

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.)

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:

Missouri Civil War Heritage Foundation and Associates

Original Dedication Date 01/25/2015 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:

Street/Road address or site location Court of Common Pleas Courthouse - Themis and Spanish Sts
GPS Coordinates N37°18'17.562 W89°31'09.960

City/Village &/or Township Cape Girardeau
County Cape Girardeau State Missouri Zip Code 63701

The front of the Memorial faces: North South East West

Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner

Name Missouri Civil War Heritage Foundation
Dept./Div. _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State MO Zip Code _____
Contact Person Greg Wolk Telephone (877) 221-3133 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.) Aluminum

Material of the Sculpture Stone Concrete Metal Other Is it hollow or solid? _____
If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) _____

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*]

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.

Addendums 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*.

Thank you.

Inspector Identification _____ Date of On-site Survey 09/03/2016
 Your Name Walt Busch
 Address 1240 Konert Valley Dr
 City Fenton State MO Zip Code 63026
 Telephone (314) 630-8407 E-Mail wbusch@suvchwmo.org

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

Sons of Union Veterans

Please send this completed form to:

Walt Busch, PDC, Chair
 1240 Konert Valley Dr.
 Fenton, MO 63026
 (314) 630-8407
 wbusch@hotmail.com

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR – CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE.



Grant in Southeast Missouri

A Fantastic City

From the time that the first European explorers arrived in October 1541, when a Spanish expedition led by Hernando de Soto explored the area, to the first permanent settlement in 1809, Cape Girardeau was a center of commerce and industry. It was a major center of the cotton and sugar industries in the 19th century. It was a major center of the iron and steel industries in the 20th century. It was a major center of the chemical and pharmaceutical industries in the 21st century.



The construction of Cape Girardeau was supervised by a young Union engineer, John Wesley Powell. Powell would later lay right and left in the River of Missouri in 1852, and he would also lay out the city of Washington, D.C. in 1847. Powell's work on the river and in the city of Washington, D.C. was a major contribution to the history of the United States. Powell's work on the river and in the city of Washington, D.C. was a major contribution to the history of the United States.



This educational panel created in cooperation with the Missouri History Museum. Learn more at www.mohistory.org



Learn more at www.mocivilwar.org

Missouri's CIVIL WAR

Southeast Missouri was where Ulysses S. Grant, the nation's eighth president, began his rise to prominence as a soldier. This story begins in southeast Missouri, in January, 1861, in the town of Cape Girardeau on Missouri Highway 72. Grant arrived in "the Cape" on August 26, 1861, a newly commissioned brigade general of volunteers commanding the Union Division of Southeast Missouri. It was here that General Grant launched his historic campaign to control the Mississippi River.



After leaving St. Louis, where he received his commission and headquarters in Jefferson City, Grant was transferred to Army Headquarters in St. Louis on August 28, 1861. Missouri declared its secession from the Union on October 20, 1861. Grant was ordered to St. Louis to organize the Union forces in the state. He was given the rank of Major General and the command of the Union Division of Southeast Missouri.

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A Question of Rank

Grant's rise to the rank of Major General was a result of his military achievements. He was given the rank of Major General on August 26, 1861, and the rank of Lieutenant General on September 4, 1861. He was given the rank of Major General on August 26, 1861, and the rank of Lieutenant General on September 4, 1861.



Grant's military career was marked by several key events. He was given the rank of Major General on August 26, 1861, and the rank of Lieutenant General on September 4, 1861. He was given the rank of Major General on August 26, 1861, and the rank of Lieutenant General on September 4, 1861.

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This building was used by the Union forces during the Civil War. It was a major center of operations for the Union forces in the region. It was a major center of operations for the Union forces in the region.

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Grant in

A Fortified City

Some earthwork forts and allied encampments were nearing completion on October 9, 1861, when General Ulysses Grant visited Cape Girardeau on an inspection tour. Cape Girardeau occupies the first high ground that overlooks the Mississippi River north of its confluence with the Ohio River. As a result, Union authorities deemed it necessary to fortify the city against attack by land or water. In the first months of the Civil War, Cape Girardeau was one of the most fortified cities in the western theatre.



The construction of Cape's forts was supervised by a young Illinois lieutenant, John Wesley Powell. Powell would lose his right arm at the Battle of Shiloh in 1862, but he survived the war to lead the expedition that explored the Grand Canyon in 1869. Powell became the second and most influential director of the U.S. Geological Survey. Remains of one of these forts are still intact in the City's Fort D Park, located east of Spring Street on Locust, south of Shawnee Parkway.



John Wesley Powell

This educational panel erected in cooperation with the Missouri History Museum. Learn more at www.mohistory.org.

**Missouri
History
Museum**

Learn more at www.mocivilwar.org

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Southeast Missouri) was where the nation's eighteenth president took office as a soldier. The mid-August, 1861, at Ironton, west of Cape Girardeau via Missouri. Grant arrived in "the Cape" on August 30, 1861, a newly commissioned brigadier general of volunteers commanding the Union District of Southeast Missouri. It was here that General Grant launched his historic campaign to control the Mississippi River.

