

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 [x] standalone Cannon
\_\_\_ Historical Marker \_\_\_ Plaque \_\_\_ Other ( flag pole, G.A.R. buildings, stained glass windows, etc.)

Affiliation

\_\_\_ GAR \_\_\_ MOLLUS \_\_\_ SUVCW \_\_\_ WRC \_\_\_ ASUVCW
\_\_\_ LGAR \_\_\_ DUVCW [x] Other

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

City of White Hall

Original Dedication Date Unknown 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 Whiteside City Park
Corner of South Main St & Ayres St GPS Coordinates N39°26'09.641" W90°24'12.641"

City/Village &/or Township White Hall

County Greene State IL Zip Code 62092

The front of the Memorial faces: \_\_\_ North \_\_\_ South \_\_\_ East \_\_\_ West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name City of White Hall

Dept./Div.

Street Address 116 E Sherman St

City White Hall State Illinois Zip Code 62092

Contact Person Telephone ( 217 ) 374-2345 ext

Is Memorial on the National Register of Historic Places \_\_\_ Yes [x] No ID # if known

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.)

Material of the Sculpture \_\_\_ Stone \_\_\_ Concrete \_\_\_ Metal \_\_\_ Other Is it hollow or solid?

If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.)

**For Historic Marker or Plaque:**

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = \_\_\_\_\_

**For Cannons with/without monument:**

Material of Cannon = \_\_\_\_\_ Bronze  Iron Type of Cannon (if known) Woodruff Cannon

Rifled \_\_\_\_\_ YES  NO

Markings: Muzzle None Base Ring/Breech US

Left Trunion None Right Trunion None

Is inert ammunition a part of the Memorial? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes  No

[For camp/department monuments officer's use: Cannon on list of known ordnance] \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**For Other Memorials:** (flag pole, G.A.R. buildings, stained glass windows, etc.)

What best describes the memorial Cannon on not original metal carriage

Materials of the Memorial iron and other metal

**Complete for All Memorials**

**Approximate Dimensions** (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points

4 feet Height 5 ft Width 5 ft Depth or \_\_\_\_\_ Diameter

For Memorials with multiple Sculptures, please record this information on a separate sheet of paper for each statue (service, pose, etc) 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 James Woodruff, carriage maker ,Quincy , IL

Please attach legible photographs of all text &/or Record the text in the space below. Please use the addendum – narrative sheet if necessary.

Has "US" Stamped on it.

**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.

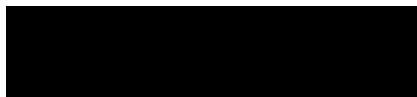
Inspector Identification \_\_\_\_\_ Date of On-site Survey 08/14/2016  
Your Name Walter Busch  
Address 1240 Konert Valley Dr  
City Fenton State MO Zip Code 63026  
Telephone 

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

Sons of Union Veterans

Please send this completed form to:

Walt Busch, PDC, Chair  
1240 Konert Valley Dr.



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.

	<b>Sculpture</b>	<b>Base</b>
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)

	<b>Sculpture</b>	<b>Base</b>
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...	_____	_____

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) .

Pitting and other issues related to the elements present. Should be removed and placed indoors or at least under canopy. For such a rare cannon, it is a shame that it is treated this way.


Inspector’s Name Walt Busch Date 08/14/2016

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 Whiteside City Park

Corner of South Main St & Ayres St GPS Coordinates N39°26'09.641" W90°24'12.641" 

City/Village and/or Township White Hall

County Greene State IL Zip Code 62092

TEXT

In addition to the one in White Hall, there are two in private hands (Missouri and Georgia), while two other Woodruffs are held in a museum at the United States Military Academy. There is also a Woodruff in Fort Madison, Iowa, while another is at Golden Hill State Park on Lake Ontario in western New York.

See attached story

Inspector's Name Walter Busch

Date 08/14/2016

































Posted on January 25, 2016 by Jacksonville Journal Courier

White Hall hosts oddity of Civil War history

By Tom Emery - For the Journal-Courier

WHITE HALL — Standing guard in downtown White Hall is a Civil War cannon, a fixture in the community for decades. Though the gun has obvious historic and aesthetic value today, it was a sort of an oddity when it was produced in the 1860s.

