

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. Name of Property

historic name GAR Monument
other names/site number N/A
Related Multiple Property Civil War Monuments of Kentucky MPS

2. Location

street & number Maysville-Mason County Cemetery NA not for publication
1521 Forest Avenue
city or town Maysville NA vicinity
state Kentucky code KY county Mason code 161 zip code 41056

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

Signature of certifying official/Title Craig Potts/SHPO Date

Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register
 determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register
 other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Maysville G.A.R. Monument
 Name of Property

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 County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

Category of Property
 (Check only **one** box.)

Number of Resources within Property
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
		buildings
		district
		site
		structure
	1	object
	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

Civil War Monuments of Kentucky
 MPS

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Civil War Monument

Other: Civil War Monument

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

No Style

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Granite

walls:

roof:

other: Bronze; Marble

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7. Narrative Description

Summary Paragraph

The G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) Monument (MS-471) standing in the Maysville-Mason County cemetery is the most outstanding structure on the cemetery grounds, and visible from well outside the cemetery walls. The 42-foot monument was erected by the Joseph Heiser Post of the G.A.R., the largest national veterans' organization following the Civil War, and dedicated on July 4, 1887 on land donated by the Maysville Cemetery.



Maysville GAR Monument, Maysville Cemetery. Latitude: 38.637947° Longitude: -83.730452°

Narrative Description

Two decades after the war's end, in 1885, citizens of Maysville attended the dedication of a G.A.R. monument on Memorial Day in nearby Ripley, Ohio. This prompted the formation of a committee to raise funds to erect a G.A.R. monument in Maysville. The committee requested a spot for the Maysville G.A.R. Monument in the

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city-owned 29-acre Maysville-Mason County Cemetery; the Cemetery Association donated the land for the monument.

The monument was manufactured by Thomas Staniland & Son of Dayton, Ohio, at a cost of \$3700, and on July 4, 1887, the monument was dedicated.



The base is 9 ft. 3 in. square, surmounted by two other base stones which hold the inscriptions. “A base of Vermont granite supports a granite canopy, with arched openings on all four sides. Looking through the arches, supported by columns on each corner, is a female figure personifying Memory. The figure is portrayed in the act of dropping a flower on a soldier’s grave. The main shaft, also of granite, tops the canopy. On the north side of the shaft is a bronze relief of the badge of the G.A.R., and an inscription identifying the Heiser Post. The shaft supports a nine-foot bronze figure of a soldier holding a flag.”

There are four inscriptions on the monument: North (base): “This monument is erected in honor of the men who volunteered in the Union Army from Mason County, Ky., and served in the War of 1861-1865.” North inscription (shaft): “Joseph Heiser Post, No. 13, G.A.R.” South inscription: “We remember with gratitude the noble Union women of the war time.” East inscription: “A People’s Tribute.” West inscription: “Erected A.D. 1887.”

The monument stands upon a slight grassy rise. Private graves surround the monument, with those closest about 10-20 feet away.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>D Property has yielded or is likely to yield, information in prehistory or history</p>

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History

Period of Significance

1887

Significant Dates

July 4, 1887

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Thomas Staniland & Son, Dayton, Ohio

Criteria Considerations

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>B removed from its original location.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>C a birthplace or grave.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>D a cemetery.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.</p>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>F a commemorative property.</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<p>G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.</p>

Period of Significance: The Period of Significance is a single year, considering the action of erecting the monument to be the climax of the act of social remembering. The monument was erected during the post-Reconstruction period following the Civil War (c. 1877-1900). It was a time when similar monuments of remembrance were being erected throughout the nation.

Criteria Consideration F: The monument gives the local responses to the national narrative of the effect of the Civil War upon the nation.

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Statement of Significance

Summary Paragraph

The Maysville G.A.R. Monument (MS-471) meets National Register Criterion A and meets the Registration Requirement F as outlined in the Kentucky Civil War Monuments MPS. The monument was erected in 1887 by the Grand Army of the Republic, a group established in the late-19th century to honor Union soldiers. It is one of at least 10 such monuments in Kentucky dedicated exclusively to Union soldiers, compared to more than 50 in the Commonwealth dedicated to Confederate soldiers. This disparity is remarkable, as Kentucky remained loyal to the Union during the Civil War, and two-thirds of Kentuckians who fought served in Union regiments. This context of Kentucky's split loyalties makes the monument worthy of consideration to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Maysville was also the hometown of Union Major General William "Bull" Nelson, who commanded loyal forces in Kentucky until his death on Sept. 29, 1862. Gen. Nelson's grave is located close to the G.A.R. monument in the cemetery.

Maysville was conflicted though the war because it had economic ties to the North and cultural ties to the South. The town is on the Ohio River across from Aberdeen, Ohio. The National Underground Railroad Museum is located in Maysville. An unknown number of people in Maysville claimed involvement in the clandestine transport of escaped African Americans north along the Underground Railroad. Those who maintain these stories assert that conductors along this route helped over 2,000 people to freedom.

