

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Dept. of California & Pacific



Civil War Memorial Assessment Form
(Form CWM #61)

Used for periodic assessments of the condition of Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and Civil War memorials in the Department of California & Pacific, SUVCW (includes California, Nevada and Hawaii)

For more information please go to:
<http://www.suvcw.org/memorials.html>

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*
 Monument without Sculpture Historical Marker Plaque
 Other (flag pole, G.A.R. buildings, stained glass windows, etc.)

Affiliation

- G.A.R. (Post Name & No.) Sumner Post 3, Warren Post 54, Fair Oaks Post 120 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 _____

Original Dedication Date 18 September 1889 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 1000 Broadway
 City/Village Sacramento Township _____ County Sacramento
 State California . GPS Coords Lat (°) N38.56244 Long. (°) 121.49957

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 Sacramento
 Dept./Div. Old City Cemetery Committee
 Street Address 1000 Broadway City _____
 Sacramento State CA Zip Code 95818 Contact Person _____
 Telephone 916-448-0811

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

The memorial is in its original location. It has not been moved.

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.) Granite base with concrete foundation.

SUVCW -- CIVIL WAR

Material of the Sculpture = Stone Concrete Metal Undetermined
If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) White bronze statue, yellow bronze medallion.

If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" Statue is hollow. Medallion is solid cast.

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = Yellow bronze

Material of Cannon = Bronze Iron - Consult known Ordnance Listing to confirm

Markings on muzzle = (There are no cannons associated with this memorial)

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 _____ Width 6 ft. Depth 6 ft. or Diameter _____

Sculpture: Height 6 ft, 1,5 in. 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 _____

See attachment for descriptions of markings and inscriptions.

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.

See attachment for full contemporary description of monument.

Environmental Setting

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

Type of Location

- Cemetery
- "Town Square"
- Municipal Building
- Courthouse
- Traffic Circle

- Park
- Post Office
- State Capitol
- College Campus
- Library

- Plaza/Courtyard
- School
- Other: GAR Plot #1
- _____
- _____

General Vicinity

- Rural (low population, open land)
- Town

- Suburban (residential, near city)
- 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 Located in historically designated (not active) cemetery that is open to the public. Trees are nearby.

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)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any evidence of structural instability? (Look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any broken or missing parts? (Look for elements (i.e., sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? (Also look for signs of uneven stress & weakness in the material)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Surface Appearance (check as many as may apply)

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

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) .

Main goal is to determine if the monument should be re-painted or not. Local legend is that it was painted well after it was dedicated, so it is possible the original appearance was unpainted metal patina.

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 November 2013

Your Name Jon Henry

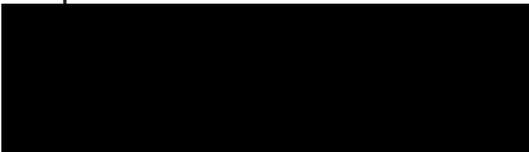
Address 150 Dawn River Way City Folsom

State CA Zip Code 95630 Telephone [REDACTED]

What Order or Organization is submitter a member of? Gen. Wright Camp 22, SUVCW

For memorials in California, Nevada or Hawaii, please send this completed form to:

Dean A. Enderlin, Civil War Memorials Officer
Department of California & Pacific, SUVCW



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War National Civil War Memorials Committee

