

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM

PLEASE:

- Type or print, using a ball-point pen, when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- 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
 ___ Monument *without* Sculpture ___ Historical Marker ___ Plaque

Affiliation

G.A.R. (Post Name & No. Calistoga, Gov. Morton Post, No. 41) ___ M.O.L.L.U.S.
 W.R.C. (Corps Name & No. Calistoga, Gov. Morton Corps, No. 40) ___ Other Allied Order
 SUVCW (Camp Name & No. Undesignated (see attached Gen'l History)) (Please describe below)
 ___ DUVCW (Tent Name & No. _____)
 ___ Other: _____

Original Dedication Date 30 May 1892 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 2100 Block, Foothill Boulevard (State Highway 128)
 City/Village Calistoga Township --- County Napa

The front of the Memorial faces: North ___ South ___ East ___ West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner (of private cemetery that Memorial is located in)...
 Name City of Calistoga Dept./Div. Public Works Department
 Street Address 414 Washington Street
 City Calistoga State CA Zip Code 94515
 Contact Person Public Works Director Telephone (707) 942-2828

If the Memorial has been moved, please list former location(s)...
 Memorial site has not been moved, however, the monument has been rebuilt (with minor repositioning) several times. See attached photos and General History page for further details.

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.) Concrete base, painted white.

Material of the Sculpture = Stone Concrete Metal Other Undetermined
 If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) Wood, painted white
 If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" ---

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = No 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 3 in. Width 46.5 in. Depth 49 in or Diameter ---
 Sculpture: Height 75.5 in. Width 7.25 in Depth 7.25 in 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 ---
(No markings)

The "Dedication Text" is formed: --- cut into material --- raised up from material face

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

No text on Memorial. Dedication is based on historic newspaper accounts and continued usage as a Monument to the Unknowns since 1892.

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: <u>---</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus | <u>---</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <u>---</u> |

General Vicinity

Rural (low population, open land)
 Town

Suburban (residential, near city)
 Urban / Metropolitan

Immediate Locale (check as many as may apply)

No Industrial No Commercial
 No Street/Roadside within 20 feet Yes Tree Covered (overhanging branches)
 No Protected from the elements (canopy or enclosure, indoors)
 No Protected from the public (fence or other barrier)
 Any other significant environmental factor On steep hillslope (19% grade).

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.

	Sculpture	Base
If hollow, is the internal support unstable/exposed? (look for signs of exterior rust)	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Any evidence of structural instability? (look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Any broken or missing parts? (look for elements (i.e., sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? (also look for signs of uneven stress & weakness in the material)	<u>No</u>	<u>Yes</u>

Surface Appearance (check as many as may apply)

	Sculpture	Base
Black crusting	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
White crusting	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Etched, pitted, or otherwise corroded (on metal)	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Metallic staining (run-off from copper, iron, etc.)	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Organic growth (moss, algae, lichen or vines)	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Chalky or powdery stone	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Granular eroding of stone	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)	<u>No</u>	<u>No</u>
Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe...		

Sculpture of wood with cement base, both painted white, showing some annual cleaning. Paint is fresh and shows no signs of deterioration. Concrete base shows two cracks. The larger runs diagonally from corner to corner. Overall stability is not impaired by the cracks at this time.

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).

Wooden obelisk is mounted on a concrete slab base, placed uphill of center in the G.A.R. cemetery plot (Block "D" of Cemetery Section 1). The G.A.R. plot is bounded by a 24 ft. by 24 ft. concrete curb/coping supporting a chain fence (installed 1897). Present-day obelisk is not the original sculpture. See May 30, 1936, photo of the ceremony commemorating the deed transfer (attached) for a view of an earlier monument at the site.

