

Blockhouse Nos 4 and 5 Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad

**tennessee
civil war
preservation
association**

NARRATIVE

Confederate cavalry commanded by Gen. Joseph Wheeler moved into middle Tennessee in an attempt to disrupt the supply lines supporting Sherman's armies around Atlanta. On August 31, 1864 after bypassing the heavily armed Fortress Rosecrans in Murfreesboro, Wheeler's men descended upon Lavergne and Smyrna attacking the blockhouses and bridges at Hurricane and Stewart's Creek capturing one before nightfall.

HISTORICAL THEMES

Controlling Resources

EXPLANATION OF ATTACHMENTS/VIDEO:

Current maps of battlefield sites
Accounts of engagement

LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

N/A

COUNTY:

Davidson

DATE:

8/31/1864

GEO COORDINATES:

Blockhouse No 4:
36.022239° N,
86.591964° W
Blockhouse No 5:
35.985919° N,
86.522883° W

PRESERVATION

OPPORTUNITY INDEX:

LOW

CONFEDERATE UNITS:

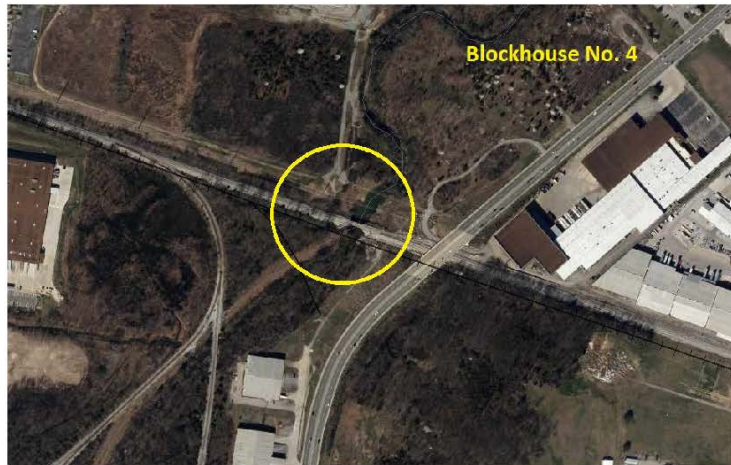
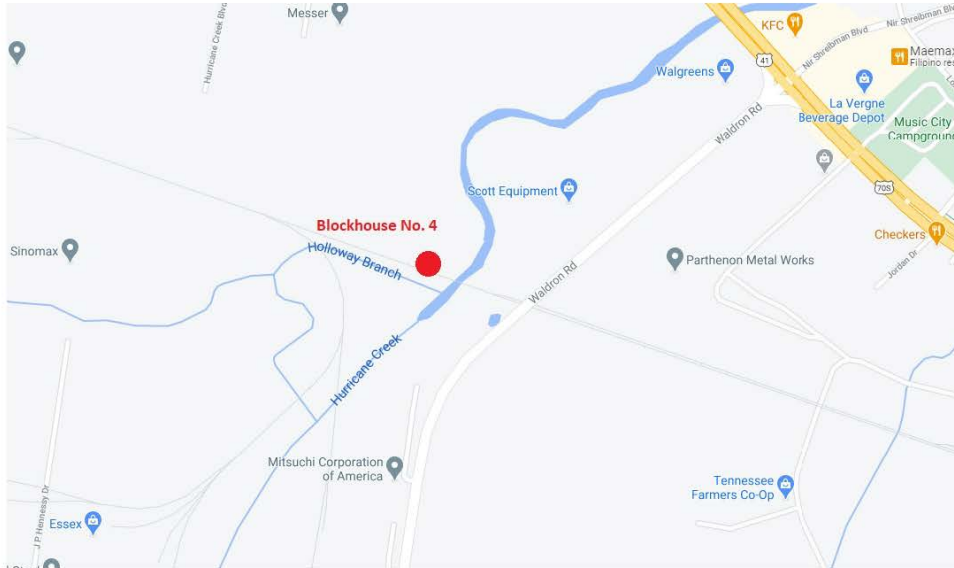
Wheeler's Cavalry

