

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR**

## CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM

**PLEASE:**

- Type or print, using a ball-point pen, when filling out this form. Legibility is critical.
- Do not guess at the information. An answer of, "Unknown," is more helpful.
- Include a photograph of each viewable side and label it with name & direction of view.

- Thank You.

### Type of Memorial

☐ Monument *with* Sculpture                      ☐ Monument with *Cannon*  
☐ Monument *without* Sculpture                      ☒ Historical Marker                      ☐ Plaque

### Affiliation

☐ G.A.R. (Post Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_)                      ☐ M.O.L.L.U.S.  
☐ W.R.C. (Corps Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_)                      ☐ Other Allied Order  
☐ SUVCW (Camp Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_)                      (Please describe below)  
☐ DUVCW (Tent Name & No. \_\_\_\_\_)  
☒ Other: Missouri Civil War Heritage Foundation & Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau

**Original Dedication Date** 2008                      Please consult any/all newspaper archives for a local paper's article that would have information on the *first* dedication ceremony and/or other facts on the memorial. Please submit a copy of your findings with full identification of the paper & date of publication. Thank you.

### Location

The Memorial is *currently* located at:

Street/Road address or site location 8530 Hwy J no of W Bradley La N39°03.530' W92°29.583'  
 City/Village Rocheport                      Township                      County Boone

The front of the Memorial faces: ☐ North                      ☐ South                      ☒ East                      ☐ West

**Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner** (of private cemetery that Memorial is located in)...

Name Missouri Civil War Heritage Foundation                      Dept./Div. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address 6332 Clayton Ave  
 City St. Louis                      State MO                      Zip Code 63139  
 Contact Person Greg Wolk                      Telephone (                      ) \_\_\_\_\_

If the Memorial has been moved, please list former location(s)...

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### Physical Details

Material of Monument or base under a Sculpture or Cannon = ☐ Stone ☒ Concrete ☐ Metal ☐ Undetermined  
 If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Material of the Sculpture = \_\_\_ Stone \_\_\_ Concrete \_\_\_ Metal \_\_\_ Undetermined

If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

If the Sculpture is of metal, is it solid cast or "hollow?" \_\_\_\_\_

Material of Plaque or Historical Marker / Tablet = Aluminum and polymer plastics \_\_\_\_\_

Material of Cannon = \_\_\_ Bronze \_\_\_ Iron - Consult known Ordnance Listing to confirm  
Markings on muzzle = \_\_\_\_\_

Markings on Left Trunion \_\_\_\_\_ Right Trunion \_\_\_\_\_

Is inert ammunition a part of the Memorial? \_\_\_ If so, describe \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate Dimensions** (indicate unit of measure) - taken from tallest / widest points

Monument or Base: Height 3 1/2 ft Width 3 ft Depth 2 1/2 ft or Diameter \_\_\_\_\_

Sculpture: Height \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_ Depth \_\_\_\_\_ or Diameter \_\_\_\_\_

For Memorials with multiple Sculptures, please record this information on a separate sheet of paper for each statue and attach to this form. Please describe the "pose" of each statue and any weapons/implements involved (in case your photos become separated from this form). Thank you!

**Markings/Inscriptions** (on stone-work / metal-work of monument, base, sculpture)

Maker or Fabricator mark / name? If so, give name & location found n/a

The "Dedication Text" is formed: \_\_\_ cut into material \_\_\_ raised up from material face

Record the text (indicate any separation if on different sides...) Please use additional sheet if necessary.  
See attached text

**Environmental Setting**

(The general vicinity and immediate locale surrounding a memorial can play a major role in its overall condition.)

