



America's Most Endangered Battlefields

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until 2/11/2003 at 11:00 a.m.

*A Guide to the Most Threatened
Civil War Sites in the United States*

THE CIVIL WAR PRESERVATION TRUST — FEBRUARY 2003



Inside Covers: Battle of Reams Station, Virginia

Introduction

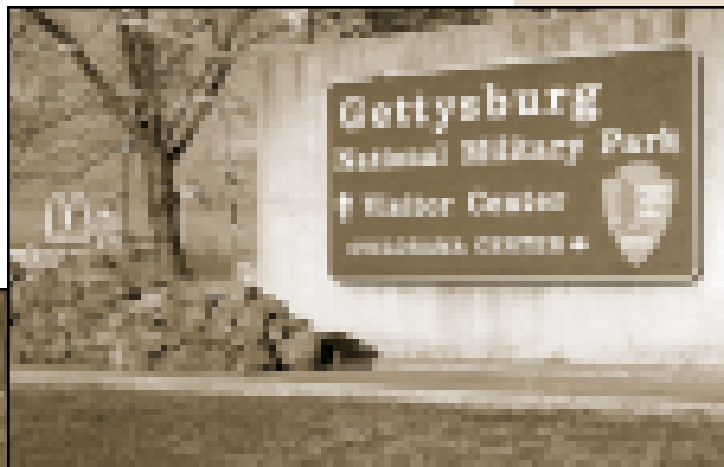
The nonprofit Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) is committed to protecting the remaining battlefields of the Civil War. Among the preservation tools CWPT employs is the organization's annual investigative report, *America's Most Endangered Battlefields*. The report identifies the most threatened Civil War sites in the country and what can be done to save them.

The report is composed of two parts: the first section identifies the 10 most endangered battlefields in the nation, with a brief description of their history and preservation status; the second section lists 15 additional "at risk" sites that round out the top 25 endangered battlefields in the United States. No attempt has been made to rank the sites within the two tiers – instead, the battlefields are listed in alphabetical order.

The sites included in the study were selected based on geographic location, military significance and the immediacy of current threats. Nearly all the sites were nominated for inclusion in the report as a result of a national campaign conducted last fall.

In analyzing each site, CWPT consulted a landmark study by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission (CWSAC) that prioritized sites according to their significance and state of preservation. CWPT has used CWSAC's rating system throughout the report. Battlefields are ranked from Priority I (sites considered most threatened) to Priority IV (sites considered lost). CWSAC also ranks battlefields from A (most significant) to D (sites of local importance).

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Above: Encroachment on Gettysburg battlefield, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Left: The serene peace of Chickamauga battlefield.

Bentonville

NORTH CAROLINA

MARCH 19 – 21, 1865

“The scene beggars description, as lurid flames, fed by the rosin on the trees, would shoot up into the sky and suddenly drop back like so many tongues.”

**PRIVATE
A. P. HARCOURT,
TERRY TEXAS
RANGERS, C.S.A.**

The three-day struggle at Bentonville was the largest battle fought in North Carolina. It marked Confederate General Joseph Johnston’s final Attempt to halt the march of General William Sherman through the Carolinas. Fought March 19–21, 1865, the battle erupted less than three weeks before Confederate General Robert E. Lee’s surrender at Appomattox.

Johnston began the battle on March 19 with a successful attack against the Union Fourteenth Corps. However, Federal counterattacks blunted the Rebel offensive. Sporadic fighting on March 20 led to the final day when Sherman’s heavily reinforced army compelled Johnston to withdraw. Less than one month later, Johnston surrendered to Sherman, effectively ending the Civil War in the East.

Current Status: Today, Bentonville remains relatively undisturbed. However, only 240 acres of the 6,000-acre site are protected, making the battlefield extremely vulnerable to sprawl. The battlefield’s proximity to Interstates 95 and 40 make it a prime candidate for residential development. The battlefield is also the target of relic hunters who dig around the site’s surviving earthworks at night.

CWPT has just begun a campaign to save additional acreage at Bentonville. The battlefield is rated Priority I, Class A by CWSAC – the only priority I site in the Tar Heel State.



Above: Period map of Bentonville battlefield.

Right: Confederate Cemetery on the Bentonville battlefield.



Champion Hill

MISSISSIPPI

MAY 16, 1863

Champion Hill is considered the decisive battle of General Ulysses Grant's Vicksburg Campaign. Having chased General Joseph Johnston's ragtag Confederate forces out of the state capital at Jackson, Grant now turned his attention toward General John Pemberton's Rebel army near Edward's Station. Determined to keep Johnston and Pemberton divided, Grant marched westward on the Jackson and Raymond Roads.

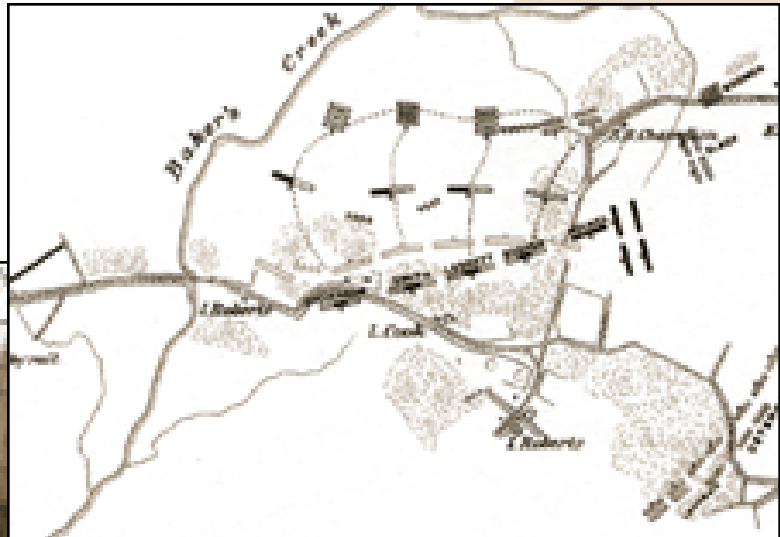
Grant first encountered Pemberton's men at Davis Plantation on the Raymond Road, eventually pushing them back to the Coker House and beyond. However, the Confederates dug in on the heights of Champion Hill (along the Jackson Road) proved far more difficult to move. The crest of Champion Hill changed hands three times during the battle. At the end of the day, Pemberton's dispirited army was forced to abandon Champion Hill, losing its last opportunity to avoid a siege of Vicksburg.

