

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 Division of State Parks _____

Original Dedication Date Circa 1990 _____ 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 East Chestnut E of So River St N37°10'23.4 W94°17'50.9"
 City/Village Carthage Township _____ County Jasper _____

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 MO DNR DSP Battle of Carthage SHS Dept./Div. _____
 Street Address c/o Truman Birthplace SHS 1009 Truman _____
 City Lamar State MO Zip Code 64759-1543
 Contact Person Site Administrator Telephone (417) 682-2279 _____

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

N/A

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 = Wood and asphalt shingle and plexiglas

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 12 ft Width 15 ft Depth 6 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 _____

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

Environmental Setting

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

Type of Location

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park | <input type="checkbox"/> Plaza/Courtyard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> "Town Square" | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Office | <input type="checkbox"/> School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Building | <input type="checkbox"/> State Capitol | Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courthouse | <input type="checkbox"/> College Campus | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Circle | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | _____ |

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.

	Sculpture	Base
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)

	Sculpture	Base
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)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
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... Could use cleaning	_____	_____

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) .

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 03/16/2011
Walt Busch US Grant #68



Please send this completed form to:

Bruce B. Butgereit, PDC, Chair



Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

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

CRIMINALS AT CARTHAGE



CRIMINALS AT CARTHAGE

The story of the capture of the criminal... (text is partially obscured and difficult to read)

Carriage Delivery Must Be Made by the South

On the 10th of December... (text is partially obscured)



The man in the portrait... (text is partially obscured)

The man in the portrait... (text is partially obscured)

The Case for Southern States

The case for Southern States... (text is partially obscured)

Conditional Emotions: The Politics of Ambivalence

Conditional Emotions: The Politics of Ambivalence... (text is partially obscured)



St. Louis: Missouri's Union Stronghold

St. Louis: Missouri's Union Stronghold... (text is partially obscured)



The man in the portrait... (text is partially obscured)



The St. Louis Arsenal

The St. Louis Arsenal... (text is partially obscured)

The St. Louis Arsenal... (text is partially obscured)

Collier's Capture Camp

Collier's Capture Camp... (text is partially obscured)



The Mission: Henry Meeting

The Mission: Henry Meeting... (text is partially obscured)



The group in the room... (text is partially obscured)

The Commission and President

The Commission and President... (text is partially obscured)

BATTLE MOVEMENTS A LONG DARK NIGHT



General George Meade
 The Union Army's commander at Gettysburg, Meade led his forces to a decisive victory over the Confederate Army on July 3, 1863. His tactical skill and leadership were instrumental in the Union's success.

The Battle of Gettysburg
 The Battle of Gettysburg was a pivotal moment in the American Civil War. It took place from July 1 to July 3, 1863, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Union Army, led by General Meade, defeated the Confederate Army, led by General Robert E. Lee.



The Opening of the Battle
 The battle began on July 1, 1863, with the Union Army's 1st Corps attacking the Confederate Army's positions. The fighting was intense and resulted in a tactical draw for both sides.



General Robert E. Lee
 The Confederate Army's commander at Gettysburg, Lee led his forces to a tactical draw on July 1, 1863. His strategic decisions and leadership were crucial in the battle.

The Battle of Gettysburg
 The Battle of Gettysburg was a pivotal moment in the American Civil War. It took place from July 1 to July 3, 1863, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Union Army, led by General Meade, defeated the Confederate Army, led by General Robert E. Lee.



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Continuation of the Dark Night Fighting in Deadly Combat

The fighting continued through the night, with both sides suffering heavy casualties. The Union Army's 1st Corps was particularly hard hit, but they managed to hold their ground.

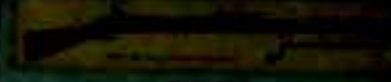
The Hardest Attack in Battle

The Confederate Army launched a final, desperate attack on July 3, 1863. This attack, known as Pickett's Charge, resulted in a decisive Union victory.



The Battle Ends in Darkness

The battle ended on July 3, 1863, with the Confederate Army retreating. The Union Army's victory at Gettysburg was a turning point in the Civil War.



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The Battle of Gettysburg: A Turning Point

The Battle of Gettysburg was a pivotal moment in the American Civil War. It took place from July 1 to July 3, 1863, in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The Union Army, led by General Meade, defeated the Confederate Army, led by General Robert E. Lee.

A Guide to the 'Scenes of Action'

This section provides a detailed guide to the various scenes of action during the battle. It includes descriptions of the terrain, the positions of the units, and the key events that took place.





At the Source of Aches

...



High Country's Chain of Tents

...

Settlement Co. - The Year 1840

...





WELCOME TO THE PARK
This is the park's main entrance. The park is a beautiful area with many trails and scenic views. Please enjoy the park and keep it clean.

THE WEST IS AT CARRIAGE



Crossroads of Destiny: Union or Disunion

The year of 1861 was one of crisis and decision making for Missouri. Throughout her history, Missouri had stood at many crossroads, for virtually all of the major routes leading from East to West intersected one another in this state. But in 1861, Missouri stood at a different kind of crossroad. As the nation was splintering apart and drifting rapidly towards Civil War, no state struggled more than Missouri with the epic question of Union or Secession. The Battle of Carthage was but one of a series of events of that fateful year in which Missourians confronted one another, first in the halls of politics and then on the field of battle. These men were struggling with nothing less than the momentous question of whether Missouri would stand for Union or Secession.

