

NASHVILLE: Occupied City • Decisive Battle of the Civil War

Battle Sites

Brookmeade Park at Kelley's Point Battlefield

Located in west Nashville off Charlotte Pike along the Cumberland River. It is being developed as a Metro Park.

For two weeks prior to the battle, six artillery pieces under the command of Confederate Lt. Col. D.C. Kelley effectively blockaded the Cumberland River against seven heavily armed U.S. Navy gunboats. The Confederate cavalry and U.S. gunboats clashed in six separate engagements.



B-3 on Map

Shy's Hill

E-8 on Map

Historical marker and steps up the hill on Benton Smith Road off Harding Place. Parking is minimal.

It was at Shy's Hill on Dec. 16, 1864 during the Battle of Nashville that U.S. troops finally broke the Confederate line on the left flank, resulting in a decisive Northern victory.

Known as Compton Hill during the battle, it was renamed after Confederate Col. William Shy, who was killed there.

Approximately two acres of the site are owned by the Battle of Nashville Preservation Society.

Granbury's Lunette

H-5 on Map

Located at 190 Polk Avenue. Granbury's Lunette was at the extreme right of the Confederate Infantry under General Cheatham. Following the Battle of Franklin, Granbury's Texas brigade was reduced to 344 men and led by Captain Edward T. Broughton (General Granbury was killed at Franklin). The lunette was attacked on Dec. 15 by General Steedman, under whom were Colonels Grosvenor, Shafter, and Corbin. The U.S. Army retreated north and east with heavy losses.

Headquarters

Belmont Mansion

E-5 on Map



Located at 1900 Belmont Blvd. Call (615) 460-5459.

An ornate Italianate villa built in 1850 outside the city limits of Nashville, Belmont was the estate of Adelia Acklen, one of the wealthiest women in America.

Although the mansion was located at the U.S. Army fortification line, it was not damaged during the Battle of Nashville in 1864.

Northern scouts used the 105-foot-tall brick water tower, which still stands, as a lookout point and to relay signals. The mansion served as the headquarters for U.S. Gen. T.J. Wood during the battle.

Belle Meade Plantation

B-6 on Map



Located at 5025 Harding Rd. (West End Avenue). Call (615) 356-0501 or (800) 270-3991.

Belle Meade was headquarters to Confederate Gen. James R. Chalmers of Forrest's cavalry command prior to the Battle of Nashville.

On Dec. 15, U.S. soldiers burned the Confederate wagons parked at the racetrack while Chalmers was fighting on Charlotte Pike. Returning to Belle Meade, Chalmers' escort charged the Northerners and drove them back before running into a U.S. infantry camp.

Travellers Rest

G-9 on Map



Located at 636 Farrell Parkway, off Franklin Pike. Call (615) 832-8197. Travellers Rest (1799) served as the headquarters of Confederate Gen. John Bell Hood prior to the Battle of Nashville. Today the estate is interpreted as an antebellum working farm.

Fortifications

U.S. Fort Negley

G-4 on Map

The remains of U.S. Fort Negley are located on a high hill south of downtown Nashville at the confluence of Interstates 65 and 40. **Not open to the public.**

The opening guns of the Battle of Nashville, Dec. 15-16, 1864, were fired from Fort Negley, although the fort itself was never directly attacked at any time during the war. The European-style fort is named after U.S. Gen. James S. Negley, who was stationed briefly in Nashville in 1862.

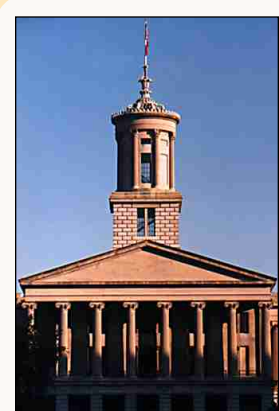


Blake Henderson

U.S. Blockhouse Casino

F-5 on Map

Located on Eighth Ave. South, the city water reservoir (1887-89) sits atop Kirkpatrick Hill, the site of Blockhouse Casino during the Civil War. It was built by the U.S. Army occupation forces as part of the fortifications surrounding the city to the south and the west. **Site closed to the public.** Across Eighth Avenue are the remains of Fort Negley, the major fortification built at the time.



F-3 on Map

Tennessee State Capitol

Located on Charlotte Ave., between 6th and 7th avenues. The Tennessee State Capitol, completed in 1859, is the Greek Revival masterpiece of architect William Strickland. During the occupation, the capitol was transformed into Fort Andrew Johnson, named after the military governor. The building is a National Historic Landmark. The grounds feature statues of Johnson, who later became U.S. President, and Sam Davis, a Confederate scout who was hanged by the U.S. Army after he refused to betray his associates. At nearby War Memorial Plaza is the Women of the Confederacy statue.

Confederate Redoubt No. 1

E-6 on Map

Redoubt No. 1 is a lot located in a residential section at 3423 Benham Road, off Woodmont Blvd. near Hillsboro Pike.

Redoubt No. 1 is open to the public from dawn to dusk free of charge. Parking space is minimal.

Redoubt No. 1 was one of five redoubts (small forts) built by Gen. John Bell Hood's Confederate Army as it occupied the countryside south of Nashville in December 1864.

The redoubt was located at the far left (western) salient of the main Confederate line. Only the remnants of the earthenworks remain.

On the first day of the Battle of Nashville, December 15, the U.S. Army attacked all five forts. Redoubt No. 1 was the last to fall.

This redoubt is one of the last remaining battlefield sites in Nashville. The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society owns the property.