Current Status: Although deceptively rural, Champion Hill is experiencing much of the sprawl faced by other battlefields in the Magnolia State. Although 823 acres are preserved along the Jackson Road, the Raymond Road corridor is proving to be extremely vulnerable to development. The Ellison House site has been obliterated, and a subdivision is under construction near the site of the General Lloyd Tilghman monument.

CWSAC classifies Champion Hill as a Priority II, Class A site.

"As I rode further, I saw large numbers wounded – and in every conceivable manner. The earth in some places red with blood – and here and there a mangled soldier who had ceased to feel either the pain of his wound or the sting of defeat."

**CONFEDERATE STAFF
OFFICER**



Above: Period map of Champion Hill battlefield.

Left: Development encroaching on the Champion Hill battlefield.



Chancellorsville

VIRGINIA

APRIL 30 – MAY 6, 1863

“The shells come thick as they whiz near. The impulse is irresistible to duck, and the whole line bows very frequently. I confess I make frequent bows to the rebels.”

**UNION FIFTH
CORPS SURGEON**

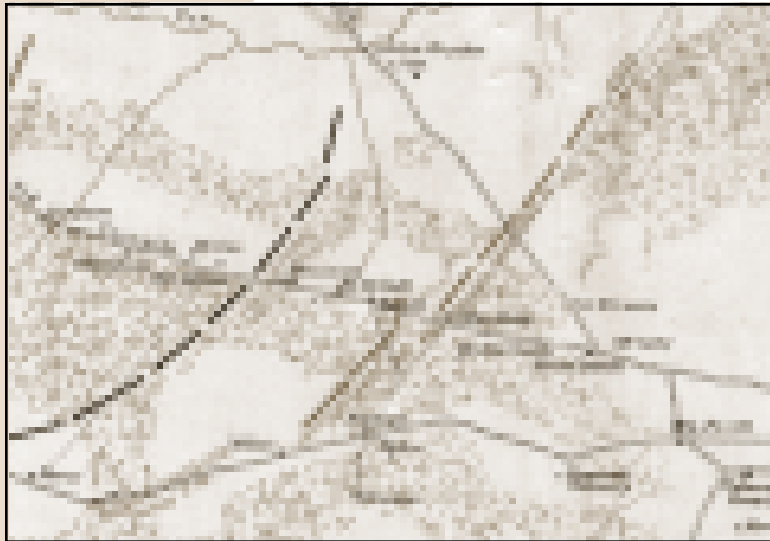
Chancellorsville is one of the most studied battlefields in American history. The Spring 1863 battle is recognized by most historians as General Robert E. Lee’s greatest victory. Despite a masterful flanking movement by Union General Joseph “Fighting Joe” Hooker, Lee was able to thwart Hooker’s plans, thanks to the skill of his able lieutenant, General Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson. Among the fatalities of the battle was Stonewall Jackson himself, who was accidentally shot by his own troops.

Current Status: Today, Chancellorsville is the scene of the highest profile preservation fight in nearly a decade. The dispute is over the 790-acre Mullins Farm, where severe fighting occurred on the first day of the battle. The Mullins Farm is being considered as the future location of an artificial city, complete with 1,995 houses and 1.2 million square feet of commercial development. Fortunately, 12 national and local nonprofit groups have joined forces to prevent this travesty.

The Washington Post calls this preservation fight “the second battle of Chancellorsville.” Syndicated columnist George Will editorialized that, at Chancellorsville, “the nation’s memory is at stake.” Historian Robert K. Krick

declares, “If this development is built, it would be a tragedy for American history.”

The site is classified Priority I, Class A by CWSAC – the Commission’s highest designation.



Above: Period map showing the fighting at Chancellorsville.

Right: Traffic clogs the intersection in front of the Chancellor house ruins.



Glorieta Pass

NEW MEXICO

MARCH 26 – 28, 1862

Glorieta Pass is commonly referred to as the “Gettysburg of the West.” It was here that Federal forces were finally able to turn back the Southern invasion of New Mexico. The first two days of battle were consumed with skirmishing, as the small armies of Confederate Lieutenant Colonel William Scurry and Union Colonel John Slough sought to gain advantage by maneuver.

