

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**  
**CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM**

**PLEASE:**

- Type or print, using a ballpoint 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*                       Plaque  
 Monument *without* Sculpture                       Historical Marker

**Affiliation**

- GAR      Post Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_                       MOLLUS  
 WRC      Corps Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 SUVCW    Camp Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 DUVCW    Tent Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other      Description MO Hwy Commission & State Historical Society

Original Dedication Date 1955

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.

**Location**

The Memorial is *currently* located at:

Street/Road address or site location Main & First, Bethel, Mo. Coordinates: W92°01'26" N39°52'35"  
 City/Village Bethel                      Township \_\_\_\_\_                      County Shelby

The front of the Memorial faces:     North     South     East     West

**Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner** (of property that Memorial is located in)...

Name State Historical Society                      Dept./Div. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address Unknown  
 City Columbia                      State MO                      Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_                      Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

N/A

**Physical Details**

Material of Monument or base under a Sculpture or Cannon is:     Stone     Concrete     Metal     Undetermined  
 If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Material of the Sculpture is:  Stone  Concrete  Metal  Undetermined

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

If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?"  Solid Cast  Hollow  Undetermined

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet is: Cast Aluminum

Material of the Cannon is:  Bronze  Iron - Consult known Ordnance Listing to confirm

Markings on muzzle are: N/A

Markings on Left Trunion: \_\_\_\_\_ Right Trunion: \_\_\_\_\_

Is inert ammunition a part of the Memorial?  Yes  No If so, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Monument or Base: Height 95" Width 66" Depth 6" 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 stonework / metalwork of monument, base, sculpture)

Maker or Fabricator mark / name?  Yes  No

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...):

Bethel  
 Bethel, in North River Valley, five miles from Shelbyville, was founded in 1844 as a religious communal colony by Wilhelm Keil and his German-American followers. Keil (1812-1877), an independent preacher, called his adherents "Christians." Without a written agreement, they shared their property and labor, though private earnings were allowed. Bethel community was early noted for its handicrafts and musical band.  
 Membership was about 650 in 1855 when Keil, fearing Bethel too subject to outside influence, led a group west and established Aurora colony in Oregon. Their expedition over the Oregon Trail is unique for it was conducted as a funeral cortege. Keil's son, Willie, died before he realized his fathers promise to lead the group, and was carried instead in the head wagon in a metal box, alcohol filled. After six months and over 2,000 miles, he was buried at Willapa, Wash.  
 Keil never returned to Bethel, directing affairs there by letter. When the colonies disbanded, 1879-1881, they held property in common valued at \$109,806. Bethel supplied \$64,326 of this and owned 4,267 acres. (See other Side) Erected by State Historical Society of Missouri and State Highway Commission. 1955

**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"/> Traffic Circle  | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Town Square"      | <input type="checkbox"/> State Capitol   | <input type="checkbox"/> School          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office     | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Library         |

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**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:

**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>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any evidence of structural instability? <small>(look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any broken or missing parts? <small>(look for elements - sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Any cracks, splits, breaks, or holes? <small>(also look for signs of uneven stress &amp; weakness in the material)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Surface Appearance** (check as many as may apply)

	<b>Sculpture</b>	<b>Base</b>
Black crusting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
White crusting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>
Chalky or powdery stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Granular eroding of stone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - please describe:

Good shape, uprights a little rough near base but otherwise ok

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 determineIs the coating in good condition?    Yes    No    Unable to determine**Basic Surface Condition Assessment**

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 &amp; 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 21 June 2007

US GRANT 68 MO SUVCW

Your Name Walter E. Busch, US Grant Camp

Please send this completed form to:

Todd A. Shillington, PCC

 Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

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

## Bethel

(continued from other side)

Bethel communal colony, with its small settlements called Elim, Mamri, and Hebron, was established in Shelby County. Ninevah lay over the line in Adair County. Keil's mansion stands at Elim, east of Bethel.

Shelby County, a fertile prairie region noted for its grain and livestock farms, its bluegrass and saddle horses, was organized 1835, and named for first governor of Ky., Isaac Shelby. The county seat, Shelbyville, was laid out, 1835. Hunnewell, Shelbina, and Clarence were laid out, 1857, by officials of the Hannibal and St. Joseph R.R. (now the Burlington), first across Missouri 1859.

In the Civil War, Shelbyville was a Union post; Shelbina was the scene of a battle, 1861 and a raid, 1864; and the Salt River railroad bridge near Hunnewell was twice burned, 1861, and partially, 1864.

U.S. Grant's first active command of the war was of the 21st Ill. Inf. guarding the rebuilding of the bridge, July 1861.

William F. McMurry (1864-1934), Methodist Bishop, was a native of Shelby County.

Erected by the State Historical Society of Missouri and State Highway Commission. 1955



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