



The Sharpshooter

The Official Newsletter of
Robert Finch Camp No. 14 - Traverse City
Est. 1914 - The Oldest Active Camp in the Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



SGT. ROBERT FINCH
1st MICH SS

Cadillac's Historic Washington GAR Post Cemetery Plot Dedicated

After several years of planning and fundraising efforts, the Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 assembled to dedicate a new historical memorial sign erected at the Washington GAR Post Burial Plot in Maple Hill Cemetery, Cadillac, Michigan.

Along with Camp No. 14 and Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9, various other organizations and citizens gathered to participate in the historical memorial sign dedication. This included: Brothers of Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve, SUVCW; Cadillac Area Honor Guard; Bugles Across America; Rolling Thunder; Wexford Genealogical Organization; American Legion Post 94; and Citizens and Veterans of Cadillac. The ceremony was conducted on a windy and chilly, but beautiful day, Saturday, 12 October 2019.

The event was opened with Cadillac Veterans raising a new US Flag up the flagpole erected long ago by the GAR at the burial plot followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A moving rendition of the Gettysburg Address followed. The formal ceremony was performed using the rituals of the 1917 GAR Memorial Dedication. Three rifle volleys were fired by the Cadillac Area Honor Guard, followed by three volleys by the SUVCW Honor Guard. Buglers of Bugles Across America performed Taps with highlighted echoing through the cemetery's rolling hills.

BACKGROUND

The current project to complete this effort effectively began in 2016 when Camp No. 14 and Auxiliary No. 9 Brothers and Sisters met in May of that year to clean the headstones of the Washington GAR Plot, recondition the GAR flag holders, perform maintenance on the flag pole hardware, and raise a new US flag.

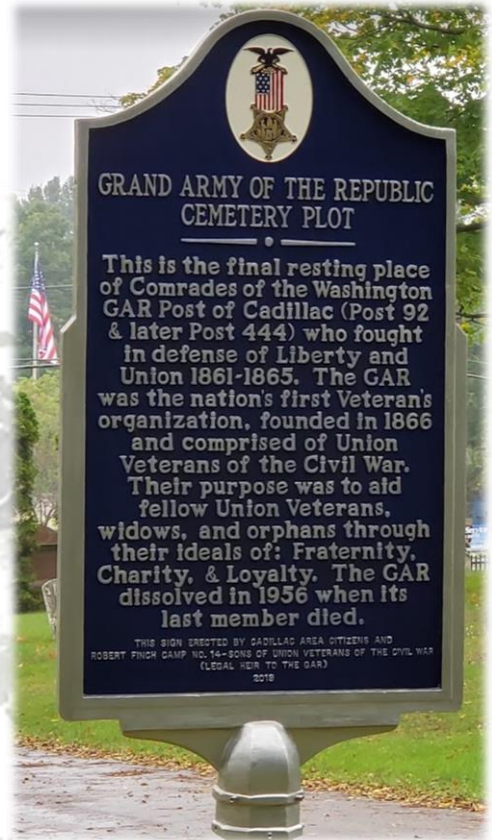
Continued on Pg. 2

Comrade William H. Lamphere Honored in Special Ceremony

Saturday, 12 October 2019 saw not only the Washington GAR Post Cemetery Plot Sign dedicated, but a second intimate ceremony was conducted later that afternoon at Haring Charter Township Cemetery slightly north of Cadillac. This ceremony honored William H. Lamphere, a Comrade of Washington GAR Post 444 of Cadillac, and the second to last Civil War Veteran in Wexford County.

Another added distinction to this ceremony was that Comrade Lamphere's descendants were in attendance and led the ceremony at his graveside. Captain L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC, with his father Lloyd D. Lamphere, Sr., PCC, with Brother Carl Lamphere (Lloyd's brother), Past Michigan DAV State Commander John Lamphere, along with spouses, family, friends, Bugles Across America Bugler Thelma Paul, and Brothers from Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, SVR, and Robert Finch Camp No. 14, and Sisters of Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9 attended this special event.

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Washington GAR Post Cemetery Plot Dedicated *cont'd*

Over the past few years, the Camp worked with the Cadillac Cemetery Board and the management within the Cadillac Department of Public Works & Engineering to come up with a solution in providing a marker that provides information to the community of the importance of this hallowed ground. After much research and design work, the Camp presented the Cemetery Board with the design of a historical memorial sign that would tell all that pass about the historical significance of the GAR Plot.

