

Collierville

**tennessee
civil war
preservation
association**

NARRATIVE

On November 3, 1863 while conducting cavalry raids to break up the Memphis & Charleston Railroad behind Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman's XV Army Corps, Confederate Brig. Gen. James R. Chalmers, leading a cavalry division from Mississippi, learned that only two Union regiments defended Collierville. However, Union Col. Edward Hatch possessed more men than Chalmers supposed, stationed at Collierville and at Germantown. Scouts warned Hatch of Chalmers's approach, so he ordered Collierville's defenders to be prepared and rode from Germantown with cavalry reinforcements. Chalmers, as he had done only three weeks earlier, attacked from the south. Surprised by the unexpected appearance of Hatch on his flanks, Chalmers concluded that he was outnumbered, called off the battle, withdrew back to Mississippi. The Memphis & Charleston Railroad subsequently remained open to Tusculum, Alabama, for Union troop movements.

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: Shelby

DATE:
11/3/1863

GEO COORDINATES:
35.0420° N,
89.6645° 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?

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