

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

Type of Memorial (check all applicable)

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

Affiliation

GAR MOLLUS SUVCW WRC ASUVCW
 LGAR DUVCW Other

If known, record name and number of post, camp, corps, auxiliary, tent, circle or appropriate information of other groups:

Original Dedication Date October 5, 1912 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 Washington Park at Henry Johnson Boulevard entrance
 GPS Coordinates N 42° 39.403" W 73° 46.004"

City/Village &/or Township Albany
 County Albany State NY Zip Code _____

The front of the Memorial faces: North South East West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name City of Albany
 Dept./Div. Department of Recreation
 Street Address City Hall - 24 Eagle Street
 City Albany State NY Zip Code 12207
 Contact Person Commissioner Telephone (518) 434-5090 ext _____

Is Memorial on the National Register of Historic Places Yes No ID # if known Unknown

For Monuments with/without sculpture:

Physical Details

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

Material of the Sculpture Stone Concrete Metal Other Is it hollow or solid? unknown
 If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) pink Tennessee Marble, pink Stony Creek granite, bronze.

Environmental Setting

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

Type of Location

Cemetery Park Plaza/Courtyard "Town Square" Post Office
 School Municipal Building State Capitol Courthouse College Campus
 Traffic Circle Library Other: _____

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 _____

[To detail the condition of a monument used the addendum form for *Monument's Condition*]

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.

Addendums attached to this electronic file are the *Monument's Condition* and the *Narrative* forms. Only the *Monument's Condition* form is required if you are requesting grant money using form CWM-62 *SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form and Instructions*.

Thank you.

Inspector Identification _____ **Date of On-site Survey** April 7, 2016
Your Name James R. King
Address c/o Col. George L. Willard Camp No.154, P.O. Box 13681
City Albany **State** NY **Zip Code** 12212-3681
Telephone 

Are you a member of the Allied Orders of the G.A.R.? If so, which one?

Col. George L. Willard Camp No. 154 - NY Dept. - SUVCW

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 – CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM
ADDENDUM – MONUMENT’S CONDITION

Completion of this form is required when requesting grant money using form CWM-62 SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form and Instructions.

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.

Table with 2 columns: Sculpture, Base. Rows include: If hollow, is the internal support unstable/exposed?; Any evidence of structural instability?; Any broken or missing parts?; Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes?.

Surface Appearance (check as many as may apply)

Table with 2 columns: Sculpture, Base. Rows include: 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...

Crack in left side, north face of Tennessee Marble sculpture. Minor cracks and chips in 70' x 64' Stony Creek granite platform. Severe wear in small, bronze commemoration plaque due to people standing on plaque and wearing down raised letters.

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

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

Monument is generally in good condition. Most recent restoration in 2012.

Inspector’s Name James R. King

Date April 7, 2016

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM
ADDENDUM – NARRATIVE

[Generally used to record the text of monuments, but may be used for any other useful information, such as if the monument has been moved or if you have information about the day of dedication. May repeat use of page as often as necessary.]

The Memorial is *currently* located at:

Street/Road address or site location Washington Park at Henry Johnson Boulevard entrance

GPS Coordinates N 42' 39.403" W 73' 46.004"

City/Village and/or Township Albany

County Albany State NY Zip Code _____

TEXT

See attached narrative.

Inspector's Name James R. King

Date April 7, 2016

NARRATIVE: Soldiers and Sailors Monument – Washington Park, Albany, NY
Attachment to SUVCW Form 61 – April 7, 2016
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The City of Albany commissioned a monument in 1909 to honor its native sons who died in Civil War. The Washington Park site was selected because it was formerly used for military training and was the City's premier public park.

Architect: Lord and Hewlett

Sculptor: Hermon Atkins MacNeil (1866-1947)

Title: "The Nation of Peace Won through Victorious War" (given by sculptor)

Contractor: Albany Granite Company

Original Cost: \$100,000

Dedication Date: 5 Oct 1912

Originally dedicated by: Grand Army of the Republic (Camp or Dept. representation unknown)

Speakers at Original Dedication: NY Governor John A. Dix, Albany Mayor James B. McEwan and George B. McClellan, Jr.; former US Congressman, former New York City Mayor and son of Union General George B. McClellan.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The monument has four (4), major elements: 1) A 22' wide x 6' deep x 21' high, right-rectangular prism of Tennessee Marble with over sixty (60) life-sized figures carved on its four sides; 2) The prism of marble is surrounded by a seat of Stony Creek granite; 3) A 9' high bronze sculpture of an allegorical female figure dressed in long robes representing "the Nation". She is standing upright in front of a chair of Roman design and is cradling "palms of victory" in her arms; while clasping a sheathed, "Sword of War", in her right hand. The bronze figure stands on a pedestal of Tennessee Marble, with a bronze seal of the City of Albany below the figure; 4) the monument rests on a 70' x 64' platform of Stony Creek granite.