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 17 August 2008

Your Name Dean A. Enderlin, M.O., Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp 23, Dept. of California & Pacific, SUVCW

Address 2950 Lake County Highway City Calistoga

State CA Zip Code 94515-9743 Telephone 

Please send this completed form to:

Kirby R. Morgan

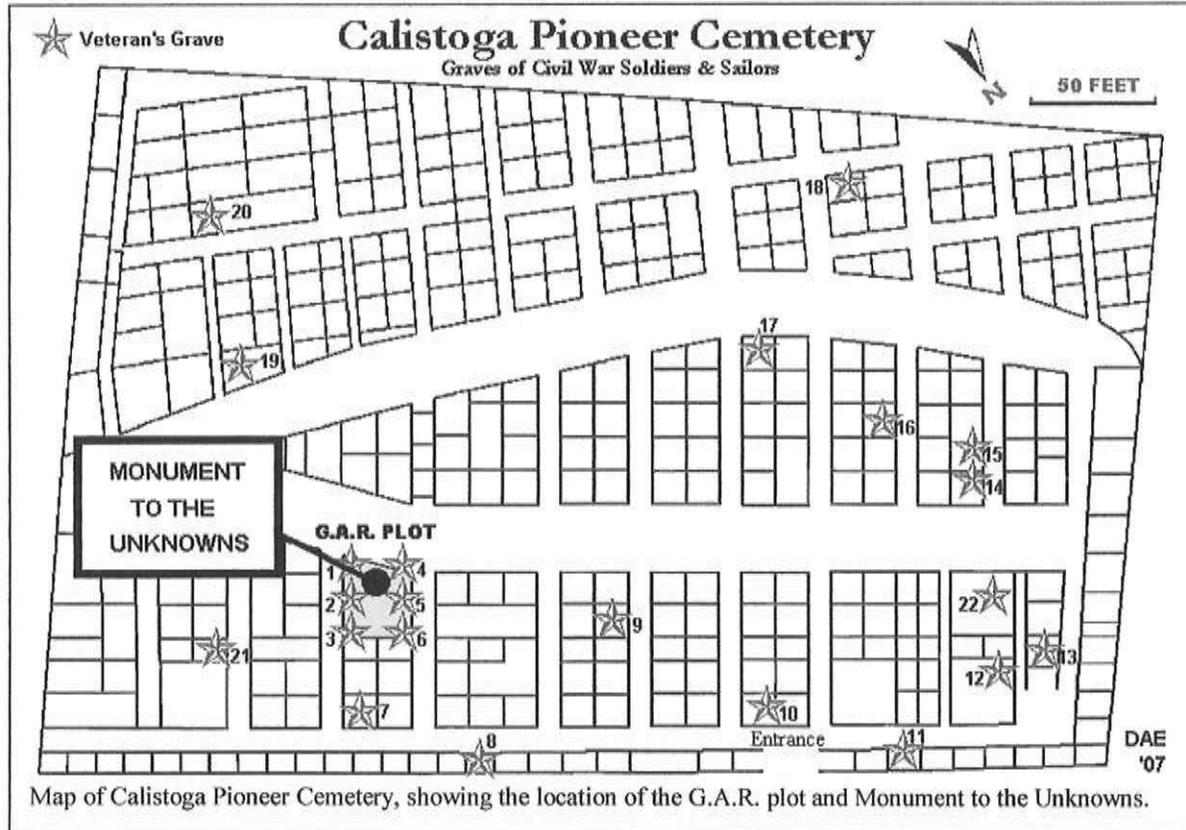
Aide, National Committee on Civil War Memorials
 Memorials Officer, Dept. of California & Pacific



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

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

**Calistoga Pioneer Cemetery
Grand Army of the Republic Plot
"Monument to the Unknowns" Obelisk
Supplemental Information**



General History

Source: Calistoga's Veterans of the American Civil War (website)

Dean A. Enderlin, author

<http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~enderlin/calistoga/cw/calistoga-cw.htm>

In 1877, Calistoga Civil War veteran Samuel W. Collins established his own private cemetery on land west of town, a little over a mile southwest of the old Greer cemetery. The Collins cemetery later became Calistoga Pioneer Cemetery, which goes by that name to this day. The old Greer cemetery was quickly abandoned, once the Collins cemetery became available. According to Kay Archuleta, as told to her by Len Bryant of Porter Creek, Reverend Henry Doty Bryant (Methodist-Episcopal) was the first burial there.