Governor Jackson: Missouri Should Stand by the South

On the side of secession was Missouri's newly elected governor, Claiborne Fox Jackson. Governor Jackson, who, at the battle of Carthage, would be the only sitting governor of any state to take active command of an army in the field during the Civil War, had been inaugurated only four months before. In his inaugural address, he spoke for many Missourians when he proclaimed, "The destiny of the slave-holding states of this union is one and the same. So long as a state maintains slavery within her limits, it is impossible to separate her fate from that of her sister states. ... Missouri will not be found to shrink from the duty which her position on the border imposes, her honor, her interests, and her sympathies point alike in one direction, and determine her to stand by the South. ..."



... Missouri will not be found to shrink from the duty which her position on the border imposes, her honor, her interests, and her sympathies point alike in one direction, and determine her to stand by the South. ... Jackson followed this statement with the declaration that Missouri should leave the Union and join the Confederacy at the West.

... Missouri was sympathetic to some degree with the South's desire to be free of Northern domination, only a small minority shared Governor Jackson's secessionist outlook. Only one Missouri family in eight actually owned slaves, and during the decade of the 1850s slavery was declining in proportion to the total population. Still, slavery was important to Missouri's agricultural economy, particularly in the hemp and tobacco growing regions, and many of the state's political leaders were, like Governor Jackson, slave holders.

The Case for Unionists: Border State Ties to the North

While some of the arguments for the South do exist, Missouri, as a border state, maintained on those sides by the state with many ties to the North. Railroads built during the 1850s tied Missouri's agricultural economy to northern markets, while Tanqueray's capital was financing the expanding number of industries concentrated in St. Louis. The rapidly growing industrial and trading hub had links of

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Excluding 10,000 Confederate soldiers who had returned to the Union.

With Missouri's secession, the Union's position was difficult, for most states had not yet taken the same revolutionary position that would lead to the Civil War. At the same time, the thought that the North might lose the support of Abraham Lincoln (who had received fewer than 10% of the 1860 presidential election) could not be ignored. Whether states back into the Union was so equally repugnant nation.

Conditional Unionism: The Politics of Ambivalence

Torn in two directions, most Missourians held a political position known as "Conditional Unionism." They desired to remain in the Union, but could not join in a war to prevent Southern states from seceding. This conditional Unionist position prevailed in the convention that met from February 28 to March 22 to decide how Missouri would stand on the question of secession. The convention, chaired by ex-governor and Mexican War hero, Sterling Price, met and voted overwhelmingly to remain in the Union, but at the same time expressed the state's determination to remain neutral and not enter any war against her sister states of the South.

St. Louis: Missouri's Union Stronghold

The outcome of the state convention provided a setback to the plots of Governor Jackson and his supporters to bring Missouri into the Confederacy. He also had to contend with the opposition of a small, but politically powerful group, centered in St. Louis, that was firmly behind Lincoln and



determined to keep Missouri in the Union at all costs. The leader of this contingent was Congressman Frank P. Blair, Jr., assisted by Captain Nathaniel Lyon, a fiery Connecticut-born West Pointer.

The backbone, in terms of manpower, of the Unionist cause was provided by the large German-American community that existed in St. Louis at that time. These new citizens were firmly committed to the principles of republicanism and association.

Organized by Blair into a military Unionist marching organization, known as the Wide Awakes, many of these recent Unionists had been drilling since the beginning of the year.

By the beginning of May ten volunteer regiments, totaling 10,000 men, 60% of them German-Americans, had been drilled in the U.S. Army. This was the core of the force used by Lyon and Blair to prevent St. Louis and the state government from falling under the



In the meantime, a second service as members of the command of General D

The target for both the Lyon arsenal, its 60,000 munitions could equip a

Collisions

A collision between the Southern militia was in Lyon, with the aid of Federal troops, surrounded the Lyon arsenal. After the hopes and were being matched they were exchanged and dead at the end of what "Affair." This event had a former conditional Unionist. The state legislature attempted to resist Federal in abandoned his own conditional Unionist position and so commander of the state garrison forces as a major general.

The Planters' House: End of Missouri Neutrality

An uneasy truce lasted until a month before matters came to a head in a meeting of the Planters' House in St. Louis. Here, after a four-hour meeting involving Blair, Price and Jackson, Lyon ended the meeting by announcing "either the cause of the state of Missouri for one single instant be

...the South...
...At the same...
...the South...
...the South...
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of Ambivalence
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They desired to...
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...based on the...
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Missouri's Union
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...back to the plans of...
...and his supporters to...
...into the Confederacy...
...contend with the...
...small, but politically...
...centered in St. Louis...
...behind Leggett and...
...at all costs. The leader...
...P. Blair, Jr., assisted by...
...born West Pointer.



...beginning...
...10,000...
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...by Blair and Blair...
...from falling under the...



**The St. Louis Arsenal:
Key to Control of Missouri**

In the meantime, a secessionist organization, called the 'Minute Men', was also being formed in St. Louis. These men were soon sworn into service as members of the First Brigade of Volunteer Militia, under the command of General Daniel M. Frost.

The target for both the Virginia and Southern Rights groups was the St. Louis arsenal, its 60,000 stand of arms and abundant supplies of munitions could equip an army capable of controlling Missouri's destiny.

Collision Course: Camp Jackson

A collision between the federal volunteers and the state pro-southern militia was not long in coming. On May 10, Nathaniel Lyon, with the aid of Franz Sigel and 6,000 German-American troops, surrounded Camp Jackson where the 892 men of the First Brigade of Volunteer Militia had gone into encampment for what Lyon and Blair strongly suspected was the purpose of seizing the arsenal. After the hopelessly outnumbered militia had surrendered and were being marched away as prisoners, a mob gathered and shots were exchanged that left one Union soldier and 26 civilians dead at the end of what became known as the 'Camp Jackson Affair'.

This event had an electrifying effect on the state. Many former conditional Unionists came over to the secessionist cause. The state legislature immediately authorized the raising of a state guard to resist federal invasion. At this time, Sterling Price abandoned his own conditional Unionist position and accepted command of the state guard forces as a major general.

