with Company C, 5th Vermont Infantry on 16 September 1861 at St. Albans. According to the Company Descriptive Book, he was 21 years old, stood 5’7”, with a light complexion, blue eyes, and red hair. He was born in Chittenden County. Henry was wounded on 16 April 1862 by a fragment of a shell during action near Lee’s Mills, Virginia (also reported as Dam No. 1 or Burnt Chimneys), and died the following day on 17 April 1862 at Camp Scott of his injuries. His CSMR notes his cause of death is consistently reported in all records as a shell wound to the torso. He appears in the 1850 census in St. Albans, in the household of Sewell S. Corey and Mary Corey, possibly indicating a connection through guardianship, extended kin, or foster arrangement. No pension record has been located, and no burial site is definitively known at this time. His name does not appear on the Swanton tablets.



Cpl Minard Mills

Corporal – U.S. Army, Co. C, 5th Vermont Infantry

Killed in action on 29 June 1862 at the Battle of Savage's Station, Virginia.

Burial: Unknown believed to be buried near Savage's Station

Minard Mills was born in Canada around 1824 and later made his home in Grand Isle County, Vermont. Standing 5 feet 6½ inches tall, with light hair, blue eyes, and a light complexion, Mills was 37 years old when he enlisted in the Union Army. He enrolled at Swanton, Vermont, on 20 August 1861 and was mustered into Company C, 5th Vermont Infantry on 16 September 1861 at St. Albans for a three-year term. Muster rolls show he rose to the rank of corporal during his service.

On 29 June 1862, during the Battle of Savage's Station in Virginia—part of the Peninsula Campaign—Corporal Mills was killed in action. He was one of several Vermont soldiers lost that day in heavy fighting against Confederate forces led by General Stonewall Jackson. His name appears on the company muster-out roll with the remark "killed in action at Savage Station."

After his death, his mother, Harriet Mills of Alburgh Springs, Vermont, filed for a mother's pension. Her claim was approved based on Minard's unmarried status, her financial need, and his regular support of her through both monetary allotments and provisions. Harriet had been widowed since 1847 and was found to have no property and limited means. She was granted a pension of \$8.00 per month beginning 3 March 1863.

Sources:

Company Descriptive Book, Company Muster and Returns, Adjutant General Memorandum, Mother's Pension File

Pvt. Joseph Sears

Private – Company A, 5th Vermont Infantry

Died of disease 31 December 1862

Burial: Loudon Park National Cemetery, Baltimore, MD (Section A, Site 1510)

Joseph Sears was born about 1840 in Highgate, Vermont, but resided in Swanton at the time of his enlistment. A 21-year-old farm laborer with dark hair and eyes, he stood 5 feet 5½ inches tall. He enlisted on 16 September 1861 at St. Albans, Vermont, and mustered into Company A, 5th Vermont Infantry the same day for a three-year term.

By August 1862, Sears had fallen seriously ill and was sent to Harewood U.S.A. General Hospital in Washington, D.C. His condition worsened, and he was transferred to Camden Street U.S.A. General Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. Despite months of care, he died there of chronic diarrhea on 31 December 1862.

A hospital death record noted that he was single and had been admitted on 19 November 1862. His effects included a dress coat, trousers, boots, a cap, two pairs of socks, a silk handkerchief, and a pocketknife. He was interred with honor in Loudon Park National Cemetery.

After his death, his mother Emily Sears of Swanton filed for a mother's pension in 1865. Her affidavit stated she was widowed, had no property, and had depended on Joseph's labor and allotted pay for support. The pension was approved.

"Died at Gen. Hospital Baltimore of chronic diarrhea... final statement given." – Company Muster Roll, January–February 1863
