

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:

BAXTER SPRINGS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Original Dedication Date _____ 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: 6TH STREET NEAR MILITARY AVENUE (US 69) ON THE RIGHT WHEN TRAVELING EAST. UNDER THE SHELTER IN THE FORT BLAIR HISTORIC SITE

Street/Road address or site location 198 E. 6TH STREET GPS Coordinates 37DEG 1.777' NORTH-- 94 DEC 44.062 W

City/Village &/or Township BAXTER SPRINGS

County CHEROKEE State KANSAS Zip Code 66713

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

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

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: BRONZE PLAQUES

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 _____

Materials of the Memorial _____

Complete for All Memorials**Approximate Dimensions** (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points4 FEET _____ Height 5.2 FEET _____ 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.

3 BRONZE PLAQUES SECURED TO 4 INCH THICK CONCRETE TABLE TOP ON 48 INCH HIGH FLAGSTONE WALL - INSCRIPTIONS: Major General JG Blunt left Ft Scott on October 4, 1863 en route to Ft Smith, with him was his military escort consisting of about 125 men from Company I, 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry, and Co A 14th Kansas Cavalry. They proceeded by way of the Military Road, intending to visit Ft Blair on the way. Gen Blunt seemed to care a great deal about military display. He was proud of his elegantly uniformed band which played in the plaza at Ft Scott before they departed. Advancing south toward Baxter Springs and Ft. Blair, they crossed the ford at Willow Creek on the afternoon of October 6, where they stopped to prepare to proceed to the fort. The members of the band were ordered to the front. Gen Blunt and his staff, rode in the new ambulance, and were followed by the cavalry soldiers. The supply wagons brought up the rear. They approaching army stood out in striking contrast to the dull brown background of the autumn afternoon. They were easily seen by Quantrill's men who were regrouping northeast of Ft Blair intending to attack the fort a second time. Noticing the mounted soldiers dressed in federal uniforms advancing from Spring River, Blunt at first thought them to be an escort sent by Lt. Pond to welcome him. By the time he realized they were rebels, Blunt had little time to order his men into position for an attack. Quantrill's men charged them at once. Seeing that they were greatly outnumbered by possibly 5 to 1 - the union soldiers turned and fled over the prairie. Nearly all of Blunt's men were killed, perhaps as many as 95, although some reports differ about the number. Blunt was one of the few to survive. Quantrill's men, ignoring the rules of war, shot every man they encountered, even those trying to surrender. Many others were shot in the back of the head as they lay wounded on the prairie. The battle, known as Baxter Springs Massacre, marked the end of Blunt's distinguished military career. After aiding the wagons for supplies and liquor, Quantrill and his men continued south, hoping to spend the winter in Texas

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: Historical Site of Fort Blair

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*]

Inspector Identification _____ Date of On-site Survey 7/28/2026
 Your Name Sandy Cole Flores
 Address _____
 City Oklahoma City State OK Zip Code 73150
 Telephone () _____ E-Mail floresbrldy@aol.com

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

DUVCW Sallie Peacheater Tent 18 OKC --- WRC NIM ----- LGAR MAL

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) .

bronze plates need cleaned

Inspector's Name Sandy Cole Flores 7/29/2026

Date 7/28/2026

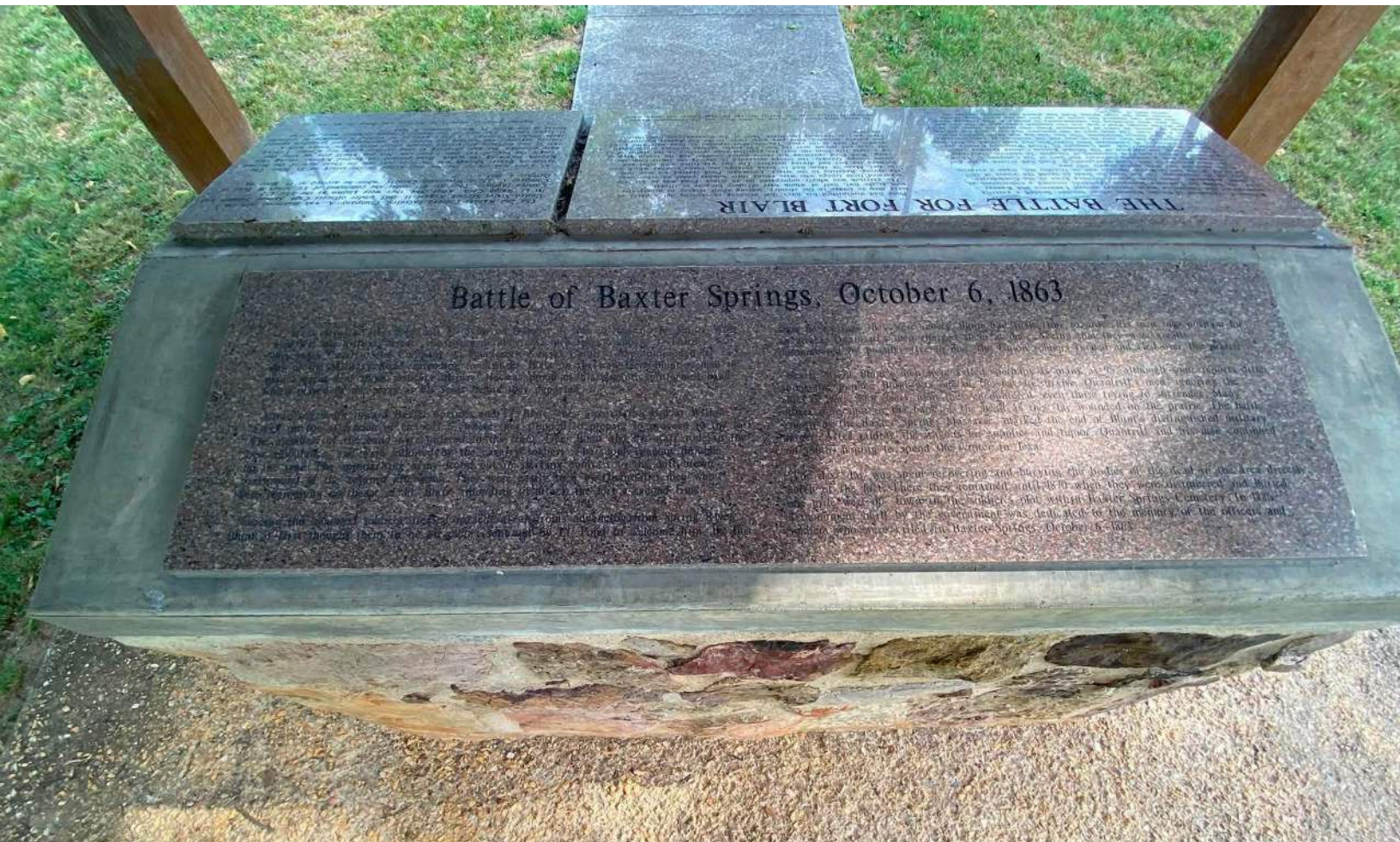
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM
ADDENDUM – NARRATIVE

