

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.)

Note: try to record items separately. Cannons near monuments should be recorded & photographed separately, etc. Thank you.

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:

Camp 19 of the PA Department works together with the caretakers of Lancaster Cemetery to maintain the Reynolds Family Plot

Original Dedication Date Obelisk dedicated April 1865 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

Lancaster Cemetery

The Memorial is *currently* located at: 205 E. Lemon Street

Street/Road address or site location _____ GPS Coordinates 40.0452222, -76.3014738

City/Village &/or Township Lancaster

County Lancaster State PA Zip Code 17602

The front of the Memorial faces: ☒ North ☐ South ☒ East ☐ West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name Lancaster Cemetery

Dept./Div. _____

Street Address 205 E. Lemon Street

City Lancaster State PA Zip Code 17602

Contact Person Justin Herbert Telephone (607) 222-0942 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.) John Reynolds: marble; Others a mix of marble/granite

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 = _____

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 [Refer to attachment: LancasterLNP_20250119_E01_0.pdf](#)

Materials of the Memorial _____

Complete for All Memorials**Approximate Dimensions** (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points

~25 feet _____ Height ~4 feet _____ Width ~4 feet _____ 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.

Please see the following for additional information and photographs:

Project Website: www.reynoldsrestoration.org

Project Focus:

[Requestforfunding_ReynoldsProject.pdf](#)

[JFR Obelisk Inscriptions.pdf](#)

[Reynolds Plot Overhead view.pdf](#)

[RRP Project Dimensions.docx](#)

[Reynolds Lot - Lancaster Cemetery Conservation Proposal.pdf](#)

Marketing and PR:

[Reynolds Brochure052623.pdf](#)

[Reynolds Poster.pdf](#)

[LancasterLNP_20250119_E01_0.pdf](#)

Obelisk historical background:

[Reynolds_Obelisk_erected.pdf](#)

Environmental Setting

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

Type of Location

☒ Cemetery ☐ Park ☐ Plaza/Courtyard ☐ "Town Square" ☐ Post Office
☐ School ☐ Municipal Building ☐ State Capitol ☐ Courthouse ☐ College Campus
☐ Traffic Circle ☐ 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 Lancaster Cemetery is an important greenspace for Lancaster's Sixth Ward and it is home to the Kaneko Arboretum.

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

Submission of this form requires at least one type of identification so that you may be contacted regarding the information on this form. This information will most likely be in the public domain. Your name is required; please include one (or more) pieces of contact information.

1. If a member of an Allied Order, the name of your camp, auxiliary, tent, circle or corps; along with your department;
2. Physical Address;
3. Phone Number
4. E-Mail address.

By submitting this, you are allowing the posting of this information on the internet.

Inspector Identification

Date of On-site Survey June 21, 2025

Your Name Scott Fasnacht

Address 2152 Wexford Road

City Palmyra

State PA

Zip Code 17078

Telephone () 404.353.0803

E-Mail scottmfasnacht@mac.com

Are you a member of the Allied Orders of the G.A.R.? If so, which one?

SUVCW - PCC Camp 19 Dept. of PA (Life Member)

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. Photographs & GPS Co-ordinates are very much desired.

Pages 4 & 5 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*.

Please mail (or e-mail pdf, and picture files) to:

Walt Busch, PDC, Chair, 1240 Konert Valley Dr., Fenton, MO 63026, cwmemorials@suvchw.org (314) 630-8407

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War - Civil War Memorials Committee.

>This form may be photocopied.<

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SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM
ADDENDUM – MONUMENT'S CONDITION

Completion of this form is required when requesting grant money using form CWM-62 *SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form and Instructions*.

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)	_____✓_____	_____
Chalky or powdery stone	_____✓_____	_____
Granular eroding of stone	_____✓_____	_____
Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)	_____	_____
Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)	_____✓_____	_____
Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe...	_____	_____

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 (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

Briefly describe the Memorial (affiliation / overall condition & any concern not already touched on) .