Images of "Old Eli" statue, photographed by Dean Enderlin, 9 March 2014



Front View looking East



Right Side View looking South



Rear View looking West



Left Side View looking North



SW Side View looking Northeast



NW View looking Southeast



NE View looking Southwest



SE View looking Northwest



Statue Front View looking East



Statue Rear View looking West



Statue Left Side View looking North



Statue Right Side View looking South



Die Front View looking East



Die Right Side View looking North



Die Left Side View looking South



Base and Die Rear View looking West

MAP
OF
CITY CEMETERY

Sacramento, California

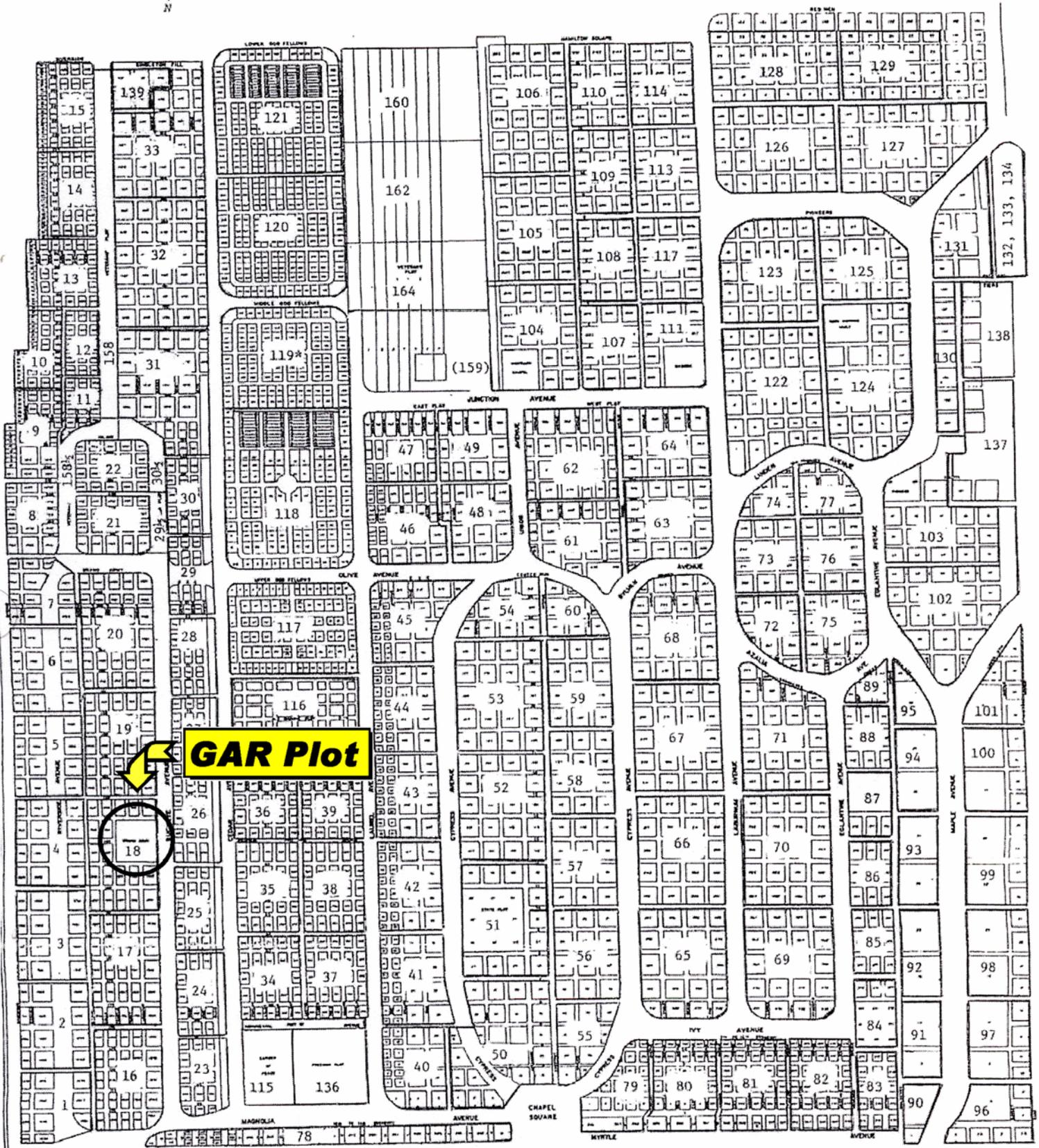
September 1902
Revised September 1973

PLOT BOOK A = Pages 1-82
PLOT BOOK B = Pages 83-164
*For more info top of page 119, consult
NEW HELVETIA REINTERMENTS book.

B-132, 3, & 4, Indigents.
B-135, 140-147, 149-157, see Odd Fellows
Cemetery (South Side Cemetery)



Development of Plot Book page map by Virginia Marsh and printing by Helen R. Smith.



