

# 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. \_\_\_\_\_  
 SUCVW      Camp Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 DUCVW      Tent Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other      Description 2nd Colorado Cavalry soldiers and officers

Original Dedication Date 31 Jul 1864

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 701 S. Noland Rd. (GPS coordinates: N39°05.158' W094°24.640')

City/Village Independence                      Township Blue                      County Jackson

The front of the Memorial faces:     North     South     East     West

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

Name Woodlawn Cemetery                      Dept./Div. \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address 710 S. Noland Rd.

City Independence                      State MO                      Zip Code 64050

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_                      Telephone 816-325-7365

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

**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.) White Vermont marble

Material of the Sculpture is:  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?"  Solid Cast  Hollow  Undetermined

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet is: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Markings on muzzle are: \_\_\_\_\_

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 8' 0" Width 2' 3/8" Depth 2' 3/8" 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...):

[slashes indicate line breaks]  
 West: In memory and honor / Capt. S. W. Wagoner / Co. C 2d Col. Vol. Cav. / Died at Ind. Mo. / July 6, 1864 / Aged 33 yrs.  
  
 North: Corp. Eli Bear / Aged 32 yrs. / Privates / Andrew Eaves / .E. 18 yrs. / Michael Gunn / .E. 30 yrs. / John Laffer / .E. 35 yrs. / Robt Stackhouse / .E. 36 yrs. / Owen McFadden / .E. 31 yrs. / Henry Watson / .E. 24 yrs. / Co. C 2d Col. Vol. Cav. / who fell July 6, 1864 / near Ind. Mo. defending / their country's rights.  
  
 East: Theo. Lamminger / Private / Co. C 2d Col. Vol. Cav. / died at Ind. Mo. / July 9, 1864 / Aged 33 yrs.  
  
 South: Brave heroes rest beneath / this sculptured stone; / In unfair contest slain / by murderous hands. / They knew no yielding / to a cruel foe - / And thus, this tribute to / their memory stands / Our country's honor, and / a nation's pride / 'Twas thus they nobly lived / and bravely died.

**Environmental Setting**

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

**Type of Location**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Park           | <input type="checkbox"/> Library         |

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

**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:

**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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

	<b>Sculpture</b>	<b>Base</b>
Black crusting	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**

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).

Recorded as the oldest Civil War monument west of the Mississippi River, this monument is in surprisingly good shape except for the discolored white Vermont marble and illegible, weather-worn inscriptions. There are small pieces broken from the edges, too, which sometimes also removed a letter of the inscription. The inscriptions are very difficult to read even with shadows cast across the words. In fact, without knowing what the south face says, it would be impossible to figure it out. (see attached document)

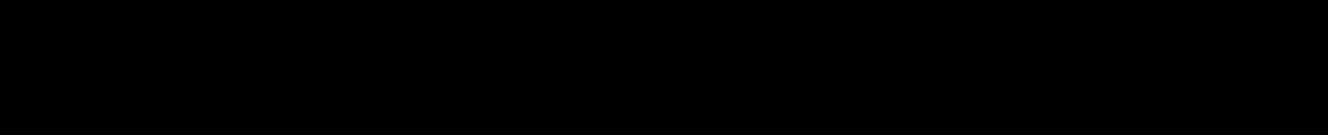
**Supplemental Background Information**

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**

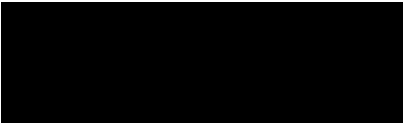
Date of On-site Survey 17 Jun 2006                      Westport 64 MO SUVCW

Your Name Brian Smarker



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

## The 2d Col. Vol. Cav. Memorial

Woodlawn Cemetery

Independence, Missouri

By Brian V. Smarker

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Department of Missouri

Westport Camp #64

In Woodlawn Cemetery stands a monument sculpted from white Vermont marble atop a concrete base. It has stood the test of time at that spot most certainly since its dedication on 31 July 1864, presumably the oldest Civil War memorial west of the Mississippi River. It was dedicated to nine soldiers of Company C 2<sup>nd</sup> Colorado Cavalry who died in or near Independence, Missouri.

