

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM

PLEASE:

- 1. Type or print, using a ball-point pen, when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
2. Do not guess at the information. An answer of, "Unknown," is more helpful. Include a photograph of each viewable side and label it with name & direction of view.

- Thank You.

Type of Memorial

\_\_\_ Monument with Sculpture \_\_\_ Monument with Cannon
x Monument without Sculpture \_\_\_ Historical Marker \_\_\_ Plaque
\_\_\_ Other ( flag pole, G.A.R. buildings, stained glass windows, etc.)

Affiliation

\_\_\_ G.A.R. (Post Name & No. \_\_\_) \_\_\_ M.O.L.L.U.S
\_\_\_ SUVCW (Camp Name & No. \_\_\_) (Please describe below)
\_\_\_ WRC (Corps Name & No. \_\_\_)
\_\_\_ ASUVCW (Aux Name & No. \_\_\_)
\_\_\_ DUVCW (Tent Name & No. \_\_\_)
\_\_\_ LGAR (Circle Name & No. \_\_\_)
\_\_\_ Other Federal Government U.S. National Cemetery Department of Veterans Affairs, National Cemetery Administration

Original Dedication Date 1876 (see attached no further details) Please consult any/all newspaper archives for a local paper's article that would have information on the first dedication ceremony and/or other facts on the memorial. Please submit a copy of your findings with full identification of the paper & date of publication. Thank you.

Location

The Memorial is currently located at:
Street/Road address or site location 202 Government Rd
City/Village Salisbury Township County Rowan
State North Carolina

The front of the Memorial faces: \_\_\_ North \_\_\_ South x East \_\_\_ West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner (of private cemetery that Memorial is located in)

Name Federal Government
Dept./Div. Department of Veterans Affairs
Street Address 202 Government Rd City
Salisbury State NC Zip Code 28144 Contact Person
Telephone ( ) 704 636 2661

If the Memorial has been moved, please list former location(s).

Not applicable

### Physical Details

Material of Monument or base under a Sculpture or Cannon =  Stone  Concrete  Metal  Undetermined If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) marble

Material of the Sculpture =  Stone  Concrete  Metal  Undetermined  
If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" Not applicable

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = \_\_\_\_\_

Material of Cannon =  Bronze  Iron - Consult known Ordnance Listing to confirm  
Markings on muzzle = \_\_\_\_\_

Markings on Left Trunion \_\_\_\_\_ Right Trunion \_\_\_\_\_  
Is inert ammunition a part of the Memorial?  If so, describe \_\_\_\_\_

### Approximate Dimensions (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points

Monument or Base: Height 50 ft Width 18ft base Depth \_\_\_\_\_ or Diameter \_\_\_\_\_  
Sculpture: Height \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_ or Diameter \_\_\_\_\_

For Memorials with multiple Sculptures, please record this information on a separate sheet of paper for each statue and attach to this form. Please describe the "pose" of each statue and any weapons/implements involved (in case your photos become separated from this form). Thank you!

### Markings/Inscriptions (on stone-work / metal-work of monument, base, sculpture)

Maker or Fabricator mark / name? If so, give name & location found on stone

The "Dedication Text" is formed: x cut into material \_\_\_\_\_ raised up from material face

Record the text (indicate any separation if on different sides) Please use additional sheet if necessary.

Front: "PRO / PATRIA / 11700 / THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED BY ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED MARCH 3, 1873  
TO THE MEMORY OF THE UNKNOWN UNION SOLDIERS WHO DIED IN THE CONFEDERATE PRISON AT SALISBURY, N.C."  
Right: "THEY DIED THAT THEIR COUNTRY MIGHT LIVE."  
Left: FOR OUR COUNTRY 'TIS BLISS TO DIE.  
Rear: IN 18 TRENCHES, JUST SOUTH OF THIS SPOT, / REST THE BODIES OF 11,700 SOLDIERS OF THE / UNITED STATES ARMY,  
WHO PERISHED DURING / THE YEARS 1864 AND 1865 WHILE HELD BY / THE CONFEDERATE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AS  
PRISONERS OF WAR IN A STOCKADE NEAR / THIS PLACE.

### Environmental Setting

(The general vicinity and immediate locale surrounding a memorial can play a major role in its overall condition.)

