



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is used for documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Complete each item by entering the requested information. For additional space, use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

New Submission  Amended Submission

**A. Name of Multiple Property Listing**

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky

**B. Associated Historic Contexts**

(Name each associated historic context, identifying theme, geographical area, and chronological period for each.)

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1865-1935

**C. Form Prepared by**

name/title Joseph E. Brent/Historic Sites Data Coordinator  
organization Kentucky Heritage Council (SHPO) date 1/8/97  
street & number 300 Washington Street telephone 502-564-7005  
city or town Frankfort state Kentucky zip code 40601

**D. Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  
David L. Morgan, Executive Director (KHC) and State Historic Preservation Officer

David L. Morgan Date 4-23-97  
Signature and title of certifying official  
Kentucky Heritage Council: State Historic Preservation Office  
State or Federal agency and bureau

I hereby certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Pattuk Andrews Date of Action 7/17/97  
Signature of the Keeper

**Table of Contents for Written Narrative**

Provide the following information on continuation sheets. Cite the letter and the title before each section of the narrative. Assign page numbers according to the instructions for continuation sheets in *How to Complete the Multiple Property Documentation Form* (National Register Bulletin 16B). Fill in page numbers for each section in the space below.

	<b>Page Numbers</b>
<b>E. Statement of Historic Contexts</b> (If more than one historic context is documented, present them in sequential order.)	E-1 - E-16
<b>F. Associated Property Types</b> (Provide description, significance, and registration requirements.)	F-1 - F-3
<b>G. Geographical Data</b>	G-1
<b>H. Summary of identification and Evaluation Methods</b> (Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.)	H-1
<b>I. Major Bibliographical References</b> (List major written works and primary location of additional documentation: State Historic Preservation Office, other State agency, Federal agency, local government, university, or other, specifying repository.)	I-1 - I-4

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

---

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 120 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 1

---

**Civil War Monuments in Kentucky 1861-1935**

**Introduction**

Go wearing the gray of grief!  
Go watch o'er the dead in gray!  
Go guard the private and guard the chief!  
And sentinel their clay.<sup>1</sup>

To write about the erection of Civil War monuments in Kentucky requires an explanation of how a state that remained loyal to the Union erected so few monuments to memory of the Union soldiers who fought in the war. Of the 62 monuments in this nomination only seven ( just over ten percent) of them were erected to honor the Union soldiers. This ratio does not parallel with the proportion of the troops who fought on either side in the war, nor the allegiance of the Commonwealth. Kentucky never left the Union. It did however, supply troops to both sides, and was represented in the Confederate government.

Kentucky's inclusion in the Confederate government is more of an extra-legal arrangement than anything else, as the official state government did not sanction the action. Nonetheless, in November of 1861, 115 representatives from 68 counties gathered in Russellville, passed an ordinance of secession and applied for admission into the Confederate States of America. In fact an election was held to fill the seats of 12 representatives in districts designated by the government of Confederate Kentucky. The vote for these representatives was taken on an "at large" basis in the areas of Kentucky that was under the control of the Confederate army in fall/winter of 1861/62. In December Kentucky became a "Confederate state" with its capitol at Bowling Green. However, none of this action was recognized by Governor Beriah Magoffin nor anyone else in Frankfort. Kentucky's contribution of manpower to the Civil War was overwhelmingly Union. The Commonwealth provided 90,000 Union troops and only 30,000-35,000 Confederate troops, a ratio of nearly three to one Union. What then accounts for disproportionate representation of Confederate monuments

---

<sup>1</sup>S. A. Cunningham, ed., "Confederate Veterans of Kentucky," Confederate Veteran Vol. II No. 11 (November 1894), p.326.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 2

---

in the post-war period?<sup>2</sup>

**Background**

Following the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor, in April of 1861, Abraham Lincoln called for the states to provide 75,000 troops to suppress the rebellion. However, Kentucky Governor Beriah Magoffin emphatically refused to furnish troops “. . . for the wicked purpose of subduing her sister Southern States.” One month later the Commonwealth declared itself neutral and rejected any notion of participation in the Civil War. While Magoffin personally favored secession, the majority of Kentuckians were opposed to secession, but equally opposed to keeping the Union together by force of arms.

This pro-Union and anti-force sentiment was shown prior to the secession of the lower south states by Kentuckians' votes in the presidential election of 1860. The extreme States Rights alternate, Democratic candidate John C. Breckinridge, a Kentuckian, received 53,143 votes while the Constitutional Union candidate John Bell received 66,051, regular Democratic candidate Stephen Douglas received 25,638 and Abraham Lincoln took 1,364 votes. Roughly 2 to 1 against the extreme Southern position. Voters in two elections in the summer of 1861 gave Unionists a 76-24 majority in the state house and a 27-11 majority in the state senate. The election for national representatives was even more decisive with 9 of the 10 seats going to Unionist candidates, only the 1st district in extreme western Kentucky was carried by a states rights candidate. A note of caution should be made here these majorities were made with many Southern Rights people staying away from the polls, however, they did not vote because they knew they could not win.<sup>3</sup>

Neutrality was then the compromise Kentucky reached to avoid becoming involved in the armed conflict. This neutrality was broken in early September, 1861, when Confederate forces seized NPS

---

<sup>2</sup>Lowell H. Harrison, The Civil War in Kentucky, (Lexington, 1975), pp. 20-21 and Clement A. Evans, ed., Confederate Military History, Vol. IX reprint edition, (Secaucus, NJ, n.d.), pp. 213-215.

