

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:

People of Washington Co., Pennsylvania

Original Dedication Date May 30, 1872

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

At the circle between Sections I and L in the Washington Cemetery

The Memorial is *currently* located at:

Street/Road address or site location

498 Park Avenue GPS Coordinates N 40.16048 W 80.25241

City/Village &/or Township Washington

County Washington State Pennsylvania Zip Code 15301

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

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name Washington Cemetery

Dept./Div. _____

Street Address 498 Park Avenue

City Washington State Pennsylvania Zip Code 15301

Contact Person _____ Telephone (724) 225-1040 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.) Sandstone

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:

Parrot (REPLICAS, replaced in 2000)

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 _____

Materials of the Memorial _____

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

41' _____ Height 12' _____ Width 12' _____ 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.

THIS MONUMENT / IS ERECTED BY / THE PEOPLE OF / WASHINGTON COUNTY / IN HONOR OF HER / DEVOTED
SONS, / WHO DIED FOR THEIR / COUNTRY IN THE / GREAT REBELLION.

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 _____

[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 22 June A. D. 2025
 Your Name Sumner Gary Hunnewell
 Address 2030 San Pedro Dr
 City Arnold State MO Zip Code 63010
 Telephone () _____ E-Mail _____

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

SUVCW, Dept. of Missouri, Gen. Thomas C. Fletcher Camp 47 / U S Grant Camp 68

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) .

Inspector's Name Sumner Gary Hunnewell Date 22 June A. D. 2025

Washington Cemetery

Walking Map

We hope you find this map informative & interesting. If we can assist you in any way, please let us know.

POINTS OF INTEREST



The **Washington Cemetery** was incorporated in March 1853 as a not-for-profit, non-sectarian, traditional Cemetery. The Cemetery encompasses 245 acres in North Franklin Township and has performed over 47,000+ burials. The Cemetery is comprised of 2 maintenance buildings, one administration building, four community mausoleums, and one crematorium. Over 7 miles of roadway wind through the grounds with 4 miles of water lines for lot owner convenience. The Washington Cemetery is the largest not-for-profit, non-sectarian, traditional Cemetery in Washington County.

YESTERDAY - TODAY - TOMORROW

1. Sarah Foster Hanna Founder of The Washington Cemetery; President of The Washington Female Seminary.
2. First Interment: November 1, 1853
Infant John Morgan Hayes.
3. Glacier Memorial A boulder reportedly carried by the Great Continental Glacier from Canada to Ithica, NY, now utilized as a memorial.
4. Civil War Veteran's Section
5. James and Margaret Wilson
First Settlers of Washington, PA.
6. Veteran's Section -- All Wars
7. Washington County Vietnam Veteran's Memorial
8. "Garden of Angels" Bronze sculpture by Alan Cottrill.
9. Joseph 'Jock' Albert Yablonsky Mr. Yablonsky, his wife, and his daughter were all murdered on January 5, 1970 in retaliation to a conflict arising from a United Mine Worker's election.
10. Garden Mausoleum Established 1998.
11. "Serenity" Chapel Mausoleum Established 1988.
12. Crosbie Memorial Plaque In recognition of the Thomas Crosbie family who established a 110 year tenure as successive Superintendent's of The Washington Cemetery.
13. Medal of Honor Recipient Hugh P. Boon, Captain Civil War, Company B-1, WV Cav.
14. Community Mausoleum Established 1920.
15. Crematorium Established 1985.
16. Four Seasons Mausoleum Established 2015.
17. Malcolm Parcell, American Artist.



The Washington Cemetery
498 Park Avenue - Washington, PA 15301
Main Office: 724-225-1040
Family Service Office: 724-225-4780
www.washingtonpacemetery.com

Washington

Sunday

Also covering Greene County and the Mid Mon Valley

david templeton

Seldom Seen

*The fire
in my loins
could bend
molten steel*

What is it about blacksmithing that turns the male psyche white-hot? The blacksmith's a Greek god who harnesses earth, wind and fire to his benefit.



