

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:

Farragut Post #27, Department of Indiana, at Evansville, Indiana.

Original Dedication Date May 30, 1883

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

Oak Hill Cemetery

The Memorial is *currently* located at: Soldiers Lot

Street/Road address or site location 1400 E. Virginia Street

GPS Coordinates 37.9851611, 87.536775

City/Village &/or Township Evansville

County Vanderburgh

State Indiana

Zip Code 47711

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

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name City of Evansville

Dept./Div. Cemeteries

Street Address 1400 E. Virginia Street

City Evansville

State Indiana

Zip Code 47711

Contact Person Becky Zoch

Telephone (812) 435-6045

ext

Is Memorial on the National Register of Historic Places ☒ Yes ☐ No ID # if known 04000205

Registered March 22, 2004.

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.) Wood

Material of the Sculpture ☐ Stone ☐ Concrete ☐ Metal ☐ Other Is it hollow or solid? N/A

If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.)

Not listed in the national cannon database as being in this cemetery

For Historic Marker or Plaque: None

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = _____

For Cannons with/without monument: Breach loading / Local manufacturer.

Material of Cannon = _____ Bronze ☒ Iron _____ Type of Cannon (if known) _____ Rifled ☒ Yes _____ No

Markings: Muzzle None Base Ring/Breech None

Left Trunion None Right Trunion None

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

57" Height 65" Width 132" Depth or N/A 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 None

Please attach legible photographs of all text &/or Record the text in the space below. Please use the addendum – narrative sheet if necessary.

This ordnance is mounted on a wooden carriage that has deteriorated and collapsed. The tube was manufactured by the Evansville & Crawfordsville Railroad machine shop in July 1861. Though there are no markings on the tube to indicate the maker, newspaper articles in 1861 clearly describe the cannon. Again in April 1883, the cannon was described by the Farragut Post #27 in detail as being a 3" bore with 36 lands and grooves and that the cannon was breach loading. The uniqueness of the cannon cannot be mistaken for any other type of gun.

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 The cannon sits outside among Civil War graves in the elements.

[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 April 1, 2025

Your Name David Hoesli

Address 13945 N. CR. 475 E.

City Lamar

State IN

Zip Code 47550

Telephone () 812-205-8155

E-Mail swincoll@hotmail.com

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

John W. Foster Camp No. 2, Department of Indiana

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...	_____	_____
<u>Wood carriage rotted away. Wheels collapsed.</u>	_____	_____

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) .

The cannon and carriage has completely collapsed and was put in storage until repairs could be made.

Inspector's Name David Hoesli

Date June 28, 2026

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: Oak Hill Cemetery

Street/Road address or site location Soldiers Lot

GPS Coordinates 37.9851611, 87.536775

City/Village and/or Township Evansville

County Vanderburgh

State Indiana

Zip Code 47711

TEXT

This cannon has been moved to the University of Southern Indiana for reconstruction from wood carriage to a metal carriage to reduce deterioration.

Inspector's Name David Hoesli

Date June 28, 2026



SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

JOHN W. FOSTER CAMP No. 2

DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA

Office of the Commander



Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War Civil War Memorial Fund Grant

Brothers,

You will please find the following application and documentation requesting a grant of \$2,000 from the SUVCW Memorial Fund. I would like to take a moment to explain the project that the John W. Foster Camp No. 2, Department of Indiana is currently involved with.

In 2022, the Foster Camp proposed to raise the funds needed to restore the Civil War Section at Oak Hill Cemetery known to the Farragut Post #27 of the GAR as the “Soldiers Lot”. During the Civil War, the local hospitals buried our dead Union soldiers in this section until it had reached over 570 burials.

When the Farragut Post #27 was organized in 1881, they sought to make this section a memorial for those that had died during war and for those veterans that passed after the war. During the same year, the Farragut Post located two ordnances that were manufactured in Evansville during the war (1861). They refurbished the gun carriages and placed them near the top of the Soldiers Lot facing West.

In 1899 when many of the GAR Posts across the country were looking for condemned ordnance to place in their cemeteries and courthouse lawns, the Farragut Post received two 8” Siege guns, two 8” Mortars and two pyramids of 8” cannonballs. In addition to these guns, they placed a fence around the section with posts that resembled cannon barrels and about 350 feet of twisted link chain.

Our efforts to restore the section include cleaning and straightening the military headstones and painting the fence as well as the siege guns and mortars. While this part of the restoration is easily done at a low cost, the two field gun carriages are not. With the help of the Oak Hill Cemetery budgeted funds, local heritage groups and private donations, we managed to have the first field gun cast at the Clarksville Foundry and were able to assemble the carriage and apply protective primer and paint which resulted in having this carriage placed back on the Soldiers Lot on Veterans Day, 2025.

