

Physical Details

Material of Monument or base under a Sculpture or Cannon = ___ Stone ___ Concrete ___ Metal ___ Undetermined If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) _____

Material of the Sculpture = ___ Stone ___ Concrete ___ Metal ___ Undetermined
If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) _____
If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" _____

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = _____

Material of Cannon = ___ Bronze ___ Iron - Consult known Ordnance Listing to confirm
Markings on muzzle = _____
Markings on Left Trunion _____ Right Trunion _____
Is inert ammunition a part of the Memorial? ___ If so, describe _____

Approximate Dimensions (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points
Monument or Base: Height ^{4 ft} _____ Width ^{4 ft} _____ Depth ^{3 ft} _____ or Diameter _____
Sculpture: Height _____ Width _____ Depth _____ or Diameter _____

For Memorials with multiple Sculptures, please record this information on a separate sheet of paper for each statue 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 _____

The "Dedication Text" is formed: ___ cut into material ___ raised up from material face

Record the text (indicate any separation if on different sides) Please use additional sheet if necessary.
See Photos

Environmental Setting

(The general vicinity and immediate locale surrounding a memorial can play a major role in its overall condition.)

Type of Location

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery | <input type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Town Square" | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office | <input type="checkbox"/> School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Building | <input type="checkbox"/> State Capitol | Other: <u>Park Like Setting</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | _____ |

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

Overall Description

Briefly describe the Memorial (affiliation / overall condition & any concern not already touched on) .

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. Thank you.

Inspector Identification

Date of On-site Survey 10/07/2015

Your Name Walter Busch

Address 1240 Konert Valley Dr

City Fenton

State MO

Zip Code 63026

Telephone () 314-630-8407

What Order or Organization is submitter a member of? US Grant Camp 68 SUVCW

Please send this completed form to

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

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
National Civil War Memorials Committee

Salt peter Cave

Missouri's

CIVIL WAR

Confederate Partisan Rangers

In the beginning of the Civil War, Confederate Rangers were among the first to be organized in Missouri. They were active in the state, and were the first to be organized in Missouri. They were active in the state, and were the first to be organized in Missouri.



Specifically, the Missouri Partisan Rangers were organized by General James M. Lane in 1861. They were active in the state, and were the first to be organized in Missouri.

Quinnell and his team were actively recruited from Confederate sources in August 1861 with the Missouri Partisan Rangers. They had ready-made uniforms and were active in the state, and were the first to be organized in Missouri.



William B. Quantrell

Learn more at www.meramec.org

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As far back as anyone can recall, the state on the right bank of Missouri River, one hundred miles upstream from its confluence with the Mississippi River, was called Salt Peter Cave. It was a place where the Indians used to dig for saltpeter. It was a place where the Indians used to dig for saltpeter.



At the time of the war, the state on the right bank of Missouri River, one hundred miles upstream from its confluence with the Mississippi River, was called Salt Peter Cave. It was a place where the Indians used to dig for saltpeter.

To make saltpeter, cave dirt was dissolved into V-shaped pits (see right side story). Water passes through the dirt, dissolving calcium nitrate and potassium nitrate. The liquid is then evaporated to produce saltpeter. This liquid is then evaporated to produce saltpeter.

The Notorious Jesse James



In April of 1861, at the age of 21, Jesse James joined the Confederate Army. He was a member of the famous James-White family. He was a member of the famous James-White family.

Partisan Rangers

Partisan Rangers were active in the state, and were the first to be organized in Missouri. They were active in the state, and were the first to be organized in Missouri.

Inside Meramec Caverns



Visit the Caverns' renowned V-shaped wooden trapdoor that allows you to look up at the cavern's ceiling. It's a unique experience. Visit the Caverns' renowned V-shaped wooden trapdoor that allows you to look up at the cavern's ceiling.

Meramec Caverns is a unique experience. Visit the Caverns' renowned V-shaped wooden trapdoor that allows you to look up at the cavern's ceiling.

Made possible by a grant from Meramec Caverns



Confederate Medal of Honor

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Salt peter Cave Missouri's CIVIL WAR

As the South in western part built the cave in the right back of Meramec. There are hundreds of other caves in the area, but this one is the only one that was used for the purpose of storing salt peter. The Meramec Salt Peter Cave is one of the other large caves in the area. It is one of the largest and most important caves in the area. It is one of the largest and most important caves in the area. It is one of the largest and most important caves in the area.



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The Northwest James James



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Patrick Emery

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Inside Meramec Caverns



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Confederate Partisan Rangers

At the beginning of the Civil War, Quantrill's Rangers were among the first bands of Southern guerrillas operating in Missouri, and they rapidly gained widespread notoriety and instilled fear among the Union citizens. They ambushed Union troops and supply lines and attacked towns on the Missouri and Kansas border. Guerrilla units were unconventional, employing rapid "hit and run" tactics and the use of disguises.



Quantrill and his force were officially mustered into Confederate service in August 1862 under the Partisan Ranger Act, but rarely concerned themselves with Confederate government policies or laws. A brutal example is a raid on Lawrence, Kansas, where Quantrill's Rangers burned the community, killing about 150 men and boys. After this raid, the Confederate government distanced itself from Quantrill.

After Lawrence, the guerrillas splintered into several additional bands, including one commanded by William "Bloody Bill" Anderson and another led by George Todd. Quantrill and his group of men went to Kentucky where they were ultimately cornered in a barn. A shootout ensued, and Quantrill was wounded in the spine. He was arrested by Union forces and died a week later.



