

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM

PLEASE:

- 1. Type or print, using a ball-point pen, when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- 2. 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
- Other (flag pole, G.A.R. buildings, stained glass windows, etc.)
- Monument with Cannon
- Historical Marker
- Plaque

Affiliation

- G.A.R. (Post Name & No. _____) M.O.L.L.U.S
- SUVCW (Camp Name & No. _____) (Please describe below)
- WRC (Corps Name & No. _____)
- ASUVCW (Aux Name & No. _____)
- DUVCW (Tent Name & No. _____)
- LGAR (Circle Name & No. _____)
- Other Erected by U.S. Government _____

Original Dedication Date 22 October 1911 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: N39 04' 33" and W94 34' 50"
 Street/Road address or site location 227 East 28th Terrace
 City/Village Kansas City Township Jackson County Jackson
 State Missouri

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 City of Kansas City, Missouri
 Dept./Div. Parks & Recreation Department
 Street Address 4600 East 63rd Street City _____
 Kansas City _____ State MO Zip Code 64130 Contact Person _____
 Telephone () _____

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

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.) Granite

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 = Bronze/Brass

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 _____

Approximate Dimensions (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points
Monument or Base: Height 12' Width 3' Depth 3' 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 Two plaques on the
north face of the monument. _____

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.

Dedication Plaque - ERECTED BY THE UNITED STATES TO MARK THE BURIAL PLACE OF FIFTEEN
CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS WHO DIED AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, WHILE PRISONERS OF WAR AND WHOSE
REMAINS WERE BURIED IN THE CITY CEMETERY AND SUBSEQUENTLY REMOVED TO THIS CEMETERY,
WHERE THE INDIVIDUAL GRAVES CANNOT NOW BE IDENTIFIED

Memorial Plaque - listing of fifteen Confederate soldiers and their units. _____

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"/> 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: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | _____ |

General Vicinity

Rural (low population, open land)
 Town

Suburban (residential, near city)
 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 Sits in Kansas City's historic Union Cemetery.

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) | ___ | ___ |
| Any evidence of structural instability? (Look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth) | ___ | ___ |
| Any broken or missing parts? (Look for elements (i.e., sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.) | ___ | ___ |
| Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? (Also look for signs of uneven stress & weakness in the material) | ___ | ___ |

Surface Appearance (check as many as may apply)

| | Sculpture | Base |
|---|------------------|-------------|
| Black crusting | ___ | ___ |
| White crusting | ___ | ___ |
| Etched, pitted, or otherwise corroded (on metal) | ___ | ___ |
| Metallic staining (run-off from copper, iron, etc.) | ___ | ___ |
| Organic growth (moss, algae, lichen or vines) | <u>X</u> | <u>X</u> |
| Chalky or powdery stone | ___ | ___ |
| Granular eroding of stone | ___ | ___ |
| Spalling of stone (surface splitting off) | ___ | ___ |
| Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains) | <u>X</u> | <u>X</u> |
| Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe... | ___ | ___ |

Does water collect in recessed areas of the Memorial? ___ Yes X 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).
Listed on U.S. National Park Service website:

www.nps.gov/history/nr/testing/national_cemeteries/Missouri/Union_Confederate_Monument_Site.html

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 6 October 2012

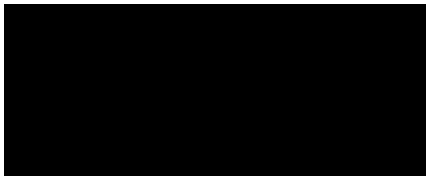
Your Name Dale Crandell



What Order or Organization is submitter a member of? SUVCW / Missouri / Westport 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



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15

CONFEDERATES CAPTURED DURING BATTLE OF WESTPORT AS NOTED ON MONUMENT

Jacob W. Blankenship - Co. A, Love's Mo. Reg.

Abram W. Blythe - Co. A, Smith's Ark. Reg.

Alexander Gates - Co. L, Love's Mo. Reg.

Jos. G. Hopkins - Co. G, Nichol's Mo. Reg.

Wm. K. McConnell - Co. H, McGehee's Ark. Reg.

Andrew S. Medley - Co I, Green's Mo. Reg.

Francis Mitchell - Co. --, Mo. Reg.

Daniel F. Pitts - Co. --, Ark. Reg.

Alexander Rodgers - Co. --, Nichol's Mo. Reg.

Jefferson Self - Co. --, Coleman's Mo. Reg.

