

Thompson's Station

**tennessee
civil war
preservation
association**

NARRATIVE

On March 5, 1863 Colonel John Coburn marched from Franklin with an infantry brigade and detachment of cavalry to rendezvous with Brig. Gen. Philip Sheridan at Spring Hill. Four miles from Spring Hill, Coburn attacked two Confederate regiments. The attack was repelled, and Confederate Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn seized the initiative with the cavalry divisions of Brig. Gen. William Hicks Jackson, who dismounted and engaged frontally, while Brig. Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest's cavalry division swept around the left flank into the Union rear. After three attempts, Jackson carried the Union hilltop position while Forrest captured the enemy supply trains and blocked the enemy's escape route to Nashville. The Union cavalry under Colonel Thomas Jefferson Jordan and an infantry regiment guarding the forage train escaped the trap, but the rest of Coburn's brigade and a battery of artillery surrendered after they ran out of ammunition. Van Dorn turned east to attack Sheridan's column approaching from Murfreesboro but the Union troops had turned back at the sound of the guns. Union losses included 100 killed, 300 wounded, and 1,306 missing of which 1,221 were prisoners.

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:

COUNTY:

Williamson

DATE:

3/5/1863

GEO COORDINATES:

35.7971° N
86.9055° W

PRESERVATION

OPPORTUNITY INDEX:

CONFEDERATE UNITS:

Forrest's Cavalry Division
(Brigadier-General Nathan Bedford Forrest)
Jackson's Cavalry Brigade (Brig. Gen. William Jackson)

UNION UNITS:

33rd and 85th Indiana Infantry
4th Kentucky Cavalry

LINKS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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

2nd Michigan Cavalry
19th Michigan
Infantry
18th Ohio Artillery
124th Ohio0 Infantry
9th Pennsylvania
Cavalry
22nd Wisconsin
Infantry

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 on the left side of a dark blue banner that features a background image of a Civil War-era cannon. The banner also contains contact information on the right side.

tcwpa

Have Information on a Civil
War Battlesite?

Contact our team at info@tcwpa.org