

Book Copy

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NR LISTED

===== ~~MAY 03 1996~~ =====
1. Name of Property
===== historic name: Minnesota Monument **AHPP** =====
other name/site number: PU5270S =====

===== 2. Location =====
street & number: 2523 Confederate Boulevard
not for publication: N/A
city/town: Little Rock vicinity: N/A
state: AR county: Pulaski code: AR 119 zip code: 72206

===== 3. Classification =====
Ownership of Property: Public-federal
Category of Property: Object
Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing
_____	_____ buildings
_____	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
<u>1</u>	_____ objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy:" Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property X meets _____ does not meet the National Register criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Catapult A. Lator
Signature of commenting or other official

3-4-96
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

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. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register _____

____ See continuation sheet. _____

____ determined eligible for the _____
National Register

____ See continuation sheet. _____

____ determined not eligible for the _____
National Register

____ removed from the National Register _____

____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

=====

6. Function or Use

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Historic: RECREATION AND CULTURE

Sub: Monument/marker

Current: RECREATION AND CULTURE

Sub: Monument/marker

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Neoclassical

Other Description: N/A

Materials:	foundation	<u>STONE/Granite</u>	roof	<u>N/A</u>
	walls	<u>METAL/Bronze</u>	other	_____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. _____ See continuation sheet.

Summary

The Minnesota Monument, also known as "Taps," is located at the Little Rock National Cemetery at 2523 Confederate Blvd. Created by sculptor John K. Daniels, it depicts a Union soldier standing bare-headed with his head slightly bowed. The figure's hands rest atop the butt of his rifle, which is inverted with the barrel resting on the ground before him. His cap is held in his proper right hand and rests against his proper left shoulder. He is dressed in a rain slicker, which billows out behind him. The base, which is made of Minnesota granite, is 106"x95"x95". The sculpture, made of bronze, stands 7'x33"x31".

Elaboration

The Minnesota Monument, also known as "Taps," is located at the Little Rock National Cemetery at 2523 Confederate Blvd. Created by sculptor John K. Daniels, it depicts a Union soldier standing bare-headed with his head slightly bowed. The figure's hands rest atop the butt of his rifle, which is inverted with the barrel resting on the ground before him. His cap is held in his proper right hand and rests against his proper left shoulder. He is dressed in a rain slicker, which billows out behind him. The base, which is made of Minnesota granite, is 106"x95"x95". The sculpture, made of bronze, stands 7'x33"x31".

On the east side of the base are crossed palm fronds, followed by the inscription "ERECTED A.D. 1916 BY THE / STATE OF MINNESOTA / IN MEMORY OF HER SOLDIERS / HERE BURIED WHO LOST THEIR LIVES / IN THE SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES / IN THE WAR FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE UNION / A.D. 1861 - 1865."

The figure is pitted and has metallic staining, as well as evidence of "bronze disease" behind the cape behind his proper right leg. There is also some damage to the base, possibly through the use of a power weed trimmer.

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3. Statement of Significance

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Statewide.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): F

Areas of Significance: SOCIAL HISTORY

Period(s) of Significance: 1916 _____

Significant Dates: 1916 _____

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A _____

Architect/Builder: Daniels, John K.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
____ See continuation sheet.

Summary

Criterion A, statewide significance
Criterion Consideration F

The Minnesota Monument is associated with the historic context "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934 as a commemorative monument financed and erected through the efforts of a northern state to note its troops' activities in Arkansas. As such, it is eligible under Criterion A with statewide significance for its associations with the efforts of the State of Minnesota to reflect Minnesotans' perception of the noble character and valor of their veterans and their cause. Thus, it also meets the eligibility requirements of Criteria Consideration F: Commemorative Properties. As the only state-sponsored northern monument, and, indeed, one of only three known monuments in the entire state that acknowledge Union forces, the Minnesota Monument deserves statewide significance.

Elaboration

The Minnesota Monument Commission was established by an act of the Minnesota state legislature in 1913 to organize the construction of memorials honoring Minnesota soldiers of the Civil War who were buried in the National Cemeteries of several southern cities. In 1915 another legislative act appropriated money to fund monuments in Little Rock, Memphis, and Andersonville, Georgia. The Monument Commission selected John K. Daniels, a sculptor from St. Paul, to build these memorials. Daniels, a native of Jorway, was a highly acclaimed artist who was noted for the versatility and spirituality of his work. He had won numerous awards and had been decorated by the King of Norway.

In 1916 the Minnesota Monument was completed and placed in the Little Rock National Cemetery in honor of the 36 Minnesota soldiers who are buried there. This cemetery, which contains nearly 7,000 Union graves, was used as a Union graveyard throughout the Civil War and was officially designated a National Cemetery in 1868. Daniels made monuments identical to the one in Little Rock to be placed in national cemeteries in Memphis, Tennessee, and Andersonville, Georgia.