He's Superman, who bends steel to forestall evil and advance civilization. At the very least, he holds license to use hot air to do something other than win arguments, and can bend, twist and curl without venturing onto a dance floor.

So, take your pick, because blacksmithing can pump life into anyone's Limp Bizkit.

I was thinking about this after a day-long blacksmith class last weekend at the Meadowcroft Museum of Rural Life in Jefferson near Avella. I wasn't sure I'd enjoy it, but afterward I was glowing — and not because my forehead got too close to the flames. I actually bent steel. I forged memories.

For hours after, I was convinced this was how I wanted to vent wayward creativity. I thought of building a backyard blacksmith shop. I envisioned the living room walls full of metal miracles. I wanted my works hanging in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

But then my wife called me to dinner. David R. Scofield, Meadowcroft director, is the practiced blacksmith who taught our class of five and made it look easy. Heat the metal, swing the hammer and fancy swirls appear.

He began with classroom pronouncements about the ancient skills of metal shaping that have persisted for millennia. He prefers "creating something useful," such as tools and wagon wheels, unlike members of Artist Blacksmiths of North America, whose creative pieces decorate walls and coffee tables.

By the time we headed to Meadowcroft's blacksmith shop, we were oozing testosterone, bearing our teeth. Hammers and fire and metal, oh, yeah.

But my ego vanished when I volunteered to pump the bellows and couldn't reach the chain. Scofield, who seems to be about 9 feet tall, fetched it for me. I gave a few tugs, then hid behind the anvil.

Of course, he would get his comeuppance.

He began by trying to spark a fire the old-fashioned way — with a metal striker, flint, char-cloth and flax. When that didn't work — humidity? bad flint? Murphy's Law? — he used a match.

Fire lit, he fed it coal chips whose impurities swirled in black columns. Once the impurities burned away, coke remained to fuel the metal-heating process. Roaring flames licked at our restless souls.

SEE **BLACKSMITH**, PAGE W-7

Hear the cannons roar

The silent trade of Washington Cemetery's four Civil War-era artillery pieces for shiny, new replicas has outraged local historians. But the transaction, others say, saved the guns from extinction.

By JOE SMYDO
POST-GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

On Decoration Day 1872, Washington County residents gathered at the courthouse, then proceeded by foot, carriage and horseback to Washington Cemetery for the dedication of a monument honoring the county's Civil War dead.

"From the time when the first call for troops was made known until the surrender of the principal hostile army made further calls unnecessary, the young men, the middle-aged men and sometimes the old men of Washington responded to each appeal with an alacrity and patriotism not excelled in any other county of the state or Union," author Boyd Crumrine wrote in his history of the county, published in 1882.

Now, some local historians are up in arms because the cemetery has sold the four Civil War cannons that stood at each corner of the monument and replaced the historic artillery pieces with replicas. The way the historians see it, the shiny look-alikes are a posthumous insult to hometown patriots such as Cpl. Theodore J. Dye, who fell at Antietam; Pvt. William H. Barnett, who died at Gaines' Mill; and Pvt. Griffith D. Taylor, killed at Fredericksburg.

"There's a little bit of our history that's missing now," said Ray Forquer, a Washington artist and Civil War buff.

Ben Costello, an attorney and Washington County Historical Society member, said he would have "big problems" if he carried off a cannon from Fort Necessity National Battlefield in Wharton, Fayette County, for example.

"I don't see this as being much different," said Costello, who questioned the cemetery's authority to disturb the monument.

John Knisely, Washington County commander of Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, also questioned the authority's ownership of the cannons.



Robert J. Pavuchak/Post-Gazette photos



Above and left: Two of the four Civil War cannon replicas surrounding the Civil War monument on a hill in Washington Cemetery and overlooking downtown Washington.

TRINITY SCHOOLS

Board pays director to settle bias lawsuit

By JOE SMYDO
POST-GAZETTE STAFF WRITER

In a confidential deal, Trinity Area School Board has agreed to pay an administrator \$85,000 to settle a federal lawsuit in which she accused two superintendents and two board members of discriminating against her.

