

The Soldiers' Monument Study Group members are saddened by the events of October 2020, when the mayor and the police failed to protect the Soldiers' Monument from vandalism by outsiders. We began informal meetings and researched the legal, historical, and cultural aspects of the monument. This research led us to the following facts, which are often omitted from the narrative about the monument.

- 1** The Soldiers' Monument is historically significant. Completed in 1868, this classical stone monument is older than the Statue of Liberty, the Washington Monument, and all the other memorials on the National Mall. It is also the centerpiece of the Plaza. It was specifically named as the center survey marker for the City of Santa Fe Land Grant of 4 square Spanish leagues granted by the United States Congress on April 9, 1900.
- 2** The primary purpose of the monument was to honor Union soldiers who lost their lives defending the New Mexico Territory against the Confederacy and the practice of slavery. The monument is a cenotaph, a memorial to the dead who gave their lives in defense of the Union.
- 3** We understand that the text of the north panel referencing the Indian wars (which was added one year later by the Territorial legislature and not part of the original plan) is offensive to many, even if the word "savage" had been gone for half a century. There are various ways a restored monument could address this offending plaque.
- 4** The Three Sisters Collective and Red Nation were not directly responsible for the damage of the Soldiers' Monument. The vandalism of October 12, 2020 was organized and led by Lily Sage Schweitzer from Pennsylvania. Some locals were caught up in the moment and helped pull down the monument, but it would not have happened without Schweitzer and her out-of-state accomplices.
- 5** The CHART report survey makes it clear that a majority of participants want the monument restored to the Plaza. Of the seven possible responses relating to the monument, the first three advocate restoring it to the Plaza — with its original language (11.5%), with its original language and new language (31.7%), or with all new language (11.4%). Taken together, these responses total 54.6%.

There would be a different discussion if the Soldiers' Monument had been removed after a legitimate public process, but it was damaged illegally and by outsiders. Given that reality, the only just resolution is to restore it on the Plaza. It is also the only legal remedy. The Plaza is a National Historic Landmark, the highest status of a National Register Property. Neither the mayor nor any other city official may remove it arbitrarily. And, as shown in the CHART Report, a majority of the community wants the monument restored. For all these reasons, we advocate its restoration on the Plaza.

### SMSG Members:

Jerry Richardson  
John Pen La Farge  
Valerie Brooker  
Elizabeth West  
Beverly Spears  
Philip Crump  
Jake Barrow

Rosa Ramirez Carlson  
Gary Carlson  
Michael Ettema  
Dorothy H. Bracey  
Sana Morrow  
Alan Jones, PhD  
Thomas E. Chavez, PhD  
Anne Frej  
Marilyn A. Bane

Evelyne Thomas  
James K. Gavin  
Vicki Clifford  
Pat Lillis  
John Bemis  
Jenifer Kirtland  
Barbara Fix  
Danis Kelly  
Fen Sartorius  
JoAnn Sartorius  
Judith Costlow  
Bianca Gonzalez  
Michael Ward  
Ted Stanley  
Victoria Davila  
Jean Schaumberg  
Bruce Throne  
Morgan Smith  
Sherry Patten  
Penelope Hunter-Steibel  
Gerald G. Stiebel  
Dr. Alaina Speraw, DOM  
Anne Albrink  
Kristie Ross  
Barbara Mauldin  
Andrew Mauldin  
Vincent Pigott  
Susan Howard  
Stanley Robb  
Susan Boe

Dee Ann McIntyre  
Flo Perkins  
Rick Bohn  
Bette Rossen  
Janet Desforges  
Sara Julsrud  
Cathy Campbell  
Stephen Shore  
Larry Good  
Barbara Good  
Irene Epp  
Charlie Newman  
Tom Appelquist  
Joan S Kendrick  
Sarah Hammond  
Lynn Atkison  
Melvin Duncan  
Kathleen Brooker  
Mary E. Schruben  
Victoria T. Jacobson  
Barbara Chatterjee  
Irene Epp  
Ellen Dupuy  
Steve Machen  
John Barton  
Toni Camp  
Christine Boss

### Identified Supporters:

Charles Bennett  
Rosalind Doherty  
Norman Yoffee  
Barbara Yoffee  
Judy Mellow  
Tim Maxwell  
Bruce E. A. Larsen  
Mary Anne Larsen  
Kenneth Alan Collins  
Rev. Dr. Robert E. Baker  
Keith K. Anderson  
Barbara Lenssen  
J. Scott Hall  
Chris Hall  
John Agresto  
Rosemary S. Minard  
Randy Perrazini  
Gail Perrazini  
Rod Hasson  
Cecilia Hasson

Cordelia Thomas Snow  
Fletcher R. Catron  
Diane Catron  
Frank Katz  
Pete Warzel  
Susan Horn  
Karl L. Horn  
Nicoletta Munroe  
Melanie West  
Kurt Stritzl  
Douglas Preston  
Eleanor C Eisenmenger  
Stacia Lewandowski  
Rick A Martinez  
Barbara J. Harrelson  
Toni Griego Jones  
David Margolis  
Jean Moss  
Pam Najdowski  
Mike Najdowski  
Ellen Bradbury Reid