[Refer to project's website at www.reynoldsrestoration.org](http://www.reynoldsrestoration.org)

Inspector's Name Scott Fasnacht

Date June 25, 2025

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM
ADDENDUM – NARRATIVE

[Generally used to record the text of monuments, but may be used for any other useful information, such as if the monument has been moved or if you have information about the day of dedication. May repeat use of page as often as necessary.]

The Memorial is *currently* located at: Lancaster Cemetery

Street/Road address or site location 205 E. Lemon Street

GPS Coordinates 40.0452222, -76.3014738

City/Village and/or Township Lancaster

County Lancaster

State PA

Zip Code 17602

TEXT

The Reynolds Restoration Project seeks to preserve the memory of Major General John Fulton Reynolds, Admiral William Reynolds, and the other members of the family interred at Lancaster Cemetery through the repair, rehabilitation, and stabilization of the family plot and its markers.

Inspector's Name Scott Fasnacht

Date June 25, 2025



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War General George H. Thomas Camp N° 19

Request for a Grant to Fund the Reynolds Restoration Project

Project Summary

The Reynolds Restoration Project seeks to preserve the memory of Lancaster natives Major General John Fulton Reynolds, Admiral William Reynolds, and the other members of the Reynolds family interred at Lancaster Cemetery through the repair, rehabilitation, and stabilization of the family plot and its grave markers, utilizing the services of professional monument conservators.

Most of the markers in the Reynolds Family Plot date to the Victorian era and are showing the signs of their age. General Reynolds' marble obelisk, in particular, has multiple cracks in its base that worsen each year as a result of the freeze/thaw cycle. Our work would repair those cracks to minimize this issue and ensure the obelisk is stable and secure. Likewise, many of the grave markers in the plot have shifted as a result of the ground freeze and thaw and will be straightened. These leaning headstones can be a safety issue for visitors to the site. Similarly, some sections of the granite coping surrounding the plot have large cracks and other sections have fallen over. We will repair and stabilize the broken sections and replace those sections that have fallen over.

Project Impact

John F. Reynolds is widely regarded as one of the greatest Civil War figures, and his brother and others in the family plot served the city, state, and nation in a variety of roles. His gravesite is a highly trafficked destination for those interested in the Civil War and America history. Without the proposed conservation efforts, the monuments and markers will continue to deteriorate, may cause additional safety concerns for the cemetery and its visitors, and could ultimately break or make repair and stabilization far more difficult and expensive.

Lancaster Cemetery is an important green space for the residents of Lancaster's Sixth Ward and is the final resting place of many significant Lancastrians. Each day, residents of the neighborhood walk the grounds or rest on one of the many benches made available throughout the property. The recent accreditation of the *Kaneko Arboretum at Lancaster Cemetery* is certain to bring even more visitors to the cemetery. The cemetery's board works tirelessly to keep the cemetery clean and a safe and friendly space. By stabilizing and preserving the Reynolds Family Plot, the most frequently visited part of the cemetery, we are helping to keep Lancaster Cemetery as a valued resource for all residents of the city and for the many visitors from around the world who come to pay their respects to General Reynolds.

We believe that our project will make it possible for future generations of Lancastrians and others to remember General Reynolds and to visit an historic site that is well maintained and in good repair. It will present a positive image of the city, the cemetery, and the people and organizations who came together to make it happen. A successful project will present an opportunity for us to create greater awareness of and to offer educational programming about General Reynolds and his family to local schools and civic organizations.

We believe that successfully conserving the Reynolds family plot will help the Lancaster Cemetery better fulfill its mission as a resource for the local community by attracting visitors to enjoy its park-like setting. This project can help keep the Reynolds family plot as a premiere destination for Civil War buffs and as a "crown jewel" of the Lancaster Cemetery.

