

Timeline of the Battle of Shiloh (Pittsburg Landing)

March 1 - April 5: Grant transports his Army of west Tennessee (over 58,000 men) into southwest Tennessee Establishes it at Pittsburg Landing, and awaits Buell's army.

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March 1: Johnston transports 55,000 Confederates to Corinth to defend the Memphis and Charleston Railroad.

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April 3: Johnston advances toward Pittsburg Landing, Rain and bad roads delay his advance.

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April 6: Johnston launches surprise attack on Federals.

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April 6, 1862

4:55-6:30 am: Federal patrol discovers Confederates in Fraley Field. Federal Skirmish, then fall back.

6:30-9:00 am: Johnston maneuvers eight brigades to overrun Prentiss's camps, routing the Union division.

7:00-10:00 am: Sherman's division repulses Confederates, inflicting heavy casualties. Johnston sends five brigades to attack Sherman's left flank. Sherman falls back on McClernand's division.

10:00-11:30 am: Confederates assault Sherman and McClernand on the Hamburg - Purdey Road, driving back Union right flank.

8:00-9:30 am: Wallace's and Hurlbut's divisions march to the front.

9:00-10:30 am: Johnston, hearing that his right flank is threatened, orders Chalmers' and Jackson's brigades to assault Federal left, with Breckinridge in support.

11:00-Noon: Confederates make contact with Federals across Eastern Corinth Road. Federals repulse attacks.

11:00am-1:00pm: Chalmers and Jackson assault Stuart, but Confederate stalls. Federal left holds against all attacks.

Noon-2:30pm: Sherman and McClernand Counterattack Driving Confederates south, but weakened by losses, Federals withdraw across Tilghman Branch.

Noon-3:30pm: Gibson's Confederates assault Federal center three times and are repulsed. Confederates come under murderous fire in

impenetrable oak thicket.

1:00-4:00 pm: Johnston orders attack against Federal left, forcing them back. Johnston killed; succeeded by Beauregard. Hurlbut's division again stalls Confederates, but then retires toward Pittsburg landing.

3:00-5:30 pm: Sherman and McClernand prevent Confederates from crossing Tilghman Branch, but retire to defend Hamburg-Savannah road so that Wallace's division can come up.

7:00 pm: Wallace, with 5,800 men , moves to support Sherman at Shiloh Church.

Night: Buell's troop file in on Union left. Crittenden deploys in center, with McCook in support.

Night: Nelson ferried across river. Federal gunboats fire into captured Federal camps.

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April 7, 1862

7:00-9:00 am: Wallace drives Confederates from Jones' field.

7:00-900 am: Grant and Buell advance. Skirmishing light as majority of Confederates retired south of Hamburg/Purdy road during night.

9:00-11:00 am: Nelson advances through Wicker's and Sarah Bell's fields, Crittenden advances in center, but stalled in "hornet's nest."

9:00-11:00 am: Breckinridge and Hardee counterattack Nelson's right flank and force Federal left back into Wicker's field.

9:00-11:00 am: McCook crosses Tilghman Branch and engages Breckinridge's left.

10:30-Noon: Sherman, McClernand and Hurlbut cross Tilghman Branch and join Wallace in fighting against Polk and Bragg on Confederate left.

10:30-Noon: Confederates flanked by Wallace and forced to retire to Hamburg/Purdy road.

Noon-2:00 pm: Reinforced, Nelson and Crittenden advance, forcing Beauregard's right flank to retreat south to Hamburg/Purdy road.

Noon-2:00 pm: McCook slams into Bragg at Water Oak Pond. Beauregard counterattack, halting McCook. With his left under pressure

Beauregard is forced to retire.

2:00-4:00 pm: Breckinridge, supported by massed artillery south of Shiloh Branch ravine, checks Union advance and Confederates retire from field. Federals reclaim possession of the field and bivouac.  
Source: "The Atlas of the Civil War" by James M. McPherson