#### Type of Location

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cemetery | <input type="checkbox"/> Park           | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Town Square"       | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office    | <input type="checkbox"/> School          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Building  | <input type="checkbox"/> State Capitol  | Other: _____                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse          | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle      | <input type="checkbox"/> Library        | _____                                    |

**General Vicinity**

Rural (low population, open land)
  Suburban (residential, near city)  
 Town
  Urban / Metropolitan

**Immediate Locale** (check as many as may apply)

Industrial  Commercial  
 Street/Roadside within 20 feet  Tree Covered (overhanging branches)  
 Protected from the elements (canopy or enclosure, indoors)  
 Protected from the public (fence or other barrier)  
 Any other significant environmental factor \_\_\_\_\_

**Condition Information**

**Structural Condition** (check as many as may apply)

The following section applies to Monuments *with* Sculpture, and Monuments without Sculpture - including the base for Monuments with *Cannon*. Instability in the sculpture and its base can be detected by a number of factors. Indicators may be obvious or subtle. Visually examine the sculpture and its base.

	<b>Sculpture</b>	<b>Base</b>
If hollow, is the internal support unstable/exposed? <small>(Look for signs of exterior rust)</small>	_____	_____
Any evidence of structural instability? <small>(Look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)</small>	_____	_____
Any broken or missing parts? <small>(Look for elements (i.e., sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)</small>	_____	_____
Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? <small>(Also look for signs of uneven stress &amp; weakness in the material)</small>	_____	_____

**Surface Appearance** (check as many as may apply)

	<b>Sculpture</b>	<b>Base</b>
Black crusting	_____	_____
White crusting	_____	_____
Etched, pitted, or otherwise corroded (on metal)	_____	_____
Metallic staining (run-off from copper, iron, etc.)	_____	_____
Organic growth (moss, algae, lichen or vines)	_____	_____
Chalky or powdery stone	_____	_____
Granular eroding of stone	_____	_____
Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)	_____	_____
Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)	_____	_____
Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe...	_____	_____

Very good condition well maintained.

Does water collect in recessed areas of the Memorial?  Yes  No  Unable to tell

**Surface Coating**

Does there appear to be a coating? \_\_\_ Yes  No \_\_\_ Unable to determine

If known, identify type of coating.

\_\_\_ Gilded \_\_\_ Painted \_\_\_ Varnished \_\_\_ Waxed  Unable to determine

Is the coating in good condition? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unable to determine

**Basic Surface Condition Assessment (check one)**

In your opinion, what is the general appearance or condition of the Memorial? \_\_\_ Well maintained

Would benefit from treatment \_\_\_ In urgent need of treatment \_\_\_ Unable to determine

**Overall Description**

Briefly describe the Memorial (affiliation / overall condition & any concern not already touched on) .

Very good, excellent setting open to public easy access.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Supplemental Background Information**

In addition to your on-site survey, any additional information you can provide on the described Memorial will be welcomed. Please label each account with its source (author, title, publisher, date, pages). Topics include any reference to the points listed on this questionnaire, plus any previous conservation treatments - or efforts to raise money for treatment. Thank you.

**Inspector Identification**

Date of On-site Survey August 16, 2014 (Saturday)

Your Name Gilbert V. Riddle

Address 1647 Trails End

City Greenville

State NC Zip Code 27858

Telephone ( ) [REDACTED]

What Order or Organization is submitter a member of? SUV Union volunteers #5, Dept, NC