Project Participants

The Reynolds Restoration Project is led by the local chapter of The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW), a 501(c)(3) non-profit, fraternal, patriotic, and educational organization, consisting of men who can trace their lineage to veterans of the Civil War or to men who have a genuine interest in the Civil War. The SUVCW's mission is to preserve and honor the history and legacy of veteran heroes who fought and sacrificed to save the Union during the Civil War. The Reynolds Restoration Project is an extension of our work to help keep the gravesites of Union soldiers across Lancaster County in good repair. Over the past several years we have worked to clean the headstones in the GAR plots in both the Lancaster Cemetery and Greenwood Cemetery. These plots contain the remains of soldiers who had no family to bury them elsewhere; here they sleep with their brothers in arms.

We intend to use the services of Roth Cemetery Services, a recognized monument repair and conservation firm located in Willow Street, Pennsylvania, to perform the repair, rehabilitation, and stabilization of the Reynolds family plot and its grave markers.

Project Estimate

The current cost estimate for the Reynolds Restoration Project is \$15,000. We have in hand over \$8,000 from member donations, pledges, and grants from Grave Concern, Inc. of Lancaster, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, and the Pennsylvania Department of the SUVCW.

Additional Information

More information about the Reynolds Restoration Project and the Reynolds family members buried there can be found at the project web site <https://www.reynoldsrestoration.org/>. Ultimately, we believe that this project will deliver impact beyond the essential stabilization and restoration work performed at the cemetery. Our promotion plan will heighten awareness about General Reynolds and his family and will foster renewed interest in Lancaster Cemetery, in an effort to help with their ongoing fundraising efforts.

John Fulton Reynolds Monument Inscriptions











Overtured coping

Granite Coping
Approx. 80 feet on long end and
25 feet on short end

Severely damaged coping

Cradle Gravesites

**Admiral William
Reynolds Gravesite**

Grave of John
Fulton Reynolds

Reynolds Restoration Project Monument Dimensions

John Fulton Reynolds marble obelisk



Height: Approx: 25 feet
Marble Base: 4 ft²
Top Panels:
Bottom Panels:

Cradle gravesites



Length: Approx. 6 ft
Width: Approx. 2 ft 8 in
Headstone height: From 2.5 ft to 4.5 ft

Granite headstones



Sizes range from:
2 ft 3 in wide x 3 ft tall
2 ft 11 in wide x 4 ft 6 in

Marble headstones



2 ft 7 in wide x 3 ft 9 in tall

Granite Coping



Overall dimensions:
Coping covers approx. 80 feet x 25 feet

Overtured coping: Approx. 14 ft in length

See overhead PDF for more detail.



William Reynolds Gravesite



Granite monument with bronze anchor

No work is currently required on this monument.



Dear Pete and the Sons of the Union,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide a proposal for the conservation work at the Reynolds lot in Lancaster Cemetery. We would like to give some explanation about the following proposal.

We use industry-leading materials and practices for our repairs and cleaning. For the headstones that need to be filled or patched, we will use a lime mortar mix material or Jahn Restoration Mortars. In addition, when we specify "level," "plumb," or "straighten," we will use modified crushed stone underneath the base or around the tablet headstones to provide drainage and a level surface. We are an Authorized Jahn Installer and use Jahn products in our work.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide a proposal for you. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Wilson Roth
Roth Cemetery Services
717-823-0277



ROTH

CEMETERY SERVICES

Proposal

Reynolds Lot - Lancaster Cemetery

Please See Corresponding Photographs

#	Name	Repair Description
1	Corner	Provide support underneath the corner with a 30 inch deep concrete footer and repair the broken pieces
2	Coping	Reset the coping onto the existing pillars
3	Coping	Reposition the coping surrounding the rest of the lot
4	Vase	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed, re-pin and reset the vase as needed
5	Lydia Reynolds	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed and reset the cradle grave
6	George Gildersleve	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed
7	William Gildersleve	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed
8	Jane Reynolds	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed
9	Edward Landis	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed
10	Henry Landis	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed
11	Vase	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed, re-pin and reset the vase as needed
12	John Reynolds	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed
13	Kate Evans	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed
14	Jane	Level the base on a tamped gravel bed and reset the cradle grave
15	John Reynolds Obelisk	Infill the cracks with a restoration mortar
16	Swap places with #17	
17	Swap places with #16	
18	James Reynolds	Level the monument with gravel
19	Lydia Reynolds	Center the top of the box tomb on the sides
20	Topsoil	Spread 6 yards of topsoil throughout the lot to prevent erosion