The board voted May 18 to settle the case with Shirley M. Cummins, Trinity's director of special education.

The school board and Cummins agreed to keep the settlement details secret.

Under the settlement, Cummins may be paid in two installments: \$20,000 by June 30 and the balance by July 15. Some or all of the money may come from the district's insurance carrier.

The settlement also requires the district to hire a part-time confidential secretary for the special-education department and to write Cummins a "letter of commendation" expressing regret for "any misunderstandings."

"The board of school directors of Trinity Area School District acknowledges and appreciates the contribution of Shirley M. Cummins to the operation of the school district's programs for special-needs students," a draft of the letter says. "To the extent that its prior actions may have created a contrary impression in Ms. Cummins, the board expresses its regret for any such misunderstanding."

One copy of the letter must be given to Cummins; a second must be placed in her personnel file.

The district acknowledged no wrongdoing in the settlement; the settlement is described "as an economic decision" on Trinity's part.

Cummins, 70, filed the lawsuit last year against the district, Superintendent Douglas Masciola, former Superintendent Donald Lee, former board President Martin O'Brien and former board member Antoinette Fitch.

Cummins claimed age, sex and religious discrimination dating to 1995, saying she was mistreated first because she protested the district's refusal to provide adequate services to children with disabilities and later because she threatened legal action.

The suit accused O'Brien of saying Cummins was too old for the job and claimed the defendants gave her poor performance reviews, denied her the secretarial help she needed and treated her less favorably than younger, male employees.

SEE **SUIT**, PAGE W-6

inside

COMMUNITY NEWS



Hair razing
Peters Township seventh-grader Max Mendelsohn comes clean — for a good cause — after a year without a haircut.
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SPORTS

A team thing
Waynesburg Central used its pitching depth, including Craig Bland, right, to win its first PIAA tournament game.
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With news from the **KD/PG** bureau in Washington and Greene counties

coverstory

Cannons: Replacements draw local historians' fire

CONTINUED FROM PAGE W-1

In many cases, the government donated cannons to Civil War veterans, said Knisely, whose great-great-grandfather, Harvey McGlumphy of Waynesburg, served in infantry and cavalry units. Knisely's group succeeded the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union Army soldiers.

Cemetery Superintendent Paul Shiring defended the sale that took place in 1997. Forquer, Costello and others upset with the cemetery's decision say they learned about the transaction by accident. There were many silent witnesses the day the cannons departed the cemetery by diesel-powered carriage; dead men tell no tales.

The guns now are in the private collection of Charlie Smithgall, mayor of Lancaster, who had the replicas made at the cemetery's request and also paid \$22,000 for the originals.

He said the guns were in abysmal condition and would have been worth nothing in a few years.

"They were the worst ones I've ever seen that didn't come out of saltwater," said Smithgall, a technical adviser on the 1993 movie "Gettysburg."

Smithgall may have the largest collection of Civil War artillery pieces in the world, said Wayne E. Stark, a resident of Economy, Beaver County, who has collected data on about 5,500 period cannon and co-wrote "The Big Guns."

Ordinarily, Stark said, he doesn't like to see cannons disappear into a private collection. But Stark, who traveled to Washington more than once to see the guns, said they were in such awful shape that he cannot object to Smithgall's purchase.

The cemetery had four Parrot guns, named for designer Robert Parker Parrot and manufactured in 1861 at West Point Foundry in Cold Spring, N.Y., Stark said.

The cannons have a bore 2.9 inches in diameter and were made to fire projectiles weighing as much as 10 pounds. Guns of that type were highly portable and used against infantry; bigger artillery pieces were used against fortifications, Stark said.

In today's market, a 2.9-inch Parrot in good condition would be worth about \$20,000, Stark said. In the condition he last saw them, he said, the cemetery's cannons would be worth about \$10,000 each today.

In his history, Crumrine says the cemetery's cannons saw service in the war.

