

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. _____) M.O.L.L.U.S.
 W.R.C. (Corps Name & No. _____) Other Allied Order
 SUVCW (Camp Name & No. _____) (Please describe below)
 DUVCW (Tent Name & No. _____)
 Other: State of Michigan

Original Dedication Date _____ 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: S.W. Corner of Elm Avenue and
 Street/Road address or site location North Monroe Street
 City/Village Monroe Township _____ County Monroe

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 Monroe Dept./Div. Historical Commission
 Street Address 120 EAST First Street
 City MONROE State MI Zip Code 48161
 Contact Person Charles A. Londo, City Telephone (734) 243-0700
Manager

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.) _____

Material of the Sculpture = ___ Stone ___ Concrete Metal ___ Undetermined
If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) Aluminum
If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" _____

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = Aluminum

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 _____
Sculpture: MARKER Height 48" Width 36" 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 _____

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.

Top - Michigan Historical Site - Registered. George Armstrong Custer. Raised in Monroe, George Armstrong Custer graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1861. In 1863 he became a brigadier general and commanded the Michigan Cavalry Brigade. "Come on you Wolverines!" was his battle cry while leading his men to victory over the Confederates at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. Custer commanded a division in the Shenandoah Valley in 1864 and his troops cut off the last avenue of escape for Robert E. Lee's army at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865. After the Civil War Custer was appointed lieutenant colonel

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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 type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard |
| <input checked="" 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)
 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 _____

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

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...	___	___

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) .

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 10 AUGUST 2003

Your Name Richard E. Danes

Address 2612 Burns City Dearborn

State MI Zip Code 48124-3204 Telephone [REDACTED]

SUVCW Camp 427 Senior Vice Commander

Please send this completed form to:

Douglas R. Armstrong
 Civil War Memorials Officer
 Department of Michigan - S.U.V.C.W.
 236 E Frederick Ave.
 Lansing, MI. 48906-3226

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

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

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of the U.S. Seventh Cavalry. On June 25, 1876 he
gained notoriety at the Battle of the Little Bighorn
where he and 266 others died. In 1877 his remains
were reinterred at West Point."

Bureau of History, MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REGISTERED STATE SITE NO. 638

PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, 1992

Reverse

"Sighting the enemy"

"Edward C. Potter's sculpture "Sighting the Enemy" depicts
General George Armstrong Custer pulling his horse up before
entering battle. Custer is presented at a young age; he
was only twenty-three years old when he faced the
Confederate Cavalry at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. Potter,
educated at Amhurst College, Boston Art College, and
in France, was selected as the sculptor because of his
reputation for sculpting equestrian statues. Custer's
widow, Libbie was instrumental in his selection. The
monument was originally dedicated at Washington
and First Streets on June 4, 1910, by President William
H. Taft, Governor Fred M. Warner, and Libbie Custer.
Michigan Cavalry Brigade veterans serving on the
monument committee included Colonel George G. Briggs,
Brevet Brigadier General James H. Kidd and
Lieutenant Frederick A. Niis

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**GEORGE ARMSTRONG
CUSTER**

Raised in Monroe, George Armstrong Custer graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1861. In 1863 he became a brigadier general and commanded the Michigan Cavalry Brigade. "Come On You Wolverines!" was his battle cry while leading his men to victory over the Confederates at Gettysburg on July 3, 1863. Custer commanded a division in the Shenandoah Valley in 1864 and his troops cut off the last avenue of escape for Robert E. Lee's army at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865. After the Civil War Custer was appointed lieutenant colonel of the U.S. Seventh Cavalry. On June 25, 1876, he gained notoriety at the Battle of the Little Big Horn where he and 266 others died. In 1877 his remains were reinterred at West Point.

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PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN, 1932




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BUREAU OF HISTORIC MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REGISTERED STATE SITE NO. 231
 PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN 1932

CUSTER