

TWO OVERLOOKED MONUMENTS TO CONFEDERATES IN OAKLAWN PARK

– Ed Sebesta 9/14/2017

There are two items in Oak Lawn Park which serve as monuments to Confederate soldiers.

- 1) There is this monument to alleged Afro-Confederate soldiers in Oak Lawn Park.



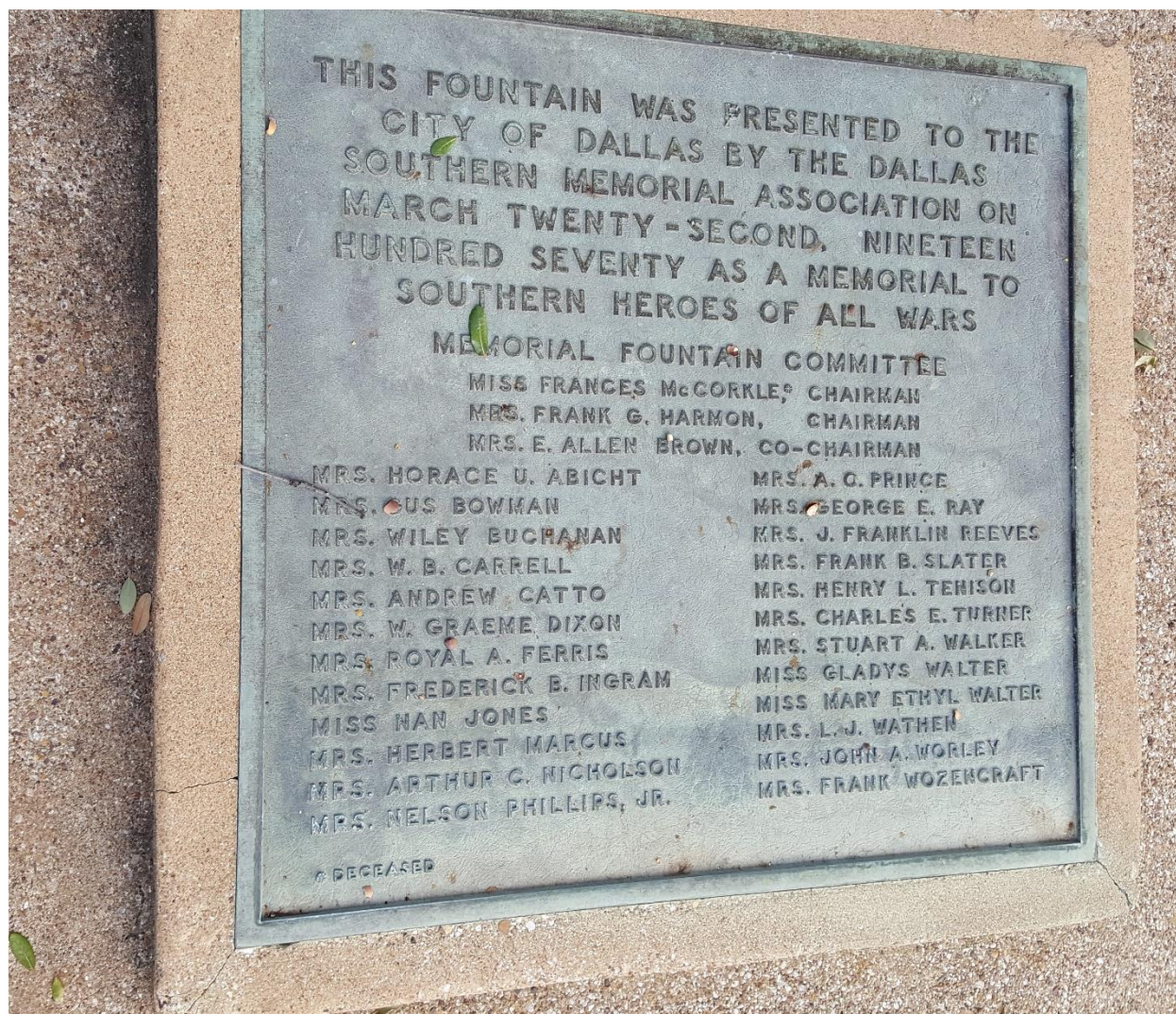
The text in all capital letters reads:

THIS MEMORIAL WAS DEDICATED ON MAY 25, 1993 TO HONOR AND
COMMEMORATE THE SACRIFICES OF AFRICAN – AMERICANS OF
SOUTHERN HERITAGE WHO SO VALIANTLY SERVED IN THE CIVIL WAR.

The term “Southern Heritage” is to indicate persons of African ancestry who supported the Confederacy.

The whole myth of Confederate soldiers of African ancestry is a laughingstock among Civil War historians and this plaque makes Dallas a laughingstock. The fact that the Dallas Park & Recreational Dept. is involved with this and allowed this brings into question their participation in any review or proposal for Dallas parks. This is about 24 years ago, but it needs to be asked if the park system has progressed.

2) There is this plaque for a fountain in Oak Lawn Park.



The text in all capital letters (excluding the list of names) reads:

THIS FOUNTAIN WAS PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF DALLAS BY THE
DALLAS SOUTHERN MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION ON MARCH TWENTY-
SECOND, NINETEEN HUNDRED SEVENTY AS A MEMORIAL TO SOUTHERN
HEROES OF ALL WARS

Though the Confederacy isn't mentioned, the Confederacy is included with the phrase "ALL WARS" and asserts that these Confederate soldiers were "HEROES."

It can also be seen why this Fountain has the appalling sectional restrictions to only “SOUTHERN HEROES.” If it was “AMERICAN HEROES” it would apply to those who for fought for America during the Civil War, i.e. union soldiers.

DISPOSITION:

1. These monuments need to be removed.
2. These monuments need to be in a museum. These plaques as well as the ones of the Robert E. Lee statue base in Lee Park shows how Dallas elites and the city accommodated the proponents of the Confederacy well into the very late 20th century.

FURTHER NOTE:

Since these two items were missed by the Task Force, I would suggest that there be a review of whether all Confederate monuments, memorials, etc. have indeed been identified.