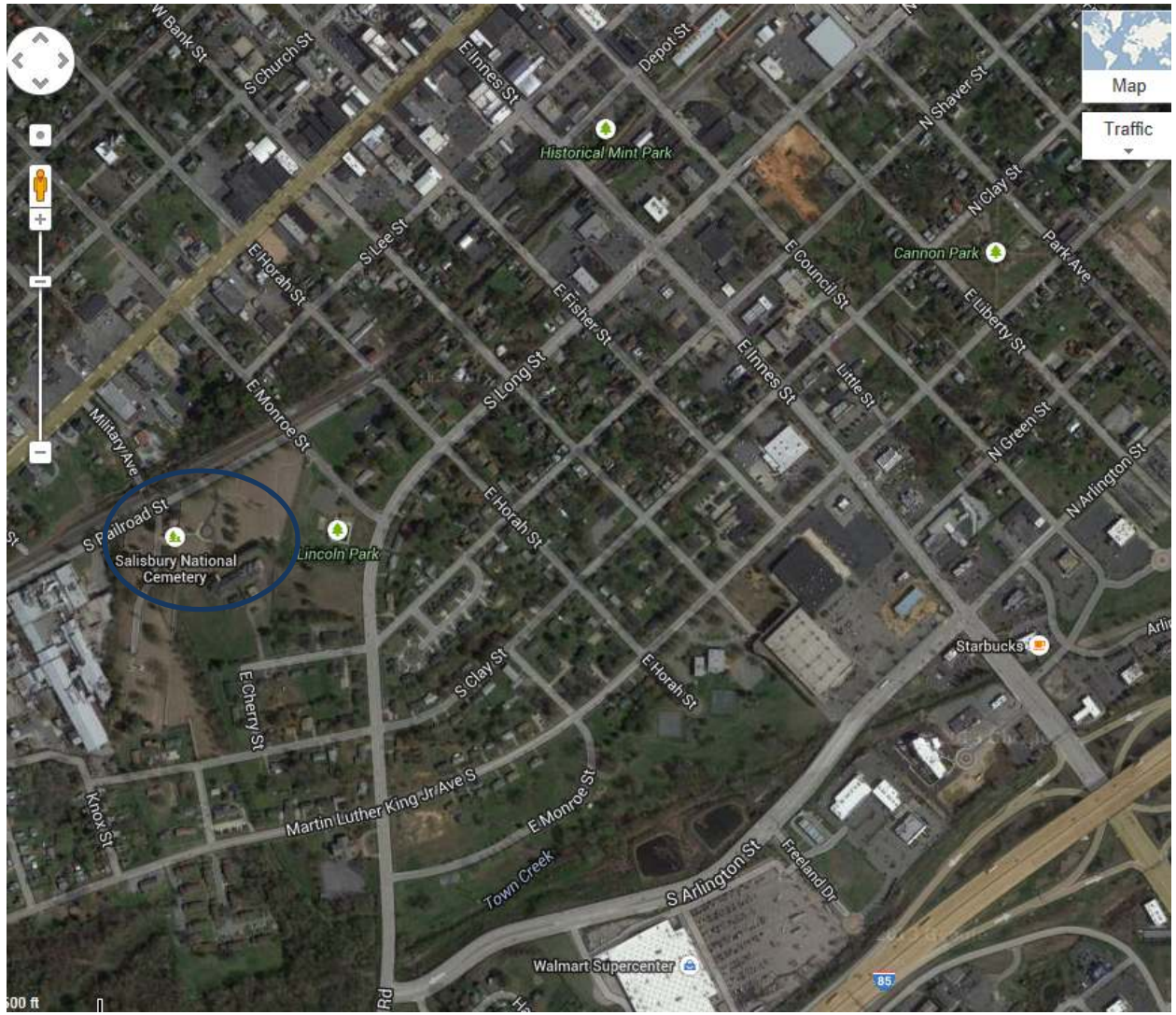
Please send this completed form to

Walt Busch, PDC, Chair  
1240 Konert Valley Dr.  
Fenton, MO 63026

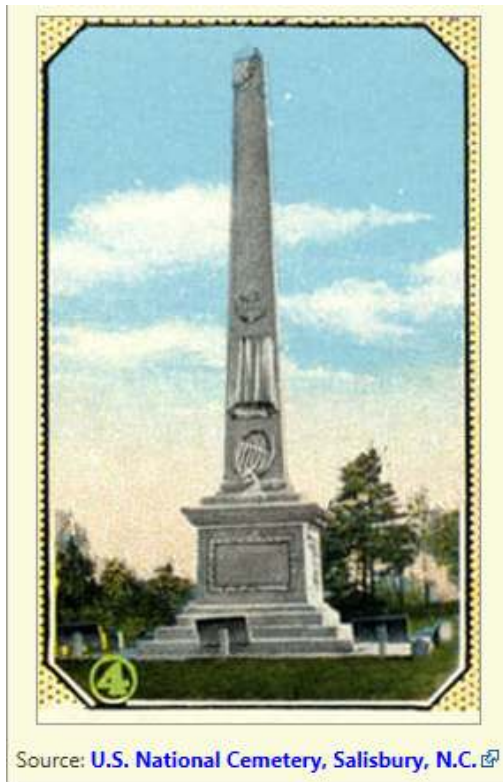


Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
National Civil War Memorials Committee







Source: [U.S. National Cemetery, Salisbury, N.C.](https://www.usnationalcemetery.com/)