The period was also a time when even Northerners began to accept the Lost Cause narrative promoted by former Confederates, if only to deemphasize the controversial issues of slavery and emancipation. Beginning in the 1880s, there was a movement for North-South reconciliation. Veterans from both sides met in reunions, and veteran organizations on both sides were mutually supportive. The dedication ceremony in Maysville described below was an excellent example of this feeling of reconciliation.

On the day of dedication, July 4, 1887, it was estimated that 15,000 people were in attendance. The hosting Joseph Heiser Post No. 13 of the G.A.R. greeted and escorted members of eleven visiting G.A.R. posts to the courthouse. Six brass bands accompanied the crowd to the cemetery. The main orator was Col. John Mason Brown of Louisville. Governor-elect and former Confederate general Simon Bolivar Buckner was also in attendance and gave an impromptu speech. The reporter described Buckner--not once but twice--as an "old hero" and states that Buckner "is exceedingly popular with the members of the Joseph Heiser post." He adds, "Many ex-Confederates took part in to-day's proceedings, and the blue and the gray mingled pleasantly and cordially together."

Registration Requirements

Significance: The monument is an example of the kind erected both in the North and South to commemorate Civil War memory. While a few commemorative monuments predated the end of the Civil War, the heyday of monument building was between 1880 and 1920. It is an outstanding example of G.A.R. monuments built after

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the Civil War. Manufactured by the Thomas Staniland and Son of Dayton, Ohio, the canopy with arched openings is an uncommon motif on monuments of this kind in Kentucky, and included among the dedicatory inscriptions is a tribute to the Union women who supported the soldiers and the Union war effort. While many Confederate monuments were the work of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, in the North the acknowledgement of women's role in the war was less apparent and did not much outlast the war. Confederate monuments which recognized the contributions of women to the war effort were more than three times as numerous as those for Union women.

The G.A.R. Monument in Maysville, Kentucky is a unique and beautiful example of one community's post-Civil War and post-Reconstruction remembrance of the war. It exemplified a local as well as national campaign to justify the sacrifices of those members of the local community who served in the Union Army during the war, and to remember those who gave their lives to the cause. The form of the monument is different from any of the monuments in Kentucky, Union or Confederate.

Integrity: In July 2017, the monument was found to be in very good condition, especially the granite base and shaft. The marble statue of the female figure has some discoloration from mold or lichen.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Baruch, Mildred C. and Ellen J. Beckman. Civil War Union Monuments. (Washington, D.C., Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865, 1978).

Brown, Thomas J. The Public Art of Civil War Commemoration: A Brief History with Documents. (Boston, Bedford/St. Martin's, 2004).

Fahs, Alice and Joan Waugh, eds. The Memory of the Civil War in American Culture. (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 2004).

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

McDonough, James Lee. War In Kentucky: From Shiloh to Perryville. (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1994).

McDowell, Robert Emmett. City of Conflict: Louisville in the Civil War 1861-1865. (Louisville: Louisville Civil War Round Table, 1962).

Marshall, Anne E. Creating a Confederate Kentucky: The Lost Cause and Civil War Memory in a Border State. (Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina Press, 2010).

Sifikis, Stewart. Who Was Who in the Civil War. (New York, Facts On File Publications, 1988).

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Periodicals:

The Ledger Independent (Maysville)
Louisville Courier-Journal.
Maysville Daily Republican

Online Sources:

Toncray, Marla. "Object No. 19: Civil War Monument. Maysville," *The Ledger Independent*. Aug. 8, 2014.

"Maysville, Ky," Trails-R-Us--Civil War, <http://www.trailsrus.com/civilwar/region4/maysville.html>, Sept. 6, 2017.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

Primary location of additional data:

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has
been requested)

State Historic Preservation
Office

previously listed in the National Register

Other State agency

previously determined eligible by the National Register

Federal agency

designated a National Historic Landmark

Local government

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

X Other

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Name of repository: **TrailsRUS.com**

recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____ MS-471 _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property Proposed for listing Less than one acre

Latitude: 38.637947° Longitude: -83.730452°

UTM References

1 _____ 3 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

2 _____ 4 _____
Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal Boundary Description

The area proposed for National Register listing is a square of 30' on each side, centered on the Maysville G.A.R. Monument, located in the Maysville City Cemetery, Maysville, Kentucky. The Cemetery is identified as the parcel with Map Number: 056-00-00-016.00 by the Mason County Property Valuation Administrator Office. The monument is not known to have a specific location reference within the cemetery, however, the monument is the most prominent feature of the cemetery.