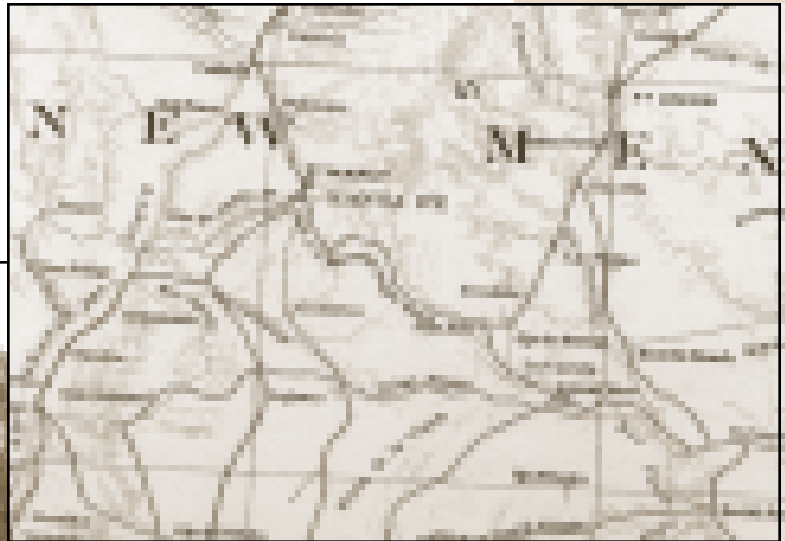
The decisive day was March 28. That morning, Scurry launched an attack against Federals who were resting and filling canteens near Pigeon’s Ranch. The fighting dragged on throughout the day, with Scurry’s men gradually forcing Slough to retreat eastward. However, the burning of the Confederate supply train by a detachment of blue cavalry forced the Rebels to retreat back into Texas, ending dreams of a Southern republic that stretched to the Pacific Ocean.

Current Status: Today, much of Glorieta battlefield remains closed to the public. The National Park Service (NPS), which maintains the property around historic Pigeon’s Ranch, currently limits access to the park because of safety hazards related to the proximity to state Route 50 (the old Santa Fe trail). State plans to widen Route 50 will not only destroy additional parts of the battlefield, but also threaten the last remaining structure that dates back to the time of the battle.

The site is classified Priority I, Class A by CWSAC.

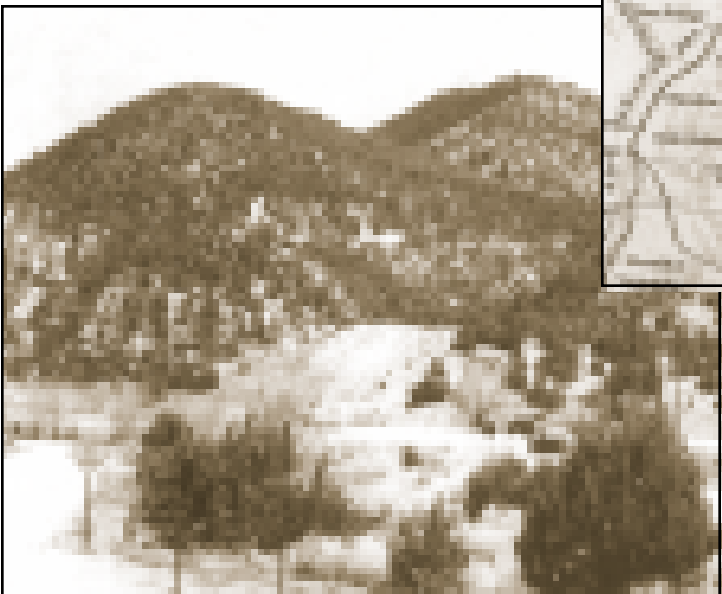
“The enemy were concealed among the trees, and opened fire upon us with their batteries . . . our skirmishers from the hillsides discharged volley after volley among the enemy with telling effect.”

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL
SAMUEL F. TAPPAN,
FIRST COLORADO
INFANTRY, U.S.A.**



Above: The region surrounding the Glorieta battlefield in 1862.

Left: Glorieta Pass battlefield.



Manassas

VIRGINIA

JULY 21, 1861 AND AUGUST 28 – 30, 1862

“Look, men, there is Jackson standing like a stone wall! Let us determine to die here, and we will conquer! Follow me!”

**CONFEDERATE
GENERAL BERNARD
E. BEE**

Manassas (also known as Bull Run) was the site of two crucial battles fought just 30 miles west of the Union capital during the summers of 1861 and 1862. The First Battle of Manassas was a clash of glory-seeking amateurs experiencing war for the first time. The July 21 battle resulted in the rout of the untrained Federal army back to Washington.

The Second Battle of Manassas was a far larger and costly affair, fought by men who had become hardened to the horrors of 19th century warfare. During the first two days of the battle, the Federal army under General John Pope appeared on the verge of victory. However, Confederate General Robert E. Lee decisively defeated Pope on the third day, paving the way for Lee's first invasion of the North.

Current Status: Today, Manassas is almost as well known for the preservation battles fought there in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Although the grandiose plans of Til Hazel and the Disney Corporation to develop near Manassas National Battlefield Park were successfully defeated, the site's environs are being rapidly lost in a quieter, more piecemeal fashion. The battlefield is now surrounded on three sides by sprawl. Rush-hour traffic cuts through its very heart. A proposed bypass could

further isolate the site, making the battlefield a green island in a sea of sprawl.

First Manassas is classified as Priority III, Class A site by CWSAC; Second Manassas is classified Priority I, Class A.



Above: Period map of 1st Manassas battle.

Right: Stone Bridge over Bull Run Creek at Manassas battlefield.



Mansfield

LOUISIANA

APRIL 8, 1864

Intent on wresting control of Louisiana and Texas from the Confederacy, in March 1864, Union General Nathaniel Banks began a protracted, two-month campaign up the Red River Valley. Unfortunately for the inept Banks, his opponent was Confederate General Richard Taylor, one of the South's most reliable field commanders. For several weeks, Taylor shadowed Banks' advance, looking for a chance to strike his adversary. At Mansfield, he found the opportunity he sought.