Upon approval from the Cemetery Board and DPW managers, the Camp ordered the sign from Sewah Studios in Marietta, Ohio, a family business that has operated for over 90 years. Sewah manufactures the ubiquitous green Michigan Historical Markers found around the state, as well as many state historical markers and local markers across the nation. Their attention to detail and quality are second to none, and Camp 14 knew that the finished product would be worthy of its place in Maple Hill Cemetery.

After receiving the finished product from Sewah Studios at the Cadillac DPW, the staff there prepared the sign and post, and then installed it at the Washington GAR Plot at Maple Hill Cemetery on 01 October 2019 with Commander John Lantzer and PDC David Smith in attendance. It was a wonderful sight to see when the sign took its place at the GAR Plot, communicating to all that drive past that Cadillac's own heroes and defenders of the Union rest here.

Installing the Historical Memorial Sign



Far Left: Cadillac DPW installing the sign with Camp Commander Lantzer looking on.

Near Left: Camp Commander John Lantzer standing next to the newly installed GAR Cemetery Plot Historical Sign on 01 October 2019.

Media Coverage of the Ceremony & Project

The Cadillac GAR Plot Sign Project received great coverage in the local media via newspaper and television. Mardi Suhs of the Cadillac News wrote a very complimentary article on the Camp and the project before the ceremony to help generate additional local interest. A link to the article can be found here:

<http://cadillacnews.mi.newsmemory.com/publink.php?shareid=13789bc81>

During the ceremony on 12 October 2019, 9&10 News Director of Photojournalism Corey Adkins filmed the event for his weekly feature "Northern Michigan in Focus". He captured the ceremony beautifully with a passionate performance of JVC Jim Ribby's rendition of the Gettysburg Address. A link to this impressive video feature is found here:

<https://www.gandionews.com/2019/10/16/northern-michigan-in-focus-civil-war-sign-dedication/>

William H. Lamphere Honored *cont'd*

The intimate ceremony included recitation of Comrade Lamphere's service by Captain L. Dean Lamphere, PDC, as well as anecdotes about his life and more specifically his life in Cadillac by various family members. Volleys were fired, Taps was sounded by Bugles Across America, and a final circle was made around his graveside by the SUVCW Brothers and Lamphere men to toast this noble defender of the Union.



Top Left: W.H. Lamphere (on left), 16th NY Heavy Artillery

Top Right: Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve "Irish Rifle"; and Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14

Middle Left: SVR and Camp 14 Brothers fire a volley at graveside - Capt. L. Dean Lamphere, Jr., PDC, Commanding

Middle Right: PAP Lisa Smith, Frances Finch Aux. 9 looks on in mourning



Above Left and Middle: Capt. Lamphere, PDC giving a toast and a sip to his G-G Grandfather William Lamphere in the circle

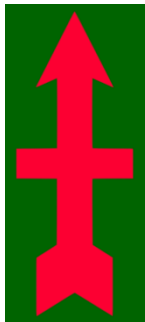
Bottom Left: JVC Jim Ribby and PCC Lloyd Lamphere, Sr. share a moment.

Bottom Right (L-R): PAP Lisa Smith, Sister Deb Downey, President Dorothy Ronney of the Frances Finch Aux. 9



Continued on Pg. 5

Northern Michigan Military Installations – Past & Present



Cadillac Armory

Army National Guard

Cadillac, Wexford County, Michigan

32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Battalion, 126th Infantry Regiment, Company A

Commissioned in 1951

The Cadillac Armory located on Haynes Street is an active facility, and home of Company A of the 126th Infantry Regiment of the Michigan Army National Guard. The 126th has a long and storied history going back to 12 July 1855 when the Grand Rapids Light Guard and Grand Rapids Artillery companies were established.

During the Civil War the predecessors of the 126th formed the 3rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry, entering the Civil War on 13 June 1861, and mustering out in June 1864. The 3rd fought in 12 campaigns throughout their service.