The monument was officially dedicated on September 22, 1916 with a ceremony that featured dignitaries and veterans from both Minnesota and Arkansas. Gov. J. A. Burnquist of Minnesota spoke on behalf of his state, saying "we are here to increase the friendship between the North and South, which has superseded [sic] the hatred of the other period. We are here to jointly pledge our loyalty to that great country which we all live in now." Gen. Christopher C. Andrews, commander of the Minnesota troops in Arkansas and chairman of the Monument Committee, praised the state in which he was stationed: "As I come back after 52 years, I see many evidences of the remarkable evolution of the South since the war. I see undisputed progress and prosperity of the section. I see a town with few modern improvements grown into a major city. I am indeed glad to return to the scenes where it was my fortune to be during the conflict." Arkansas's speakers included Gov. George W. Hays, Mayor Charles E. Taylor, and two former Confederate leaders. About 100 people, including a party of Confederate veterans, members of the MacPherson Post No. 1, G.A.R., and delegations from local Confederate women's groups, attended the ceremony. Later that afternoon the Minnesota delegation boarded a train for Memphis to attend another monument dedication.

The Minnesota Monument is associated with the historic context "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934 as a commemorative monument financed and erected through the efforts of a northern state to note its troops' activities in Arkansas. As such, it is eligible under Criterion A with statewide significance for its associations with the efforts of the State of Minnesota to reflect Minnesotans' perception of the noble character and valor of their veterans and their cause. Thus, it also meets the eligibility requirements of Criteria Consideration F: Commemorative Properties. As the only state-sponsored northern monument, and, indeed, one of only three known monuments in the entire state that acknowledge Union forces, the Minnesota Monument deserves statewide significance.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Minnesota Monument Commission file, Minnesota State Archives.

Scholpp, Strong, ed., "Social Directory and Who's Who of the Twin Cities, Vol. I," St. Paul, MN: The Social Directory Publishing Co., 1933, pp 99-100.

Arkansas Gazette, September 23, 1916, p. 1.

___ See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

☒ State historic preservation office
☐ Other state agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	<u>15</u>	<u>568040</u>	<u>3842540</u>	B	<u>15</u>	_____
C	<u>15</u>	_____	_____	D	<u>15</u>	_____

____ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ____ See continuation sheet.

The monument the boundaries of which form a circle with a radius of 25 feet centered on the obelisk itself.

Boundary Justification: ____ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

