

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:

Coles County Historical Society and the Illinois State Historical Society

Original Dedication Date 1977 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: Courthouse
7th St & Jackson Ave
 Street/Road address or site location

GPS Coordinates 39° 29.683' N, 88° 10.486' W

City/Village &/or Township Charleston

County Coles State IL Zip Code 61920

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

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name Coles County Courthouse

Dept./Div. _____

Street Address 641 Jackson Ave

City Charleston State IL Zip Code 61920

Contact Person _____ Telephone () _____ ext _____

Is Memorial on the National Register of Historic Places ☒ Yes ☐ No ID # if known 78001118

Courthouse on National Registry

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.) Granite (Gray)

For Historic Marker or Plaque:

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = Concrete base. Metal Support Rod. Probably Aluminum/Zinc Compound for Sign Material

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 points

7 ft Height 22 In Width 5 in 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 not found

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

See attached photos

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 09/18/2026
 Your Name Walter E Busch, PDC & P-Commander Central Region Allied Orders Assoc
 Address 1240 Konert Valley Dr
 City Fenton State MO Zip Code 63026
 Telephone () _____ E-Mail cwmemorials@suvchw.org

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

US Grant Camp 68 MO-SUVCW, Central Region Allied Orders of the GAR, MOLLUS, Logan Brigade

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) .

Appears to be in very good shape

Inspector's Name Walter E Busch Date 09/19/2026

Coles County Courthouse Charleston, IL 09/18/2026

GPS

Latitude	39; 29; 40.9100000000034214
Longitude	88; 10; 29.1099999999986016
Altitude	208.5207652823145



THE CHARLESTON RIOT

ON MARCH 28, 1864, A GUNFIGHT ERUPTED HERE BETWEEN UNION SOLDIERS AND CIVIL WAR OPPONENTS KNOWN AS "COPPERHEADS." IN EASTERN ILLINOIS THE REPUBLICANS WERE UNIFORMLY PRO-UNION, BUT MANY DEMOCRATS WERE PRO-SOUTHERN.

DISTURBANCES HAD OCCURRED EARLIER IN THE AREA, AND COPPERHEADS HAD BEEN KILLED IN MATTOON AND PARIS. AT CHARLESTON THERE HAD BEEN A HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL TRIAL OF UNION DESERTERS IN MARCH, 1863. ON THE DAY OF THE RIOT, IN 1864, A LARGE CROWD GATHERED HERE FOR A DEMOCRATIC RALLY. UNION SOLDIERS WERE IN TOWN ON LEAVE. DRINKING AND FIGHTING LED TO GUNFIRE. NINE MEN WERE KILLED AND TWELVE WOUNDED.

ERECTED BY THE COLES COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AND THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1977.