<sup>3</sup>Harrison, Civil War, pp. 8-9 & 10-11 and James McPherson, Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era, (New York, 1988), pp. 202-233.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 3

---

Columbus, followed quickly by Union forces occupying Paducah and Smithland. The state government at that point made the decision to remain loyal to the Union. <sup>4</sup>

A majority of Kentuckians fought for the defense of the national Union; and while not always in agreement with the Lincoln administration, sought to accommodate its efforts. During the war, the political forces in the state were divided roughly into three camps, the majority *Union Democrats* conservatives who wanted to preserve the Union, *Regular Democrats*, basically Southern sympathizers, but not necessarily secessionists; and a pro-northern group, mostly emancipationists, who generally supported the National Republican agenda. The latter group exercised a great deal of power, despite their minority status, because of their close ties to President Lincoln.<sup>5</sup>

As the war dragged on, priorities on the part of the United States government changed. Abraham Lincoln who, in his inaugural address in March, 1861, promised non-interference with slavery in the states where it existed, as well as pledging to enforce the fugitive slave provision of the Constitution, issued the Emancipation Proclamation in September of 1862. Loyal Kentuckians felt betrayed by what they felt were promises broken by the president. One Kentucky newspaper editor sneered:

“It is no use to recall the President’s promises, sealed by all that could make them sacred. Entreaties, pledges, objurgations, tears, were all poured upon the border-State men to induce them to believe that it was not his intention to interfere with the domestic institutions of the State.”<sup>6</sup>

In short, many Kentuckians fully believed that if they remained loyal to the Union that they would be allowed to keep the institution of slavery intact within the borders of the state. So once the Lincoln administration changed its tack, or was perceived to have shifted in favor of the “Radical NPS Form

---

<sup>4</sup>Harrison, Civil War, pp. 8-9.

<sup>5</sup>Hambleton Tapp and James C. Klotter, Kentucky: Decades of Discord: 1865-1900, Frankfort, KY, 1977), pp. 3-4.

<sup>6</sup>Tri-Weekly Commonwealth, January 5, 1863, quoted in E. Merton Coulter, The Civil War and Readjustment in Kentucky, (Chapel Hill, 1926), p. 161.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 4

---

Republicans,” by waging war on slavery, Kentuckians felt they had been betrayed. The slave holders in Kentucky understood that if slavery was destroyed in the southern states, there was no way that they could hope to maintain the institution in Kentucky.<sup>7</sup>

From the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation in September of 1862, until the end of the war, Kentucky became more and more politically at odds with the Federal Government. There was even some fear in early 1863 that Kentucky might pull its troops out of the Union army and secede. This, of course, never happened, but some Kentucky officers resigned their commissions in the Union Army rather than fight to free the slaves.<sup>8</sup>

Federal officials within the state were wary of people with Confederate sympathies. Confederate raids into the state, particularly those led by John Hunt Morgan, only served to exacerbate the situation. While Morgan’s raids did generate some public sympathy for the Southern cause, mostly they frightened the population, alarmed Federal authorities and led to arrests of pro-Southern Kentuckians. Numerous people within the state who were accused of having Southern sympathies and/or aiding and abetting the raiders were indicted, arrested and sent to prison. To some degree the arrest and incarceration of Southern sympathizers was necessary, but often the cases never came to trial. Those people might languish in prison, only to be released with no resolution of their cases; sometimes they were rearrested and the cycle would repeat itself.<sup>9</sup>

It was more than overt acts by individuals, such as cheering the Confederate raiders or hurraing for

---

<sup>7</sup>E. Merton Coulter, The Civil War and Readjustment in Kentucky, (Chapel Hill, 1926), p. 161.

<sup>8</sup>Lewis and Richard H. Collins, History of Kentucky Volume I, (Covington, 1874, reprint edition Berea, 1976), p. 118 and Coulter, Civil War and Readjustment, pp. 162-163.

<sup>9</sup>Coulter, Civil War and Readjustment, p. 162-163 and see also William Penn, Rattling Swords and Broad-Brimmed Hat: The History of the Civil War in Cynthiana and Harrison County, Kentucky (Midway, KY 1995).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 5

---

Jefferson Davis, that had Federal authorities worried. Beginning with the implementation of the Emancipation Proclamation in January, 1863, the conservative nature of the state began to show. The Kentucky General Assembly issued a resolution of "solemn protest" against the Emancipation Proclamation. This resolution passed with but two dissenting votes. To further demonstrate its resolve the legislature passed a law that forbade any slaves freed under the Proclamation from immigrating into Kentucky. This defiance led to increased vigilance on the part of the Federal authorities which, at times, became over zealous.<sup>10</sup>

As the climate of hostility to the national government in Kentucky grew, Federal authorities began to crack down on institutions that they felt were not completely loyal. In February, 1863, a detachment of Federal soldiers broke up the state "Regular/Peace" Democratic convention, ordered it to disband and announced to its members that no one nominated by it would be allowed to run and if elected would not be allowed to serve.<sup>11</sup>