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11. Form Prepared By

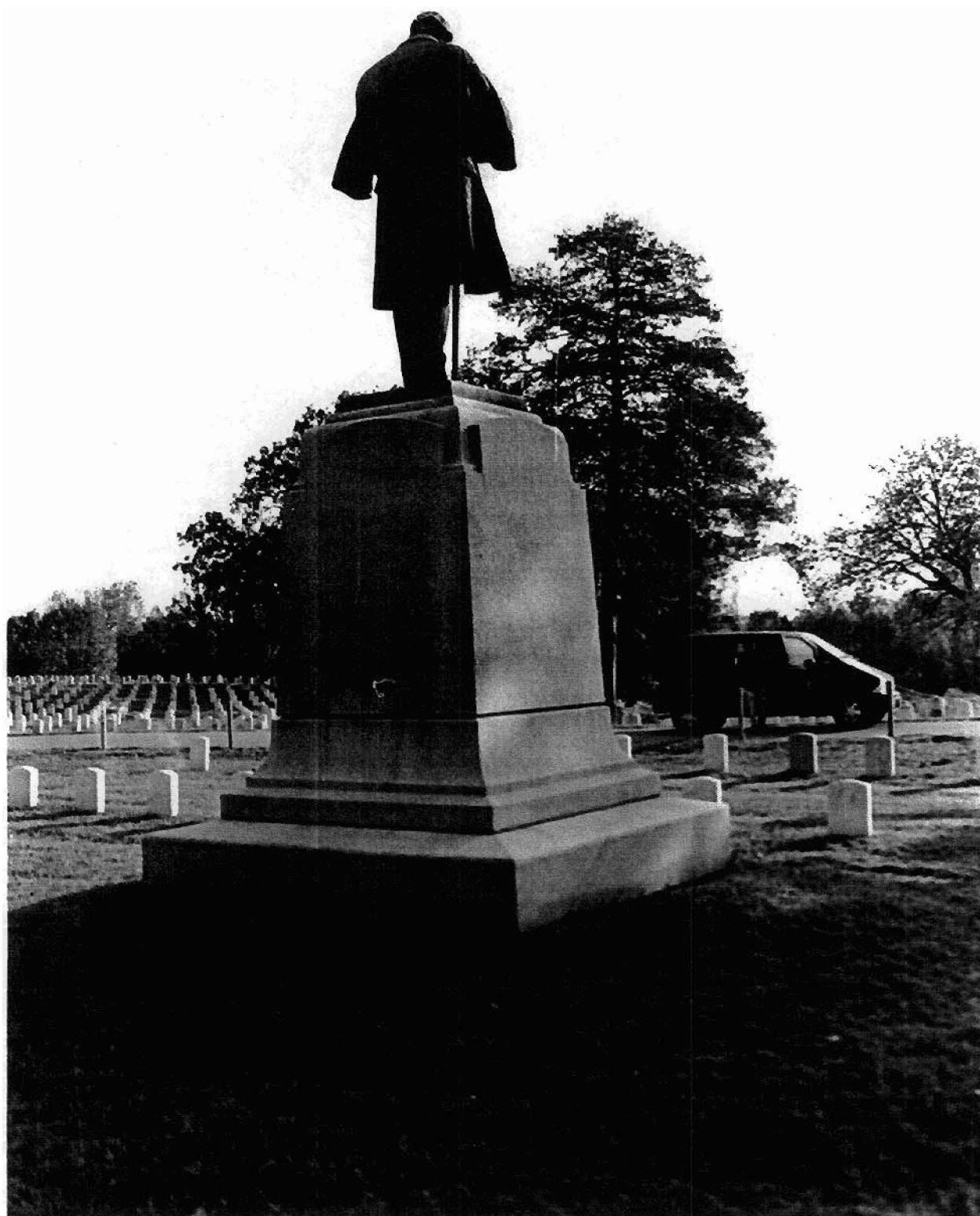
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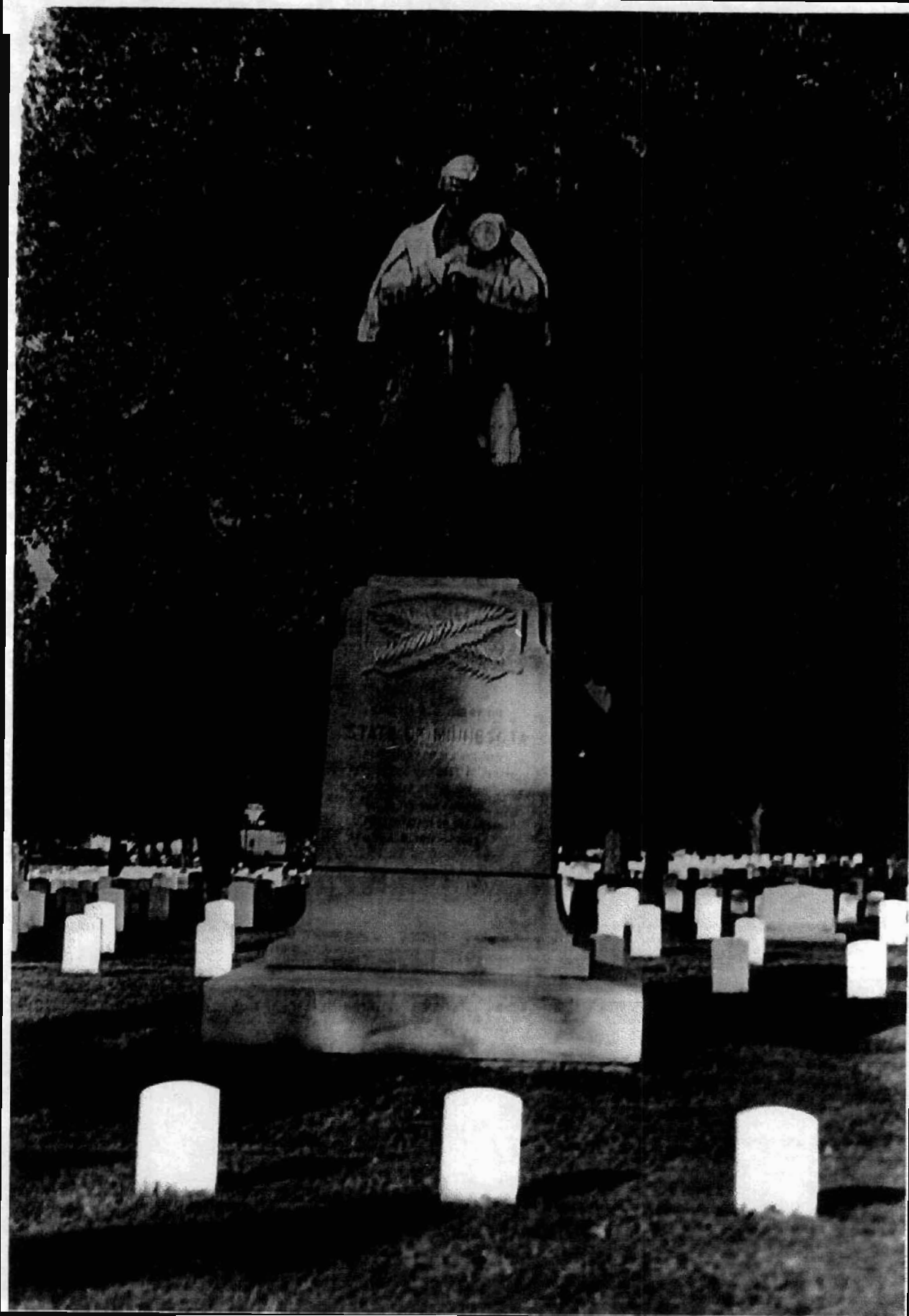
Name/Title: John Slater, Special Projects Intern/AHPP Staff

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 02/14/96

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City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201







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