THE STORY OF OLD ELI

By Jon Henry, CC

Gen. George Wright Camp 22

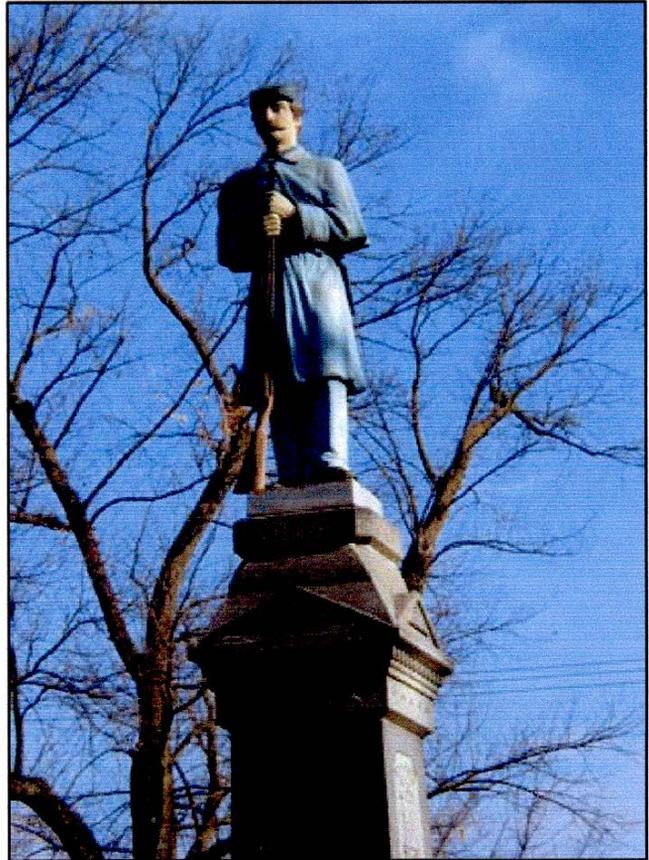
Located in the north-east section of Sacramento's historic Old City Cemetery is a plot of nearly 80 graves and a large monument dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic. The G.A.R. was a benevolent organization formed by Civil War veterans shortly after the end of the war. The G.A.R.'s mission was primarily to provide and advocate for financial support for veterans, children and widows of servicemen who fought for the Union in the Civil War. At the time, there was no federal program or equivalent of the modern Veterans Administration. The G.A.R. was particularly focused on ensuring proper burials and memorials for Union veterans.

In Sacramento, the G.A.R. was given a plot in the City Cemetery in 1887, where they re-interred the remains of veterans who were previously buried in two other cemeteries. The G.A.R. also erected a monument in this plot in 1889.

The monument is comprised of a concrete base supporting a granite plinth about 12 feet high, topped by a white bronze statue of a Union soldier that stands approximately 6 feet in height. The total height of the monument is about 20 feet. The front (west) face of the monument is inscribed with the words, "Erected to the memory of our soldier dead," with the letters "G. A. R." in relief on the bottom section of the plinth. On the north side of the plinth is a bronze plaque with a relief portrait of General Ulysses S. Grant that is inscribed, "Our General - U. S. Grant". The figure atop the monument—colloquially known as Old Eli—is posed in the Parade Rest position with his cloak draped over his right shoulder, his musket grasped loosely in both hands with the butt resting near his right foot.

HOW THE MONUMENT CAME TO BE

The Grand Army of the Republic plot was originally located in the New Helvetia Cemetery at the corner of 31st and J streets, in a plot donated to the G.A.R.



Summer Post No. 3 by the cemetery owner and proprietor, John Wesley Reeves. The plot was duly dedicated in 1865. Upon the death of Reeves in 1867, and the City's acquisition of the New Helvetia facility, a plot of more appreciable size was offered to the G.A.R. in the City Cemetery in exchange. The remains of Civil War veterans buried at New Helvetia were removed and re-interred here. The plot was subsequently walled with granite coping in anticipation of a suitable monument.

Several attempts were initiated to secure an appropriate monument for the plot, but lack of funding was a constant problem. One such effort was to obtain four cannons from the Mare Island Naval base and place them at the four corners of the plot. The local G.A.R. posts were all in hard financial straits at the time, and could not raise the necessary funds to transport the cannons to Sacramento. In 1886, the G.A.R. posts decided on the concept of a bronze memorial statue, and established the Grand Army Memorial Fund to support the cause. About \$1,000 was raised, but this was still only about half of what was needed.

