

Franklin Battlefield

Preservation Plan

September, 2004

Heritage Foundation
of
Franklin & Williamson County

A c k n o w l e d g e m e n t s

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Source: The Confederacy's Last Hurrah - Wiley Sword



Old Dog Harvey - Bulldog mascot of Company F, 104th Ohio Infantry, who served bravely at Franklin. His collar's brass plaque was inscribed: "I am Company F's, 104 O.V.I. dog. Who's dog are you?"

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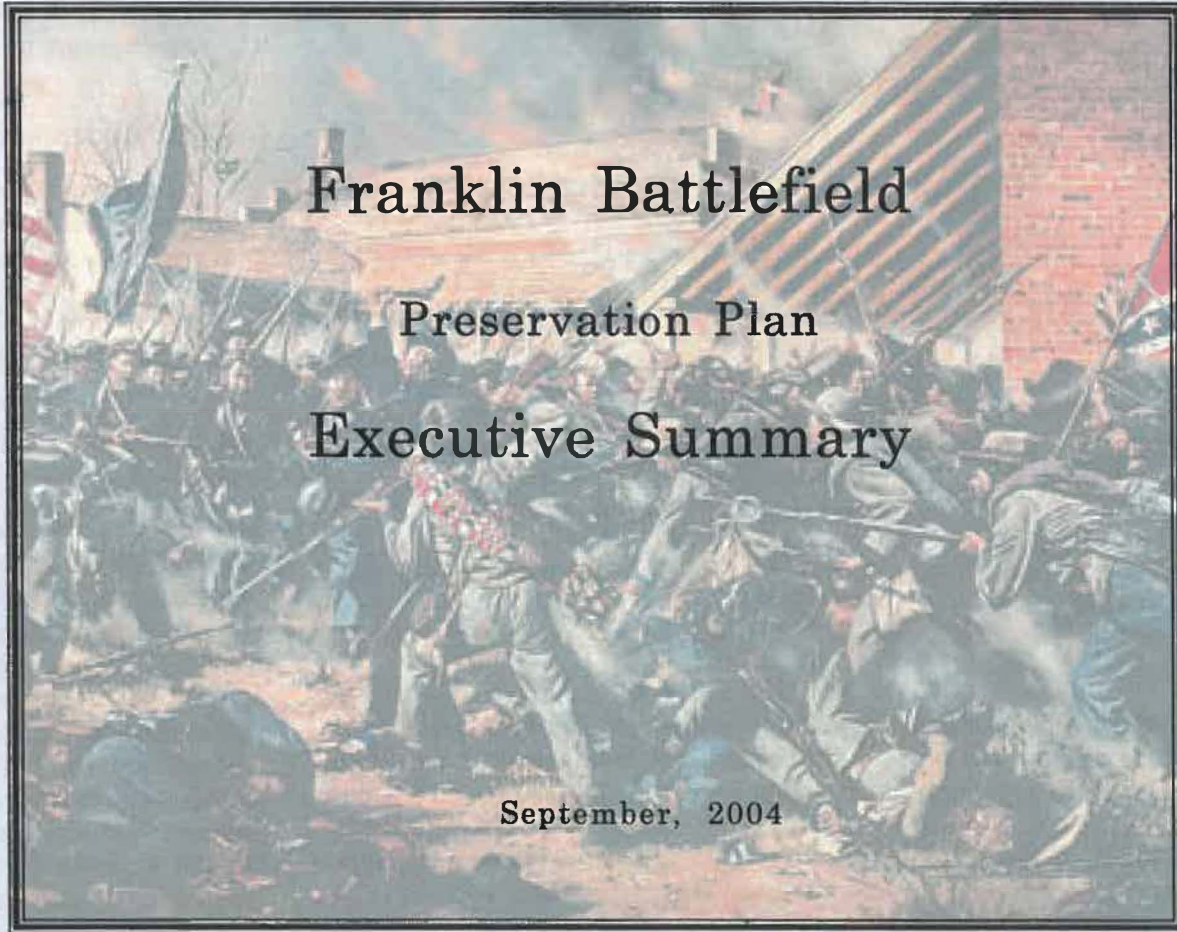
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"Wounded boys creeping to the rear, their screams, their curses all around me. Some crying for water, some praying their last prayers; some trying to whisper to a friend or to me their last message..... Franklin, Tennessee..... A name that will haunt me for the rest of my days and nights."

- Adam J. Weaver, Co. I, 104th Ohio Infantry

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Franklin Battlefield

Preservation Plan

Executive Summary

September, 2004

Heritage Foundation
of
Franklin & Williamson County

BACKGROUND

PLAN PURPOSE & GOALS

The Battle of Franklin occurred on November 30, 1864. It marked the beginning of the end for the Western Theater of the Civil War, as General John Bell Hood's Army of Tennessee was crippled to an extent that it would never recover to perform as an effective fighting force. Despite the importance of this sacred land, it has been carved away by development over the past century, and now only random remnants survive. It is the purpose of this plan to summarize the historic significance and key themes of the battle, delineate the battlefield area, and lay out a strategy to preserve and enhance those portions of the battlefield that can still be salvaged or reclaimed. The following goals were followed in this plan's preparation:

- To prepare a plan based upon accurate historical research.
- To prepare a plan that reflects public input and a community consensus.
- To prepare a plan that identifies and prioritizes the most significant resources and lands associated with the battle.
- To prepare a plan that is economically and politically realistic.
- To prepare a plan that furthers both preservation and heritage tourism objectives.

The Franklin Battlefield was listed among the country's Top Ten Most Endangered Civil War Battlefields in 2004 by the Civil War Preservation Trust.

Defining the battlefield
For the purposes of this plan, the battlefield has been delineated into two different areas: the "battlefield area" and the "core combat area." It is noteworthy that, because it is impossible to pinpoint the exact location of where the battlefield and core combat areas begin and end, the map has intentionally obscured those boundaries.

Battlefields are typically defined as the area in which opposing armies became aware of each others' presence and began strategic maneuvering in order to gain a competitive

advantage for the ensuing combat.

In addition to the area under artillery fire, the core combat area is considered the area of musket fire between the opposing lines. A rifled musket could typically shoot with some level of accuracy a distance of 300 yards. The battlefield area includes troop staging areas, battery positions, rear field hospitals, and the combat areas. The battlefield area is often thought of as the "chess board" over which the opposing generals moved their respective armies in the game of warfare.



TOP PRIORITIES

The 25 key recommendations on the following page are explained on the *pages* cited to the immediate right of each. The recommended *responsible party* is the organization that would seem to be most appropriate based upon the nature of the recommendation and the mission and activities of the organization. Cited organizations would be appropriate to take the lead, but may require support from other groups. The three *priority* levels are based upon each recommendation's relative level of importance in preserving and interpreting the Franklin Battlefield. The *cost* and *time-frame* categories are defined below (time-frames are based upon completion dates):

Cost

Low: Below \$25,000

Moderate: \$25,000 - \$100,000

High: Above \$100,000

Time-Frame

Short-Term: Year One (1)

Mid-Term: Years Two (2) through Three (3)

Long-Term: Years Four (4) through Five (5)

Applying these considerations and definitions to the 25 key recommendations of the plan results in a total of fifteen recommendations considered to be "high priority," four considered to be "moderate priority," and six considered to be "low priority." Prioritizing the plan's many recommendations can be a somewhat subjective process, and the priorities must ultimately be established - and periodically revised - by the community. Therefore, the number sequencing of each recommendation is not in any particular order of priority.

However, because of the need for the plan to provide a few large targets on which to aim, a "top three" list has been developed and ranked in order of importance, as follows:

Priority #1:

Creation of a Battlefield Park

This once-in-a-life opportunity can fill the one glaring void in Franklin's existing heritage tourism package: a single site promoted as a Civil War battlefield. It entails the transformation of the existing Franklin Country Club back to its original appearance as a historic landscape. See pages 41-42 for details.



Aerial photographs from prior to the golf course's development can help in its proposed transformation.

Priority #2:

Carnton Plantation Enhancements and Battlefield Interpretation

Because the realization of Priority #1 may be several years away, this recommendation can provide an opportunity to more effectively interpret the battle, especially the eastern flank of the battle. It can also help to attract more heritage tourists. See page 40 for details.



Carnton Plantation's future enhancements can greatly complement the future Battlefield Park.

Priority #3:

Carter House Integration of the Old High School Gym Site

As a critical location for the Battle of Franklin, as well as the best existing interpretive center for the battle, the Carter House property is an extremely valuable resource that needs further expansion and enhancement. Although the acquisition of the adjacent former high school property is now a mere technicality that will happen in the near future, the successful integration of the property should be the third highest priority for this plan. See pages 37-39 for details.



The addition of the neighboring high school gym property will greatly enhance the Carter House site.

Summary of Key Recommendations

No.	Recommendation	Page #	Responsible Party	Cost	Time-Frame	Priority
A. High Priority						
A-1	Battlefield Park - Land Acquisition & Improvements	Page 41 - 42	City & Other Parties	High	Short-Term	High
A-2	Camton Plantation - Enhancements & Battle Interpretation	Page 40	Camton Plantation	Low/Mod.	Short-Term	High
A-3	Carter House - Integration of the Old High School Gym Site	Page 38	Carter House	Moderate	Mid-Term	High
A-4	Carter House - Linkages with the Lotz House	Page 39	Carter House & Lotz House	Low	Mid-Term	High
A-5	Carter House - Reclamation of the Colton Gin Site	Page 39	Heritage.Fnd. & Carter House	High	Long-Term	High
A-6	Carter House - Addition of Properties to the South	Page 38	Carter House	High	Long-Term	High
A-7	Downtown Area - Hospital Flags	Page 55	Save The Franklin Battlefield	Low	Short-Term	High
A-8	Winstead Hill Area - Conservation Easements	Page 44 - 45	Property Owners	High	Mid-Term	High
A-9	Franklin Visitors Center	Page 35	Williamson County CVB	High	Mid-Term	High
A-10	Harrison House - Long-Term Protective Measures	Page 48	Property Owners	Low	Short-Term	High
A-11	Fort Granger - Access, Views & Promotion Improvements	Page 47 - 48	City	Low/Mod.	Short-Term	High
A-12	Battlefield Interpretive Center	Page 36	City & Other Parties	High	Long-Term	High
A-13	Linking the Sites - Improving Corridors: Design Guidelines	Page 58	City	Low	Short-Term	High
A-14	Linking the Sites - Driving Tour Brochure	Page 58	Williamson County CVB	Low	Short-Term	High
A-15	Downtown Area - Walking Tour Brochure	Page 54	Williamson County CVB	Low	Short-Term	High
B. Moderate Priority						
B-1	Linking the Sites - Greenways Enhancements	Page 57	City	Moderate	Short-Term	Moderate
B-2	Winstead Hill Area - Observation Point & Wayside	Page 45	City & Other Parties	Low	Short-Term	Moderate
B-3	Downtown Area - Silhouette Waysides	Page 54	Williamson County CVB	Moderate	Mid-Term	Moderate
B-4	Linking the Sites - Greenways Expansions	Page 57	City	High	Mid-Term	Moderate
C. Low Priority						
C-1	Collins Farm - Enhancement & Interpretation	Page 43	Save The Franklin Battlefield	Moderate	Mid-Term	Low
C-2	Roper's Knob & Cedar Hill - Access, Interp. & Enhancement	Page 49 - 50	City	Low/Mod.	Long-Term	Low
C-3	Downtown Area - Court House Exhibit	Page 54	Williamson County CVB	Low	Long-Term	Low
C-4	Downtown Area - Bridge Interpretation	Page 54	Williamson County CVB	Low	Long-Term	Low
C-5	Linking the Sites - Improving Corridors: Streetscapes	Page 58	City	High	Long-Term	Low
C-6	Freight Depot - Interpretation	Page 51	Williamson County CVB	Low/High	Mid-Term	Low

Plan Purpose & Goals

PLAN PURPOSE

The Battle of Franklin occurred on November 30, 1864, and it was significant in two key regards. First, the level of carnage was considerable based upon the numerous fruitless charges made by the Confederate Army of Tennessee, the effectiveness of the Union forces, and the resulting casualties. Secondly, the battle marked the beginning of the end for the Western Theater of the Civil War, as Hood's Army of Tennessee was crippled to an extent that it would never recover to perform as an effective fighting force.

Despite the importance of this sacred land, it has been carved away by development over the past century, and now only random remnants survive. It is the purpose of this plan to summarize the historic significance and key themes of the battle, delineate the battlefield area, and lay out a strategy to preserve and enhance those portions of the battlefield that can still be salvaged or reclaimed.



Columbia Pike's appearance could benefit from design guidelines and streetscape improvements.

PLAN GOALS

The following general goals will be followed by this plan:

- To prepare a plan based upon accurate historical research.
- To prepare a plan that reflects public input and a community consensus.
- To prepare a plan that identifies and prioritizes the most significant properties and resources associated with the battle.
- To prepare a plan that is economically and politically realistic.
- To prepare a plan that furthers both preservation and heritage tourism objectives.



New commercial development continues to steadily march forward on Franklin's most hallowed ground.

The Franklin Battlefield was listed among the country's Top Ten Most Endangered Civil War Battlefields in 2004 by the Civil War Preservation Trust.

"We won't be able to save all of these battlefields. We won't be able to save many of the most important battlefields... But just as those armies of dedicated men went from a terrible defeat forward with a hope of victory, a success, because they believed themselves to be in the right, that's what we have to do - march ahead, fight in the next battle, hopefully to win. So we'll win, and we'll lose, but we'll always keep fighting."

- Brian Pohanka, Civil War Historian



This marker, identifying the Union entrenchments at Columbia Avenue, has completely lost the integrity of its context.

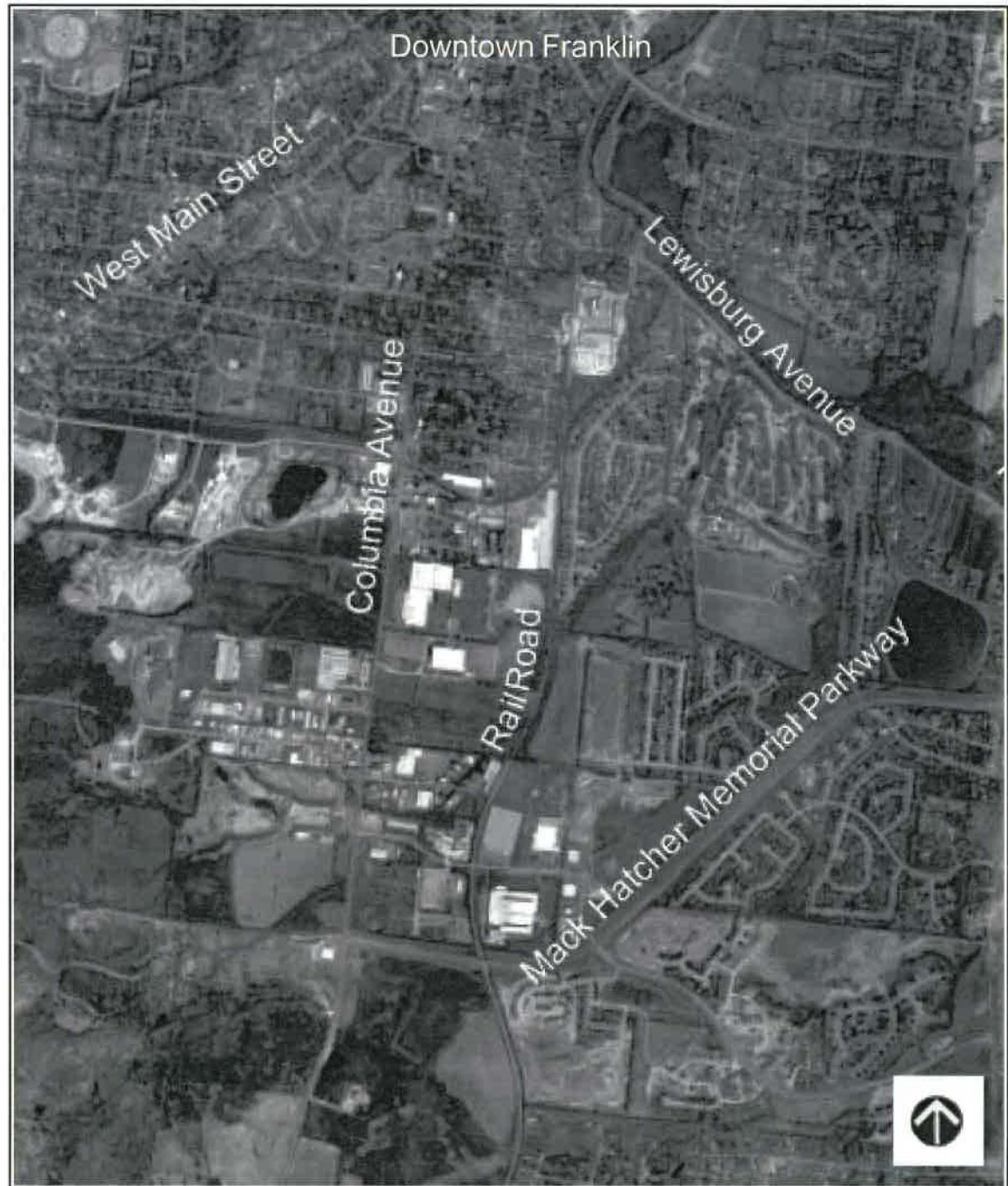


Study Area Overview

The study area for this plan includes all portions of Franklin that played a role in the November 30, 1864, Battle of Franklin. While the plan focuses on the actual battlefield area as delineated on page 30 based upon historic records, it also addresses various scattered sites, such as Ropers Knob and the many historic buildings that served as officers' headquarters and post-battle hospitals.

The battlefield is located on the south side of Franklin approximately one half mile south of Columbia Avenue's intersection with the "Five Points" area of downtown. Starting at the north near the Carter and Lotz Houses, the battlefield extends south to Winstead and Breezy Hills, west to Carters Creek Pike and east to Lewisburg Pike and the Harpeth River. Bisected along a north-south axis by Columbia Avenue, the area is, topographically, relatively flat with some gently rolling terrain.

The battlefield area also represents a wide range of existing land uses and development densities. The northerly portion of the battlefield includes relatively high-density commercial and residential development, while the southerly portions are less dense and include industrial uses and some undeveloped open spaces. Mack Hatcher Parkway, a high-capacity highway, traverses the southerly portion of the battlefield. It currently accesses only the eastern half of the battlefield, but it will soon be extended to the west. A railroad line, which has existed since before the battle, extends along a meandering north-south axis to the east of Columbia Pike.



Plan Methodology

The following four-step process was used to create this plan:

- Task 1.0 Background Research
- Task 1.1 Project “Kick-Off” Meeting
- Task 1.2 History & Historic Resources Review
- Task 1.3 Development Context Review
- Task 1.4 Field Survey

- Task 2.0 Stakeholder Meetings
- Task 2.1 Heritage Foundation Representatives
- Task 2.2 City & County Officials
- Task 2.3 Property Owners
- Task 2.4 Battlefield Preservationists

- Task 3.0 Preparation of Draft Plan
- I. Overview
- II. Historic Significance of the Battle of Franklin
- III. Analysis of Existing Conditions
- IV. Battlefield Preservation & Enhancement Strategy
- V. Plan Implementation

- Task 4.0 Plan Review & Revisions
- Task 4.1 Draft Plan Submission
- Task 4.2 Draft Plan Presentation
- Task 4.3 Plan Revisions

Stakeholder Participation

The following groups have participated in the creation of this plan through either attendance at meetings or discussions with the plan’s authors:

- Franklin Mayor and Aldermen
- Williamson County Mayor and Commissioners
- Franklin Planning Commission and staff
- Williamson County Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Williamson County Chamber of Commerce
- Williamson County Historian
- The Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County
- Tennessee Historical Commission / Tennessee Wars Commission
- Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association
- Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area / MTSU Center for Historic Preservation
- Central Franklin Area Plan Battlefield Committee
- Save the Franklin Battlefield, Inc.
- The Carter House Museum
- Camton Plantation
- The Lotz House
- Local Real Estate Representatives
- Property Owners



Project team member meeting with the Carter House’s staff to review maps.

“A crucial aspect of Civil War battlefield preservation is the fact that we have so little time to accomplish what needs to be done. We really have just a very few years before the urban growth that is taking place on so many key places overwhelms some of the best sites that remain.”

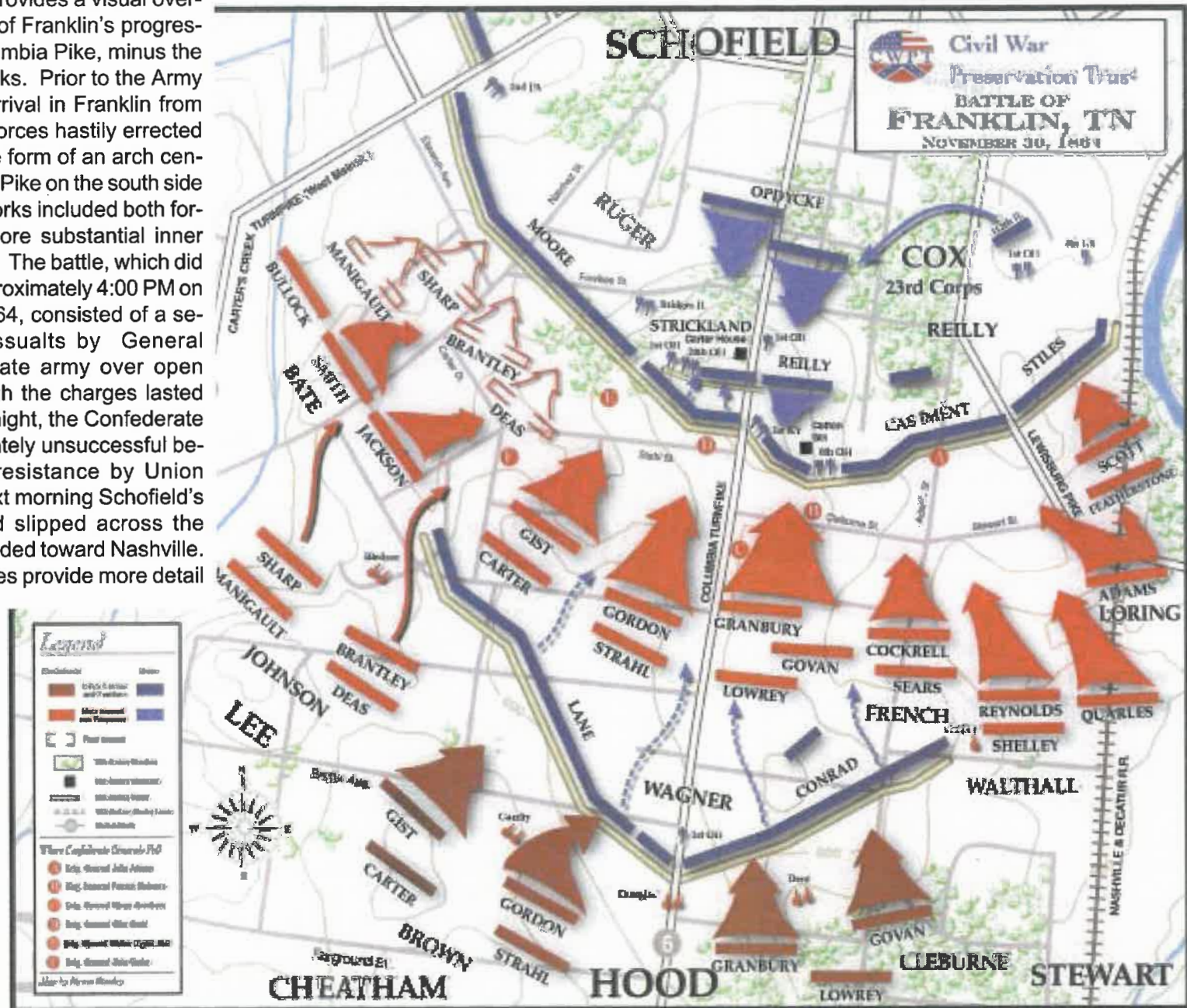
- Gary W. Gallagher, Penn State University

“We used to have a brown cultural sign on I-65 advertising the ‘Franklin Battlefield,’ but we got so many complaints from tourists who were disappointed to find no battlefield that we had to change it to ‘Battle of Franklin.’”

- Herbert Harper, Executive Director
Tennessee Historical Commission

Battle Summary

The map at right provides a visual overview of the Battle of Franklin's progression near the Columbia Pike, minus the east and west flanks. Prior to the Army of Tennessee's arrival in Franklin from the south, Union forces hastily erected breastworks in the form of an arch centered on Columbia Pike on the south side of town. Those works included both forward lines and more substantial inner works to the north. The battle, which did not begin until approximately 4:00 PM on November 30, 1864, consisted of a series of frontal assaults by General Hood's Confederate army over open grounds. Although the charges lasted until well into the night, the Confederate forces were ultimately unsuccessful because of fierce resistance by Union forces. By the next morning Schofield's Union forces had slipped across the Harpeth River headed toward Nashville. The following pages provide more detail on the battle.



This map is provided courtesy of the Civil War Preservation Trust

Battle Overview

THE ROAD TO FRANKLIN

Following the fall of Atlanta, Georgia, in September 1864, Confederate fortunes in the West were at a lower point than at any other time in the war. In a desperate attempt to reverse the advantages gained by the successful Federal summer campaign, Confederate General John Bell Hood, Commander of the Army of Tennessee, began a series of maneuvers in late September against the Union line of supply and communications running from Atlanta through northwest Georgia, north Alabama, middle Tennessee, and into Nashville.

John Bell Hood had risen from the rank of Lieutenant in the Confederate Army to that of Lieutenant General by 1864. Hood had gained prominence through a record of determined assaults and hard fighting, and his reputation as an aggressive, determined warrior was rightfully deserved. Hood had performed superbly as a division commander in the Army of Northern Virginia. However, his relatively low academic standing at West Point suggested that he was not blessed with an imposing intellect. Additionally, he had sustained two grave wounds during the course of the war, a crippled left arm at Gettysburg, and the loss of his right leg at Chickamauga. His performance as a corps commander with the Army of Tennessee under General Joseph Johnston had been less than stellar.

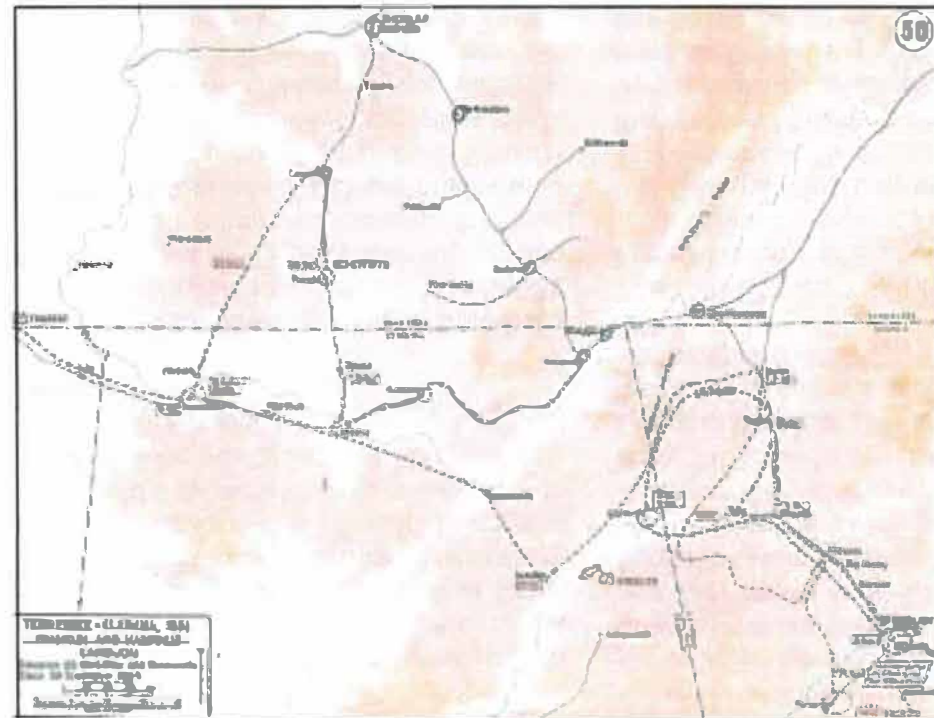
Nevertheless, because of his reputation as a fighter, President Jefferson Davis hand-picked Hood as the successor to Joseph Johnston in July of 1864. Promoted to the temporary rank of full General, Hood had dutifully assumed the offensive in a flurry of hard

casualties upon his own army. Hood was easily outmaneuvered in late August by Federal commander William T. Sherman, and Atlanta was evacuated on September 1st.

Hard marches and occasional hard fighting in late-September and throughout October had failed to draw Sherman out of Atlanta or achieve any gains of substance. October 31st found Hood's Army at the Tennessee River crossing at Tuscumbia, Alabama. Here, heavy rains and a dismal supply situation had further delayed him for three long weeks. Thus, the objectives of Hood's subsequent operations were born in his frustration to save Atlanta through a summer of fighting, or regain it through a fall of maneuver. From Tuscumbia, Hood determined to continue his campaign into Middle Tennessee.



*General John Bell Hood
Army of Tennessee - CSA*



This map is provided courtesy of the U.S. Military Institute

Battle Overview

Hood intended to interpose his 32,000 man army between the 30,000 men of Major General John M. Schofield's Union Fourth and Twenty-Third Army Corps located in the vicinity of Pulaski, Tennessee, and the roughly 30,000 man garrison of Nashville under Schofield's immediate superior, Major General George H. Thomas. Hood was confident that he could defeat the two Federal forces in detail, resulting in the capture of the massive Northern supply depot at Nashville. With dual victories to bolster his reputation, and with his army re-armed and equipped at Union expense, Hood could then continue the offensive into Kentucky and Ohio. Hood surmised that such an incursion into Federal territory would result in a Confederate resurgence and a Northern panic, diverting resources from the siege of Petersburg in Virginia, and prompting a recall of Sherman's forces from Georgia.

PRELUDE: SPRING HILL

Hood's initial series of flanking maneuvers forced Schofield to precipitately retreat from Pulaski to the Duck River crossings at Columbia, Tennessee. Encouraged by this first step of the campaign, Hood marched his army around Schofield's left (eastern) flank and seize the turnpike in Schofield's rear at Spring Hill. Forrest's cavalry had the first role in this maneuver and crossed the Duck River ten miles upstream at Huey's Mill on November 28th. In a series of feints and fights, Forrest drove the Union cavalry towards Nashville and away from Schofield, effectively removing the Yankee horsemen from the scene. Having accomplished this, Forrest turned for Spring Hill.

Leaving Stephen D. Lee's Corps and the bulk of the artillery on the south bank of the Duck River to hold Schofield's attention at Columbia, Hood's remaining two corps marched east to cross the Duck at Davis Ford, approximately three miles east of town. Hood had succeeded in slipping around Schofield's flank, and began the race to Spring Hill on the Davis Ford Road, a badly rutted country road abandoned even by local farmers.

Although Hood had a lead in the "Spring Hill Races," Schofield had not been completely deceived. Receiving early morning reports that Hood's infantry was crossing the river, Schofield telegraphed Thomas at Nashville and received orders to withdraw to Franklin to protect the Harpeth River crossings there. Schofield accordingly started his withdrawal by sending his 800 wagons and most of his artillery up the Columbia-Nashville Turnpike with a guard of Brigadier General George Wagner's division, the whole under the command of Major General David S. Stanley.