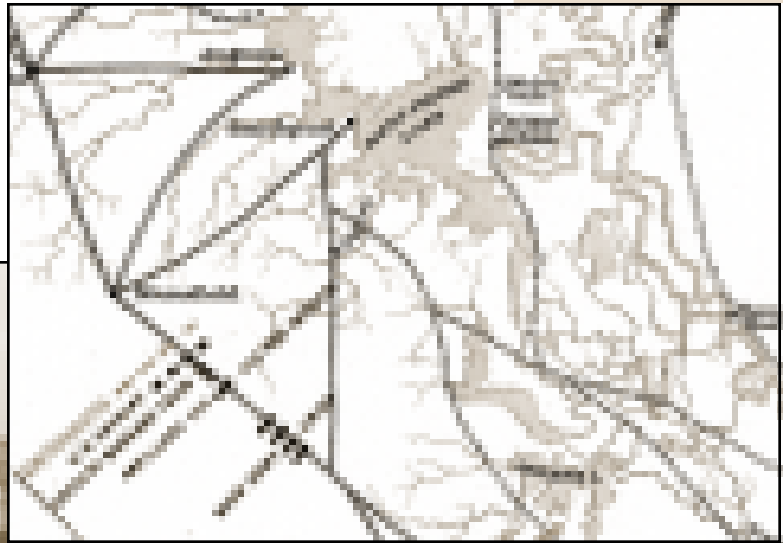
In the late afternoon of April 8, Taylor struck elements of the Union army at Sabine Crossroads. The startled Federals quickly fell back. Despite several attempts to halt the retreat, the Union Army was routed from the field. Taylor's victory marked the end of Banks' invasion and Federal dreams of taking Louisiana out of the war. One out of five men who fought at Mansfield became casualties.

Current Status: Today, only 12 percent of Mansfield is protected from development. Of the 177 acres preserved and maintained by the state of Louisiana, 134 acres were acquired through a grant from CWPT.

The most severe threat to Mansfield is a lignite mining operation run by the Dolet Hills Mining Company (owned by the utility giant AEP SWEPCO). Large parts of the battlefield have already been destroyed, and Dolet Hills is seeking a permit to mine on 58 additional acres. Mansfield is ranked Priority II, Class A by CWSAC.

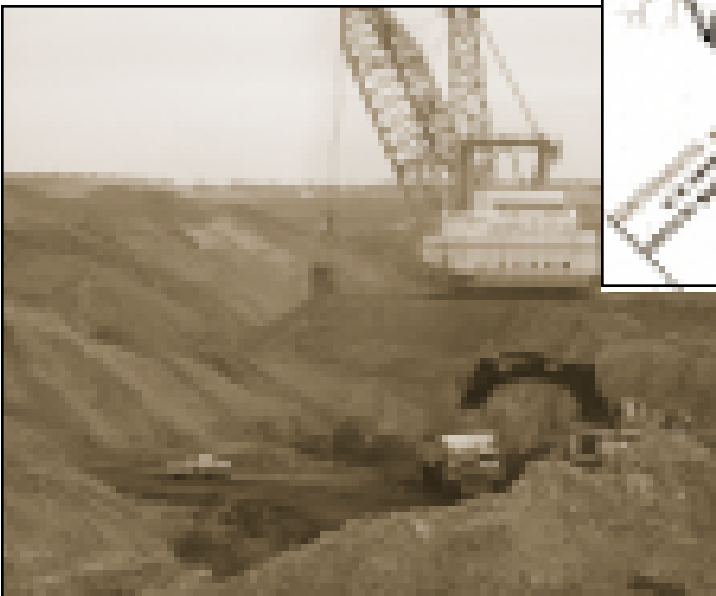
"We immediately commenced advancing in the direction of the enemy . . . they greeted our coming with a perfect shower of leaden hail. The men shouted at the top of their voices, at each iron messenger as it approached."

**J. P. BLESSINGTON,
C.S.A.**



Above: Map showing Mansfield battlefield and the Red River Campaign.

Left: Lignite mining operations next to the Mansfield battlefield.



Nashville

TENNESSEE

DECEMBER 15 – 16, 1864

“Rebel soldiers . . . are not as well provided for as we are. Our scouts reported seeing Rebels frozen to death. I do not feel rejoicing at their sufferings only so far as it tends to prosper our cause for I do not consider them as personal enemies; only as the enemies of a government.”

AN OHIO CORPORAL

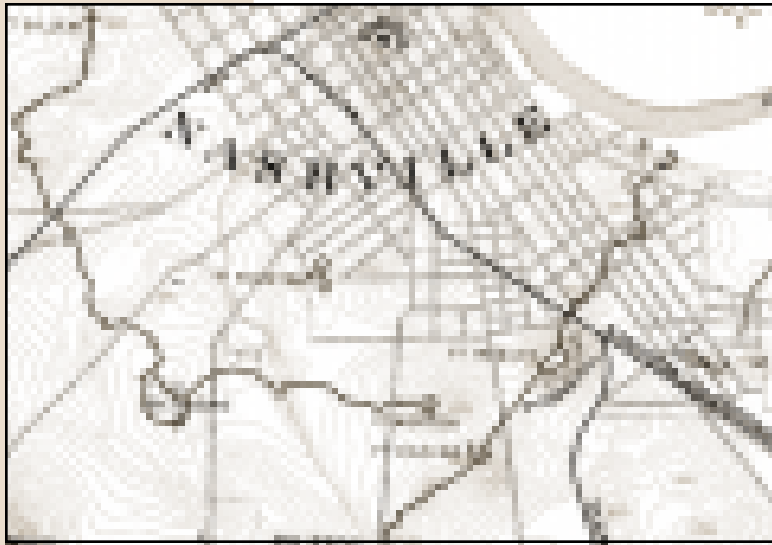
In November 1864, Confederate General John Hood led the Army of Tennessee northward toward Nashville in a last desperate attempt to draw General William Sherman out of Georgia. Despite the terrible losses suffered at Franklin, Hood stubbornly continued on to Nashville.

Hood was confronted at Nashville by General George Thomas, one of the Union's finest commanders. On December 15, Thomas launched a massive attack on both Confederate flanks, forcing Hood to fall back to a second line between Shy's Hill and Overton Hill. The next day, Thomas finished the job, taking Shy's Hill and routing the remnants of Hood's army. Only 15,000 to 20,000 Southerners escaped the debacle at Nashville.