**The Planters' House Meeting:
End of Missouri Neutrality**

An uneasy truce existed for a month before matters came to a head in a meeting at the Planters' House in St. Louis. Here, after a four hour meeting involving Blair, Lyon, Price and Jackson, Lyon ended the meeting by announcing: "I will not recognize the state of Missouri for one single instant the right to secede in the confederacy of the South."



...the state...
...Jackson and many...
...in Booneville where...
...was captured by the...
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...July 21, when he...
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...Two...



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...The...
...July 21, when he...
...the state...
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Two

Three weeks after its assembly again. After several the...
...government under the...
...provisional government...
...Meanwhile, dep...
...at first Ne...
...late October, a...
...establishing Missouri...
...Johnson died in Decem...
...Governor Thomas C...
...But the...
...the affairs of the state...
...war before finally com...



... called the 'Minute Men', were soon sworn into the Militia, under the leadership of Nathaniel S. Ponder. The first group was the St. Louis Volunteers, who were called to help Missouri's destiny.

On May 10, Nathaniel S. Ponder, a German-American, led 292 men of the First Missouri Militia to the state capital for what was supposed to be the raising of a state militia. Instead, they were met by a mob of secessionist citizens, and the militia had surrendered. Ponder and 28 civilians were taken to 'Camp Jackson' on the outskirts of the city. Many of the men were released, but the raising of a state militia failed.



... I would... my own... the state... he declared: 'This... departed St. Louis... Gasconade and Craig... result. At Jefferson City... 100 million and then prepared to...

The 'Great Steeple Chase'
Lyon rushes for Booneville

Lyon, meanwhile, was making plans to pursue Jackson's army to southwest Missouri to prevent any link up between Arkansas Confederates and Missouri Secessionists while he prepared to attack the state capital at Jefferson City. On June 13, he made camp at Booneville.



the state capital, which had already been evacuated by Governor Jackson and many members of the General Assembly. They had fled to Booneville where, on June 17, a hastily assembled state guard force was scattered by Lyon's army. These actions came to be known as the 'great steeple chase'.

The next day, on July 5, when he found Major Smith and his 1100 'German-Americans' on the plains northwest of Carthage.

Two Governments: One Provisional, the Other Failed

Three weeks after the Battle of Carthage, the same Confederates met again. After declaring the chief offices of the state to be vacant, the secessionist went on to establish a provisional Unionist government under the leadership of Governor Hamilton Gamble. This provisional government administered the state for the duration of the war. Meanwhile, deposed Governor Jackson constituted a government in exile at Lee's Landing and then Cassville in seceded Missouri. Then, in late October, a ramp legislature passed an Ordinance of Secession establishing Missouri as the twelfth Confederate State. Governor Jackson died in December, 1862 in Little Rock, Arkansas. His Lieutenant Governor, Theobald C. Reynolds, defied himself Jackson's appointment. For the seceded government he headed never exercised any control over the affairs of the state and was shifted from place to place during the war before finally coming to rest in Marshall, Texas in late 1863.

Who Fought Here and Why

The Battle of Carthage occurred the afternoon of July 1, 1862, a pro-secessionist force, against Union volunteer regiments. The battle consisted of some 4,000 armed and 2,000 unarmed volunteers had been called to duty three weeks before the battle by Claiborne Fox Jackson, Missouri's secessionist governor. At Carthage, this army faced the forces of Colonel Thure Sigel, which consisted of 3,100 well drilled, 600 armed St. Louis German-Americans.



Three months on the morning of what would be a hot July day was occasioned by the departure



of Governor Jackson and his contingent of volunteers to reach the safe haven to be found at Cameron Prairie in the southwestern corner of the state. There, bolstered by the proximity of Confederate troops in nearby Arkansas, he would turn his volunteers over to General Sterling Price, who had persuaded him to southwest Missouri, to be formed into an army with which to return to the Missouri River valley and reclaim Missouri for the South and West.

But first, Colonel James Sigel had to be welcomed with. He had been dispatched to southwest Missouri by General Nathaniel Lyon to make sure that Jackson and Price did not link up with the Arkansas Confederates whose forces, if joined with those of Price and Jackson, would create an army of over 50,000 men capable of invading and possibly reconquering Missouri. Sigel joined Price, who had passed through a few days earlier, but he arrived in time to attempt to halt Jackson's movement.

Had events gone as planned, Lyon should have halted Jackson's army from the rear with 3000 men while Sigel attacked from the front. Lyon, however, had been delayed by rain, swollen rivers and supply problems. Sigel's force alone would have to reckon with Jackson's army in spite of four to one. Sigel's gamble in attacking was made more desperate by the fact that General Ben McCulloch and his Arkansas force might come up and cause a small column between his army and Jackson's. In fact, the combined armies of McCulloch and Price were waiting to Jackson's aid and were only a day's march away.



The Opening of the Battle

The Battle of Carthage commenced between 10:00 and 9:00 a.m., when the armies of Sigel and Jackson confronted one another on a plain some miles northwest of town and ended in twilight as each side retreated to the rear of the location where Sigel's men gathered their last volley of their warlike missiles and then escaped into the darkness. The battle opened with an



artillery duel as each side's side was able to outgun the other in order to capture his own



Conf

As Sigel's force in companies of infantry closed ground 800 yards to the south of Sigel's artillery for two hours. Finally, the superior numbers of

The

In the meantime, to around Sigel's column were positioned between the rear. The attack. His infantry crossed back through a position of his troops continued the retreat in an attempt by the Sta



General Jackson's men captured three guns from Sigel's army during the battle.