The resulting political season was chaotic. The Union Democrats nominated Thomas E. Bramlette and the Regular/Peace Democrats selected, without a convention, Charles A. Wickliffe. To add to the fray and help insure the election of the Unionist candidate, Governor James F. Robinson issued a proclamation underscoring the fact that anyone who had been expatriated under legislation enacted earlier in the war (for giving aid and/or joining the Confederate army, etc.) could not vote in the election.<sup>12</sup>

The army acted to insure that the governor's proclamation was enforced. In July, 1863, General Ambrose E. Burnside, commander of the District of Ohio, of which Kentucky was a part, declared Marshall law and forbade disloyal people from voting. This was enforced by stationing troops at polling places. According to historian E. Merton Coulter, Wickliffe's name was stricken off the ticket

---

<sup>10</sup>Lewis and Richard H. Collins, History of Kentucky Volume I, (Covington, 1874, reprint edition Berea, 1976), pp. 120-121.

<sup>11</sup>Coulter, Civil War and Readjustment, pp. 170-177.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 6

---

in many places and the Regular/Peace Democrats were not allowed on the ballot in the entire 1st District. The result was predictable: Bramlette was easily elected. The consequence of the long summer of 1863 was that the political tide had turned in Kentucky. While the so-called Union Party won the gubernatorial election, its success was more a product of Federal intervention than local support. The posting of Federal troops at polling places and general intimidation of voters, left a bad taste in the mouths of the people of the Kentucky.<sup>13</sup>

Besides the political upheaval the question of enlisting African Americans into the Union army drew the loudest howls of protest from across the state. In March 1864, the Lincoln Administration issued orders for the recruitment of Black men in Kentucky. Governor Bramlette protested, as did Union Col. Frank Wolford. His protests were so vehement that he was dishonorably discharged from the army. The governor and other state officials fired off telegrams to the White House, many of them containing veiled and sometimes blatant threats. In the end Governor Bramlette, unwilling to give anymore ammunition to the pro-secessionists in the state, issued a proclamation recommending that Kentuckians go along with the Federal policy regarding the recruitment of African Americans. This was not the end of the debate over the recruitment of African Americans continue unabated until the 13th Amendment of the Constitution was passed in December 1865.<sup>14</sup>

In the summer of 1864, the flames of resentment were further fanned by the Machiavellian acts of District of Kentucky Commander, Gen. Stephen Gano Burbridge. Burbridge established a policy designed to stop guerrilla action within the state by shooting four guerrilla prisoners for every Union man killed by the Southern partisans. His actions pushed Kentuckians further into the camp of the Regular/Peace Democrats. In fact, Burbridge became so despised by his fellow Kentuckians that after the war he was forced to leave the state. By 1864, the political sentiment in Kentucky had completely

---

<sup>13</sup>Ibid.; Collins, Kentucky, pp. 127-128; see also Frank Welcher, The Union Army, 1861-1865: Organization and Operations, Volume II: The Western Theater, (Bloomington, 1993), pp. 206-207.

<sup>14</sup> Collins, Kentucky Volume I, pp. 131-138; Coulter, Civil War and Readjustment, pp. 198-201; and Marion B. Lucas, A History of Blacks in Kentucky: Volume I From Slavery to Segregation, 1760-1891, (Frankfort, 1992), pp. 151-153.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 7

---

shifted. Kentucky was one of three states to vote against Lincoln in the presidential election that year, and by 1867 the state was once again firmly in the control of the Democrats. As historians Hamblton Tapp and James C. Klotter put it “By the end of the conflict . . . the ‘heroes in grey’ . . . the ex-Confederates . . . steadily gained prestige and preferment, while the ‘Radicals’ steadily lost ground.”<sup>15</sup>

The war ended for all practical purposes in May of 1865, yet, Federal troops remained in Kentucky until 1869. The Union army continued to recruit slaves for seven months after the termination of hostilities in 1865 to free them and their families. The Kentucky Legislature refused to ratify the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, consequently, slavery was not abolished in Kentucky until this amendment became national law in December 1865. The 13th and the following constitutional amendments that dealt with the rights of the Freedmen were extremely unpopular in Kentucky and they were not immediately ratified by the state legislature (in fact the 13th Amendment was not ratified until 1976).

In 1867, following the gubernatorial election, in which John LaRue Helm became governor, the conservative forces took absolute control of the state. As one Kentucky Newspaper editor put it: “Kentucky failed to secede in 1861. By strange conjunction of circumstances what the rebels failed to do that year, they freely realized in the year 1867.” Kentucky had for all intents and purposes joined the Confederacy, after the fact.

### **The Lost Cause**

The building of Civil War monuments in the South had two distinct periods: the memorialization of the Lost Cause and the celebration of the Confederacy. Gaines Foster identifies three phases: Phase one of the “ceremonial bereavement” period which lasts from approximately 1865-1885; Phase two the “celebration of the Confederacy” which is from 1883-1907 and Phase three the “waning power of the Confederate tradition” from 1898 to 1913. Kentucky, however, does not fit well into the model outlined by Foster. For purposes of this study the monumentization process has simply been

---

<sup>15</sup>Stewart Sifakis, Who Was Who in the Civil War, (New York, 1988), p. 90; McPherson, Battle Cry of Freedom, p. 805; Harrison, Civil War, pp. 77-78 and Tapp and Klotter, Discord, p. 4.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 8

---

divided into the 19th and 20th Centuries.

