

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

## CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM

**PLEASE:**

- Type or print, using a ball-point pen, when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- Do not guess at the information. An answer of, "Unknown," is more helpful.
- Include a photograph of each viewable side and label it with name & direction of view.

**- Thank You.**

### Type of Memorial

☐ Monument *with* Sculpture
 ☐ Monument with *Cannon*  
☐ Monument *without* Sculpture
 ☒ Historical Marker
 ☐ Plaque

### Affiliation

☐ G.A.R. (Post Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ M.O.L.L.U.S.  
☐ W.R.C. (Corps Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_) ☐ Other Allied Order  
☐ SUVCW (Camp Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_) (Please describe below)  
☐ DUVCW (Tent Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_)  
☒ Other: Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

**Original Dedication Date** Unknown 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 Wilson's Creek NB N37°06.923' W93°24.337'  
 City/Village Springfield Township \_\_\_\_\_ County Greene

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

**Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner** (of private cemetery that Memorial is located in)...

Name Wilson's Creek N.B. Dept./Div. National Park Service  
 Street Address 6424 W Farm Rd 182  
 City Republic State MO Zip Code 65738  
 Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone ( 417 ) 732-2662

If the Memorial has been moved, please list former location(s)...

N/A  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### 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.) painted

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 = Metal and polymers

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 <sup>4 ft</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Width <sup>3 ft</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Depth <sup>3 ft</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 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 attached

## 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 checked="" 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: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse	<input type="checkbox"/> College Campus	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle	<input type="checkbox"/> Library	_____

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

**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...

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Relatively good shape some rust proof paint needed in spots

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

**Overall Description**

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

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**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 09/09/2009

Your Name Walter E Busch US Grant Camp 68

Address PO Box 381 City Arcadia

State MO Zip Code 63621 Telephone ( 314 ) 630-8407

Please send this completed form to:

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Chair  
58 Forest Street  
Wakefield, MA 01880  
(617) 595-7721

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

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

Wilson's Creek

Gibson's Mill

[Area Map]

The mill and house of John Gibson once stood in the valley in the front of you along Wilson Creek. On August 9, 1861, the day before the battle, the Gibson family and their neighbors found themselves surrounded by more than 12,000 Confederate soldiers whose camps extended two miles south along the creek.

The Gibsons made their living by grinding corn and oats into flour, and by carding wool. When the cannon began to roar on the morning of August 10, they took refuge in their cellar. Today the house and mill are gone, foundation ruins are visible.

The 1- mile loop trail beginning here heads to the sites of the mill and house. Down along the creek you may also see remnants of the millrace, a narrow earthen canal that carried water to turn the mill's water wheel.

[Picture of frame building with water wheel].









## Gibson's Mill



This mill, built by James Gibson in 1812, was the first of its kind in the region. It was a small, one-story building with a gabled roof and a single water wheel. The mill was used to grind grain into flour, which was then shipped to other parts of the country. The mill was built on a small island in the middle of a river, and it was surrounded by a fence. The mill was built by James Gibson, who was a pioneer in the region. He was a man of many talents, and he was known for his ability to build things. The mill was built in 1812, and it was one of the first of its kind in the region. It was a small, one-story building with a gabled roof and a single water wheel. The mill was used to grind grain into flour, which was then shipped to other parts of the country. The mill was built on a small island in the middle of a river, and it was surrounded by a fence. The mill was built by James Gibson, who was a pioneer in the region. He was a man of many talents, and he was known for his ability to build things.



WILSON CREEK



# Gibson's Mill

WILSON'S CREEK



The mill and house of John Gibson once stood on the site of the mill. In 1861, before the battle, the Gibson family and their neighbors found themselves surrounded by more than 12,000 Confederate soldiers, whose camps extended two miles south along the creek.

The Gibsons made their living by grinding corn and oats into flour, and by carding wool. When the cannon began to roar on the morning of August 10, they took refuge in their cellar. Today the house and mill are gone, but foundation ruins are visible. The 1-mile loop trail beginning here leads to the sites of the mill and house. Down along the creek you may also see remnants of the millrace, a narrow earthen canal that carried water to turn the mill's water wheel.