The

At the Spring River in Jackson's column who were positioned in an aggressive attack and the horse. While the regular artillery on the bluff of a fusade in the gathering darkness two and a half



artillery had a significant advantage, firing from a distance of 700 yards. Neither side was able to inflict significant damage. After about an hour of this unproductive firefight, Jackson decided to send his cavalry around the flanks of Sigel in order to capture his supply train and cut off his escape route. Seeing this, Sigel abandoned his own plans to attack and ordered a retreat.



Confrontation at Dry Fork Creek: Fighting in Deadly Earnest

As Sigel's force crossed Dry Fork Creek, an artillery battery and five companies of infantry were left concealed behind the trees on the elevated ground on the creek's south side. Jackson's infantry advanced to within 400 yards of this position before receiving the fire of Sigel's artillery. Sigel's artillery and riflemen stalled the attack of Jackson's infantry for two hours and inflicted the heaviest casualties of the entire battle. Finally, the war-weary gave ground under the pressure of the superior numbers of the State Guard infantry.

The Bayonet Attack at Buck Branch

In the meantime, two State Guard cavalry regiments managed to circle around Sigel's column and form a blockade at Buck Branch Creek. They were positioned between Sigel's column and his baggage train which still lagged to the rear. The tables were now turned and Sigel became the attacker. His infantry scattered the enemy horsemen with a bayonet charge across Buck Branch, and regained his baggage train. Sigel then skillfully positioned his troops and artillery on all sides of the baggage train and continued the retreat towards Carthage, all the while successfully repelling off attempts by the State Guard forces to attack his flanks.



General Jackson's men surrounded their general throughout the battle during the 1862.

The Battle Shifts to Carthage

At the Spring River crossing he again used his artillery to discourage Jackson's forces who were close on his heels. As Sigel's exhausted column marched into Carthage, the State Guard infantry launched an aggressive attack and the two forces fought one another house to house. While this fighting was taking place, Sigel positioned his artillery on the bluff at this site in order to cover his retreat towards Springfield in the gathering dusk. One final stand in near complete darkness took a half mile further on ended the day's conflict.



The Battle of Carthage II occurred while Jackson's forces were moving northward. It was one of the bloodiest confrontations reported in eastern Missouri.

Although Sigel was a brave and leading to his escape with relatively few men, his army was inferior to the enemy. Carthage received the...



The Significance of the Southern Front

During the battle of the Battle of Carthage in 1862, the State Guard had a significant role in the battle. The battle was a significant event in the history of the State Guard.

The battle of 1862 would be a significant event in the history of the State Guard. The battle was a significant event in the history of the State Guard.

A Guide to the Scene

The Battle of Carthage engagement spread out in distance of some ten miles. You understand the battle interpretative markers here placed at the actual location the fighting took place. It indicates the location of the markers. Directional signs have been placed on the highway to guide you to the markers.



...of this ...



Creek Fighting

... an artillery battery and five ...

Back Branch

... ignitions insisted to circle ...



Carthage

... of his artillery in disarray ...



The First Day

... on 27 September 1862, ...

... the first day ...



The Significance of the Battle of Carthage

... the significance of the battle ...

... The balance of 1861 would bring a string of important battles ...

A Guide to the Scenes of Action

... The battle of Carthage was a mobile ...



WHERE YOU NOW STAND



Sigel Camped At...

On July 1, 1861, Union Colonel Sigel and his 1,100 men camped at this site... (and now at Cedar Springs) ... (this site at altitude) ... (Chestnut Street) leading to ...

Early Morning March to Battle

Upon his arrival at Cedar Springs, Sigel learned that pro-secessionist Governor Claiborne F. Jackson and his army of Southern sympathizers were encamped at Coon Creek ... north of town. Sigel raised his men at 3:00 a.m. and marched north on the road to Latour (now named Civil War Road) ... and gave battle to the Southern forces and pro-secessionist Jackson from linking with Confederates in northwestern Arkansas. After a nine-mile march, with the July day growing hotter with every step, Sigel's column encountered Jackson's large army turned in line of battle awaiting the Federal troops. This host numbered some 6,000 men, but only two-thirds of them were actually armed.



Sigel's Deep Penetration and Route of Escape

By the time the weary men gained the outskirts of Carthage the fighting battle had been in progress for some ten hours. As he neared Carthage, Sigel decided to insure that his avenue of escape towards Sarcosis and Springfield remained open by sending two artillery pieces and two companies of infantry around Carthage to occupy the bluffs on this site and protect the Sarcosis Road along which he would have to retreat.

No Rest For Weary Union Troops in Carthage

By the time the footsore federal troops reached Carthage they were badly in need of rest. As Sigel reported: "Our rear guard took possession of the town to give the remainder of the troops time to rest, as they had, after a march of 22 miles on the 24th and 18 miles on the 25th, been in action the whole day save 4 hours in the morning, exposed to an intense heat, and almost without eating or drinking. The enemy, taking advantage of his cavalry, forded Spring River on different points, spread through the woods, and partly dismounted, harassed our troops from all sides."