As a Union veteran of the Civil War, Samuel Collins saw the need to accommodate burials of his G.A.R. comrades in Calistoga. He was probably inspired by the 1882 dedication ceremony of a G.A.R. plot at St. Helena Cemetery, wherein Calistoga's newly organized G.A.R. post had participated. The establishment of St. Helena's G.A.R. plot had served as a good lesson as to why a soldiers' plot was needed. A veteran, known only as a "friendless man," had been buried years before in the potters' field at

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St. Helena. His remains were disinterred and were the first to be buried in St. Helena's G.A.R. plot when it was established. Samuel Collins was probably moved by St. Helena's effort to honor an otherwise forgotten comrade, and decided to do likewise in Calistoga.

Following through with his commitment, Collins formally presented a veterans' plot within his cemetery to the Governor Morton Post, No. 41, G.A.R., on Decoration Day (May 30), 1883. Post Commander William H. Easley accepted the plot on behalf of the post. This was the first Decoration Day officially commemorated by the G.A.R. at the Collins cemetery. Memorial Day ceremonies are still conducted at the old G.A.R. plot in the Collins cemetery, well over a century after it was first dedicated. It is one of Calistoga's oldest traditions.

Samuel W. Collins died on 23 May 1893. Following his death, the title to the cemetery passed to his youngest child, Anna, wife of local house painter and building contractor, Henry Lee Hopper. Eventually, the burdens of maintaining the cemetery became too great for Anna to handle. According to I. C. Adams, Chris L. Petersen (chairman of the Memorial Day committee) conveyed the cemetery deed, on Anna's behalf, to the City of Calistoga on May 30, 1936. The cemetery has been managed by the city since that time.

The central feature of the G.A.R. plot today is the obelisk, which is traditionally adorned with a wreath in honor of unknown soldiers on Memorial Day. I am unsure of the obelisk's age, but the concept of a memorial to unknown soldiers in Calistoga dates back to the late 1880's. The earliest memorial to the unknowns at the Collins Cemetery was described as "a green mound to represent the unknown dead." It was recognized in the Decoration Day ceremony in 1888 at the G.A.R. plot.¹ In early 1892, the green mound was replaced by a more conspicuous monument in the plot, described as a "shaft entwined with garlands of flowers."² It was dedicated as the "monument to the Unknown Dead" by the members of the Woman's Relief Corps, in a ceremony officiated over by local Corps President, Mary C. Ayer. This was probably the precursor to the obelisk.

Pleased with their progress in improving the G.A.R. plot with the monument to the unknown dead, the G.A.R. and W.R.C. were inspired to make additional improvements to the site in the late 1890's. Chief among these, was the placement of a concrete curb and chain enclosure around the plot. The

¹ *Independent Calistogian* newspaper, Calistoga, Napa County, CA, Wednesday, 30 May 1888, p. 3, col. 2 [Memorial Day, excerpt]:

"On arriving at the cemetery gate, ranks were opened to allow the Post and Corps to pass through, then all continued on to the place selected for holding memorial services, which were conducted by W. T. Simmons, acting Post Commander, and Newton Morse, Post Chaplain, at the grave of the late James Norton. Here had also been constructed a green mound to represent the unknown dead, upon which numerous bouquets were placed. At one side of the grave the earth had been made smooth, and here rested a large, beautiful cross surmounted with a laurel wreath. This was in memory of the late Gen. Logan, and was contributed by the W.R.C. Near by was a fine, large wreath, bearing the name, "Grant," and to the memory of the illustrious General was the tribute given by Grant Circle, C.L.S.C. To this spot also the top of the floral car, with its burden of bright flowers, was carried and left."