The first part, the time of “ceremonial bereavement” as Gaines M. Foster puts it, was a period of mourning, a time for remembrance for the sacrifices made on the battlefield by the soldiers, especially those who died. The efforts to create these memorials were often spearheaded by women, though men played important roles as well. Out of this movement grew Confederate Memorial Day a day that was a legal holiday in most Southern states, June 3 in Kentucky. This was a day of community wide activity that began with a procession from town that terminated in the local cemetery where wreaths were laid and speeches were made and prayers were offered for the dead soldiers. The center piece of these ceremonies would be the local Confederate monument.<sup>16</sup>

As Gaines Foster notes about the early memorialization: “The emphasis remained on the process of bereavement: the creation of cemeteries, the erection of funereal monuments, and the springtime decoration of the graves.” The early monuments that were constructed and placed in the cemeteries during this first phase generally resembled other grave markers or had trapping that symbolized death. As noted the earliest documented Confederate monument in Kentucky is the Confederate Monument in Cynthiana (HR-C- 111) erected in 1869. It is a simple obelisk, draped at the top with a Confederate flag, and placed within a circle of 47 Confederate soldiers graves. This basic scenario is repeated with some variation at Versailles (WD-V - 51), Georgetown, (SC-G - 485), Bowling Green (WA-B - 447) and Crab Orchard (LI - 254).

In the latter stages of the 19th Century as the Civil War veterans organizations were gathering steam the “Lost Cause” became the driving force behind the United Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The Lost Cause referred to the Confederacy and the principles for which the soldiers fought. It conveyed a longing for the loss of the Old South, with its sense of honor, and its way of life. This celebration did not include an embracing of slavery, but states’ rights and constitutional rights as defined by Jefferson Davis and others in the Post-War period. The Lost Cause was a movement created and perpetuated by upper and middle class whites. Margaret Cary Green Davis, Historian of the Confederated Southern Memorial Association described the cause and

---

<sup>16</sup>Gaines M. Foster, Ghosts of the Confederacy: Defeat, the Lost Cause, and the Emergence of the New South 1865-1913, (New York, 1987), pp. 36-42.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 9

---

the reasons to perpetuate it as follows:

“In the great struggle for a noble and just Cause, for which the men of the South sacrificed their all, the women with a faith and confidence, sublime almost in its intensity, cheered and encouraged Fathers, Sons and Husbands in their gallant defense of their rights, weaved, spun, nursed the sick, and wherever a woman’s hand could tend or soothe, there her mission. [W]hen defeat came passed through the fiery ordeal of ruined hopes; to accept with a brave and dignified resignation, a fate so adverse, its memory can never be effaced.”<sup>17</sup>

From the late 19th Century forward the construction of monuments and the gathering of veterans and the UDC became less and less of a kind of ritual mourning and more of a celebration of the \_\_\_\_\_ Confederacy. The celebration of the Confederacy and the embracing of the Lost Cause by the public helped ease the sense of dishonor that many of the veterans, and indeed Southerners felt, as a result of losing the war. The celebration “. . . offered a memory of personal sacrifice and a model of social order that met the needs of a society experiencing rapid change and disorder.” The Lost Cause was not an effort on the part of Southerners to escape their current social problems by living in the past, but it became a mechanism that helped them embrace the New South and the change wrought by the war. It became a part of the mythology of the Civil War and the men who fought and died in it.<sup>18</sup>

### **The Monuments**

The Kentucky story of political action and public sentiment differs from that of the southern states that actually seceded from the Union, but from 1865 onward, the construction of the monuments occurs much the same as elsewhere in the South, except that in Kentucky there are several prominent monuments to the Union.

In fact, the first monument erected in the state was to the Union. This monument (JF-EC-20) was

---

<sup>17</sup>Confederated Southern Memorial Association, History of the Confederated memorial Association of the South, (New Orleans, 1904), p. 29.

<sup>18</sup>Foster, Ghosts, pp. 6-7.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 10

---

created during the war after the Battle of Rowletts Station which took place in December, 1861. Adolph Bloetner, a private in Co. F, 32nd Indiana Infantry Regiment, who fought in that engagement, carved the monument out of limestone he obtained locally. The 32nd Indiana was a regiment made up of German Americans, who still spoke their native language. Pvt. Bloetner created the monument to honor his comrades who had been killed in the battle. The inscription he carved was in German. The monument was originally placed in Munfordville near where the soldiers were killed and adjacent to where they were buried. In 1869 when the Union soldiers graves were moved from Munfordville to Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville, this marker was moved as well.<sup>19</sup>

The earliest documented tribute to the Confederate dead was erected in Cynthiana in early 1869, by the Cynthiana Confederate Monument Association (HR-C - 111). This county seat town is in the inner Bluegrass region of the state, was the scene of two battles fought between John Hunt Morgan's troops and Union forces. The monument is a marble shaft draped with a carved Confederate flag motif located in Battle Grove cemetery, which in 1869 was the new Cynthiana city cemetery. It is also where the last battle fought in Cynthiana began. This effort was spearheaded by women, though fronted by men. The monument was not meant to be just a local memorial but as the Cynthiana Democrat put it:

“This monument is not peculiarly for Harrison County, nor for Cynthiana, but for the whole State, the whole South; for every man and every nation, whose children and whose people have shed blood in defense of their Homes, in defense of their county, in defense of Justice and Truth.”<sup>20</sup>

The ceremony dedicating the monument was elaborate with a parade, food and speeches. The Keynote was delivered by Col. W. P. C. Breckinridge. His speech evoked visions of war, of glory and of the heroic deeds done by those men in the service of the Confederate Army. His speech was a eulogy to the fallen and to the Lost Cause. Following the speech a collection was taken up to help

---

<sup>19</sup>Samuel W. Thomas, Cave Hill Cemetery: A Pictorial Guide and Its History, (Louisville, 1985), p. 18.