The piece is a Woodruff gun, the creation of James Woodruff, a carriage maker from Quincy who devised a plan for a small artillery piece for cavalry and infantry that could be built in that city. Born in 1821 in Connecticut, Woodruff converted his business interests to the production of knapsacks, haversacks and ambulances for military issue early in the Civil War.

Woodruff was appointed assistant provost marshal for the Quincy Congressional District in 1862, and later promoted to provost marshal. But he was purely an interested citizen – and capitalist – when he proposed production of a “light cannon, known in the west as a “Woodruff gun” to the Army Ordnance Department on Oct. 6, 1861. The Army denied the proposal.

Undaunted, Woodruff called upon his friendship with Illinois Gov. Richard Yates, and used some shrewd tactics, pointing to small arms in St. Louis and Connecticut and urging that a “flying artillery” unit be stocked both with the small arms and Woodruff guns. Yates recommended an audience with Abraham Lincoln, and Woodruff traveled to the capital, only to be denied again by commanding general Winfield Scott.

The persistent Woodruff went back to the White House and secured a note from Lincoln to the Ordnance Department, which, this time, was more receptive. With help from Yates and Sen. Orville Browning of Quincy, Woodruff managed to pressure both Lincoln and the ordnance command and received an order for 30 Woodruff guns at \$285 each. The city of Quincy, where the guns were manufactured, bought six Woodruffs of its own for local defense.

All of these guns were smooth-bore, though recent research indicates that a rifled version may have also been produced later. Historians believe the design of the Woodruffs made it hard to find compatible ammunition and that the range of the gun was limited in comparison to artillery of similar size. Others assert that the Woodruff was obsolete almost from the start.

Actual use of the Woodruffs was fairly limited and received mixed reviews. Some were used by the 4th Iowa Cavalry, whose regimental history degraded the Woodruffs as “no value, and were generally voted a nuisance. They were never known to hit anything, and never served any useful purpose, except in promoting the cheerfulness of the regiment.” The 4th subsequently used the Woodruffs for a more morbid purpose – as a cart for hauling dead bodies.

Other Woodruffs were used by the 10th Illinois Cavalry, which also found them lacking. During a skirmish at Clark’s Mills, Mo. in November 1862, a company of the regiment was captured, and part of the reason was allegedly inferior artillery. Eager to be rid of the Woodruffs, the 10th finally traded them to another unit.

At least four of the swapped Woodruffs became part of a battery at Pilot Knob, Missouri, 65 miles west of Cape Girardeau. There, the new owners were somewhat more impressed. One sergeant of the 3rd Missouri State Militia proclaimed that “nearly every man, commissioned officers and privates, could have hit a target the size of a man’s body every shot at a quarter of a mile with those Woodruff guns.”

There is no record of those Woodruffs being used during the ensuing battle of Pilot Knob on Sept. 26-27, 1864, and they fell into Confederate hands.

Some Woodruffs were also used by a detachment of Battery K of the 1st Illinois Light Artillery on the storied raid of Jacksonville Brig. Gen. Benjamin Grierson through Mississippi in the spring of 1863.

One writer says that in one engagement on the raid, the Confederates “may have underestimated the frightening effects of the two-pounder cannon.”

But the same writer adds that “had the Second Alabama Cavalry moved their three guns into position,” the “predicament” of one of Grierson’s regiments, the 2nd Iowa Cavalry, “would have been grave indeed.”

Today, only a handful of Woodruff guns remain. In addition to the one in White Hall, there are two in private hands, while two other Woodruffs are held in a museum at the United States Military Academy. There is also a Woodruff in Fort Madison, Iowa, while another is at Golden Hill State Park on Lake Ontario in western New York.

The story of the Woodruff gun, enhanced by a replica, is also interpreted at the Fort Davidson State Historic Site in Pilot Knob.

Jacksonville Journal Courier

Tom Emery is a freelance writer and historical researcher from Carlinville. He may be reached at 217-710-8392 or [ilcivilwar@yahoo.com](mailto:ilcivilwar@yahoo.com).