



CA – SAN LUIS OBISPO

Home: <http://www.suvm.org/memorials.html>

Case Name: CA-San Luis Obispo-San Luis Obispo-SanLuisCem-GAR Plot-Cannon

State: California
County: San Luis Obispo
Location: San Luis Cemetery (Lady Family/Sutcliff Cemetery) - 2100 South Higuera and Elk Lane, San Luis Obispo, CA.

Type: Cannon, nicknamed "Big Bill." Bureau of Ordinance shell gun of 4500 pounds, 32-pdr, foundry Builders Foundry [marked JFG], registry #333, foundry #62, inspector TAH on trunnion [Timothy Atwater Hunt], cast 1866, weight 4530 pounds, preponderance 360 pounds. Served on the USS Kearsarge. Refurbished 1998. Note: The description on the accompanying plaque misidentifies this gun as a Dahlgren. and the year and place of manufacture refer to the carriage, not the gun.

Photos:

Latitude: North 35.26230° (Google Earth)

Right: Photo of cannon, by D. Enderlin March 2012 [additional photos on file]

Longitude: West 120.67007°



Reported by: Stark list, Armistead and Strobridge, 1998

Researched by: Edson T. Strobridge, Camp 21, 1998

Table with Status: Under Assessment, Needs Further Investigation, Completed, CWM-61 (assessment form) available, Form CWM-62 (grant application) available

Form 61 link: http://www.suvm.org/memorials/forms/61CA-San%20Luis%20Obispo-San%20Luis%20Obispo-SanLuisCem-GAR%20Plot-Cannon.pdf

Notes:

Edson T. Strobridge relocated the gun, refurbished it, and returned the piece to its historical location. He then provided a plaque. Resubmission report with minor changes, 12 Apr 2002. Inscription:

"BIG BILL"

Model 1864 Dahlgren Smoothbore 32 Pounder U.S. Naval Cannon

Manufactured by the Architectural Iron Works of New York in 1865, this gun, no. 333 of 383, made using a 17 man gun crew, fired a solid shot of 6-3/8" dia. weighing 32 pounds designed to smash through the side of a wooden ship. The gun was installed aboard a U.S. Naval Warship at the Washington Navy Yard in 1863 where it served until wooden ships became obsolete. The Gun later became surplus and in early 1892 Sen. George C. Perkins, former Gov. of Calif., arranged for the United States Navy to donate it to the FRED STEELE POST No. 70, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC in San Luis Obispo where it was to be kept as a monument to the Civil War veterans of our community. The Gun served as a focal point at all the Memorial Day celebrations in San Luis Obispo from 1892 until 1927 when the Ceremony was moved to the larger Lawn Cemetery. With the passing of these last Civil War veterans the Cannon became neglected, moved from the G.A.R. Plot in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery, and eventually lost and forgotten for over ten years when, with the interest and determination of Edson T. Strobridge, it was located and returned to San Luis Obispo. Fred Lange of R. Burke Corp. restored the Gun to its original condition and with the generous support of Michael Lady reinstalled to the location it had been originally placed over 102 years ago. This 1864 Naval Cannon commemorates the patriotism and honor of over 128 of these "Old Soldiers", both Union and Confederate who are buried in the three cemeteries in the City of San Luis Obispo, over 107 of them here in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery.



**Case Name:** CA-San Luis Obispo-San Luis Obispo-SanLuisCem GAR Plot-Flag Pole

**State:** California  
**County:** San Luis Obispo  
**Location:**  
San Luis Cemetery (Lady Family/Sutcliff Cemetery) -  
2100 South Higuera and Elk Lane, San Luis Obispo,  
CA.

**Type:**  
Flag pole with bronze plaque mounted at base.

**Latitude:** North 35.26233° (Google Earth)

**Longitude:** West 120.66999°

**Photos:**  
Right: Photo of base of flag  
pole showing plaque, by D.  
Enderlin, March 2012  
[additional photos on file]



**Reported by:**  
Dean Enderlin (DMO), Ellsworth Camp 23, March  
2012


**Researched by:**

<b>Status:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Under Assessment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Needs Further Investigation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Completed
<input type="checkbox"/>	CWM-61 (assessment form) available
<input type="checkbox"/>	Form CWM-62 (grant application) available

**Notes:**  
Inscription on plaque:

DEDICATED TO  
THE CIVIL WAR VETERANS  
OF THE  
FRED STEELE POST NO. 70  
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC  
BY THE  
AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 66  
SAN LUIS OBISPO 1966



<b>Case Name: CA-San Luis Obispo-Templeton-Templeton Park-Rodman Gun-M1861</b>											
<p><b>State:</b> California  <b>County:</b> San Luis Obispo  <b>Location:</b>            Templeton Park, 550 Crocker Street (facing Crocker Street between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets), Templeton, CA.</p>	<p><b>Type:</b>            Cannon, 8-inch Model 1861 Rodman Gun, Fort Pitt Foundry, Reg No. 32, Inspector CPK (Charles P. Kingsbury), Foundry #1669, cast 1863, weight 8,430 lbs. Mounted on painted (green) cement base, facing southwest. Associated with a flag pole.</p>										
<p><b>Latitude:</b> North 35.54928° (Google Earth)  <b>Longitude:</b> West 120.70722°</p>	<p><b>Photos:</b>            Right: Photo taken 29 March 2003, K. Morgan standing for scale [additional photos on file]</p>										
<p><b>Reported by:</b>            Stark List, 1998; Kirby Morgan (DMO), 2003</p>											
<p><b>Researched by:</b></p>											
<p><b>Status:</b></p>											
<table border="1"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px;"></td> <td>Under Assessment</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>X</b></td> <td>Needs Further Investigation</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Completed</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>CWM-61 (assessment form) available</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Form CWM-62 (grant application) available</td> </tr> </table>			Under Assessment	<b>X</b>	Needs Further Investigation		Completed		CWM-61 (assessment form) available		Form CWM-62 (grant application) available
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<b>X</b>	Needs Further Investigation										
	Completed										
	CWM-61 (assessment form) available										
	Form CWM-62 (grant application) available										
<p><b>Notes:</b>            The gun was reportedly in the park prior to the county acquiring it in World War I (DAE., Oct. 2012). The history of this gun is not known.</p>											