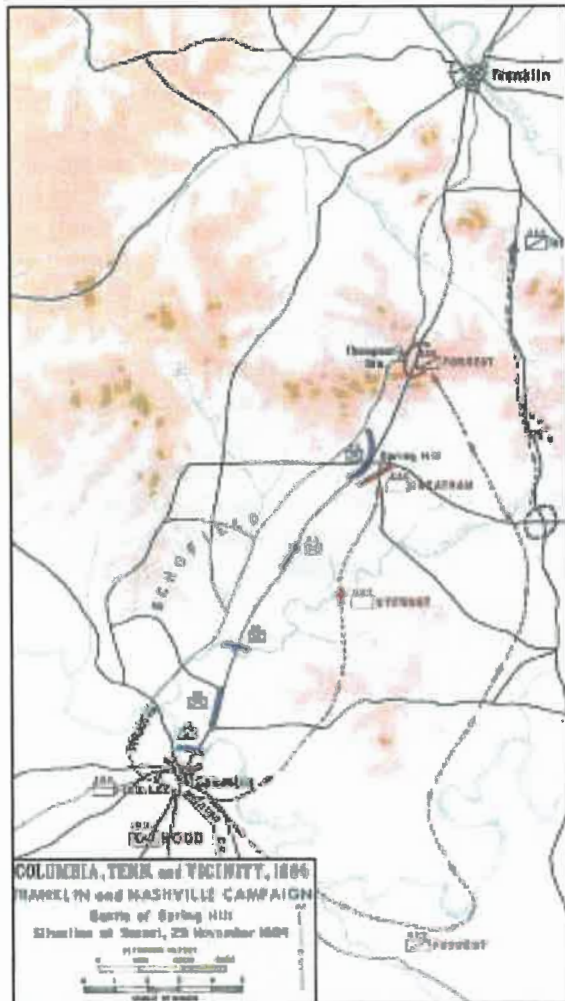
Early in the afternoon, about 12:30 p.m., the lead elements of Wagner's division began entering Spring Hill from the south. Colonel Emerson Opdycke's veteran brigade moved through the town, and occupied a ridge just north of Spring Hill. Colonel John Q. Lane's brigade came next, and continued Opdycke's line east of town. Brigadier General Luther P. Bradley's brigade assumed the critical defensive position on a knoll south of town. The 103rd Ohio Infantry and a section of Battery A, 1st Ohio Light Artillery were placed across the Columbia and Franklin Pike. Eighteen artillery pieces were emplaced on a prominent ridge on the

southern outskirts of the town. With Major General Patrick Cleburne's division of Major General Benjamin Franklin Cheatham's corps in the advance, Hood gave Cleburne and Cheatham orders to cooperate with Forrest's cavalry, and "take possession of and hold that pike at or near Spring Hill." Cleburne's division moved west, from the Rally Hill Pike, at approximately 4:00 p.m. Cresting the large hill just west of the pike, they crossed a light strip of woods and moved into an open field.

The Confederate line of march took them across the front of Bradley's Union brigade, which raked the exposed right flank of Brigadier General Mark Lowrey's brigade with "a very destructive fire and somewhat staggered them in front." Lowrey's brigade was stunned by the violence of Bradley's initial fire, but many of Bradley's men were inexperienced and poorly drilled recruits in their first fight, and they were opposed by hardened veterans who were among the toughest fighters in the Army of Tennessee. As Govan and Granbury wheeled their Confederate brigades and came on line with Lowrey, Cleburne's entire division moved forward en masse, and the result was inevitable.

Cleburne's advance rolled north in pursuit of Bradley's retreating brigade, which fled north of McCutcheon Creek to establish new lines at the southern edge of town. Cleburne's pursuit was brought to a sudden halt by massive volleys from the artillery and the 103rd Ohio Infantry positioned across the Columbia-Franklin Pike. Cleburne's veterans pulled up short and sought cover under an intense and deadly accurate barrage from the well positioned Union artillery. It was now

Battle Overview



Map provided courtesy of the U.S. Military Institute

nearly 5:00 p.m., sunlight had faded into sunset (sunset was 4:49 p.m.), and Cleburne had run into unexpectedly heavy opposition. He called for support and instructions. Hood established his headquarters at the Absalom Thompson House near the Rally Hill Pike. In the post-twilight darkness, the Confederate

plans began to quickly fall apart. Hood appeared to be confident that Forrest held the pike north of Spring Hill, and thus was not unduly concerned with cutting the pike south of town. To add to the confusion, division commanders also began to receive conflicting orders from Hood and Cheatham. While Cheatham's orders were aimed at an assault on Spring Hill to the north, Hood continued to issue orders directly to Cheatham's divisions orienting their actions west toward the pike. After a number of confused attempts at continuing their advance, the entire Confederate army sat down for the night, cooked supper, and went to sleep. Hood's soldiers were understandably exhausted, having marched more than fifteen miles on unbelievably bad roads. A feeble attempt would be made by Forrest late that night to cut the turnpike north of Spring Hill at Thompson's Station, but the appearance of Federal infantry at the vanguard of Schofield's column rapidly cleared the road. Confederate activities halted for the night as an inexplicable lethargy settled over their commanders.

While the Confederates rested on their laurels, real or imagined, the Federal army performed a well-planned and well-executed, albeit late, retreat. Schofield and his subordinates made their headquarters in the saddle, and issued clear, certain instructions. All that evening and past midnight the Federal wagons, artillery, and long columns of infantry marched north toward Franklin on the dark road. By dawn the last blue clad soldiers had marched north from Spring Hill. Opdycke's Brigade of Wagner's Division covered the withdrawal. The Union army may have lost the race to Spring Hill, but they had escaped

the trap unscathed.

The morning of November 30, 1864 found Schofield's army at Franklin, digging in to cover the Harpeth River crossings. John Bell Hood awoke to discover that the Union army had slipped through the trap, and he was infuriated. A Confederate staff officer wrote that "He is as wrathful as a rattlesnake this morning, striking at everything." In a morning breakfast at the Nathaniel Cheatham Home, Hood lashed out angrily at his commanders, heaping abuse upon them and condemning their failures.



Major General John M. Schofield
XXIII Army Corps - USA

Battle Overview

THE BATTLE OF FRANKLIN

On the morning of November 30th Hood's army continued its march north. Climbing Winstead and Breezy Hills astride the Columbia-Nashville Pike just south of Franklin, Hood was surprised to discover that Schofield remained in Franklin. The reason was the 800 wagons of the two Army Corps. There were three crossings of the Harpeth River at Franklin, a ford, a railroad bridge, and the remnants of a wagon bridge. The railroad bridge could not be crossed by horses and wagons until it was planked, the sides of the ford were steep and would have to be improved, and the wagon bridge would have to be reconstructed. Accordingly, Schofield had no choice but to defend Franklin until the wagon train could cross the Harpeth River. Schofield's 30,000 men occupied entrenchments previously constructed on high ground south of Franklin, with both flanks anchored on the Harpeth River. They rapidly improved their works, adding headlogs and a formidable abatis.

Hood's combat experienced officers carefully viewed the Federal position and were impressed with its strength, so they were amazed when Hood issued orders for a general assault. As an alternative, Forrest proposed a flanking movement, but Hood was concerned that this would be his last chance to defeat Schofield in detail, before he could join with Thomas behind the fortifications of Nashville. Additionally, Hood was in no mood for flanking movements, as he believed in frontal assaults when facing such circumstances.

At approximately 4:00 p.m. the Confederate advance began. Two brigades of Wagner's division were lightly entrenched forward of the main Federal line and were both outnumbered and outflanked by the rebel main line. These brigades were badly broken, and were driven back in confusion to the Federal main line near the house of Fountain Carter. The Union soldiers occupying the main line were understandably loath to fire on their own men, and the result was that their lines were broken at the Carter House. For a brief, critical



Source: Don Troiani

The brief Confederate breakthrough at the Carter House was driven back by Opdycke's troops.

moment it appeared as if Hood's assault would succeed, but a veteran brigade commanded by Ohio's Colonel Emerson Opdycke smashed into the attackers around the Carter House, and drove them back in turn.

Nowhere else did the Confederate soldiers achieve a breakthrough. The Federal fire was deadly accurate, heavy cannon emplaced in Fort Granger on a hill north of the Harpeth River swept the open fields, and the abatis



Source: Don Troiani

Confederate General Patrick Cleburne was killed just south of the Carter's cotton gin while leading his division.

was impenetrable. The attacks were bravely continued until long after dark, but the only accomplishment was the largest casualty rate of the war. Of Hood's 20,000 infantrymen engaged, it has been estimated that nearly 7,000 were casualties. Schofield's casualties were barely a third of Hood's, being 2,326. By the end of November 30th, the Confederate Army of the Tennessee was no longer a cohesive, viable fighting force.

"Gen. Hood stopped close to where I was standing and took a long... view of the arena of the awful contest... His sturdy visage assumed a melancholy appearance, and for a considerable time he sat on his horse and wept like a child."

- Bowers, Ferguson's Battery

"The large female institute and female college, courthouse, every church, and a large percentage of the private buildings were filled with the wounded."

- Hardin Figuers, 15 year old Franklin resident

The Battle's Aftermath

THE BATTLE OF NASHVILLE

As the fighting died down along the Union defense line at Franklin, Schofield's wagon trains crossed the Harpeth River, followed by his infantry and artillery. By 2:00 a.m. the withdrawal was complete, and Schofield's army continued moving north to Nashville. The devastated Army of Tennessee followed slowly in his wake, arriving on the hills south of Nashville on December 2nd. For the next two weeks, Hood's battered and decimated army would "lay siege" to Nashville. Hood's army numbered only 21,000 men. They were far too few to actually surround and invest the town. They lacked the artillery, tools, and manpower to properly besiege the town. They could not prevent additional supplies and reinforcements from reaching Thomas, and two divisions of hardened western veterans detached from the Army of the Tennessee under the command of Major General Andrew Jackson Smith arrived in the city. Hood further blundered when he detached Nathan Bedford Forrest with most of his cavalry and a brigade of infantry to besiege a Federal garrison fortified in the town of Murfreesboro.

The Union commander, Major General George H. Thomas, was forced to delay his attack on Hood for two weeks. He had to re-organize and re-equip his cavalry which had either been dismounted, or had been roughly handled by Forrest north of the Duck River. Furthermore, many of Thomas' soldiers had been on garrison duty in middle Tennessee and northern Alabama, and they were not organized into brigades or divisions. Thomas had barely made his preparations for an attack

on Hood when the weather turned terrible. On December 9th a severe ice storm struck the area, coating streets and bridges with a thick layer of ice. The ice was accompanied by frigid temperatures and cutting winds. Hood's soldiers, not properly equipped for even a summer campaign, suffered terribly.

When the ice melted, Thomas began his attack. Hood occupied a range of hills south of Nashville, extending from the Hillsboro Pike on his left (west) to the Nolensville Pike on his right (east). His troops were but lightly entrenched, and were badly over-extended. The first shot was fired from Fort Negley to announce the advance, and the bulk of Thomas' attack fell on Hood's left. Although a diversionary assault by Major General James B. Steedman's United States Colored Infantry was repulsed on Hood's right flank, Hood's left flank was crushed in heavy fighting. Thomas' right flank alone contained more men than Hood's entire army.

The night of December 15th, Hood withdrew his army to a more consolidated position just north of the John Overton Home, "Traveller's Rest." Hood's left flank was anchored on an eminence today known as Shy's Hill, just west of the Granny White Pike, while his right flank was anchored on a hill due north of Travellers Rest and east of the Franklin Pike, known as Overton or Peach Orchard Hill. Thomas' attack was slow to be delivered. On the Union left (east) flank Steedman's division would launch another gallant attack. So determined was this assault, although only a diversion, that Confederate Brigadier General James T. Holtzclaw would openly praise the valor of the

African American soldiers in his official report.

However, the final assault would be delivered at Shy's Hill by A. J. Smith's tough veterans. The Confederate defenses on Shy's Hill had been hastily constructed in the dark, and the defending units had been shuffled around frequently. When Smith's men stormed the hill the Confederate defenders only had time to fire one volley, and the Union soldiers were upon them. The rebel defense on Shy's Hill collapsed, and the inexorable Union advance rolled up Hood's entire line. By nightfall, the Army of Tennessee only existed as a fleeing mass of men, with only Lee's Corps retaining any sense of order.

Franklin: December 17th
On the night of December 16th, the Confederate rear guard under Lieutenant General Stephen D. Lee camped about seven miles north of Franklin. The soldiers were weary and poorly supplied as in their rush to retreat from Nashville, many had abandoned their equipment and muskets along the way. On the rainy morning of December 17th, the Confederates left around dawn. As they marched toward Franklin, Lee's men had two encounters with Federal troops. The first took place around Hollow Tree Gap about five miles north of Franklin and consisted of a brief volley of fire at a portion of Union Major General James Wilson's advanced cavalry. A more serious action occurred around 9:00 a.m. as two mounted Federal regiments attempted a frontal charge on the Confederate line. The Confederate troops, however, were able to repulse the attack, which resulted in twenty-two Federal casualties and an additional sixty-three

captured. As more Federal troops advanced, Lee's rear guard withdrew around 10:00 a.m. to press on to the Harpeth River and into Franklin.

Two bridges spanned the Harpeth River offering quick passage into Franklin – a temporary pontoon bridge and a railroad trestle bridge near Fort Granger. By 10:30 a.m., the last of the Confederate wagons were crossing the bridges over the Harpeth River and troops had begun to disassemble the pontoon bridge when Wilson's cavalry attacked. Brigadier General Randall Gibson's Brigade of 500 Louisiana infantrymen was positioned near the river and the railroad overpass at Liberty Pike. Assisting Gibson was a portion of Brigadier General Abraham Buford's cavalry and two field guns. The Confederate soldiers were no match, however, for the nearly 3,000 Federal cavalry. Buford's cavalry was driven "in confusion into the river," which was quickly rising due to the rainy weather. Surrounded, Gibson's men fought back and sustained forty casualties before escaping. Panic and confusion reigned as men fled across the pontoon bridge.

A Confederate battery positioned along Front Street in Franklin began to fire upon Wilson's cavalry causing them to temporarily draw back. Lee's men rushed to destroy the pontoon and railroad bridges to prevent the Federal troops from crossing. Given this brief respite, Lee ordered the immediate evacuation of Franklin. No longer having the bridges available, Wilson's men hastened to the nearest fords to beat the rising water. Meanwhile, additional Federal troops entered

Franklin from the west. Around 1:00 p.m., the Confederate rear guard under the command of Lieutenant General Stephen D. Lee began to withdraw toward Winstead Hill south of Franklin. As some of Wilson's cavalrymen fired volleys towards them, a shell tore into Lee's boot breaking several bones in his foot. Despite his injury, Lee remained in command as the Confederates withdrew south down Columbia Pike. Wilson regrouped his forces and sent troops down Carter's Creek, Lewisburg and Columbia Pikes in pursuit of the Confederates. Federal troops traveling down Columbia Pike quickly gained on the Rebels who maintained a line of battle as they headed toward Spring Hill. Around 4:00 p.m. the Confederate rear guard formed a line about one mile north of the West Harpeth River.

Wilson ordered a frontal attack on the Confederate line and sent brigades to swing around the line's flank. Around 200 cavalrymen swiftly advanced south down Columbia Pike toward the center of the Confederate line in a column of fours, sabers drawn. With the flanking brigades, the Federal line stretched nearly one and half miles long. Some 700 Confederate infantrymen were posted along the road under the command of Major General Carter L. Stevenson. As the Federals attacked the fighting was brief but fierce. "They swooped down on us with pistols, carbines, and sabers, hewing, whacking, and shooting," one Confederate officer later recalled. Stevenson's men repelled this charge and formed three ragged lines of a hollow square as they withdrew with their bayonets drawn.

The Federal cavalrymen continued to strike against Stevenson's troops as they made

their way across the West Harpeth River. As the Confederates stopped to reorganize, Wilson's men struck again. By this time darkness had fallen and both sides were confused. The Federal cavalry were nearly on top of the Rebel infantry when the firing began. The ensuing melee was brutal as most took the form of hand-to-hand combat with clubbed muskets and side arms. The darkness and the fact that many Confederates wore captured Federal overcoats added to the confusion. When additional units joined the Federals the Confederates were forced to retreat down Columbia Pike and abandoned three 12-pounder guns along the way. They soon encountered Major General Henry Clayton's Brigade, who, after hearing the gunfire, had formed a line to assist their fellow Confederates. As Stevenson's men joined them, the Rebels were attacked from the west by additional Federal cavalrymen. A quick round of fire from Clayton's men soon repulsed the Federals, and the Confederates continued to withdraw. Exhausted, the Confederates withdrew to Thompson's Station where they camped with the remainder of Lee's troops.

A series of skirmishes were fought from the West Harpeth River south to the Tennessee River, as Wilson's cavalry and the remainder of Thomas' army pursued Hood's army. The retreat would finally end on January 1, 1865 when Hood's army crossed the Tennessee River. What was left of the Army of Tennessee was eventually sent to the Carolinas to contest Sherman's advance.

See Appendix C for more on these sites.

Key Themes

The many names, dates, actions and other facts related to the Battle of Franklin are extensive and often difficult to comprehend. To tell the story of the Battle of Franklin to the public in a clear and interesting manner, it is critical that key themes be identified to serve as the overall framework for interpretation. The story of the battle should always be thought of in terms of those key themes, and one example theme is the loss of the Confederate generals, as highlighted below.



Patrick Cleburne

"I recognized the body of Gen. Cleburne, who, so far, had been reported ...missing. There was not a sign of life anywhere, and the deathly silence was oppressive, I bent down, and as I looked into the marble features of our hero, our ideal soldier, my first thought was to have the body taken to a place of safety."
- John C. McQuaide, Featherston's Brigade



John Adams

"One of my men gave him a canteen of water, while another brought... a pillow. The General gallantly thanked them, and, in answer to our expressions of sorrow..., he said, 'It is the fate of a soldier to die for his county,' and expired."
- Lt. Col. Baker, 65th Indiana



John C. Carter

"On visiting General Carter,... my conversation with him was exceedingly interesting. But his paroxysms of pain were frequent and intense and he craved chloroform and it was freely administered to him."
- Dr. Quintard, surgeon 1st Tennessee



States Rights Gist

"De last time I seen Marse States he wuz on foot... leading hiz men. [His horse] Joe had been shot through de neck, en wuz rearing en plunging so he had ter dismount... When it got so hot, I went back ter our tent."
- "Uncle Wiley" Howard Gen. Gist's body servant



Hiram B. Granbury

"...a ball struck him in the cheek and passed through his brain. Throwing his hands to his face he sank down on his knees and remained in that position..."
- Lt. Mangum Cleburne's aide-de-camp



Otho Strahl

"...General Strahl was struck; and throwing both hands above his head, almost to a clasp, he fell limber on his face..."
- Sgt. Maj. Cunningham 41st Tennessee

The following key interpretive themes have been identified for the Battle of Franklin:

Hood's Recklessness

By late-1864, many generals concluded that the accuracy of modern weapons made frontal assaults against entrenched defenders obsolete. General Hood's multiple charges disregarded that painfully learned lesson.

Effectiveness of the Union Army

While some credit poor Confederate decision-making for the Union victory, Schofield's army clearly performed bravely and effectively in defending their lines. One example of their ability was the quick actions of Opdykes men in plugging the hole that developed in their lines at Columbia Pike.

The Level of Carnage

The casualties inflicted were substantial given the fact that the battle lasted only five hours. During that period, nearly 7,000 Confederates alone were casualties.

The Loss of Confederate Generals

Five Confederate generals were killed during the battle, not including a few others who died from wounds from the battle some time later. Those losses were indicative of the overall level of carnage caused by the battle.

Western Theater: Beginning of the End

Most historians agree that the blow dealt to Hood's army at Franklin resulted directly in the army's complete route at Nashville. After the battles of Franklin and Nashville, the Army of Tennessee was never again a credible fighting organization.

Community As Hospital

Hundreds of wounded soldiers, primarily Confederates, were left in Franklin after both armies moved on to Nashville. While some were picked up as the Army of Tennessee retreated south through Franklin after the Battle of Nashville, others were left to be sent by Union forces by rail to Nashville hospitals. Still others that could not be moved spent several months recuperating in Franklin.



With the exception of African Americans being free, post-war agriculture in the South did not look noticeably different than prior to the Civil War.

Occupied Franklin

While control of Franklin changed hands multiple times throughout the war, the average citizen was most effected when the Federal forces controlled the community. Enemy occupation could be harsh on residents, particularly with respect to having their property confiscated for use by the army. This theme focused on average citizens is often more relevant to the typical heritage tourist or Franklin resident than are the stories of Civil War combat.



Although Reconstruction brought some temporary political clout to African Americans, the lives of most did not change dramatically following the Civil War.

Reconstruction

Post-war Franklin went through many of the same political, economic and cultural experiences as that of communities all across the South. Many broad issues related to nationwide Reconstruction can be interpreted in Franklin. One very tangible legacy of Reconstruction in Franklin is the historic Natchez Street Neighborhood.

Historic Photographs

The Battlefield



Source: U.S. Army Military History Institute

A small segment of Columbia Pike can be seen at the far left of this circa 1884 view looking south toward Winstead and Breezy Hills.



Source: U.S. Army Military History Institute

The photograph above is looking north toward Ft. Granger from Carter's Hill circa 1884.



Source: U.S. Army Military History Institute

This circa 1884 view of the battlefield looks much as it had twenty years earlier.

The Carter House



Source: U.S. Army Military History Institute

This circa 1884 view of the Carter House illustrates new brick construction in the roof gable of the damaged north facade.



Source: U.S. Army Military History Institute

Taken sometime in the late-19th century, this front view of the Carter House includes a reconstructed fence along the building's Columbia Pike frontage.

"I could not tell for several minutes which were prisoners, the rebels, or ourselves, each ordering the other to surrender, and many on each side clubbing their guns and chasing each other around the houses."

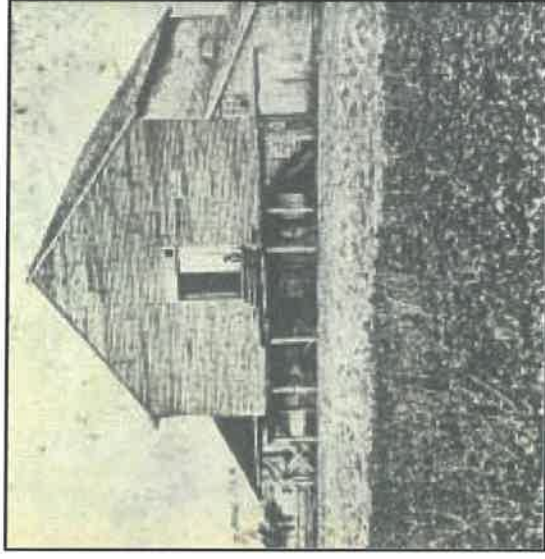
- Major Huffman, 73rd Illinois

The Cotton gin



Source: U.S. Army Military History Institute

This circa 1884 photograph of the rebuilt cotton gin is viewed from the south, as Southern troops would have viewed it.



Source: Five Tragic Hours: The Battle of Franklin, McDonough & Connelly (1983)

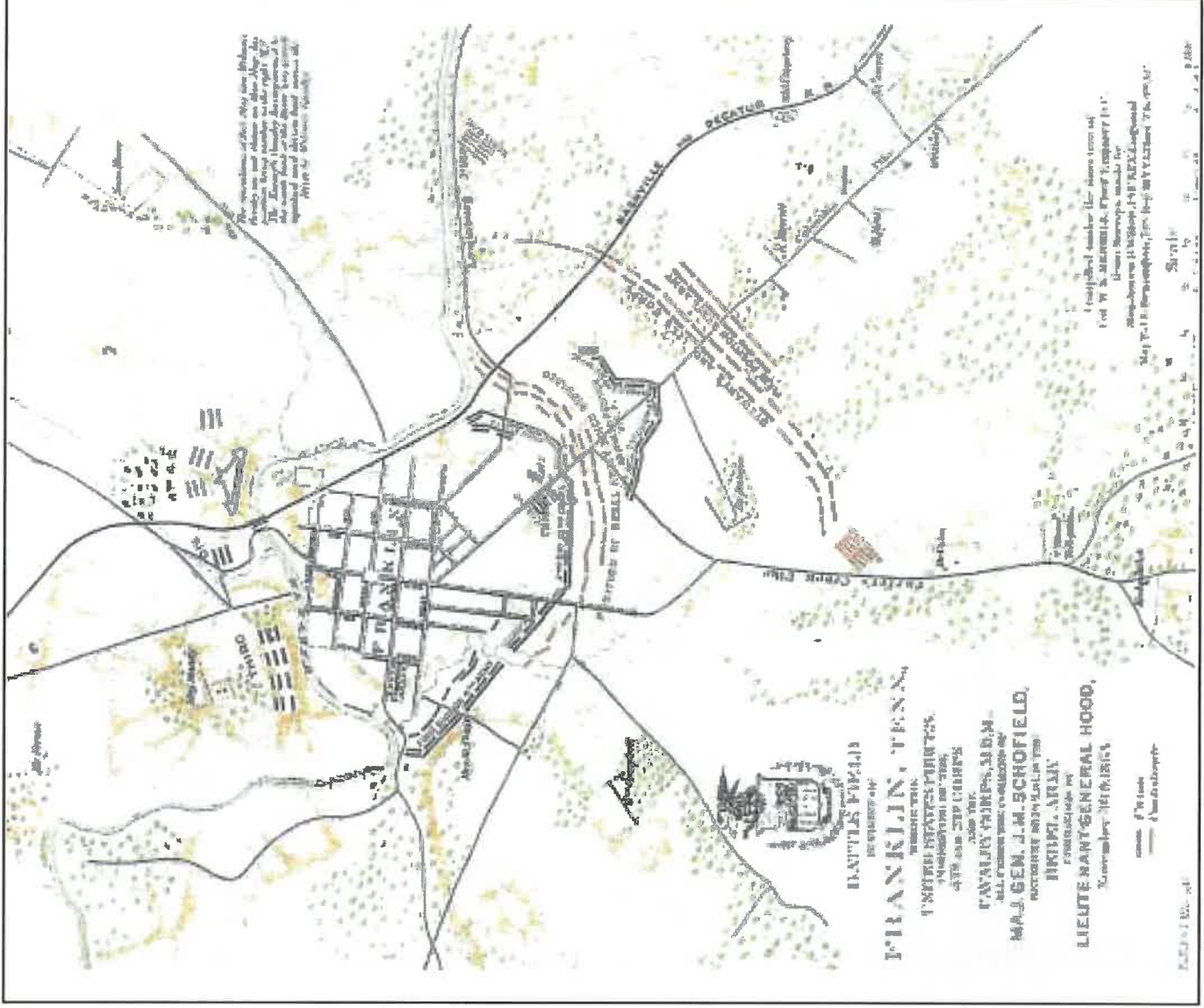
Late-19th century photograph of the rebuilt cotton gin.

Historic Battlefield Map

The map at right was prepared during the early -1890s by the U.S. military as a supplement to the Official Records of the Great Rebellion, commonly referred to today as the "O.R.s." It is based upon the recollections and numerous official accounts of the battle by various federal generals involved with the Battle of Nashville. Because most of the key physical features of the battlefield, such as streets, the railroad and the river, have not changed with respect to their locations and general alignments, maps such as this one are valuable in determining how the historic battlefield relates to modern Franklin. The next several pages will examine the current physical condition of the core battlefield areas.



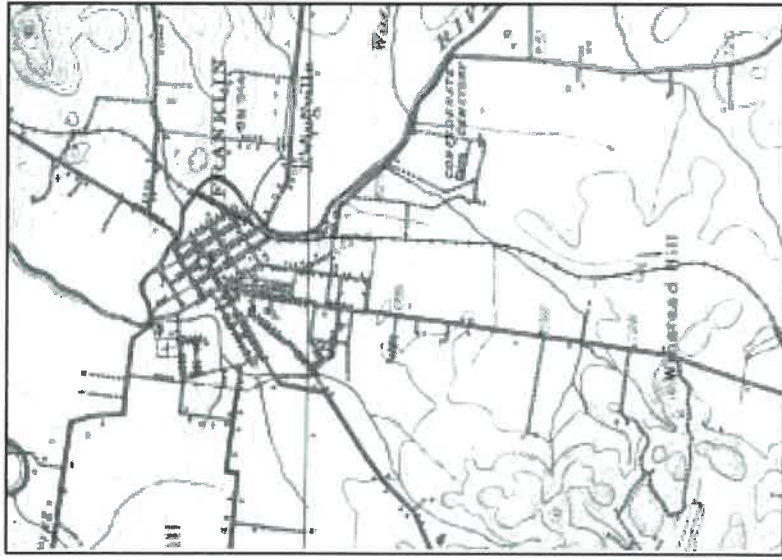
Although its orientation with the south at the top is confusing, this US military map from General Jacob Cox's book shows the full width of the battlefield, including the McGavock property on the east flank.



Physical Evolution of the Battlefield

The map below (left) illustrates that, even a half century after the Battle of Franklin, the town had not grown extensively compared to today's Franklin. For example, although neighborhoods were starting to spring up around the Carter House, it was still essentially located on the southern edge of the community.

On the other hand, the vast majority of the battlefield has been developed approximately



The small black dots on this 1908 map represent buildings.

one century later. While the southerly portion of the battlefield contains commercial, industrial and residential development built within the past 50 years, most of the development closest to the Union defensive positions is historic and significant in its own right. In fact, the area's four historic districts include the Hincheyville district, the Natchez Street district, the Adams Street district and the Lewisburg Avenue district. Even if enough funding and willing sellers were available to acquire and clear land of post-Civil War development, such action would be inappropriate and likely not approved by the City.



This house sits on or near the Carter cotton gin site. Unlike most houses in the area, it has been moved to the site and could be moved yet again.



The Union main defensive lines are illustrated above superimposed over a modern tax map. The lines and adjacent areas of the heaviest fighting now traverse four separate historic districts.

The West Flank

Attack of Cheatham & Lee To the west of the Columbia Pike, Bates Division of Cheatham's Corps attacked along a front between what is now Natchez Street and West Main Street (Carters Creek Pike). This terrain was characterized by open fields except for a dense grove of locust trees to the southwest of the Carter House. The locust grove was a dense thicket of vegetation and was a natural barrier to the attacking Confederate troops. Advancing after sunset, Bate's three divisions temporarily broke the Union line but were driven back with heavy losses. Later that evening around 9:00 P.M., Edward Johnson's Division of Lee's Corps was ordered to attack and they hit the Union line between the locust grove and Natchez Street. This assault was also unsuccessful and cost Johnson's Division over 500 casualties.

Today's Landscape

The landscape comprising the West Flank remained largely open farmland until the late 19th century. By the 1870s several brick and frame dwellings were constructed along Fair Street and West Main Street in the vicinity of the Union earthworks. These dwellings were built within the Hincheyville subdivision and are part of the Hincheyville Historic District.

During the first decade of the twentieth century, a number of new subdivisions were created in the West Flank area. The largest of these was between Columbia Pike and Carter's Creek Pike. Appropriately named Battle Ground Park, this 1911 addition consisted of fifty-four lots along two blocks directly west of

Columbia Pike. The land north of the subdivision was owned by Battle Ground Academy, which was established in 1889 as a boys school, and land to the south was devoted to the fair grounds. In 1909, the Lynnhurst subdivision consisting of eleven lots was established just west of Carter's Creek Pike (now West Main Street) by the American Land Company. Just north of this, the thirty-six lot Thorne and Cannons Addition was created in 1911 between what is now West Main and Natchez Street. Here Bates's Division of Cheatham's Corps and Johnson's Division attacked the Union front suffering hundreds of casualties.