However, Stark said the service histories of those cannons and most others are unknown because quarterly ordinance reports at the National Archives were deemed unimportant and destroyed in the 1950s. He said other documents show the Secretary of War donated the four Parrots to the local "monument association" in 1872.

Although it offered no documentation, cemetery officials said in a statement that they believed the War Department donated the Parrots to the cemetery in 1878 and that the guns never had been fired in battle.

"Spending cemetery funds for the restoration of those severely deteriorated cannon barrels, from our viewpoint, would have clashed with our obligation to friends, neighbors and families who rely on us for a final resting place of permanent dignity, beauty and accessibility. Conversely, obtaining funds by selling those cannon barrels clearly helped the cemetery continue to fulfill that important commitment to our community," the statement said.

The cemetery wasn't trying to keep the sale a secret, Shiring said. "The transfer was done in broad daylight," he said.

When they debuted in 1861, Parrots represented a giant step in military technology, said Chris Sedlak, a Smith resident and 1st lieutenant in the 9th Pennsylvania Reserves, a re-enactment group.

Unlike earlier, smooth-bore artillery pieces, Parrots came with a rifled, or grooved, barrel that increased accuracy. The Parrot was made of cast iron; bronze, the primary material in earlier cannons, was too soft for rifling, Sedlak said.

At the same time, the Parrot was built for greater range than earlier cannons. To withstand firing pressures, the Parrot had a distinctive wrought-iron band reinforcing

the breech, the rear inch of the gun, Sedlak said.

"This was state-of-the-art technology in 1861," said Sedlak, who is certified in the use of cannons by the National Civil War Artillery Association.

The New York foundry made 276 2.9-inch Parrots for the federal government, plus 75 for New York and six for Pennsylvania, and Parrot's initials were stamped on every one, Stark said.

In all, 110 of the guns are known to survive, Stark said. Before the sale to Smithgall, Washington County was home to 8 percent of them, according to Stark's records.

Plans for the Soldiers' Monument at Washington Cemetery took shape soon after the war ended in 1865, according to contemporary newspaper accounts.

Six years later, donations totaled less than \$6,000 — not enough for as grand a monument as planners envisioned. But they decided to begin construction anyway, hoping more money would be raised.

The monument was built on high ground, with a view of the courthouse. The weathered graves of Civil War veterans are nearby.

Built of sandstone from Massillon, Ohio, the monument is 41 feet high. It includes a statue of an infantry soldier and features the accouterments of war — muskets, cannons, swords, drums and flags — in relief. Sculpted mortar barrels also adorn the monument, which Crumrine declared "worthy of a critical examination."

In his last paragraph about the monument, Crumrine said, "Four large cannon, which saw service in the war, stand as its four corners."

Forquer said he was in the cemetery one day when he noticed an unusual shine on the guns.

A closer look told Forquer the real guns had been replaced. He noticed the barrels of the replicas weren't completely bored.

Monongahela Cemetery has three 2.9-inch Parrots, and Chess Park, also in Monongahela, has one, according to Stark's records. The cemetery has turned



Robert J. Pavuchak/Post-Gazette photo

The Civil War Monument in Washington Cemetery with a replacement cannon.

down sales offers "probably two or three times," Superintendent Mark Affinito said.

Knisely said he fears collectors are scouring town squares and cemeteries all over the country, looking to buy precious Civil War artifacts cheaply. Financially strapped cemeteries, he said, may be particularly inclined to sell.

Peters resident Ken Watterson has a 2.9-inch Parrot in his collection of about 15 Civil War cannons. He said he intends to open a museum within a couple of months.

Forquer said the Soldiers' Monument is

a museum in its own right. If cemetery officials needed help restoring the cannons, he said, they could have turned to the local art community for help.

Replicas don't impress Costello, who said, "You all know the value of a counterfeit."

In its statement, cemetery officials said they offer free burial space to veterans and salute veterans with a number of memorials on the grounds. "We believe that Civil War-era cannon barrels added minimal embellishment to this spirit of gratitude and honor to veterans."



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