Boundary Justification

The boundary selected includes the monument and a 10' buffer surrounding the monument, which is the area that retains an integrity of setting.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Robert Jones, Civil War Memorials Officer
organization Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Dept. of Ky. date Sept. 11, 2017
86 Wampum Road telephone (502) 299-7455
city or town Louisville state KY zip code 40207
e-mail 4thUSCav@gmail.com

Photographs:

Name of Property: Maysville G.A.R. Monument
City or Vicinity: Maysville
County: Mason
State: Kentucky
Photographer: Robert Jones
Date Photographed: July 7, 2017

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 5 Maysville G.A.R. Monument, complete view, camera facing west.
- 2 of 5 Maysville G.A.R. Monument, detail, archway with sculpture, camera facing west.
- 3 of 5 Maysville G.A.R. Monument, detail, G.A.R. bronze medallion, camera facing south.
- 4 of 5 Maysville G.A.R. Monument, detail of bronze soldier standing atop shaft, camera facing south.
- 5 of 5 Maysville G.A.R. Monument, detail of female figure representing Memory, camera facing west.

Property Owner:

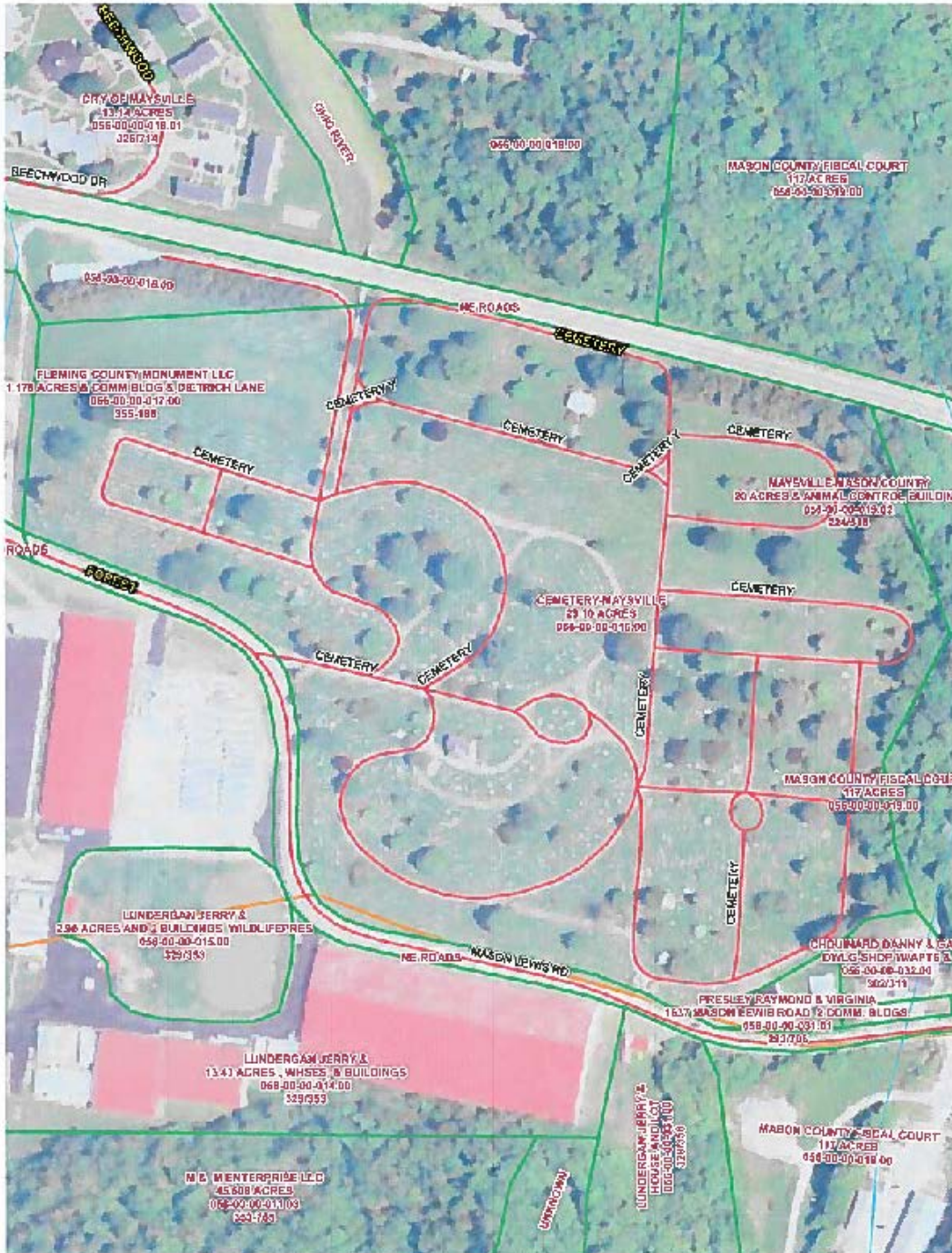
name City of Maysville
street & number 1521 Forest Avenue telephone (606) 564-4570
city or town Maysville state KY zip code 41056

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Local tax office's (Mason County Property Valuation Administrator's) map of cemetery site.