

Collierville-Lafayette

**tennessee
civil war
preservation
association**

NARRATIVE

On June 23, 1864 a Union train traveling to Moscow was attacked by Confederate guerillas near Lafayette killing and wounding several soldiers with the 178th New York Infantry.

HISTORICAL THEMES

Controlling Resources, Guerilla Warfare, Transformation in Warfare

EXPLANATION OF ATTACHMENTS/VIDEO:

Map showing approximate location of engagement; reports from the Official Records

LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

N/A

COUNTY:

Shelby

DATE:

6/23/1864

GEO COORDINATES:

35.048044° N,
89.572233° W

PRESERVATION

OPPORTUNITY INDEX:

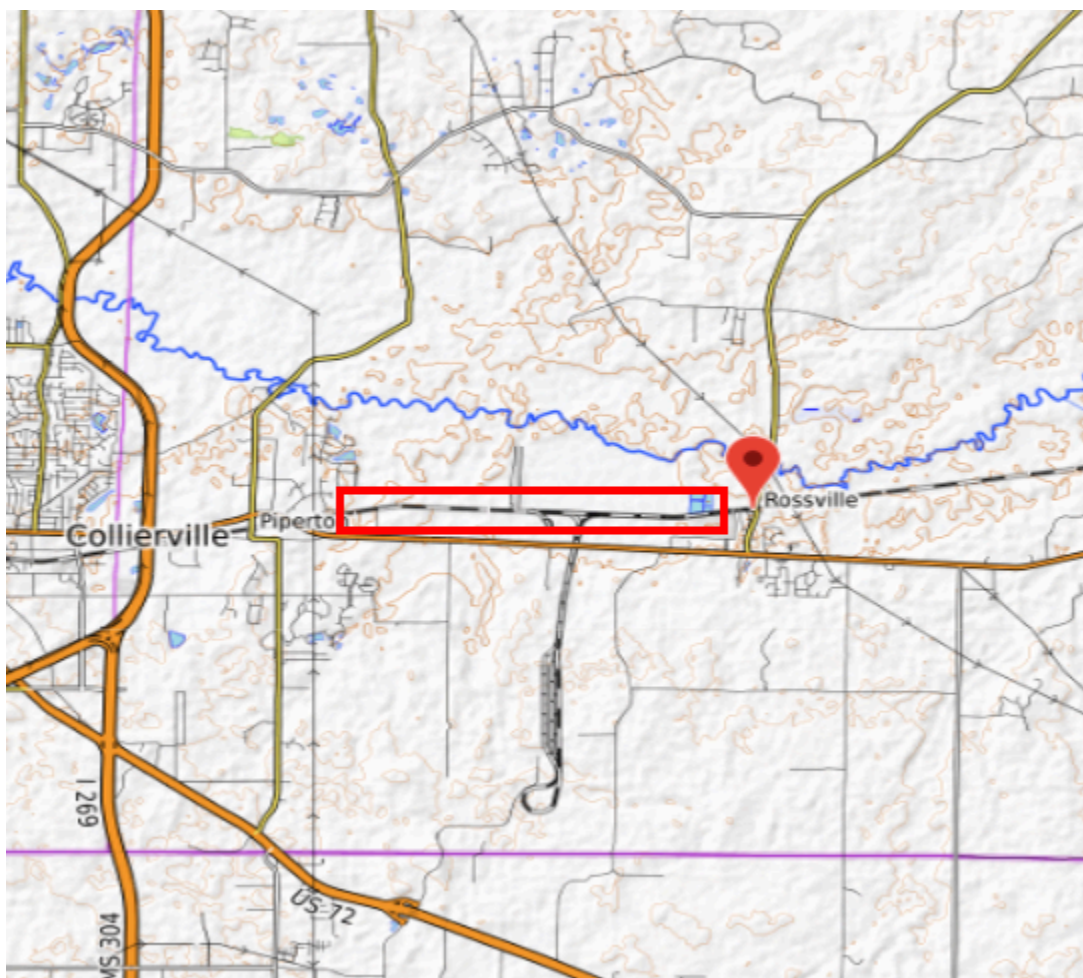
MEDIUM

CONFEDERATE UNITS:

N/A

UNION UNITS:

178th New York
Infantry
2nd Iowa Cavalry



Approximate location based upon report of Lieut. James B. Comstock (see below)

June 17, 1864 - June 20, 1864 - Scouts on the Memphis & Charleston Railroad between Collierville and Lafayette

HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, Memphis, Tenn., June 16, 1864. Col. GEORGE E. WARING, Jr., Cmdg. First Brigade, White's Station: By direction of Gen. Washburn you will send 500 cavalry to the terminus of the railroad between Collierville and La Fayette. They will carry three days' rations. Two days' [forage] for 4,000 animals has been ordered sent to the terminus of the road.

By order of Brig.-Gen. Grierson: HDQRS. CAVALRY DIVISION, SIXTEENTH ARMY CORPS, Memphis, Tenn., June 16, 1864. Col. T. P. HERRICK, Cmdg. Seventh Kansas Cavalry: COL.: You will proceed at daylight to-morrow morning with the effective

mounted force of your command, with three days' rations and 100 rounds of ammunition, to the terminus of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, between Collierville and La Fayette. You will send patrols upon the different roads from that point and telegraph any information to these headquarters. Forage will be furnished you at that point, where you will remain until further orders. By order of Brig. Gen. B. H. Grierson: OR, Ser. I, Vol. 39, pt. I, p. 126

LIEUTENANT In compliance with orders from headquarters Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, July 28, 1864, I have the honor to submit the following report of the part taken by my command during the late expedition to Tupelo, Miss.:

In obedience to Special Orders, No. 63, paragraph VI, headquarters Right Wing, Sixteenth Army Corps, Memphis, Tenn., June 23, 1864, my command, after having been paid off, proceeded by train to Moscow, on the 23d. When near La Fayette a party of guerrillas fired into the train, killing and wounding several. Some of the men who jumped or fell off the cars were captured and afterward murdered. Their bodies were recovered by a party of the Second Iowa Cavalry and recognized by Lieutenant McDonald, One hundred and seventy-eighth New York Volunteers. The casualties on Memphis and Charleston Railroad on June 23, 1864, when the train was fired into near La Fayette, Tenn., are as follows: Killed, 5; wounded, 2.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. H. WOLFE,

Colonel, Commanding Third Brigade.

Lieut. JAMES B. COMSTOCK,

Actg. Asst. Adjt. Gen., Third Division, 16th Army Corps.

OR Series I, Vol 39, Part 1, pp. 295-296

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