

Bolivar-Wagon Train

**tennessee
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NARRATIVE

On March 30, 1864 the 6th Tennessee Cavalry US (Col. Fielding Hurst) was attacked and routed by the 14th (13th) Tennessee Cavalry CSA (Col. James J. Neely) between Somerville and Bolivar. The entire wagon train of the 6th Tennessee Cavalry was captured including 30 killed and 35 prisoners.

HISTORICAL THEMES

EXPLANATION OF ATTACHMENTS/VIDEO:

Map and reports from Official Records

LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

N/A

COUNTY:

Hardeman

DATE:

3/29/1864

GEO COORDINATES:

35.2562° N,
88.9878° W

PRESERVATION

OPPORTUNITY INDEX:

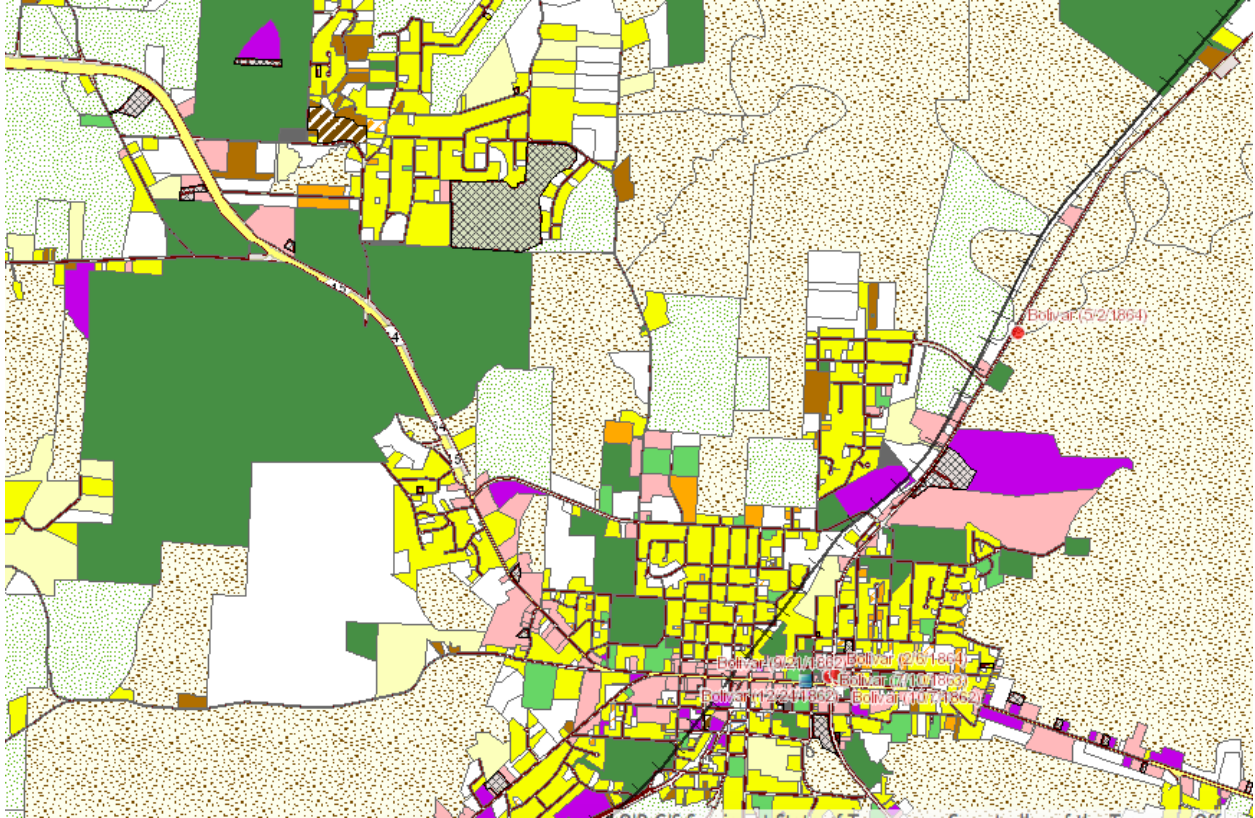
LOW

CONFEDERATE UNITS:

14th(13th) Tennessee
Cavalry

UNION UNITS:

6th Tennessee
Cavalry



March 29, 1864 - Skirmish between Bolivar and Somerville

Report of Maj. P. Jones Yorke, Second New Jersey Cavalry, of skirmish near Bolivar. HDQRS. FIRST Brig., CAVALRY DIVISION, 16TH CORPS, Camp Grierson, near Memphis, March 30, 1864. CAPT. I enclose two reports received this day from scouting parties from my command. I respectfully call attention to the fact that the cavalry which repulsed Col. Hurst must be a force which we have not taken into consideration, as it seems not to have been McCulloch's, and could not have been Forrest's. I have every road near me picketed at a distance of from 2 to 3 1/2 miles. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, GEO. E. WARING, JR., Col. Fourth Missouri Cavalry, Cmdg. HDQRS. DETACHMENT FIRST CAVALRY BRIGADE,

Raleigh, Tenn., March 30, 1864—12 m. Col. Hurst, Sixth Tennessee Cavalry, was attacked and whipped yesterday between Somerville and Bolivar by a brigade of the enemy's cavalry. He lost all his trains, Capt. Moore killed, the surgeon captured, and a great many men killed, wounded, and missing. As it was reported by a prisoner I captured yesterday afternoon near Somerville that a force under Gen. Chalmers from LaGrange was advancing toward this river, I thought it best to fall back and hold the ferries at Shelby and this point. I have the honor to be, colonel,

very respectfully, your obedient servant, P. JONES YORKE, Maj., Cmdg. Department.
OR, Ser. I, Vol. 32, pt. I, p. 585. JACKSON, TENN.,

April 2, 1864. Lieut.-Gen. POLK: SIR: ~ ~ ~ Col. Neely engaged Hurst on the 29th of March near Bolivar, capturing his entire wagon train, routing and driving him to Memphis, killing 30 and capturing 35 prisoners, killing 2 captains and capturing 1. . . ~ ~ ~ N. B. FORREST, Maj.-Gen. Note 1 OR, Ser. I, Vol. 32, pt. III, p. 733.

Note 1: General Chalmers added the following detail to the route of Colonel Hurst's Sixth Cavalry in his April 20, 1864 address to his troops on their raid into West Tennessee: "Col. Neely, of the Thirteenth Tennessee, [CS] met the traitor [Fielding] Hurst at Bolivar, and after a short conflict, in which we killed and captured 75 prisoners of the enemy, drove Hurst hatless into Memphis, leaving in our hands all his wagons, ambulances, papers, and his mistresses, both black and white." OR, Ser. I, Vol. 31, pt. I, p. 623.

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!



tcwpa



Have Information on a Civil
War Battlesite?

Contact our team at info@tcwpa.org