**Type of Location**

\_\_\_ Cemetery

\_\_\_ "Town Square"

\_\_\_ Municipal Building

\_\_\_ Courthouse

\_\_\_ Traffic Circle

\_\_\_ Park

\_\_\_ Post Office

\_\_\_ State Capitol

\_\_\_ College Campus

\_\_\_ Library

\_\_\_ Plaza/Courtyard

\_\_\_ School

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Roadside \_\_\_\_\_

**General Vicinity**

☒ Rural (low population, open land)      ☐ Suburban (residential, near city)  
☐ Town      ☐ Urban / Metropolitan

**Immediate Locale** (check as many as may apply)

☐ Industrial    ☐ Commercial  
☒ Street/Roadside within 20 feet    ☒ Tree Covered (overhanging branches)  
☐ Protected from the elements (canopy or enclosure, indoors)  
☐ Protected from the public (fence or other barrier)  
Any other significant environmental factor \_\_\_\_\_

**Condition Information****Structural Condition** (check as many as may apply)

The following section applies to Monuments *with* Sculpture, and Monuments without Sculpture -

including the base for Monuments with *Cannon*. Instability in the sculpture and its base can be detected by a number of factors. Indicators may be obvious or subtle. Visually examine the sculpture and its base.

	<b>Sculpture</b>	<b>Base</b>
If hollow, is the internal support unstable/exposed? (look for signs of exterior rust)	_____	_____
Any evidence of structural instability? (look for cracked joints, missing mortar or caulking or plant growth)	_____	_____
Any broken or missing parts? (look for elements (i.e., sword, musket, hands, arms, etc. - missing due to vandalism, fluctuating weather conditions, etc.)	_____	_____
Any cracks, splits, breaks or holes? (also look for signs of uneven stress & weakness in the material)	_____	_____

**Surface Appearance** (check as many as may apply)

	<b>Sculpture</b>	<b>Base</b>
Black crusting	- - -	_____
White crusting	- - -	- - -
Etched, pitted, or otherwise corroded (on metal)	- - -	- - -
Metallic staining (run-off from copper, iron, etc.)	_____	- - -
Organic growth (moss, algae, lichen or vines)	_____	- - -
Chalky or powdery stone	- - -	- - -
Granular eroding of stone	_____	- - -
Spalling of stone (surface splitting off)	- - -	- - -
Droppings (bird, animal, insect remains)	_____	_____
Other (e.g., spray paint graffiti) - Please describe...		

Does water collect in recessed areas of the Memorial?    ☐ Yes    ☒ No    ☐ Unable to tell

**Surface Coating**

Does there appear to be a coating? \_\_\_ Yes ☒ No \_\_\_ Unable to determine  
 If known, identify type of coating.

\_\_\_ Gilded \_\_\_ Painted \_\_\_ Varnished \_\_\_ Waxed \_\_\_ Unable to determine

Is the coating in good condition? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Unable to determine

**Basic Surface Condition Assessment** (check one)

In your opinion, what is the general appearance or condition of the Memorial?

☒ Well maintained \_\_\_ Would benefit from treatment \_\_\_ In urgent need of treatment \_\_\_ Unable to determine

**Overall Description**

Briefly describe the Memorial (affiliation / overall condition & any concern not already touched on) .

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**Supplemental Background Information**

In addition to your on-site survey, any additional information you can provide on the described Memorial will be welcomed. Please label each account with its source (author, title, publisher, date, pages). Topics include any reference to the points listed on this questionnaire, plus any previous conservation treatments - or efforts to raise money for treatment. Thank you.

**Inspector Identification**

Date of On-site Survey 6/3/2011

Your Name Walt Busch US Grant Camp 68

Address PO Box 381 City Arcadia

State MO Zip Code 63621 Telephone ( 314 ) 630-8407

Please send this completed form to:

Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC, Chair  
 1691 Summerfield Street, SE  
 Grand Rapids, MI 49508-6499  
 (616) 827-3369  
 civil-war@comcast.net

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR  
 National Civil War Memorials Committee

## Attack at Goslin's Lane Missouri's Civil War

[Left Panel]

Prelude to Centralia

The guerrillas that attacked at Goslin's Lane took their booty of arms, ammunitions and supplies, and moved north into camp on Bonne Femme Creek, south of Fayette, Missouri. There, a number of independent guerrilla bands were collecting, including one commanded by William Clark Quantrill. These irregulars had been summoned by Confederate Major General Sterling Price to aid his expedition, which was at this time in southeast Missouri.