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/commland/monument/74/>





Government Rd, Salisbury, NC 28144

(704) 636-2661



<b>Monument Name</b>	Monument to 11700 Unknown Dead, Salisbury National Cemetery
<b>Type</b>	<a href="#">Obelisk</a>
<b>Subjects</b>	<a href="#">Civil War</a>
<b>Creator</b>	Augustus Van Cleef of New York, Designer  Alexander McDonald of Mount Auburn, Massachusetts, Builder
<b>City</b>	<a href="#">Salisbury</a>
<b>County</b>	<a href="#">Rowan</a>
<b>Description</b>	<p>This monument is a 50-foot tall granite obelisk with a base measuring 18 feet by 18 feet. It is dedicated to the unknown soldiers who died in the Confederate prison at Salisbury. The obelisk is crowned with a laurel wreath; laurel leaves decorate the four sides. Above the base rest a helmet, sword, shield, and a chain with broken bracelets. A veiled tablet, signifying the unknown, is also carved into the obelisk.</p> <p>Images: <a href="#">Front view</a>   <a href="#">View with the Maine Monument in sight</a>   <a href="#">Rear view</a>   <a href="#">Sculptural detail</a>   <a href="#">Front Inscription</a>   <a href="#">Right Inscription</a>   <a href="#">Left Inscription</a>   <a href="#">Rear inscription</a>   <a href="#">Stone marker</a>   <a href="#">Builder Alexander McDonald of Mount Auburn, Massachusetts</a>   <a href="#">Designer Augustus Van Cleef of New York</a></p>
<b>Inscription</b>	<p>Front: "PRO / PATRIA / 11700 / THIS MONUMENT WAS ERECTED BY ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED MARCH 3, 1873 TO THE MEMORY OF THE UNKNOWN UNION SOLDIERS WHO DIED IN THE CONFEDERATE PRISON AT SALISBURY, N.C."</p> <p>Right: "THEY DIED THAT THEIR COUNTRY MIGHT LIVE."</p> <p>Left: FOR OUR COUNTRY 'TIS BLISS TO DIE.</p> <p>Rear: IN 18 TRENCHES, JUST SOUTH OF THIS SPOT, / REST THE BODIES OF 11,700 SOLDIERS OF THE / UNITED STATES ARMY, WHO PERISHED DURING / THE YEARS 1864 AND 1865 WHILE HELD BY / THE CONFEDERATE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AS / PRISONERS OF WAR IN A STOCKADE NEAR / THIS PLACE.</p>
<b>Custodian</b>	Salisbury National Cemetery, Department of Veterans Affairs

<b>Dedication Date</b>	1876
<b>Decade</b>	<a href="#">1870s</a>
<b>Geographic Coordinates</b>	35.659280 , -80.474870 <a href="#">View in Geobrowse</a> 
<b>Supporting Sources</b>	<p>"Cemeteries - Salisbury National Cemetery," United States Department of Veterans Affairs, (accessed January 22, 2012) <a href="#">Link</a></p> <p>"Editorial Article 5" <i>The New York Times</i>, May 28, 1879</p> <p>"Salisbury National Cemetery," National Park Service, (accessed January 22, 2012) <a href="#">Link</a></p> <p>"View in National Cemetery Showing Soldiers Monument, Salisbury, N.C.," in Durwood Barbour Collection of North Carolina Postcards (P077), North Carolina Collection Photographic Archives, Wilson Library, UNC-Chapel Hill, (accessed December 10, 2012) <a href="#">Link</a></p> <p>Waymarking.com. "Federal Monument to the Unknown Dead - Salisbury, NC," (accessed January 22, 2012) <a href="#">Link</a></p>
<b>Public Site</b>	Yes
<b>Materials &amp; Techniques</b>	New Hampshire granite
<b>Sponsors</b>	Commissioned by Congress, General Orders No. 47

<b>Monument Cost</b>	\$9,500
<b>Subject Notes</b>	During the civil war, Salisbury was the location of a Confederate prison that was originally intended for Confederate military offenders and state prisoners. On October 5, 1864, 5,000 Union prisoners of war were transferred to the prison, far exceeding the intended limit of 2,500 people. As a result, food and space were scarce, while disease was rampant. The dead were buried in trenches in a cornfield to the west of the prison. After the war, efforts were made to determine how many unknown prisoners had been buried in the cemetery. Colonel Oscar A. Mack estimated the number to be 11,700 in his 1870-71 report.
<b>Controversies</b>	Recent research has cast doubt on the accuracy of the number 11,700. Some scholars believe this number is too large; however, determining the exact number is not a likely possibility.
<b>Location</b>	The monument is located near the western side of the cemetery. Just south of the monument are 18 burial trenches with stone markers. The large obelisk is located next to both a monument erected by <a href="#">the state of Maine</a> honoring Maine's fallen soldiers and a small plaque placed by the United Daughters of the Confederacy which includes a diagram of the burial trench locations. A <a href="#">monument</a> erected by the state of Pennsylvania, located further down the hill, is in sight.
<b>Landscape</b>	The monument is part of the Salisbury National Cemetery and is surrounded by graves, including the 18 trenches containing the unknown dead to whom the monument is dedicated. At the top of a hill, the monument is a prominent feature of the cemetery landscape.
<b>Death Space</b>	Yes
<b>Approval Process</b>	In the late 1860s and early 1870s, the army and federal government began investigating the graves. The cemetery was renamed Salisbury National Cemetery shortly after the war and was dedicated in 1874. Congress approved legislation providing for the monument on March 3, 1873.
<b>Materials &amp; Assembly Cost</b>	\$9,500 for the construction of the monument.