Current Status: Little remains of the Nashville battlefield. However, the local Battle of Nashville Preservation Society has been working tirelessly to preserve and reclaim key parts of the historic battleground. In the past few years, the Society has saved land at Kelley's Point, Shy's Hill and Redoubt #1. In addition, the city of Nashville has earmarked \$1 million to help restore Fort Negley, one of the most

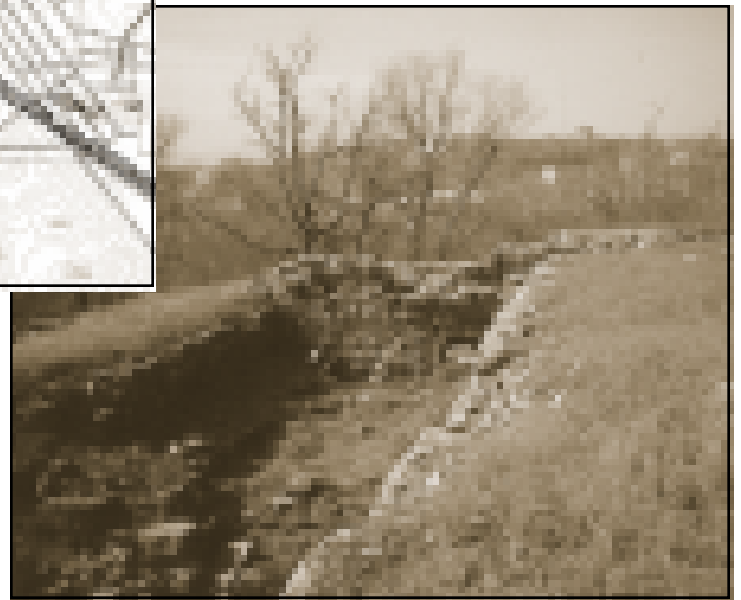
significant Civil War sites within the city limits.

Nashville is ranked Priority IV, Class A by CWSAC because so much of the battlefield has been lost to development.



Above: Map showing the defenses of Nashville.

Right: Ruins of Fort Negley, Nashville, Tennessee.



Petersburg

VIRGINIA

JUNE 15, 1864 – APRIL 2, 1865

Petersburg was the site of the longest siege in American history. In mid-June 1864, General Ulysses Grant finally cornered the battered forces of General Robert E. Lee, but was unable to break the Confederate lines encircling Petersburg. As a result, for nine months the city and its environs would become the scene of extensive military operations. The entrenchments dug around Petersburg foreshadowed those of World War I. Brief but savage fighting occurred at little-known places like Reams Station, Boydton Plank Road and Hatcher's Run.

Eventually, Lee's Petersburg lines were broken in a series of battles fought from March 31 – April 2, 1865. The final breakthrough occurred at the present-day Pamplin Park Civil War Site, a privately maintained heritage park. Lee would surrender his army just one week later.

Current Status: Today, much of the Petersburg battlefield remains unprotected. Although significant parts of the eastern portion of the battlefield are preserved, many sites west and south of Petersburg remain in private hands. CWPT recently began a fundraising effort to proactively save these battlegrounds using an interactive computer mapping program known as the Vanguard System.

There is no comprehensive ranking for the Petersburg Campaign. CWSAC rankings for individual battles related to the campaign vary from White Oak Road (Priority I, Class B) to the Crater (Priority III, Class A).

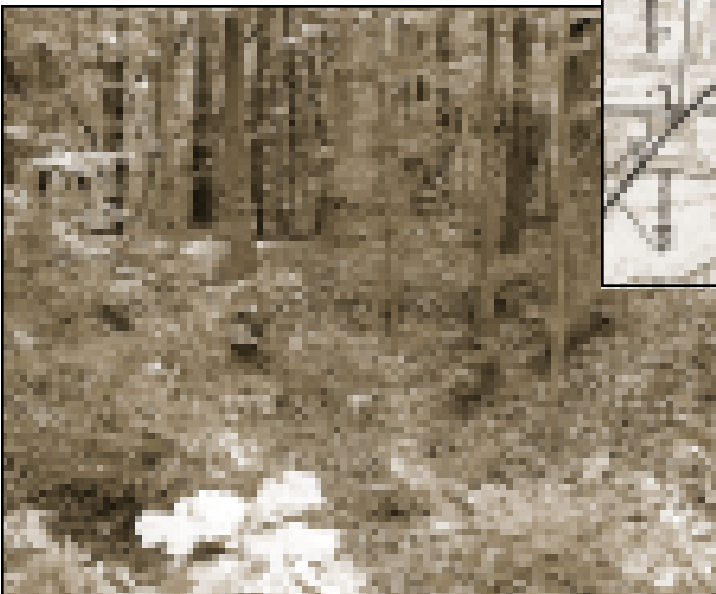
"As we advanced they continued to fire 'til we got within two rods of these pits, when the Johnnies threw up their hands and said: 'Don't shoot! Don't shoot!'"

**SERGEANT EDWARD
ROBERTS, 2ND
CONNECTICUT HEAVY
ARTILLERY, U.S.A.**



Above: Map showing the 1864 defense of Petersburg.

Left: Confederate and Union trenches like these at White Oak Road are in danger of being lost forever.



Richmond

KENTUCKY

AUGUST 29 – 30, 1862

“Boys, if they can’t hit something as big as I am, they can’t hit anything.”

UNION GENERAL WILLIAM NELSON, WHO WAS IMMEDIATELY SHOT IN THE THIGH AND REMOVED FROM THE SCENE.

