

Fort Sanders

**tennessee
civil war
preservation
association**

NARRATIVE

As part of Confederate Lieut. Gen. James Longstreet's strategy to capture Knoxville and drive the Union IX and XXIII Corps (Maj. Gen. Ambrose Burnside) from East Tennessee, his First Corps (Army of Northern Virginia) assaulted Fort Loudon (later named Fort Sanders) on November 28-29, 1863. The attack on the morning of November 29 was led by the Divisions of Maj. Gen. Lafayette McClaws and Brig. Gen. Micah Jenkins. The federal garrison commanded by Brig. Gen. William Sanders (who was killed in the engagement) successfully repulsed the attacks due in large measure to effective defensive engineering installed by Captain Orlando Poe. Facing additional Union reinforcements from the South, Longstreet withdrew into winter quarters in the upper East Tennessee valley.

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:

Knox

DATE:

11/28-29/1863

GEO COORDINATES:

35.9595° N,
83.9361° W

PRESERVATION

OPPORTUNITY INDEX:

CONFEDERATE UNITS:

I Corps-Army of
Northern Virginia
(Lieut. Gen. James
Longstreet

UNION UNITS:

Department of the
Ohio (Maj. Gen.
Ambrose Burnside)

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!



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Have Information on a Civil
War Battlesite?
Contact our team at info@tcwpa.org