Total to complete all of the above work: \$12,000

Prepared By: Wilson Roth 5/10/24.

Please sign here to accept the proposal: _____ Date: _____

Terms: 25% deposit due at signed contract. The balance is due at project completion. Proposal prices will remain current for 90 days.

Please make check payable to JW Roth Contracting, LLC



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2 / 19



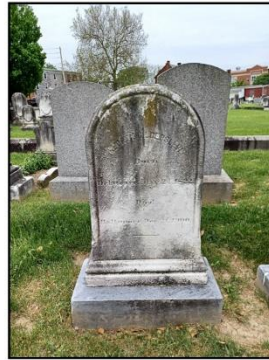
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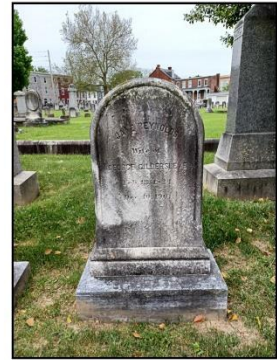
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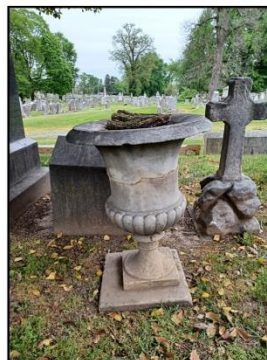
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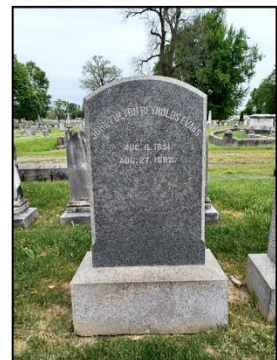
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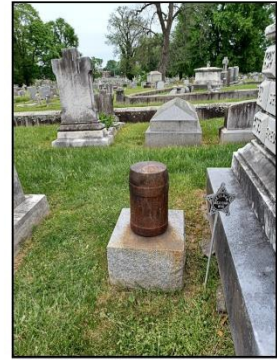
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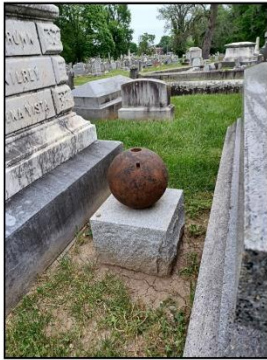
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“No man died on that field with more glory than he, yet many died, and there was much glory.”

— Brevet Major General Henry Hunt



About the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) is a fraternal organization dedicated to preserving the history and legacy of the heroes who fought and worked to save the Union. Organized in 1881 and chartered by Congress in 1954, the SUVCW is the legal successor to the Grand Army of the Republic. As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, gifts to the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War are tax-deductible.

The SUVCW National Headquarters is located in the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Here in Lancaster, the General George H. Thomas, Camp 19, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War was chartered on February 13, 1889, and there has been an active Camp in Lancaster ever since. Please contact Camp Commander Scott Fasnacht (scottmfasnacht@mac.com) if you are interested in membership in the order or learning more about the SUVCW.

About the Lancaster Cemetery

The Lancaster Cemetery is a 20-acre, Victorian-era cemetery in Lancaster, PA, that was established in 1846 by the First Reformed Church of Lancaster. Today, the Lancaster Cemetery remains a functioning cemetery and a fascinating representation of Victorian values and sentiment.