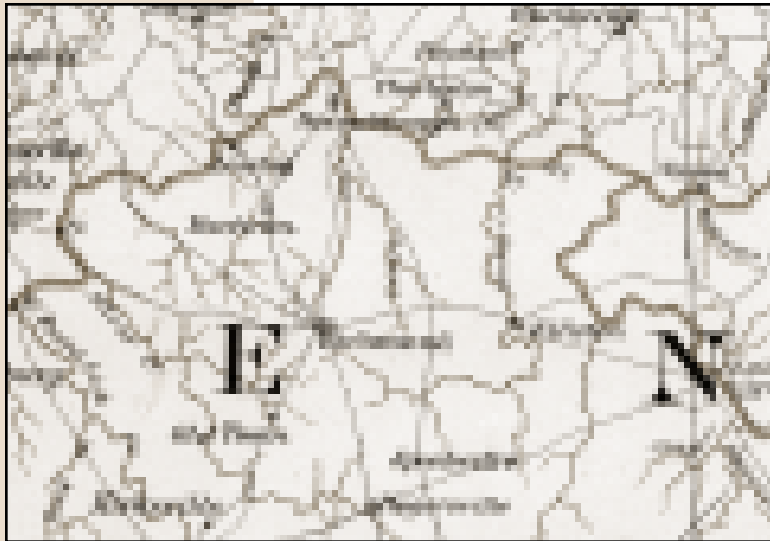
The battle of Richmond marked the pinnacle of Confederate fortunes in the border state of Kentucky. Southern forces had invaded the Bluegrass State in two columns, one led by General Edmund Kirby Smith and another led by General Braxton Bragg. Both commanders believed that Kentuckians would flock to their cause and provide the Confederacy with much-needed men and supplies.

On August 29, elements of Smith’s army clashed with the Union forces near Big Hill, south of Richmond. The next day, Smith crushed the Union right flank and then pursued the defeated Yankee forces northward for seven miles. A battered remnant under General William Nelson was finally routed at Cemetery Hill. At a cost of 600 Confederate casualties, more than 4,300 Federal troops were eventually compelled to surrender.

Current Status: Richmond battlefield is located in Madison County, one of the fastest-growing counties in Kentucky. Although the the battlefield remains much as it did in 1862, very little of the site is preserved. Intense growth along the U.S. Route 25/421 corridor threatens the site. Approximately 180 acres of battlefield land were recently sold to private developers for subdivisions and a golf course. About half of

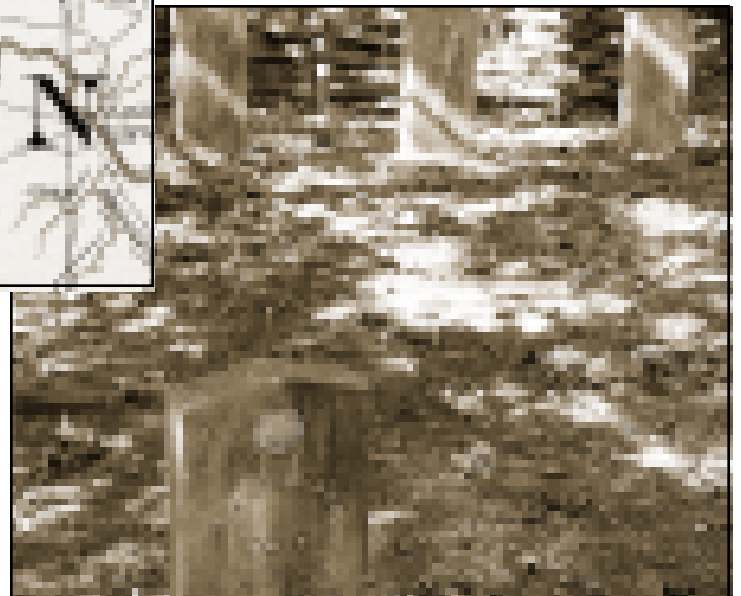
the battlefield is contained within the limits of the Bluegrass Army Depot.

CWSAC ranked Richmond battlefield as a Priority II, Class B site.



Above: Richmond and vicinity at the time of the battle.

Right: Cemetery on Richmond, Kentucky battlefield.



Rocky Face Ridge

GEORGIA

MAY 7 – 13, 1864

Rocky Face Ridge was the first battle of the Atlanta Campaign. A group of Union armies under General William Sherman were determined to maneuver the Confederate Army of Tennessee out of its winter quarters at Dalton. To do so, Sherman would have to confront Rocky Face Ridge, the craggy mountain overlooking Dalton.

Taking Rocky Face would be no easy task. Confederate General Joseph Johnston was dug in along the ridge and eastward across the Crow Valley. The most formidable works were located at Mill Creek Gap, known locally as “Buzzard’s Roost.”

Sherman’s attacks against this natural fortress resulted in high casualties and little progress. Concluding that Rocky Face Ridge could not be taken by storm, Sherman maneuvered his armies to outflank the Rebel position. On May 13, Johnston abandoned Rocky Face and Dalton. The long retreat to Atlanta had begun.

Current Status: Although the nonprofit Conservation Fund recently saved 625 acres of Rocky Face Ridge north of Buzzard’s Roost, the battlefield’s proximity to I-75 makes the remainder of the site extremely vulnerable to development. Portions of the Confederate line along Hamilton Mountain and in the Crow Valley are considered likely locations for further encroachment. During the past few months, a logging operation has destroyed rifle pits and six artillery emplacements dug by Federal forces during the battle.

CWSAC ranked Rocky Face Ridge as a Priority II, Class C site.