The 126th is currently again part of the 32nd Infantry Brigade (in the past known as the 32nd Infantry Division). The 32nd is famously known as the Red Arrow Division and *Les Terribles* (from WW1) meaning “The Terrible Ones”, and consisting of Army National Guard units from Michigan and Wisconsin. The 32nd is considered to have direct roots from the famed Iron Brigade of the Civil War.



Above: M-60 Battle Tank in front of the Cadillac Armory (photo source: FB page for Cadillac Armory via Ron Williams)

Northern Michigan Military Installations – Past & Present – Extended Edition

Naval Reserve Center Cadillac

United States Naval Reserve

Cadillac, Wexford County, Michigan

Commissioned on 03 April 1950

Decommissioned on 27 May 1996 (Memorial Day Observed)

For 46 years, Naval Reserve Center Cadillac trained area Reservists and provided support for said training, as well as for their mobilization (partial or full, standard or rapid). The assigned Naval Reserve units to NRC Cadillac included: NR Ship Repair Facility, Yokosuka, Japan, Det. 113; NR Fleet Hospital 500 CBTZ-23 Det. C; NR Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 26 Det. 1526 (Seabees); and NR Volunteer Training Unit 1303. At the time of decommissioning, NRC Cadillac had a Commanding Officer with a rank of Lieutenant Commander, and eight full time Naval Reserve support staff.

NRC Cadillac was recommended for closure to the Secretary of Defense by the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure Commission along with several other NRCs across the country. The presence of Naval Reserve Sailors in Cadillac ended on Memorial Day, 27 May 1996.



Above: NRC Cadillac in the early days.



Above: NRC Cadillac near the end of its service to the US in 1996.

Ancestor Spotlight



William Henry Lamphere

16th New York Heavy Artillery
Washington GAR Post 444 – Cadillac, Michigan

A great review of William Lamphere can be found in the Cadillac Evening News in 1929 when the newspaper did a highlight of each remaining Civil War Veteran in the Cadillac area. Comrade Lamphere was the second to last Civil War Veteran in Wexford County passing away on Memorial Day, 30 May 1937 at age 89. "The Boys of 1861" article from 1929 is as follows:

Article 5

By J.A. Peterson

Mr. and Mrs. William H. Lamphere

William H. Lamphere, now 81, years of age, came close as a boy of 18, to witnessing the surrender of Lee to Grant, bringing the civil war to an end. He was only 50 miles away at the time.

"I'll never forget the scene in camp. " he recalls, "the boys sure took it for pretty good news. We had a great celebration."

Mr. Lamphere was born in Cayuga county N.Y. His father was a farmer and teamster.

It was from the farm house that Mr. Lamphere went as a lad of 18 to Join the Union Army in February 1864. He enlisted in the 16th New York heavy artillery, being the oldest boy in his family.

The regiment was sent to Virginia where four companies, including the one of which Mr. Lamphere was a member, were assigned.

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William H. Lamphere Honored *cont'd*



Above Left: Captain L. Dean Lamphere, PDC recites his G-G Grandfather William Lamphere's US Army service and his travels that landed him in Cadillac.

Above Right: Ron Shull, "Sailor" Bob Boquette, Lloyd Lamphere, Sr., and Duaine "Badger" Phillips share a moment before the ceremony

Left: The headstone of William and Nancy (Root) Lamphere in Haring Charter Township Cemetery, outside of Cadillac

Ancestor Spotlight cont'd

When the war was over Mr. Lamphere returned to the farm in New York and worked there two years. Then he started out alone for Michigan and found employment on a farm in Kalamazoo county.

In a few years he went back to New York but after two years more there he could not resist the back to Michigan call. His parents came with him this time and all worked on farms in Van Buren county.

Mr. Lamphere later made his home in Kalamazoo for two more years, and in 1882 arrived in Cadillac. He settled on a farm of 60 acres in Haring Township where he still lives.

There are seven children living. Fred Lamphere and his sister, Mrs Lucy Doning, are residents of Pontiac. Edwin Lamphere is on the farm with his father and mother. Eugene and Ernest Lamphere live in Cadillac. Mrs Martha Wilson and Mrs Ethel Sweet have husbands working at the chair factory, and on the railroad here.

Mr. Lamphere belongs to the Cadillac G.A.R. post, which had 30 active members when he joined. Now there are seven.

