

Jackson

**tennessee
civil war
preservation
association**

NARRATIVE

As part of his expedition into West Tennessee to destroy the Mobile and Ohio railroad, Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest's cavalry defeated Union forces at Lexington and advanced to Jackson on December 19, 1862. Northeast of Jackson at the Old Salem Cemetery, Forrest encountered the 43rd and 61st Illinois infantry regiments commanded by Col. Adolph Engemann. Repulsing the Confederate attack, Engemann withdrew to Jackson. However, Forrest's show of force was intended to hold Jackson's Union defenders in place while two mounted columns destroyed railroad track north and south of the town and returned. This accomplished, Forrest withdrew from the Jackson area to attack Trenton and Humboldt. While the Federals had checked a demonstration by a portion of Forrest's force, other Confederates had fulfilled an element of the expedition's mission.

HISTORICAL THEMES

This engagement is one of 38 sites evaluated by the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission and not subject to a TCWPA Battlefield Assessment

EXPLANATION OF ATTACHMENTS/VIDEO:

LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

<http://npshistory.com/publications/battlefield/cwsac/updates/tn.pdf>

COUNTY:

Madison

DATE:

12/19/1862

GEO COORDINATES:

35.6145° N,
88.8139° W

PRESERVATION

OPPORTUNITY INDEX:

CONFEDERATE UNITS:

UNION UNITS:

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 lower-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