

**Record Group 37**  
**Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)**

1884-1979

1 manuscript box

Plymouth Historical Museum, Plymouth, MI

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- Creator:** Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)  
**Acquisition:** The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) records were deposited in the archives at different dates between 2001 and 2002.  
**Language:** Materials in English  
**Access:** Records are open for research  
**Use:** Refer to Archives Reading Room Guidelines  
**Notes:** Citation Style: "Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)," Record Group 37, Archives, Plymouth Historical Museum

**Abstract**

The Grand Army of the Republic was a fraternal organization of US Armed Forces. The GAR was founded in 1866 in Decatur, Illinois after the end of the American Civil War. Initially the group was about camaraderie, but later gained political power. The group advocated for voting rights for black veterans, lobbied the US Congress to establish veterans' pensions, and also supported Republican political candidates. When the last member died in 1956, the group was dissolved. It was succeeded by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. See also record group 24 : 24<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry. Many of the soldiers from the 24<sup>th</sup> joined the G.A.R.

**Scope and Content**

The Grand Army of the Republic record group consists of records related to the GAR and its activities in Plymouth.

**Entries**

- [Entry 1:](#) Records of the Eddy Post
- [Entry 2:](#) Flag Presentation ceremony of July 23, 1936
- [Entry 3:](#) Photographs
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**Important Subjects**

Cemetery records--Plymouth, MI  
Eddy Post  
Grand Army of the Republic GAR--Plymouth, MI  
Veterans--Plymouth, MI

**Box 1, Shelf 58**

***Entry 1: Records of the Eddy Post***

*Folder 1*

Records from 1884-1921; from Michigan State Archives.

*Folder 2*

Records from 1884-1921; from Michigan State Archives.

***Entry 2: Flag Presentation ceremony of July 23, 1936***

*Folder 1*

Booklet of newspaper clippings and correspondence between G.A.R. and individual veterans and their families for invitations to the July 23, 1936 public ceremony.  
Program for the July 23, 1936 flag ceremony. (2 copies)

***Entry 3: Photographs***

Local G.A.R. post in 1891 (Acc. #2001.087.103) (2 copies)

G.A.R. Hall from 1880s

Civil War veterans in front of Village Hall, 1914 or 1916-see Drawer 6, Map Case 3

Framed picture of GAR charter certificate of Feb. 22, 1884 see large picture storage

***Entry 4: Newspaper Clippings***

"Clout of Civil War Vets," June 7, 1979 (2 copies)

"Many still recall Civil War Veterans in Our Parade"

Copy of G.A.R. information on museum web site

***Entry 5: Original Documents***

Journal of the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment, 1935

Program of 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment of G.A.R. and 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment of VFW in 1936

Program of Campfire of Eddy Post, No.; 231, G.A.R., 1902, (Acc. #2002.157.63)

Letter to G.W. Stone from Abram Pelham, July 21, 1884

Eddy Post officers

Notes about G.A.R. meeting in Feb., 1896

Letter to G.W. Stone from A.M. Holt, Feb. 29, 1884

Envelope and card of Ida F. Davidson

List of G.A.R. charter members, 1889

Note from Abram Pelham, May 19, 1884

Request by veterans for a Charter for the Grand Army of the Republic, Feb. 21, 1884

Eddy Post Minute Book (Acc #84.43.5L)

***Entry 6: Ribbons***

22<sup>nd</sup> Mich. Vol. Infantry ribbon (3)

Second Annual Reunion of Northeastern Soldiers' and Sailors' Assoc., 1886

Reunion of Macomb and St. Clair Counties soldiers' and Sailors' Assoc., 1885

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Encampment of Michigan G.A.R., Owosso, 1894

Grant Monumental Camp-Fire, Brighton, 1887

G.A.R. Encampment, Lansing, 1913

Fairbanks Post No. 17, Detroit

Department Commander, C.E. Foote of Orcult Post No. 79

G.A.R. medal

W.R.C. Camp-Fire, Corps No. 156, Post no. 181, Milford, 1893

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Camp-Fire, Post no. 181, Milford, 1883

12<sup>th</sup> Annual Camp-Fire, Post no. 181, Milford, 1897

15<sup>th</sup> Annual Camp-Fire, Post no. 181, Milford, 1899

18<sup>th</sup> Annual Camp-Fire, Post no. 181, Milford, 1902

20<sup>th</sup> Annual Camp-Fire, Post no. 181, Milford, 1905

22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Camp-Fire, Post no. 181, Milford, 1907

25<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion, 22<sup>nd</sup> MI Infantry, at Fowlerville, Post 114, 1892

28<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion, 22<sup>nd</sup> MI Infantry, at Lapeer, 1895

32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Reunion, 22<sup>nd</sup> MI Infantry, at Ann Arbor, 1899

***Entry 7: Cemetery Record***

List of GAR soldiers buried in Riverside Cemetery

***Entry 8: Additional GAR Information***

List of members who moved to Plymouth since the war

Misc. research on GAR: Post Charters and records, history of GAR, etc.