"When I got in the army?" he relates, "there was not much left but the boys, and they were the ones taken as new soldiers were called for. They did fine service. The middle aged men left also did real well, but the old men remaining were just about through. These were not many who had been fortunate enough not to be killed or wounded."

Amos Root, a brother of Mrs. Lamphere from Kalamazoo, was with Sherman on his march to the sea. In the battle of Lookout Mountain he was wounded, and started home. He died on the way near Philadelphia where he was buried.

With him on the march to the sea was a brother-in-law, Clark Brewster, who lived near the Lampheres 42 years ago. He came to Cadillac from Otsego, and after some years returned there where he died.

THE BOYS OF '61

A Series of Articles About the Civil War Veterans of Cadillac and Vicinity.

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By J. A. PETERSON.

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W. H. LAMPHERE,

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TODAY IN HISTORY.

1844—Fearful riots in Philadelphia between the Native American party and the Irish residents of the city.

1884—Kate Claxton, the noted actress, celebrated her 2500th appearance in "The Two Orphans."

Above: THE BOYS OF '61 article in the Cadillac Evening News (circa 1929)

Cadillac GAR Plot Historical Memorial Sign Dedication in Images

CWMO Scott Schwander served as the official photographer for the Camp, and has provided many of the pictures in this issue of The Sharpshooter. Many thanks Brother Scott for the great pictures, and capturing so many moments of this most important day.



Above: Officer of the Day - Capt. Lamphere, PDC instructs the Color Bearers



Above: PDC David Smith (MoC) & PCC Ted Mattis (Chaplain)



Above: BAA Bugler Thelma Paul prepares



Above: Cadillac Veterans Jerry Benson & Greg Burk raise the US Flag on the GAR Flag Pole



Above: SUCW Honor Guard and Cadillac Area Honor Guard marches in



Above: BAA Bugler Thelma Paul & PAP Lisa Smith of Frances Finch Aux. 9



Above: Master of Ceremonies, PDC David Smith at the podium



Above: Commander Lantzer and PI H.G. Smith discussing the pre-ceremony



Above: Badger Phillips and PCC Lloyd Lamphere, Sr. await the ceremony



Above: Posting of the Colors by Veteran Rodney Welliver and Jack Frost, Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, SVR



Above: DEFENDER OF THE UNION

Sign Dedication Images, cont'd.



Above: JVC Ribby begins his recitation of the Gettysburg Address



Above: JVC Ribby captures the crowd with the emotional rendition of the Gettysburg Address



Above: The Cadillac Area Honor Guard is posted



Above: Veteran Jerry Benson, SUVCW Honor Guard, and the Cadillac Area Honor Guard



Above: Commander Lantzer assumes command of the ceremony



Above: The old wagon path bordering the GAR Plot



Above: The SUVCW Honor Guard reloading between volleys



Above: The SUVCW Honor Guard retreats after the ceremony



Sign Dedication Images, cont'd.



Above: Chaplain Mattis, PCC, gives the ritual during the ceremony



Above: The Cadillac Area Honor Guard equipment trailer



Above: The crowd looks on during the ceremony



Above: Rolling Thunder, Michigan Chapter #1 equipment trailer



Above: The Maple Hill Cemetery entrance on Mitchell Street near the Washington GAR Post Cemetery Plot



Above: The crowd awaits the beginning of the ceremony

THANK YOU

This project could not have been completed without the help of the following people and organizations:

Citizens & Veterans of Cadillac
Cadillac Area Honor Guard
Bugles Across America - Thelma Paul & Mike Smith
Rolling Thunder, Michigan Chapter #1
Jerry and Mary Benson
Judy Liptak, Wexford Genealogy Organization
Rodney Welliver

Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry, Sons of Veterans Reserve
Cadillac Cemetery Board (Glenna Anderson, Chuck LaBar, & Tom Olmstead)
Cadillac Dept. of Public Works & Engineering (Ken Payne, Al Dumond, along with
Tim Mason, Rick Brookshire, JJ Griswold, Travis Fuzi, Don Mercer, & Matt Thrall)
Mardi Suhs, Cadillac News
Corey Adkins, 9&10 News
The Lamphere Family

Ceremony Flyer



**GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC CEMETERY PLOT
MEMORIAL SIGN DEDICATION CEREMONY**
MAPLE HILL CEMETERY
CADILLAC, MICHIGAN

Dedicated by:
ROBERT FINCH CAMP NO. 14
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
Legal Heir & Successor to the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)



SATURDAY
12 OCTOBER 2019
11AM (1100)

[rain, snow, or shine]




The historical memorial sign to be dedicated on 12 October 2019 is to honor the Comrades of Cadillac's Washington GAR Post No. 92 & later No. 444, and their cemetery plot near the entrance of Maple Hill. The ceremony to be conducted by the Brothers of Robert Finch Camp No. 14 is taken from the 1917 Memorial Dedication performed by the Grand Army of the Republic.

