

Last Soldier of Black Hawk County
Henry Bray

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

Affiliation

GAR MOLLUS SUVCW WRC ASUVCW
 LGAR DUVCW Other

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

SUVCW Gen Grenville Dodge #75

Original Dedication Date 4/27/19 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 Elmwood Cemetery
226 Elmwood St. GPS Coordinates 42.490883 -92.357250
City/Village &/or Township Waterloo
County Black Hawk State Iowa Zip Code 50701

The front of the Memorial faces: North South East West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name Elmwood Cemetery Assoc.
Dept./Div. _____
Street Address 226 Elmwood ST
City Waterloo State Iowa Zip Code 50701
Contact Person _____ Telephone (319) 232-2348 ext _____

Is Memorial on the National Register of Historic Places Yes 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 = Aluminum face + back PVC core

For Cannons with/without monument:

Material of Cannon = Bronze Iron Type of Cannon (if known) _____ Rifled YES NO

Markings: Muzzle _____ Base Ring/Breech _____

Left Trunion _____ Right Trunion _____

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

Materials of the Memorial

Complete for All Memorials

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

8" Height 12' Width _____ 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

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

See A Hatched

Department of Iowa - Civil War Monuments Black Hawk County - Waterloo

Last Soldier Henry A. Bray

Private Henry Bray (1844 - 1943) was the last living soldier of Black Hawk County. He served in Company F, 76th Illinois Infantry Regiment, enlisting in August, 1862. The Regiment had operations along the Mississippi in Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana. Later they were part of the Siege of Vicksburg from Mid-May to July 4, 1863. They continued to be active in this region including the battle at Fort Blakely, Alabama in March, 1865. The Regiment participated in the charge at Ft. Blakely and the colors of the 76th were the first planted on the enemy's works. After the War, Private Bray lived in Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa. He moved to Waterloo in 1935 and lived with a daughter. He was a member of the Robert Anderson GAR Post No. 68 and enjoyed participating in the Memorial Day parades.

On April 27, 2019 there was a ceremony at Elmwood Cemetery in Waterloo to recognize and place a marker honoring Private Bray as the Last Soldier of Black Hawk County. The Cedar Valley Civil War Round Table and SUVCW organized the dedication which included relatives in attendance. Also participating were members of the Waterloo JROTC and American Legion. Thanks to Jo Porter and niece Mary Yetter for providing historical information. The grave site is in the south central part of the Cemetery.