Comments: James Burroughs Norton (QM Sgt., Bvt. Capt., Co.'s E & S, 16 Wis. Inf.) was the first burial in the Calistoga G.A.R. plot. He died 16 October 1887. The "green mound" for the unknown dead and tribute to General Logan were placed near his grave (approximately where the obelisk is today). William Thomas Simmons (1 Lieut., Co. C, 11 Mo. Inf., MoH recipient), served as acting Post Commander at the event. The elected Post Commander in 1888 was Newton Conner (Pvt., Co.'s A & H, 20 Ind. Inf.). The "floral car" mentioned above, was a Decoration Day parade entry by the Sons of Veterans. This is one of the earliest references to this organization in Calistoga, although no Camp was ever chartered here. Grant Circle, Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle (C.L.S.C.) also participated in the ceremony. Little is known about the history of this organization here.

² *Independent Calistogian* newspaper, Wednesday, 1 June 1892, p. 3, col. 2 [Memorial Day in Calistoga, excerpt]:

"At the cemetery the ceremonies were in accordance with the ritualistic work of the G.A.R., with the dedication, by the W.R.C., of a monument to the Unknown Dead, Mrs. M. C. Ayer, President of the Corps, officiating. The shaft had been erected for this purpose, and was entwined with garlands of flowers."

Comments: Mary Catherine Ayer (*nee* Norton) was the widow of Charles A. Ayer, and sister to James Burroughs Norton (first burial in the G.A.R. plot). She was a member of Calistoga's Governor Morton Corps, No. 40, W.R.C., but the elected President of the Corps in 1892 was Mrs. Henry E. Cyrus.

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decision to install these improvements was voted on and approved by the membership of Gov. Morton Post, No. 41, at their meeting on 4 May 1897. Construction began immediately, with labor furnished by post member John P. Martin, and materials paid for through a \$50 donation from the Calistoga W.R.C. The project was completed shortly before Memorial Day that year.³ It consisted of a 24 ft. x 24 ft. concrete wall, 12 inches wide and nine inches high, surmounted by a cable chain supported by iron stanchions at eight foot intervals. At the Memorial Day ceremony in 1897, these "beautiful and substantial improvements to the burial plot" were formally presented to Post Commander Andrew B. Mangis (representing the G.A.R.) by Mrs. Peter S. Eastman (representing the W.R.C.).⁴ These structures still stand today, over 110 years after they were originally dedicated.

Another significant improvement to the cemetery in the late 1890's was the installation of military headstones to mark the graves of veterans. The arrangements for the military stones were made by Capt. William T. Simmons, who began the project in December of 1896. The shipment of eighteen headstones from the War Department arrived in Calistoga in June of 1897.⁵ It is unlikely that all of the stones were destined for Calistoga's cemetery, however. We didn't have that many veterans buried here at the time! Some may have been destined for St. Helena's cemetery. Captain Simmons was active in the G.A.R. posts in both communities, so he may have had all of the stones delivered to him at the depot in Calistoga as a matter of convenience.

³ *Independent Calistogian* newspaper, Friday, 21 May 1897, p. 3, col. 2:

"The improvement of the Grand Army burial plot in the cemetery is rapidly nearing completion. The plot, which is 24 feet square, has been neatly enclosed with a substantial wall or coping of concrete twelve inches in height and eight inches thick, with a base twelve inches in width and nine inches high, surmounted by a cable chain supported by iron posts or stanchions at intervals of eight feet, the whole constituting a neat, handsome and durable enclosure of the grounds. This work, which was let by contract to Comrade John P. Martin seems to have been skillfully and substantially performed and reflects credit upon the contractor as a competent workman in that line. It now only remains to properly grade the ground and adjacent streets to complete the work in readiness for the dedication services which are to be held on Memorial Day. All persons who are willing to donate work for that purpose are requested to meet at the cemetery on next Tuesday morning, armed with picks and shovels for labor on the earth works. Much credit is due to the ladies of the W.R.C. for the successful issue of this praiseworthy undertaking."

Comments: John P. Martin, P.P.C., who constructed the curb and chain fence, was Commander of Calistoga's Gov. Morton Post, No. 41, in 1896. Andrew B. Mangis succeeded him in 1897. Martin served as Post Surgeon in 1898 and 1898, and may have been in that office in 1897.