Fortunately for the G.A.R., a parallel memorial fundraising effort was underway to create a separate monument for Gen. Ulysses S. Grant. This group had also raised about \$1,000 for their own monument. Negotiations between the groups reached an amicable compromise: the Grant funds were transferred to the G.A.R., and in exchange the G.A.R. agreed to include the bronze plaque honoring Gen. Grant on their monument's plinth.

THE DEDICATION CEREMONY

The monument was formally dedicated on September 9, 1889, in a ceremony conducted by three local chapters of the G.A.R. The ceremony was a grand affair, which was covered extensively by the newspapers of the day. Many State and local dignitaries were in attendance, along with representatives of several other fraternal orders allied with the G.A.R., such as the Ladies Relief Corps, The Sons of Union Veterans, and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the G.A.R.



Original report of the ceremony (click for full-sized image)

The Sacramento Daily Bee and the Sacramento Daily Union both published accounts of the dedication ceremony, which began with a 12 block-long parade to the cemetery, led by a platoon of police and a military escort. Also marching in the parade, following behind a long string of carriages carrying dignitaries, was the drum corps of the newly-organized Sons of Union Veterans.

At the cemetery, the ceremony began with a prayer by the G.A.R. chaplain, followed by a speech from Superior Court Judge W. C. Van Fleet, in which he officially turned over the cemetery plot to the G.A.R.

The next event in the ceremony was a ritual conducted by the veterans, where an honor guard was posted at the monument, while a sailor laid an anchor and a cutlass at the south base of the monument, and a soldier laid a knapsack, cartridge box and musket at the north base.

Following this ritual, Judge N. Greene Curtis delivered a stirring, hour-long oration that one account stated "no brief report can do justice to."

CURRENT STATE OF THE MONUMENT

Dedicated 125 years ago, Sacramento is fortunate to have "Old Eli" still standing as he was in 1889 at his original location. This is far from the usual case with similar monuments, and In fact, the physical condition of the monument is overall pretty good, but it is in need of some restoration and preservation work.

The entirety of the Old City Cemetery is now a preserved historical site, managed by the City of Sacramento. With many prominent historical burials, the cemetery is a popular location for school groups and tourists alike, and the G.A.R. monument still holds a prominent place among the points of interest in the cemetery. The G.A.R. plot is maintained by General George Wright Camp 22 of Sacramento and the monument has featured as the centerpiece for several of their recent memorial services and living history events.

Most notably, the SUVCW held an event celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the Gettysburg Address. The event was held on November 19, 2013, the exact day of the anniversary, and featured an authentic recreation of Lincoln's original speech with well-known Lincoln portrayer Wayne Scott in the leading role. Nearly 200 people showed up for this mid-week event, including about 50 school children and several media outlets.

Acknowledgements:

Many thanks to DEAN ENDERLIN, PCC and SEBASTIAN NELSON for their research and for providing the original news clippings and on which this article is based. Thanks to the Old City Cemetery Committee for supporting SUVCW's work on the monument and the G.A.R. plot. And finally, thanks to the Brothers of Camp 22 for their enthusiastic work in preserving and protecting this valuable piece of Civil War history.

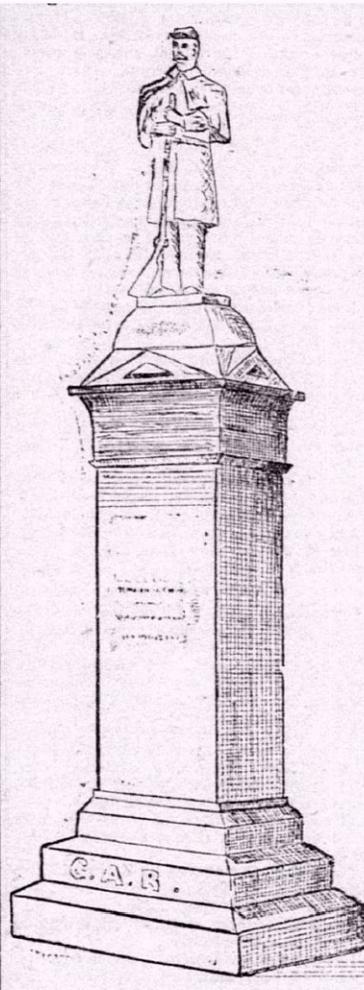
OUR SOLDIER DEAD.

