

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. Colonel Bryner Post 67) M.O.L.L.U.S.
 W.R.C. (Corps Name & No. Colonel John Bryner #12) Other Allied Order
 SUVCW (Camp Name & No. Colonel William Thrush Camp 25) (Please describe below)
 DUVCW (Tent Name & No. Aunt Lizzie Aiken Tent 28)
 Other: George A Wilson Circle 49--Ladies of the G.A.R.

Original Dedication Date May 30, 1870 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 Soldiers' Hill @ Springdale Cemetery, 3014 N. Prospect Rd.
 City/Village Peoria Township Richwoods County Peoria

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 Springdale Cemetery Dept./Div. _____
 Street Address 3014 N. Prospect Rd.
 City Peoria State IL Zip Code 61603
 Contact Person Pat Lewis Telephone (309) 681-1400

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

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.) Marble
If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" _____

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = stone

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? no If so, describe _____

Approximate Dimensions (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points
Monument or Base: Height 10ft Width 5ft Depth 5ft or Diameter _____
Sculpture: Height 6ft 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 From newspaper: designed by Mr. Robert Campbell. Sculpted by Mr. J. Jewel. NOTE: no markings found on monument.

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.
Inscribed on pedestal sides: "Liberty", "Equality", "Justice", "Propatria". Inscribed on base: "Ladies Auxiliary of the G.A.R."

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.

	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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Etched, pitted, or otherwise corroded (on metal)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metallic staining (run-off from copper, iron, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organic growth (moss, algae, lichen or vines)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chalky or powdery stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Granular eroding of stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe...		
Statue toppled and destroyed in April 1977—see accompanying documentation		

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

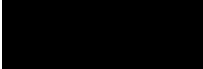
Briefly describe the Memorial (affiliation / overall condition & any concern not already touched on) .

The monument was of a soldier at parade rest standing on top of a pedestal of stacked marble blocks of graduated sizes. It was placed by an organization of women formerly called the Women's Nataional League who changed their name to the Soldiers' Monument Society. The statue stood from May 30, 1870 until April 1977 when it was toppled by vandals. All that remained was the boots. The pedestal stood empty until the late 1980's when an organization of volunteers stepped forward and purchased a cement eagle to be placed on top. Please see accompanying documentation for more details and photos.

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 October 2006
Your Name Joseph M. Hutchinson
Address 117 Highview Terrace City East Peoria
State IL Zip Code 61611 Telephone 

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

Help Put The Soldier Back On Soldiers' Hill



Soldiers' Hill, or the Mound as it is sometimes called, is one of the most recognized landmarks within Peoria's Springdale Cemetery. As the Civil War raged and men fell in battle, or died as a result of injury or disease, many were returned home to Peoria for burial. An article in the *Transcript* of March 15 1862, pondered the question of burial space for the honored dead. A suggestion was made that a large lot be purchased for those who lost their lives in the war without having a

suitable burial place provided. The Directors of Springdale Cemetery immediately donated one of the best locations within the cemetery grounds, Lot 274, with the condition that some person or organization be responsible for keeping it in good order and repair.

The Women's National League rose to the occasion. In fact, the ladies literally built up the hill into its familiar mound configuration by hauling dirt by any means possible, in a day when the fashion demanded that women wear full-length dresses! The group also arranged for burial markers to be placed on each of the graves. Now the task of the erection of a suitable monument to the soldiers was left to be addressed.

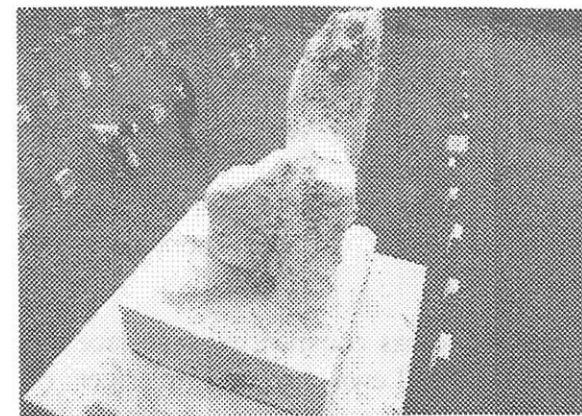
On July 5, 1866, the League voted to change its name to the Soldiers' Monument Society and donated the balance of its treasury (\$82.19) as seed money toward the monument. After several years the dream was realized.

The limestone base is five feet square and a foot and a half high. Above the base is a marble piece, four feet square and one foot three inches high. Upon this is a die, which is a three-foot cube. On the sides of this die are inscribed the words, "Liberty," "Equality," "Justice," and "Pro Patria." A second die is two feet square and three feet high and on top of the second die is a cap that measures two feet and ten inches square and one foot and four inches high. The cap is surmounted by a figure of a soldier standing at "parade rest." The Union soldier stands six feet, six inches in height and wears a standard issue frock coat and forage cap.

The monument was dedicated on Decoration Day, May 30, 1870. It was designed by Mr. Robert Campbell. The statue was sculpted by J. J. Jewell. The original cost was \$2,500.

