

Parkside Homes and Addition,
World War II Memorial
Southeast Corner of Connor
Avenue and Frankfort Road
Detroit
Wayne County
Michigan

HABS No. MI-409-D

HABS

MICH

82-DETRO,

63D-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Great Lakes Systems Office
1709 Jackson Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-2571

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PARKSIDE HOMES AND ADDITION,
World War II Memorial
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
PARKSIDE HOMES AND ADDITION,
World War II Memorial

Location: Southeast Corner of Connor Avenue and
Frankfort Road, Detroit, Wayne County,
Michigan

Quad: Grosse Pointe, Michigan 1:24,000

UTM: 17.337140.4694800

Dates of
Construction: 1947

Architects: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Present
Owner: City of Detroit Housing Department
2211 Orleans Street
Detroit, MI 48207

Present Use: Memorial for World War II Parkside Veterans

Significance: This memorial was erected to honor the men and
women of Parkside Homes who served in the
armed forces during World War II, particularly
those who lost their lives during the war. It
is a typical example of the thousands of
small-scale memorials constructed after World
War II, with a piece of military hardware
(a howitzer) as a focal point, along with a
memorial plaque.

Historian: Charles K. Hyde, Wayne State University,
Detroit, Michigan 48202, July 1996.

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A bronze plaque mounted on a large rough-cut limestone boulder explains the purpose of this memorial:

TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN HONOR OF
THE MEN AND WOMEN OF PARKSIDE WHO SO
GALLANTLY SERVED IN WORLD WAR II AND
THESE OUR DEAD IN HONORED GLORY REST

McKINNON CAMERON	ROY JACKSON
GEORGE CANNING	HARRY MOYLES
HOWARD S. CORVELL	ANDREW NEAL
THURMAN L. ELY	BERNARD NOWICKI
STANLEY ZEMLA	

Erected 1947 by the Members of
Lieut. Charles L. Stone Post 5314 V.F.W.
and Residents of Parkside Community

The shape of the rough-cut boulder resembles that of a tombstone, presumably a deliberate design choice. A howitzer mounted on wooden-spoke wheels with hard rubber tires is the main feature of the memorial. Specifications stamped on the barrel identify this weapon as a "155 mm Howitzer, Model of 1918, Schneider (manufacturer?), S.F. Co. Steel." This artillery piece was introduced in the late stages of World War I, but mainly saw service during the Second World War. The howitzer sits on a concrete pad, with the end of its carriage encased in concrete, making theft unlikely.

The rest of the memorial consists of two parallel sections of fence running the length of the artillery piece, each made up of three round steel posts connected by lengths of steel chain. There is a small rectangular area paved in brick in front of the boulder holding the plaque. A steel flagpole to the rear may have been constructed in June 1940, well before the memorial was built.¹

¹"Parkside Colony Raises Flagpole," Detroit News,
17 June 1940, p. 19.

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SITE PLAN