William C. Quantrill

Learn more at www.mocivilwar.org

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As far back as anyone on the right bank of Meramec upstream from its confluence into Salt Peter, or any other caves in the region, recognized the amount of active large bar copiles and their potential for saltpeter caves.

Any sort of dung contains calcium nitrate, which can be treated by adding water and a small amount of potassium carbonate (lye or caustic potash) to produce potassium nitrate. Under these conditions for production, the nitrates include nitric acid, low temperatures, low humidity, and relatively dry conditions. The Chinese first used saltpeter around 1000 AD. Saltpeter is a byproduct of the nitrate cycle, and is used in different proportions for making cannonballs, and for other purposes. The resulting black powder is a dicey proposition. Peter-dirt and saltpeter are found in the Caverns. Nearby as a byproduct of the nitrate cycle, and is used in different proportions for making cannonballs, and for other purposes. The resulting black powder is a dicey proposition.

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Salt peter Cave

Missouri's

CIVIL WAR

As far back as anyone can recall, the cave on the right bank of Meramec River, one hundred miles upstream from its confluence with the Mississippi River, was called Salt peter Cave. Anyone venturing into Salt peter, or any of the other large riverfront caves in the region, would have immediately recognized the ammonia smell of active large bar colony guano piles and their potential as salt peter caves.

Any sort of dung or nightsoil contains calcium nitrate, which can be treated by leaching with water and wood ashes containing potassium hydroxide (lye or caustic potash) to form potassium nitrate. Ideal cave conditions for preservation of the nitrates include about 60°F temperatures, low humidity, and relatively dry earth floors. The Chinese first formulated gunpowder around 1000 AD by mixing potassium nitrate, charcoal from willow saplings, and sulfur in different proportions for firecrackers or to propel cannonballs, and later personal firearms. The resulting black powder varies in stability, making it a dicey proposition to transport long distances.

Peter-dirt and willow were plentiful near the Caverns. Nearby lead smelting produced sulfur as a byproduct and a source for refined shot. The date of the first salt peter works predated statehood, as reference to the industry here made by Henry Rowe Schoolcraft in 1819 indicates.

To make salt peter, cave dirt was shoveled into V-shaped vats (see right side story). Water passes through the dirt dissolved calcium nitrate and retained that mineral in solution. Water was reused for several passes to obtain a chemical rich solution called mother liquor. That liquid would then be passed through similar vats containing wood ashes

for conversion from calcium to potassium nitrate. The resulting liquid would then be boiled dry and the resulting salt peter crystals scraped and collected for shipment or further processing into gunpowder.

Around the turn of the 19th century, migrants from Southern Appalachia arrived, an area where local manufacture of gunpowder salt peter in caves was common. Local southerners John Stanton and Steven Sullivan were involved in reviving the salt peter works and munitions plants. During gunpowder shortages in the War of 1812, the Salt peter Cave works again kicked into high gear for a commodity that many could not afford to buy. Imported gunpowder generally kept and functioned better, as well as being less hazardous during manufacturing.

After statehood, local manufacture of salt peter and gunpowder declined, as black powder again became a cheap commodity to obtain, and, later, gun technology advanced.

When the Civil War became a local reality early in 1861, both the cave and munitions ruins were in the hands of local Southern sympathizers, and were quickly put back into use. They remained in Southern hands until 1862, when Union troops occupied the area, putting an end to Southern use of the cave. Whether or not Northern troops used the munitions plant, or simply let it decline, is unclear; it seems more certain that the plant was destroyed when Confederate General Sterling Price's troops passed through this area in 1864 during Price's Raid.

Salt peter Cave retained that name until commercialized by Lester B. Dill in 1933. The cave was used locally for dances, picnics, and outings until that time.



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In April of 1854, James of Clay Co. Fletch Taylor's gun was already a mere summer, after Tay brothers joined a and fought in the September, 1854. James was severe patrol near Leasing War, and is known

Partisan Ra
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After the war, throughout the local authorities of Frank and Jim and caused were

Visit the Ca used to proc extract the mineral saltpet display inside which was t

Source: Ca -additional to Photo: Cam



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hat name until in 1933. The cave nics, and outings

The Notorious Jesse James

In April of 1864, at the age of sixteen, Jesse James of Clay County, Missouri, joined Captain Fletch Taylor's guerrilla gang. His brother Frank was already a member of Taylor's band. Later that summer, after Taylor was wounded, the James brothers joined a unit led by "Bloody Bill" Anderson, and fought in the Battle of Centralia, Missouri, in September, 1864. In the Spring of 1865, Jesse James was severely wounded by a Union cavalry patrol near Lexington, Missouri. He returned to Missouri after the Civil War, and is known today as the notorious "Outlaw Jesse James."



Jesse James

Partisan Rangers

(continued)

After the war, the former guerrillas continued their Missouri raids throughout the late 1860's, harassing the Missouri State government and local authorities. The outlaws were known as a gang under the leadership of Frank and Jesse James and Cole Younger, who committed bank robbery and caused terror in the Midwest.

Inside Meramec Caverns



Visit the Caverns' recreated V-shaped wooden hoppers like these once used to process potassium nitrate. Fresh water is poured into the vats to extract the saltpeter from the cave dirt. Wood ash is added to the newly mixed saltpeter and boiled to create purified saltpeter crystals. Also on display inside is a replica of an 1861 Springfield musket with bayonet which was the type of weapon used by many Civil War-era soldiers.

Sources: Cavern story text courtesy of Jo Schapex, Pacific, Missouri;

additional text courtesy of Terry Wilson, Union, Missouri.

Photo Credits: Handmill and Caverns photo courtesy of Meramec Caverns

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