

## Heiser-Ertel, Lauren

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**From:** Mark Lydon <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 28, 2018 10:36 AM  
**To:** PLLCApplications  
**Subject:** Confederate's Rest Cemetery

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Commissioners,

I support the Commission's recent decision to not alter the Confederate monument. As a student of history and social justice advocate, I view recent removals of Confederate monuments with dismay since this negatively alters our history and the stories we tell about ourselves.

Rather than removal, I encourage the installation of an additional monument or plaque that honors current efforts to promote equality and heal still-open wounds. The interpretive sign explaining the history of the graveyard and effigy mounds would be well received and can be augmented by explaining the current history of our time that attempts to reconcile racial discord.

Thank you.

Regards,  
Mark

Mark Lydon  
[REDACTED]  
Marshall, WI 53559  
[REDACTED]

██████████/Madison WI 53705 \*\*\*\*\* August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

From: Frank Clover



To: City of Madison – Landmarks Commission and Mayor's Office

Re: remembering a great conflict

Recently the Landmarks Commission denied an application to remove a Confederate monument in Forest Hills Cemetery. I write in support of this decision. The Madison Common Council's prior decision to remove the monument rested on a misunderstanding of our sometimes-not-so-glorious past. Let us pretend, for the moment, that we Madisonians are capable of rapid travel over time and distance. Our first stop, on a brief journey, is the cities of Boston and Richmond, in the year 1840. At each city we ask a person-on-the-street describe his/her affiliation, beyond the residence in Boston/Richmond. The answer is essentially the same: "I reside in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts/Virginia, part of the United States of America." Next of all, back from 1840, we Madisonians of year 2018 travel quickly to the same two cities, and receive this time the same answers to our inquiry. Now, between 1840 and 2018 WE AMERICANS fought one another, most ferociously between 1861 and 1865. One of the two sides of this great altercation prevailed militarily, and imposed its interpretation on the tragedy and its immediate aftermath: a Civil War occurred, followed by a Reconstruction. Still today, some inhabitants of the southeastern states of the US call these same events The War of Northern Aggression and the Federal Occupation. WE AMERICANS suffered greatly during this frightening tragedy. The loss of life [both sides] exceeded the casualties of World War One and World War Two. Now for the contrasting decisions of the Common Council and Landmarks Commission. WE AMERICANS are presently divided. One means of avoiding another big separation is to have at hand remembrances of our biggest tragedy. For this reason I favor the retention of the Forest Hills cenotaph. There are presently two recollections of the terrible conflict, in two parts of Madison: on The Square, a statue of one of Wisconsin's finest soldiers, casualty of the Battle of Chickamauga, 1863; and secondly, the Camp Randall/Forest Hills Complex. BOTH OF THESE MEMORIALS SHOULD REMAIN IN PLACE, UNDISTURBED.

CITY OF MADISON

SEP - 4 2018

Planning & Community  
& Economic Development

August 31, 2018

To the City of Madison Landmarks Commission and the City Council:

I would like to express my thanks to the Landmarks Commission for their well-thought through decision to reject removal of the Confederate Monument in Forest Hills Cemetery. My husband has many ancestors buried there, as, too, are many well-known citizens who played significant roles in Madison's history.

During the 150 years following the Civil War, the bitterness faded and reconciliation became an important part of healing the rift. The U.S. Government began to issue special military tombstone markers for the graves of Confederate soldiers, as they had done for Union soldiers since 1867. Larger community cemeteries then reinterred the remains of Confederates buried there in special sections, sometimes within fences, and marked with a monument or stone marker to identify why the section was created.

Recently, researchers have learned that the Civil War took the lives of 750,000 to 850,000 men, far more than previously estimated. Our Union Soldiers are buried all over the country, many of them in the military cemeteries in former Confederate States.

In 1862, the U.S. Congress saw to it that 12 new national cemeteries were located on or near major battlefields. Most of these are on Southern soil. More than 300,000 bodies were also reinterred after the war at 60 cemeteries owned and operated by the government in the North and the South. Many more of the war's dead, both Union and Confederate, remain where they died on the battlefield, hastily buried by their comrades.