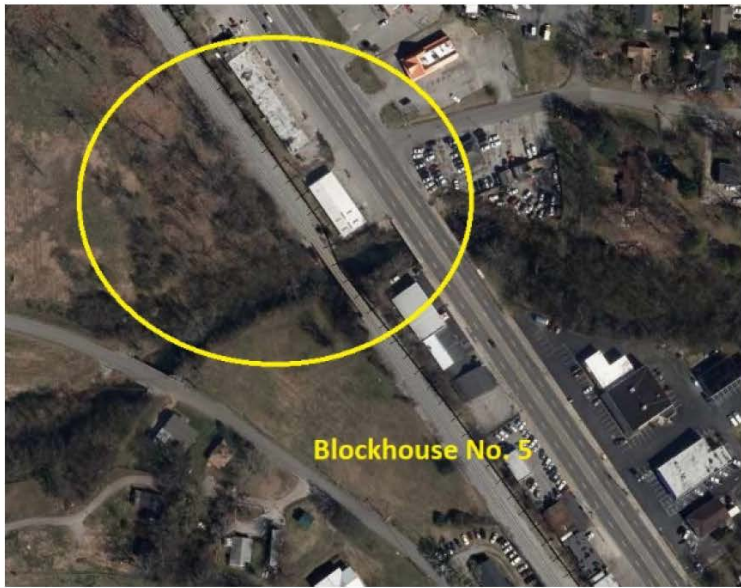
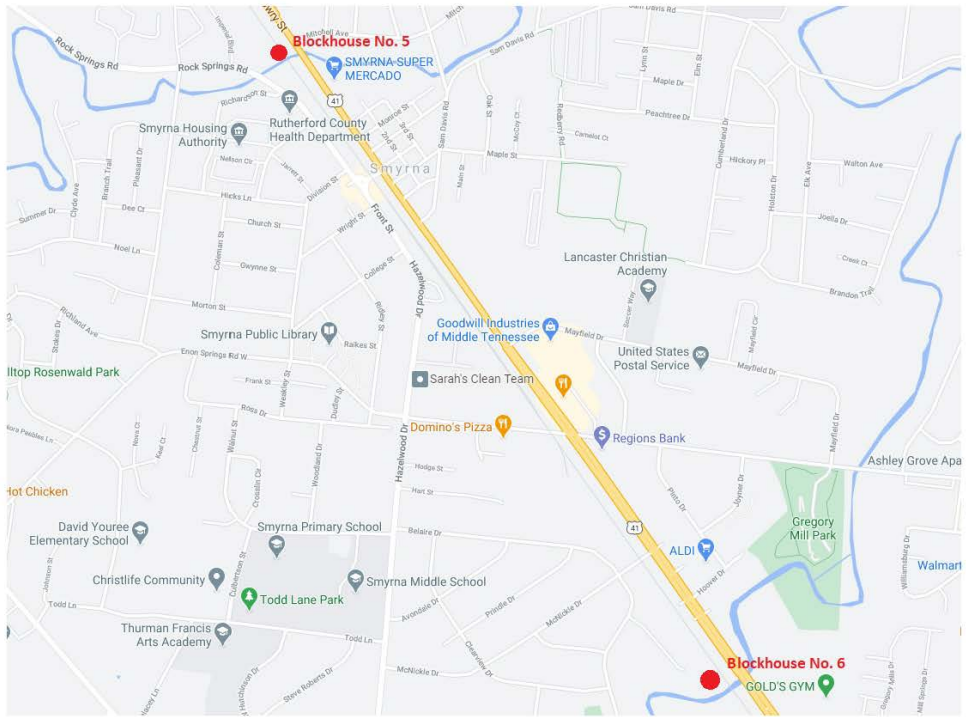
UNION UNITS:

115th Ohio Infantry

Blockhouses #4 & #5 Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad

August 31, 1864





Manual of the Civil War and Key to the Grand Army of the Republic and Kindred Societies by J. Worth Carnahan, p. 119

Block House No. 5, Tenn., Aug. 31, 1864. 115th Ohio. Union, 3 killed; Confed., 25 wounded.

August 31, 1864 - Contingents of Wheeler's cavalry skirmish near Murfreesboro and Smyrna

Our squadron (Capt. Rheagan's) was ordered to move on to Murfreesboro and drive in the yankee pickets, but when we arrive we found no pickets outside the fortifications. We could see the sentinels on the breastworks, walking their beats. We remained about two hours on picket duty, within a few hundred yards of the works, and then we discovered a body of the enemy's cavalry attempting to get in our rear and cut us off. We fell back and avoided a collision. During this time our command was moving on Smyrna to destroy the railroad. We followed it up, and rejoined our regiment to night. The command captured one stockade to night. We are camped nine miles from Nashville.

Diary of William A. Sloan

LEGEND OF TERMS:

Historical themes: Topics and subject matter that characterize the battlefield including Control of Tennessee's Resources, Crucible for Leadership, Guerilla Warfare, Transformation in Warfare, Enslaved People, and Influence on Campaign. Sites are identified that exhibit themes at moderate to high levels, and some sites may contain one or more Historical Themes.

Preservation Opportunity Index (POI): A rating assigned for each battlefield to indicate relative opportunity and potential for successful site preservation. The Index is generated by a model that evaluates ratings assigned for site significance, condition, risk of loss, protection potential, and opportunities for interpretation. Based upon the POI values for each region in Tennessee (West, Middle, East), sites are indicated as having High, Medium, or Low opportunity.

Geo Coordinates: General/central location of the battlefield area per latitude and longitude coordinates utilized in Google Earth

DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION ON A BATTLE SITE?

Please email us at info@tcwpa.org and we will reach out to you soon. If you have copies of documents or photos to share, you can include those. If you want to discuss by phone, we will schedule that too.

HELP US COLLECT INFORMATION TO PRESERVE THESE BATTLEFIELDS

TCWPA's Statewide Preservation Plan team captains are recruiting volunteers to help gather information about many of the lesser-known sites with hopes of verifying the condition of each site and identifying opportunities for preservation and interpretation.

If you are interested in helping, please contact TCWPA at info@tcwpa.org.

TCWPA will not publish nor release any confidential information, or the name of the contributor, unless you request to be recognized.

Thank you!

The logo for the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA) is displayed in a light blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. It is positioned in the bottom left corner of a dark blue banner that features a background image of a Civil War-era cannon.

tcwpa

Have Information on a Civil
War Battlesite?

Contact our team at info@tcwpa.org