After serving in Ironton where he received a commission, and briefly serving in Jefferson City, Grant was summoned to Army Headquarters in St. Louis August 28, 1861. Historians disagree, still, on the circumstances to one eyewitness, Grant was in St. Louis for reassignment, waiting in the basement meeting. According to this, that Union Major General staff were discussing candidates from Southeast Missouri selected to fill this post because he was the most senior of the

After assembling a staff, he boarded a steamboat in St. Louis and arrived that evening at Cape Girardeau. He took the St. Charles Hotel, which is at the corner of Themis and Main streets east of where you are standing.

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Grant in Southeast Missouri

Missouri's

CIVIL WAR

Southeast Missouri was where Ulysses S. Grant, the nation's eighteenth president, began his rise to prominence as a soldier. This story began in mid-August, 1861, at Ironsides, Missouri, 70 miles west of Cape Girardeau via Missouri Highway 72.



Grant arrived in "the Cape" on August 30, 1861, a newly commissioned brigadier general of volunteers commanding the Union District of Southeast Missouri. It was here that General Grant launched his historic campaign to control the Mississippi River.

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disagree, still, on the circumstances. According to one eyewitness, Grant was ordered to report to St. Louis for reassignment and was "discovered" waiting in the basement during a senior staff meeting. According to this version, it so happened that Union Major General John C. Fremont and staff were discussing candidates to lead an offensive from Southeast Missouri. Perhaps Grant was selected to fill this post because Fremont realized he was the most senior of the new Illinois brigadiers.

After assembling a staff, General Grant boarded a steamerboat in St. Louis on August 30, 1861 and arrived that evening to take command in Cape Girardeau. He took lodging most likely in the St. Charles Hotel, which stood at the southwest corner of Thomas and Main Streets, a half block east of where you are standing. One of Grant's first



A Que

Ulysses Grant is well known as the Union general who won the Battle of Vicksburg in 1863. Born in Virginia in 1819, the young man then settled in Ohio. A lawyer active as an officer

veteran of the Mexican War before the outbreak of the

When Fremont released the first

that he was the senior h entered Cape Girardeau, a gathering here. At the same time the St. Charles Hotel, most Fremont's regiments.

As I turned the first corner

carrying papers the next at

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It was at or near this

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this column. An argument

to return to his troops in a

so he could plead his case

were upheld. Seven months

the "Hornet's Nest" at the

Grant's defensive lines.

The St. Charles Hotel was

to be one of Cape Girardeau

landmarks. Located at

corner of Thomas and Main

Grant opened his doors to

and soon after becoming

most famous guests. The

was demolished in the 19

Source: The Figure of Ulysses

Grant at the Battle of Vicksburg

by John G. Sweeney and the

University of Missouri Press

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of the University of Missouri

War Heritage Foundation, Inc.



Made possible by a grant from Cape Girardeau Co

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A Question of Rank

Ulysses Grant is well known to most Americans; Benjamin Mxyberry Prentiss of Quincy, Illinois, is not. Born in Virginia in 1819, Prentiss moved west as a young man, then settled in Quincy early in the 1840s. A lawyer active as an officer of the Illinois Militia and a veteran of the Mexican War, Prentiss entered politics before the outbreak of the Civil War.



Prentiss and Grant were two of 12 men whose nominations to the rank of brigadier general of volunteers were confirmed by the U. S. Senate on August 7, 1861. Because Ulysses Grant had served as an officer in the regular Army, his seniority was superior — he “ranked” Prentiss.

When Prentiss relieved Grant at Ironton in August, Prentiss ascertained that he was the senior brigadier. On September 2, 1861, Prentiss entered Cape Girardeau, expecting that he would command the forces gathering here. At the same time, Ulysses Grant mounted his horse near the St. Charles Hotel, heading to Jackson where he expected to meet Prentiss’ regiments. Grant described the scene in his Memoirs: “As I turned the first corner of a street after starting, I saw a column of cavalry passing the next street in front of me. I turned and rode around the block the other way, so as to meet the head of the column.”

It was at or near this location on Spanish Street that Grant reached the head of the southbound cavalry column. General Prentiss rode in this column. An argument over rank ensued, and Grant ordered Prentiss to return to his troops in Jackson. Prentiss placed himself under arrest so he could plead his case in St. Louis. Grant’s authority and his orders were upheld. Seven months later, it was Prentiss who fought valiantly in the “Hornet’s Nest” at the Battle of Shiloh, providing vital protection for Grant’s defensive lines.



The St. Charles Hotel was once considered to be one of Cape Girardeau’s greatest landmarks. Located at the southeast corner of Thomas and Main Streets, the hotel opened its doors in January 1863, and soon after presumably hosted its most famous guest. The old building was demolished in the 1960s.

Source: *The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, Volume 3: April–September, 1861* (John S. Simon, ed., Southern Illinois University Press, 1969)

Web: *Capitol Ground and the Old St. Charles Hotel in Missouri’s Civil War*

Lang, E.B., “The Paducah Officer: Benjamin Prentiss After the Civil War in the Mississippi Valley,” *Regiments of the Kentucky Historical Society*, Oct. 1972.

Keen, Thomas W., *My Life of General Grant* (New York: The Warren Company, 1896), p. 185.

file by a grant from Cape Girardeau Convention and Visitors Bureau.