By the late 1920s, the area along Natchez Street and adjacent streets were lined with dozens of dwellings. The 1928 Sanborn Insurance Map of the city shows most lots developed in this area. During the 1940s, a total of sixty-six lots were developed for the Eastview Subdivision along W. Main Street, and a few blocks to the northwest forty-six lots were created for the West End Circle subdivision. Two lots in the Eastview development allowed for a market, gas station, or similar business. Infill construction in this vicinity continued well into the late 20th century.

Opportunities for

Reclamation

The West Flank of the Franklin Battlefield offers little in the way of realistic reclamation. There are no large undeveloped parcels in this vicinity and the character of this area is that of a dense residential community. The only way to reclaim any part of this section of the battlefield would be the purchase and removal of existing buildings. This would be not only costly, but there would also be adverse effects

on historic properties. A number of buildings along Main Street are located in the Hincheyville Historic District which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. A large area along Natchez Street was also listed on the National Register in 2003 for its architectural and historical significance. This district's history can be linked to the Battle of Franklin by virtue of Franklin's experience with Reconstruction, as it is a historically African American neighborhood.

Reclamation of the battlefield should not be at the expense of properties listed, or determined eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places. Given the extent of development and number of historic properties along the West Flank, it is recommended that reclamation efforts be focused elsewhere.

"I began to reflect upon the role of the battlefield's caretaker. Not just co-owner, but caretaker. The battlefield needed someone to look after it if it was to remain meaningful in the onslaught of a future that all but dismissed its non-commercial value. It needed a personal input, something akin to love, the surest method of preservation, but by no means the easiest or the cheapest."

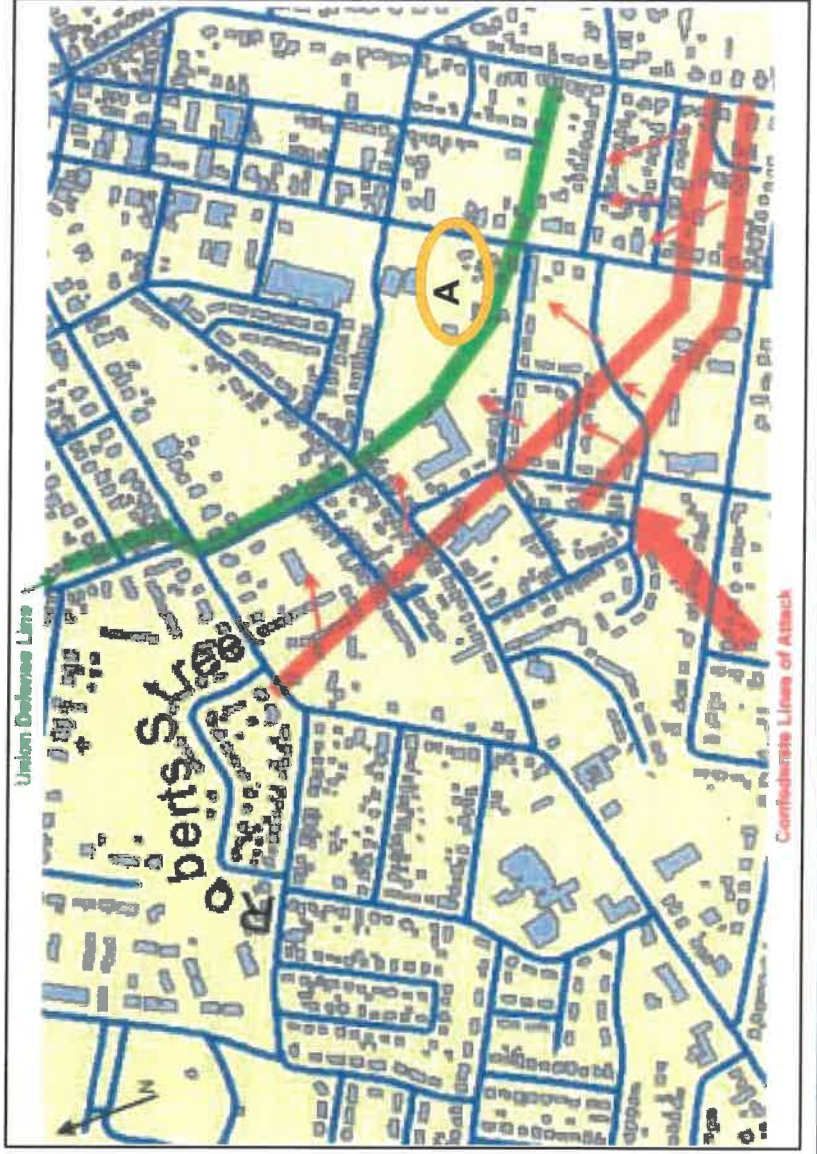
- Peter Svenson, land owner and author of "Battlefield: Farming a Civil War Battlefield"

The West Flank

The map below illustrates the attack of Bates and Johnson's divisions against the Union right flank. This portion of the battlefield was primarily to the east of Carters Creek Pike and west of the action that centered around Columbia Pike. Today it consists of relatively dense and historic residential development, as well as some commercial and institutional land uses. The street system is a mixture of gridded sections and random alignments, but it generally follows the historic development patterns of the area. Area "A" on the map below, circled in yellow, is the Carter House property.



This view of the area immediately west of the Carter House reveals a combination of public facilities and housing.



Columbia Pike

Attack of Cleburne & Brown's Divisions

Some of the battle's most intense action took place along the Columbia Pike when Cheatham's Corps attacked the federal defenses. Two divisions, led by Major Generals John Brown and Patrick Cleburne, advanced northward from Winstead Hill along either side of the Columbia Pike. These divisions first encountered the two advanced Union brigades of Brigadier General George Wagner, which were posted on a rise south of the main federal defenses. These two brigades hastily retreated to the main defense line with the Confederate troops in hot pursuit. After breaking the main Union line along the Columbia Pike, heavy fighting took place around the Carter House as Wagner's third brigade under Brigadier General Emerson Opdycke counterattacked to blunt the Confederate advance. Cleburne was killed, Brown was wounded, and thousands of troops in their divisions became casualties during the fighting, which lasted into the night.

Today's Landscape

As the town of Franklin grew during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, the area along the Columbia Pike gradually became subdivided into a series of largely residential neighborhoods. Developers were typically prominent local businessmen and land development companies who sometimes purchased family lands from heirs. Subdivisions often bore the names of the developer or original land owner, but sometimes the land's Civil War history was acknowledged through the naming of streets. Many, such as Cleburne, Stewart, Adams, and

Gist Streets, honored Confederate officers, while others, such as Cannon Street and Battle Avenue, reflected the combat itself.

The heaviest fighting along Columbia Pike took place on the Fountain B. Carter farm. In the early 1890s, Fountain's son, Moscow B. Carter, subdivided the area north of the house into residential lots. In 1889, Battle Ground Academy was founded and constructed a large brick building at the corner of Columbia Pike and Cleburne Street. This building was destroyed by fire in 1902, and the school was relocated to its present location along Columbia Avenue. During the 1920s, the land east of Columbia Pike and south of Cleburne Street was divided into fourteen lots as the Cleburne Addition.

During the late 1930s, five more subdivisions were created along either side of the Columbia Pike. The majority of this acreage was east of Carter's Creek Pike near the already developed Battle Ground Park. Here 143 residential lots were drawn in the Everbright, School Manor, and Sunset Manor Subdivisions between 1937 and 1939. Also in 1937, the Hillcrest and Battlefield Subdivisions, with seven and sixteen lots respectively, formed east of Columbia Pike. The Hillcrest development was north of Cleburne Street and the Battlefield Subdivision consisted of two blocks east of Columbia Pike north of Gist Street.

In 1949, the Hill Addition added twenty-four lots one block east of Columbia Pike near the Carter House, and the Meadowlawn Subdivision with thirteen lots was formed one block east of Columbia Pike along Adams Street. Following a few more small

developments in the 1950s, residential housing covered most of the main battlefield area along Columbia Pike. In addition to the residential development, several commercial buildings were also constructed in recent decades, most notably the commercial cluster at Cleburne Street and Columbia Pike.

Opportunities for Reclamation

Although there is little open space along the Columbia Pike in the core battlefield area, there are two primary areas which hold promise for substantial reclamation. One of these is the Old Franklin High School gymnasium site north of the Carter House. It was from this point that Opdycke's Brigade launched their counterattack which halted the advance of Brown's and Cleburne's Divisions. This parcel presently contains school buildings from the mid-20th century. Their removal would allow for a substantial parcel of 2.6 acres to be incorporated into the Carter House site and returned back to its appearance during the battle.

The second potential site for reclamation is the area around the site of the Carter Cotton Gin north of Cleburne Street and east of Columbia Pike. An undeveloped lot of just over one-half an acre is located at the dead end of Parkview Drive. This lot encompasses part of a swale which was just to the northeast of the Carter Cotton Gin site. Accounts of the battle suggest that this swale helped to shelter wounded soldiers and Confederates taken prisoner. To the south and southwest of this lot are three dwellings facing Cleburne Street and a ca. 1960 commercial building at Columbia Pike. The building at 109 Cleburne was moved to this site, and 111 and 113

Cleburne Street are bungalows that do not possess notable architectural or historical significance. These four buildings are located on the site of federal earthworks, the Carter Cotton Gin, and the approximate location of the death of Major General Patrick Cleburne.

The purchase and removal of these buildings, along with the existing lot on Parkview Drive, would create 2.5 acres of land which could be returned back to its 1864 appearance. This initiative could include the possible reconstruction of the Carter Cotton Gin near its original location, as well as reconstruction of federal earthworks. The reclamation of this land would also compliment the Carter House property across the street and create a greater sense of the era of the battle along Columbia Pike.

A third area of potential reclamation was the subject of a study completed in 2003 for the Williamson County government. This study, "Phase I of an Interpretive Plan for the Battle of Franklin," was intended to create a concept plan for the interpretation of the Battle Ground Academy (BGA) property owned by the Williamson County government. The BGA property contains a large portion of the advanced Union earthworks which were occupied by two brigades of Wagner's Division at the onset of the battle. While most of this property was developed in the early 20th century for BGA, some open space remains along Columbia Pike. The plan called for the removal of a number of buildings to make way for an area of reconstructed earthworks, and the rehabilitation of the BGA library into an interpretive center. As of June of 2004, these

recommendations have not been adopted by the County, and a new public library was recently developed on the site. The future of the rest of the BGA campus is currently under review. If this site is further developed, it is recommended that some open space be preserved and interpreted with wayside markers and exhibits that describe the action at the advanced Union line.



While it would be expensive, the acquisition and clearance of these commercial buildings on the corner of Columbia Avenue and Cleburne Street has been a long-term objective of many battlefield preservationists in Franklin.



This small green space at the end of Parkview Drive is located just northeast of where the Carter cotton gin is believed to have stood.



This old frame house at 109 Cleburne Street sits on or very near the Carter cotton gin building, a key landmark during the Battle of Franklin. Because the building was moved to this site, it could be moved again without significantly impacting its historic integrity.



This mid-20th century house on Cleburne Street sits just southwest of where the cotton gin is believed to have been.

Columbia Pike

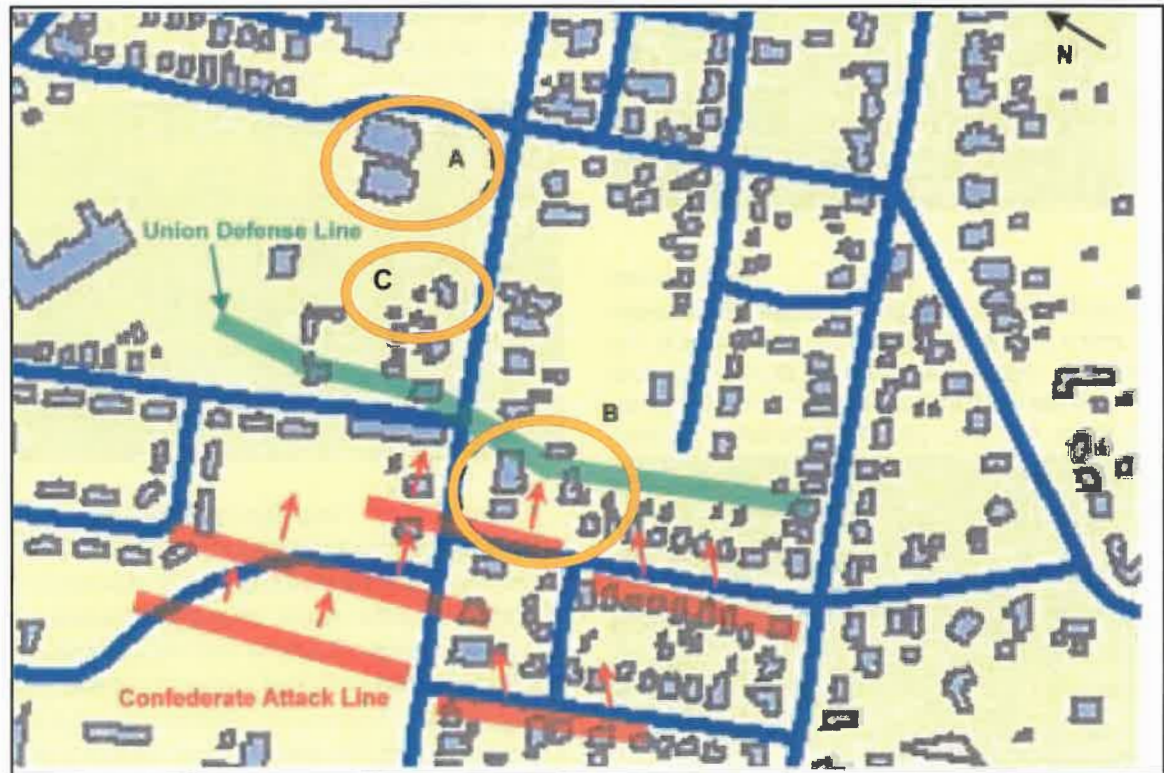
The map below illustrates the attack of Brown's and Cleburne's divisions against the Union middle. This portion of the battlefield consists primarily of older residential buildings and newer commercial buildings, as well as some commercial uses in historic residential buildings. It also includes institutional buildings such as the old BGA campus, the new County library, and the old brick Franklin High School gymnasium. Area "A" on the map below is the Old Franklin High School buildings, area "B" is the Cotton Gin site, and area "C" is the Carter House property. All three sites are circled in yellow.



The area around the Carter House features a variety of commercial uses, including large parking lots.



Another view of the Carter House area on Columbia Pike.



The East Flank

Attack of Stewart's Corps

To the east of Cheatham's Corps, the three divisions under the command of Lt. General Alexander P. Stewart formed south and southeast of Carnon and advanced northwest towards the federal line. As they marched past Carnon, Stewart's troops began taking casualties from the artillery fire of Fort Granger on the east side of the river. As they approached the Union line, Stewart's three divisions crossed the railroad and advanced on either side of the Lewisburg Pike. Stewart's men ran into intense rifle and artillery fire as they encountered an Osage Orange hedge and abatis in front of the Union line. Taking heavy casualties, Stewart's Divisions were unable to achieve any success in penetrating the federal fortifications.

Today's Landscape

The land containing the heaviest fighting along the Lewisburg Pike was subdivided at the turn of the century into residential lots. The earliest subdivision established in this area was the McEwen Addition, which consisted of twenty-seven lots west of Lewisburg Pike and south of what is now Fowlkes Street. Prominent businessman John B. McEwen subdivided the property in the late-1890s and by 1900 had sold at least eight lots. The plat for the property recognizes that the addition is "Over The Battle Field." Additional lots were subdivided later on the east side of the pike. In 1903, this section of Lewisburg Pike and Adams Street was sufficiently developed to warrant its inclusion into the city limits.

By the 1920s, almost all of the lots in this area were developed and no remains of the Union fortifications are known to exist. The East Flank of the battlefield is now characterized by residential areas containing historic homes from the early-20th century. The area is composed of two historic districts: the Lewisburg Pike Historic District, listed on the National Register in 1988, and the Adams Street Historic District, listed in 1999.

Opportunities for

R e c l a m a t i o n

The East Flank provides the greatest opportunities for battlefield reclamation in the city. The area that was the site of the most intense fighting along the Union fortifications has been lost due to residential development in the early-20th century. The Union line extended through areas that are now the Lewisburg Pike and Adams Street Historic Districts. However, four large open tracts remain extant, and they offer opportunities for interpretation and recreation of a true "battlefield."

The first of these tracts is a 4.9 acre parcel composed of an open field and woodlands between Adams Street and the railroad. This parcel is owned by several adjacent property owners and it is currently open space. The brigades of Major General Edward Walthall advanced across this land during the battle sustaining casualties from artillery fire. This tract is not readily accessible. However, a closed alley is shown leading to this property from both Adams Street and Stewart Avenue. The parcel is bounded on the north, west, and south by the rear yards of adjacent houses, and on the east by the right-of-way of the railroad. While offering some opportunities for

wayside exhibits and signage, use of this property poses constraints due to its difficult access. The present owners are to be commended for keeping this land preserved. The tract's acquisition through purchase or easements is recommended in the future if the property is ever offered for sale.

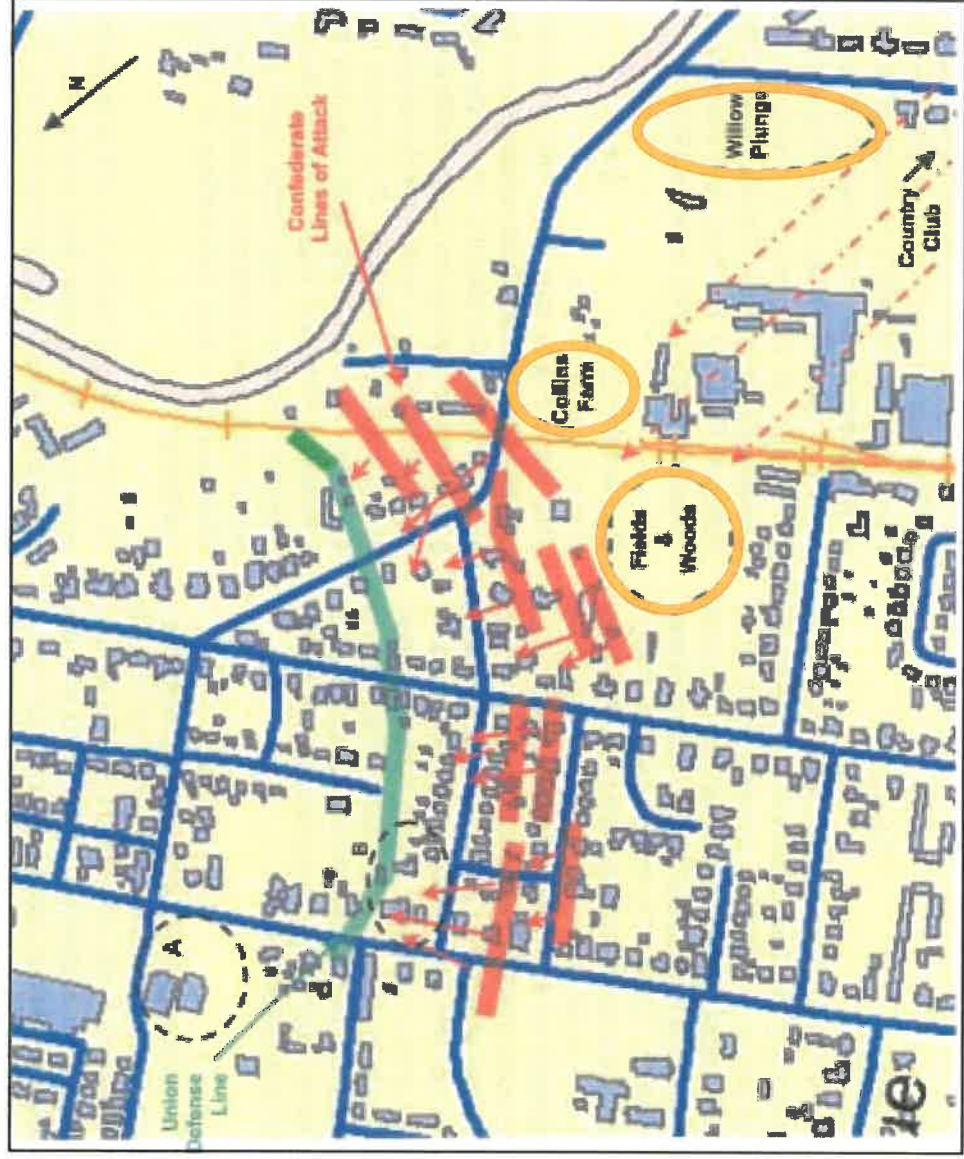
The second of these tracts is the former Willow Plunge property located at Lewisburg Pike and Carnon Lane. Willow Plunge, opened in 1924, was the largest outdoor concrete swimming pool built in the South. The pool was closed in 1967, and all of the buildings and structures associated with this property were removed. Located in the flood plain of the Harpeth River, this large tract contains open fields and a tree line. The division of Major General William W. Loring advanced across this property and sustained casualties from artillery fire from Fort Granger and the main Union line. The Willow Plunge property offers an opportunity for an automobile pull-off with wayside exhibits. The proposed pedestrian path connecting the Franklin Country Club property and the Collins Farm would go through the north edge of this tract.

The third and fourth tracts on the East Flank are the Collins Farm and the Franklin Country Club. Because of the importance of these two tracts, they are examined in more detail later in this plan.

The East Flank

The map below illustrates the attack of Cleburne's and Loring's divisions against the Union left flank. This portion of the battlefield consists primarily of both older and newer residential neighborhoods, as well as a few commercial buildings along Lewisburg Pike. There are also some light industrial uses immediately south of the Collins Farm property.

The railroad, which is aligned along a north-south axis, is another key feature, and there are some isolated open spaces flanking either side of it. Two such spaces are circled in yellow in the map below, in addition to Willow Plunge, located to the southeast of those spaces. Areas "A" and "B", both circled by a black dashed line, are the old Franklin High School property and Cotton Gin site, respectively.



This field is part of the 4.9-acre tract left undeveloped between Adams Street and the railroad (labeled on the map as "Fields & Woods").



The former site of the Willow Plunge swimming pool consists of open space adjacent to Lewisburg Pike.



This open space is the westerly portion of the Collins Farm property and is bound on the west by the railroad tracks.

Land Use & Development Trends

Based upon the battlefield's existing land uses, it can be segmented into three general areas: commercial, residential and industrial. While there are plenty of exceptions with respect to other land uses within these various areas, below is a general overview of each:

Commercial Area

Commercial land uses are most concentrated along Columbia Pike along the segment that was within the Union lines (between the Carter House and downtown). Unlike the other two land use areas, commercial development does not tend to extend much beyond Columbia Pike. Most of the development is in the form of relatively small scale retail and service businesses. Its physical character is a mixture of pre-1950s urban form in which the buildings front closely onto the street in contrast with post-1950s development that is more "strip commercial" in nature with large signage and parking in the front. Landscaping is very minimal in the commercial area. Development pressures in this area appear to be minimal, and the limited new development that has occurred here in recent years appears to reinforce the existing patterns.

Residential Area

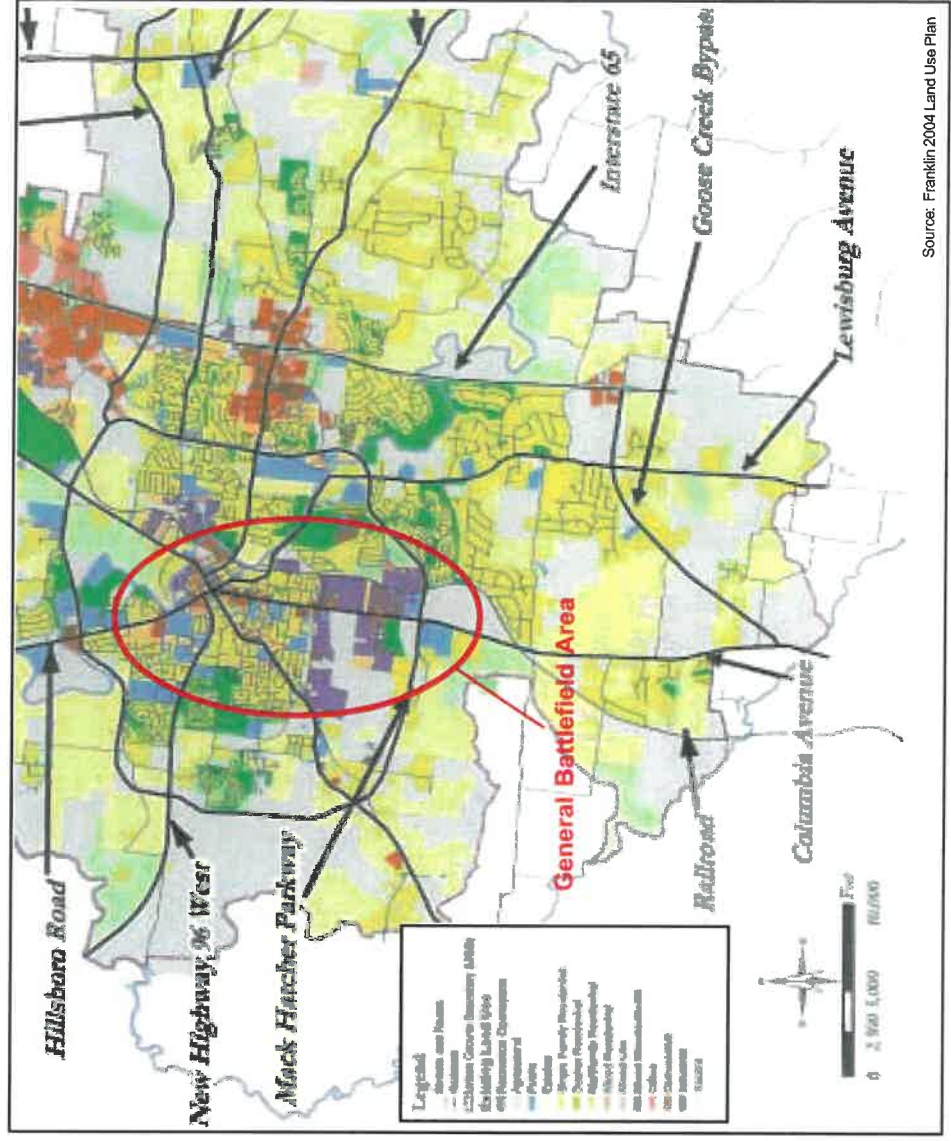
Along Columbia Pike, this area extends approximately from the Carter House to Downs Boulevard, and it consists of older single-family homes dating between the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. The exception to this pattern is the subdivision near Carnton Plantation and the Franklin County Club, which is more recent and suburban in character.

Industrial Area

Most of the lands flanking Columbia Pike south of Downs Boulevard feature light industrial uses. Lands extending further from either side of Columbia Pike include residential, agricultural, vacant land, a golf course, and a historic house museum (Carnton). The newly developing retail center at Columbia Pike and Mack Hatcher may impact land uses in that area by causing a shift toward more retail uses.



Development pressures remain strong within the battlefield area, especially along Columbia Pike where "big box" retail is currently locating.



Source: Franklin 2004 Land Use Plan

Land Values

Land Values

Land values in an area such as the battlefield are a challenge to determine. Their value is determined by many variables unique to them, including their specific location, zoning, size, environmental constraints, and current state of development. Because property tax valuations are not always consistent with current market values, sales comparables are the best way to evaluate land values. Two large parcels within the study area are examined below as comparables.

Sample Tracts

Werthan Tract

This 64-acre tract is currently undeveloped. It is located on the west side of Columbia Pike and south of Downs Boulevard. Because the property is on the market and has not yet sold, only the asking price can be used as a land value basis. It is quite likely that the ultimate selling price will be less, but that price cannot be predicted. Below is a per-acre value estimation:

\$6,220,000 @ 64 acres = \$97,188 per acre

Franklin County Club

This 110-acre property was sold to a new owner in 2003. At the time of its sale, it was already developed with an 18-hole golf course, club house, tennis courts, various outbuildings, and parking. It is located on the south side of Lewisburg Pike and accessed off of Carnton Square. Below is a per-acre value estimation based upon its recent purchase price:

\$5,000,000 @ 110 acres = \$45,455 per acre

These two value comparisons underscore the many variables noted previously that can impact values. There are four likely reasons for the Werthan tract's much higher value compared with the country club: 1) It is zoned industrial rather than residential, 2) It is located on a key commercial street on which a major new retail development is occurring, 3) It is only an asking price and may not actually be purchased for that amount, and 4) Much of the country club site consists of floodplains.



The Werthan tract is in the path of development currently marching down Columbia Pike.



Although the country club is located in a strong residential area, much of the site consists of floodplains.

Public Policy: Zoning & Development Standards

Plans

Several plans have been prepared during the past decade that impact historic resources related to the Franklin Battlefield. Below is a chronological summary of each, starting with the most recent.

Central Franklin Area Plan (2004)

This plan lays out a strategy for the downtown area and surrounding historic neighborhoods. Chapter 6, entitled "Battlefield Preservation," focuses specifically on the battlefield. The three "Priority Actions" recommended include:

- Develop an organizational strategy that places battlefield preservation efforts under a single entity led by the City
- Identify funding sources for battlefield preservation and establish a network of sites to tell a coherent story of the battle
- Develop and implement a battlefield preservation plan

Franklin, Tennessee Land Use Plan (2004)

This plan, adopted by the City of Franklin in February of 2004, addresses the entire area within Franklin's designated Urban Growth Boundary. It does not specifically address the battlefield beyond the page on historic preservation within the "Guiding Principles" section of the plan. The majority of the plan consists of defining various "Character Areas" and providing a concept for each. The battlefield is split up among several different character areas, and there are no specific recommendations that are substantially more impacting on the surviving battlefield resources than the current land uses and zoning.

Phase I: Franklin Battlefield Interpretive Plan (2003) This plan was commissioned by Williamson County and prepared by a consultant. The focus of the plan is the County-owned former site of Battle Ground Academy, a private school which has since relocated. Located south of the Carter House and approximately where General Wagner's forward line existed, the site is developed with several institutional buildings. Most recently, the new County Library was constructed in the northeast corner of the site. The plan proposes demolishing all buildings on the site except the new library and the Old BGA Library, which would be used as an interpretive center. Residential buildings to the south would also be demolished, and the site would be interpreted with several wayside exhibits.

Historic Preservation Plan (2001)

This document addresses all aspects of preservation in Franklin. While it does not focus substantially on the battle and its resources, the plan does give it limited attention throughout the plan. The plan's recommendations particularly relevant to the Franklin Battlefield include the following:

- Develop a "community heritage center," which would focus primarily on serving residents, but also serve as a visitors center
- Improve the appearance of Columbia Pike given its concentration of historic resources

Columbia Avenue Design Guidelines (2000)

Although this document is not technically a plan, because it has never been adopted as public policy, it is addressed on this page. Commissioned by the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County, these guidelines attempt to rebuild the historic urban fabric that once characterized the north

ern segment of this corridor, while providing a green edge to the southerly industrial end.

U.S. Highway 31 Battlefield Corridor Protection Plan (1996) This plan was commissioned by the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County and funded by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program. While the 42-mile "Battlefield Corridor" extends between Nashville and Columbia, the "Planning Area" was limited to a point two miles north of Franklin to Spring Hill just north of the Saturn Parkway. The plan examines a variety of issues along the corridor, including historic resources, natural features, zoning and visual qualities. It also prioritizes properties and offers a variety of techniques for preserving and enhancing the area. Key recommendations include several interpretive wayside pull-off areas along Highway 31 and master plans for specific Civil War sites.

Winstead Hill and Fort Granger Study (1995)

This study included separate plans to physically enhance these two important sites. Issues included parking, pedestrian access and interpretation. Portions of this study have been implemented incrementally over time.