[general stylized map of surrounding towns and Confederate movement from Rocheport to Fayette]

The next morning, September 24, 1864, these bands attacked a federal garrison in Fayette, with disastrous consequences for the Southerners. Attacking the brick courthouse and a fortified block house occupied by Union troops, Anderson lost 40 men, killed and wounded.

Frank James, who was also at Goslin's Lane, was to say that "The worst scared I ever was during the war was in the Fayette fight."

Bill Anderson led the attack on Fayette against the advice of Quantrill. In the days after Fayette, though, Anderson increasingly took the lead among the guerrilla leaders. The consolidated bands, no constituting probably the largest guerrilla force assembled in the western theatre of the war, moved northeast and destroyed much of the town of Renick, and threatened Paris, Missouri in Monroe County. They went into camp several miles southeast of Centralia on the evening of September 26, 1864. On the next day, the Massacre and Battle at Centralia occurred.

[graphic of guerrillas attacking wagon in wooded area]

[Center Insert]

September 23, 1864, was a cold and rainy day. That morning, a Union supply train, commanded by Captain James W. McFadden and an escort of 80 cavalrymen from the 3rd Missouri State Militia set out from Sturgeon to supply the troops stationed at Rocheport. The train consisted of 18 wagons that were driven by white and three black civilian teamsters pressed into service by the Union army. The supplies consisted of 18,000 rounds of ammunition, uniforms, and 1000 rations of food. The muddy road impeded the progress of the wagons and it was dark when the supply train arrived at this point in the lane near Sylvester F. Goslin's farm. The Union escort had already dismounted, and was making preparations to camp for the evening. Earlier in the day, Union Brigadier General J.B. Douglass had entered Rocheport, and learning that the

supply train was still en route, ordered an additional 30 troopers to link up with McFadden that evening and escort the supply train to Rocheport the next day.

These Union reinforcements had just arrived at Goslin's Lane when they were suddenly attacked by 100 Missouri guerrillas under the commands of Bill Anderson, George Todd, Thomas Todd, and John Thraikill. The surprise was so complete that the troopers had no opportunity to defend themselves. Many of the soldiers hid in an adjacent cornfield while others mounted and retreated to Columbia or Sturgeon. Twelve soldiers surrendered to the guerrillas and they were executed along with 3 black teamsters.

In his memoirs, guerrilla John McCorkle said of the encounter, "We dropped out of sight under a hill and, when about half of them had passed Goslin's [sic] house, we dashed on them and they divided, fleeing in utter confusion." Union Brigadier General J.B. Douglass wrote after the skirmish, "All the soldiers were shot in the head, showing that they had been murdered after being captured." The guerrillas sustained one killed. The guerrillas took the ammunition and uniforms then set fire to the supply train. Then they rode north into Howard County.

[Trademarked Logo: Missouri's Civil War 1861-1865]

Later that evening, Union troops commanded by Major Reeves Leonard of the 9th Missouri Cavalry from Fayette, surprised six guerrillas staying at the home of a southern sympathizer, north of Rocheport. Five of the guerrillas were killed as they attempted to reach their horses to make their escape. One guerrilla, Cave Wyatt, was captured, and taken to Columbia where he was put in jail. Thirty revolvers were found on the horses and bodies of the guerrillas as well as scalps from Union soldiers hanging from the bridles. Evidence suggests that in retaliation, Union troopers scalped the corpses of 5 guerrillas. Guerrilla Captain Bill Anderson was told by locals that these men had been mutilated and that the incident upset him very much. His resentment over the treatment of his men carried over to September 27, 1864, when he was engaged in the Centralia Massacre and Battle in which 23 Union unarmed soldiers were shot down in cold blood. Later that same day, a Union command, consisting of 155 troopers, were annihilated by Anderson's guerrillas and after the battle, some of the corpses were mutilated.