<sup>20</sup>Cynthiana Democrat, May 13, 1869.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 11

---

pay off the debt incurred in erecting the monument.<sup>21</sup>

The activities in Cynthiana apparently spawned an organization in Lexington. On May 19, 1869 the Ladies Memorial and Monument Association was created with Mrs. John Cabal Breckinridge as president, Mrs. W. C. P. Breckinridge as secretary, with Miss Mary Deshea on the executive board. While undocumented, it is not unlikely that the activities in Cynthiana spurred the women of Lexington to action. It is probably also significant that Mrs. W. C. P. Breckinridge and Miss Mary Deshea were related by marriage. The women began raising money for the monument that was erected six years later on May 26, 1875. This is one of the more symbolic of all the memorials in Kentucky. The monument, known as "the Ladies' Confederate Memorial" (FA-W - 37) is a cross draped with a Confederate flag with a broken shaft. Beneath the cross on the base of the monument is a broken sword and flowers. The whole effect symbolizes death and something that has been \_\_\_\_\_ destroyed or broken. A sad tribute to the Lost Cause.<sup>22</sup>

It was not until 1884 that a Civil War monument erected in a public place. This was the Union Soldiers' Monument (LW-V - 10) in Vanceburg, it was placed on the Lewis County courthouse lawn. This monument is constructed of limestone and according to the records was erected by the citizens of Lewis County. The monument is a memorial, rather than a celebration, and lists the names of all of the men from the county who were killed in action. In general Union monuments were patriotic symbols created to honor those men who has helped save the republic. Union monuments often exhibited an aura of righteousness. While they might revere and even honor their former foes, it was the men who fought in defense of the Union who were right. As the epitaph carved into the west side of the base of the monument attests: "The war for the Union was right, everlastingly right and the war against the Union was wrong, forever wrong." This was not just the sentiment of the people of Lewis County but it was the party line of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), the main Union

---

<sup>21</sup>Ibid., June 3 and 10, 1869.

<sup>22</sup>Lexington Herald- Leader, January 2, 1975 and John E. Kleber, etal, The Kentucky Encyclopedia, (Lexington, 1992), pp. 264.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 12

---

veterans' organization.<sup>23</sup>

The Vanceburg monument is the most demonstrative of those erected to the Union. The only other Union monument to profess strong sentiment is the Capt. Andrew Offutt Monument (MN-L - 71) in Lebanon and it is somewhat muted. The brief inscription notes that Offutt was in a Kentucky regiment with Sherman on his march to the sea. The simple mention of Sherman's name alone would be enough to stir the ire of many a Southern loyalist, which is probably why it was included. The remainder of the monuments erected to Federal troops or individuals are simple memorials to fallen comrades and do not try evoke any emotions in any way except sympathy.

Over the course of time various groups erected the monuments in Kentucky. Initially ladies groups raised funds with the help of prominent male citizens. As time passed more groups became organized and took it upon themselves to raise funds to build monuments. Below is a discussion on the four main groups identified in this study.

### **The Organizations**

#### **Grand Army of the Republic**

Established in 1866, the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) was the largest and most influential of all the post-war veterans associations. Thirty-five years later one tax dollar in every three was going to pay the pensions of these former soldiers. The GAR was by 1900 the most powerful lobbying organization in the country, as the size of their pension fund and the fact that only one post-war president was not a member.<sup>24</sup>

Yet, the GAR was not only concerned with lobbying for veterans benefits. They also were interested

---

<sup>23</sup>Stuart C. McConnell, Glorious Contentment: The Grand Army of the Republic 1865-1900, (Chapel Hill, 1992), pp. 185-193 and Rev. O. G. Rogan, History of Lewis County, (Cincinnati, 1912), p. 364

<sup>24</sup>McConnell, Glorious Contentment, pp. 14-15.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 13

---

in the symbolic acts that demonstrated to their friends and neighbors the sacrifices the veterans made on their behalf. To this end the GAR sponsored military parades, Memorial Day services and NPS monument dedications. Across the north GAR monuments are located on courthouse squares. The only GAR monument located during this study is in Linden Grove Cemetery in Covington (KE-C - 146).<sup>25</sup>

**The Ladies Memorial Associations**

Following the war the specter of death hung over the South. Many ex-confederates considered emigration to South America, though few actually made the move. Honoring the dead of those who fought for the Southern cause was one way to keep "the cause" alive. This effort was begun by women. The first Ladies Memorial Association is said to have been formed in Winchester, Virginia in the latter half of 1865. The women wanted to create a cemetery for the Confederate soldiers killed in the battles that had been fought nearby (there were three battles of Winchester). These women's organizations spread across the South. The women wanted not to celebrate the "Lost Cause," but rather to memorialize it.