Each face of the marble prism has a theme. 1) North: To the right of the bronze figure are Soldiers marching to the fight. To the left are Sailors moving to action. A shield with 13 stars, representing the Nation, is carved directly behind the bronze; 2) South: An artillery battery is depicted on the move; 3) West: A wounded drummer boy, symbolizing Patriotism, is cradled by the right arm of a female figure, representing the Nation with a "sword of war" and "palms of victory" in her left hand; 4) East: Soldier returning home to his wife and child at wars end with the victorious Nation figure overseeing the joyful reunion.

On the right side of the bronze chair is a panel with two cherubs holding a helmet representing the Army. Below this panel is the signature of the sculptor. On the right side of the chair is a panel with two more cherubs holding a shield crested with an anchor representing the Navy. On the north face of the bronze base is a chain, representing the Navy. At each end of the chain is a horseshoe, representing the Cavalry. The names of the architect and contractor are inscribed in the marble just below the right side of the bronze.

A bronze, commemoration plaque is mounted on the granite seat on the south side of the monument. The plaque lists the members of the City's monument commission. Period light poles are located at each corner of the monument's plaza to provide lighting at night.

NARRATIVE: Soldiers and Sailors Monument – Washington Park, Albany, NY
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The following inscription is carved on the south marble face below the carved figures:

“IN COMMEMORATION
OF THE MEN OF ALBANY WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES TO SAVE THE UNION
AND IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF ALL WHOSE PATRIOTISM
AIDED IN GIVING TO THIS NATION UNDER GOD A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM
IN MAKING LOVE OF COUNTRY A NATIONAL VIRTUE
AND IN ENDOWING OUR LAND WITH THE BLESSINGS
OF PEACE AND PROSPERITY”

REDEDICATION – November 12, 1986

On the occasion of the City of Albany’s Tricentennial, the monument was rededicated after a \$200,000 restoration. The monument was renamed “Albany Veterans Memorial Monument”. The unveiling was performed by two, 85 year old women who participated in the original unveiling, as young girls. SUVCW- NY Dept. – Willard Camp 154 participated in the 1986 rededication.

100th ANNIVERSARY REDEDICATION – October 5, 2012

The monument was again rededicated after a \$12,000 restoration by the Washington Park Conservancy. SUVCW- NY Dept. – Willard Camp 154 participated in the 2012 rededication.

NATIONAL DATABASES CONTAINING DATA ON SUBJECT MONUMENT

1. Index of American Sculpture, University of Delaware, 1989.
2. National Park Service, American Monuments and Outdoor Sculpture Database #NY0288, 1989.
3. America Art Museum’s Inventories of American Painting and Sculpture database. Smithsonian American Art Museum. Control# IAS 76007056.

REFERENCES

1. New York Times, Page 11, October 6, 1912.
2. Albany Times Union, November 12, 1986.
3. Albany Guide Book, by John D. Whish, Section 162, J. B. Lyon Company, Printers, 1917.
4. Foundations of America.com.
5. Waymarking.com.
6. AllOverAlbany.com, October 30, 2012.
7. Smithsonian Institution Research Information System (SIRIS).
8. Wikipedia.org.
9. John S. Pipkin, Vice President - Washington Park Conservancy and Professor of Geography and Planning, University at Albany, State University of NY.









H. A. MacNeil sculptor 1912



HERMON A. MAC NEIL SCULPTOR
LORD & HEWLETT ARCHITECTS















SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MEMORIAL COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF ALBANY NEW YORK

CHARLES ... HENRY E. SNYDER ... JAMES ...

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS
WALLACE GREENLICH
COMMISSIONERS

- JOHN S. McEWAN
- GEORGE W. HOBBS
- OSCAR SMITH
- JOHN L. NEWMAN
- OSCAR D. JOHNSON
- JAMES H. MANNING
- PETER ...
- JOHN T. ...
- FRANKLIN M. DANAHY

• VETERAN CIVIL WAR DEDICATED OCTOBER NINETEEN ...