[right column]

### Bloody Bill

William T. "Bloody Bill" Anderson was born in 1839 and grew up near Huntsville in Randolph County. As leader of a small army of secessionist guerrillas during the Civil War, he was known for his brutality toward Union soldiers, Kansas Jayhawkers and pro-Union civilians in Missouri and across the western border.

[Picture of Bloody Bill]

Anderson became a lieutenant in William Clarke Quantrill's Confederate guerrilla company. The two split in early 1864, and Anderson formed his own guerrilla band.

On September 27, 1864, four days after the fight at Goslin's Lane, Anderson led his bushwhackers to Centralia, where they barricaded the tracks of the Northern Missouri Railroad and forced a train to stop. They robbed the civilian passengers and killed 21 Union soldiers who were returning home on furlough. Union Major A.V.E. Johnston of the newly raised 39th Missouri Infantry Regiment set off with his men to pursue Anderson's band. A detachment lured Johnston's men into a trap and cut them down. Those who tried to surrender were executed. Around 120 mounted infantrymen were killed.

On October 26, 1864, militia Colonel Samuel P. Cox, assigned the task of eliminating Anderson, located him near Albany in Ray County. Cox sent a mounted detachment to lure the guerrillas into an ambush, and Anderson led his men in a charge straight into the waiting militiamen, who fired a volley. Anderson fell from his horse, shot through the head. A silk cord with fifty-three knots, allegedly found on Anderson, reportedly recorded the number of men he had killed.

[Insert]

During the Summer of 1864, Bloody Bill Anderson visited the town of Rocheport on many occasions, and called the town "my capital." Rocheport is about 10 miles southeast of here, via Highway J and U.S. Highway 40. Pictured at right is a 1860 church that now serves as Rocheport's community center.

[Color picture of church]

Sources: O.R. Series 1, Vol. XLI, Part 1; Switzler, William F. *History of Boone County, Missouri* (St. Louis, MO: Western Historical Company, 1882) pp. 437-438; McCorkle, John, *Three Years With Quantrill: A true Story Told by his Scout John McCorkle* (Norman and London: University of Oklahoma Press, 1992) p. 159,

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[Logo: Columbia]

Made Possible by a Grant from Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau



# Skirmish at Vollrath Farm

*A Boonville Family*

George and Emma Fuchs Vollrath owned this property during the Civil War and the story of this family is very typical of the German experience in Missouri. George and Emma were born in different regions of what is today Germany. George was a potter, miller and farmer. He and his



Boonville Pottery Works, Jim Hight Collection

brother Nicholas bought an existing pottery business that was called the Boonville Pottery. By 1850 the pottery used 600 tons of clay and 1,600 tons of wood on an annual basis, earning \$580 per year. Sixteen people worked at the pottery and the annual wages totaled \$500.00. George invested \$6,000.00 in the operation and produced 200,000 gallons of stoneware valued at \$12,500 in 1850. By 1860 the pottery works had doubled the amount of its production.



City Home, Jim Hight Collection

George Vollrath died in 1865. At that time, approximately 70% of the German immigrant population in Missouri was made up of the Boonville Pottery. George's estate was valued at \$6,000.00, which was a very high sum for that time. A family inventory reveals that the family that furnished their home in fine style, with mahogany

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*Missouri's*

## CIVIL WAR

By October 1864, the horses of the Civil War had reached most Boonville families. It was then that Boonville citizens learned that a large force of Confederates was approaching from the southeast. These were the men of Maj. Gen. Sterling Price's divisions that were striking across the state in Price's 1864 Expedition.

Price had entered Missouri from Arkansas on September 19, 1864, and moved from southeast Missouri into the Missouri River valley. He was moving west after a bitter defeat at Pilot Knob, Iron County, on September 27, and a skirmish at Jefferson City on October 7. His forces entered Boonville on October 11, 1864 and there was a brief skirmish in downtown Boonville as the Union home guard rapidly departed the scene. The Union cavalry was following Price after the action at Jefferson City, and were close on his heels. Part of this cavalry was the Sixth Cavalry, Provisional Enrolled Missouri Militia, which approached the town on an old road from the direction of Pisgah in southeast Cooper County. That road, now severed by Interstate 70 at the location of the rest stop east of Boonville's Route B exit, is called Rankin Mill Road north of the Interstate. South of 1-70 the road is Route U.