[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.]

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County CHEROKEE State KANSAS Zip Code 66713

TEXT

Text continued ---- The next day was spent recovering and burying the bodies of the dead in the area directly north of the fort. There they remained until 1870 when there were disinterred and buried one mile west of town in the soldier's plot withing Baxter Springs Cemetery, In 1886, a monument built by the govenment was dedicated to the memory of the officers and soldiers who were killed in Baxter Springs, October 6th, 1863



THE BATTLE FOR FORT BLAIR

Battle of Baxter Springs, October 6, 1863

The battle of Baxter Springs, October 6, 1863, was a decisive victory for the Union forces. The battle took place in Baxter Springs, Missouri, and was a part of the larger conflict between the Union and the Confederacy. The Union forces, led by General James G. Blunt, defeated the Confederate forces, led by General John S. Marmaduke. The battle was a significant turning point in the war, as it marked the end of the Confederate advance into Missouri. The Union forces captured the town of Baxter Springs and the surrounding area. The Confederate forces were forced to retreat and were never able to return to the area. The battle was a major victory for the Union and a major defeat for the Confederacy.

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Battle of Baxter Springs, October 6, 1863

The 2nd Kansas Colored Infantry, Company A, was mustered into the United States Service August 11, 1863, under officers Capt. Samuel Sanders and 1st Lt. Ralph Cook. After 1864 they were known as the 2nd U.S. Colored Infantry. They all fell under the command of Lt. James H. Pond of Company C, 13th Wisconsin Cavalry, when he arrived at Ft. Blair on October 4, 1863.

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FORT BLAIR

The 2nd Kansas Colored Infantry, Company A, was mustered into the United States Service August 11, 1863, under officers Capt. Samuel Sanders and 1st Lt. Ralph Cook. After 1864 they were known as the 2nd U.S. Colored Infantry. They all fell under the command of Lt. James H. Pond of Company C, 13th Wisconsin Cavalry, when he arrived at Ft. Blair on October 4, 1863.

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Signage given in memory of Rahard and Betty in 1961





Battle of Baxter Springs, October 6, 1863

THE BATTLE FOR FORT BLAIR

William C. Quantrell, a former Kansas school teacher, headed the guerrilla army which had committed many outrages around Lawrence and Kansas City, one being the Lawrence Massacre. Quantrell received a commission as Colonel, supposedly either from General Sherman Price of the Confederate Government of Mississippi. On the route to Texas to spend the winter of 1862 he heard of the fort at Baxter Springs, and on October 20, made an surprise attack upon the fort with approximately 300 men.

Two days previous to this, Lieutenant James B. Ford had arrived at the fort bringing with him a mountain howitzer and part of his Company C, Third Wisconsin Cavalry, and took command of the post. In addition, they were at the garrison, one company of the Second Kansas Colored Infantry, commanded by Lieutenant Cook, and Company D, Third Wisconsin Cavalry previously commanded by Lieutenant John Giles and had been called in for service.

Descriptions of the fort vary as to size and the existence of buildings. Some say and an 18 foot square blackhouse. The fort was 100 feet high and 100 feet wide, and about 10 feet high. The west wall of the enclosure had been torn out the day before the attack by order of Lieutenant Ford who found the same too strong for all the troops. Ford's fort was two hundred yards west of the fort and the men were extending the encampments to enclose it. The cooking camp was about two hundred feet south of the fort on the north bank of the stream near the large spring. Ford had placed the howitzer outside the north wall of the fort.