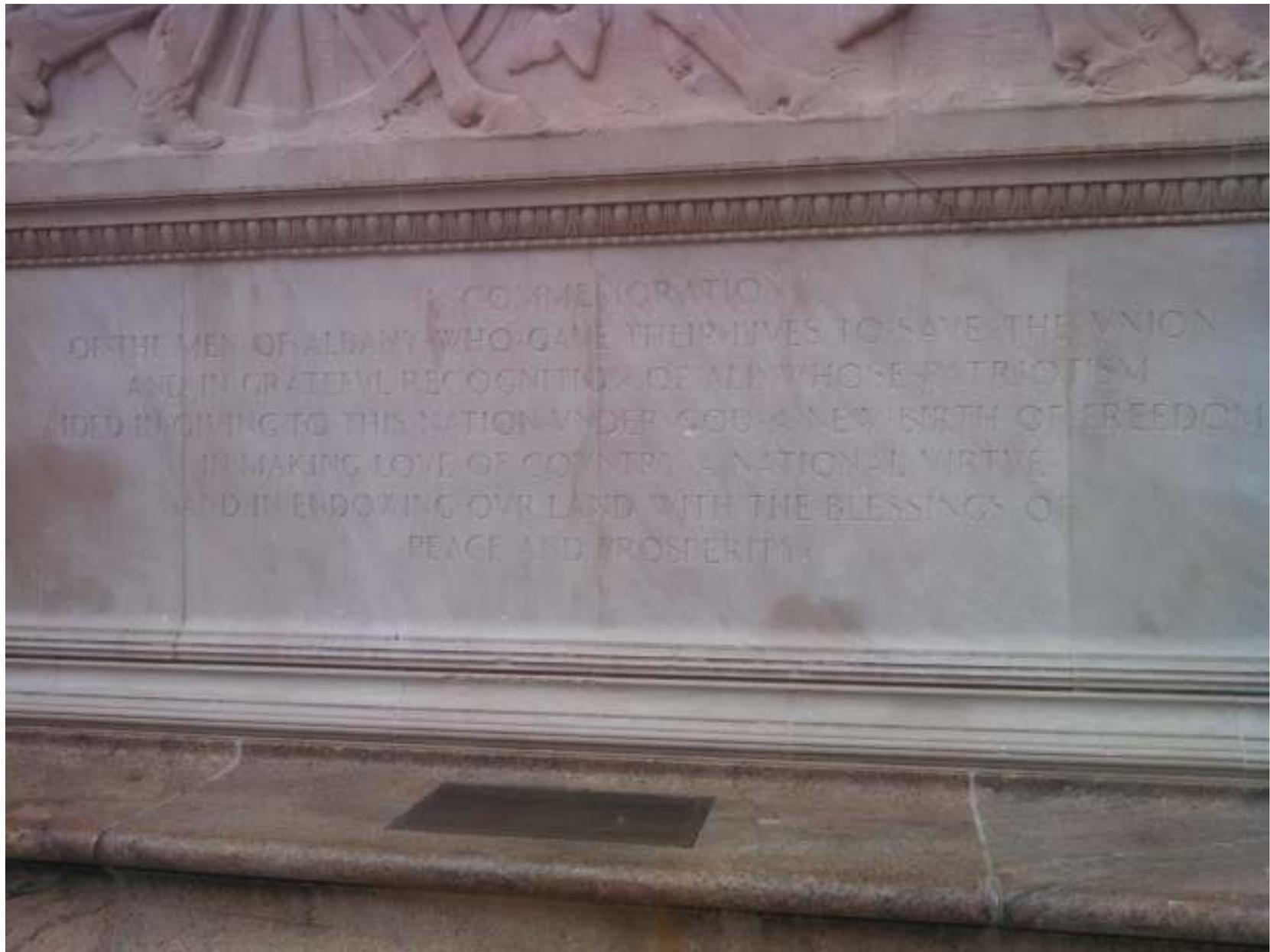
PARADING PROMENADING

This straight path, sometimes known as the "Vox Street Mall", is the only portion of Washington Park that follows the pattern of the surrounding urban grid. It marks the west side of what was known as Middle or Washington Square.

Historic photo credit: The Old Washington
Historic Foundation, 11000 N. 2nd Avenue
© Historic Washington Foundation, 2011

This precursor to the current park was created in 1894 and served, among other things, as a parade ground for military drills. As part of the larger Washington Park, the Mall was intended as a formal promenade—a place to "see and be

seen." On October 5, 1912, the large marble monument at the north end of the Mall was dedicated to the memory of Albany's Civil War Veterans, many of whom had once participated in drills in the old Washington Square.



COMMEMORATION
OF THE MEN OF ALBANY WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES TO SAVE THE UNION
AND IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION OF ALL WHOSE PATRIOTISM
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