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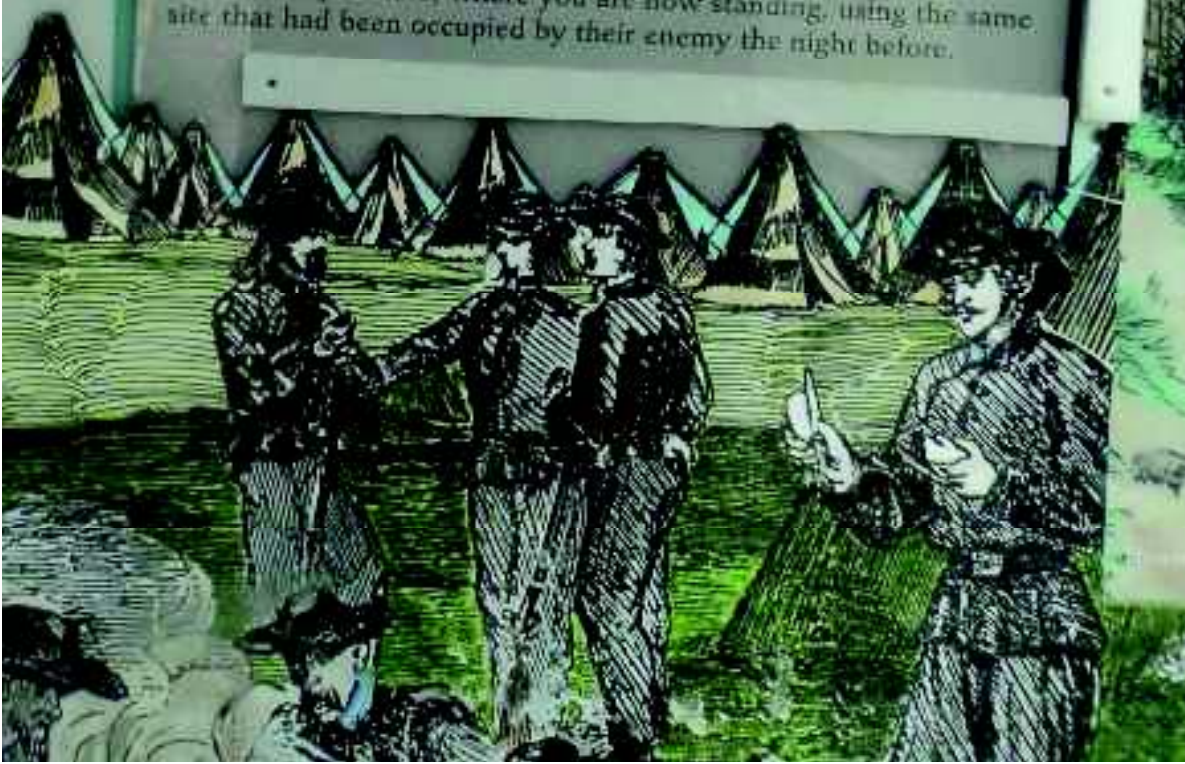
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Action at this Site: The Final Union Stand in Carthage

Under the pressure of this assault Sigel withdrew his force to this place which had served as the campground of the night before. Under the protective fire of the Federal cannon positioned on the bluffs at this site, Sigel's men took up the march towards Sarcoxie. Two and a half miles out of town, where the road entered some woods, Sigel's rear guard fired a final artillery volley into the gathering darkness. At this point, his Southern pursuers finally gave up the chase.

Encampment of Victorious Southerners At This Site

While the Federal troops marched through the night towards Sarcoxie, the 6,000 victorious state guardsmen encamped in and around Carthage and celebrated their triumph. Many of these men encamped here, where you are now standing, using the same site that had been occupied by their enemy the night before.



Pierce Fighting in Carthage

William Y. Slack, commanding general of the Missouri State Guard, ordered his men to house fighting that evening. Col. John T. Hughes' regiment in Carthage the enemy took his... *...of the enemy... shall freely from their... Colonel Hughes' command... were brought in close proximity to the enemy's lines, when a deadly fire was opened upon them by our infantry. The enemy retired in great haste from his position in town, being hotly pursued by Colonel Hughes' command.*

Action at this Site: The Fluid Union Stand in Carthage

Under the pressure of this assault Sigel withdrew his force to this place which had served as his headquarters of the night before. Under the protective fire of the Federal cannon positioned on the bluffs to the west, Sigel's men took up the march towards Section Two and a half mile out of town, where the road entered some woods. Sigel's rear guard fired a final artillery volley into the gathering darkness. At this point, his Southern pursuers finally gave up the chase.

Encampment of Victorious Southerners At This Site

While the Federal troops marched through the night towards Section Two, the 6,000 victorians remained encamped in and around Carthage and re-armed their troops. Many of these men encamped here, where you are now standing, were the same men that had been occupied by their enemy the night before.

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Battle of Carthage State Historic Site Kiosk

Rendezvous at Carthage

[Cannon with limber graphic]

Crossroad of Destiny: Union or Disunion

The year of 1861 was one of crisis and decision making for Missouri. Throughout her history, Missouri had stood at many crossroads, for virtually all of the major routes leading from East to West intersected one another in this state. But in 1861, Missouri stood at a different kind of crossroad. As the nation was splitting apart and drifting rapidly towards Civil War, no state struggled more than Missouri with the epic question of Union or Secession. The Battle of Carthage was but one of a series of events of that fateful year in which Missourians confronted one another, first in the halls of politics and then on the field of battle. These men were struggling with nothing less than the momentous question of whether Missouri would act for Union or Secession.

Governor Jackson: Missouri Should Stand by the South

[Picture of Claibourne Jackson]

On the side of Secession was Missouri's newly elected governor, Claiborne Fox Jackson. Governor Jackson, who, at the Battle of Carthage, would be the only sitting governor of any state to take active command of an army in the field during the Civil War, had been inaugurated only four months before. In his inaugural address, he spoke for many Missourians when he proclaimed: "*The destiny of the slave-holding states of this union is one and the same. So long as a state maintains slavery within her limits it is impossible to separate her fate from that of her sister states...Missouri will not be found to shrink from the duty which her position on the border imposes: her honor, her interests, and her sympathies point alike in one direction, and determine her to stand by the South...*" Jackson believed that disunion was inevitable and that Missouri should leave the Union and join the Confederacy at the first opportunity.