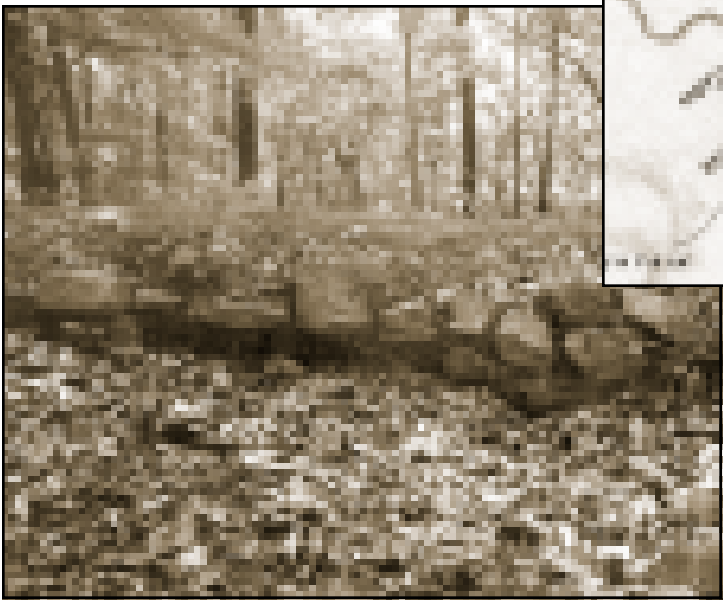
“We moved forward under a murderous fire and got so close to their line of works that I could see the buttons on their coats.”

CAPTAIN ROBERT S. CHAMBERLAIN, 64TH OHIO INFANTRY, U.S.A.



Above: Period map showing Rocky Face Ridge, Georgia.

Left: Trench on the face of the Rocky Face Ridge.



At Risk Sites

Needless to say, pruning CWSAC's extensive list of 384 priority battlefields down to just 10 sites is no simple task. Listed below are a second tier of 15 threatened Civil War battlefields that round out CWPT's list of the 25 most endangered battlefields in the United States. Rest assured, CWPT will be keeping an eye open for preservation opportunities at each of these hallowed battlegrounds.

Averasboro, North Carolina

March 16, 1865

Averasboro was a belated attempt by Confederates to block Union General William Sherman's march through the Carolinas. Today, Averasboro finds itself in the path of road construction that is expected to make the rural hamlet a hotbed for development.

Buffington Island, Ohio

July 19, 1863

Confederate General John Hunt Morgan's famous cavalry raid into Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio ended in disaster at Buffington Island. Only a small portion of this battleground is currently preserved. A gravel operation run by the Shelly Company has already destroyed 30 acres of the battlefield.

Corinth, Mississippi

October 3 – 4, 1862

This sleepy Mississippi town was the scene of a brutal, two-day struggle that resulted in more than 7,000 casualties. Today, 454 acres of this 19,584-acre site are protected, including 443 acres preserved by CWPT.



Day's Gap, Alabama

April 30, 1863

Day's Gap is most famous for being one of the few times Confederate cavalryman Nathan Bedford Forrest was bested by his Yankee opponent. Today, none of the land connected with the Union victory is preserved.

Franklin, Tennessee

November 30, 1864

The Battle of Franklin was one of the bloodiest conflicts of the entire Civil War. Today, the battlefield is all but gone, the victim of sprawl and shortsighted government policy. Recent opportunities to preserve key parts of the battlefield have been passed over.

***Top:** The Battle Ground Academy at Franklin, TN is an example of local government shortsideness.*

At Risk Sites

Gaines' Mill/Cold Harbor, Virginia

June 27, 1862/May 31 – June 12, 1864

Gaines' Mill and Cold Harbor are among the least protected battlefields in the park system. Three housing developments litter the perimeter of Gaines' Mill, and the upper half of Cold Harbor battlefield is lost beyond recall.

Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

July 1 – 3, 1863

Gettysburg is easily the most famous battle in American history. Although much of Gettysburg is protected by NPS, key parts remain in private hands. CWPT is particularly concerned about a dump located near McAllister's Mill and commercial development along the Baltimore Pike corridor.

"The Hell Hole," Georgia

May 25 – June 1, 1864

The three battles fought during the last week in May 1864 – New Hope Church, Pickett's Mills and Dallas – are known collectively as "the Hell Hole." Although more than 750 acres of Pickett's Mills are protected, the other two sites remain extremely vulnerable.

Port Gibson, Mississippi

May 1, 1863

Port Gibson was the first in a series of Union victories that spelled doom for the Confederate garrison at Vicksburg. CWPT, working with the state of Mississippi, recently saved 661 acres at the site. However, a proposed bypass could nullify this accomplishment.

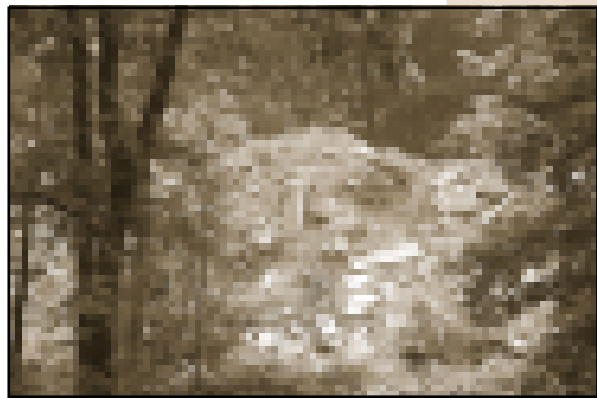
Port Hudson, Louisiana

May 21 – July 9, 1863

The siege and surrender of Port Hudson, combined with the fall of Vicksburg, secured the Mississippi River for the Union. Although much of the northern part of Port Hudson is preserved, core battlefield southeast of the state commemorative area remains in private hands.



***Above:** Traffic whizzes by the Stones River battlefield.*



***Above:** A dumpsite on the Gettysburg battlefield.*

At Risk Sites



Above: Cannon on Gaines Mill battlefield, Virginia.