⁴ *Independent Calistogian* newspaper, Friday, 4 June 1897, p. 3, col. 3 [excerpt]:

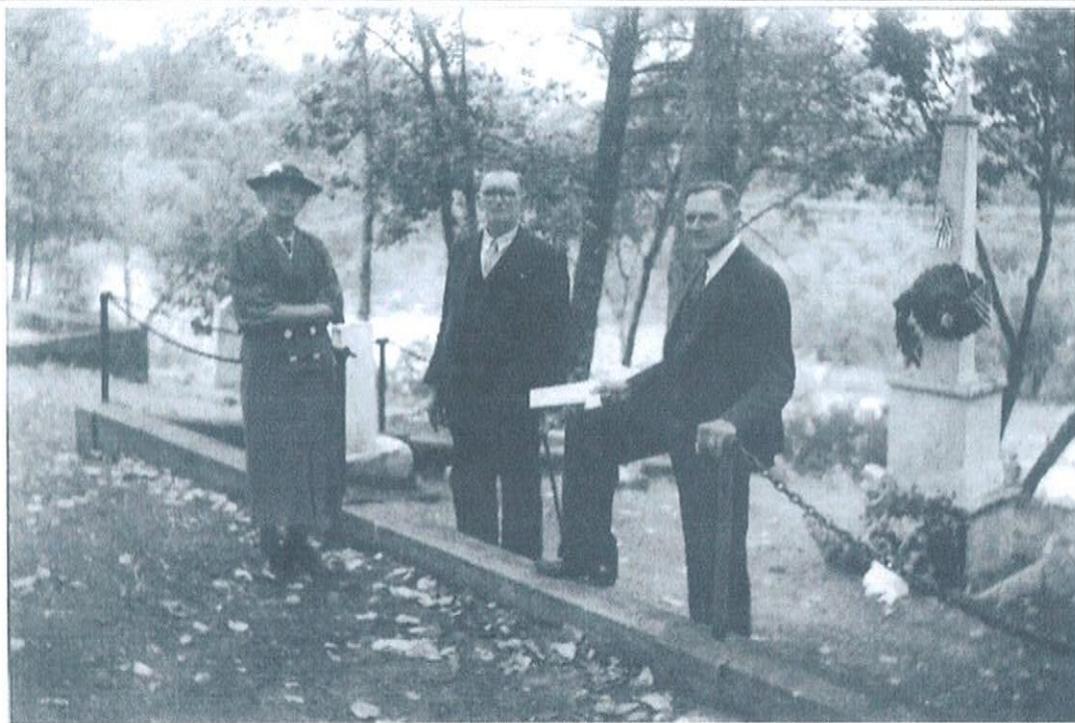
"The exercises at the cemetery were the bugle call, 'To the Color,' by F. L. Grauss; address, by Mrs. P. S. Eastman, in behalf as the Woman's Relief Corps, presenting Governor Morton Post G.A.R., the beautiful and substantial improvements to the burial plot recently completed by the corps..."

Comments: The President of Calistoga Gov. Morton Corps, No. 40, W.R.C., in 1897 was Aurelia Bennett. Emma J. Eastman (wife of Peter Sylvester Eastman, P.P.C.) made the presentation on behalf of the Corps. Andrew Bradley Mangis (Pvt., Co. D, 6th Ill. Cav.) was P.C. of Calistoga's Gov. Morton Post, No. 41, in 1897 and from 1912 to 1928.

⁵ *Independent Calistogian* newspaper, Friday, 4 June 1897, p. 3, col. 2 [excerpt]:

"On Wednesday some eighteen tomb stones arrived here from the war department to be erected upon the graves of the Union soldiers who are buried in the Calistoga cemetery. The stones are three feet high, ten inches wide and two inches thick. Each stone has carved upon it the name of the person for whom it is intended, the regiment and company in which he served and date of his death. These mementoes [sic] were obtained largely through the efforts of Captain Simmons who has been working on the matter since last December."