Hospital Sites

Metro Planning Department Building

Located at 724 Second Ave. South, this historic limestone Gothic Revival building (1853) housed Western Military Institute, run by Col. Bushrod Johnson, later a Confederate general. All of the school's cadets joined the Confederate army. One of them was Sam Davis, later hanged by the U.S.

Army. During the occupation, the building was used by the U.S. Army as Hospital No. 2, housing 300 beds. Today, it houses the Metro Nashville Planning Commission. The building is closed to public tours.



G-3 on Map



F-3 on Map

Downtown Presbyterian Church

Located at 427 Church Street (at 5th Ave.) A rare example of Egyptian Revival architecture, this twin-towered brick church (1851), originally the First Presbyterian Church, was one of many buildings used as hospitals during the U.S. Army occupation of the city during the Civil War. It was designated Hospital No. 8 and housed 206 beds.

The building was designed by William Strickland, who also designed the State Capitol. Like the State Capitol, the church is a National Historic Landmark.

Sunnyside Mansion

F-6 on Map

Located in Sevier Park on 12th Ave. South (Granny White Pike). Sunnyside (built 1840s) was located directly between the U.S. and Confederate lines prior to the Battle of Nashville. Afterward it served as a hospital for wounded soldiers.

Cemeteries

Confederate Circle at Mt. Olivet Cemetery

Located at 1101 Lebanon Road. Call (615) 255-4193.

The 250-acre cemetery (1855) is situated on a hilltop, graced with large, old trees and evergreens, and impressive statuary, crypts, and tombs.

After the Civil War, the women of Nashville bought land at Mount Olivet and formed Confederate Circle. The remains of about 1,500 Confederate soldiers were moved here from area battlefields.

A 45-foot-tall granite monument to the Confederate soldier marks the center of the circle.

Seven Confederate generals are buried in or near the circle. They are William B. Bate, William N.R. Beall, Benjamin Franklin Cheatham, William H. Jackson, George E. Maney, James E. Rains, and Thomas Benton Smith. Other prominent Nashville Confederates, Colonels Adolphus Heiman and Randall McGavock, lie nearby.



I-3 on Map

Nashville City Cemetery

G-4 on Map

Located at 1001 Fourth Ave. South at Oak Street; (615) 862-7970.

Located, figuratively, in the shadow of Fort Negley on St. Cloud's Hill, the City Cemetery is one of the oldest public cemeteries in the region (est. 1822) and holds the remains of many early settlers.

U.S. and Confederate dead were buried in separate areas here, with U.S. soldiers eventually moved to the National Cemetery and Confederates to Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Buried here are Confederate Generals Bushrod Johnson, Felix Zollicoffer, Richard Ewell, and Samuel R. Anderson.

Also, Capt. William Driver, a loyal Unionist whose sons fought for the Confederacy. Capt. Driver was overjoyed when the U.S. Army occupied the city in early 1862, and it was his old American flag, nicknamed Old Glory, which was flown above the state capitol.

Nashville National Cemetery

F-1 on Map

Located at 1420 Gallatin Rd. South, Madison. Call (615) 736-2839.

Established as a U.S. Military Cemetery on Jan. 28, 1867, it holds the graves of more than 16,000 Civil War soldiers, including nearly 3,600 unknown. U.S. Colored Troops are also buried here.

Monuments include a memorial by the State of Minnesota to her fallen soldiers.



For More Information:



The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society and Civil War Roundtable, Inc.
Message Line: (615) 780-3636
Website: www.bonps.org

Metropolitan Historical Commission
Phone: (615) 862-7970
Website: www.nashville.org/hc

The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society (BONPS) is a non-profit 301(C), non-political organization dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Civil War sites in Davidson County, Tennessee. Since 1989 BONPS has saved three valuable sites in Nashville: six acres of Shy's Hill, Confederate Redoubt No. 1, and Kelley's Point Battlefield. BONPS owns the first two of these sites, and is seeking tax-deductible donations to retire the debt on those properties. Please send your contributions to P.O. Box 121796, Nashville, TN 37212.

Further Reading:
 Horn, Stanley F. *The Decisive Battle of Nashville*. 1956. Reprint. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press, 1968.
 Sword, Wiley. *The Confederacy's Last Hurrah*. University Press of Kansas, 1992.

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Battle of Nashville Peace Monument

Located at Granny White Pike between Clifton Lane and Battlefield Drive.

Small park with unique monument (1926) memorializing the soldiers of the United States and the Confederacy who fought in the Battle of Nashville, and the American soldiers who fought in World War I. It is the only monument of its type dedicated to all soldiers who fought in those wars.

The monument was commissioned by the Ladies' Battlefield Association and sculpted by Guiseppi Moretti of Italy. The bronze sculpture of a youth and horses features the inscription "Unity," and the stone obelisk is topped by an angel.

This site is located near the center of the Confederate lines on the first day of battle. In 1999, the monument was relocated from its original site on Franklin Pike near the I-65/I-440 interchange, where the old base still stands, marking the site of one of CSA Gen. Stephen D. Lee's batteries on Dec. 15.

F-6 on Map



All Battle of Nashville Tour Stops Are Marked With This Sign:



Please refer to the BONPS website at www.bonps.org/tour/tour.htm for precise driving directions and maps.

Private property should be viewed from the public right-of-way only. Please do not enter private property without owner consent.

Driving Tour and Map of The Battle of Nashville

Dec. 2-16, 1864



The Decisive Battle of the Civil War

Includes large 1864 battle map and map of driving tour to battlefield sites and local attractions

The Battle of Nashville Preservation Society and Civil War Roundtable, Inc.

and
 The Metropolitan Historical Commission