Excerpts from the Historic Preservation Plan (2001)

"The Heritage Foundation is enhancing its advocacy efforts on behalf of preserving the remaining battlefield lands... This... should receive the strongest possible support by the City and County... Finding ways to stem the loss of Franklin's cultural landscapes, particularly remnants of the Franklin Battlefield, should be a high priority."

Public Policy: Plans, Zoning & Development Standards

Zoning

The battlefield area's zoning patterns are relatively consistent with the existing land use map on page 23. Below is a summary of the zoning categories most prevalent on the battlefield:

General Commercial (GC)

This zoning classification is limited to four nodes in the battlefield area: north end of Columbia Pike (around the Carter House), near the Columbia Pike and Downs Boulevard intersection, near the Columbia Pike and Mack Hatcher Parkway, and on West Main Street north of Downs Boulevard. The zone permits a variety of commercial uses, the maximum permitted floor area ratio (FAR) is .30, minimum front yards are 30 feet, and maximum building heights are 35 feet. GC encourages the type of "strip commercial" development that many consider to be in stark contrast to the desired character for a historic landscape.

Light Industrial (LI) & Heavy Industrial (HI)

These two classifications apply to most battlefield lands located south of Downs Boulevard and west of the railroad line, and much more land is designated LI than HI. LI permits the same types of commercial uses as the GC, in addition to light industrial uses. HI does not permit most small-scale commercial uses, but does permit all types of assembly and manufacturing. The maximum permitted FAR for both zones is .40. The minimum front yard is 75 feet in the LI zone and 30 feet in the HI zone. The maximum building height is 35 feet

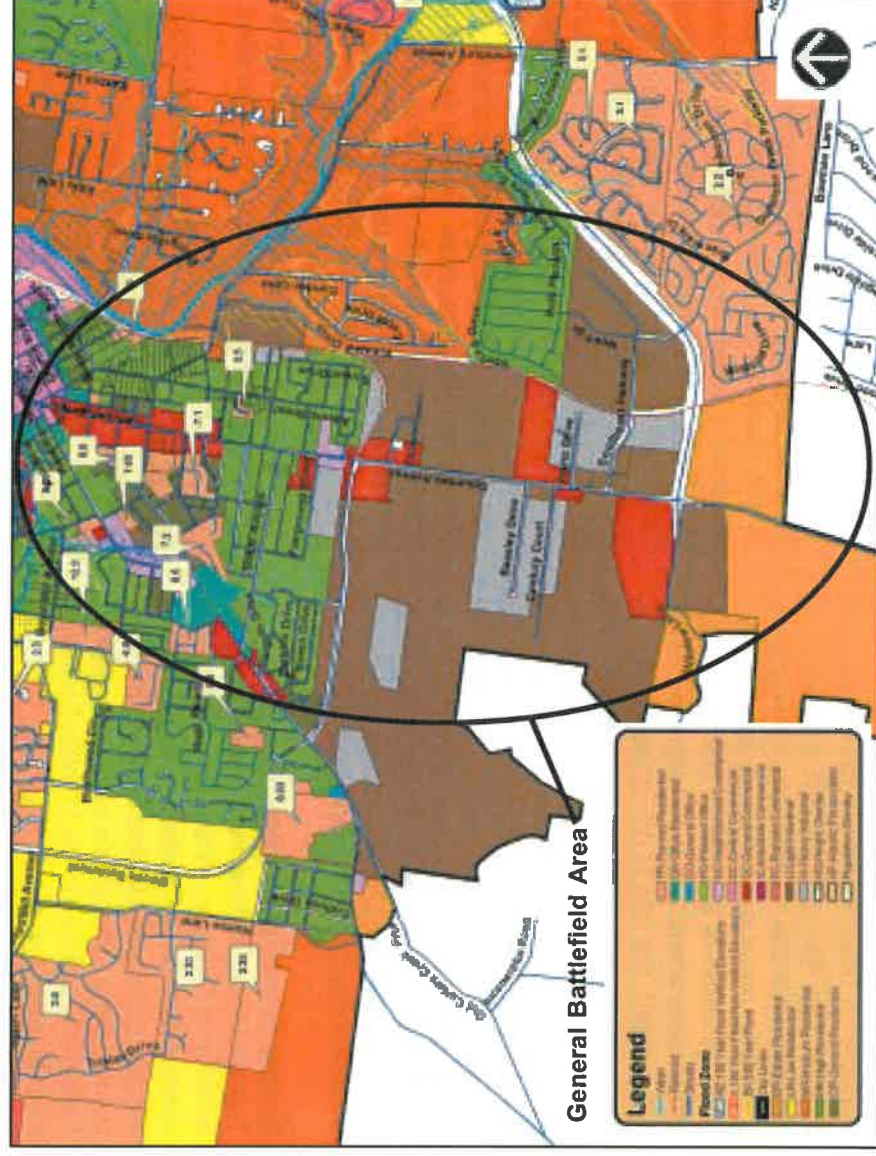
in both zones. Unlike commercial development, which insists on high visibility from the street, there are often opportunities for screening industrial sites with landscaping.

High Residential (HR) & Med. Residential (MR)
 The HR zone dominates the area north of Downs Boulevard and west of the rail line, while the MR dominates the area east of the rail line. Both zones are limited to single-family houses. HR permits 3 units per acre, and MR permits 2 units per acre. Setback requirements are based upon the street type, and maximum building heights are 35 feet in both.

Development

The City of Franklin recently adopted development standards that apply city-wide and are intended to raise the quality level of new development. The standards also attempt to reinforce a more urban and historic development form within the city's older (pre-WWII) areas. The most significant aspect of these standards for the battlefield are their potential to enhance the appearance of commercial corridors such as Columbia Pike. However, they do not go as far as the Columbia Avenue Design Guidelines would in enhancing that corridor if they were adopted by the City.

Standards



Source: City of Franklin Zoning Map

Challenges & Opportunities

Challenges

The following key challenges currently exist for the battlefield and preservation efforts:

Development Pressure

The current development of the shopping center at Columbia Pike and Mack Hatcher Parkway underscores the tremendous development pressures existing throughout Franklin, and particularly on Columbia Pike. It is likely that this new development will reposition this corridor in the broader real estate market and encourage further development in the area.

Lack of Connectivity for Resources

The Civil War resources that have been well preserved, such as Fort Granger, the Carter House and Carnton Plantation, are geographically scattered and lack the kind of connectivity that lends itself to a cohesive understanding of the battle.

Lack of Funding

As is the case for many worthy causes, there is limited funding for battlefield protection. Public sector grants are very limited, particularly for land acquisition.



Development pressures are the number one threat to the Franklin Battlefield.

Opportunities

While the battlefield's challenges are considerable, there are many reasons for optimism, including the following:

Recent Golf Course Acquisition

A descendant of the McGavock Family purchased the 110-acre Franklin Country Club in 2003. Although it presently continues to be used as a country club, the owner's long-term goal is to transform it to its historic appearance to the greatest extent possible. Its adjacency to Carnton Plantation and the Confederate Cemetery will add tremendously to the site's interpretation. Furthermore, because fighting occurred on this property, it can fill the void of a bonafide "battlefield" site for visitors to experience.



The recent acquisition of the Franklin Country Club provides a major boost for battlefield preservation efforts.

Strong Political Support

Although this plan was commissioned by the Heritage Foundation, it has received strong support from the local and state governments. Key officials representing all of these entities participated enthusiastically

in the project's various meetings. Also, the City of Franklin is in the process of approving the issuance of a \$10 million bond, for which \$2.5 million is earmarked for acquiring the Franklin Country Club site from the current owner. While another \$2.5 million must be raised, it is the owners' reported intention to use their replenished funds to target other battlefield sites for preservation.

Effective Preservation Organizations

There are many groups that support the preservation of the battlefield, most of which are listed on page 3 of this plan under "Stakeholder Participation." In particular, the Heritage Foundation, this plan's sponsor, has a strong track record of preserving sites, such as Roper's Knob. The Save the Franklin Battlefield Association is another especially important and capable group for this project.

Key Preserved Sites

Although much of the battlefield has been lost to development over the years, a handful of jewels have survived. Sites such as the Carter House, Carnton Plantation, Fort Granger, Winstead Hill, and numerous individual buildings, such as the Lotz House, each tell a different and important story of the battle.

Potential for Site Linkages

While the "lack of connectivity" is cited as a challenge for the battlefield, the potential exists to more strongly tie together the various sites. In addition to the potential to aesthetically enhance main corridors and provide directional signage, greenway linkages are possible. In particular, land along the Harpeth River and rail lines can be used to link sites.

Past Battlefield Protection Efforts

The Battle of Franklin was fought on the edge of an urban area, and by the time national commemoration efforts were underway at the turn of the century, much of the lands comprising the battlefield had been developed or were highly valued. As a result no formal national “battlefield” was ever established. When ceremonies were held at Franklin in 1914 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the battle, much of the battlefield was already subdivided for residential development. Over the next several decades, no extensive efforts to preserve the Franklin Battlefield would take place.

The significance of the battlefield was finally recognized by the State of Tennessee when it purchased the Carter House in 1951. The Carter House, Carnton, Fort Granger, and Winstead Hill were all recognized as National Historic Landmarks in 1966 for their role during the battle. In 1978, the Carnton Association acquired the remaining land of the Carnton Plantation and began restoration of the property. Since the early 1990s, interest in preserving and reclaiming sections of the battlefield has increased significantly. These efforts include:

Franklin Battlefield Conferences (1992, 1993, 1994) - These three conferences were sponsored by the City of Franklin, Williamson County, the Heritage Foundation and other local groups to bring together business and historical groups to discuss methods of preserving battlefield resources and establishing heritage tourism. The conferences generated much interest for preserving Franklin’s Civil War sites.

Original research produced battlefield maps and a Battle of Franklin Driving Tour Map.

Profiles of America’s Most Threatened Civil War Battlefields (1993 / revised 1998) - National Parks Service - American Battlefield Protection Program - a survey of the Nov 30, 1864 and April 10, 1863 battlefields in Williamson County. The maps defined the area that was studied, and the boundaries of the core battlefield areas. This study encompassed dozens of Civil War Battlefields in several states, and is planned to be updated.

Winstead Hill Park and Fort Granger Study (1995) – The City of Franklin sponsored a study resulting in land being purchased on the north face of Winstead Hill. Fort Granger had been purchased by the City in the mid-1970s, and the Winstead Hill acreage was purchased by the City for a park. Interpretative signs were placed at both of these public parks.

US Highway 31 Battlefield Corridor Protection Plan (1996) - Sponsored by the Williamson County Heritage Foundation with a grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program, this study identified all historic sites, including battlefield parcels, along US Highway 31 from the Mack Hatcher Parkway north of Franklin to Saturn Parkway near Spring Hill. The study addressed preservation priorities, identified resources, land use and zoning, highway frontage, set-back requirements, and other characteristics. This plan has not yet been adopted as a guide by the City or County.

Roper’s Knob Purchase (1996) - The State owns 22 acres of this important site, while the Heritage Foundation purchased 26.3 acres. The Heritage Foundation gave a conservation

easement that is held by the Land Trust for Tennessee. The Heritage Foundation has future plans to donate their holdings to the City of Franklin.

Cotton Gin Site Purchase (1997) - The Heritage Foundation purchase an approximately half acre portion of the area known as the site of the Carter’s cotton gin, a key battlefield landmark and close to where Confederate General Patrick Cleburne was mortally wounded. The Heritage Foundation hopes to add to this site with adjacent land acquisitions so that the story of the battle and the cotton gin’s role can be better told.

Preservation and Interpretation Plan for Civil War Resources in Tennessee (2000) - Sponsored by the Tennessee Wars Commission, this plan is both an overall state strategy and a “how-to” preservation guide for local governments and organizations. This plan defines five regional themes and six statewide themes. The regional theme for Williamson County is “Hood’s Tennessee Campaign.”

A Master Plan for the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (2002) - In 1995, Congress established a National Heritage Areas program as part of its National Parks Service. In 1996 Congress funded the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage program with the goal to establish a strategy, coordinated with local governments and preservation groups, for preserving and interpreting Tennessee’s Civil War era resources. After public meetings across the state, this resultant Master Plan helps local governments and groups become part of the statewide preservation effort.

Past Battlefield Protection Efforts

Purchase of the Collins Farm (2001) - The Save the Franklin Battlefield Association purchased the Collins Farm on Lewisburg Pike in 2001. This 3.2 acre tract contains a historic dwelling and open space crossed by Loring's Division during the battle.



Collins Farm

Phase I of an Interpretive Plan for the Battle of Franklin (2003) - This study was commissioned by the Williamson County government to assess the preservation and interpretation of the property it owns at the former site of the Battle Ground Academy. This plan recommended the removal of numerous buildings, the re-creation of Federal fortifications, and conversion of the existing library building into an interpretive center.



Franklin Country Club golf course

Purchase of East Flank of Battlefield (2003) In 2003, a descendant of the McGavock Family purchased the 110-acre Franklin Country Club with the intention of eventually transforming the property back to its Civil War-era appearance. The owner hopes to recoup his investment by selling the property to the City and other battlefield supporters so it can become a public battlefield park.

Potential Preservation Measures

Battlefield protection efforts can employ a wide variety of measures, depending upon the resource types and their circumstances. The following preservation methods are the types most often relevant to Civil War battlefields:

- Fee-simple land purchases
- Conservation easement purchases
- Public policy measures (zoning, development codes, etc.)
- Landscape restoration (earthworks, historic vegetation, etc.)
- Building restoration

While fee-simple land purchases and conservation easements are the two most common tools for land acquisition, it should be noted that there are several other legal instruments available for controlling the rights to real estate. Also, in addition to measures to preserve and restore battlefields, most planning efforts include strategies for enhancing the site for visitation, such as improved access and the creation of parking facilities, as well as interpreting the battlefield through features such as wayside exhibits, tour brochures, and interpretive centers.

Fee-Simple Land Purchases

This land acquisition method is the most controlling and costly, as it extends the entire “bundle of rights” to a land owner. Under fee simple ownership, there are no limitations on the landowner’s ability to use their property other than those imposed by governmental regulation. In light of battlefield protection efforts, fee simple acquisition provides the greatest level of control of historic resources,

but it is also the most costly approach, especially in areas that have experienced inflated land values because of development pressures. Regardless, fee simple purchase is the most common form of battlefield protection used across the country.

Conservation Easement Purchases

Conservation easements, sometimes referred to as scenic easements, are a tool that can be used to control one or more aspects of property development without having to actually purchase the parcel outright. To protect historic resources such as a battlefield, an interested party may purchase a conservation easement so that a piece of property remains in agricultural use or some other undeveloped state. The easement owner or “holder” purchases the development rights to the property. The landowner continues to own the property. The property remains in private hands and on the tax rolls.

Conservation easements “run with the land” and are, thus, binding on subsequent owners. A property owner may benefit from the sale of an easement through a lower property tax burden. By limiting the development potential of a parcel, a conservation easement reduces the property’s market value and, in some cases, the associated tax liability. An exception to this rule in Tennessee is land already benefiting from “green belt” designation. The advantage of an easement purchase is that it is typically less expensive than a fee simple purchase, depending upon land values. On the other hand, owners of conservation easements generally lack most of the other land rights gained through fee simple purchases, such as unrestricted access to, and use of, the land.

“We have to renew a commitment in ourselves in this generation to preserve the battlefields of this war, the same kind of commitment that the veterans had that shed the blood on these places, and then came back and then shed tears of camaraderie and memory in later years.”

- Kathleen Georg Harrison
National Park Historian

Examples of some of the most successful use of conservation easement purchases can be found in Maryland. The Maryland Department of Natural Resources, through its Program Open Space (POS), has purchased easements for numerous properties comprising those portions of the Antietam Battlefield peripheral to the National Park holdings.

Public Policy Measures

In most cases, public policy measures, such as zoning, are of limited value for protecting battlefields. It is extremely difficult in most jurisdictions to generate the political will to “down zone” property, in which the allowed residential density or commercial intensity is actually reduced from the current zoning.

Cluster Zoning

One tool that is useful in some cases is cluster zoning or “Open Space Development,” which shifts development densities within a site so that development is geographically concentrated so that more open space can be preserved. Franklin’s zoning has provisions for such approaches. Even that approach, however, can still result in substantial damage to battlefields, and it is

Potential Preservation Measures

best reserved for maintaining viewsheds that are adjacent to battlefield lands.

Special Corridor Zoning

The zoning tool having the greatest potential for being effectively implemented is special corridor zoning. Because this type of zoning focuses on what can be viewed from the road, it sometimes permits substantial development to occur on a given property so long as it is set back considerably from the road and screened with dense vegetation. One exception to applying this approach is shallow parcels, in which case special corridor zoning can result in a legitimate hardship and "takings" claim. While this approach provides limited value for preservation, it is very beneficial for enhancing the visitor experience. Special corridor zoning is particularly appropriate for roads leading to historic sites. Another type of corridor zoning can be applied to more urban commercial areas. These standards do not attempt to visually screen development, but rather to enhance the appearance of gateways to battlefields. This type of approach was proposed for the Columbia Avenue Design Guidelines that were prepared for the Heritage Foundation in 2000, but never adopted by the City.

GIS Mapping

With respect to the planning program of the local government, simply getting them to include the location of battlefields within their comprehensive plans, Geographic Information System (GIS) or other mapping systems is a worthy starting point for heightening the

awareness of local planners to resource protection issues. The NPS's Cultural Resources GIS Facility (CRGIS), which was initiated in 1990 to map battlefield features, utilizes Global Positioning Systems (GPS) as a high-tech means of transferring field observations into a spatial database that can be electronically manipulated. The CRGIS may serve as a good source of technical advice for the City of Franklin in mapping battlefields.

Archeological Survey Requirement

At present, the City has no requirements for archeological survey work prior to development approval. One option is for the City to require a survey for developments within the delineated battlefield, or perhaps only the "core" battlefield area. An alternative to requiring such a survey for all developments is to limit the requirement to developments of a certain magnitude, such as 10 acres or more. It is important to recognize the difference between techniques applied to prehistoric habitational sites compared to a nineteenth century battlefield.

Landscape Restoration

When considering landscape restoration efforts, it is recommended that *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (1996) be consulted. A major challenge to restoring historic landscapes is successfully researching its original appearance. The Stones River Battlefield in Murfreesboro, for example, has benefited greatly from research into historic maps and eyewitness accounts of the battle that allowed the NPS to create a relatively accurate historic landscape map

during the 1960s. Most sites, such as the Franklin Battlefield, are not as blessed with such valuable materials. The restoration of earthworks, such as those at Fort Granger, must be done with extreme care and under expert supervision. Otherwise, attempts may result in more harm than good.

Building Restoration

While the primary emphasis in battlefield preservation tends to be on historic landscapes, surviving buildings can also be critical resources in telling the story of a battle. Many battlefields are not so fortunate as to feature surviving buildings. However, for those that are, such as the Franklin Battlefield, buildings that were used as officers headquarters, post-battle hospitals, and similar functions provide one of the most tangible and vivid snapshots of a battle. While some such structures are used as private residences, those that are income producing can benefit from the federal investment tax credit for the rehabilitation of historic structures should a major restoration be needed. This program provides a 20% tax credit for qualified rehabilitations based upon the following standards:

- National Register designation or eligibility
- Rehabilitation follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation
- Project costs exceed the property's adjusted cost basis (cost of acquisition and rehabilitation work to date)
- Property must be income producing (i.e., commercial use or residential rental)

While a non-profit organization cannot benefit from the credit, income-producing ventures such, as bed and breakfasts, can.

Defining the Battlefield

For the purposes of this plan, the battlefield has been delineated into two different areas, as explained below and as illustrated on a map on the following page. It is noteworthy that, because it is impossible to pinpoint the exact location of where the battlefield and core combat areas begin and end, the map has intentionally obscured those boundaries.

battlefield area

Battlefields are typically defined as the area in which opposing armies became aware of each others' presence and began strategic maneuvering in order to gain a competitive advantage for the ensuing combat. The battlefield area includes troop staging areas, battery positions, rear field hospitals, and the combat areas. It does not, on the other hand, include the routes over which armies traveled to reach the battlefield area. The battlefield area is often thought of as the "chess board" over which the opposing generals moved their respective armies in the game of warfare.

In the case of the Franklin Battlefield, a recent commercial development called into question how far south the battlefield extended. As the two quotes above to the far right verify, Franklin's battlefield area undoubtedly extended as far south as Winstead and Breezy Hills. It was from those hills that the Confederate commanders deployed their troops. In fact, the battlefield area extends a considerable distance south of Winstead and Breezy Hills because fighting occurred there when the Confederate advance forces first encountered Union troops prior to the main fighting later in the day.

core combat area

In addition to the area under artillery fire, the "Core Combat Area" is generally considered the area of musket fire between the opposing lines. A rifled musket could typically shoot with some level of accuracy a distance of 300 yards. In the case of Franklin, the opposing lines shifted, as the Union "forward line," which extended just south of Battle Avenue, was pushed back toward the Carter House early in the battle. Franklin's core combat area is also defined by artillery fire from Ft. Granger into the Confederate right near Carnton Plantation.

"As the Confederate army began to file in between the two hills and to deploy right and left and take their positions in line, the Confederate bands began to play 'Dixie,' and a shout ... went up ..."

- Hardin Figuers, 15 year old Franklin resident

"The Confederate army just below us was passing along the [Columbia] pike, one part filing to the right, the other to the left at the foot of the hill."

- Dr. G. C. Phillips, surgeon, 22nd Mississippi



The "Battlefield Area" can be thought of as the chess board on which opposing armies maneuvered.

Defining the Battlefield

LEGEND

- Core Battlefield Area
- Battlefield Area

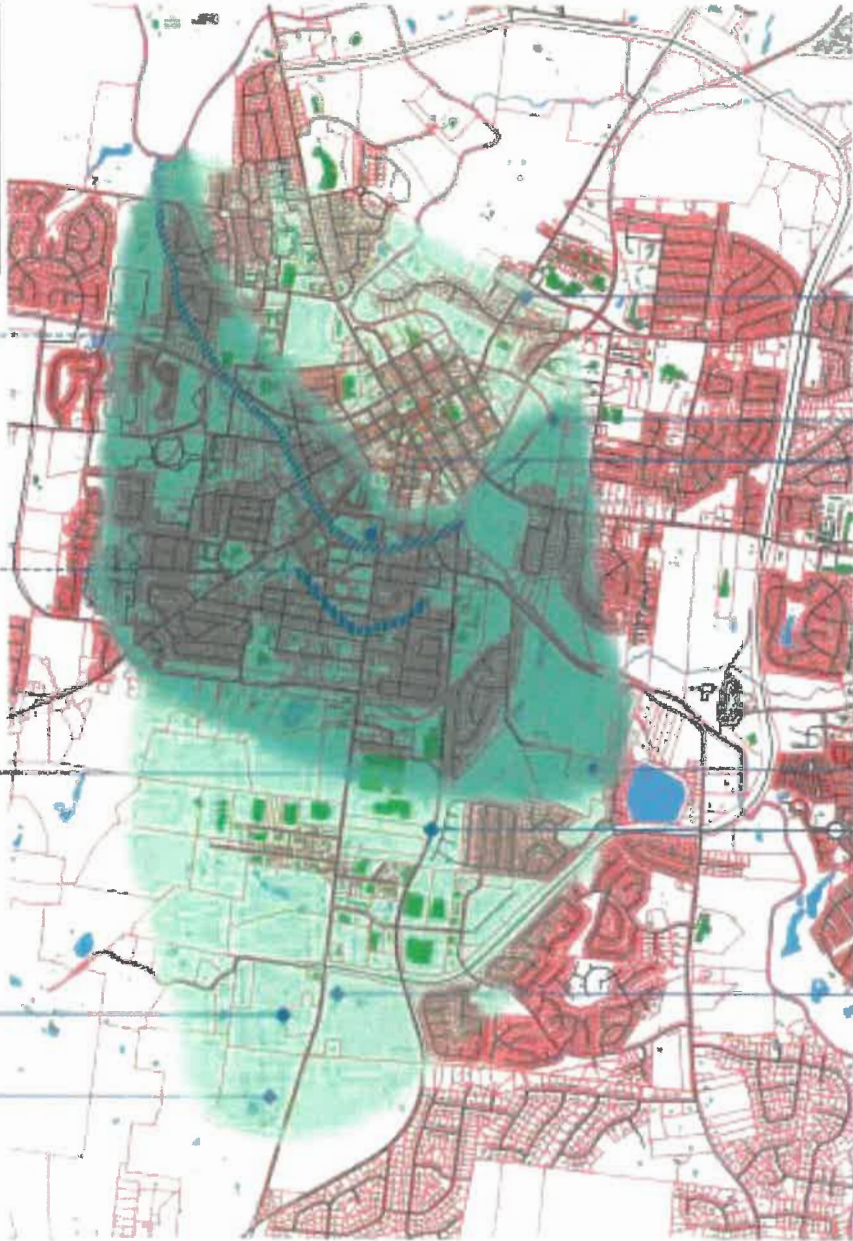
Main Union Line

Advanced Union Line

Columbia Pike

Wintwood Hill

William Harrison House



Alpheus Truett House

Fort Granger

Carter House

Carnton Mansion

Nashville and Decatur Railroad

Breezy Hill

Note: Battlefield element labels surrounded by a blue dash-lined box are no longer existing intact.

Battlefield Master Plan

The following central ideas of the master plan are explained on the subsequent pages in the order listed below (unrelated to priorities):

Develop a **1) Visitors Center** for the city's overall history and an **2) Interpretive Center** for the Battlefield.

Expand the **3) Carter House** site by linking with adjacent properties.

Develop a **4) Battlefield Park** next to **5) Carnton Plantation** by reclaiming and interpreting the existing golf course as an important part of the battlefield.

Enhance and interpret the **6) Collins Farm** site.

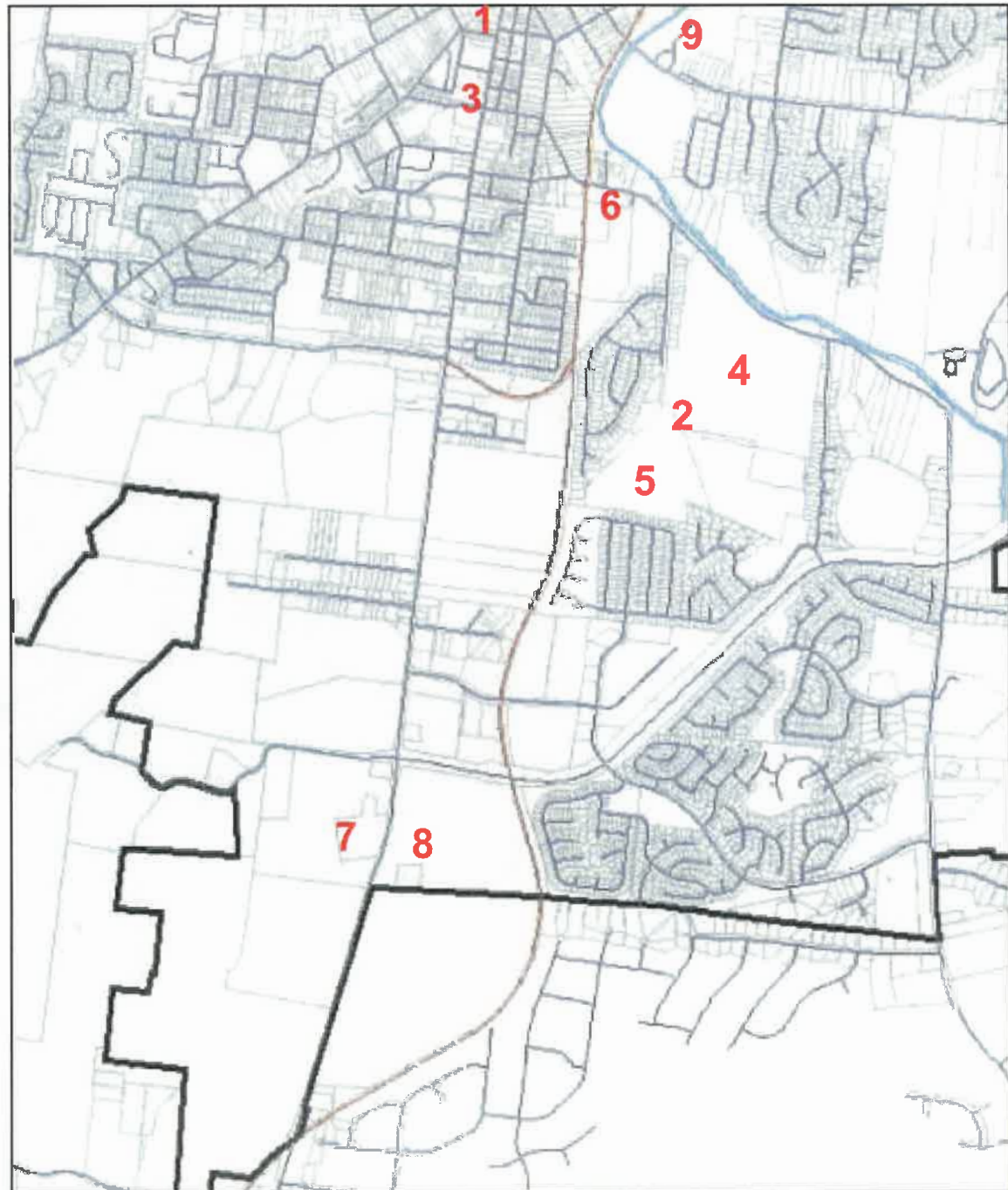
Expand the **7) Winstead Hill** trail system and protect **8) Breezy Hill** from development.

Improve access, vistas and signage for **9) Fort Granger**.

Enhance access and interpretation for **Ropers Knob** and **Cedar Hill** (both north of the area shown in the map at right).

Interpret the many **Downtown Buildings** associated with the Battle of Franklin.

Link Franklin's Civil War sites through a **Greenway System, Directional Signage** for roadways, reprinting the existing **Driving Tour Brochure**, and adopting the **Columbia Avenue Design Guidelines**.



Franklin Visitor's Center

It is recommended that a Visitors Center be developed for both visitors and Franklin residents to enjoy. Given the city's rich and diverse history, the center should primarily interpret Franklin's broader history, in addition to addressing the Civil War in order to give the Battle of Franklin a context. Ideally, the Visitors Center should include the following features:

- Parking for at least 25 vehicles
- Bus loading area
- Public rest rooms
- Interpretive exhibits
- Orientation film
- Staff to answer questions
- Maps and brochures

It is recognized that a more limited visitors center may be necessary because of funding constraints. A bare minimum should at least include rest rooms, interpretive exhibits and brochures, with no staffing.

It is recommended that the Visitors Center be located in or near downtown to be centrally

located to the city's various sites and to leverage economic benefits for downtown's businesses. Downtown needs public rest rooms anyway, and the Visitors Center can direct visitors to the proposed Battlefield Interpretive Center (see the next page). While selecting a Visitors Center site will require a specific site selection and feasibility study, the following existing structures should be considered for adaptive reuse, and they are listed in order of their perceived suitability based upon preliminary considerations (see the map below):

- 1) Vacant County Library at Five Points
- 2) Historic County Courthouse
- 3) Historic Railroad Depot

One additional option might be the brick Greek Revival antebellum bank building located on the north side of Main Street across from St. Phillips Catholic Church. It is privately owned (see page 53 for a photograph).

It is acknowledged that the County's current plans for the vacant library do not appear to accommodate a new visitors center. However, given the building's favorable attributes, it is worth an effort to strike an agreement with the County for a downtown visitors center.