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Obelisk and G.A.R. plot as they appeared on 30 May 1936, at the ceremony deeding the cemetery to the City of Calistoga. Sharpsteen Museum photo.



Obelisk and G.A.R. plot as they appear on 17 August 2008, same camera angle. Note that the modern obelisk was erected a few feet uphill from the location in 1936. Dean Enderlin photo. The gray horizontal stone shown near the base of the memorial is a headstone to WW-II veteran Richard G. Carey.

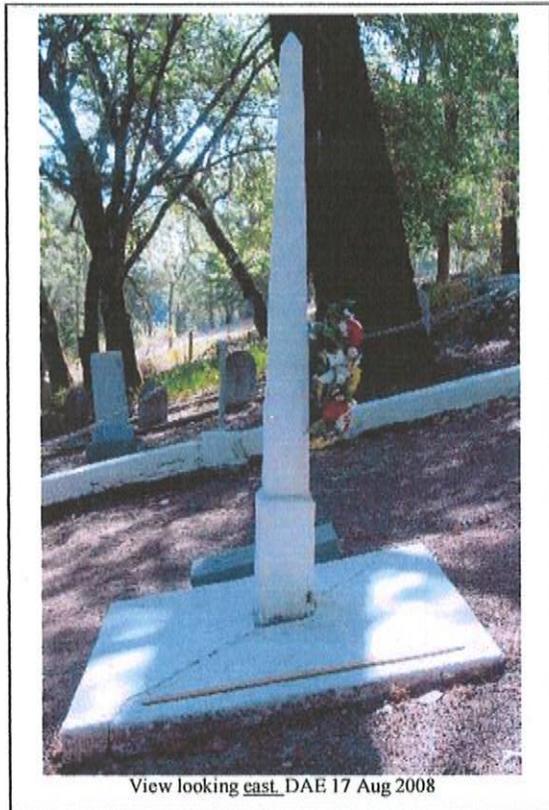
Submitted by: Dean A. Enderlin, Memorials Officer, Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp 23, Dept. of Calif. & Pacific, SUVCW

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Views of "Memorial to the Unknowns" obelisk, Calistoga Pioneer Cemetery G.A.R. plot.
(3 foot wooden yard stick placed on base for scale)



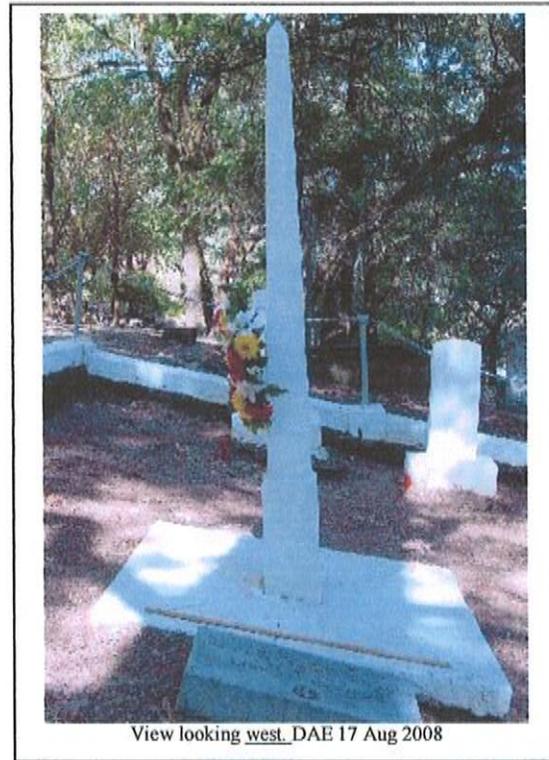
View looking north (downslope). DAE 17 Aug 2008



View looking east. DAE 17 Aug 2008



View looking south (upslope). DAE 17 Aug 2008



View looking west. DAE 17 Aug 2008

Submitted by: Dean A. Enderlin, Memorials Officer, Col. Elmer E. Ellsworth Camp 23, Dept. of Calif. & Pacific, SUVCW