AN ELEGANT TRIBUTE TO THE DEPARTED VETERANS.

Description of the Monument, Which the Local G. A. R. Posts Will Soon Unveil.

On the 9th day of next month, which will be the occasion of the thirty-ninth anniversary of California's admission into the Union as a State, the local Grand Army of the Republic posts will assemble at the headquarters, corner of Tenth and K streets, and, headed by the First Artillery Band, will march to the City Cemetery, where the ceremony of unveiling the new Grand Army Memorial Monument will take place. The ceremonies will consist of music, prayer and an oration by a prominent local speaker, yet to be chosen. A salute of muskets will be fired and the veteran soldiers will retire.

After several years of perseverance the members of the local Grand Army Posts at last succeeded in placing a fitting tribute over the graves of their dead comrades. Some time ago it was determined to secure four cannons from the Mare Island Navy Yard, which had seen service in the late war, these to be placed in the four corners of the G. A. R. plot in the cemetery. But the posts were then in poor financial condition, and could not get the pieces here, so the matter fell through. A monument was then thought of, and a fund was started for the purpose of eventually erecting one. This was three years ago. Since that time something over \$1,000 was accumulated. This was not enough. A similar amount to this was lying unused in the Grant Memorial Fund, and negotiations were made, and succeeded in having this sum transferred to the G. A. R. Monument Fund. This combined amount—\$2,500—was expended for the handsome monument, a cut of which is here given:



THE MONUMENT.

The monument will stand on a little mound on the east side of the G. A. R. plot. It is entirely of Folsom white granite, with the exception of the figure which surmounts it. This is of white bronze, and was sculptured in Chicago. The shaft and figure will reach a height of twenty feet from the ground. The figure is a handsome piece of work. It stands 6 feet 11 inches in height, and represents a Union private standing at "parade rest."

On the front side of the main shaft the inscription, "Erected to the memory of our soldier dead," will appear in bold relief, and below it, on the center base, the letters "G. A. R." On the north side of the shaft will be a life-size bust medallion of General Grant, beneath which will appear the inscription, "Our General—U. S. Grant." On the south side will be a two-foot Grand Army badge, cut into the stone.

The monument stands on a concrete base six feet square and six feet deep. The whole weighs over twelve tons.

This will be the first monument erected in memory of the Grand Army's dead on the Pacific coast, and Sacramento should be proud of it.

Sacramento Daily Union
25 August 1889
Pg. 3, Col. 5

(DAE 13 February 2014)

UNVEILED.

THE SHROUD TORN ASIDE AND A MEMORIAL EXPOSED TO VIEW.

The First Grand Army Monument
in California—A Description
of the Ceremonies.

The first monument dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic in California was unveiled in the City Cemetery yesterday afternoon with impressive ceremonies.

The members of the various local posts gathered at the Grand Army headquarters, corner of Tenth and K streets, and the procession started some time after 3 o'clock. It was headed by a platoon of police, behind whom came the First Artillery band, and a military escort under command of Captain T. B. Hall. Then came the officers of the day in carriages, accompanied by State, county and city officials and invited guests. The Sons of Veterans and their drum corps came next, and they were followed by a large contingent of the Society of Pioneers, in charge of P. S. Lawson, President of the Society. The local posts of the G. A. R. acted as an escort to the Pioneers. The ladies of Fair Oaks and Sumner Relief Corps, and the ladies of the G. A. R. concluded the line, occupying carriages.

Grand Marshal C. H. Hubbard handled the procession admirably, and was ably assisted by George W. Ficks. The line of march was directly out Tenth street to the cemetery.

Upon reaching the cemetery the dedicatory exercises were at once proceeded with, opening with a prayer by the chaplain, Rev. W. C. Merrill.

Superior Judge W. C. Van Fleet then turned the monument over to the old veterans on behalf of the citizens of Sacramento. He said:

The occasion which has caused us to assemble here to-day is one of mingled pleasure and sadness. Pleasure in contemplating our more immediate purpose, yet infinitely sad in the memories and reflections that are awakened.