Prairie Grove, Arkansas

December 7, 1862

Prairie Grove was one of the most significant battles fought west of the Mississippi River. Although 790 acres are preserved as part of the Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park, the site is threatened by residential development and the proposed widening of U.S. Route 62.

Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia

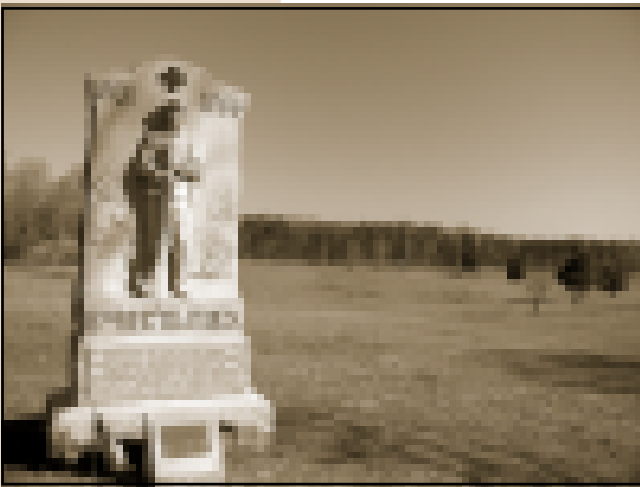
May 8 – 21, 1864

The battle of Spotsylvania Court House was the second clash of General Ulysses Grant's 1864 overland campaign. Although 1,336 acres of the battlefield are protected by NPS, core battleground north of the Bloody Angle, south of the Po River, and at Myers' Hill should be preserved as well.

Stephenson's Depot, Virginia

June 15, 1863

Stephenson's Depot was the scene of the disintegration and surrender of a Union army under the inept General Robert Milroy. CWPT is currently working with local preservationists to protect the battlefield from a combination of industrial and residential development.



Top: The 15th New Jersey monument, Spotsylvania Court House battlefield.

Stones River, Tennessee

December 31, 1862 – January 2, 1863

Like Manassas, Stones River National Battlefield seems destined to become a green island in a sea of suburban sprawl. Only 714 acres of the battlefield are preserved. Large sections of the battlefield north, south and west of the park have already been lost to development.

Wilson's Creek, Missouri

August 10, 1861

Wilson's Creek was one of the first major clashes of the Civil War. Although 75 percent of the battleground is protected by NPS, key parcels remain vulnerable to development, including the site where the battle's first shots were fired and historic property west of Bloody Hill.

Progress Report

In partnership with several local preservation groups, CWPT has been working tirelessly to save property at sites identified in last year's Most Endangered Battlefields report. Listed below are a few of the successes achieved in 2002.

Atlanta, Georgia

Little remains of the Atlanta battlefields or the miles of earthworks that once encircled the city. However, thanks to a \$2.65 million deal involving the Arthur Blank Foundation, the City of Atlanta, the Georgia Civil War Commission, the Conservation Fund, state officials and local activists, 103 acres of trenches constructed by the Union Army will be preserved as historic parkland.

Averasboro, North Carolina

Although Averasboro remains one of the most endangered battlegrounds in America, CWPT scored a notable victory there this past year. CWPT increased the amount of protected land at Averasboro by 25 percent through the purchase of a conservation easement on the 71-acre Weeks Farm. The property is located along N.C. Route 82, the wartime Raleigh Plank Road.

Bristoe Station, Virginia

Prior to 2002, Bristoe Station battlefield seemed destined for development. However, a unique partnership between CWPT and Centex Homes (a national development corporation) has resulted in the establishment of a 127-acre heritage park, complete with interpretive signage and walking trails. The new park will include the area west of Bristoe Road where the Confederate Brigades of Cooke, Perry and Posey were repulsed.

Corinth, Mississippi

In November, the Siege and Battle of Corinth Commission held a groundbreaking ceremony for a \$9 million interpretive center at Corinth battlefield. The new center, which will be maintained by NPS, is expected to attract 250,000 visitors a year. In July, the commission unveiled a 20-mile Civil War walking trail that will connect the interpretive center with other parts of the battlefield.

Harpers Ferry, West Virginia

Two of the biggest battlefield preservation victories of the year occurred at Harpers Ferry. The first victory involved the 98-acre Murphy Farm, which was saved by a coalition of groups determined to stop a 188-house development slated for the site. The second success was the preservation of 232 acres by CWPT on historic School House Ridge.

About CWPT

The Civil War was the most tragic conflict in American history. For four long years, North and South clashed in 10,000 battles and skirmishes that sounded the death knell for slavery and defined us as a nation. More than 625,000 soldiers and 50,000 civilians perished as a result of the war.

The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) is committed to protecting the last tangible links to this tumultuous period in American history. With 43,000 members, CWPT is the largest nonprofit battlefield preservation organization in the United States. Its purpose is to preserve our nation's endangered Civil War battlefields and to promote appreciation of these hallowed grounds.

CWPT's principal goal is to preserve historic battlefield land through outright purchases, conservation easements, and partnerships with federal, state and local governments. Among the sites rescued by CWPT in the past year are key parcels at Fort Donelson in Tennessee and Harpers Ferry in West Virginia. Over the years, CWPT has helped protect more than 16,000 acres in 19 states.

CWPT also maintains several outreach programs in support of battlefield preservation. These programs include: *Hallowed Ground*, our quarterly magazine; the Civil War Discovery Trail, a National Millennium Trail that links nearly 600 sites in 32 states; and Civil War Explorer, an interactive computer program that allows users to experience the war and its consequences.



Top: Through the efforts of CWPT, battlefields such as Cedar Mountain have been saved.

Right: CWPT helped save the core of the Monocacy battlefield.







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