Those of us interested in the history of our country, and in our ancestors who fought in its wars, want to know that the dead are respected and protected after being laid to rest, wherever they may lie. Many people searching for the resting places of their ancestors may find them in an area of the country considered enemy territory in the Civil War.

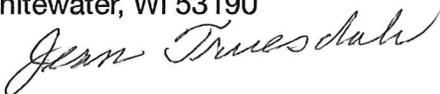
In Arlington National Cemetery, near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, is Section 16. It holds the remains of 482 Confederate soldiers, along with the Confederate Memorial. Surely if our most revered national cemetery can maintain a section to honor those men, Madison can do the same. I like to think our Union soldiers, lying in cemeteries in the South, will be treated with respect, too. And I'd hope they would be lying together, in a well-marked section, complete with a historical marker.

The Southern Poverty Law Center, in its campaign to abolish monuments to the Confederacy, excludes "approximately 2,570 Civil War battlefields, markers, plaques, cemeteries, and similar symbols, that for the most part, merely reflect historic events." This is wise, because many descendants of those soldiers, from both the North and South, will be traveling to cemeteries around the country to locate the graves of ancestors who fought in our nation's wars. I hope their time spent in Madison is a pleasure, memorable for the hospitality and graciousness of our citizens, no matter where these visitors are from.

Please keep the monument, markers, and special section for Confederate soldiers at Forest Hills. Let's show the next generation that while civil conflicts can tear nation apart and cause great damage, the people that follow need to respect that history, learn from it, and work hard to maintain the values of democracy.

Jean Truesdale

Whitewater, WI 53190



**From:** [Bonnie Weisel](#)  
**To:** [PLLCApplications](#)  
**Subject:** Confederate monument in the Forest Hill Cemetery  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 11, 2018 4:38:57 PM

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I fully support the Landmarks Commission decision to keep and preserve the Confederate monument in the Forest Hill Cemetery. Removing the monument is denying a part of Madison's involvement in the history of the Civil War and the recognition of the men who lost their lives and were buried in the Confederate Rest.

I have a share in the history of the Union and Confederate Rest. My gggrandfather, Miles B. Hively, while serving in the Civil War, died in March, 1864 at Camp Randall and is buried in the Union Rest. A fairer solution would be to add a monument to the Union Rest, so all soldiers who gave their lives are being recognized and honored.

Thank you, Bonnie

**Heiser-Ertel, Lauren**

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**Subject:** FW: Via Blaska's blog

**From:** Stu Levitan [<mailto:> ]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 21, 2018 1:12 PM  
**To:** Fruhling, William <[WFruhling@cityofmadison.com](mailto:WFruhling@cityofmadison.com)>  
**Subject:** Fw: Via Blaska's blog

Bill  
for the files  
thanks  
Stu

On Friday, September 21, 2018 1:00 PM, mlvrstdt < > wrote:

My sentiments exactly.

*Gary L. Kriewald* says:

[September 21, 2018 at 12:34 pm](#)

The fact that two Union veterans saw fit to solicit contributions for a Confederate marker speaks volumes about how incapable we've become of honoring values like forgiveness, reconciliation, or respect for our fellow man—even those who were once our enemy. The virtue-signalers who want this monument deleted from history are no different from Stalin's flunkies who obliterated any trace of their leader's enemies from the history books. The tortured "reasoning" behind Levitan's statement—"Its very mass is celebratory"—reeks of the moral bankruptcy of Madison liberals, whose professed love of civic virtue is really a love of self above all else.

>It's only a matter of time before the same crew who managed to erase the names of Fredric March and Porter Butts from the history of UW-Madison train their sights on Van Hise (and every other white male whose name appears on a campus building). These fanatical ideologues refuse to countenance the slightest sign of deviation from the party line and are experts at cowing their opponents into silence. How many of these outrages have to occur before someone with a conscience retaliates?

*As a species we are not highly evolved*