

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. ELLIOTT Wyman #39 Dept. of Ohio GAR)  M.O.L.L.U.S.  
 W.R.C. (Corps Name & No. ELLIOTT Wyman # 303 DEPT. OF OHIO)  Other Allied Order  
 SUVCW (Camp Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_) (Please describe below)  
 DUVCW (Tent Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_)  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Original Dedication Date** Built 1856, USED AS GAR 1868-1964 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 + SIXTH STS.  
 City/Village GRENDA Township CLAY County OTTAWA

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 CLAY TWP. TRUSTEES Dept./Div. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address HOLTS EAST RD.  
 City GRENDA State OHIO Zip Code 43430  
 Contact Person MR. LEE YACKEE Telephone (419) 855-4296

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

1856 - 4th + MAIN - ONE RM. SCHOOLHOUSE  
1868 - MOVED TO SIXTH ST. TO LAND OWNED BY LEANDER GREGG VETERAN 100 TH. OVI.  
1909 - MOVED TO WASHINGTON ON LAND OWNED BY FRANK WYMAN AND LEANDER GREGG.

**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.) NA

Material of the Sculpture = \_\_\_ Stone \_\_\_ Concrete \_\_\_ Metal  <sup>WOOD</sup> Undetermined  
If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" \_\_\_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_ or Diameter \_\_\_\_\_  
*Building* Sculpture: Height 172 story Width 25' Depth 35' 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 NA

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

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

NA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Environmental Setting**

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

**Type of Location**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park        | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Town Square"                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post Office | <input type="checkbox"/> School          |
| <input checked="" 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                | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Firestation        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Police Dept |  |

X Town Hall  
AS THESE BUILDINGS ARE OUT THE FRONT DOOR.

**General Vicinity**

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

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

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

SETTING ON LAND ~~BE~~ USED BY THE FIREMAN AS A PARK THE BUILDING GIVES YOU A FEELING OF A BYGONE ERA.

**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? <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)**

	Sculpture	Base
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...	___	___

Building is in good shape for being almost 150 yrs old. NEEDS TLC and some new parts.

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).

The building HAS A 2 hole privy on backside. The WRC  
USED THE BUILDING UNTIL 1964 when they disbanded.  
There IS A WALL MOUNTED GUN RACK FOR 23 Springfield  
muskets.  
LAST VETERAN DIED IN 1933 in Genoa, Ohio.

**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 June 6, 2005  
 Your Name JEFF EVERSMAN  
 Address 1446 EASTLAND DR. City OREGON  
 State OHIO Zip Code 43016 Telephone [REDACTED]

Please send this completed form to:

Todd A. Shillington, PDC



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

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

## Elliott Wyman Post GAR #39

The General James B. McPherson Camp #66 was informed in the fall of 2003 that a potential GAR meeting place was still standing in Genoa, Ohio. At first it didn't seem possible that after all these years a GAR hall like this could be some 10 miles down the road from Toledo.

We started asking more questions and people from Genoa tried to get us some answers. What building is it? What street was it on? Or was the hall upstairs in some Main Street business block?

Soon the answers came back, the hall, almost imaginary in peoples minds, was located in a building that had been built as a one room schoolhouse and is on the corner of Washington and Sixth Streets. It was more commonly referred to as the WRC hall.

The camp brothers arrived one night before a monthly meeting, which was held in Genoa, to see this potential Grand Army hall. With flashlights in hand we crossed the threshold of time into a building that hadn't seen people interested in the Civil War since 1964 when the local WRC chapter folded. We found dirt, dust, town Christmas decorations, old metal beds from WW II, and a wall mounted gun rack for 24 Springfield muskets.

Was it really a Grand Army hall? Some brothers said they had doubts, others were cautiously optimistic, still we had to have proof before announcing this to our brothers across the nation. It was at this point our camp experienced some real growth pains as to whether to proceed with this project. Somehow a vision of what was and what could be came over us and we voted to restore.

During the spring and summer of 2004 we looked for proof. This is what we have discovered with the help of Phil Wyman, a great grandson of Frank Wyman, a post member. He came from California bearing copies of Civil War letters written to relatives in Genoa during the war.

Genoa, in Ottawa County, Ohio, was settled around 1840 and was known as Stony Ridge Station. The surrounding land was very flat with black swamp forest abounding. Many streams ran through the area so it was decided to change the name to Venice and in the confusion of recording the name Genoa was written down and it stuck. The under layment of the land is rich with limestone deposits and quarrying has been underway since 1855.

Only a couple hundred people lived in and around Clay Township where Genoa came to be in 1868. One can't emphasize enough the denseness of the Black Swamp forest and those mosquitoes with that dreaded fever called Ague.

One family, the Wyman's, came to Genoa in 1855. The parents Albert and Miranda had two sons, Frank and Charles Elliott and three daughters. The father Albert and son Frank opened the first lime kiln the year they arrived.

According to the Wyman letters, the news of the outbreak of war was brought to the Wyman brothers the morning of April 12, 1861, as they were building a log barn. They saw an excited friend coming across country. He told them that Fort Sumter had been fired upon.

