

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.) _____

SUVCW -- CIVIL WAR

Material of the Sculpture = Stone Concrete Metal 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 = steel and plastic _____

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 _____

note: adjacent cannon is a reproduction

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

Monument or Base: Height 2' Width 3' Depth 1" or Diameter _____

Sculpture: Height _____ 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 _____

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.

see pictures for complete text

Environmental Setting

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

Type of Location

- Cemetery
- "Town Square"
- Municipal Building
- Courthouse
- Traffic Circle

- Park
- Post Office
- State Capitol
- College Campus
- Library

- Plaza/Courtyard
- School
- Other: _____
- Fort Smith Park _____
- Huston Wyeth Park _____

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) .

Historical marker describes the role Fort Smith and Union forces played in St. Joseph during the Civil War.

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

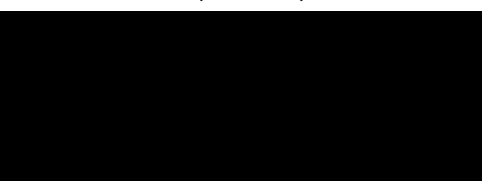
Date of On-site Survey 27 July 2015

Your Name Dale Crandell

What Order or Organization is submitter a member of? Westport Camp #64

Please send this completed form to

Walt Busch, PDC, Chair



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail. SONS OF UNION V

CIVIL WAR VETERANS OF THE National Civil War Memorials Committee



FORT SMITH

The Union's hope to hold St. Joseph



FORT SMITH

The Union's hope to hold St. Joseph

Fort Smith was erected in September 1861 as a Union fortification. St. Joseph was of great importance to preservation of the United States and the security of the goldfields of California for the war effort.



1861: Union in Crisis

Within a span of roughly two months, the Union had been defeated in three successive battles. The Confederacy was well on its way to gaining military control over the state of Missouri.

main image:
Fort Smith atop Telegraph Hill



A military presence in St. Joseph became essential. St. Joseph was centrally split in its sentiments between the Union and Confederacy. The city had been controlled several times by Union and Confederate forces up to and during the early part of 1861.

A riot in May 1861 led by former mayor, M. Jeff Thompson, brought a unit of dragoons from Fort Leavenworth and the 2nd Iowa Infantry. When those troops left in late August, St. Joseph was again open to Confederate occupation. In September, the Confederates left when word came that the 10th Illinois Infantry had been ordered to occupy St. Joseph.

In late September 1861, the 62nd Illinois Infantry and the 36th Ohio Regiment joined the 16th Illinois Infantry, setting up camp on Prospect Hill, then known as Telegraph Hill (left). This hill, north of the business district, overlooked the Missouri River to the west and the city to the east. The soldiers built an oblong circle of earthworks and named it Fort Smith, for their commander Col. Robert F. Smith (inset image).

Men who were accused, or found to be guilty of Southern sympathies were often put to work building the fort. The Union troops stationed here were able to see both up and down the Missouri River and had a clear view of the city. It was besieged with 12 cannon.



In December 1861, two of these cannons were fired over the city to target practice. Afterwards, a signed petition was presented to Col. Smith asking that he notify civil authorities before opening fire on the city again, so women and children could be evacuated. Fort Smith became critical to the

United States in those early months. By 1862, Missouri had been secured for the Union. Troops remained throughout the way to protect the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad and enforce martial law.

Illustration provided by the artist



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In late September 1861, the 52nd Illinois Infantry and the 39th Ohio Regiment joined the 16th Illinois Infantry, setting up camp on Prospect Hill, then known as Telegraph Hill (left). This hill, north of the business district, overlooked the Missouri River to the west and the city to the east. The soldiers built an oblong circle of earthworks and named it Fort Smith, for their commander Col. Robert F. Smith (inset image).



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This and other photos are part of

