

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 with Cannon
 ___ Monument *without* Sculpture ___ 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: Citizens of St. Louis and Forest Park Commission

Original Dedication Date 24 June 1876 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 Lagoon Dr & Fine Arts Dr (W90°17'45" N 38°38'35")
 City/Village St. Louis Township _____ County St Louis City

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 St. Louis City Parks Dept. Dept./Div. Forest Park
 Street Address 5600 Clayton Road
 City St. Louis, State MO Zip Code 63110
 Contact Person _____ Telephone (314) 289-5300

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

Moved between 1934 and 1935 from its original position at the southeast entrance of the park to make way for a highway.

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.) Bronze
If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" probably hollow

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = N/A

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

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 10 feet Width 7 feet Depth 7 feet or Diameter _____
Sculpture: Height 10 feet Width 4 1/2 feet Depth 4 1/2 feet 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 J. Wilson McDonald (NOT LOCATED ON THE STATUE - FROM RESEARCH)

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.
"BATES" [No other words to acknowledge that this was a statue to Edward Bates, General and Lincoln's Attorney General]

Brass Medallions of Captain James Eads, Governor Hamilton R. Gamble, Charles Gibson, and Henry S. Geyer [around statue were put on later and simply represent famous St. Louisans]

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

Surface Coating

Does there appear to be a coating? ___ Yes ___ No X Unable to determine
If known, identify type of coating.

 Gilded Painted Varnished Waxed X Unable to determine
Is the coating in good condition? ___ Yes X No Unable to determine

Basic Surface Condition Assessment (check one)

In your opinion, what is the general appearance or condition of the Memorial?

X 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) .

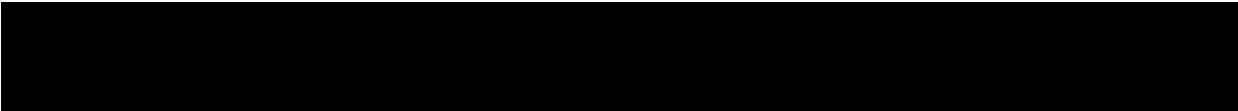
Supplemental Background Information

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

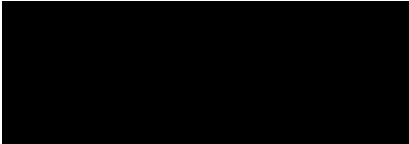
Date of On-site Survey 25 July 2006

Your Name Walter E. Busch (US GRANT CAMP 68)



Please send this completed form to:

Todd A. Shillington. PDC



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

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

1. Edward Bates Statue

From the south side of the Jefferson Memorial, follow Washington Drive west 0.8 miles to a small island in the roadway near the base of Art Hill, north of the St. Louis Art Museum. Use caution when visiting the Bates statue because traffic moves around the triangular island in all directions.

The first statue in the city of St. Louis to honor a hero of the Civil War was not dedicated to a soldier but to a civilian: Edward Bates.

Bates began his public career in 1818 when he was appointed attorney for the Northern District of Missouri. Though only twenty-five years old, Bates had practiced law in St. Louis for two years and had already developed powerful political alliances. In 1823 he became United States district attorney and in 1826, with the support of Senator Thomas Hart Benton, won election to the United States House of Representatives. Having lost Benton's support in the intervening years, Bates failed in his bid for reelection in 1828. He then moved into state politics, where he united opposition to Benton's programs while creating a nucleus that would become the Whig Party in Missouri.

After 1836 Bates left politics to return to his law practice. In 1842 he joined in partnership with Hamilton R. Gamble, future governor of Missouri and husband of Caroline Coalter, the sister of Bates' wife. Though Bates owned slaves until 1844, he increasingly came to favor limiting the expansion of slavery. He also championed the creation of colonies in Africa and Central America for freed slaves.

Bates came to national prominence in 1847 when he was chosen as presiding officer for the River and Harbor Convention in Chicago. The delegates, including Congressman Abraham Lincoln, were impressed with his closing speech. Three years later Bates was honored with the request to serve as secretary of war for President Millard Fillmore, an opportunity he declined for personal reasons. As a Whig, Bates continued to work to end the expansion of slavery, a goal which ironically moved him closer to the position of his adversary Thomas Hart Benton. Bates again came to public attention at the Republican Convention of 1860, where he was considered a potential compromise candidate between Lincoln and William Seward. Bates received strong support on the first ballot, but Lincoln won the nomination two ballots later.

After Lincoln's election, Bates accepted the president's offer to become attorney general of the United States. Despite the fact that he had a son serving on each side during the Civil War, Bates was an unswerving supporter of the Lincoln administration. Lincoln came to rely on him as a "conservative counterweight" to the more radical Republicans in the cabinet. Bates privately hoped to be made chief justice of the Supreme Court when the position opened in October 1864, but Lincoln responded to increasing pressure from radical Republicans by nominating Salmon P. Chase to the post. Bates resigned and returned to St. Louis. He died in the city on March 25, 1869, and was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery.¹

The monument to Edward Bates was unveiled on June 24, 1876, the opening day of Forest Park. The statue, completed several years earlier, was originally intended for placement in Lafayette Park, but no action had been taken because the sculptor had not been paid. Forest Park's commissioners paid the outstanding balance to buy the statue for their park. The Bates monument originally stood at a prominent location near the southeast entrance of Forest Park but was moved to its present, less prominent location as a result of a highway expansion in 1934-1935.²

The bronze statue is ten feet high and stands on a red granite pedestal of the same height. Bates wears a full-skirted Prince Albert coat as he stands as if addressing a court. His hand holds a book resting on a stand in the shape of an eagle, above which is the seal of the State of Missouri.

Four medallions, one on each face of the pedestal, were added by the sculptor later. From the front face of the statue and moving around to the right, the individuals represented are James B. Eads, the builder of the first ironclads to serve the Union army on the Mississippi River; Hamilton R. Gamble, Bates' brother-in-law and law partner, as well as the governor of Missouri for much of the Civil War era; Charles Gibson, a protégé of Bates in the practice of law who served under him during the Civil War as solicitor of the court of claims (today's solicitor general) when Bates was Lincoln's attorney general; and Henry Sheffie Geyer, who assisted as legal counsel in the Dred Scott case and went on to serve as successor to Missouri's Thomas Hart Benton in the United States Senate from 1851 to 1857. A close associate of Bates, Geyer was president of the Bates Association, which helped raise money for the monument.³

James Wilson Alexander MacDonald (1824-1908), the sculptor of the Bates statue, ran

away from home in Ohio and from an apprenticeship as a blacksmith to find work in St. Louis. In the city he studied art and anatomy while working in the printing business. In 1852 MacDonald and two partners began the newspaper *Morning Signal*, which would later be sold and become the antislavery *Missouri Democrat*. MacDonald used his profits from the sale of the newspaper to continue his art studies, this time in New York. By 1857 he was back in St. Louis in the sewing machine business. After the Civil War he returned to New York and began his career in earnest as a portrait artist and sculptor. The statue of General George Armstrong Custer at the United States Military Academy was done by MacDonald two years after the Bates sculpture.⁴



