

# Colorado SCV Interment List and SCV Graves Registrations Guidelines

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**Purpose:** To establish guidelines for inclusion of Confederate Veteran Graves on the Interment Listing on the Colorado Division of the SCV website ([www.coloradoscv.org](http://www.coloradoscv.org)) and for registering graves with the SCV Graves Registration Project.

The requirement to join the SCV is that one must be a male descendant – lineal or collateral – of those men who served honorably and whose service terminated honorably in the armed forces of the Confederate States of America or one of the States thereof. Applicants for membership must be men of good character, who emulate the best qualities of the Confederate soldier.

Essentially, honorable service for the SCV means that an ancestor was killed in action, severely wounded and medically discharged, served honorably until the end of the war (April 1865 when Lee surrendered), or received an approved pension for either the soldier or his widow. Descendants of those who took the oath early and went home are not eligible for membership in the SCV.

## Proposed Guideline for Interment List and Graves Registration

1. Eligible: Honorable service to the Confederate States of America: Veteran was killed in action, severely wounded and medically discharged and served honorably during his time CSA armed forces or one of the states thereof.
2. Eligible: Those who took the Oath of Allegiance before the war ended: The reasoning here is that the conditions of the POW Camps on both sides were horrendous and there were very high death rates in all of them. Many soldiers who signed the oath early were the sole providers for their families. They chose to go home to their families instead of facing the possibility of dying or being killed in a POW Camp and leaving their families without a primary provider. Their service while in the CSA Armed Forces must have been honorable (did not desert, etc.).
3. Eligible: Galvanized Yankees: During the War, Confederate soldiers in Northern prison camps sometimes decided to “galvanize,” or change sides to survive; to save themselves from the horrors and slow death of prison life. These galvanized soldiers in many cases were still “Good Old Rebels” underneath their adopted uniforms. “Galvanized Yankees” protected vital lifelines (mail routes, forts, towns, etc.) in the west from Indian attacks during the war. Most of these soldiers served honorably in both the CSA Armed Forces and in the U.S. armed forces after galvanizing. The Galvanized Yankee must have never taken up arms against the CSA.
4. Ineligible:
  - a. Those whose service could not be characterized as honorable.
  - b. Those who deserted the CSA Armed Forces. This must be adequately documented. In many cases, soldiers who were taken prisoner and were unable to be accounted for in battle were just simply categorized as deserters, so research must be done to show true desertion.
  - c. Those who took up arms against the CSA
  - d. Those who did anything else to impugn or sully the honor, bravery or integrity of the CSA.

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