All four faces of the monument bear weather-beaten inscriptions which have become difficult to read. Even after a stone rubbing the words appear incomprehensible. The least invasive method of deciphering the text is using a mirror to reflect sunlight across the engravings or, perchance the time of day is right, have the sun cast shadows across the surfaces enhancing their text.

According to Ellen Williams in her book, Three Years and a Half in the Army; or History of the Second Colorados, she "was requested to write an inscription" (Williams 60) which she did. The engravings on this surface are next to impossible to read, but knowing the inscription the words can be detected with careful studying. The inscription she wrote is on the southern face of the monument and it reads:

Brave heroes rest beneath  
this sculptured stone;  
In unfair contest slain  
by murderous hands.  
They knew no yielding  
to a cruel foe –  
And thus, this tribute to  
their memory stands  
Our country's honor, and  
a nation's pride  
'Twas thus they nobly lived  
and bravely died.

Ellen Williams and her two children traveled with the Second Colorado since its inception when her husband, bugler Charles Williams, enlisted into Co. A under Capt. James Ford in the fall of 1861. She wrote about her travels and became acquainted with many of the soldiers. Her book was originally copyrighted in 1885.

The western face of the monument bore an inscription of the highest ranking officer killed in a skirmish with George Todd's guerillas. Ironically, Todd is buried in the same cemetery after being shot through the throat and killed by a sniper on 23 October 1864. The first and fourth lines are the most difficult to read and are interpreted along with the others as follows:

In memory and honor  
Capt. S. W. Wagoner  
Co. C 2d Col. Vol. Cav.  
Died at Ind. Mo.  
July 6, 1864  
Aged 33 yrs.

Notice the spelling of Capt. Seymour W. Waggoner's last name. His headstone which is just as difficult to read definitely shows his last name spelled with two g's as does other documentation.

**The 2d Col. Vol. Cav. Memorial**  
Woodlawn Cemetery  
Independence, Missouri

The northern face of the monument continues with other soldiers killed in action in the skirmish with Todd's guerillas. It reads:

Corp. Eli Bear  
Aged 32 yrs.  
Privates  
Andrew Eaves  
.E. 18 yrs.  
Michael Gunn  
.E. 30 yrs.  
John Laffer  
.E. 35 yrs.  
Robt. Stackhouse  
.E. 36 yrs.  
Owen McFadden  
.E. 31 yrs.  
Henry Whatson  
.E. 24 yrs.  
Co. C 2d Col. Vol. Cav.  
who fell July 6, 1864  
near Ind. Mo. defending  
their country's rights.

The most difficult part of this surface was deciphering the ages. The ".E." was apparently used to denote repetition of the "Aged" text beneath Corp. Eli Baer's name. Also notice the misspelling of Corp. Baer's and Pvt. Henry Watson's last names. Their headstones are also difficult to read, but bear the correct spellings.

Finally, the eastern face of the monument records the name of one individual who died from disease three days following the aforementioned skirmish:

Theo. Lamminger  
Private  
Co. C 2d Col. Vol. Cav.  
died at Ind. Mo.  
July 9, 1864  
Aged 33 yrs.

All nine men have government-issued headstones marking their burial locations around the memorial. The majority of them, like the monument, prove difficult to read even with a trained eye. Knowing the names of the fallen helps, along with the aid of a mirror to reflect the sunlight across the faces of the stones casting shadows of what is left of the engraved characters.

There are those who believe the 2d Col. Vol. Cav. monument should be restored, yet in its current state, it would seem more feasible to leave it alone for history's sake and, possibly, erect a modern replica to perpetuate the memory of the Second Colorado Cavalry buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in Independence, Missouri.