From the earliest history of the world, among all races of people, even with the untutored savage, fidelity to country has ever been and ever shall be regarded as the highest and noblest attribute of man. Deeds of valor and of sacrifice in defense of the common country have ever been the surest pathway to a people's gratitude and a people's honor. It is to this attribute and such deeds that we are here to pay just tribute of respect and devotion.

It is not necessary that I should dwell upon those facts so pregnant with the immortal history of our country, which have resulted in making our present purpose appropriate, since memory speaks to us in a language far more eloquent than words. Memory that has been imperishably recorded in the blood of loved and honored ones and which finds a responsive echo at every hearthstone. It is sufficient for me to say that to those heroes, living and dead, who in their hour of her peril, leaving the pleasant fireside of peace and taking up the sword, consecrated their lives to the service of their country, we, as a nation, owe a debt of gratitude which it can never be ours wholly to repay. It is this sentiment actuating the great heart of this people that is to find appropriate expression here to-day. The citizens of Sacramento have caused to be erected this memorial statue, designed to commemorate those glorious events which have preserved our country to a great and happy future; and to keep green the memory of those whose heroic deeds have made that future possible. And to you, Commander and comrades of Sumner Post, as living representatives of that grand army whose memory we desire to honor and perpetuate, is most fittingly to be confided this sacred trust.

The pleasant duty has fallen to me, in behalf of the citizens of Sacramento, to invite you to accept at their hands this offering of their devotion, and to ask that you dedicate it to the noble purpose for which it has been designed. Accept this evidence of a people's tender memory and affection, not alone as a tribute to your comrades dead, but as an earnest of that patriotic sentiment of gratitude which has a place in the heart of every lover of the Union, toward all those who bared their breasts in the cause of human liberty and eternal right. I now surrender this memorial to your keeping.

J. W. Reeves, Senior Post Commander accepted the monument in the name of the Grand Army of the Republic in a few well-chosen words.

Then followed the ritual services by the veterans attending the dedication. A guard of honor was stationed at each corner of the monument and a sailor, representing the navy, solemnly placed an anchor and a cutlass at the south base of the monument, while a soldier, representing the infantry, laid a musket, cartridge-box and knapsack at the north base.

Judge N. Greene Curtis was then introduced, and spoke about an hour. His oration, which was frequently interrupted by bursts of applause, was a masterly effort, and perhaps one of the best of his life. The Judge, in referring to the occasion which had brought so many people together, said in substance: We have assembled for the purpose of dedicating a monument to the memory of our soldier dead. To-day we stand in the presence of the war-worn veterans who fought in that great conflict for the perpetuation of the American Union. We also stand in reverent manner, with bowed heads in another presence—the presence of the soldier dead, who have thrown off the habiliments of war, and have answered the last roll call. Above their sacred dust stands this granite pile which we now, on this beautiful day, beneath the blue canopy of heaven, unveil to their memory. No political discord disturbs our horizon. We are to-day, thank God, moving down the stream of time a prosperous and happy people united by indissoluble bonds. It has cost something to make this country what it is to-day. The struggle of our forefathers for independence was an undertaking such as only heroes could enlist in. Lexington, Concord, Bunker Hill and Yorktown were the stepping-stones to a new era which forever solved the great problem of self-government by the people and for the people. Our Constitution, which has been our guiding star through a hundred and thirteen years of our national existence, was framed by the greatest minds that the world ever produced. Under it we have been guided to the present hour, though during that period we have passed through an internal conflict which cost this nation her best blood and millions of treasure. Brother met brother on the field of battle. That grand old flag passed through all and not a single star dimmed. The cost was fearful to behold. Yet I believe that under the guidance of a Divine Providence we have come forth purged by the fires of a civil war, more closely cemented for the perpetuation of our beloved country for all time than ever before. Is this work of to-day an idle ceremony? We answer, No. That monument marks a chapter in the nation's history that never will be repeated.

Judge Curtis after paying a glowing tribute to the memory of General Grant for his magnanimous act at Appomattox to General Lee and his soldiers, closed an address which no brief report can do justice to.