

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 *without* Sculpture

Monument with Cannon
 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: SURVIVING VETERANS OF THE 21ST ILLINOIS INFANTRY

Original Dedication Date SEPT 1886 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 305 NO MAIN
 City/Village IRONTON Township _____ County IRON
W 90° 37' 42" N 37° 35' 46"
 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 STE. MARIE Du LAC CATHOLIC CHURCH Dept./Div. _____
 Street Address 305 So MAIN
 City IRONTON State Mo Zip Code 63650
 Contact Person FATHER GAYDOS Telephone (573) 546-2611

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 = Stone Concrete Metal Undetermined
 If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) RED GRANITE

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

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = GRANITE

Material of Cannon = N/A Bronze ___ Iron - Consult known Ordnance Listing to confirm

Markings on muzzle = N/A

Markings on Left Trunion N/A 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 5 1/2' Width 4' Depth 4" or Diameter _____

Sculpture: Height 6' Width 24" 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 _____

NO

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.

ERECTED 1886 BY THE SURVIVING VETERANS OF THE 21ST REGT. ILL.
VOL. INFTRY. TO COMMEMORATE THE SPOT WHERE THEIR COL. ULYSSES
S. GRANT RECEIVED HIS COMMISSION AS GENERAL. 1861. AND
PARTING FROM HIS REGT. ENTERED ON HIS CAREER OF VICTORY.
"LET US HAVE PEACE."

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 checked="" 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: <u>CHURCH</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus | <u>GROUNDS</u> |
| <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 LOCATED ON THE OLD JUDGE EMERSON PROPERTY NEAR THE SPRING WHICH STILL FLOWS WHERE GRANT HAD HIS HQ. POND NEARBY

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)	<u>NO</u>	<u>—</u>
Any evidence of structural instability? (look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Any broken or missing parts? (look for elements (i.e., sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)	<u>REPAIRED</u>	<u>NO</u>
Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? (also look for signs of uneven stress & weakness in the material)	<u>REPAIRED</u>	<u>NO (1 CRACK OK)</u>

Surface Appearance (check as many as may apply)

	Sculpture	Base
Black crusting	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
White crusting	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Etched, pitted, or otherwise corroded (on metal)	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Metallic staining (run-off from copper, iron, etc.)	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Organic growth (moss, algae, lichen or vines)	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Chalky or powdery stone	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Granular eroding of stone	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>
Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe...	<u>NO</u>	<u>NO</u>

A FEW CHUNKS ARE OUT OF THE METAL IN RECENT YEARS

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).

MUSKET BROKEN OFF AND STOLEN BY VANDALS MANY YEARS AGO. MONUMENT
 ALSO BADLY BROKEN BY FALLING TREE 25 YEARS AGO.
 REPAIRS TO STATUE IN 1989 COST \$3,000. JACK MAYES & CURTIS ROTHELSBURGER
 FIXED IT UP & REPLACED THE GUN.

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.

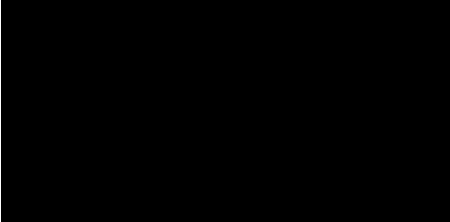
Inspector Identification

Date of On-site Survey 02/16/2005 US Grant 68 MO SUVCW
 Your Name WALT BUSCH



Please send this completed form to:

PAUL LEISTRITZ



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

By JACK MAYES

Just off South Main Street in Ironton is a place once called Emerson Park, a name it received from John Emerson, who built his home there in 1877.

Today, the location is the site of the Ste. Marie dulac Catholic Church. Until a few years ago, John Emerson's old brick home stood here and was used as a Priest home for the Fathers of the church. No doubt, in it's day, it was a mansion to behold with it's huge walnut staircase that led to the third floor being a thing of beauty representing workmanship of a day gone by and unafordable in our day.

Just a few yards from where the house once stood, a spring comes bubbling from under a small rise in the ground and flows into a small basin, then into a pond. Above the spring, inscribed in a stone of our native red granite, is the following inscreption: "THITHER AN ENBRO HERO CAME--HE DRANK, DEPARTED, & CONQUERED."

No doubt, this inscription refers to Ulysses S. Grant, who later was the 18th President of our country, but, in August 1861, was a little heard of soldier who had recently been promoted to the rank of Brigadier General.

Near the spring stood a giant oak tree. It was said that Grant stood under this oak when he received notification of his commission. The tree eventually became known as the "Grant Oak", and stood until 1946 when it died and had to be cut.