The remains of many distinguished Lancaster citizens can be found here, statesmen, soldiers, educators, religious leaders, musicians, and community benefactors. The cemetery's *Veteran Stone Project* has confirmed nearly 1,400 US Veterans who are at rest here.

A non-profit organization, the cemetery runs on the skills, efforts, and donations of its friends and neighbors.



**The Reynolds
Restoration Project**
www.reynoldsrestoration.org

REYNOLDS

Preserving our past. Embracing the future.

A collaboration of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and the Lancaster Cemetery, the Reynolds Restoration Project seeks to preserve the memory of Major General John Fulton Reynolds, Admiral William Reynolds, and the other members of the family interred at Lancaster Cemetery through the repair, rehabilitation, and stabilization of the family plot and its markers.

Join our preservation effort.
Contribute today.



Rehab and stabilize John Reynolds' obelisk.



Stabilize ground and reset stones.
Repair and reset cradle headstones.



Repair, replace, and reset granite coping.

Support this important preservation effort today!

From the imposing marble obelisk to the delicate cradle headstones, the Reynolds family plot is an integral part of this beautiful Victorian-era cemetery and a valuable piece of Lancaster's rich Civil War history. Your generous contributions will help us achieve our \$25,000 goal.

To learn more about this project and its scope, the Reynolds family, or to donate, please use this QR code or visit www.reynoldsrestoration.org.

Checks are payable to SUVCW Camp 19 and mailed to:

**Scott Fasnacht
2152 Wexford Road
Palmyra, PA 17078**



The Reynolds Restoration Project



Help Camp 19 preserve the legacy of Major General John Fulton Reynolds, Admiral William Reynolds, and other members of the family through the repair, rehabilitation, and stabilization of the family plot and its markers.



RESTORATION PROJECT

Lancaster Cemetery looks to repair plot of Union leader

Concerns are cracks in obelisk honoring Reynolds, damage to other tombstones in plot

KARYL CARMIGNANI
FOR LNP | LANCASTERONLINE

The 16-foot-tall marble obelisk towers above the scatter of gravestones surrounding it. The base is a work of art for its time, the stone carver depicting battles fought, Army insignia, emblems of military rank and patriotic symbolism. The tower honors a Lancaster native and one of the most admired Union leaders of all time: Maj. Gen. John Fulton Reynolds.

Today, this iconic monument is in desperate need of repair.

The Lancaster Cemetery, with grave markers dating back to the American Revolution, has partnered with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to raise \$15,000 for the Reynolds Restoration Project. The funds will be used to repair, rehabilitate, and stabilize the gravestones, markers and decorative elements of the Reynolds family plot.

"We would like to uphold the image of the cemetery," says Scott Fasnacht, former camp commander of Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. He says the team is proud to partner with the cemetery to help keep it in "tip-top shape and honor Union soldiers."

Fasnacht says the Reynolds plot requires repair of the cracks in the marble obelisk and stabilization of the base, as well as repairs to surrounding headstones. Because the 70-by-20-foot plot is above ground, tombstones shift from seasonal freezes and thaws, he explains.

The marble obelisk is surrounded by more than 20 tombstones of Reynolds' family members. Many tombstones have suffered the ravages of time and weather, including acid rain, according to Justin Herbert, a Lancaster Cemetery board member.

The restoration project aims to bring

the family plot to a sustainable position and prevent deterioration, Fasnacht says.

The Lancaster Cemetery, a 22-acre Victorian-era burial ground established in 1846, is still popular with visitors and locals alike. As one of the largest green spaces in downtown, it is the final resting place for approximately 17,000 Lancastrians, including 1,400 veterans.

Herbert, who is also director of management and research at Franklin & Marshall College, mows the grass at

CEMETERY, page E2

The Lancaster Cemetery obelisk honoring Maj. Gen. John Fulton Reynolds and the other graves of the Reynolds family plot are in need of repair. The monument is seen here on Nov. 16, 2024.