This left us with the second field carriage to complete and what we are currently working on. This cannon was manufactured in July 1861 by the Evansville & Crawfordsville Railroad machine shop for the protection of Evansville during the war. The tube is a rare 3” rifled,

breechloading design. The tube is such that a normal No. 1 field carriage was not feasible to use. Rather, the cheek and trail area had to be redesigned to except the E & C tube.

In 2024 we approached the University of Southern Indiana, Center for Applied Research with blueprints in hand to create a No. 1 field carriage with the adjustments needed to except the rifled E & C tube. A few months later they provided a CAD design for the carriage. In April of 2025, they contracted with the Foster Camp to make the carriage only (see attached copy of contract), with the wheels coming from the Clarksville Foundry.

The second gun carriage has progressed slowly due to raising the funds and the universities schedule. We are nearing completion and are still short of reaching our goal by a few thousand dollars. The funds we recently received from the SUVCW Charitable Foundation Grant totaling \$2,000, were used to help acquire the two cast iron wheels from the Clarksville Foundry. The grant for \$2,000 we are now seeking from the Civil War Memorial Fund will allow us to complete the second carriage. This carriage will be coated with epoxy primer and painted for years of protection. Once completed, the Foster Camp will be left making a concrete slab for each of the carriages for protection from sinking in the ground as well as painting the other guns and fence. I feel we can raise the remainder of expenses through donations.

The historical importance of the Soldiers Lot is paramount. Nowhere else in Southwest Indiana can we go to see so many soldiers that died during the war in the local hospitals or view two cannons actually cast and machined in Evansville, especially a rare, rifled cannon all in the same location. This plot is a sacred location that should never be neglected. The John W. Foster Camp No. 2 has and always will treat it as such.

Please see the images below for past and present work on the two Evansville cannon carriages that are located at Oak Hill Cemetery. The first and second images are of the Kratz & Heilman manufactured cannon built in 1861 that has been completed and returned to the cemetery. The third, fourth, fifth and sixth images are of the second cannon manufactured at the E & C machine shop and the cannon we are seeking the grant for. The final image is of Section 24 referred to as the "Soldiers Lot" that we are restoring.

We ask that this committee will look favorable towards awarding this grant to the John W. Foster Camp No. 2. This grant will bring use near the finish line in preserving the memory of these veterans.

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

David Hoesli

Commander
John W. Foster Camp No. 2
Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Senior Vice Commander
Department of Indiana
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War



Completed first cannon.



Damage to first cannon.



Damage to second cannon.



New iron wheels for second cannon.



Work on the second cannon at USI.



Work on the second cannon at USI.



Section 24 at Oak Hill Cemetery also known as the “Soldiers Lot”. Shows Mortars in front, Siege guns top left and one field carriage. The other field carriage was already removed due to damage. This section is being restored completely with new field carriages, fresh paint and headstone cleaning.



Client: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Contact: David Hoesli
Date: April 14, 2025
Number: 2022-1251.2

USI CONTRACT AGREEMENT
Fabrication: Cannon Base

EXHIBIT "A": SCOPE OF WORK

A continuation of project 2022-1251, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War ("SUVCW") is seeking assistance from the Center for Applied Research to bend and weld the pieces previously cut for the vintage cannon carriage.

Modifications may be requested and additional services can be provided; however, additional charges will be incurred for additional services.

USI Responsibilities:

1. Bend, weld, and assemble the parts previously cut for the cannon carriage

SUVCW Responsibilities:

1. To respond in a timely manner to information requests from USI

Deliverables from USI to SUVCW:

1. A physical carriage to which SUVCW can attach wheels and use to support the cannon for display purposes

Total Price Estimate:

Total price for the assembly of the cut pieces is **\$2,000.00** based on the students' estimated time to create and assemble the corresponding steel parts.

USI will monitor and verify hours and material costs and will advise as the estimate is approached. Additional hours and costs beyond the estimate will require permission of the client to proceed.

Payment Terms:

USI shall invoice Client for the Contract Sum upon completion of the Work and delivery of the final report. All invoices shall be payable net thirty (30) days, together with attorney fees and cost of collection incurred by USI in the event of default in payment.

Dates of Performance:

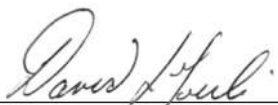
Upon execution of the signed proposal, completion of the physical carriage is anticipated within 4 weeks.