Source: Central Franklin Area Plan (2004)



The former County Library is modern enough to accommodate state-of-the-art interpretive exhibits, and its location benefits downtown and is convenient to the Carter House.



The fact that the historic County Courthouse served as a hospital after the Battle of Franklin adds to its appeal as a visitors center. Its location would also leverage economic benefits to downtown.



Although the depot is currently occupied by a business, it has many merits, including its Civil War history, proximity to nearby retail and Fort Granger, and plenty of space for parking.

Battlefield Interpretive Center

It is recommended that a Battlefield Interpretive Center be developed on the current Franklin Country Club adjacent to Carnton Plantation. As described in more detail on page 41, it is recommended that all buildings comprising the country club be removed, with the exception of the Club House. It is proposed that the Club House be adapted into the Interpretive Center. The Battlefield Interpretive Center should include the following features:

- Parking for at least 40 vehicles
- Bus loading area
- Public rest rooms
- Interpretive exhibits
- Orientation film
- Staff to answer questions
- Maps and brochures

There are several reasons why the proposed location is well-suited, including its location on the eastern flank of the battlefield and its potential availability within the near future.



The only facility proposed to remain is the Club House for adaptation into an Interpretive Center.

In addition to featuring high-quality facilities, the Battlefield Interpretive Center should be programmed for a wide range of activities that serve as a constant draw for visitors. Living history demonstrations might include camp life, military drills, arms demonstrations and similar activities.



Living history demonstrations, such as military maneuvers, add greatly to the visitor experience.



The Club House's design eludes to the vernacular rural architecture of 19th-century Franklin.

"It's the visitor that completes the circle of memory, because every historic site is simply dead without the visitor who brings their own sense of what this place means and wanting to extract something from it, and it's in the interplay between site, and monument and visitor that these places become alive."

- Edward T. Linenthal, author of "Sacred Ground"

The Battlefield Interpretive Center's exhibits should combine authentic Civil War artifacts with high-technology interpretive approaches. An emphasis should be placed on interactive exhibits, including hands-on opportunities for children and computer stations for researching genealogy associated with the Battle of Franklin.



Photograph Source: Atlanta History Center

Although high-quality exhibits will require a minimum number of artifacts, the emphasis should be on the interpretive approach.

Carter House Area

Because of its strategic location at the center of the Union lines on Columbia Pike, the Carter House is considered to be the single most pivotal location for the Battle of Franklin. Eyewitness accounts of the battle reference the Carter House and the associated Cotton Gin more than any other landmark of the battlefield. Adding to this significance is the history of the Carter Family, particularly the family's ordeal in their basement during the battle, as well as the death of Tod Carter from wounds inflicted in the battle.



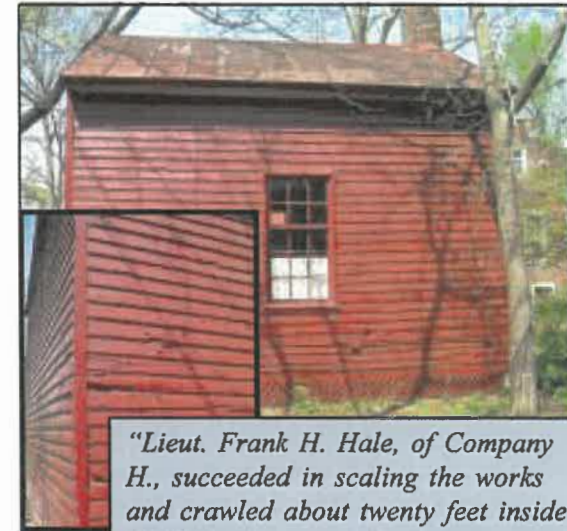
Fountain Branch Carter, the Patriarch of the Carter Family, stayed with his family in the Carter House basement as the battle raged outside.



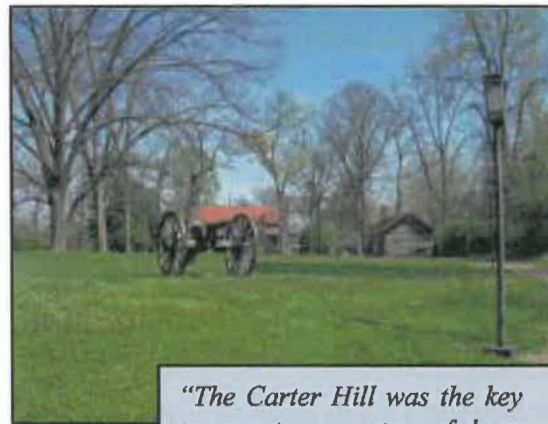
Theodrick "Tod" Carter, a Captain with the Army of Tennessee, was mortally wounded approximately 150 yards southwest of the Carter House smokehouse. He was found after the battle and carried to his home, where he died.



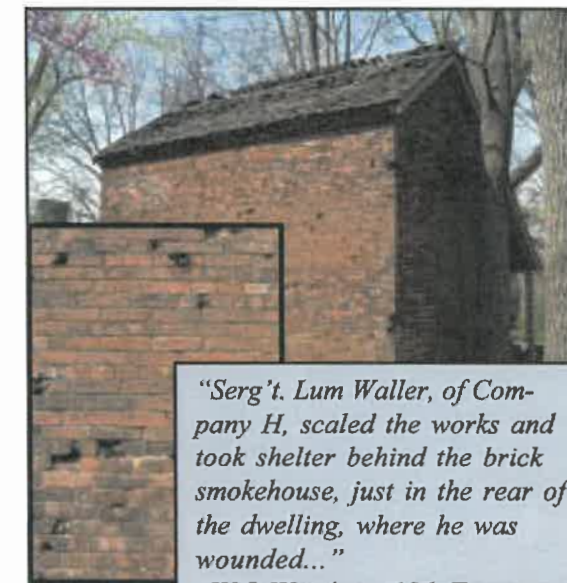
"The position we occupied was just in front of the Carter house, and the 50th Regiment actually tore down the Carter barn to help build our breastworks... Our second line of works joined on to the Carter smokehouse, which lay west of the house."
- Lt. Thomas Thoburn, 50th Ohio



"Lieut. Frank H. Hale, of Company H., succeeded in scaling the works and crawled about twenty feet inside the Federal lines to the frame house... that stood in the yard of the Carter house, where he was killed with bullets from the guns of his own regiment."
- W.J. Worsham, 19th Tennessee



"The Carter Hill was the key to any strong system of defence in front of the town... The house was of brick,... but not very high, as it was built of one lofty and airy story..."
- U.S Brigadier General Cox



"Serg't. Lum Waller, of Company H, scaled the works and took shelter behind the brick smokehouse, just in the rear of the dwelling, where he was wounded..."
- W.J. Worsham, 19th Tennessee

Carter House Area

The following recommendations are offered for the Carter House area:

OLD FRANKLIN HIGH GYM

Once this site becomes part of the Carter House site, the following measures should be followed:

- Demolition of the gymnasium and associated parking areas
- Restoration of the historic landscape, including removal of vegetative buffering between this site and the current Carter House site.
- Installation of historic fencing
- Provision of one or more reproduction cannons to interpret the artillery battery positioned on this site during the battle.

Properties to the South
The two parcels between the Carter House and Strahl Street should be a secondary priority for the Carter House, as follows:

- The first priority of the two should be the property directly adjacent to the Carter House site.
- Once acquired, the existing structures should be relocated given their post-Civil War architectural significance.
- If acquisition of the property to the immediate south is not possible, it is recommended that the strip of land between the Carter House property and the adjoining structure be controlled through either fee-simple purchase or the purchase of an access and conservation easement.



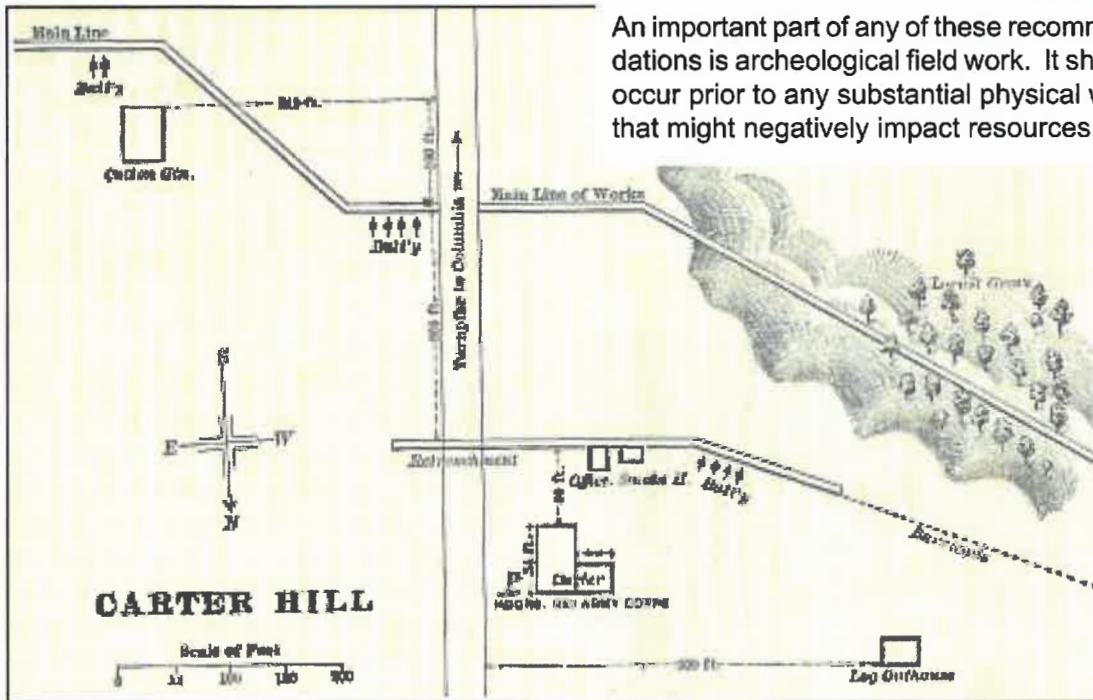
Based upon a completed land trade deal, the school property to the immediate north of the Carter House will soon become part of the Carter House site.



Should the owners become willing sellers, the two properties immediately south of the Carter House would be tremendous additions once cleared.



If the properties south of the Carter House cannot be acquired, the strip of land on the south side of the frame office and brick smokehouse should be pursued for an access and conservation easement.



An important part of any of these recommendations is archeological field work. It should occur prior to any substantial physical work that might negatively impact resources.

This historic sketch of the Carter House property is consistent with historic accounts.

Carter House Area

Lotz House

This Civil War era house, located across the street from the Carter House, witnessed intense fighting during the battle. It is currently used as an office and owned by someone interested in eventually creating a historic house museum. It is recommended that efforts be made to link the Lotz House with the Carter House, particularly once the old gymnasium site directly across from the Lotz House is physically integrated with the Carter House. The following steps should be taken:

- Develop a crosswalk with special pavers across Columbia Pike to link the two sites
- Cross-market between the two sites to encourage visitors to one site to visit the other
- Coordinate interpretive strategies between the two sites



The Lotz House's eventual development as a historic house museum will add to the overall visitor draw of the Carter House area.

Cotton Gin Site

Although the gin building no longer exists, this site has great significance because of its role in the battle as a major landmark. Located approximately 80 yards east of Columbia Pike on Cleburne Street, the site features a historic marker and is occupied by a post-Civil War

historic house. For several years there have been discussions about the acquisition of the two pizzarias located at the intersection of Columbia Pike and Cleburne Street so the sites can be cleared of development. This action would remove two high-profile visual intrusions

while enhancing the Carter House's context. Given the challenges involved, it is not recommended as a near-term priority, but it is a high-priority one. Any such work should incorporate an archeological survey at the front end.



Cotton Gin site and historic marker



Restaurants located at Columbia Pike and Cleburne Street



Carnton Plantation

Carnton Plantation was the home of the McGavock Family during the Civil War. The family's home was located on the eastern flank of the battlefield, just south of where some of the heaviest fighting occurred. After the battle, it became one of the key hospitals for wounded Confederates, and the bodies of Generals Cleburne and Adams were laid out on the home's back porch.

Today the house and its expansive grounds are owned by the non-profit Historic Carnton Association, which operates it as a historic house museum. The Battle of Franklin and the house's role as a hospital is a key focus of the site's interpretation. Great efforts have been made to return the site to its Civil War-era appearance, including the installation of a garden and a board fence around the perimeter of the house.



Front facade of Carnton Mansion, which features a Greek Revival portico



Resting place for generals' bodies.

Carnton Plantation's current stewards do an excellent job of managing and interpreting this important site. Therefore, only the following recommendations are offered:

- After carefully considering an potential impacts to archeological resources, plant a dense row of indigenous evergreen trees, such as cedars, along the western edge of the property to provide a year-round visual screen from the adjacent residential.
- Begin marketing and interpreting the expansive grounds of Carnton Plantation as a part of the battlefield to help fill the void that Franklin currently faces in not having a true "battlefield" to tout for tourism.
- Continue with the important archeological work currently occurring on the grounds immediately south of the house in order to better tell the story of the building's origins and evolution.



Carnton Plantation's expansive grounds should be marketed and interpreted as part of the Franklin Battlefield.



Although the deciduous vegetation currently existing along the site's western boundary provides substantial screening from new houses during most months of the year, evergreens are needed for a year-round complete screen.

"[Mrs. McGavock's] house... was in the rear of our line. The house is one of the large old-fashioned houses of the better class in Tennessee, two stories high, with many rooms... This was taken as a hospital, and the wounded, in hundreds, were brought to it during the battle, and all the night after. Every room was filled, every bed had two poor, bleeding fellows, every spare space, niche, and corner under the stairs, in the hall, everywhere - but one room for her own family."

- Captain William D. Gale
Adjunct General to Gen. Stewart's staff
Army of Tennessee

Battlefield Park

In 2003, a descendant of the McGavock Family purchased the 110-acre Franklin Country Club with the intention of eventually transforming the property back to its Civil War-era appearance. The owner hopes to recoup his investment by selling the property to the City and other battlefield supporters so it can become a public battlefield park. Although it is unclear when the land's transformation will occur, the following recommendations are suggested:

- As a first step to determine the acceptability of any subsequent work, prepare a Cultural Landscape Report and any needed archeological studies.
- Prepare a Master Plan for the property that would remove intrusive existing improvements and might answer the following types of questions:
 - Should the tennis courts, outbuildings, and some of the parking be removed?
 - Should grading and landscaping occur on the golf course to restore the historic terrain based upon research on its historic appearance?
 - Should the office and gift shop currently located by Carnton Mansion be relocated to the existing Club House?
 - Should the Club House be transformed into an Interpretive Center for the Battle of Franklin?



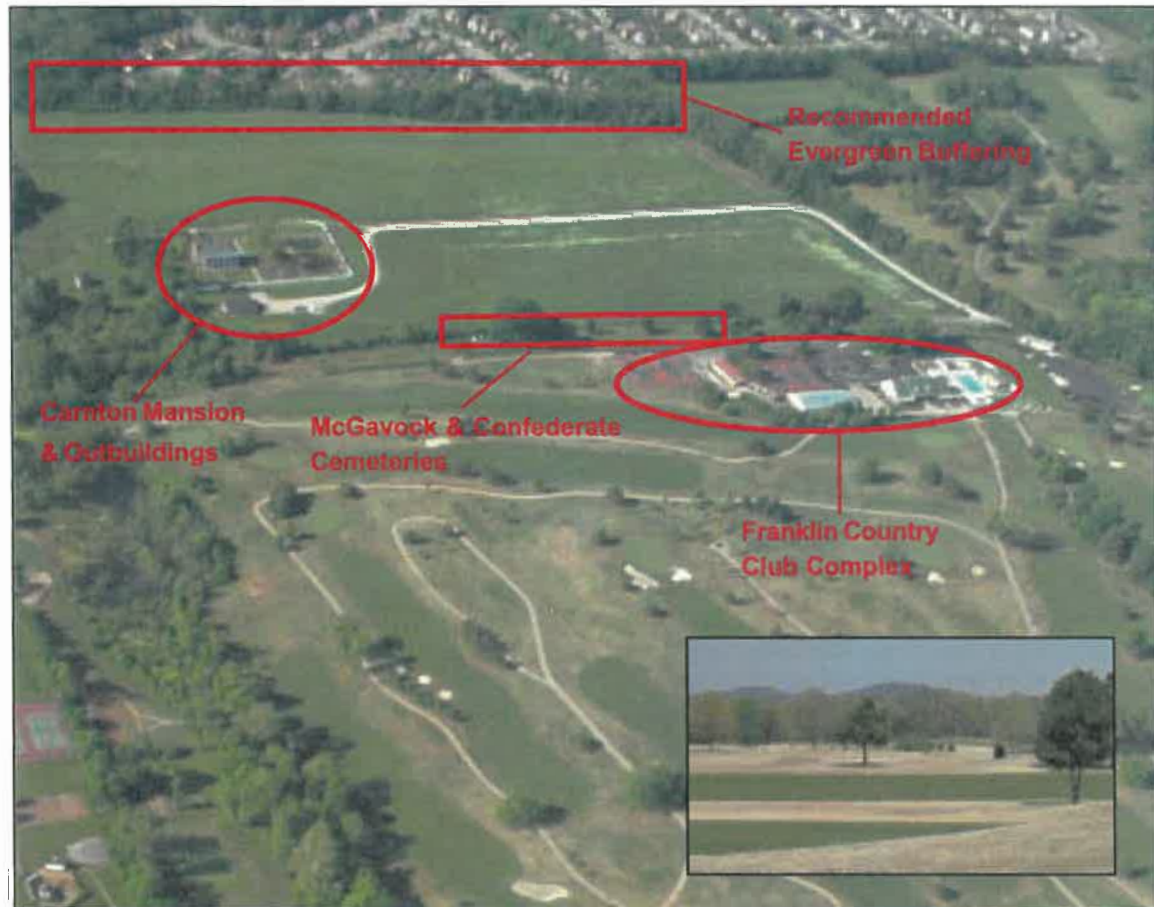
The country club's club house can serve multiple purposes for Carnton, including office space, interpretive exhibits, a gift shop, and rest rooms.



The contrast between the Confederate Cemetery's appearance on the left versus the view on the right, with the country club's tennis courts in the background, is dramatic. The eventual removal of most of these improvements will do much toward returning a sense of dignity to the cemetery. Landscape restoration will be aided by aerial photos taken prior to the golf course, as well as the golf course plans.

"The ground embraced by The Country Club of Franklin played a crucial role in the Battle of Franklin. It was across this very land that A.P. Stewart's Corp advanced... all the time receiving enemy fire... every bit as bloody and vicious as any fighting along Columbia Pike...; this plot of land holds an equal importance to our nation as any piece of battlefield."

- Ed Bearss, Chief Historian, Emeritus - National Park Service



Battlefield Park

Although page 60 summarizes each key recommendation of this plan with respect to priority levels, it is worth noting the plan's top priority here: **It is recommended that the top battlefield priority for Franklin be the proposed transformation of the Franklin Country Club into the Battlefield Park.** This project has been identified as the top priority for the following four reasons in order of importance:

The Battlefield Park is a once in a life-time opportunity. Any good plan must be opportunistic, and so it is with battlefield preservation plans. It has been many years since any opportunity such as this one existed -- a large and significant battlefield site with an owner interested in its preservation. Such an opportunity will likely never occur again. Although no development plans have been submitted, the zoning allows residential development.

The Battlefield Park fills the one glaring void in Franklin's current heritage tourism package. Franklin boasts a broad range of

historic sites that can draw tourists, including historic house museums, a historic downtown and historic neighborhoods. Despite its rich heritage, there is no bonafide "battlefield" to draw tourists. The Carter House and Carnton each attract approximately 37,500 people annually. The Stones River Battlefield in nearby Murfreesboro attracts approximately 250,000 annually. Given its interstate access and many great attractions, there is no reason Franklin could not see similar visitation rates.

The proposed Battlefield Park is a springboard for other nearby sites. Nearby sites that can be leveraged include:

- Carnton Plantation & Confederate Cemetery
- Collins Farm
- Harpeth River & Future Greenway
- Historic Lewisburg Pike

The proposed Battlefield Park's context retains the highest level of integrity of any other key Franklin Battlefield resources. Primary boundaries for this property include Carnton Plantation, the Harpeth River and historic Lewisburg Pike, all with great integrity.

Carnton Plantation is a National Historic Landmark property having a high level of integrity and scenic value. Lewisburg Pike is also historic, retains strong aesthetic qualities and played an important role as a transportation route during the Battle of Franklin. The Harpeth River shares these same qualities with regard to its scenic value and historic significance tied directly to the battle. In contrast, the only other relatively large and undeveloped land associated with the battle is located on Columbia Pike, a road dominated with segments of strip commercial development, and an adjacent rock quarry and factory.

"The ground embraced by The Country Club of Franklin played a crucial role in the Battle of Franklin... this may well be the last chance in our lifetime - the last chance future generations have - to recover and preserve a significant portion of open space battlefield - and return it to battlefield - at Franklin."

- Ed Bearss, Chief Historian, Emeritus, NPS



TODAY



TOMORROW?



.....OR TOMORROW?

Collins Farm

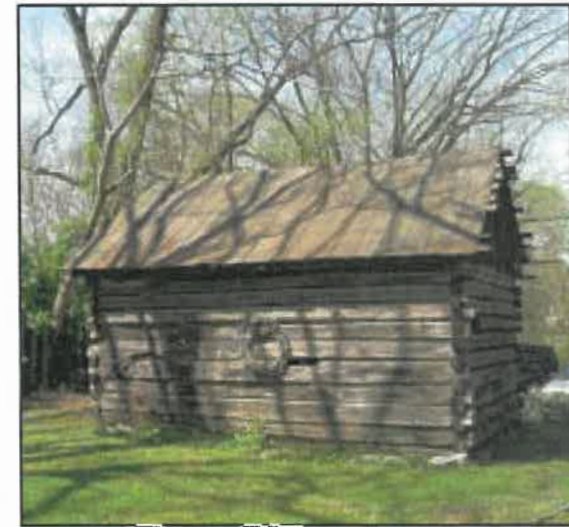
During the Battle of Franklin, Confederate General Loring's Division traversed this property and was met by Union cannon fire from Fort Granger. After an unsuccessful charge upon the Union works, many of the Confederates returned to this place seeking the protection from enemy fire provided by a natural ravine. The non-profit Save The Franklin Battlefield, Inc. (STFB) purchased the 3.2-acre property on the Lewisburg Pike with the intention of preserving it as an important part of the battlefield. The property features an old house that has evolved over the years with additions, as well as a log outbuilding. It is uncertain whether the house's origins predate the Civil War. The following recommendations are suggested:

- Conduct a historic structures report to determine the age of the property's buildings.
- If any of the structures date back to the Civil War, consider removal of all buildings and building sections dating after that era, and restore the original structures.
- If all of the structures date from after the Civil War and are not eligible for the National Register, consider their eventual removal.

With respect to conducting a historic structures report, STFB should consult with Middle Tennessee State University's Center for Historic Preservation to see if such a study could be provided at no or little cost through either the Center or the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, which is administered by the Center. Also, it is acknowledged that STFB must still recoup the costs of purchasing the Collins Farm, so the current leasing of the dwelling for residential use may need to continue for several more years, if not indefinitely.



The Collins Farm witnessed heavy fighting as part of Hood's right flank.



Verification of the age of the property's two buildings and their significance might determine the next steps that should be taken.



The property's current use for rental housing helps pay for the mortgage loan and upkeep.

Winstead Hill Area

Confederate General John Bell Hood used the Harrison House, located south of Winstead Hill, as his headquarters during the Battle of Franklin. Because of their proximity and views, he used Winstead and Breezy Hills as observation points. Furthermore, as confirmed by the historic accounts quoted on page 32, the bases of Winstead and Breezy Hill were used as troop staging and deployment areas from which Hood's numerous disastrous charges departed.

The Sons of Confederate Veterans owns the 17-acre portion of Winstead Hill that includes the observation shelter. The City owns another 67 acres surrounding it. A master plan was prepared for the park in 1995 and many improvements were added to the existing improvements, which already included a parking area, a paved path, an overlook shelter on the north slope of the hill, and interpretive markers. The second phase of improvements occurred further down the slope, including rest rooms and a more extensive path system. Based on current conditions, the following recommendations are made (see next page):



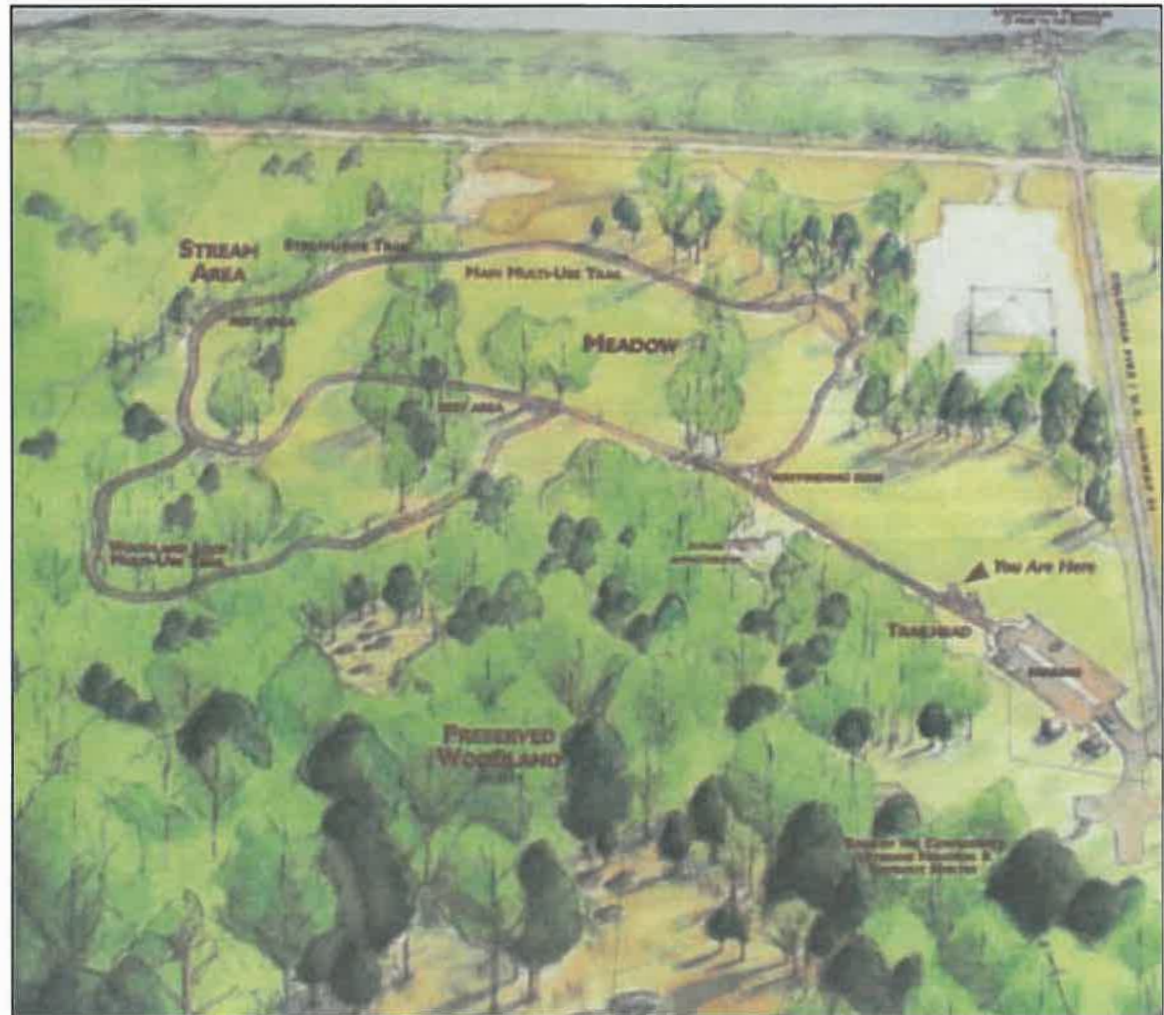
Sign for Winstead Hill



Aerial view of the more recent parking area and trail system at the foot of Winstead Hill.



Public rest rooms and bicycle racks from the more recent improvements at the base of Winstead Hill.



Photograph of one of the more recent interpretive waysides at the base of Winstead Hill.

Winstead Hill Area

- Clear a small area on the south side of Winstead Hill's summit as an observation point to view the Harrison House, but do so by hand and with expert oversight so as to not significantly impact the terrain.
- Develop a pathway connecting the existing observation shelter on the north slope of Winstead Hill with the proposed observation point on the south side.
- Provide an interpretive wayside exhibit about the Harrison House at the proposed new observation point.
- Pursue a fee simple purchase or conservation easement for neighboring Breezy Hill.



This type of paved pathway at the base of Winstead Hill should be replicated to access a new observation point at the top of the south slope.



Because the Harrison House is privately owned and not open to the public, a visual connection should be afforded from the top of Winstead Hill.



Existing observation shelter on the north side of Winstead Hill



View from Winstead Hill looking north toward the new commercial development on Columbia Pike



The Harrison House

The Harrison House is a two-story brick Antebellum home located on the west side of Columbia Pike just south of Winstead Hill. The house was used by Confederate General John Bell Hood as his headquarters during the Battle of Franklin. From nearby Winstead and Breezy Hills he observed the battle's development and gave orders as needed. The Harrison House was the last place where Hood had pre-battle discussions with several of his generals, some of who would never return from the field.

Today the Harrison House and its surrounding property is privately owned. The house has been carefully preserved and its context is in relatively good condition. Although there are several post-war outbuildings near the house, they have been sited in a manner that does not visually compete with the house. The surrounding land is in an open pasture-like state, retaining much of the character it would have had during the 1860s. The only significant negative impact to the house's context is an elementary school that was recently constructed across Columbia Pike from the property. Because of the property's private ownership by a preservation-minded owner, recommendations are limited to the following:

- Pursue long-term protective measures, such as a conservation easement, for the house and surrounding lands from any future negative alterations or development.
- Integrate the house's history into all future interpretation efforts, but make it clear that the property is not open to the public.
- Provide a wayside exhibit about the Harrison House as part of a new observation point on Winstead Hill (see page 45).



General John
Bell Hood

The house's historic facade needs long-term protective measures to insure its future integrity.



When viewed from the road, the Harrison House's prominence on the site manages to visually downplay the adjacent post-war buildings.