While most Missourians were of Southern origin, and sympathized to some degree with the South's desire to be free of Northern domination, only a small minority shared Governor Jackson's Secessionist outlook. Only one Missouri family in eight actually owned slaves, and during the decade of the 1850s slavery was declining in proportion to the total population. Still, slavery was important to Missouri's agricultural economy, particularly in the hemp and tobacco growing regions, and many of the state's political leaders were, Like Governor Jackson, slave holders.

The Case for Unionism: Border State Ties to the North

While strong ties of sentiment to the South did exist, Missouri was a border state, surrounded on three sides by free states, with many links to the North. Railroads built during the 1850s tied Missouri's agricultural economy to Northern markets, while Yankee capital was financing the expanding number of industries concentrated in St. Louis. This rapidly growing industrial and trading hub had one of the largest foreign born populations in the nation, including 60,000 German-Americans, almost all of whom were staunch Unionists.

With Missouri's economy ____ pointing northward, it was difficult for most Missourians to be fired by the same secessionist passion that engulfed the Deep South. At the same time, the thought that the North, under the leadership of Abraham Lincoln (who had received few Missouri votes in the 1860 presidential election) could force seceded Southern states back into the Union was an equally repugnant notion.

Conditional Unionism: The Politics of Ambivalence

Torn in two directions, most Missourians held a political position known as "Conditional Unionism." They desired to remain in the Union, but could not join in a war to prevent Southern states from seceding. This conditional Unionist position prevailed in the convention that met from February 28 to March 22 to decide how Missouri would stand on the question of secession. The convention, chaired by ex-governor and Mexican War hero, Sterling Price, met and voted overwhelmingly to remain in the Union, but at the same time expressed the state's determination to remain neutral and not enter any war against her sister states of the South.

St. Louis: Missouri's Union Stronghold

[Picture of Gen. Frank P. Blair]

The outcome of the state convention provided a setback to the plans of Governor Jackson and his supporters to bring Missouri into the Confederacy. He also had to contend with the opposition of a small, but politically powerful group, centered in St. Louis, that was firmly behind Lincoln and determined to keep Missouri in the Union at all costs. The leader of this contingent was Congressman Frank P. Blair, Jr., assisted by Captain Nathaniel Lyon, a fiery Connecticut-born West Pointer. The backbone, in terms of manpower, of the Unionist cause was provided by the large German-American community that existed in St. Louis at that time. These new citizens were firmly committed to the principles of republicanism and emancipation. Organized by Blair into a militant Unionist watchdog organization, known as the Wide Awakes, many of these ardent Unionists had been drilling since the beginning of the year. By the beginning of May, ten volunteer regiments, totaling 10,000 men, 80% of them German-Americans, had been enlisted in the U.S. Army. This was the core of the force used by Lyon and Blair to prevent St. Louis and the state government from falling under the Secessionist sway.

[Picture of General Nathaniel Lyon]

[Picture of Camp Jackson Affair]

The St. Louis Arsenal: Key to Control of Missouri

In the meantime, a secessionist organization, called the 'Minute Men', was also being formed in St. Louis. These men were soon sworn into service as members of the First Brigade of Volunteer Militia, under the command of General Daniel M. Frost.

The target for both the Unionists and Southern Rights groups was the St. Louis arsenal; its 60,000 stand of arms and abundant supplies of munitions could equip an army capable of controlling Missouri's destiny.

Collision Course: Camp Jackson

A collision between the federal volunteers and the state pro-Southern militia was not long in coming. On May 10, Nathaniel Lyon, with the aid of Franz Sigel and 6,000 German-American troops, surrounded Camp Jackson where the 892 men of the First Brigade of Volunteer Militia had gone into encampment for what Lyon and Blair strongly suspected was the purpose of seizing the arsenal. After the hopelessly outnumbered militia had surrendered and were being marched away as prisoners, a mob gathered and shots were exchanged that left one Union soldier and 28 civilians dead at the end of what became known as the "Camp Jackson Affair." This event had an electrifying effect on the state. Many former conditional Unionists came over to the secessionist cause. The state legislature immediately authorized the raising of a state guard to resist Federal invasion. At this time, Sterling Price abandoned his own conditional Unionist position and accepted command of the state guard forces as a major general.

The Planters' House Meeting: End of Missouri Neutrality

[Picture of Planter House meeting between Lyon, Blair, Jackson & Price]

An uneasy truce existed for a month before matters came to a head in a meeting at the Planters House in St. Louis. Here, after a four hour meeting involving Blair, Lyon, Price and Jackson, Lyon ended the meeting by announcing: "*rather than to concede to the state of Missouri for one single instant the right to dictate to my government in any matter...I would... see you and every man, woman, and child in the state dead and buried.*" Then turning to Governor Jackson he declared: "*This means war.*" Jackson and Price hurriedly departed St. Louis, burning the railroad bridges over the Gasconade and Osage Rivers behind them to discourage Union pursuit. At Jefferson City, Governor Jackson issued a call for 50,000 militia and then prepared to evacuate the capital.

The 'Great Steeplechase' Lyon Pursues Jackson

[Cartoon of a Lion chasing Jackson and Price]

Lyon, meanwhile, was making plans to pursue Jackson. He sent Sigel to southwest Missouri to prevent any link up between Arkansas Confederates and Missouri Secessionists while he prepared to advance on the state capitol at Jefferson City. On June 15, he took control of the state capitol, which had already been evacuated by Governor Jackson and many members of the General Assembly. They had fled to Boonville where, on June 17, a hastily assembled state guard force was scattered by Lyon's army. These actions came to be known as the 'great steeplechase.'

The next rendezvous for Jackson and his 6000 recruits came on July 5, when he faced Franz Sigel and his 1100 German-Americans on the plains northwest of Carthage.