Union Lt. Col. John F. McMahon of the Sixth Cavalry described the action in his official report as follows: "...bivouacked on the night of the 10th twelve miles south of Boonville. On the 11th we moved at 6 o'clock in the direction of Boonville. I was at once ordered to move with my command to the right until I struck the road leading from Pisgah to



Boonville. I then turned to the left, marching on the right flank of our main column immediately upon Boonville, driving in the enemy's pickets, killing one and capturing another. I was ordered to hold until Col. Grady came up when my regiment was dismounted, and moved upon the enemy, secured in thick undergrowth.

We engaged them warmly for two hours, driving him until ordered by Colonel Grady to fall back, which I did in perfect order, having 2 enlisted men killed, 1 commissioned officer and 4 enlisted men wounded."

This skirmish took place here on the Vollrath Farm. The farm was heavily wooded at the time of the Civil War. Rankin Mill Road intersects Highway B south of the spotlight or about a quarter mile south of this point. Approximately 300 feet down Rankin Mill Road is the Civil War era Tipton Road intersection. (See map) Grass now covers the historic roadway.

Confederate losses were reported to be 15 killed and 28 so severely wounded that they could not be moved. Nightfall came with exhausted men on both sides sleeping on their weapons.

General Price moved west out of Boonville on October 12, 1864. As he left, his troops stole horses and supplies and then the Union forces that pursued him did the same thing. Cooper County was left destitute, especially of horses. It was said that "hardly a good one" was left. This was the last fight the citizens of Boonville would see during the Civil War, but another fight was about to begin for Boonville - the fight for economic prosperity again once the Civil War ended.



Made possible by a grant from the Boonville Tourism Commission.

### Battle at the Tete Saline

On October 12, 1864, a fierce cavalry battle occurred several miles south of this place on the Old Tipton Road. The action began at dawn on the 12th, at a bridge over the Tete Saline Creek, known locally as the Tete Saline. The Confederates occupying Boonville were

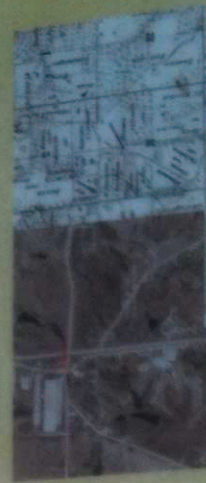


commanded by Lt. Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. The Confederates in the area were led by Missouri County native Col. Sidney Jackson. They forced off Epineux's charges for several hours and finally held their ground at a place on Route B just ½ mile south of Interstate 70.

### A Boonville Family

Lucius Street lived on the property. The Vollraths had always lived in town, but they had extensive property holdings around the Boonville area. They were leaders in building the German Evangelical Church in Boonville in 1855, which exists today in the United Church of Christ. The family also was a willing operator of the Western Store on the Missouri river, near the location of the Boonville SFAA. They had an extensive vineyard in their 15.5 yard and a large wine cellar along one side of the hill east of the house. The Vollraths owned slaves. According to contemporary descriptions, one of the slaves was a skilled potter.

George and Emma were buried in Walden Union Cemetery in Boonville.



Source: Van Rensselaer, Charles. The Arts and Architecture of German Settlement in Missouri: A Survey of a Vanishing Culture. (University of Missouri Press, Columbia, Missouri, 1977), page 104. Official Records, Series 1 - Volume 41 (Part 1), p. 467, Reg. No. 38, pp. 1003-1002.

Image credit: James Hight Collection



## Prologue to Confederation

The guerrillas that attacked at Goslin's Lane took their heavy arsenal of arms, including muskets, rifles, and pistols, from a nearby Union camp on Boone Avenue. They were collecting these weapons, and then a number of independent guerrillas, including some who had been recruited by Confederate General Sterling Price to aid his expedition, which was in this area to conduct Missouri.