Grant would probably have been voted "least likely to succeed" at the begining of the Civil War, but he emerged as the greatest military leader of the Union.

Grant was born in 1822 at Point Plesant, Ohio. He attended West Point and graduated in 1843, 21st in a class of 39. He was undistinguished as a cadet. He served in the Mexican War and attained the rank of captain while receiving two citations for galantry and one for meritorious conduct. In 1854, while serving on the west coast far from his family, he became dissatisfied with military life and started drinking heavily after which he resigned to avoid court martial. Grant then returned to St. Louis to be with his wife, Julia, and their children at White Haven, the plantation home of her father.

In civilian life, he failed at most of his undertakings and eventually moved his family to Galena, Illinois where he was working in his fathers leather tannery when the Civil war began.

When Lincoln called for volunteers in 1861, Grant offered his service and entered the army as a captain, but was soon commissioned colonel and given command of the 21st Illinois Infantry Regiment.

On August 6, 1861, Grant was ordered with his regiment from Mexico, Missouri to St. Louis, and then on to Ironton. Upon his arrival in the Valley, Grant established his headquarters near the spring which still flows today at the old Emerson Park. The property was then owned by James Lindsey.

Upon his arrival in the valley Grant received official notification that he had been promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and immediately took command from Gratz Brown and ordered him to report to General Fremont in St. Louis for further orders.

Within a few days, Grant had organized his troops and felt certain that he could defend the Valley against any Confederate force that might attack his position.

On August 14th, Grant placed under arrest John Cole, Iron County Sheriff, and charged him with being a spy and firing a revolver at men of the U.S. Service. Along with Cole, about ten other citizens were placed under arrest and confined at the home of H. N. Tong, who was one of the founders of Ironton.

While in Ironton, Grant wrote to his wife, Julia: "The Ironton - Pilot Knob area is one of the most delightful places I have ever been with beautiful scenery all about, plenty of cool water available making ice cease to be a luxury, and enough altitude to insure cool weather".

In Bruce Catton's book, Grant Moves South, (page 26), he quotes Emerson as saying, "Grant walked over to a little spring that went bubbling down a pebbly channel a few yards away. Grant drank from the spring, then looked down at the water and remarked that the little brook flowed into the Mississippi and that the Mississippi flowed into the sea, and that both brook and river must flow with complete freedom".

In 1885 Grant died of throat cancer. In 1886 the veterans of his old 21st Illinois Regiment erected just a few feet from the spring, a large red granite monument. On the face of this monument is the following inscription:

ERECTED 1886

By the surviving veterans of the

21st REGT. ILL. VOL. INFT.

To commemorate the spot where their Col.

ULYSSES S. GRANT

Received his commission as General

1861

And parting from his Regt. entered

on his career of victory

"LET US HAVE PEACE"

Atop this monument stands a statue of a Union Soldier, cast of zinc by a firm in New York city. At some time around 1970, the rifle was broken off the statue and stolen by vandals, but, the proud soldier, now "unarmed", still stood guard over the spring. In 1982, the soldier fell victim to a limb falling from a storm damaged tree that workers were attempting to dislodge. The limb fell on the statue, causing it to tumble from the granite base, breaking it into many pieces.

This was a sad occasion for many citizens of the Valley. To others not so interested in local history, it went practically unnoticed.

The monument remained in storage while several local organizations tried to find ways to repair or replace it, however, in most cases the cost was prohibitive.

In 1988, a citizens committee raised the funds and repaired the monument and on January 8, 1989, it was replaced on the granite base where it again stands guard over the spring where the Union's most famous general once drank.

In years past "Emerson Park" has hosted many festive occasions. One such was when Grant's widow Julia and son Fred visited the monument on May 21, 1894. They were accompanied by former governor Thomas C. Fletcher and other dignitaries. The occasion was hosted by Mr. Emerson who cut a large piece of bark from the Grant Oak and presented it to Mrs. Grant as a memento of the occasion.

Recently, I stood looking at the monument across the pond. It was a balmy summer day, much as it might have been when Grant was here. The ducks paddled about in the pond and the bows of the willow tree nearby swayed gently in the summer breeze. As I gazed across the beautiful scene, I could not help but visualize a time many years ago, when the most famous Union General of the Civil War visited our Valley and went on to become the 18th President of the United States.

The highliht of Grant's career was probably his acceptance of General Lee's surrender on April 9, 1865 at Appromattox, Virginia, but the begining of that career took place August 8, 1861, under a giant oak tree by a spring in south Ironton when he became a General.

