

Last Soldier of Van Buren  
Eli McKinney County

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 \_\_\_  SUCVW \_\_\_ WRC \_\_\_ ASUCVW  
\_\_\_ LGAR \_\_\_ DUVCW \_\_\_ Other

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

Curtis King Camp #37

Original Dedication Date 7-19-19 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 Bentonsport Cemetery  
N. of town off Ridge Rd. GPS Coordinates 40.7322 - 91.8514  
City/Village &/or Township Bentonsport  
County Van Buren State Iowa Zip Code 52565

The front of the Memorial faces: \_\_\_ North \_\_\_ South  East \_\_\_ West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner Not determined

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Dept./Div. \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ 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 front + back PVC core

**For Cannons with/without monument:**

Material of Cannon =      Bronze      Iron Type of Cannon (if known)     

Markings: Muzzle      Base Ring/Breech      Rifled      YES      NO

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 14' 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 attached

**Environmental Setting**

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

**Type of Location**

- Cemetery
- School
- Traffic Circle
- Park
- Municipal Building
- Library
- Plaza/Courtyard
- State Capitol
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- "Town Square"
- Courthouse
- Post Office
- College Campus

**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 \_\_\_\_\_



[To detail the condition of a monument used the addendum form for *Monument's Condition*]

**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.

Addendums attached to this electronic file are the *Monument's Condition* and the *Narrative* forms. Only the *Monument's Condition* form is required if you are requesting grant money using form CWM-62 *SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form and Instructions*.

Thank you.

Inspector Identification \_\_\_\_\_ Date of On-site Survey 7-19-19  
 Your Name Danny Krueh  
 Address 29949 1610th Ave  
 City Cambridge State Iowa Zip Code 50046  
 Telephone  E-Mail 

Are you a member of the Allied Orders of the G.A.R.? If so, which one?  
SUVCW Curtis King Camp #37

Please send this completed form to:

Walt Busch, PDC, Chair  
1240 Konert Valley Dr.  
Fenton, MO 63026



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR - CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE.**

**Department of Iowa - Civil War Monuments**  
Van Buren County - Bentonsport

**Last Soldier Eli W. McKinney**

Private Eli McKinney (1847-1946) was the last living soldier of Van Buren County. He served in Company K, 45th Iowa Infantry Regiment. His father William was a member of Company I, 19th Iowa and was killed in action at Prairie Grove, Arkansas on December 7, 1862. Thank you to Danny Krock for placing the Last Soldier marker on 7/19/19 and providing the photo. Private McKinney is buried in the Bentonsport Cemetery located northeast of town off Ridge Road.