Josiah Smith -- Co. E, Nichol's Mo. Reg.

Walter Smotherman - Co. H, McGehee's Ark. Reg.

Seward Taylor -- Co. C, McGehee's Ark. Reg.

John A. Turner - Co. E. Wood's Battn, Mo. Cav.

Charles Yarbough -- Co. C, Nichol's Mo. Reg.

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Civil War Era National Cemeteries: Honoring Those Who Served

Union Confederate Monument Site Kansas City, Missouri



Unknown Confederate Gravesite Monument
Courtesy of the Department of Veterans Affairs,
National Cemetery Administration, History Program

Somewhere among the 27 acres of Kansas City's Union Cemetery lie the remains of 15 Confederate soldiers. The men died while held as prisoners of war in Kansas City after the Battle of Westport. Although their gravesites are unknown, the U.S. government erected a granite obelisk to commemorate the soldiers in 1911. Numerous veterans from the Revolutionary War to the Vietnam War are also buried in the cemetery, as are many prominent 19th century Kansas City residents. In 1849, a cholera epidemic hit the Missouri towns of Westport and Kansas (now Kansas City). With the towns' respective cemeteries near capacity, they decided to form a "union" and establish a new cemetery between the municipalities. The Missouri state legislature authorized a corporation, which eventually selected a 49-acre site between the two towns for Union Cemetery.

Westport, located south of Kansas City, became an important disembarkation point for travelers heading west along the Santa Fe, Oregon, and California trails. Its location and trail status also made the town a target during the Civil War. Because Missouri was a border state, the Confederacy considered the capture of Missouri a critical goal. In October 1864, Confederate forces raided several towns in Kansas and Missouri. Confederate and Union forces met in

Westport on October 23, 1864. More than 30,000 soldiers and cavalrymen fought in the battle, making it one of the largest confrontations west of the Mississippi River. Union troops forced the Confederate raiders into retreat, preventing Confederate control over Missouri.

In 1897, Kansas City annexed Westport. By the early 20th century, conditions in Union Cemetery declined, forcing the cemetery's management association to sell off 18 undeveloped acres of the property. In 1937, the association transferred ownership to the municipal government of Kansas City. Today, the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department manages the cemetery.

In 1911, the U.S. government erected a 15-foot-tall granite obelisk as a memorial to 15 Confederate prisoners of war buried in Union Cemetery. Union troops captured the soldiers during the Battle of Westport. Originally buried in another city cemetery, the remains were later reinterred in Union Cemetery. However, the exact location of the gravesites was lost. Because individual grave markers could not be erected, the obelisk to the 15 men was installed on the cemetery's grounds. The dedication ceremony on October 22, 1911, featured an invocation by a local reverend and a speech by the Kansas City mayor. The bronze panels on the obelisk carry inscriptions that list the soldiers and explain the unknown whereabouts of their graves.

Many prominent Kansas City residents were also interred at Union Cemetery, including veterans from the War of 1812 and later conflicts. Civil War veteran and Missouri artist George Caleb Bingham is interred in the eastern section of the cemetery.

Plan your visit

Union Cemetery Monument Site is located at 227 E. 28th Terrace in Kansas City, MO, within Union Cemetery. Leavenworth National Cemetery oversees the monument site; its administrative office is open Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm. The office; it is closed on all Federal holidays except for Memorial Day. For more information about the monument site, please contact the Leavenworth National Cemetery office at 913-758-4105, or see the Department of Veterans Affairs [website](#).

Union Cemetery is open for visitation daily from sunrise to sunset. The [Union Cemetery Historical Society](#) is a nonprofit association working with the Kansas City government to collect data about the cemetery and those buried on the property. The society's records and files are open to the public and available in the [sexton's cottage](#). While visiting, be mindful that our national cemeteries and Confederate cemeteries and monument sites are hallowed ground, and be respectful to all of our nation's fallen soldiers and their families. Additional cemetery policies may be posted on site.

The [Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area](#) encompasses 41 counties in eastern Kansas and western Missouri along the Kansas-Missouri border. Before and during the Civil War, this region became a crucible of conflict between pro-slavery forces in Missouri and those who sought to keep Kansas as a free state. The national heritage area works with public and private partners to interpret and share the story of "Bleeding Kansas" and the continuing stories of the struggles for freedom of other groups, including American Indians and women.

[Union Cemetery Monument Site](#) was photographed to the standards established by the National Park Service's Historic American Landscape Survey.

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