MARY ELLEN WRIGHT | STAFF WRITER



Cemetery: *Raising funds to restore site*

Continued from E1

the cemetery during the summer and helps with other maintenance projects throughout the year.

"In my time there, someone always stops to see the Reynolds monument," he says. "It's the most visited in the cemetery."

He says sometimes people visit the Reynolds plot on their way to Gettysburg, as that is where the major general was killed.

Herbert says there are also plenty of "taphophiles" — people interested in genealogy, reading grave markers and the art history of a cemetery — and historians who visit the grounds. The cemetery's recent designation as Kaneko Arboretum — with 150 mature trees, diverse species and year-round visual interest — gives people another reason to visit.

"For someone who gave so much to his country, it seems the least we can do is to preserve his memory in this way," Herbert says.

Who was Maj. Gen. John F. Reynolds?

Reynolds, one of nine surviving children, was born in Lancaster on Sept. 20, 1820. A historical marker at 42 W. King St. honors where his family home once stood.

Reynolds was nominated to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point by future President James Buchanan, a family friend, according to the American Battlefield Trust. While he graduated middle of the pack, he went on to demonstrate extraordinary leadership and bravery through 10 battles, which are carved by name into the base of the now-cracked obelisk. Reynolds was engaged to Catherine Mary Hewitt, but because she was a Catholic and he a Protestant, they



MARY ELLEN WRIGHT | STAFF WRITER

The Lancaster Cemetery has partnered with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War to raise \$15,000 for the Reynolds Restoration Project. The funds will be used to repair, rehabilitate and stabilize the gravestones, markers and decorative elements of the family plot of Maj. Gen. John Fulton Reynolds.

kept their engagement secret.

On a hot summer morning, July 1, 1863, Reynolds was leading his forces toward Gettysburg. Confederate soldiers were almost there, as well. He led his First Corps to the strategically advantageous McPherson Ridge. Reynolds was killed instantly after a bullet pierced his neck. He was the highest-ranking soldier on either side killed at Gettysburg.

His somber funeral on July 4, 1863, in Lancaster was well-attended, according to sexton George Lutz, as reported in the Lancaster Intelligencer on May 4, 1881.