The next morning, September 25, 1864, these bands attacked a Federal garrison in Fayette, with disastrous consequences for the South-thers. Attacking Anderson lost 40 men, killed and wounded.

Frank James, who was also at Goslin's Lane, was to say that "The worst scared I ever was during the war was in the Fayette fight."

Bill Anderson led the attack on Fayette against the advice of Quantrell. In the days after Fayette, though, Anderson increasingly took the lead among the guerrilla leaders. The consolidated bands, now constituting probably the largest guerrilla force assembled in the western theatre of the war, moved northeast and destroyed much of the town of Renick, and threatened Price, Missouri in March County. They went into camp several miles southeast of Centralia on the evening of September 26, 1864. On the next day the Massacre and Battle at Centralia occurred.



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## Attack at Goslin's Lane

### Missouri's

# CIVIL WAR

September 25, 1864, was a cold and rainy day. That morning, a Union supply train, commanded by Captain James W. McFadden and an escort of 80 cavalrymen from the 3rd Missouri State Militia set out from Sturgeon to supply the troops stationed at Rocheport. The train consisted of 18 wagons that were driven by white and three black civilian teamsters pressed into service by the Union army. The supplies consisted of 18,000 rounds of ammunition, uniforms, and 10,000 rations of food. The muddy roads impeded the progress of the wagons and it was dark when the supply train arrived at this point in the lane near Sylvester F. Goslin's farm.

The Union escort had already dismounted, and was making preparations to camp for the evening. Earlier in the day, Douglas had entered Rocheport, and learning that the supply train was still en route, ordered an additional 30 troops to link up with McFadden that evening and escort the supply train to Rocheport the next day.

These Union reinforcements had just arrived at Goslin's Lane when they were suddenly attacked by 100 Missouri guerrillas under the commands of Bill Anderson, George Todd, Thomas Todd, and John Thrallkill. The surprise was so complete that the troops had no opportunity to defend themselves. Many of the soldiers hid in an adjacent cornfield while others mounted and retreated to Columbia or Sturgeon. Twelve soldiers surrendered to the guerrillas and they were escorted along with 3 black teamsters.

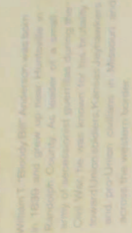
In his memoirs, guerrilla John McCorkle said

of the encounter, "We dropped out of sight under a hill and, when about half of the train had passed, General J. B. Douglas wrote after the skirmish, 'All the soldiers were shot in the head, showing that they had been murdered after being captured.' The guerrillas survived one killed. The guerrillas took the ammunition and uniforms then set fire to the supply train. Then they rode north into Howard County."

Later that evening, Union troops commanded by Major Reeves Leonard of the 9th Missouri Cavalry from Fayette, surprised six guerrillas staying at the home of a southern sympathizer, north of Rocheport. Five of the guerrillas were killed as they attempted to reach their horses to make their escape.

One guerrilla, Cave Wyatt, was captured, and taken to Columbia where he was put in jail. Thirty revolvers were found on the horses and bodies of the guerrillas as well as scalp from Union soldiers hanging from the bridges. Evidence suggests that in retaliation, Union troops scalped the corpses of the 5 guerrillas. Guerrilla Captain Bill Anderson was told by locals that these men had been mutilated and that the incident upset him very much. His resentment over the treatment of his men carried over to September 27, 1864, when he was engaged in the Centralia Massacre and Battle in which 23 Union unarmed soldiers were shot down in cold blood. Later that same day, a Union command, consisting of 155 troops, were annihilated by Anderson's guerrillas and after the battle, some of the corpses were mutilated.

### BLOODY BILL



William T. Anderson, who was born in 1839 and grew up near Boone in Boone County, was a leader of a small band of independent guerrillas during the Civil War. He was known for his brutality and for his role in the attack on Rocheport.