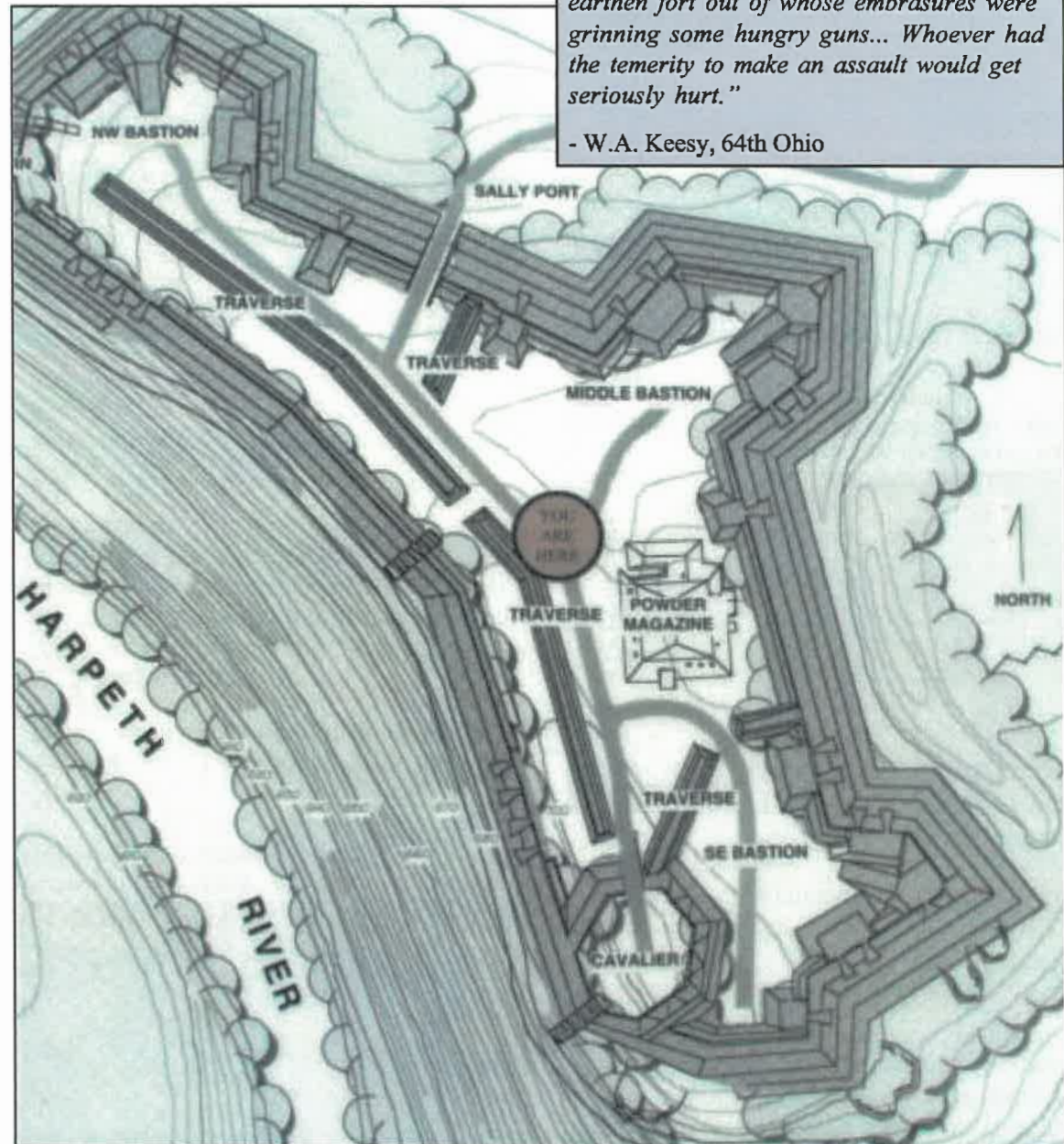
Fort Granger

Fort Granger was built by the Union army in early 1863 following their occupation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. This earthen fort was strategically located to guard the railroad tressel over the Harpeth River, as well as the Franklin - Murfreesboro Road (Hwy. 96 today). Key features include three bastions for positioning artillery, a sally port for access, and a centrally located powder magazine.

The fort is now part of the City's Pinkerton Park, and its contours are extremely well preserved. An interpretation plan was prepared in 1995, and several high-quality interpretive wayside exhibits explain the fort's function and history. However, negative features include poor access, both to the site and within the site. Also, adjacent industrial development is a visible intrusion, and there is only one clear view from the fort that provides an understanding of its strategic position (with the exception of winter months when foliage is not an issue). Fort Granger is not a well-known resource within the broader community, but it has tremendous potential for increased visitation.



This interpretive wayside is one of several high quality exhibits already existing at Fort Granger.



"On the bank of the Harpeth river stood an earthen fort out of whose embrasures were grinning some hungry guns... Whoever had the temerity to make an assault would get seriously hurt."

- W.A. Keesy, 64th Ohio

Detailed view of an interpretive wayside illustrating the layout of Fort Granger

Fort Granger

Access

Improvements are needed for both vehicular and pedestrian access, as follows:

Vehicular Access & Parking

- Provide strategically-placed directional signage for both routes to the fort.
- Enhance and expand the small gravel parking lot existing on the north side of the fort.
- Consider extending the existing vehicular access and parking in Pinkerton Park further north toward the fort (if sufficient public support exists).

Pedestrian Access

- Develop a paved path connecting the parking lot north of the fort to the fort.
- Repair and maintain the existing pedestrian facilities (stairways, ramps, etc.) on the south side of the fort.



Although the adjacent business permits parking for the fort, this gravel lot (above left) is the only designated parking. The City-owned strip of land linking the fort and parking lot (above right) should be physically enhanced for access with a trail.



Access to the fort from Pinkerton Park includes facilities in serious need of repair.

Views

Some views at Fort Granger need to be optimized, while others need to be minimized.

Vista Improvements

Views to the west and southwest toward the river, the rail line and the town need to be improved by clearing vegetation at key locations to create vistas that convey the fort's strategic position.

Screening of Intrusions

Indigenous evergreen trees, such as cedars, should be used to visually screen out intrusive views of adjacent industrial uses.



Vegetative screening has been employed to screen some incompatible views, but more is needed.

Promoting the Fort
Although there are still many areas for improvement, even in its current state Fort Granger has much untapped potential for visitation by both tourists and Franklin residents. Progress will first require the following two key steps:

- 1) Aesthetically enhance the site with an eye for detail.
- 2) Promote the fort much more vigorously through written marketing materials and other avenues.



Promoting the fort for increased visitation will require greater attention to aesthetic details, such as remedying this sign's peeling paint.

"[Fort Granger] was separated from the town by the river and constituted a permanent fort, which had been constructed there in January, 1863, by Gen. Gordon Granger. This fort was frowning with heavy artillery and siege pieces. From that point the Federals could sweep the plain lying south of Franklin for two miles."

- Hardin P. Figuers
15 year old Franklin resident

Roper's Knob

Located just fifteen miles south of Nashville, Franklin held a strategic position in the Union's line of communications and supplies as well as defense. To secure the Union garrison at Franklin, the army constructed fortifications on surrounding hilltops throughout the area, including a signal station at Roper's Knob. The site served as an important communication post with visibility of six miles in all directions in the Harpeth River Valley. The fortifications at Roper's Knob were constructed between April 19 and May 29, 1863. Approximately 5,000 men accomplished the operation. Each day two reliefs of 600 men worked eight-hour shifts until the work was complete. Captain William E. Merrill, U.S. Topographical Engineer, supervised the construction of the Franklin defenses. Upon its completion, Roper's Knob had a redoubt for four heavy guns, inside which was a blockhouse that could hold sixty men. The fortifications also contained two 4,500-gallon cisterns and a large magazine. Merrill boasted that the site was so secure that "fifty men could hold it against 5,000."

Well fortified, the signal station at Roper's Knob relayed important communications to fortifications in Triune to the east and La Vergne to the northeast, and then to Nashville. Signal stations were important to the Union military effort as they transmitted information regarding the movement of Confederate troops to Union officers. Communications proved especially important during the 1864 campaign of Confederate General John Bell Hood through Middle Tennessee. It is unclear whether artillery was arranged at Roper's Knob in defense of the Confederate mission,



Roper's Knob, the hill on the right, served as a signal point during the Battle of Franklin. Today it serves as an important landmark for Franklin's historic landscape.

but records indicate that it was a possibility. The October 1, 1864 communications of Assistant Adjutant-General B.H. Polk to Major General Rousseau state, "I send down to Franklin this evening two 3-inch Parrots and 400 rounds of ammunition. Shall any guns go upon Roper's Knob, or shall all go in the large fort?"

Following the Battle of Franklin on November 30, 1864, Roper's Knob, along with the other Franklin fortifications, was abandoned by the retreating Federal army. After the Union victory at the Battle of Nashville in mid-December, Roper's Knob was again reoccupied by Federal forces until the end of the war. The outer entrenchment and redoubt at Roper's Knob remain clearly discernible and well defined, and have only experienced natural erosion. The high peak, with its commanding view of the surrounding valley, combined with the high integrity of the earthworks, conveys a strong sense of its historical period.

Today the 22-acre summit is owned by the State of Tennessee, and 36 acres of the south face was recently given to the City by the Heritage Foundation. An archaeological survey has been

conducted by the State, but no interpretive plan has been prepared. The property is not open to the public, although Save The Franklin Battlefield (STFB) has gained permission to lead tours to the summit on several occasions. The following recommendations are provided for Roper's Knob:

- Create a small parking area at a point closest to Roper's Knob via public roads.
- Develop an improved trail connecting the proposed parking area with Roper's Knob.
- Provide interpretive wayside exhibits to tell the story of Roper's Knob.
- Conduct an archeological survey prior to any physical work on the site.

"Once we've lost these battlefields, we will never get them back. It's like destroying a rain forest, you can't resuscitate it. These battlefields, they're so important to our history. Unhappily, not enough people in this country really relate to that."

- Senator Dale Bumpers, Arkansas

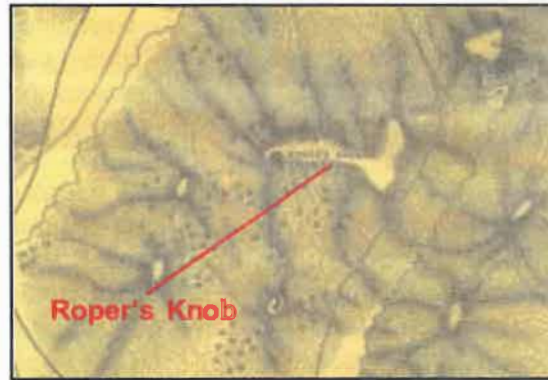
Cedar Hill

This one-acre parcel is owned by Save The Franklin Battlefield Association and lies just southwest of Liberty Pike and Mack Hatcher Parkway. The adjoining one-acre parcel to the east is owned by a neighborhood association. The parcels are landlocked by subdivisions and are not accessible from the street. The property is not open to the public. Both parcels are wooded and, together, contain a Civil War lunette earthwork and were the southeast strong point of the Fort Granger complex. There are several houses on the north face of Cedar Hill that cover about five acres. If these houses were acquired and removed, a park of about seven acres could be assembled fronting on Liberty Pike. The following recommendations are provided:

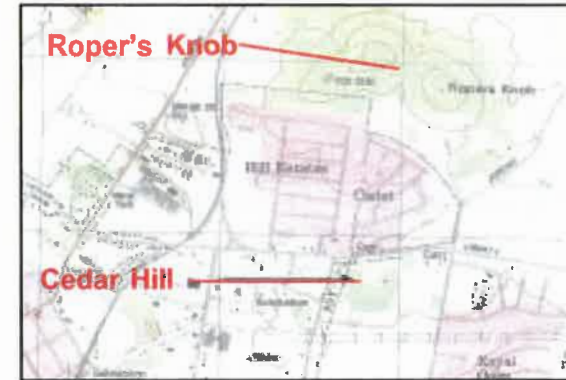
- Create a small parking area at a point closest to Cedar Hill via public roads.
- Develop an improved trail connecting the proposed parking area with Cedar Hill.
- Provide interpretive wayside exhibits to tell the story of Cedar Hill.

"It's what the veterans wanted, to create these parks, where people from a future time could ponder the suffering and terror of their own time, and realize that somehow we had progressed to a better time. So when these battlefields are destroyed, we lose that, we lost that ability. And before long it's just one more strip of asphalt, it's not a place of sacrifice, it's not a place to ponder, it's not a place to learn. It's just another faceless, nameless bit of urban sprawl."

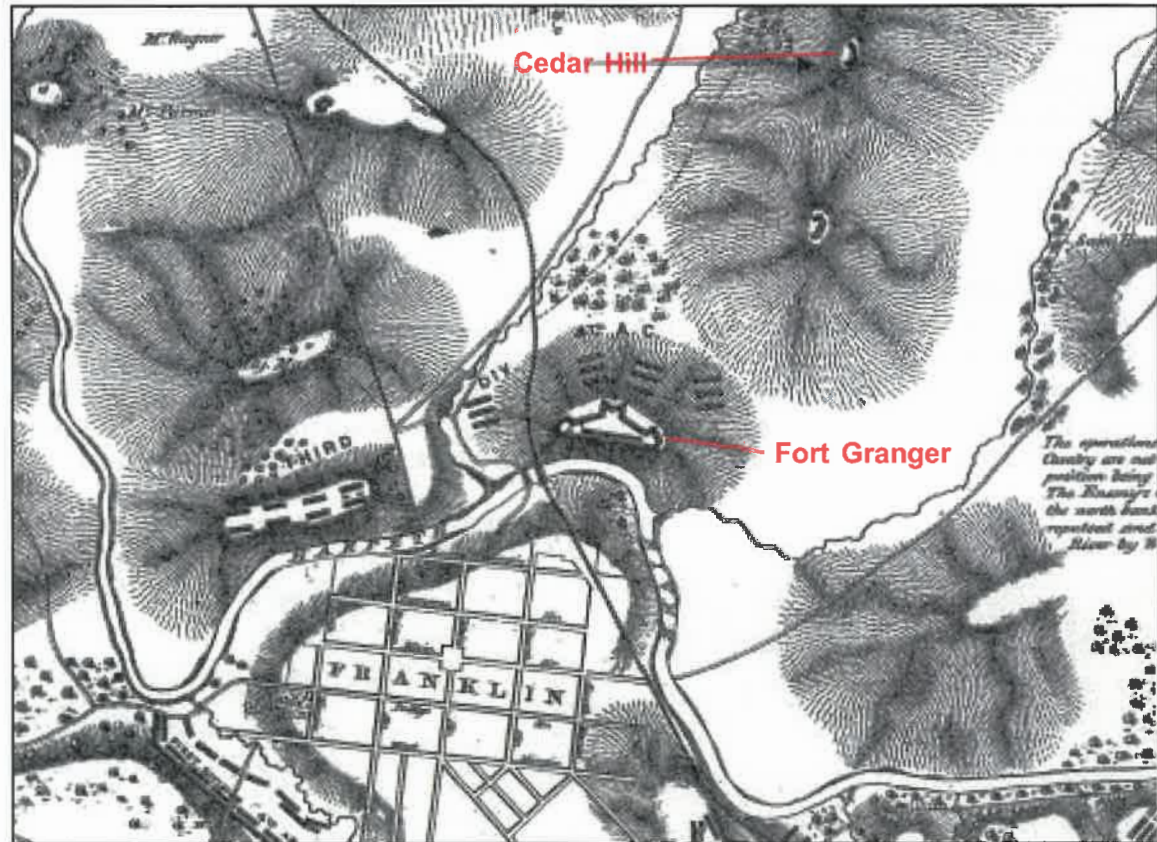
- Brian Pohanka, Civil War Historian



Roper's Knob, which consisted of a lunette and four cannons, is located just north of Cedar Hill.



This USGS map illustrates the geographic relationship between Cedar Hill and Roper's Knob.



Compared to today's Franklin, the 1860s Franklin was simple: a small gridded town, a river, some rail lines, and surrounding hills capped with Union fortifications.

Freight Depot

The Tennessee and Alabama Railroad Freight Depot was constructed ca. 1858 by the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad Company shortly after it built its line through Franklin. The brick freight depot was constructed near the busy intersection of South Margin Street and Second Avenue, South in a rectangular design common among antebellum depots in Middle Tennessee. These structures were typically one-story buildings of brick construction, with thick walls and a broad overhanging gable roof. Built for the purpose of shipping and receiving freight, the building had an open floor plan with the northern end of the building reserved for office space. Freight doors were located on either side of the building leading to the track and loading areas for easy transfer of goods.

Soon after Union forces occupied Middle Tennessee in 1862, railroads were utilized as vital links in moving troops and supplies through the region. During the war years, the freight depot in Franklin would have been a busy hub of activity as supplies and munitions were shipped along the rail line. The depot was likely one of many buildings in the community converted into a temporary hospital following the Battle of Franklin, as local historians have reported. The freight depot also continued to house ammunition during this time, and Confederate troops attempted to burn the building as they scrambled to evacuate Franklin on December 18, 1864. Historian Wiley Sword notes that “at the last minute, Lee’s men set fire to the freight house in town, a building containing seven wagonloads of ammunition.” Fortunately a devastating explosion was avoided as a citizen rushed to throw buckets of water on the

blazing roof. Following the return of the Union army to Franklin, immediate efforts were made to evacuate the wounded to Union army hospitals in Nashville. A history of the U.S. Army Medical Department records notes: “Trains evacuated all the wounded from Franklin and other communities back to Nashville as soon as they were in a condition to be moved and the track had been repaired.” After the Civil War, the Tennessee and Alabama Railroad Freight Depot went back to its original purpose as a shipping and receiving facility.

The following recommendations are provided for Franklin’s historic freight depot:

- Provide interpretive wayside exhibits telling the depot’s story.
- Include the depot on the recommended walking tour of downtown’s Civil War sites.
- Consider the depot as one of the potential sites for the recommended Visitors Center.



This Civil War-era Union map illustrates the town of Franklin, including the railroad depots.

Other Sites

Union Trench line at hwy 96

A swale historically identified as part of the Union earthworks remains visible adjacent to State Route 96 approximately 500 feet west of the intersection of Fair Street. This section of earthworks has not been fully recorded and no archaeological investigations have taken place. This location holds potential for future interpretation, such as a pull-off from State Route 96 and wayside exhibits. However, this section of earthworks should be studied in more detail to ascertain its length and degree of integrity. For a map location of this site, see site #9 on the "Downtown Franklin Inventory of Resources" map (Appendix E).

Franklin turnpike bridge abutment

Between First Avenue and Bridge Street on the west bank of the Harpeth River are the cut stone abutments of the Franklin Turnpike Bridge. These abutments pre-date the Civil War and are remnants of the Franklin Turnpike Bridge, which stood at this location until 1927. The first bridge at this location was built in the early 1800s, and a covered bridge was at this location in 1861. This bridge was burned and rebuilt several times during the war. The bridge site was the location of fighting on December 17, 1864, during Hood's retreat following the Battle of Nashville. The stone abutments remain visible, but are overgrown, and the area is generally neglected. This location holds potential for interpretation as Franklin's historic bridge crossing and the fighting of December 17th. See recommendations for interpretation on page 53. For a map location of this site, see site #14 on the "Downtown Franklin Inventory of Resources" map (Appendix E).

Berry circle parcel

The Berry Circle parcel consists of a 1.5 acre tract at the dead-end of Berry Circle off of Lewisburg Pike. This tract is at the crest of a hill, and two batteries of Union artillery were posted in this approximate location during the battle. This high ground west of the railroad provided an advantageous artillery position to fire upon Stewart's Corps as it advanced. Battery M of the 4th U.S. artillery and Battery G of the 1st Ohio Artillery were posted on this high ground during the battle. This site remains in open space and offers an opportunity for acquisition. The location is appropriate for the siting of cannon and wayside exhibits detailing the role of artillery in the Battle of Franklin. However, given the sites location at the end of a quiet residential street, it is recommended that substantial input and support be gained from neighboring residents before pursuing this site's interpretation and publicity. For a map location of this site, see site #19 on the "Downtown Franklin Inventory of Resources" map (Appendix E).



Downtown Area

The original town of Franklin, what is considered the downtown area today, played a central role in the Civil War and the Battle of Franklin. In the early days of the war, it was the scene of celebration and excitement over the fresh idea of secession. After Bragg's defeat at Murfreesboro and the construction of Fort Granger by Federal forces in early 1863, it was an occupied community living in fear. On November 30, 1864, Franklin's downtown was a place of terror and carnage. Following the battle, it was a place of despair and suffering, as many buildings became hospitals for the wounded.

There are three important reasons to focus attention on the many Civil War-era buildings located in and near Downtown Franklin. First, a complete understanding of the Battle of Franklin cannot be achieved without an understanding of the role of the town, and the best way to interpret that history is through the surviving tangible buildings. Secondly, without such an understanding and appreciation of these buildings by Franklin's citizens and community leaders, their long-term preservation will remain in jeopardy. Thirdly, Franklin's downtown is a community treasure far beyond it being a living and breathing Civil War artifact. To remain economically vibrant and safely preserved, it needs to benefit from heritage tourism. In a survey conducted several years ago by Main Street Gettysburg, it was learned that only one fourth of their battlefield visitors ever visited Downtown Gettysburg. As Franklin's Battlefield is better preserved, enhanced and interpreted in future years, the economic benefits of heritage tourism must be leveraged for downtown.

"I devoted my time while in Franklin, to visiting the hospitals; in one room of Brown's Division hospital, in the Court House, I dressed a goodly number of wounds."

- Dr. Charles Quintard, chaplain and doctor
1st Tennessee



Court House - used as a post-battle hospital.



Truett House - used as Schofield's headquarters.



Dr. McPhail's Office - another Union headquarters.



Masonic Lodge - used as a hospital after the battle.



Historic Bank building on Main Street - used as a hospital after the battle.

"I started up through the town on the street upon which I had come... But what a scene confronts me now! One hour ago this fair street was a thing of beauty... I can not walk upon the sidewalks now. They are literally covered with wounded, dying and dead men. These are laid with their heads toward the fence and buildings, their feet toward the street."

- Keesy, 64th Ohio

Downtown Area

The following measures are recommended for the Downtown Franklin area as it relates to the Battle of Franklin:

Walking Tour Brochure

An excellent driving tour brochure for the overall battlefield already exists, although it is currently out of print. However, a walking tour brochure focusing specifically on Downtown Franklin during the Civil War does not presently exist. There are numerous buildings and sites within downtown that have a rich story to tell, and this would be another way to attract battlefield visitors to downtown. The brochure should include a map with numbered sites correlated to descriptive text. It should also include high-quality graphics and an attractive design.



This type of silhouette wayside exhibit could interpret a variety of Civil War-era characters.

Silhouette Waysides

Silhouette interpretive waysides would consist of the two-dimensional forms of people who represent a broad cross-section of people associated with the Battle of Franklin. They would be made of metal, painted a single color, and have a form that is distinctive and fitting for the character portrayed. The characters should be based upon historic research, and examples might include a U.S. general, a C.S. general, a U.S. soldier, a C.S. soldier, a captured soldier, a wounded soldier, a military physician, a female resident, a slave, a child, and perhaps even a dog such as the 104th Ohio's "Old Dog Harvey" (see "Acknowledgements" page of this document). Each life-size silhouette would also be accompanied by a small plaque with text to tell the story.

Court House exhibit

Because the Court House is a public facility and presently transitioning to serve new uses, this would be a unique opportunity to allocate a small, but very accessible, space in the building to interpret the building's role as a post-battle hospital. It is recommended that the space be displayed and interpreted in a manner that does not require it to be staffed. Plexiglass could be used between any displays and visitors, and displays might include a re-creation of a doctor administering aide to a wounded soldier. The story could be told with either written text or an audio tape.

Bridge Interpretation

The bridge over the Harpeth was critical to troop movements. The original bridge site should be cleared of vegetation to better expose the original stone abutments, and a high-quality interpretive wayside exhibit should be installed. See page 52 for details.

Visitors Center

The recommendation for a downtown Visitors Center is already addressed on page 35, but its importance to both the battlefield and downtown make it worth reiterating here. The former County Library appears to be the optimal site, but a feasibility study of that and other candidate sites is needed.



Confederate Monument - erected on November 30, 1899 - 35 years after the battle.

"...he took another big drink and he told me he didn't reckon I would live long enough to see it, but that some day there would be a wonderful Confederate Monument built on the square with the money the ladies sewing societies and dinner groups were making."

- Horace German - Franklin resident citing his grandfather's comments in 1896

Downtown Area

By 5:00 PM on November 30th, 1864, approximately one hour of combat had occurred at the Battle of Franklin and casualties were already beginning to mount on both sides. Dozens of buildings in Franklin were quickly transformed into field hospitals for tending to the wounded. Some buildings continued in use as hospitals for the next two weeks, until Hood's army retreated from Nashville through Franklin, in which case the wounded were either reunited with the army or captured shortly afterward by the federals. The wide range of buildings that were used as hospitals included churches, shops, governmental buildings and private homes. Over 30 surviving buildings have been identified in Franklin among those that were used as hospitals.

The distinctive flag used to designate hospitals had a yellow field with a green letter "H" centered in the middle. As a means of underscoring the impact of the battle's aftermath on Franklin, it is recommended that hospital flags be recreated and displayed at all buildings in Franklin that would have served as a temporary hospital during or after the battle. It is recommended that flags only be issued to properties that are known to have been hospitals or are highly likely to have been hospitals.

See Appendix B for more information on hospital properties in Franklin.



The Lotz House could display a hospital flag.



Source: Echoes of Glory: Arms and Equipment of the Union - Time-Life Books, 1991

In 1862 the federal army adopted a yellow flag to designate hospitals and in January of 1864 the green letter "H" was added.



Source: The Fighting Men of the Civil War - William C. Davis, 1989

Federal ambulance corpsman and hospital steward with flag in background.

Linking the Sites

Because so much of the Franklin Battlefield has been developed, one of the greatest challenges is to link the few remaining sites in a cohesive manner to tell the battle's story. This plan proposes four general approaches to achieving this objective, as follows:

- Enhance the battlefield's existing greenways
- Expand the City's existing greenway system to link more Civil War sites
- Adopt public policies to improve the appearance of key traffic corridors, such as Columbia Pike
- Reprint the existing driving tour brochure

"When I arrived... at the pontoon bridge across Harpeth River, about a half mile from where I was captured, I saw hundreds of stragglers from the Federal army huddled and attempting to cross the stream, but were kept back by officers with drawn swords and pistols, who were urging them to return to the field."

- C.S. Brigadier General Gordon



During the Battle of Franklin, the Harpeth River was an important landmark. Today it can serve as part of the framework for a greenway system linking various battlefield sites.



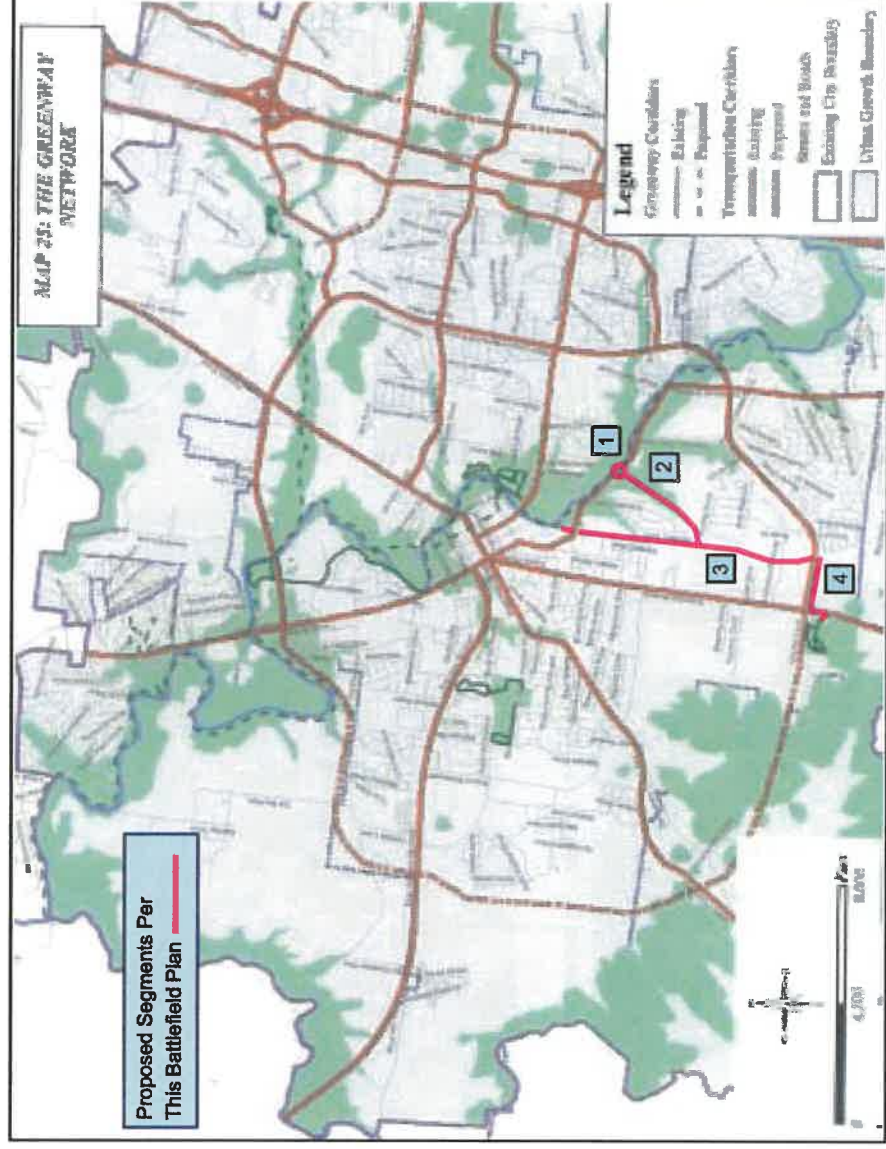
Existing Condition

This existing pathway links Fort Granger with the historic freight depot and associated parking (shown above) on the other side of the river.



Landscape Screening

This electrical substation, directly adjacent to the parking area shown at left, needs peripheral evergreen landscaping to visually screen it.



Map from the City's 2004 Land Use Plan showing existing and proposed greenways, including per this plan.

Linking the Sites

Greenways Enhancement

As illustrated on the map on the previous page, Franklin's existing greenway system consists primarily of random isolated trails associated with specific park areas. The one exception to this rule is the segment of greenway along the Harpeth River's floodplain just north of the downtown. The greenway segment associated with Fort Granger, as previously discussed on page 48, is a good example of the types of improvements needed for the existing greenway system. These improvements include the following:

- Repair greenway facilities such as the damaged wooden stairway on the south slope of Fort Granger.
- Improve parking areas at greenway trailheads through landscaping and other aesthetic enhancements.

Greenways Expansion

The map on the previous page is from the City's Land Use Plan, and it illustrates existing and proposed greenways. It also includes new greenway segments proposed by this plan. Below is a description of each proposed new section as numbered on the map:

- 1) **New Bridge:** A photograph of this site is provided above right where rip rap has been recently installed to stabilize the bank. This bridge would get users from the City's proposed greenway system on the north side of the river to the south side to connect with this plan's recommended segment #2.



In addition to streams such as the Harpeth River, rail lines can serve as excellent corridors for greenway systems.



This existing pedestrian bridge linking the Fort Granger site with the historic train depot parking lot is a good model for additional future bridges.



Located adjacent to the current Franklin Country Club, this rip-rap area on the Harpeth River is an ideal location for a pedestrian bridge that could link Fort Granger with Carnton Plantation.



This cleared area across the river from the rip-rap area shown at left, and accessed by the Lewisburg Pike, could serve as an excellent trail headway and parking area for the potential pedestrian bridge.

- 2) **Carnton Segment:** This proposed segment would connect the proposed new bridge with this plan's proposed greenway segment #3. It would traverse the golf course property and Carnton Plantation.
- 3) **Rail Line Segment:** This segment connects a section of the City's proposed greenway

way along the river with Mack Hatcher Parkway far to the south by paralleling the existing rail line.

- 4) **Mack Hatcher Segment:** This proposed new greenway segment connects segment #3 with Winstead Hill and its existing greenway.