There was never really a national organization of these groups. They were often created to accomplish a specific task. However, in 1900 there was an attempt to unite the various ladies associations. This organization "The Confederated Southern Memorial Association" was formed in Louisville. The idea was for the women to unite for one big task, the construction of the Jefferson Davis monument. They published a book that outlined the history of what the various local groups had accomplished to date. The proceeds of the book were to go to the Davis monument fund. They also hoped to place a copy of the book in "all Confederate Museums and principal libraries." Of the 62 ladies memorial organizations listed as being enrolled in the larger association, only one was from Kentucky, the earlier ones having disappeared as their tasks were complete.<sup>26</sup>

In Kentucky examples of monuments erected by ladies memorial associations include the Ladies Confederate Memorial in Lexington (FA-W - 37), the Cynthiana Confederate Monument (HR-C -

---

<sup>25</sup>Ibid., p. 16.

<sup>26</sup>CSMA, History, pp. 37 & 41-46.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 14

---

111), the Confederate Monument in Georgetown (SC-C - 485) and the Confederate Monument in Louisville (JF-CU - 25) erected by the Kentucky Women's Monumental Association.<sup>27</sup>

**The United Confederate Veterans**

The United Confederate Veterans (UCV) was formed in New Orleans in 1889 to bring a regional organization to the plethora of confederate veterans organizations that had sprung up in states across the south. The UCV was a major player in the celebration of the Confederacy from the 1890s until the middle of the second decade of the twentieth century.

By 1893 The Confederate Veteran magazine served as the voice of the UCV. Though, not officially a part of the organization, the Confederate Veteran publicized the activities of the UCV and often covered reunions, monument unveilings and other similar activities, as well as published stories relating to veterans' war experiences. The magazine also carried ads for companies that made monuments.<sup>28</sup>

The UCV was no small scale organization. In 1896 they claimed 850 camps (the organization of the UCV was on a county level and each organization was known as a camp) by 1904 the number had swelled to 1,565. The number of camps roughly paralleled the number of veterans living in any given state, except in Virginia and North Carolina there were fewer camps than the percentage of population of former soldiers and in South Carolina and Kentucky there were a considerably more camps than the percentage of men.<sup>29</sup>

This organization participated in the monumentization process. But the UCV was more involved in the later aspects of the process that placed the monuments in public places rather than in cemeteries. The UCV celebrated the Confederacy and "the Lost Cause." The earlier movements led

---

<sup>27</sup>Ibid., p. 38 and McPherson, Battle Cry of Freedom, pp. 457, 648, & 777.

<sup>28</sup>Foster, Ghosts, pp. 104-106.

<sup>29</sup>Ibid., pp. 106-107.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 15

---

by the Ladies Memorial Associations tended to memorialize and honor the dead.<sup>30</sup>

In Kentucky the UCV was responsible for or contributed to the construction of at least three monuments the Confederate Soldiers' Monument (FA-W - 38) in Lexington Cemetery, the Confederate Soldiers' Monument (LO-R - 66) in Russellville and the Confederate Soldiers' Monument (ME-H - 151) in Harrodsburg.

**The United Daughters of the Confederacy**

The United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) was founded in Nashville, Tennessee in 1894. Named to honor Varina Anne "Winnie" Davis daughter of Jefferson Davis, who was once introduced at a United Confederate Veterans meeting as "the Daughter of the Confederacy." The UDC wrote into their original constitution that they be ". . . social, literary, historical, monumental, benevolent and honorable in every degree, without any political significance whatever." They also sought "to instruct and instill into the descendants of the people of the South a proper respect for the pride in the glorious [Civil] war history. . . ."<sup>31</sup>

The UDC sought honor, memorialize and celebrate the Confederacy and the Lost Cause. They wanted to perpetuate the history of the Confederacy and to keep the glory alive. They did this by erecting monuments, but they also wrote histories, that they read at their meetings. They also awarded scholarships to descendants of Confederates. During both world wars they helped sell bonds and even sent care packages to troops during the Gulf War. The UDC was by far responsible for more monuments than any single organization. Fifteen monument in this study can be directly attributed to the United Daughters of the Confederacy.<sup>32</sup>

---

<sup>30</sup>Ibid., pp. 128-129.

<sup>31</sup>Rollin G. Osterweis, The Myth of the Lost Cause, 1865-1900, (Hamden, CN, 1973), pp. 92-93.

<sup>32</sup>Ibid., p. 94 and Martha M. Boltz, "100 Years After Its Founding, UDC is Going Strong," Insight on the News, p. 34, Dec. 5, 1994.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number E

Page 16

---

The above organizations and others were responsible for the erection of the 62 monuments named in this nomination. For whatever their reason or motivation these people wished to honor the men who fought and died in the Civil War. In many states, though not in Kentucky, the women of the Confederacy were honored with monuments for their efforts during the war. Today only the UDC remains active, however, the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) has come on to take an active role in the effort to keep the memory of the Civil War or as they would put it War Between the States alive. In the last few years the SCV has worked erect monuments and maintain various Civil War sites around the Commonwealth.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number F

Page 1

---

**Associated Property Types**

**Statement of Significance**

Kentucky's Civil War monuments are locally significant and eligible under Criterion A as the physical representations of the efforts of local organizations to commemorate the memory of the American Civil War. The Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Memorial and the Jefferson Davis Monument are not included within this nomination because they are different from the local monuments, both in size and the manner in which they were created, also they are both already listed on the National Register. Both of these monuments were built as a result of national efforts. The monuments being nominated in this study were created as a result of local efforts to commemorate local soldiers or battles.