Anderson became a lieutenant in William Clark's Confederate guerrilla company. The two met in early 1864 and Anderson joined his own guerrilla band.

On September 27, 1864, two days after the attack on Goslin's Lane, Anderson led his band to Centralia, where they burned the railroad tracks and destroyed the town. They then moved on to Sturgeon, where they burned the railroad tracks and destroyed the town. They then moved on to Rocheport, where they burned the railroad tracks and destroyed the town.

During the Summer of 1864, Bloody Bill Anderson visited the town of Rocheport on many occasions, and called the town "my capital." Rocheport is about 10 miles southwest of here, via Highway J and U.S. Highway 40. Pictured at right is an 1860 church that now serves as Rocheport's community center.

Sources: O. R. Series 1, Vol. XII, Part 1; Switzer, William E. *History of Boone County, Missouri* (St. Louis, MO: Western Historical Company, 1898), pp. 437-438; McCorkle, John, *Three Years With Quantrill: A True Story by One of the Men Who Fought With Him* (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1992) p. 129.

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Made Possible by a Grant from Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau



# Attack at Goslin's Lane

Missouri's

## CIVIL WAR

### BLOODY BILL

William T. "Bloody Bill" Anderson was born in 1829 and grew up near Hartsdale in Randolph County. As leader of a small army of independent guerrillas during the Civil War, he was known for his brutality toward Union soldiers, Kansas Jayhawkers, and pro-Union civilians in Missouri and across the western border.



Anderson became a lieutenant in William Clarke Quantrill's Confederate guerrilla company. The two split in early 1864, and Anderson formed his own guerrilla band.

On September 21, 1864, four days after the fight at Goslin's Lane, Anderson led his band of guerrillas to Centralia, where they barricaded themselves in the Northern Missouri Railroad and forced Union troops to retreat. They seized the civilian passengers and killed 21 Union soldiers who were returning home on the Union Major AVE. Anderson of the newly raised 89th Missouri Infantry Regiment set off with his men to pursue Anderson's band. A detachment of Anderson's men into a trap laid out them down. Those who tried to surrender were executed. Around 120 mounted infantrymen were killed.

On October 26, 1864, militia Colonel Samuel P. Cox, assigned the task of eliminating Anderson, located him near Albany in Ray County. Cox sent a mounted detachment to join the guerrillas into an ambush, and Anderson led his men in a charge straight into the waiting militiamen, who fired a volley. Anderson fell from his horse, shot through the head. A silk cord with thirteen knots, allegedly found on Anderson, reportedly recorded the number of men he had killed.



During the summer of 1864, Bloody Bill Anderson visited the town of Rocheport on many occasions, and called the town "my capital." Rocheport is about 10 miles southwest of here, via Highway J and U.S. Highway 40. Pictured at right is an 1860 church that now serves as Rocheport's community center.

Source: O. R. Series 1, Vol. XII, Part 1, Switzer, William F. *History of Boone County, Missouri* (St. Louis, MO: Western Historical Company, 1882) pp. 437-438; McCorkle, John, *Three Years With Quantrill: A True Story Told by His Son* (John McCorkle [Norman and London: University of Oklahoma Press, 1992], p. 159).

Photo and Image Credits: Anderson Photo: Used with permission, State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia

of the encounter, "We dropped out of sight under a hill and, when about half of them had passed, divided, fleeing in utter confusion." Union Brigadier General J. B. Douglass wrote after the skirmish, "All the soldiers were shot in the head, showing that they had been murdered after being captured. The guerrillas sustained one killed. The guerrillas took the ammunition and uniforms then set fire to the supply train. Then they rode north into Howard County."

Later that evening, Union troops commanded by Major Reeves Leonard of the 9th Missouri Cavalry from Fayette, surprised six guerrillas staying at the home of a southern sympathizer, north of Rocheport. Five of the guerrillas were killed as they attempted to reach their horses to make their escape.