Linking the Sites

Improving Corridors

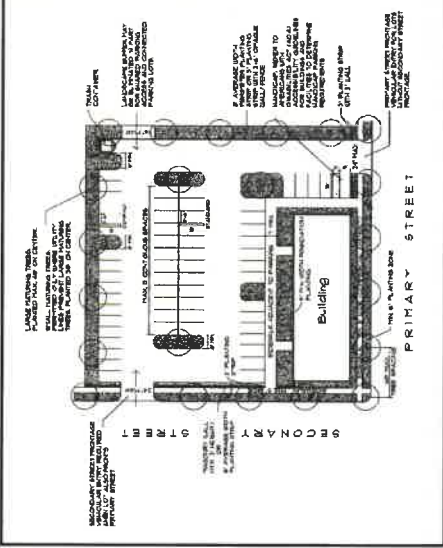
In 2000, the Heritage Foundation commissioned a project to prepare design guidelines for Columbia Pike from its northern termination downtown at the "Five Points" to the City's boundary at the south end. That document, funded through an American Battlefield Protection Program grant through the National Park Service, has never been adopted. The guidelines defined three distinct segments of Columbia Pike, which included:

- A historic urban segment from Five Points to the Carter House
- A historic residential segment from the Carter House to Fairgrounds Road
- An industrial segment from Fairgrounds Road to the City boundary

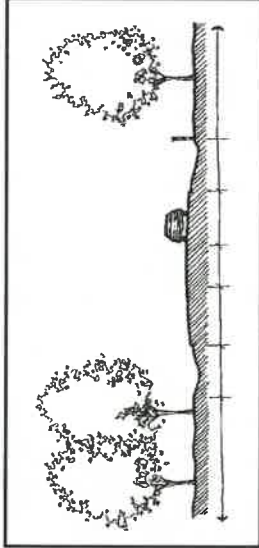
The Columbia Pike Design Guidelines would reinforce the positive aspects of the road's existing character. While substantial public input will be required, it is recommended that these guidelines be adopted to enhance this important corridor. A streetscape project with wider sidewalks, buried power lines, street crosswalks and shade trees would also help the corridor tremendously.



Although adopting development policies to improve the appearance of Columbia Pike will not save battlefield lands, improved aesthetics can heighten the overall visitor experience.



This conceptual site plan from the guidelines illustrates the desired development pattern for the northern and most urban segment of Columbia Pike.



This street cross-section illustrates the rural green edge character most appropriate for the southern industrial segment of Columbia Pike.

"You can almost hear the rifles, you can almost see the men standing eyeball to eyeball a few yards apart firing point blank at each other. Those things are exhilarating from a historical standpoint, but they are very sobering so far as war is concerned. Children ought to be exposed to that so they understand why we're still a great nation, and why we're one nation instead of two."

- Senator Dale Bumpers, Arkansas

Driving Tour Brochure

A wonderful driving tour brochure for the battlefield has already been prepared. It is well written and well designed, and it is a useful tool for navigating and understanding the battlefield. Unfortunately, the brochure has been out of print for several years.

It is recommended that the brochure be reprinted in large numbers for distribution in area hotels, restaurants, visitors centers and similar locations. Depending upon available funding, it should also be distributed along Interstate 65, as far south as Birmingham and as far north as Louisville.



This driving tour brochure is currently out of print, but it needs to be reprinted in ample supply.

Priorities & Implementation

The 25 key recommendations on the following page are explained on the pages cited to the immediate right of each. The recommended *responsible party* is the organization that would seem to be most appropriate based upon the nature of the recommendation and the mission and activities of the organization. Cited organizations would be appropriate to take the lead, but may require support from other groups. The three *priority* levels are based upon each recommendation's relative level of importance in preserving and interpreting the Franklin Battlefield. The *cost* and *time-frame* categories are defined below (time-frames are based upon completion dates):

Cost

Low: Below \$25,000

Moderate: \$25,000 - \$100,000

High: Above \$100,000

Time-Frame

Short-Term: Year One (1)

Mid-Term: Years Two (2) through Three (3)

Long-Term: Years Four (4) through Five (5)

Applying these considerations and definitions to the 25 key recommendations of the plan results in a total of fifteen recommendations considered to be "high priority," four considered to be "moderate priority," and six considered to be "low priority." Prioritizing the plan's many recommendations can be a somewhat subjective process, and the priorities must ultimately be established - and periodically revised - by the community. Therefore, the number sequencing of each recommendation is not in any particular order of priority.

However, because of the need for the plan to provide a few large targets on which to aim, a "top three" list has been developed and ranked in order of importance, as follows:

Priority #1:

Creation of a Battlefield Park

This once-in-a-life opportunity can fill the one glaring void in Franklin's existing heritage tourism package: a single site promoted as a Civil War battlefield. It entails the transformation of the existing Franklin Country Club back to its original appearance as a historic landscape. See pages 41-42 for details.

Priority #2:

Carnton Plantation Enhancements and Battlefield Interpretation

Because the realization of Priority #1 may be several years away, this recommendation can provide an opportunity to more effectively interpret the battle, especially the eastern flank of the battle. It can also help to attract more heritage tourists. See page 40 for details.

Priority #3:

Carter House Integration of the Old High School Gym Site

As a critical location for the Battle of Franklin, as well as the best existing interpretive center for the battle, the Carter House property is an extremely valuable resource that needs further expansion and enhancement. Although the acquisition of the adjacent former high school property is now a mere technicality that will happen in the near future, the successful integration of the property should be the third highest priority for this plan. See pages 37-39 for details.

"This ground was quite literally watered with blood. People fought and died here for their beliefs, for their ideals, and that's what we have to remember about these sites. It's not about brigades and divisions and corps and tactics and strategies. It's about human beings."

- Brian Pohanka,
Civil War Historian

Priorities & Implementation

No.	Recommendation	Page #	Responsible Party	Cost	Time-Frame	Priority
A. High Priority						
A-1	Battlefield Park - Land Acquisition & Improvements	Page 41 - 42	City & Other Parties	High	Short-Term	High
A-2	Carrion Plantation - Enhancements & Digging Interpretation	Page 40	Carrion Plantation	Low/Mod	Short-Term	High
A-3	Carter House - Integration of the Old High School Gym Site	Page 38	Carter House	Moderate	Mid-Term	High
A-4	Carter House - Linkages with the Lotz House	Page 39	Carter House & Lotz House	Low	Mid-Term	High
A-5	Carter House - Reclamation of the Cotton Gin Site	Page 38	Heritage Fnd. & Carter House	High	Long-Term	High
A-6	Carter House - Addition of Properties to the South	Page 38	Carter House	High	Long-Term	High
A-7	Downtown Area - Hospital Flags	Page 53	Save The Franklin Battlefield	Low	Short-Term	High
A-8	Whitstead Hill Area - Conservation Easements	Page 44 - 45	Property Owners	High	Mid-Term	High
A-9	Franklin Visitors Center	Page 35	Williamson County CVB	High	Mid-Term	High
A-10	Harrison House - Long-Term Protective Measures	Page 48	Property Owners	Low	Short-Term	High
A-11	Fort Granger - Access, Views & Promotion Improvements	Page 47 - 48	City	Low/Mod	Short-Term	High
A-12	Battlefield Interpretive Center	Page 36	City & Other Parties	High	Long-Term	High
A-13	Linking the Sites - Improving Conditions: Design Guidelines	Page 59	City	Low	Short-Term	High
A-14	Linking the Sites - Driving Tour Brochure	Page 58	Williamson County CVB	Low	Short-Term	High
A-15	Downtown Area - Walking Tour Brochure	Page 54	Williamson County CVB	Low	Short-Term	High
B. Moderate Priority						
B-1	Linking the Sites - Greenways Enhancements	Page 57	City	Moderate	Short-Term	Moderate
B-2	Whitstead Hill Area - Observation Point & Wayside	Page 45	City & Other Parties	Low	Short-Term	Moderate
B-3	Downtown Area - Elizabetha Waysides	Page 54	Williamson County CVB	Moderate	Mid-Term	Moderate
B-4	Linking the Sites - Greenways Expansions	Page 57	City	High	Mid-Term	Moderate
C. Low Priority						
C-1	Collins Farm - Enhancement & Interpretation	Page 43	Save The Franklin Battlefield	Moderate	Mid-Term	Low
C-2	Roper's Knob & Cedar Hill - Access, Interp. & Enhancement	Page 49 - 50	City	Low/Mod	Long-Term	Low
C-3	Downtown Area - Court House Exhibit	Page 54	Williamson County CVB	Low	Long-Term	Low
C-4	Downtown Area - Bridge Interpretation	Page 54	Williamson County CVB	Low	Long-Term	Low
C-5	Linking the Sites - Improving Corridors: Streetcapes	Page 58	City	High	Long-Term	Low
C-6	Freight Depot - Interpretation	Page 51	Williamson County CVB	Low/High	Mid-Term	Low

Financial Sources

The primary source of funds for battlefield protection efforts come from governmental and private non-profit organizations. While governmental funding sources are relatively limited, the number of private non-profit organizations involved in battlefield protection issues has grown substantially over the last few years. Below is a concise summary of such sources:

Private Sources

Private non-profit organizations involved with Civil War heritage protection, as well as those indirectly involved with related issues, such as open space and farmland preservation, include the following:

Civil War Organizations

Several Civil War organizations exist at the national, state and local levels, and some have considerable funds available for "eleventh hour" land acquisitions. The best-known and most effective national organization is the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT). The CWPT has preserved more than 16,000 acres of endangered battlefield land at more than 80 sites in 19 different states. *This plan's proposal for the transformation of a golf course into a Battlefield Park is an excellent candidate for CWPT funding.* Tennessee's state-wide private organization dedicated specifically to the preservation of Civil War battlefield lands is the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association (TCWPA). Although this organization has not yet actively protected any battlefield lands, it only recently hired a part-time director and began fund-raising efforts, so gains are expected in the near future. At the local level, the Save The Franklin Battlefield

(STFB) group is an extremely capable organization that has already protected land, most recently at the Collins Farm.

Historical Organizations

The historical organization with the greatest potential for helping to preserve the Franklin Battlefield is the Heritage Foundation of Franklin and Williamson County. As the sponsors of this plan, the Heritage Foundation has a history of preserving some of Williamson County's most important Civil War sites. The group was instrumental in protecting sites such as Winstead Hill and Ropers Knob, and even where it has not been a major financial contributor, the organization has served as the catalyst for major preservation victories. *The Heritage Foundation could serve an important role as the holder of conservation easements such as the one suggested for the Harrison House.*

Environmental Organizations

Although environmental organizations do not typically give high priority to Civil War resource protection, they are certainly interested in protecting natural open spaces, so there is clearly an overlap. Groups such as the Nature Conservancy, the Trust for Public Land and the Conservation Fund have been extremely active in protecting thousands of acres of land all across the country and should be considered potential allies for Franklin's battlefield protection efforts. The Conservation Fund's Civil War Battlefield Campaign has protected over 81,000 acres of battlefield lands through 73 projects in 13 states, including helping to save 57 acres at Franklin's Roper's Knob. The Land Trust for Tennessee was established in 1999 and has already preserved thousands of acres of land

through the use of conservation easements. While it would be difficult to solicit their help with lands that are already impacted by urbanization, there is potential for protecting battlefield lands that are relatively unspoiled and retain some ecological value. An exception might be reclaiming altered lands, such as the Franklin Country Club golf course, by *transforming them into more environmentally sensitive lands for a Battlefield Park.*

Federal Sources

Most governmental sources of funding for the protection of Civil War heritage resources are at the federal level or locally derived funds generated by a specific tax or fee having a *rational nexus* (direct relationship) to the benefiting cause. While the following sources are not an exhaustive list of all possibilities, they do include the most frequently used funding methods. Of all governmental funding sources, the federal level has the strongest track record in assisting with the preservation of Civil War resources during the past decade. In addition to direct appropriations from Congress for national park acquisitions, the Department of the Interior and the federal transportation programs have been good funding sources in recent years.

Federal Appropriations

Federal appropriations are often used for the acquisition of additional lands for existing national parks, and efforts toward that end are generally sponsored by a Senator or Representative from the state in which the national park is located. Funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) have been used to protect battlefields, and while these funds require a one-to-two match of

Financial Sources

federal-to-local/private funds, they have been used for properties not part of national parks. In 2002, \$293,800 of LWCF funds were allocated to the Tennessee Historical Commission to protect 515 acres at Fort Donelson, a national park. However, another \$123,000 of LWCF funds were allocated to the Commission to protect 83 acres at Davis Bridge, a non-federal battlefield. Therefore, there may be potential for LWCF funding for Franklin at some point in the future.

NPS: American Battlefield Protection Program
This program of the National Park Service (NPS) focuses primarily on offering a balanced program of technical assistance and direct financial support to organizations involved in preservation planning and coalition building to save battlefield resources. ABPP funding goes primarily toward planning activities, including the preparation of this plan for the Franklin Battlefield. While ABPP funding might be used for future efforts related to resource preservation plans, interpretation plans, interpretive tools, educational efforts, and consensus building projects, it cannot be used for acquisition of battlefield lands. Funding rounds occur annually, and those seeking funding must complete an ABPP application describing: the project need, the proposed methodology, intended results, merits of the project, and estimated costs. To date, funding has averaged approximately \$22,000 per project.

Federal Transportation Act

The federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991 required that

each state use at least 10% of its federal surface transportation funds toward transportation "enhancement" activities, such as pedestrian and bicycle paths, scenic easement acquisition, the restoration of transportation-related historic sites, landscaping and beautification for transportation facilities, removal of outdoor advertising, and similar activities. This program, since dubbed "TEA-21" (Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century), was considered by the American Battlefield Protection Program's *Battlefield Update* newsletter (Issue No. 70) to be "the largest source of funding for battlefield preservation and enhancement projects currently available." Each state allocates its transportation enhancement funds differently, but local governments must apply for funding through a competitive grant process and must provide a 20% match to any funds received. While enhancement funds cannot be used by Tennessee's local governments for land acquisition, a State agency, such as the Tennessee Historical Commission, can use enhancement funds for land acquisition. The TEA-21 program is currently awaiting Congressional reauthorization and is being temporarily extended in the meantime.

Investment Tax Credit for Rehabilitation

The federal investment tax credit for the rehabilitation of historic structures may have some limited applications for Franklin's Civil War resources. This program provides a 20% tax credit for qualified rehabilitations based upon the following standards:

- National Register designation or eligibility
- Rehabilitation follows the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation
- Project costs exceed the property's ad-

justed cost basis (cost of acquisition and rehabilitation work to date)

- Property must be income producing (i.e., commercial use or residential rental)

For the purposes of preserving and enhancing Franklin's Civil War resources, this program would be limited to buildings with an association with the war, such as a former headquarters, hospital, home of a Civil War personality, or some similar association. While a non-profit organization cannot benefit from the credit, private ventures, such as Bed and Breakfasts, can.

State Sources

At present, with the exception of the State's role in distributing federal transportation funds, the key State program for funding historic preservation is through Federal Preservation Grants. Local governments that participate in the Certified Local Government (CLG) program are given higher priority when these funds are distributed. CLGs receive a minimum of 10% of the dollars distributed through the Federal Preservation Grants Program. In order to qualify as a CLG, local governments must engage in preservation activities such as historic sites surveys, historic designation, establishment of a preservation commission, and similar activities as determined by the state historic preservation office. Franklin is a designated CLG.

Other funding available at the state level includes Tennessee Wars Commission grants and the Department of Environment & Conservation's "State Lands Acquisition Fund," which is overseen by the State Lands Acquisition Committee. The State Lands

Financial Sources

Acquisition Committee includes members from the Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), the Department of Agriculture, and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. A representative from the Tennessee Historical Commission, which is part of the TDEC, sits on the committee. The fund receives money from a statewide real estate transfer tax. This fund provides for acquisition of land for state parks, state forests, state natural areas, boundary areas along state scenic rivers, and the acquisition of easements to protect any of the forgoing state areas. Such funds may also be used for trail development in these areas. A proposed amendment to T.C. A. 67-4-409 would allow the purchase of historic properties through the "State Land Acquisition Fund." At present, historic properties cannot be purchased through this fund and, in the past, many otherwise deserving projects have been turned away due to statutory language. Civil War resources, such as battlefields, could be strong candidates for acquisition if the amendment is passed.

Local Sources

With the exception of Federal Preservation Grants and the State's role in distributing federal transportation enhancement funds, there is a general lack of funding options at the state and regional levels of government. However, there are several different possibilities of funding at the local level of government that are worth consideration.

Use Value Taxation

The Agricultural, Forest and Open Space Land Act of 1976, known as the Greenbelt Law, allows landowners in Tennessee to pay property taxes based upon their land's *current* use as opposed to its *potential* use. For example, a 200-acre farm located near residential subdivisions or commercial development might have a high market value based on its potential use. Under the Greenbelt Law, the land could be taxed on its current use as farmland, rather than on its development potential, if the property is used only for agricultural purposes. There are three types of land which may qualify for greenbelt classification: farm, forestry, and open space land. If the property is disqualified for any reason (e.g. the property is sold and is being converted to a use other than a greenbelt), the owner is liable for a rollback assessment, which means a repayment of the taxes saved while the land was classified as a greenbelt.

This program of "use value taxation" can be used as both an incentive for preservation and as a funding source. The incentive is that land owners are not penalized by the taxation system for keeping their land out of development. The funding source, on the other hand, could derive from the rollback assessment that occurs if such lands are eventually developed. Given the clear relationship ("rational nexus") between the loss of historic lands and the increased property tax revenue generated by that loss of land, the tax revenue (or a percentage of it) could go towards a funding pool earmarked for the acquisition of endangered historic lands. However, this approach would require the State to initiate such a policy change, which is a larger task beyond this Franklin

Battlefield project.

Development Impact Fees

Impact fees consist of a local government levying a one-time fee for new development in order to off-set that government's future incurred costs related to such development. A relationship (rational nexus) must be established between the impact caused and the fee charged. Impact fees typically charge more for residential development than commercial development, because commercial development tends to support itself to a greater extent through property and retail tax revenues.

Franklin's program includes a variety of building permit fees, impact fees and taxes. Building permit fees, for example, are based upon the value of the development. Road impact fees are based on the unit type for residential development and per square foot for commercial and industrial development, depending upon the specific use.

Although Franklin's impact fees are currently used to pay for basic community infrastructure, such as roads, impact fees can also be used to preserve historic resources. The Town of Collierville levies impact fees on new commercial construction that are dedicated to their "Historic Preservation Fund." These funds have been used for the rehabilitation of historic public buildings and for infrastructure improvements on Collierville's historic town square.

Special Taxes

The primary factor impacting tax rate increases lies in public sentiments. Tax increases are perhaps the most politically-

Financial Sources

sensitive issue which elected officials must face. The approval of any sort of special tax for battlefield protection in Franklin would rely on an unusually favorable political climate. However, such taxes are worth consideration should opportunities surface for their use sometime in the future, including the following types of taxes:

Dedicated Tax

A "dedicated" tax for battlefield preservation would entail an increase in local property taxes in which the increased revenues would be earmarked for the acquisition, improvement and maintenance of battlefield lands. Because this tax would affect so many citizens in Franklin, it might be difficult to generate sufficient support.

Real Estate Transfer Tax

Real Estate Transfer taxes consist of a tax levied for any real estate transaction based upon a percentage of the purchase price. When used as part of a battlefield protection program, such tax revenues would go towards the acquisition of fee simple ownership or conservation easements. Because studies have shown that communities with aggressive open space programs typically experience greater property value increases than communities without such programs, there is a relationship (rational nexus) between the tax and those benefiting from the value of open space. Real estate transfer taxes are most commonly employed by state and local governments for a specific earmarked fund, such as an open space acquisition program.

Real estate transfer taxes have fueled the State of Maryland's \$60 million annual Program Open Space (POS), which acquired easements on hundreds of acres of farmland at Antietam Battlefield. In fact, they have been used for wetland acquisition in West Tennessee. However, to use real estate transfer taxes for battlefield acquisition in Franklin, special state enabling legislation would be required. It would be up to the legislation to determine whether a local referendum would also be required.

Hotel/Motel Tax

A Hotel/Motel Tax, often referred to as an

"occupancy tax," is typically used to fund tourism activities. Examples of occupancy taxes of various large cities within the Southeast and Midwest include Louisville at 6%, Indianapolis at 6%, and Atlanta at 7%. On the lower end of the scale is Nashville at 4%, and on the higher end is Birmingham at 8%. At present, the tax for the City of Franklin is 2%, which generates approximately \$500,000 annually, but that rate will increase to 4% in January of 2005. The County's rate is 4%. Because of the tourism aspect of Civil War site protection and interpretation, local occupancy taxes would be one way to fund some of this plan's recommendations.



There are still many important sites associated with the Battle of Franklin deserving long-term protection, such as Breezy Hill on Columbia Pike. As illustrated by the new commercial development in the upper right corner of this photograph, time is of the essence.

A p p e n d i c e s



Cashing in on History:

The Economic Impact of Tourists to Civil War Battlefields

CWPT HAS SLUMP FACTING: NEWS ABOUT the economic benefits of preserving Civil War battlefields. In the spring of 2001, we asked the operating firm of Derivation Research Associates to conduct a study to determine who is visiting CWPT War battlefields and the impact these visitors have on the economies of the surrounding regions. For this special phase of the study, we chose seven sites across the nation, representing battlefields that have been preserved and managed by a range of federal, state, and local groups in Phase 2 study of battlefield battlefields as explained for JHM.

- * Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park in Virginia
- * Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania
- * Shiloh National Military Park in Tennessee
- * New Market State Historical Site in Virginia
- * Fort Hagerman State Historic Site in Louisiana
- * The Crater of Craters, Mississippi, and

MIL SPRINGS NATIONAL HISTORICAL LANDMARK in Kentucky. We asked visitors of each site to complete a short survey as well as how long they were staying in the area, how much money they were spending, and their age, interest and education levels. We also asked about where they fell while they were visiting the battlefield. Derivation Research then used economic models to extrapolate the largest economic benefits to the surrounding areas. More details are available on our website at www.civilwar.org. We are thrilled with the results. It proves that preserving a Civil War battlefield as a contemporary brings significant economic benefits to the area. Battlefield land, once preserved, attracts tourism. The tourism pay for services is the sustainable, which means more local jobs, higher income for residents, and increases in local and state government income from taxes. We've been saying for years that preserving battlefields is good for local communities. See how - thanks to this study - we can prove it!

Excerpts from the Report

- WHO ARE THE VISITORS TO CIVIL WAR BATTLEFIELD? ACCORDING TO OUR SAMPLE:
 - ✓ THEIR AVERAGE AGE IS 50 YEARS OLD.
 - ✓ 80% HAVE COLLEGE EDUCATION, AND APPROX 38% HAVE GRADUATE DEGREES.
 - ✓ THEIR AVERAGE ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME IS \$30,000 HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE TRAVELER.
 - ✓ 43% ARE EMPLOYED IN PROFESSIONAL OR TECHNICAL FIELDS.
 - ✓ ON AVERAGE, THEY SPEND \$41.78 PER PERSON, PER DAY DURING THEIR VISIT.
 - ✓ THEY ALWAYS TRAVEL WITH SOMEONE WITH A PROFESSIONAL AND 18% WITH TWO OR MORE WITH CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 13.
 - ✓ WHILE THEY ARE IN THE AREA IS VISITING THE BATTLEFIELD, 71% OF THEM ARE IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

Category	Percentage
Family	48%
Friends	25%
Colleagues	10%
Neighbors	20%
Strangers	15%

* THE SOURCE IS CWPT/DA

This excerpt from Hallowed Ground magazine, a publication of the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) appeared in Vol. 5, No. 2 - Summer 2004.



BILHOM, TENN.

IN 2003, VISITORS TO THE BILHOM NATIONAL MILITARY PARK SPENT OVER \$18 MILLION IN THE LOCAL AREA. VISITORS, ON AVERAGE, SPENT \$39.35 PER PERSON, PER DAY DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY. THIS MONEY SUPPORTED:

- ✓ \$2.8 MILLION IN RESIDENT INCOME.
- ✓ \$1.3 MILLION IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE, AND
- ✓ \$1.5 MILLION IN STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE.

State-Run Sites

New Market, Va.
 IN 2003, VISITORS TO THE NEW MARKET BATTLEFIELD SPENT NEARLY \$1.3 MILLION IN THE LOCAL AREA. VISITORS, ON AVERAGE, SPENT \$41.11 PER PERSON, PER DAY, DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY. THIS MONEY SUPPORTED:

- ✓ \$909,000 IN RESIDENT INCOME.
- ✓ \$182,000 IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE, AND
- ✓ \$144,000 IN STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE.

Port Hudson, La.
 IN 2003, VISITORS TO THE PORT HUDSON BATTLEFIELD SPENT OVER \$200,000 IN THE LOCAL AREA. VISITORS, ON AVERAGE, SPENT \$48.08 PER PERSON, PER DAY, DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY. THIS MONEY SUPPORTED:

✓ \$198,000 IN RESIDENT INCOME.
 ✓ \$81,000 IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE, AND
 ✓ \$24,000 IN STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE.

Locally Owned Sites

Conover, Miss.
 IN 2003, VISITORS TO THE CONOVER BATTLEFIELD SPENT OVER \$220,000 IN THE LOCAL AREA. VISITORS, ON AVERAGE, SPENT \$64.34 PER PERSON, PER DAY WHILE THEY WERE VISITING CONOVER BATTLEFIELD AND INDIRECTLY. THIS MONEY SUPPORTED:

- ✓ \$105,000 IN RESIDENT INCOME.
- ✓ \$4,000 IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE, AND
- ✓ \$23,000 IN STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE.

Mill Springs, Ky.
 IN 2003, VISITORS TO THE MILL SPRINGS BATTLEFIELD SPENT OVER \$180,000 IN THE LOCAL AREA. VISITORS, ON AVERAGE, SPENT \$42.74 PER PERSON, PER DAY, DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY. THIS MONEY SUPPORTED:

- ✓ \$83,000 IN RESIDENT INCOME.
- ✓ \$9,000 IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE, AND
- ✓ \$19,000 IN STATE GOVERNMENT REVENUE.

In the weeks and months following the battle, the town of Franklin was essentially one large hospital with wounded soldiers occupying all of the public buildings and churches, and most of the private residences. Over 6,000 soldiers, the majority of them Confederate, had to be accommodated in the community. The experience of the John McEwen family, whose home still stands at 612 Fair Street, was typical of the care provided by the citizens of Franklin. On the morning after the battle, his daughter, Frances McEwen, wrote:

“About four o'clock we heard the tramping of feet and the sound of voices. Our hearts jumped into our mouths and what joy when we learned that our own soldiers were in possession of the town!... Our doors were thrown wide open, and in a few minutes a big fire was burning in the parlor. The first man to enter was Gen. William Bate, all bespattered with mud and blackened with powder... who had been a life long friend (of my father's). Next came Gen. Thomas Benton Smith... Ambulances were being filled with the wounded as fast as possible, and the whole town was turned into a hospital. Instead of saying lessons at school the day after the battle, I watched the wounded men being carried in. Our house was as full as can be.”

Tradition has that two soldiers died in the house, one of whom, Dr. F.P. Sloan, was cared for by the McEwen family until his death in June of 1865.

At least thirty-one buildings in downtown Franklin remain standing from the period of the battle. These buildings are all within walking distance of one another and tell an important story about the experience of the civilians in the community as well as the suffering of thousands of soldiers after the battle. Franklin buildings dating from the period of the battle.

328 Bridge Street (Walker-Baagoe House), ca. 1846

402 Bridge Street (Walker-Halliburton House), ca. 1833

143 S. Fifth Avenue, ca. 1835

244 S. First Avenue, ca. 1839

136 N. Fourth Avenue, ca. 1838

217 North Fourth Avenue, ca. 1810

135 S. Fourth Avenue, ca. 1830

209 E. Main Street (Dr. McPhail's Office), ca. 1815

Williamson County Courthouse, 1858

115 S. Second Avenue (Hiram Masonic Lodge), ca. 1825

202 S. Second Avenue (Clouston Hall), ca. 1821

211 S. Second Avenue (Bearden-Robinson House), ca. 1838

217 S. Second Avenue (Davis-Still House), ca. 1810

236 S. Second Avenue (Eelbeck-Johnson Office), ca. 1820

117 N. Third Avenue, ca. 1815

118 N. Third Avenue (Maney-Gault House), ca. 1828

125 N. Third Avenue (John Eaton House), ca. 1818

137 N. Third Avenue, ca. 1820

120 S. Third Avenue (Moran-Pope House), ca. 1822

224 S. Third Avenue, (Saunders-Marshall House), ca. 1805

805 W. Main Street, 1831

1101 W. Main Street, ca. 1828

1014 W. Main Street, 1850

1010 W. Main Street, ca. 1850

700 W. Main Street, 1820

510 W. Main Street, (St. Paul's Episcopal Church), 1834, remodeled 1869

1012 Fair Street, 1850

724 Fair Street, ca. 1830

612 Fair Street, (McEwen House), 1849

501 S. Margin Street, (Otey-Campbell House), ca. 1830

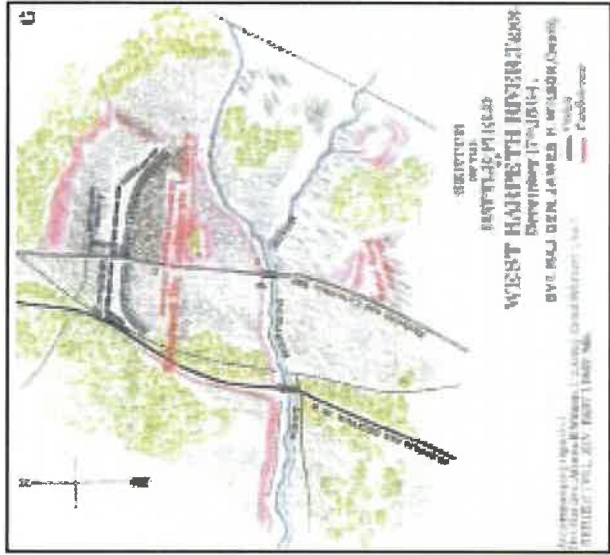
119 S. Margin Street, Nashville and Decatur Railroad Depot, 1858



The John McEwen House on Fair Street was one of many homes used as a hospital after the Battle of Franklin.

Appendix C: The "Other" Battle of Franklin

As described on page 9 and 10 of this plan, a second Battle of Franklin occurred on December 17, 1864, when Hood's army passed through Franklin as it retreated south after the Battle of Nashville. The actions associated with this combat were explained on those pages, but this page includes various graphics to provide additional detail.



The fighting on December 17th, 1864, was significant enough to warrant its own map by the US military after the war. The battle was fought over a two-mile area from a tributary of the West Harpeth River shown above to the actual West Harpeth River crossing.



The railroad overpass at Liberty Pike was the scene of heavy fighting on the afternoon of December 17th, 1864.



This open field adjacent to Liberty Pike is a potential location for markers and exhibits to explain the action on December 17th, 1864.



Acquisition of a portion of this field should be considered to commemorate and interpret the fighting on December 17th, 1864. It is located north of the West Harpeth River and west of Columbia Pike.

Appendix D: Archeology & Cultural Landscape Preservation

Archeological work is an important component for the preservation and interpretation of Franklin's Civil War heritage. Archeological survey work is a specific recommendation for many of the various sites addressed in this plan. It is recommended that archeology be applied to any important lands that are about to be disturbed, even if the site is about to be physically enhanced for preservation and interpretation purposes. It is also critical that those archeologists doing the work are well versed in historic archeology, including battlefields, as opposed to strictly prehistoric habitation sites.

At present, the City has no requirements for archeological survey work prior to development approval. One option suggested on page 30 under "Potential Preservation Measures" is for the City to require a survey for developments within the delineated battlefield, or perhaps only the "core" battlefield area. An alternative to requiring such a survey for all developments is to limit the requirement to developments of a certain magnitude, such as 10 acres or more.

