

# Athens

**tennessee  
civil war  
preservation  
association**

## **NARRATIVE**

Confederate cavalry under Brig. Gen. John C. Vaughn and Maj. General Joseph Wheeler attacked Athens capturing 24-25 prisoners with the 7<sup>th</sup> Tennessee Mounted Infantry and burned several buildings in the outskirts of town

## **COUNTY:**

McMinn

## **DATE:**

1/28/1865

## **GEO COORDINATES:**

35.4429° N,  
84.5930° W

## **HISTORICAL THEMES**

Guerilla Warfare

## **EXPLANATION OF ATTACHMENTS/VIDEO:**

Maps; reports from Official Records

## **LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

N/A

## **PRESERVATION**

## **OPPORTUNITY INDEX:**

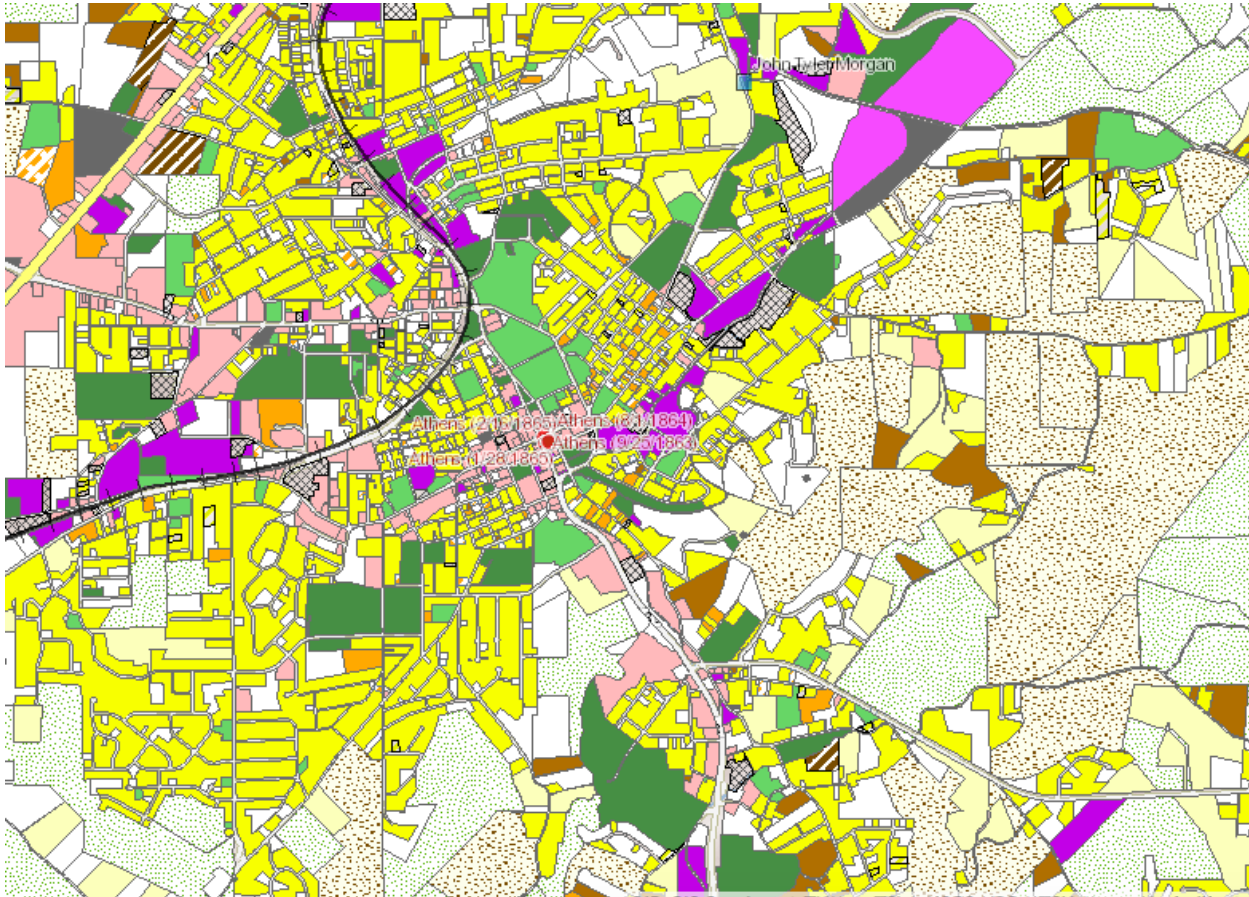
LOW

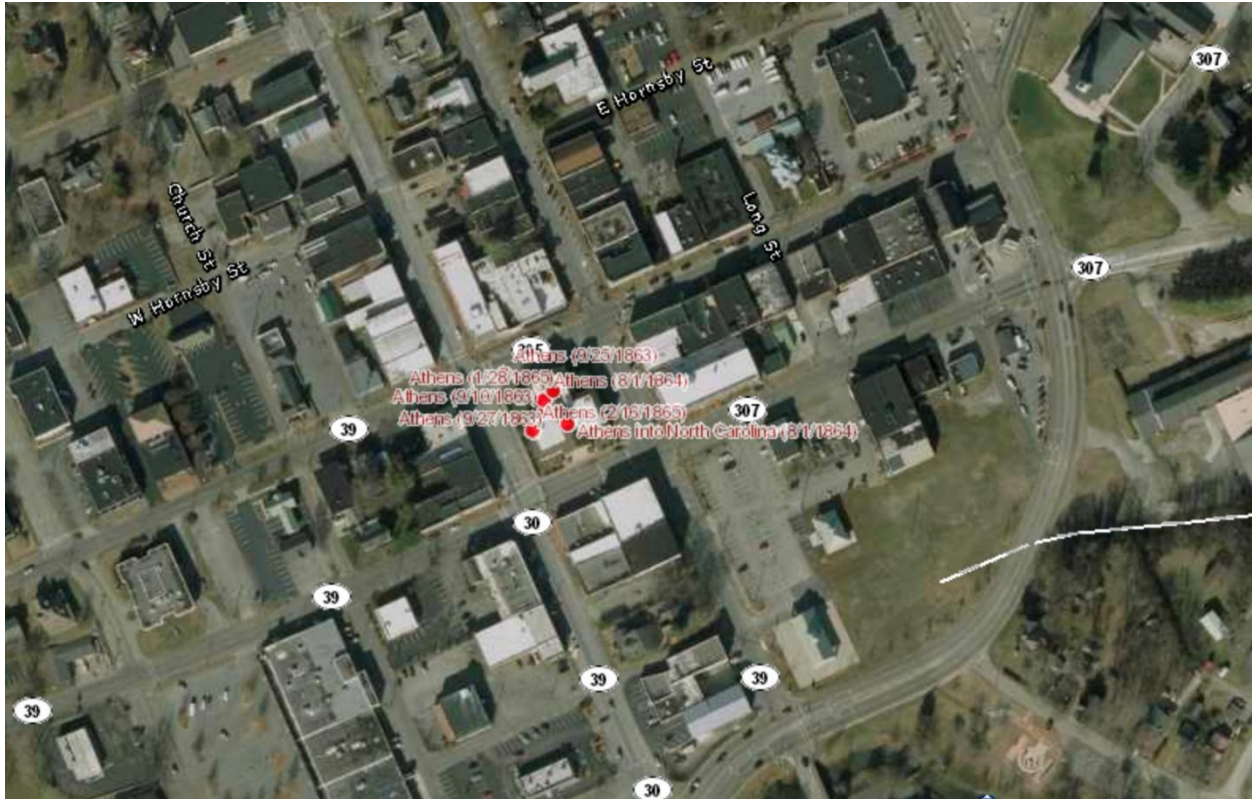
## **CONFEDERATE UNITS:**

3<sup>rd</sup> TN Mounted  
Infantry (Vaughn)

## **UNION UNITS:**

7<sup>th</sup> TN Mounted  
Infantry  
2<sup>nd</sup> Ohio Heavy  
Artillery





January 28, 1865 - Action at Athens

JANUARY 28, 1865.-Action at Athens, Tenn.

REPORTS.

No. 1.-Lieut. George W. Ross, Seventh Tennessee Mounted Infantry.

No. 2.-Capt. Thomas A. Stevenson, Second Ohio Heavy Artillery.

No. 1.

Report of Lieut. George W. Ross, Seventh Tennessee Mounted Infantry.

ATHENS, January 29, 1865—3.30 p. m.

GEN.: We were attacked yesterday by 300 rebels of Vaughn's, Wheeler's, and bushwhacker commands and repulsed them from town, but they captured some twenty or twenty-five our of men, including Maj. John McGaughey. They retreated from town in the evening and remained all night seven miles from here, and rumor says they are going to make