

Soldiers' Monument

Items from the *Kearney Hub* Newspaper

March 1906 – Movement began by GAR in Kearney for a monument

Feb 1, 1907 – “Representative Barrett, of Buffalo county [introduced a bill] authorizing cities and villages to construct and erect within the cemeteries and public parks and other designated sites of such cities and villages monuments and memorial armories commemorating the services of the soldiers and sailors of the civil war and to levy a tax to pay the expense thereof.”

Apparently the law passed because in June 1909 the Kearney city council was considering ordering a tax levy for a soldiers' monument.

July 20, 1909 - --A number of the designs for the proposed new soldiers' monument to be erected in this city at the intersection of Twenty-fifth and Central are on exhibit in the window of the Switz furniture store.

Aug 24, 1909 – City council received a report from the Citizens Monument Committee [8 leading community leaders] containing a detailed description of the recommended monument. They recommended that the monument recognize soldiers and sailors of the war of the great rebellion only, that another monument might be erected later to honor soldiers and sailors of the Spanish-American War.

Oct 19, 1909 – City council accepted the bid of Troupe & Cruitt to erect the Soldiers and Sailors monument for \$4,300.00.

Apr 19, 1910 – Council had paid out over the past year \$1,148.09 for the Soldiers monument which was under construction.

June 7, 1910 – The planned July 1 dedication of the Soldiers Monument was postponed because strikes in eastern quarries had delayed arrival of stone in Kearney.

Oct 15, 1910 – Unveiling moved from Oct 2 to Oct 25. The Norris Brown Guard [national guard unit in Kearney] would be in uniform and march up Central [from the armory at 16th & Cen?] to the monument, and stand in formation around the monument during the program.

Oct 18, 1910 – Program described in detail – Speeches by U S Senator Norris Brown of Kearney, Nebr. Gov Ashton Shallenberger, and Capt. C. E. Adams of Superior.

Oct 25, 1910 – page 2 - Description of the dedication ceremony