The brothers discussed who would go, knowing full well their farm wasn't cleared and they didn't want to leave their parents alone. They decided to quickly clear up their land and raised the debt on the farm. Brother Frank was the first to join the war by enlisting in



Co. A 14<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteers in the fall of 1861. His brother C. Elliott later enlisted in the 100<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteers in 1862.

Both brothers endured the hardships and privations of the war and being away from the family. One chance meeting changed the course of their war experiences for the Wyman family.

On the approach to Atlanta in the summer of 1864 at what would be called Utoy Creek, Frank wrote later to his sister Etta that:

We were camping when I found that the One Hundredth Ohio was near us, my brother's regiment. I had not seen him for nearly three years, and he came into camp soon after I heard of his regiment being near, having had permission to stay and visit with me.

There was near our camp a spring down in some willows in a slight hollow, and I took my coffee can and we went down there where we made our cup of coffee. The bullets were flying around now and then, nothing very serious just some sharp shooting going on. I remember how well and how handsome he looked. He had just gotten back from recruiting, and had a new tailor-made uniform on. He was orderly sergeant and in line for promotion to first lieutenant. We talked together as we sat drinking our coffee by the spring, and I told him of having heard he had taken desperate chances storming breastworks and such. I talked seriously with him about it, and he promised me to be more careful, but insisted that the only way to win the war was to rush ahead. He said "I do not like this war fraud, I am not a soldier from choice, but because I must fight for my country. But if every man would follow me, we could take Atlanta in twenty minutes." He talked on and then we parted both heavy hearted.

We had made our camp, and with our usual care had built our cabin for we learned that such care meant health to us. I was in my cabin asleep, and in my sleep I dreamed I saw the One Hundredth Ohio storm a breastwork. I saw my brother ahead, alone, and I saw him fell between the lines. I awoke hearing the distant roar of the battle and the crack crack of the musketry. It came to me it was the One Hundredth Ohio, and it was in trouble. I got up and went out into the air. I saw the colonel (Frank Rundell) coming toward me, tears streaming down his face. He was my brother's dearest friend. He put his arms around me and said "Elliott is missing in between the lines and we know he must be dead for he would never be taken a prisoner." The next day they found him with seven bullets in his body. His colonel had led his men up the breastworks, perhaps for another star on his shoulder --- well, no one knows why. Elliott was at the head, and the volley hit him alone ahead of his men. I did not see him. I would not. I wanted to keep forever that blessed memory of the morning we drank our coffee under the willows and visited together.

Frank returned to Genoa after the war. He resumed quarrying the limestone and opened a mercantile store with his brother in law Leander Gregg (100<sup>th</sup> OVI). Both men knew the other veterans, many being childhood friends. They and their war comrades organized the Elliott Wyman Post sometime after 1867.

The new post was meeting in the schoolhouse like many other religious and civic organizations there being a lack of substantial buildings in Genoa at the time.

The school board minutes of late 1867-8 read that all organizations must be evicted from and prevented from meeting in schoolhouse property. The only exceptions were funerals and school functions. Luckily for the post three buildings were to be replaced and sold to whom ever would buy them.

We now find the schoolhouse being moved down what would become Main Street to land owned and adjacent to the home of Leander Gregg (100<sup>th</sup> OVI) on Sixth Street. There the Wyman Post #39 sat until 1908. With the passing of Leander Gregg and development of Main Street the building was again raised and moved to the end of the street now sitting on the edge of the quarries owned by Wyman and Gregg on Washington Street.

In 1883 the town built a large brick town hall complete with cupola and upstairs opera house. This building was right out the front door of the hall and is to this day. It provided the veterans with a beautiful meeting room for large gatherings in the opera house. Civil War plays were performed including Uncle Toms Cabin.

The post hosted reunions in Genoa for the 14<sup>th</sup> OVI, 100<sup>th</sup> OVI and 67<sup>th</sup> OVI during the summer months of what was the autumn of the veteran's lives. In May of 1882 the post loaded into wagons and went up the Woodville plank road to Willow Cemetery in Oregon, Ohio, attending the grand dedication of the new pedestal and statue raised by the Hyatt Ford GAR Post #14. It was an occasion veterans from all over N. W. Ohio came numbering several thousand people.

The Elliott Wyman #303 Women's Relief Corp. organized in <sup>1896</sup>~~1883~~ at Genoa. They shared the hall meeting there every other Tuesday while the veterans met the second Saturday. But with the passing of time, each year brought fewer members to the post and death removed those on the roster. In 1919 the WRC made up 168 fresh wreaths to be placed on veterans graves.

Today in Genoa only the 80-90 year old townspeople remember the hall. They speak of the pictures draped with black crepe, the flags standing about, the chairs lined against the outside walls. Phil Wyman has two chairs in California, a gift from the post to his great grandfather during a visit to Genoa. The other artifacts have vanished almost like the memory of the post itself.