For more information or questions contact:

David Smith, LM, PCC, PDC
Robert Finch Camp No. 14 – Cadillac GAR Plot Committee Chairman
wyattusmagnus@gmail.com 231. [REDACTED]



Ceremony Program



As a veteran in old age,
He was loyal to that star, white and blue,
Which placed his name on the map
Of heroes the world could never know.

**GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC CEMETERY PLOT
MEMORIAL SIGN DEDICATION CEREMONY**
MAPLE HILL CEMETERY
CADILLAC, MICHIGAN
12 OCTOBER 2019 - 11:00AM

Dedicated by:
ROBERT FINCH CAMP NO. 14
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
Legal Heir & Successor to the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)

CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS

Robert Finch Camp No. 14
Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Frances Finch Auxiliary No. 9
Department of Michigan
Auxiliary to Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

David Smith – Master of Ceremonies
Past Department Commander – Department of Michigan
Past Camp Commander – Robert Finch Camp No. 14
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Jerry Benson
Ray E. Bostick American Legion Post 94

James Ribby – Bard
Junior Vice Commander – Robert Finch Camp No. 14
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

John E. Lantzer – Commander
Robert Finch Camp No. 14
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Theodore Mattis, PCC – Chaplain
Past Camp Commander – Robert Finch Camp No. 14
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Cadillac Area Honor Guard
Steve Bindwell – Commander

SUNCW Honor Guard
Co. A, 14th Michigan Infantry – Sons of Veterans Reserve
& Robert Finch Camp No. 14 Camp Guard

L. Dean Lampberg, Jr. – Officer of the Day
Commander – Co. A, 14th Michigan Inf. – SVR
Past Department Commander – Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Thelma Paul and Mike Smith – Buglers
Bugles Across America

ORDER OF CEREMONY

Greetings & Introduction

Raising of the National Flag

Pledge of Allegiance

Historical Reading

1917 Grand Army of the Republic Memorial
Dedication Ceremony Begins

Ritual & Dedication


Honor Guard Rifle Salute

Taps

1917 Grand Army of the Republic Memorial
Dedication Ceremony Ends

Closing Remarks

www.robertfinch14.org



**GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
CEMETERY PLOT**

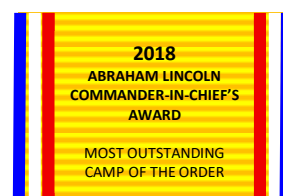
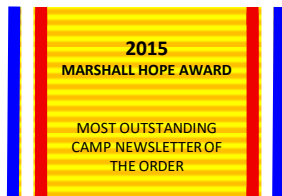
This is the final resting place
of Comrade of the Washington
GAR Post of Cadillac (Post 92
& later Post 444) who fought
in defense of Liberty and
Union 1861-1865. The GAR
was the nation's first Veterans
organization, founded in 1865
and comprised of Union
Veterans of the Civil War.
Their purpose was to aid
fallen Union Veterans,
widows, and orphans through
their ideals of: Fraternity,
Charity, & Loyalty. The GAR
dissolved in 1956 when its
last member died.

"The enduring realization that when a great challenge comes, the most ordinary people can show that they value something more than they value their own lives. When the last of the veterans had gone, and the sorrows and bitterness which the war created had at last worn away, this memory remained."

- Bruce Catton



Robert Finch Camp No. 14 – Traverse City
Est. 1914 – The Oldest Active Camp in the Department of Michigan
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
www.robertfinch14.org



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Sr. Vice Commander: David Ramsey
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Guide: Bob O'Hara
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Jr. Vice Commander: Jim Ribby
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Guard: John Milks

Secretary: David Smith, LM, PCC, PDC
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