In Grant's words, "LET US HAVE PEACE".



GRANT STATUE, IRONTON, MO.
COURTESY IRON MT. MO. PAC. R.R.



ERECTED 1886

BY THE SURVIVING VETERANS OF THE
21ST. REGT. ILL. VOL. INFY.

TO COMMEMORATE THE SPOT WHERE THEIR COL.

ULYSSES S. CRANT

RECEIVED HIS COMMISSION AS GENERAL
1861.

AND PARTING FROM HIS REGT. ENTERED
ON HIS CAREER OF VICTORY.

"LET US HAVE PEACE."



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Grant remembrance ceremony held in AV and at White Haven

Extra: Speech given by Fort Davidson State Park Director Walt Busch

Published: Tuesday, August 3, 2010 3:09 PM CDT

Ceremonies in recognition of the 125th anniversary of President Ulysses S. Grant's death were held at two locations Saturday, July 24—the family home at White Haven and in Ironton at the statue of the union soldier.

The dual ceremonies were conducted by Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant Camp #68. White Haven, located in St. Louis, was the family home of Grant's wife, Julia Dent. The Ironton location, which adjoins the lake on the property of Ste. Marie du Lac Catholic Church, is where General Grant received his commission as brigadier general.

The Ironton ceremony consisted of the posting of colors, reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance, opening remarks by David Newman, a prayer led by Don Palmer, an address given by Fort Davidson State Park Administrator Walt Busch, the presentation of a wreath, the playing of taps and a chaplain-led benediction. Busch said that, though the group at the Ironton location was somewhat small, a larger number turned out for the ceremony held earlier in the day at South Haven.

Ulysses S. Grant was born Hiram Ulysses Grant on April 27, 1822. He served as 18th President of the United States (1869–1877) as well as military commander during the Civil War and post-war Reconstruction periods.

Under Grant's command, the Union Army defeated the Confederate military and ended the Confederate States of America. His image as a war hero was tarnished by corruption scandals during his presidency.

After leaving office, Grant and his family were left destitute, having forfeited his military pension when he assumed the office of president. Suffering from throat cancer, Grant began a series of literary works that improved his reputation and eventually brought his family out of bankruptcy.

Grant first wrote several warmly received articles on his Civil War campaigns for The Century Magazine. Mark Twain offered Grant a generous contract for his memoirs, including 75 percent of the book's sales as royalties.

Grant's supporters in Congress, Senator George Edmunds, and Representative Joseph E. Johnston, had rallied to get a bill passed, efforts starting in 1881, that restored Grant to General of the Army with full retirement pay. President Chester A. Arthur signed the bill, not specifically naming Grant, on March 4, 1885; then President Grover Cleveland commissioned Grant as General of the Army so Grant would receive much needed retirement pay. Grant, after receiving the first pay on March 31, 1885 immediately gave it to his family. They now believed he had finally been vindicated by the public.

Terminally ill, Grant finished his memoir just a few days before his death. The memoirs sold over 300,000 copies, earning the Grant family over \$450,000. Twain promoted the book as "the most remarkable work of its kind since the Commentaries of Julius Caesar."

Grant's memoir has been regarded by writers as diverse as Matthew Arnold and Gertrude Stein as one of the finest works of its kind ever written.

Ulysses S. Grant died on Thursday, July 23, 1885, at the age of 63 in Mount McGregor, Saratoga County, New York. His body lies in New York City's Riverside Park, beside that of his wife, in Grant's Tomb, the largest mausoleum in North America.



Grant Ceremony at Ironton

Pictured left to right are: First Sergeant, Bob Schmidt; 2nd Lieutenant & McCormick Camp Commander, Chris Warren; Private, Andrew Warren; SUVCW Department of Missouri Commander, Rod Price (all of the 47th Missouri Infantry, Company E - Sons of Veterans Reserve and the General James R. McCormick Camp 215 - Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Farmington, MO); Past Department Commander & Department of Missouri Secretary, Walt Busch; Private Bob Aubuchon; and 2nd Lieutenant & U.S. Grant Camp Commander, Martin Aubuchon (all of the 2nd Missouri Infantry, Company A - Sons of Veterans Reserve and the Ulysses S. Grant Camp 68 - Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, St. Louis). Submitted photo.

IRONTON, MO

46°F

forecast...



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U.S. Grant 125th Death Day Remembrance

at US Grant National Historic Site, Affton, MO, and Ste Marie Du Lac Church, Ironton, MO.