**Physical Characteristics**

1) **The statute**, this is either a soldier standing on top of a pedestal or on or within an arch or an equestrian figure. These are located both in cemeteries and in public places. These can be made of one of several materials: granite, marble, bronze, limestone, or zinc. Soldier monuments were erected to both sides and were constructed between 1884 and 1921. Ten of the 23 soldier monuments were placed on courthouse lawns, four in the 19th Century, six in the 20th. There is no particular pattern as to where on the courthouse lawn the soldiers were placed nor any regional preference. Eight of the soldier monuments were placed in cemeteries six in the 20th Century, two in the 19th. Again there was no particular place in the cemetery that was reserved for a monument. The remaining five soldier monuments were placed in random public places, two were in parks, one in a town square, and two were placed within medians in city streets. All but one of these was erected in the 20th Century.

2) **The shaft or obelisk** is the most basic and the oldest type of monument. These are almost exclusively found in cemeteries. These monuments can also be constructed of various materials including: marble, granite, limestone, bronze, zinc and in one case geodes. These 18 monuments were erected from 1869 to 1934. Most of them were placed in cemeteries, though six of them are on battlefield or mass grave sites at battlefields. There is no discernable pattern regarding cemetery location nor regional placement.

3) **The tombstone** this is not just a small headstone, as would be found to mark a single grave in a

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number F

Page 2

---

cemetery, but rather, this type often commemorates a single person, but is a public recognition of this person's role in the Civil War; sometimes these commemorate martyrs, not symbolic martyrs to the Lost Cause, but specific men killed by Union Gen. Stephen G. Burbridge, as a part of his policy of retribution in 1864. There are also some later "tombstone shaped" monuments they may have been designed that way for either cost or simplicity's sake. These nine monuments were erected between 1861/69 -1935. All but one are in cemeteries, the other is at a mass grave site on a battlefield.

**4) Functional monuments** in the later stages of the monumentation period monuments were created that served not only to honor the Civil War soldiers, but also were functional. In Kentucky there were two kinds of functional monuments identified, fountains and gates. There are six functional monuments all erected between 1911 and 1920. There were four fountains and two gates. All but one of these were erected in the Purchase region of Kentucky, the other one was erected in Hopkinsville.

**5) Other**, there are a few variations, such as the Ladies Confederate Memorial in the Lexington Cemetery which made of white marble and shaped like a cross, the platform monument in Covington which is constructed of concrete and limestone or other geometric shapes that do not fit into any of the above categories, but were created within the time frame to be Civil War monuments. There are six monuments classified as "other" they are all in cemeteries. They were erected between 1880 and 1933.

**Registration Requirements**

In order to qualify for listing a monument must be at least 50 years old. It must have been erected by a local group to memorialize a specific person or persons role in the Civil War or it must have been erected to commemorate the Civil War in general or the Union or Confederate cause. It cannot be a headstone to an individual obtained from the War Department or the Veterans Administration.

If the monument is altered it must still have integrity of materials, design, setting, workmanship, feeling and association. For instance if a monument has been moved from one public space to another it still must be relocated in a highly visible public setting. A public monument was created and set in a location that would allow the public to view it and for it to occupy a prominent place in the community. If a monument was moved from a street location to a courthouse setting it would still

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number F

Page 3

---

be in a highly public setting. However a monument that was created to be in a cemetery and was moved to a public setting would lose its integrity of location and setting. Those two integrity features are necessary to maintain integrity of feeling and association, and so loss of integrity of location and setting necessarily strips away integrity of feeling and association. Integrity of design, materials, and workmanship will not be affected by a move, but in and of themselves cannot support eligibility.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

Historic Context: Memorializing the Civil War in Kentucky, 1861-1945

Section number   H  

Page 1

---

**Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods**

The survey of the nomination was conducted by Joseph E. Brent of the Kentucky Heritage Council. Each monument nominated was visited by Mr. Brent photographed and inventoried. The initial list of monuments was derived from a list in Ralph W. Widner, Jr., Ph. D. Confederate Monuments: Enduring Symbols of the South and the War Between the States (Washington, D. C., Andromeda Association, 1982) and a supplemental list in Joey Oller, "A Look at Confederate Monuments in Kentucky," The Kentucky Explorer, June 1994 and also Mildred C Baruch and Ellen J. Beckman, Civil War Union Monuments, (Washington, D. C., Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1978). The historic properties database at the KHC was also searched for monuments. Using this information as a base period newspapers were inspected as well as county histories.

The Historic Context was developed by first examining the general history of the Commonwealth of Kentucky from the Civil War to 1870. For since Kentucky was a Union state it was necessary to explain how a state that never seceded from the Union erected so many monuments to the Confederacy. The context of the monuments was created by examining the list of monuments and the background information assembled. The researcher was unable to discern a pattern of monument construction and placement. Yet an evolution of the various groups that were responsible for the placement of the monuments was observed by examining histories and newspapers accounts of the events related to the monuments.