another attack in connection with about the same force that came to Madisonville yesterday. We have not the horses to follow them, there and if we only had two pieces of artillery we could have killed or captured half of them, as they would not come in range of either the court-house or our fortifications. If you have them to spare we would be pleased to have two companies of the Second Ohio Heavy and two pieces cannon; them we are all right here, but we will have to have cavalry to follow

them and capture them. They burnt one stable and one outhouse and robbed all the houses in the outskirts of town.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

GEO. W. ROSS, Lieut. and Regt. Quartermaster.

KNOXVILLE, TENN., January 29, 1865.

Lieut. GEORGE W. ROSS, Quartermaster, Athens, Tenn.:

Your dispatch received. I congratulate you upon your success, but regret very much the capture of Maj. McGaughey. What were the casualties to the enemy, and among our forces?

DAVIS TILLSON, Brig.-Gen. of Volunteers.

ATHENS, January 29, 1865—7 p. m.

Brig. Gen. D. TILLSON:

We killed 12 or 15 and they took their wounded, some 30 or 35, off with them; some of them very badly. Our loss is some 15 or 20 prisoners and mules killed.

GEO. W. ROSS, Lieut. and Regimental Quartermaster.

No. 2.

Report of Capt. Thomas A. Stevenson, Second Ohio Heavy Artillery.



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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!



tcwpa



Have Information on a Civil War Battlesite?

Contact our team at [info@tcwpa.org](mailto:info@tcwpa.org)