July 24, 2010

Speech by Walt Busch

Edited and expanded upon by David Roggensees

We have come here today to honor the memory of Ulysses S. Grant commanding general of the armies of the United States of America during the darkest crisis in our country's history. Just as President Lincoln clearly saw the political consequences of disunion and fought to preserve our country in the political arena, Unconditional Surrender Grant saw as no one else how to defend our nation on the field of battle. Because of Grant's clarity of vision throughout his life, we are a stronger nation. Today, I will concentrate on this warrior's coming of age as a leader of men in the state of Missouri.

Born Hiram Ulysses Grant in Point Pleasant, Ohio on April 27, 1822, he entered West Point Military Academy at the young age of 17. When the Mexican-American War broke out in 1846, young Lieutenant Grant went with the army and was twice brevetted for bravery; once at Molino del Rey and again at Chapultepec.

After the war, while stationed at Jefferson Barracks, Grant met Julia Boggs Dent. They fell deeply in love and were married on August 22, 1848. Four children blessed their union. An officer who excelled at war Grant resigned from the peacetime army in 1854. He farmed the hills around White Haven in Affton, Mo. before trying other business ventures that kept his gifts in obscurity. Grant would not shine until the outbreak of war.

Immediately after the first cannons of America's Civil War began to roar, Grant was commissioned as a Colonel of the 21st Illinois Infantry which was organizing in Springfield. Commanded to go to Quincy, he trained his recruits while they guarded the Hannibal & St. Joseph Railroad bridge at Hunnewell. From there, he chased Missouri Guard General Harris around the Florida area in Northeast Missouri. Harris apparently feared the approaching Union force and this taught Grant a valuable lesson. Grant learned: "From that event to the close of the war, I never experienced trepidation upon confronting an enemy, though I always felt more or less anxiety. I never forgot that he had as much reason to fear my forces as I had his. The lesson was valuable."

On August 8th, he took command of the defenses at the vital railhead of the Iron Mountain Railroad, established blockhouses for security and set up his command post at Ironton, Mo. Shortly after arriving, Colonel Grant read in the newspapers that he had been nominated by President Lincoln for the rank of brigadier-general. A few days later, under the "Grant Oak" near a spring on the current grounds of St. Marie Du Lac Catholic Church in Ironton, he received official word of his promotion. It was here on the grounds of Emerson's Ironton estate, Judge Emerson insisted, that Grant conceived of his plans to allow the Mississippi to run into the sea "with unfettered freedom," and split the Confederacy. Some post war documentation exists that Grant indeed envisioned this plan of action well before anyone else and within days of his promotion.

Soon after relinquishing his post at Ironton, Grant took command the district of Southeast Missouri at Cairo, Illinois. Immediately, the new commander saw he had to take control of the rivers and seized the town of Paducah a mere four days after assuming command.

In early November he was ordered to hold the Confederates at Columbus, Ky. Learning that they might be heading into Missouri, Grant attacked rebel forces at Belmont, in Mississippi Co. Although at the end of the day Grant and the Union soldiers were forced to retreat, the new general had shown a willingness to fight and President Lincoln took note of this man of action and vision.

Grant went on to greatness. He proved himself a consummate commander in the art of war. He grasped both strategy and tactics and together with his friend and lieutenant William Tecumseh Sherman defined modern warfare. As a great leader he knew the time when he would have to demand "Unconditional Surrender," but also had the forethought to provide gracious terms at Appomattox when it was time for the war to end and the healing process to begin.

In later years, Grant served as 18th president of the United States. Although his presidency is often considered marred by political favoritism, Grant showed his visionary side again. His campaign slogan, "Let Us Have Peace" was not only a call to northerners and southerners to lay aside their differences, it called for the end of racial violence in the south and the end of extermination of the Indian tribes on the plains. It was Ulysses S. Grant that signed the Civil Rights Act of 1875 into law. To this day, his foresight and actions serve as a standard for the defense of freedom in this land.

After he left office, he lost almost all his money in the stock market. Broke, without a military pension or the presidential retirement that exists today, he began to compose his memoirs. The sheer willpower, the same vision, the same clarity of thought that governed his military life pushed him to complete his memoirs mere days before his death from throat cancer. The memoirs became an instant best-seller, providing his family with needed income, and also giving the world one of the finest examples of military memoirs, second only to Julius Caesar's Gaelic Wars.

One hundred twenty-five years ago yesterday, General of the Armies and 18th President of the United States Ulysses S. Grant passed from this earth. Someday people living on this continent may forget this visionary, this man of determination, this man of willpower, but we, today, are better freer people for the fact that he lived.

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