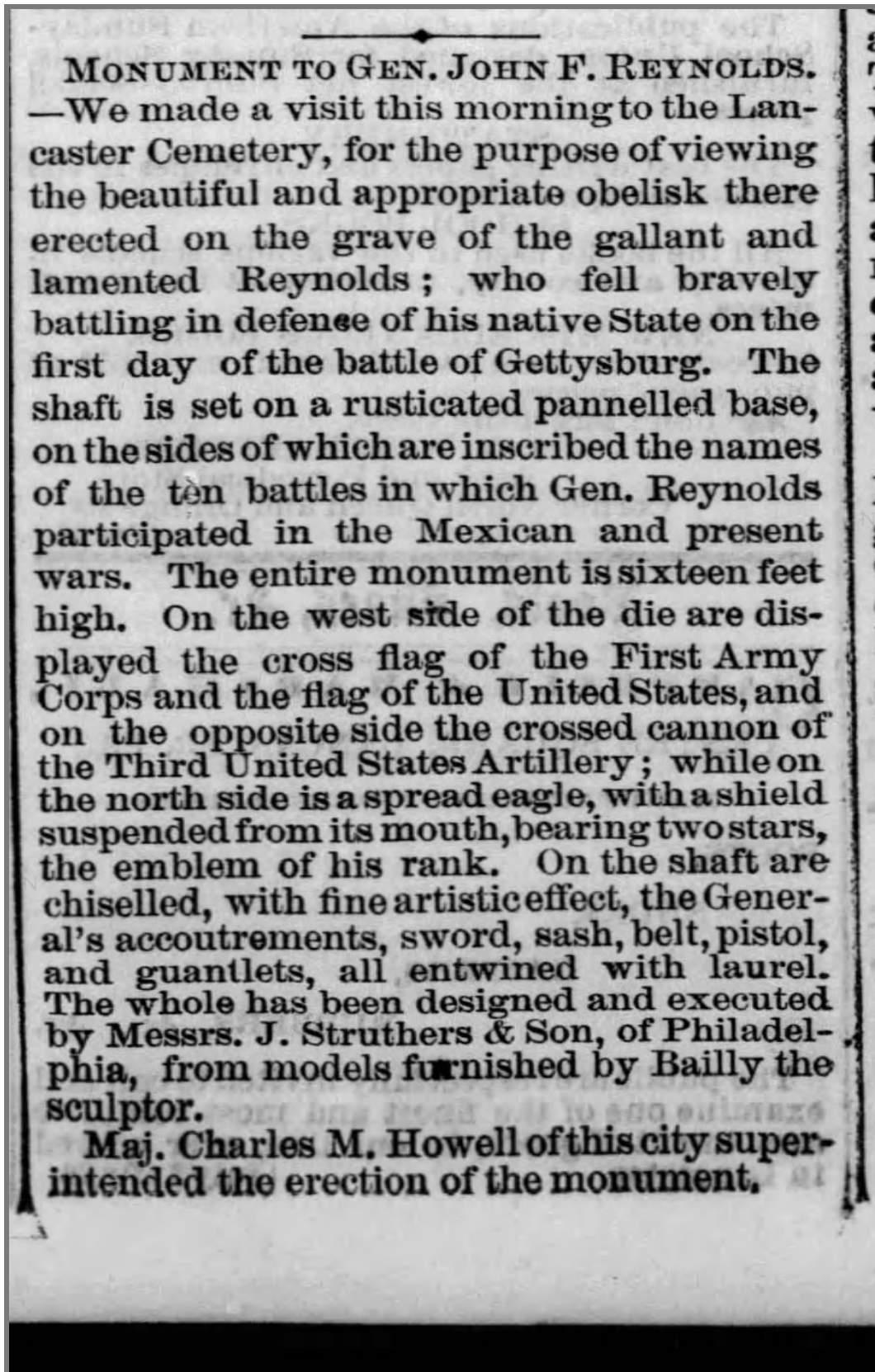
For historians, including Herbert, Reynolds is an important piece of American history.

"Reynolds basically chose the location of that battle on that hill," Herbert says. "His actions that day

WAYS TO HELP

Donations to the Reynolds Restoration Project may be made online at reynoldsrestoration.org. Herbert says there are ongoing volunteer opportunities at the cemetery on the first Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. Tasks may include assembling signs for the arboretum, cleaning tombstones and tidying the grounds. During the summer and fall months, people can join the core group that mows the grass, clears weeds and mulches different plots. Follow Lancaster Cemetery on Facebook to learn about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

changed the outcome of that war — he chose to engage. The Union won because they had that hill."



Reynolds Obelisk erected

Clipped By:
scottmfasnacht
Jun 21, 2025

REYNOLDS' MONUMENT: A handsome monument was yesterday erected over the remains of the late General John F. Reynolds, in the Lancaster Cemetery of this city. It is sixteen feet high, of white marble, and contains on a rustic die, the names of the following battles the General took part in: Fort Brown, Monterey, Buena Vista, Rogue River, Mechanicsville, Gaines' Mills, Second Bull Run, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg. On the shaft is cut in relief, a sword, sash, belt, gauntlet gloves, crossed cannon and flags, eagle, and shield. The monument contains the following inscription: "John Fulton Reynolds Colonel of the Fifth Infantry, U. S. Army, Major General of Volunteers, Born, September 21st, 1820. Killed at the battle of Gettysburg, while in command of the left wing of the Army of the Potomac." The monument was built by Mr. Struthers, of Philadelphia, from funds contributed for the purpose, by soldiers who served under dec'd. It was erected on the family lot in the Cemetery without ceremony of any kind.