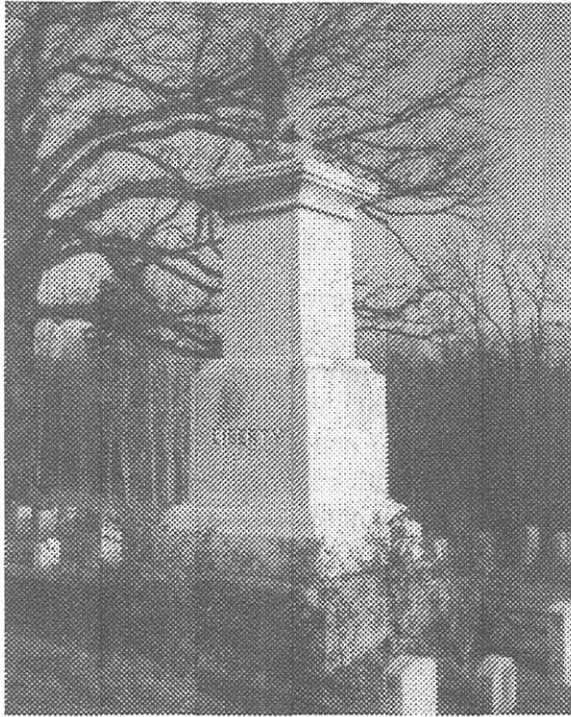
A crowd 600 strong attended the dedicatory services. Little girls dressed in white placed flowers and wreaths on the graves. Miss Annie Curtenius unveiled the monument, which had been draped by flags, and patriotic songs were sung.

For almost 107 years, the marble soldier stood atop the monument, guarding the final resting places of more than 200 who fought during the Civil War. But sometime between March 7 and the first week of April 1977, the weathered soldier ended his watch. The symbolic figure lay in ruins around the base of the monument. Upon examination, it appeared that ropes had been used to topple the statue. All that remained atop were the crumbling boots of a once proud sentinel.



Nearly thirty years have passed. Although an eagle has replaced the Union soldier, and the cemetery is now being well maintained, and the cannons (three originals placed in

1874 and one reproduction) are back on their mounts, one cannot help but feel that something important is still missing from the hill.

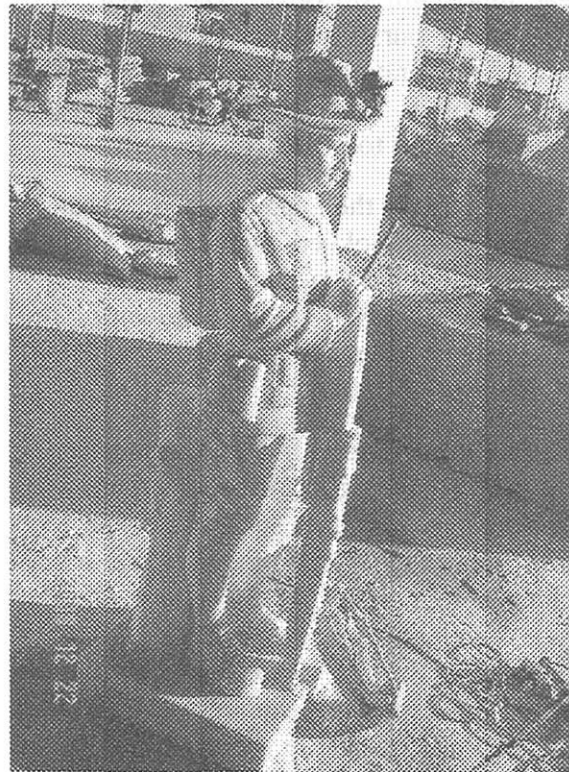


This past October, that feeling was inescapable as the Prairie Folklore Theatre took us back in time to reminisce about the effects of the Civil War on the lives of Peorians. Brian "Fox" Ellis stated, "Wouldn't it be grand to start a campaign to return a soldier to the monument on Soldiers' Hill."

A fund drive has commenced to replace the statue. Pat Lewis, general manager of Springdale Cemetery, has secured the services of a monument conservator who will volunteer to evaluate what repairs, if any, are needed for the base. Cemetery staff,

trained in restoration, will carry out the necessary restoration.

The replacement statue is to be acquired by Abel Vault and Monument Company, a family owned business serving the Peoria area since 1933. Abel Vault has graciously volunteered to supply the statue at cost. Abel Vault and Monument has been able to contract the manufacture of the sculpture through a company in Georgia, named The Granite Source that specializes in custom stone carving.



Example of Australian soldier from The Granite Source

A total of \$10,000 is being raised for the complete project. The cost of the statue itself is estimated at \$6235.00. Additional site work such as shipping and erecting are

estimated at \$2000.00. The rest will be used to cover landscaping and unforeseen cost increases and other contingencies.

The statue is to be ordered in spring of 2007 with delivery in approximately six months. Rededication of the Soldiers' Hill monument is to take place on Memorial Day 2008.

An anonymous private donation of \$2500 secured by cemetery manager Pat Lewis is to be used as seed money. The Soldier Hill Volunteer Association will vote on matching the donation at their spring meeting. Local restaurant owner, Bruce Brown is holding a benefit dinner at his restaurant, Papparazzi on February 11, 2007 and hopes to raise the remaining funds needed to place the order.

Additional groups included in the fundraising efforts are the Colonel John Bryner Camp 67 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, the Peoria Historical Society, and the Peoria Genealogical Society.

Please join in the campaign to return the soldier to Soldiers' Hill.

Donations may be made payable to:

Colonel John Bryner Camp 67
C/O Lionel Kinney, Treasurer
3217 N. Peoria Ave.
Peoria, IL 61603

For additional information contact:

Joe Hutchinson, Senior Vice-Commander
117 Highview Terrace
East Peoria, IL 61611