

Centerville

**tennessee
civil war
preservation
association**

NARRATIVE

Following three days of engaging Confederate Cavalry numbering about 1,000 men commanded by Col. Jacob Biffle, 250 men of the Second Tennessee Mounted Infantry, USA under Col. John Murphy found themselves sheltering in Centerville at the courthouse that had been turned into a fortress by the U.S. troops occupying the town. Murphy determined to return to his post on the Nashville and Northwestern Railroad by crossing the Duck River north of town at a ford. Upon crossing, the Union troops came under heavy fire losing 15 men killed, wounded or captured.

COUNTY:

Hickman

DATE:

9/28/1864

GEO COORDINATES:

35.7790° N,
87.4670° W

PRESERVATION

OPPORTUNITY INDEX:

MEDIUM

CONFEDERATE UNITS:

19th/9th Tennessee
(Biffle's) Cavalry

UNION UNITS:

2nd Tenn Mounted
Infantry

HISTORICAL THEMES

EXPLANATION OF ATTACHMENTS/VIDEO:

Current map of general vicinity of the engagement

LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

[The Battle at Centerville \(tngenweb.org\)](http://tngenweb.org)



Vicinity of Centerville engagement—exact location cannot be determined

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 on a wooden carriage.

tcwpa

Have Information on a Civil
War Battlesite?

Contact our team at info@tcwpa.org