EXHIBIT "B" – CLIENT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- ☐ Client will not be providing any existing intellectual property
- ☒ Client will provide the following intellectual property to be associated with the Work:

Blueprints and specifications of the cannon base to be replicated.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

By: 
Printed Name: David Hoesli
Title: Commander, Foster Camp No.
2 Date: 4/16/2025

By: _____
Printed Name: Dawn Stoneking
Title: Exec. Dir., Outreach & Engagement
Date: _____

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL FUND REQUEST**

(Form CWM #62)

REQUESTOR INFORMATION (Please print or type)

CAMP AND DEPARTMENT NAME: John W. Foster Camp No. 2, Department of Indiana

NAME/ TITLE OF CONTACT PERSON: David Hoesli / Commander

ADDRESS: 13945 N. CR. 475 E.

CITY: Lamar STATE: Indiana ZIP CODE: 47550

PHONE(S): 812-205-8155 E-MAIL: swincoll@hotmail.com

SIGNATURE: 

NAME OF MEMORIAL/MONUMENT Evansville & Crawfordsville Railroad Cannon

NAME, NUMBER & STREET ADDRESS OF CEMETERY OR OTHER LOCATION

Oak Hill Cemetery, 1400 E. Virginia Street, Evansville, Indiana, 47550

LOCATION DESCRIPTION (i.e. corner of 3rd and Lincoln St) Located within the Civil War Section 24.

Referred to as the "Soldiers Lot".

GPS N 37.9851 W 87.5367 City Evansville State Indiana ZIP 47550

WAS REQUIRED FORM CWM-61: GAR MONUMENTS/CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS ASSESSMENT SUBMITTED? Y ☒ N ☐

X ☒ EXISTING MONUMENT ☐ NEW MONUMENT ☐ LAST SOLDIER PROJECT

RESTORATION COST \$ 28,000 AMOUNT RAISED \$ 23,000 REQUESTED \$ 2,000

CHECK PAYABLE TO: John W. Foster Camp No. 2, SUVCW

ADDRESS: 5225 Valeah Dr.

CITY: Wadesville STATE: Indiana ZIP CODE: 47638

Memorial Grant Committee Use Only					
Grant Request # _____			Amount Approved \$ _____		
Approve	Deny	Table	Name Committee Member	Signature	Date

Check box, sign, date & return completed email to Committee Chair, who will send to National Treasurer for payment.

MONUMENT/ MEMORIAL INFORMATION

WHEN WAS IT BUILT: 1861 WHO OWNS IT: City of Evansville, Indiana

WHO IS FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE? City of Evansville, Indiana. Limited budget.

ARE MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS AVAILABLE? No FROM WHERE: _____

ARE OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE? Yes FROM WHERE: City of Evansville, Indiana, Local Heritage Groups, John W. Foster Camp No. 2, SUVCW, & private donations.

WAS A GRANT FROM THE SUVCW PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED FOR THIS PROJECT? Charitable Foundation
DATE: 5/27/2026 AMOUNT: \$2,000

DESCRIBE THE WORK THE GRANT IS NEEDED FOR (Be specific, use continuation sheet if needed)

The overall project includes restoring two cannon carriages. Repainting two siege guns and two mortars. Repainting 30 ornate fence posts and 360 feet of twisted chain. The first cannon has been completed and placed back into Section 24. This grant will fund the second cannon that is currently being restored. The contract cost for USI Engineering Center to do the fabrication of the carriage parts will be \$2,000 (see copy of contract for details). They have already done a CAD makeup and a wooden model. These funds will cover the fabrication portion of the second carriage less the wheels. The iron wheels have already been purchased for the second carriage. The Charitable Foundation funds for \$2,000 were used towards the cast iron wheels that came at a cost of \$6,340. The remainder came from donations.

WHO EVALUATED THE NEED FOR THE WORK AND WHAT ARE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS? David Hoesli & City of Evansville. By observation. Carriages collapsed to ground.

WHO WILL DO THE DESCRIBED WORK, AND WHAT ARE THEIR QUALIFICATIONS? Center for Applied Science. University Engineering Department and fabricators.

WHO WILL RECEIVE FUNDS IF GRANTED? John W. Foster Camp No. 2 to be paid to the USI Engineering Center.

LIST WHAT THE CAMP/DEPARTMENT HAS AND/OR WILL DO TO ACCOMPLISH THE PROJECT

The John W. Foster Camp No. 2 are raising the funds to have two field cannons restored and have raised \$23,000 so far to have one completed and placed back on Section 24. We have purchased some steel and the iron wheels for the second cannon. We will be cleaning and straightening 584 military headstones, repainting the fence, as well as painting two siege guns and two mortars. We will also be pouring concrete slabs for both guns to sit on so they do not sink