Two Governments: One Provisional, the Other Exiled

Three weeks after the Battle of Carthage, the State Convention assembled again. After declaring the chief offices of the state to vacant, the convention went on to establish a provisional Unionist government under the leadership of Governor Hamilton Gamble. This provisional government administered the state for the duration of the war. Meanwhile, deposed Governor Jackson convened a government in exile, at first Neosho and then Cassville in southwest Missouri. Here, in late October, a rump legislature passed an Ordinance of Secession establishing Missouri as the twelfth Confederate State. Governor Jackson died in December, 1862 in Little Rock, Arkansas. His Lieutenant Governor, Thomas C. Reynolds, declared himself Jackson's successor. But the exiled government he headed never exercised any control over the affairs of the state and was shifted from place to place during the war before finally coming to rest in Marshall, Texas in late 1863.

Battle of Carthage State Historic Site

[Map entitled: Battle Movements *A Long Days Fight*]

The Battle of Carthage was fought on this site and at other nearby locations on July 5, 1861. It was one of the earliest engagements in the American Civil War, preceding the Battle of Bull Run by sixteen days. It was one of many contests fought in Missouri during 1861 to decide if Missouri would remain in the Union or take up the cause of Southern independence.

Who Fought Here and Why

The Battle of Carthage pitted the Missouri State Guard, a pro-southern force, against Union volunteer regiments. The hastily assembled state guard army of 4,000 armed and 2,000 unarmed volunteers had been called to duty three weeks before the battle by Claiborne Fox Jackson, Missouri's secessionist governor. At Carthage, this army

faced the forces of Colonel Franz Sigel, which consisted of 1,100 well drilled, fully armed St. Louis German-Americans.

[Picture of Gov. Claiborne Jackson]

Their meeting on the morning of what would be a hot July day was occasioned by the desperate need of Governor Jackson and his company of volunteers to reach the safe haven to be found at Cowskin Prairie in the southwestern corner of the state. There, bolstered by the proximity of Confederate troops in nearby Arkansas, he could turn his volunteers over to General Sterling Price, who had preceded him to southwest Missouri, to be forged into an army with which to return to the Missouri River valley and redeem Missouri for the Stars and Bars.

[Picture of Col. Franz Sigel]

But first, Colonel Franz Sigel had to be reckoned with. He had been dispatched to southwest Missouri by General Nathaniel Lyon to make sure that Jackson, would create and [sic] army of over ten thousand men capable of invading and possibly reconquering Missouri. Sigel missed Price, who had passed through a few days earlier, but he arrived in time to attempt to halt Jackson's movement.

Had events gone as planned, Lyon should have fallen on Jackson's army from the rear with 3900 men while Sigel attacked from the front. Lyon, however, had been delayed by rain swollen rivers and supply problems; Sigel's force alone would have to recolon with Jackson's army at odds of four to one. Sigel's gamble in attacking was made more desperate by the fact that General Ben McCulloch and his Arkansas force might come up and crush Sigel's small column between his army and Jackson's. In fact, the combined armies of McCulloch and Price were moving to Jackson's aid and were only a day's march away.

[Drawing of Six pounder gun of the type used at Carthage]

The Opening of the Battle

The Battle of Carthage commenced between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m., when the armies of Sigel and Jackson confronted one another on a plain nine miles northwest of town and ended at nightfall two and a half miles southeast of this location when Sigel's rear-guard fired a final volley at their southern pursuers and then escaped into the darkness. The battle opened with an artillery duel as each side cannonaded the other from a distance of 760 yards. Neither side was able to inflict significant damage. After about an hour of this cannonading Jackson decided to send his cavalry around the flanks of Sigel in order to capture his supply train and cut off his escape route. Seeing this, Sigel abandoned his own plans to attack and ordered a retreat.

[Drawing of Twelve Pound Howitzer and limber of the type used at Carthage]

[Drawing of ammunition for the artillery used at Carthage]

Confrontation at Dry Fork Creek: Fighting in Deadly Earnest

As Sigel's force recrossed Dry Fork Creek, an artillery battery and five companies of infantry were left concealed behind the trees on the elevated ground of the creek's south side. Jackson's infantry advanced to within 400 yards of this position before receiving the fire of Sigel's rear guard. Sigel's artillerymen and riflemen stalled the attack of Jackson's infantry for two hours and inflicted the heaviest casualties of the entire battle. Finally, the rear guard gave ground under the pressure of the superior numbers of State Guard infantry.

The Bayonet Attack at Buck Branch

In the meantime, two State Guard cavalry regiments managed to circle around Sigel's column and form a blockade at Buck Branch Creek. They were positioned between Sigel's column and his baggage train which still lagged to the rear. The tables were now turned and Sigel became the attacker. His infantry scattered the enemy horsemen with a bayonet charge, crossed Buck Branch, and regained his baggage train. Sigel then skillfully positioned his troops and artillery on all sides of the baggage train and continued the retreat towards Carthage, all the while successfully fending off attempts by the State Guard forces to attack his flanks.

[Picture labeled: "Governor Jackson's men resembled these gunners photographed on the Missouri-Kansas border during the 1850s."]

The Battle Shifts to Carthage

At the Spring River crossing he again used his artillery to discourage Jackson's forces who were close on his heels. As Sigel's exhausted column marched into Carthage, the State Guard infantry launched an aggressive attack and the two forces fought one another house to house. While this fighting was taking place, Sigel positioned his artillery on the bluffs at this site in order to cover his retreat towards Sarcoxie in the gathering dusk. One final stand in near complete darkness two and a half miles further on ended the day's conflict.