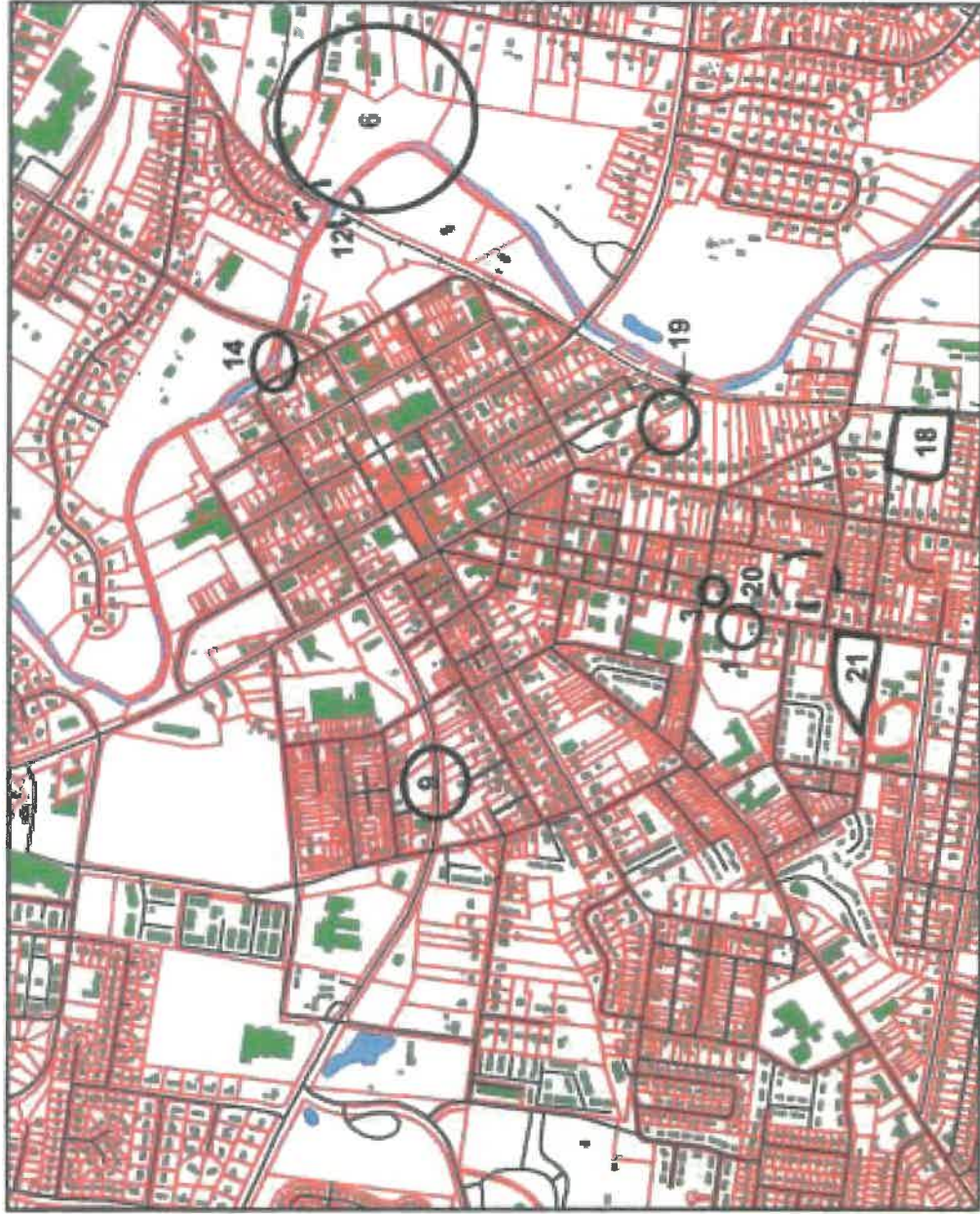
In addition to archeology, it is important that the preservation of the cultural landscape also be a top priority with respect to any of this plan's recommendations that might impact terrain. An example of this issue was cited on page 45, in which it was noted that the clearing of land for an observation point should be done by hand so as to avoid any significant impact to the landscape. The National Park Service has prepared several publications that are useful for landscape preservation at Civil

War sites, including *Preservation Brief 36: Protecting Cultural Landscapes: Planning, Treatment and Management of Historic Landscapes*. The brief is an excellent introduction to the current tenets of landscape preservation and management.



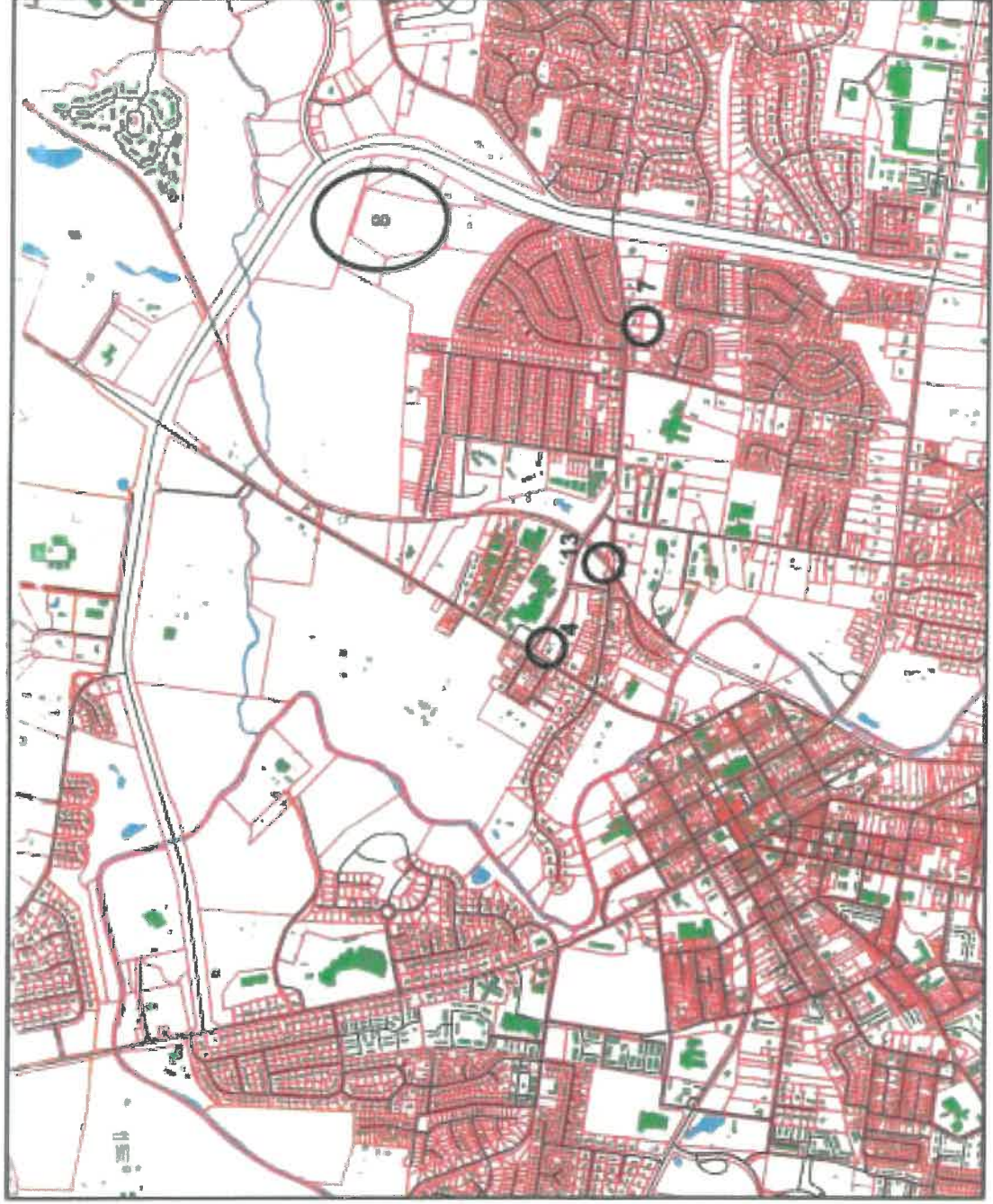
Archeological work has been conducted recently at Carnton Plantation in the vicinity of the former kitchen wing. Serving as the original section of the house, it was destroyed years ago by a tornado, but the "ghost" of its end wall is visible on the facade shown above.

Downtown Franklin Inventory of Resources



- 14 – Franklin Turnpike Bridge
Abutment, First Avenue.
- 12 – Nashville and Decatur Railroad
Bridge, Vicinity of N. First Avenue
at the Harpeth River
< 1 acre.
- 6 – Fort Granger, Liberty Pike vicinity
13 acres.
- 3 – Lotz House,
1111 Columbia Avenue
5 acres.
- 1 – Carter House,
1140 Columbia Avenue
- 9 – Union Trench Line at US 96 and
Fair Street
- 18 – Adams Street Parcel
Adams Street vicinity
4.8 acres
- 19 – Berry Circle Parcel
End of Berry Circle off Lewisburg
Pike
1.5 acre
- 20 – Cleburns Street Parcel
Six parcels at the corner of
Cleburne Street and Columbia
Pike
2.8 acres total
- 21 – Battleground Academy
Columbia Pike
14 acres

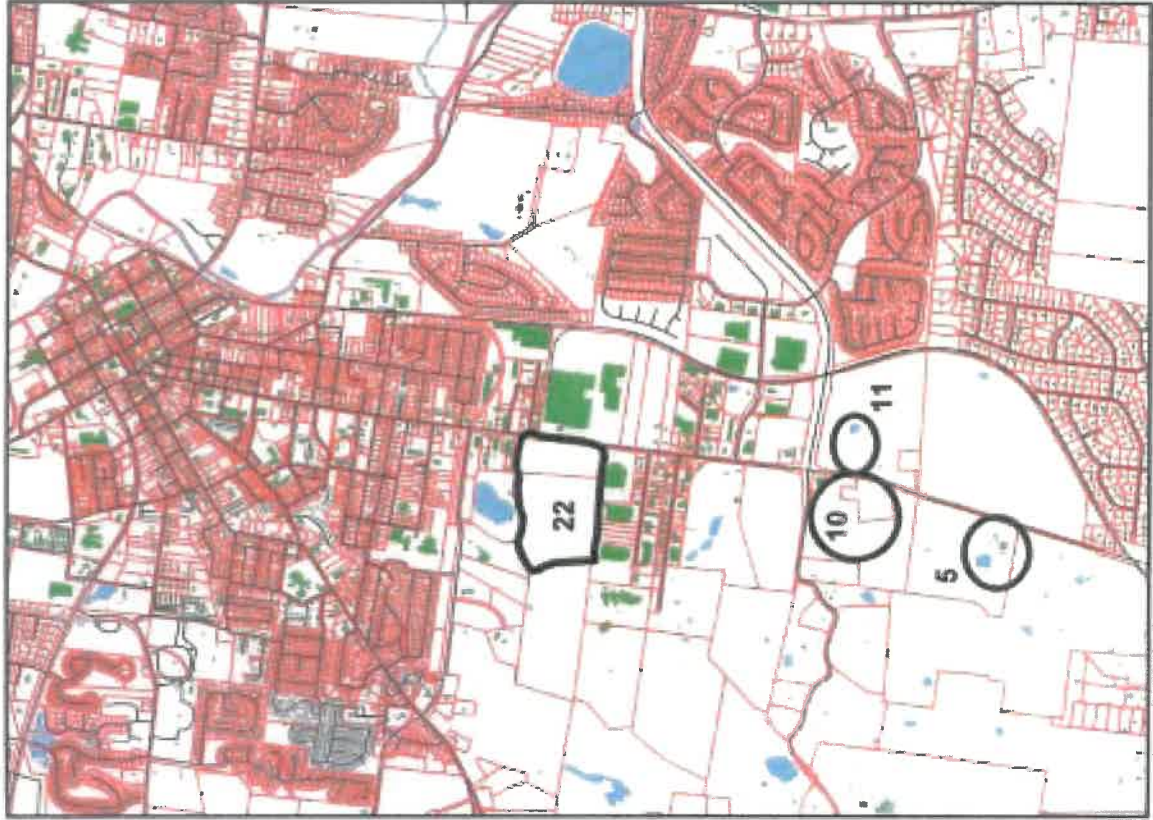
Upper Franklin Inventory of Resources



- B – Roper's Knob
Liberty Pike vicinity
56 acres
- 13 – Nashville and
Decatur Railroad
Underpass at Old
Liberty Pike,
Old Liberty vicinity
- 7 – Cedar Hill Redoubt
1 acre
- 4 – Alpheus Truett
House
228 Franklin Road,
approx. 5 acres

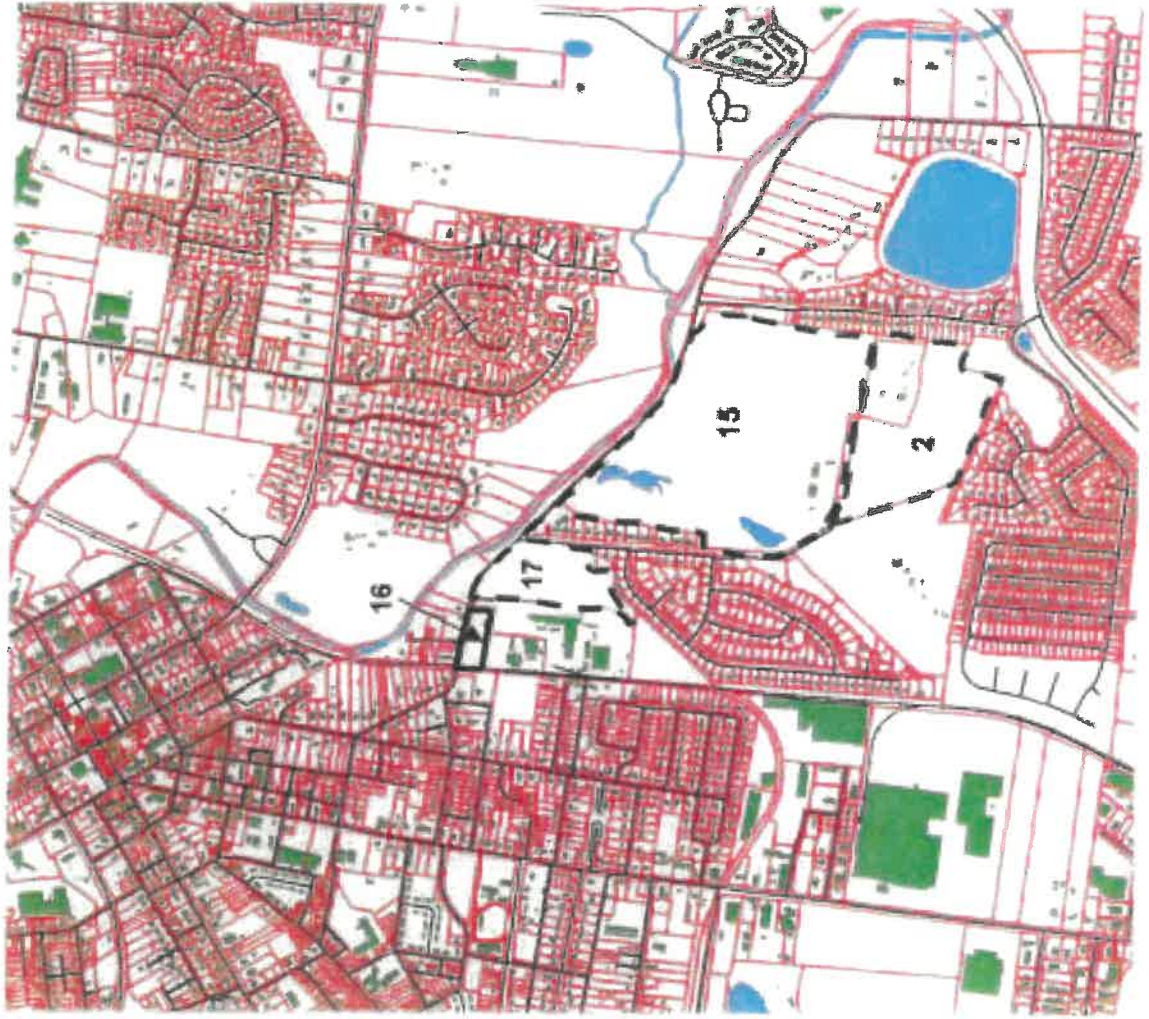
Appendix E: Inventory of Resources

**Lower Franklin
Inventory of Resources**



- 22 – Werthan Tract
Columbia Pike
64 acres**
- 10 – Winstead Hill
Columbia Pike
73 acres**
- 6 – William Harrison House
4081 Columbia Pike
67 acres**
- 11 – Breezy Hill
Columbia Pike
80 acres**

**East Side Franklin
Inventory of Resources**



- 16 – Collins Farm
Lewistown Pike
3.2 acres
- 2 – Carnton
1345 Carnton Lane
50 acres
- 17 – Willow Plunge
Lewistown and Carnton Lane
15.4 acres
- 15 – Country Club of Franklin
1343 Carnton Lane
108.5 acres

Franklin Battlefield – Inventory of Resources

Buildings on the Battlefield

1. *Carter House*, 1140 Columbia Avenue, owned by the State of Tennessee and operated by the Carter House Association Inc. National Historic Landmark and National Register-listed. Located on Columbia Pike, this was the site of a brief Confederate penetration of the Union lines before the hole was plugged by Opdycke's Union forces.
2. *Carnton Plantation*, 1345 Carnton Lane, National Historic Landmark and National Register-listed. Carnton is on a 50-acre parcel owned by the Historic Carnton Foundation. Located on the eastern flank of the battlefield, this house was used during and after the battle as a Confederate hospital.
3. *Lotz House*, 1111 Columbia Avenue, National Register-listed, privately owned. The property is less than one acre. This property, located just north of the Carter House on Columbia Pike, is where Opdycke's Union forces were stationed and it was likely used as a hospital during the battle.
4. *Alpheus Truett House*, 228 Franklin Road, National Register-listed, privately owned. The property is approximately five acres. It was used by Union General Schofield as his headquarters during the battle.
5. *William Harrison House*, 4081 Columbia Pike, National Register-listed, privately owned. The property contains 67 acres. This house was used as Confederate General Hood's headquarters during the battle, and it was used as a hospital during and after the battle.

Earthworks and Fortifications

6. *Fort Granger*, Liberty Pike Vicinity, National Historic Landmark and National Register-listed. Thirteen acre parcel owned by the City of Franklin. This fort was built in early-1863 by the Federal army and used to bombard the Confederate lines during the Battle of Franklin.
7. *Redoubt on Cedar Hill*. One-acre parcel owned by the Save the Franklin Battlefield Association. Located just northeast of Fort Granger, its fortifications were utilized in tandem with Fort Granger.
8. *Roper's Knob*, Liberty Pike vicinity, National Register-listed. Roper's Knob is on a 56 acre-parcel owned by the State of Tennessee and the City of Franklin. It was used by the Union army as an important signal point during the Battle of Franklin.

9. *Union Trench Line* at US 96 and Fair Street. A section of Union trench line remains visible on the south side of US 96 approximately 500' west of the intersection of Fair Street. This section of trench line has not been mapped or been the subject of an archaeological investigation. The parcel or parcels on which this trench line exists is on private property.

Sites and Structures

10. *Winstead Hill*, Columbia Pike, National Historic Landmark and National Register-listed. Winstead Hill is a 73-acre parcel owned by the City of Franklin and the Sons of Confederate Veterans. Located just south of Maek Hatcher Parkway, it was used by General Hood as an observation point for viewing the Battle of Franklin.
11. *Breezy Hill*, Columbia Pike, 80-acre parcel in private ownership. It is located just south of Maek Hatcher Parkway. As with Winstead Hill, it was used by General Hood as an observation point for viewing the Battle of Franklin.
12. *Nashville and Decatur Railroad Bridge*, Vicinity of N. First Avenue at the Harpeth River, privately owned. The parcel is less than one acre. Located immediately west of Fort Granger, its strategic importance to the transport of supplies for the Union army was the impetus for Fort Granger's location.
13. *Nashville and Decatur Railroad Underpass* at Old Liberty Pike, Old Liberty Pike vicinity, privately owned. This landmark was the scene of heavy fighting on the afternoon of December 17, 1864, when the "Second Battle of Franklin" occurred as Hood's army withdrew south after the Battle of Nashville.
14. *Franklin Turnpike Bridge Abutment*, First Avenue. On First Avenue between Main Street and Bridge Street is the stone abutment of the bridge which spanned the Harpeth River. This cut stone abutment helped to support a covered bridge that was burned during the war. Because the bridge was not in service during the Battle of Franklin, a pontoon bridge was built by the Federal army as one of the only means of access across the Harpeth River to withdraw north to Nashville.

Parcels with Interpretive or Reclamation Potential

East Flank

15. *Country Club of Franklin*, 1343 Carnton Lane. The Country Club of Franklin is a 108.5 acre parcel in private ownership. The Confederate army's eastern flank received heavy artillery fire from Fort Granger on this property in route to attacking the Federal lines.

16. *Collins Farm, Lewisburg Pike.* The Collins Farm is a 3.2-acre parcel owned by the Save the Franklin Battlefield Inc. Located on Lewisburg Pike just northwest of the Country Club property and Willow Plunge, it was also part of the area in which the Confederate army's eastern flank received heavy artillery fire from Fort Granger in route to attacking the Federal lines.

17. *Willow Plunge Site, Lewisburg Pike and Carrion Lane.* Willow Plunge is a 15.4-acre parcel in private ownership. Located between the Country Club property and the Collins Farm, this property was also part of the area in which the Confederate army's eastern flank received heavy artillery fire from Fort Granger in route to attacking the Federal lines. This site was also used as a swimming pool during the first half of the 20th century.

18. *Adams Street Parcel, Adams Street vicinity.* This is a 4.8-acre parcel in private ownership. It was the location where part of the Army of Tennessee's right flank crossed the railroad tracks as it attacked the Union lines

19. *Berry Circle Parcel, at the end of Berry Circle off Lewisburg Pike.* This is a 1.5-acre parcel in private ownership. It was the location of the end of the Union eastern flank near the railroad tracks and the Harpeth River, which are to the immediate east. An artillery battery was located here or very close to this spot.

Columbia Pike

20. *Cleburne Street Parcels, six parcels at the corner of Cleburne Street and Columbia Pike totaling 2.8 acres.* Five of the parcels are in private ownership with the sixth owned by the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County. These parcels comprise the approximate site of the Carter's Cotton Gin, a key battlefield landmark. Confederate General Patrick Cleburne fell mortally wounded just south of this site.

21. *Battleground Academy, Columbia Pike.* At the turn of the century, a private school, the Battleground Academy, developed a campus to the south of the Carter House. In 2003, a fourteen-acre parcel of this campus now owned by Williamson County was examined for its potential reclamation and interpretation. The Union "forward line" traversed this site, from which Wagner's Union forces retreated at the beginning of the Battle of Franklin.

22. *Werthan Tract, 64-acre parcel on the west side of Columbia Pike in private ownership.* This parcel is presently scheduled for development. It was traversed by Gordon's and Strahl's Confederate troops as they attacked the Union center.

Hospital Buildings in Downtown Franklin

- 1 328 Bridge Street (Walker-Beagoe House), ca. 1846
- 2 402 Bridge Street (Walker-Halliburton House), ca. 1833
- 3 143 S. Fifth Avenue, ca. 1835

- 4 244 S. First Avenue, ca. 1839
- 5 136 N. Fourth Avenue, ca. 1838
- 6 217 North Fourth Avenue, ca. 1810
- 7 135 S. Fourth Avenue, ca. 1850
- 8 209 E. Main Street (Dr. McPhail's Office), ca. 1815
- 9 Williamson County Courthouse, 1858
- 10 115 S. Second Avenue (Hiram Masonic Lodge), ca. 1825
- 11 202 S. Second Avenue (Clouston Hall), ca. 1821
- 12 211 S. Second Avenue (Bearden-Robinson House), ca. 1838
- 13 217 S. Second Avenue (Davis-Still House), ca. 1810
- 14 236 S. Second Avenue (Eelbeck-Johnson Office), ca. 1820
- 15 117 N. Third Avenue, ca. 1815
- 16 118 N. Third Avenue (Maney-Gault House), ca. 1828
- 17 125 N. Third Avenue (John Eaton House), ca. 1818
- 18 137 N. Third Avenue, ca. 1820
- 19 120 S. Third Avenue (Moran-Pope House), ca. 1822
- 20 224 S. Third Avenue, (Saunders-Marshall House), ca. 1805
- 21 805 W. Main Street, 1831
- 22 1101 W. Main Street, ca. 1828
- 23 1014 W. Main Street, 1850
- 24 1010 W. Main Street, ca. 1850
- 25 700 W. Main Street, 1820
- 26 510 W. Main Street, (St. Paul's Episcopal Church), 1834, remodeled 1869
- 27 1012 Fair Street, 1850
- 28 724 Fair Street, ca. 1830
- 29 612 Fair Street, (McEwen House), 1849
- 30 501 S. Margin Street, (Otey-Campbell House), ca. 1830
- 31 119 S. Margin Street, Nashville and Decatur Railroad Depot, 1858

Cummings House

Russell Truell
Interim City Administrator
Jaime Groce, AICP
Planning Director



CITY OF FRANKLIN
PLANNING DEPARTMENT
www.franklin-gov.com



To: Mayor John Schroer

From: Shanon Peterson Wasielewski, Historic Preservation Officer

Date: February 25, 2008

Re: Battlefield Preservation Plan Task Force

We met recently to discuss the future of the Battlefield Preservation Plan Task Force. You asked me to make a recommendation to you regarding its purpose and membership when you returned from Guatemala. I'm, of course, happy to sit down with you and discuss it further whenever you would like but have outlined my basic thoughts here.

The original task force as appointed in 2005 includes the following membership:

Pam Lewis (BOMA rep), Chair
Pearl Bransford
Thomas Cartwright
Judy Hayes
Robin Hood
Tommy Murdic
Mary Pearce
Mergie Thessin
J. T. Thompson

The task force was initially appointed to ensure that the Battlefield Preservation Plan was actually implemented rather than forgotten. While I believe the plan should continue to direct the annual priorities of the task force, the purpose and role of the task force has expanded beyond that responsibility to include things like reviewing battle-related parks projects and planning the annual illumination event. I also anticipate additional roles for the task force to play moving forward including the comprehensive interpretation and visitor experience related to the Battle of Franklin sites—both public and private.

As a body that is representative of the various historic sites and organizations committed to the interpretation of the Battle of Franklin, the task force is in a position to serve as an umbrella group when a less site-specific approach is needed for certain issues. This need has come up during the National Park Service feasibility study process related to future partnership opportunities with the NPS.

To that end, I would first recommend changing the name to the Battle of Franklin Task Force or Battlefield Task Force rather than the Battlefield Preservation Plan Task Force to better reflect the expanded purpose and goals. (Plus, it's easier to remember and say!)

109 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH • FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE 37064
(615) 791-3212 TELEPHONE • (615) 791-3257 FAX

"To ensure that the built and natural environments are constantly improving to accomplish the highest level of quality of life for the citizens of Franklin"

I also recommend increasing the size of the task force and then establishing subcommittees within the task force based on interest/expertise. I propose at least four subcommittees: November 30th Illumination, Annual Priority, Parks, and Interpretation/Tourism. We may also wish to consider adding a Sesquicentennial subcommittee in the near future as that will be here before we know it—2011.

November 30th Illumination: It is important for the City of Franklin and the task force to play a role in commemorating the importance of the Battle of Franklin to the history of our community. To that end, I recommend that the task force continue sponsoring the Illumination event with funding from the City. Last year, the task force received donations and plate sale proceeds which resulted in a small profit that will be used for next year's event. The goal is that the event will eventually be self-sustaining. While all members of the task force would be expected to volunteer for the Illumination, we do not want the planning to monopolize all of the time/energy of the group.

Annual Priority: Each year, the task force has tackled at least one recommendation from the plan and made it a priority: such as the purchase and distribution of replica hospital flags to sites that serves as hospitals during and after the battle. I believe this practice should continue. Each year, this subcommittee could change depending on the selected priority project for that year.

Parks: The Parks Department works closely with the task force whenever it undertakes projects involving battle-related Parks properties. The task force designed the Assault at the Cotton Gin site and has recently advised the Parks Department on plans at Collins Farm. This is an important role for the task force to play.

Interpretation/Tourism: Much discussion occurred at the NPS meetings in November 2007 about the need for an umbrella body to think about comprehensive interpretation issues and comprehensive marketing issues, both of which relate to improving the overall visitor experience. A body such as this is also important (as it will be a requirement) if the Battle of Franklin is to become an affiliated area of the NPS at some point in the future. This subcommittee would be a good starting point.

Based on our conversation and the history of involvement on the task force, I have provided a proposed member list below. I will continue to serve at the primary staff member to the task force with involvement as needed from Lisa Clayton and her staff.

Proposed Membership:

1. Pearl Bransford
Appointed board representative
2. Eric Jacobson, staff
Appointed board representative
3. Mary Pearce, staff
Appointed board representative (Michael Walker, Sam Huffman or Sam Gant have all been actively involved)
4. Thomas Cartwright, staff
Appointed board representative (see note above)
5. J.T. Thompson
Appointed board representative
6. Save the Franklin Battlefield
Appointed board representative (see note above)
7. Save the Franklin Battlefield
Appointed board representative (see note above)
8. Save the Franklin Battlefield
Appointed board representative (see note above)
9. Save the Franklin Battlefield
Appointed board representative (see note above)
10. Save the Franklin Battlefield
Appointed board representative (see note above)
11. Save the Franklin Battlefield
Appointed board representative (see note above)

Board of Mayor and Aldermen

Carnon Plantation

Carnon Plantation

Carter House

Carter House

Heritage Foundation

Heritage Foundation

Heritage Foundation

Save the Franklin Battlefield

Save the Franklin Battlefield

Save the Franklin Battlefield

African American Heritage Society

Lotz House

- 12. Margie Theassin
 - 13. Deborah Warnick
 - 14. Pam Lewis
 - 15. Appointed board representative (Joel Tomlin)
 - 16. Appointed board representative
 - 17. Appointed board representative
 - 18. Appointed board representative
 - 19. Representative (Jay or Marcia Franks; Hank Brockman)
 - 20. Appointed representative
 - 21. Member
 - 22. Member
 - 23. Member
- Franklin on Foot
 CVB, Heritage Tourism Manager
 Tennessee Preservation Trust
 Downtown Franklin Association
- Franklin's Charge
 Next Generation
 Franklin Tomorrow
 Development/Real Estate Community
 and/or Battle-related property owner
- Chamber of Commerce
 Media/Newspaper
 Williamson County Schools—HS rep
 Other At-large appointees

The next meeting of the task force is scheduled for Thursday, March 27th at 7:30 am. If new appointments could be made in advance of that meeting, that would be ideal. Once you've had an opportunity to review the recommendations, I am happy to contact each organization or individual on your behalf about serving on the task force.

Please let me know if I can provide additional information or clarification.

Thank you.



City of Franklin
 Battlefield Task Force
 April 22, 2008

Name	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	
Organization/Affiliation	City of Franklin	City of Franklin	City of Franklin	Carrton Plantation	Carrton Plantation	Carter House	Carter House	Heritage Foundation	Heritage Foundation	Save the Franklin Battlefield	Save the Franklin Battlefield	African American Heritage Society	Lotz House	Franklin on Foot	CVB, Heritage Tourism Manager	Tennessee Preservation Trust	Downtown Franklin Association	Franklin's Charge	Next Generation	Franklin Tomorrow	Development/Real Estate Community	Battlefield Related Property Owner
	Pearl Bransford, Alderman	Shanon Wasielewski, staff	Joel Tomlin	Eric Jacobson, staff	Board Representative	Thomas Cartwright, staff	Robin Hood	Mary Pearce, staff	Sam Gant	Michael Walker	Tommy Murdic, Board Chair	J.T. Thompson	Margie Thessin	Deborah Warnick	Pam Lewis	Board Representative	Ernie Bacon	Reid Anderson	Bo Butler	Ken Green	Jay Franks	