One guerrilla, Cave Wyatt, was captured, and taken to Columbia where he was put in jail. Thirty revolvers were found on the horses and bodies of the guerrillas as well as scalps from Union soldiers hanging from the bridles. Evidence suggests that in retaliation, Union troops scalped the corpses of the 5 guerrillas. Guerrilla Captain Bill Anderson was told by locals that these men had been mutilated and that the incident upset him very much. His resentment over the treatment of his men carried over to September 27, 1864, when he was engaged in the Centralia Massacre and Battle in which 23 Union unarmed soldiers were shot down in cold blood. Later that same day, a Union command, consisting of 155 troopers, were annihilated by Anderson's guerrillas and after the battle, some of the corpses were mutilated.

September 23, 1864, was a cold and rainy day. That morning, a Union supply train, commanded by Captain James W. McFadden and an escort of 80 cavalrymen from the 3rd Missouri State Militia set out from Sturgeon to supply the troops stationed at Rocheport. The train consisted of 18 wagons that were driven by white and three black civilian teamsters pressed into service by the Union army. The supplies consisted of 18,000 rounds of ammunition, uniforms, and 1000 rations of food. The muddy roads impeded the progress of the wagons and it was dark when the supply train arrived at this point in the lane near Sylvester E. Goslin's farm. The Union escort had already dismounted, and was making preparations to camp for the evening. Earlier in the day, Union Brigadier General J.B. Douglass had entered Rocheport, and learning that the supply train was still en route, ordered an additional 30 troopers to link up with McFadden that evening and escort the supply train to Rocheport the next day.

These Union reinforcements had just arrived at Goslin's Lane when they were suddenly attacked by 100 Missouri guerrillas under the commands of Bill Anderson, George Todd, Thomas Todd, and John Thrallkill. The surprise was so complete that the troopers had no opportunity to defend themselves. Many of the soldiers hid in an adjacent cornfield while others mounted and retreated to Columbia or Sturgeon. Twelve soldiers surrendered to the guerrillas and they were executed along with 3 black teamsters.

In his memoirs, guerrilla John McCorkle said

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### March to Centralia

The guerrillas who attacked at Goslin's Lane took their booty of arms, food, and supplies, and moved south into camp on Boone County Creek, south of Fayette, Missouri. There, a number of independent guerrilla bands were already in hiding, some commanded by William Clark Quantrill. These guerrillas had been summoned by Confederate Major General Sterling Price as aid for his expedition, which was at this time in southern Missouri.



The next morning, September 24, 1864, these bands attacked a federal garrison in Fayette, with disastrous consequences for the Southerners. Attacking the brick courthouse and a fortified block house occupied by Union troops, Anderson lost 40 men, killed and wounded.

Frank James, who was also at Goslin's Lane, was to say that "The worst scared I ever was during the war was in the Fayette fight."

Bill Anderson led the attack on Fayette against the advice of Quantrill. In the days after Fayette, though, Anderson increasingly took the lead among the guerrilla leaders. The consolidated bands, now constituting probably the largest guerrilla force assembled in the western theatre of the war, moved northeast and destroyed much of the town of Renick, and threatened Paris, Missouri in Monroe County. They went into camp several miles southeast of Centralia on the evening of September 26, 1864. On the next day, the Massacre and Battle at Centralia occurred.









## Attack at Goslin's Lane

*McCaskey*

# CIVIL WAR



On the morning of June 11, 1862, the Union Army of the West, commanded by General William H. Powell, was engaged in a battle with the Confederate Army of the West, commanded by General Sterling Price, at Goslin's Lane, near the town of Lawrence, Kansas. The battle was a tactical draw, but it was a significant morale boost for the Union forces.

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The battle of Goslin's Lane was a tactical draw, but it was a significant morale boost for the Union forces. The Union Army of the West, commanded by General William H. Powell, was engaged in a battle with the Confederate Army of the West, commanded by General Sterling Price, at Goslin's Lane, near the town of Lawrence, Kansas. The battle was a tactical draw, but it was a significant morale boost for the Union forces.



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