In the 1980's the brick town hall was restored with a one million dollar grant. It was going the same direction as the GAR hall until Mrs. Eldo Bergman lead the charge getting the town hall, Main Street buildings, and the GAR hall placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The McPherson camp is now engaged in fundraising for their building to be restored. The costs are estimated at \$~~25~~<sup>40</sup>,000.00. This will turn the lights back on Washington Street at the Elliot Wyman Post and allow the people of Ohio to see another rare glimpse of a restored GAR hall.

If you would like to help us financially please send checks made out to "Preserve Our Post" c/o Mrs. Ellen Bergman, 217 E. 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Genoa, Ohio, 43430. If you have expertise in restorations or knowledge of furnishing a GAR hall email Jeff Eversman at [Miniball@AOL.com](mailto:Miniball@AOL.com) or phone at 419-698-2096.

The McPherson camp meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the brick town hall at Genoa. We walk the floors the veterans did while the vision of our hall out back lives within us.

Jeff Eversman, Commander



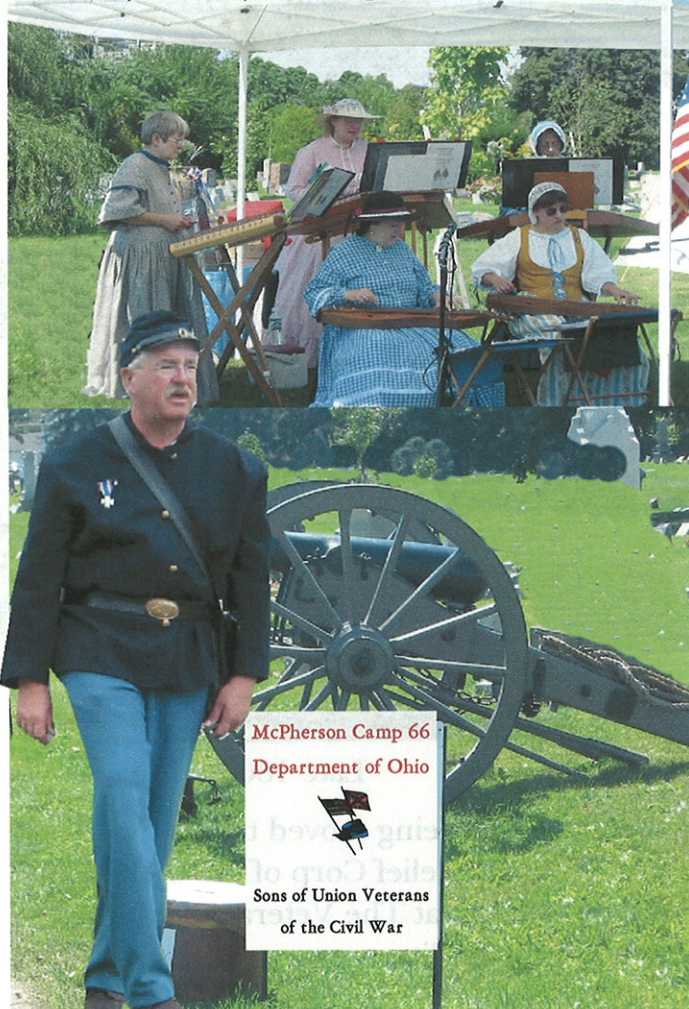
## LEST WE FORGET

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War help us to remember "The Boys in Blue" by conducting memorial services and living history re-enactments.



## Please Help Us Preserve Our Post

Make checks (tax deductible) payable to "Preserve our Post" and send them to the Genoa Banking Company, 801 Main Street, Genoa, Ohio 43430, 419.855.8381  
*P.O. Box 66*  
Thank-you for your help.



McPherson Camp 66  
Department of Ohio



Sons of Union Veterans  
of the Civil War



# Elliott Wyman

## GAR Post #39

## CIVIL WAR



### "PRESERVE OUR POST"

WASHINGTON STREET  
GENOA, OHIO 43430





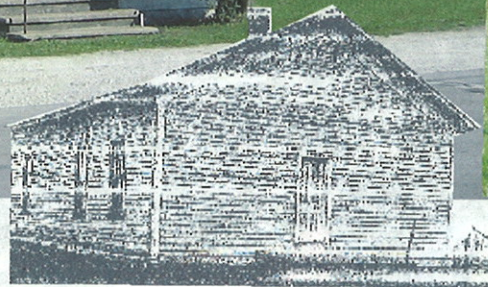
## THE GOAL

The goal is to restore this building to its original structure and provide a home for the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.



## THE BUILDING

This building has seen a lot of history. Its beginnings go back to 1856 as the 1st school house in Genoa. After being moved twice, and serving as a Grand Army of the Republic hall, Women's Relief Corp of the GAR, and for social functions, it now sits on Washington Street at The Veterans Park in Genoa, Ohio, and is currently being used as a storage facility.



Late 1800's

## MISSION STATEMENT:

To preserve and restore the Elliott Wyman Post #39 building, to become a functional asset within the community.