The nomination was prepared under criterion A and the property types were created based on physical characteristics, time of construction, function and setting. The requirements for listing were based on the examination of the extant monuments that were examined and possible scenarios that could happen to cause a monument to be relocated or changed in some way.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

**I. Major Bibliographical References**

Section number I

Page 1

---

**Books:**

Baruch, Mildred, C. And Ellen J. Beckman, Civil War Union Monuments, (Washington, D. C., Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1978)

Collins, Lewis and Richard H., History of Kentucky Volume I, (Covington, 1874, reprint edition Berea, Kentucke Imprints, 1976)

Coulter, E. Merton, The Civil War and Readjustment in Kentucky, (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 1926)

Confederated Southern Memorial Association, History of the Confederated Memorial Association of the South, (New Orleans, The Graham Press, 1904)

Emerson, Mrs. B. A. C., Historic Southern Monuments: Representative Memorials of the Heroic Dead of the Southern Confederacy, (New York, The Neale Publishing Co., 1911).

Evans, Clement A., ed., Confederate Military History, Vol. IX reprint edition, (Secaucus, NJ, The Blue & Grey Press, N.D.).

Foster, Gaines M., Ghosts of the Confederacy: Defeat, the Lost cause, and the Emergence of the New South 1865-1913, (New York, Oxford University Press, 1987)

Harrison, Lowell, H., The Civil War in Kentucky, (Lexington, University of Kentucky Press, 1975)

Kleber, John E., etal, The Kentucky Encyclopedia, (Lexington, University Press of Kentucky, 1992)

Lucas, Marion B., A History of Blacks in Kentucky: Volume I From Slavery to Segregation, 1760-1891, (Frankfort, Kentucky Historical Society, 1992)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

**I. Major Bibliographical References**

Section number I

Page 2

---

McConnell, Stuart, Glorious Contentment: The Grand Army of the Republic, 1865-1900, (Chapel Hill, NC, University of North Carolina Press, 1992)

McPherson, James M., Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era, (New York, Oxford University Press, 1988)

Milward, Burton, History of the Lexington Cemetery, (Lexington, KY, 1989)

Osterweis, Rollin G. , The Myth of the Lost Cause, 1865-1900, (Hamden, CN, 1973)

Penn, William, Rattling Swords and Broad-Brimmed Hat: The History of the Civil war in Cynthiana and Harrison County, Kentucky (Midway, KY, Battle Grove Press, 1995)

Rogan, Rev. O. G., History of Lewis County, (Cincinnati, 1912)

Sifakis, Stewart, Who Was Who in the Civil War, (New York, 1988)

Tapp, Hambelton and James C. Klortter, Kentucky: Decades of Discord: 1865-1900, (Frankfort, KY, Kentucky Historical Society, 1977)

Thomas, Samael W., Cave Hill Cemetery: A Pictorial Guide and Its History, (Louisville, 1985)

\_\_\_\_\_ and William Morgan, Old Louisville: The Victorian Era, (Louisville, The Courier-Journal/The Louisville Times Data Courier, Inc., 1975).

Welcher, Frank, The Union Army, 1861-1865: Organization and Operations, Volume II: The Western Theater, (Bloomington, IN, Indiana University Press, 1993)

Widner, Ralph W., Jr., Ph. D. Confederate Monuments: Enduring Symbols of the South and the War Between the States (Washington, D. C., Andromeda Association, 1982)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

**I. Major Bibliographical References**

Section number I

Page 3

---

**Periodicals:**

Bier, Justus, "A Forgotten Work by Ferdinand Von Miller the Younger, A Contribution to the History of Confederate Monuments," The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, Vol. 54, No. 2, (April 1956), 127-128

Boltz, Martha M., "100 Years After Its Founding, UDC is Going Strong," Insight on the News, p. 34, Dec. 5, 1994

Breckinridge News, August 8, 1894

Cunningham, S. A., ed., "Confederate Veterans of Kentucky," Confederate Veteran Vol. II No. 11 (November 1894)

\_\_\_\_\_, "Louisville Confederate Monument," Confederate Veteran, Vol. III, No. 10, (October, 1895)

Cynthiana News, May 13 and June 10, 1869

Danville News, October 10, 1902

Dutton, Gladys L. Collection, Pulaski County Historical Society

Harrodsburg Herald, September 18, 1902

Hopkinsville Kentuckian, July 20, September 12 & 21, October 17, and November 30, 1911

Kentucky Citizen (Paris, KY), June 29 and November 23, 1887

Lebanon Weekly Standard, April 17 & May 22, 1872

Lexington Herald-Leader, February 2, 1975

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Civil War Monuments in Kentucky, 1861-1935

**I. Major Bibliographical References**

Section number I

Page 4

---

Logan County News, April 8, 1910

Murray Ledger, June 28, 1917

News-Democrat (Paducah, KY), January 20 and May 20, 1909

Oller, Joey, "A Look at Confederate Monuments in Kentucky," The Kentucky Explorer, June 1994.

Semi-Weekly South Kentuckian (Hopkinsville, KY), May 20, 1887

State Journal (Frankfort), July 3, 1924.

Tri-Weekly Commonwealth, January 5, 1863

United Daughters of the Confederacy, Graves County Chapter, Minutes 1920-1953.