[Drawing of Model 1841 musket and bayonet]

The Final Tally

The Battle of Carthage resulted in 244 total casualties. Sigel lost 13 killed and 31 wounded while Jackson sustained 35[sic] killed and 125 wounded. While this "butcher's bill" was modest when compared with casualty lists of the terrible battles to follow, the Battle of Carthage was, nevertheless, one of the bloodiest confrontations of this early stage in the Civil War and was widely reported in eastern newspapers, North and South.

Although Sigel was the loser by virtue of abandoning [sic] the field to his enemy and failing to block his southward movement, he made his escape with relatively few losses and all but one of his thirty-two wagon train intact. Jackson's untrained force had allowed a numerically inferior enemy to escape virtually unscathed. Still, his victory at Carthage revived the morale of Missouri's Southern state guard forces.

[Graphic: The battle of Carthage as portrayed in an eastern newspaper]

The Significance of the Battle of Carthage: Southern Fortunes Rise Then Wane

Previous to this success, the Southern cause in Missouri had suffered setbacks at Camp Jackson in St. Louis, Jefferson City and Boonville. The secessionist element in the state government had been deposed and sent into flight, and the Missouri River valley had come under Union control. The victory at Carthage reversed this trend and provided breathing space to transform raw but enthusiastic Missouri volunteers into some of the hardest fighters who ever took up arms for the cause of the Confederacy.

The balance of 1861 would bring a string of important Southern victories. On August 10, at the Battle of Wilson's Creek, Price and McCulloch's combined forces would kill General Lyon and send Sigel into headlong retreat. Then, at the Battle of Lexington, September 18-21, Sterling Price and his Missourians would gain another major triumph for the Southern cause. With the start of the new year, however, Southern fortunes waned. At the Battle of Pea Ridge, March 6-8, 1862, in Arkansas, forces under General Samuel Curtis with Sigel and his German-Americans playing a prominent role, won a turning point victory that insured Union control of Missouri for the duration of the war.

A Guide to the Scenes of Action

The Battle of Carthage was a mobile engagement spread out over a distance of some ten miles. To help you understand the battle, four interpretive markers have been placed at the actual locations where the fighting took place. This map indicates the location of these markers. Directional signs have also been placed on the highways leading to these markers.

[Map of area outlining battle]

Where You Now Stand

[Graphic of cannon with limber]

Sigel Camped At This Site

On July 4, 1861, Union Colonel Franz Sigel and a force of 1,100 men encamped at this site, known then as James Spring (and now Carter Spring), after marching 22

miles from Neosho. This site sat astride the road (present day East Chestnut Street) leading to Sarcoxie and Springfield.

Early Morning March to Battle

Upon his arrival at Carthage, Sigel learned that pro-secession Governor Claiborne F. Jackson and his army of Southern sympathizers were encamped at Coon Creek several miles north of town. Sigel roused his men at 3:00 a.m. and marched north on the road to Lamar (now named Civil War Road) to locate and give battle to the Southern forces and prevent Jackson from linking with Confederates in northwestern Arkansas. After a nine mile march, with the July day growing hotter with every step, Sigel's column encountered Jackson's large army formed in line of battle awaiting the Federal force. This host numbered some 6,000 men, but only two-thirds of them were actually armed.

[Graphic of army life and map of Union army march]

The Battle of Carthage began with an artillery demonstration and then the Southern cavalry moved to attack Sigel and block his escape route. Sigel, realizing his danger skillfully conducted retreat lasted the rest of the day. His column broke through an southern line at Buck Branch Creek and crossed Spring River before the southern cavalry could again encircle them.

Sigel Prepares a Route of Escape

By the time Sigel's weary men gained the outskirts of Carthage the moving battle had been in progress for some ten hours. As he neared Carthage, Sigel decided to insure that his avenue of escape towards Sarcoxie and Springfield remained open by sending two artillery pieces and two companies of infantry around Carthage to occupy the bluffs on this site and protect the Sarcoxie Road along which he would have to retreat.

No Rest For Weary Union Troops in Carthage

By the time the footsore federal troops reached Carthage, they were badly in need of rest. As Sigel reported: *"Our rear guard took possession of the town to give the remainder of the troops time to rest, as they had after a march of 22 miles on the 4th and 18 miles on the 5th, been in action the whole day since 9 o'clock in the morning, exposed to an intense heat, and almost without eating or drinking. The enemy, taking advantage of his cavalry, forded Spring River on different points spread through the woods and, partly dismounted, harassed our troops from all sides."*

Fierce Fighting in Carthage

Gen. William Y. Slack, commander of the Fourth Division of the Missouri State Guard, described the house to house fighting that resulted from the attack of Col.

John T. Hughes' regiment on Sigel: *"In the town of Carthage the enemy took his next position, taking shelter in and behind houses, walls, and fences. This stand of the enemy was an obstinate one, dealing shot and shell freely from their batteries into our ranks. Colonel Hughes command...was brought in the close proximity to the enemy's lines, when a deadly fire was opened upon them by our infantry. The enemy retired in great haste from his position in town, being hotly pursued by Colonel Hughes' command a constant fire being kept up."*

Action at this Site: The Final Union Stand in Carthage

Under the pressure of this assault Sigel withdrew his force to this place which had served as the campground of the night before. Under the protective fire of the Federal cannon positioned on the bluffs at this site, Sigel's men took up the march towards Sarcoxie. Two and a half miles out of town where the road entered some wood Sigel's rear guard fired a final artillery volley into the gathering darkness. At this point his Southern pursuers finally gave up the chase.

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While the Federal troops marched through the night towards Sarcoxie, the 6,000 victorious state guardsmen encamped in and around Carthage and celebrated their triumph. Many of these men encamped here, where you are now standing, using the same site that had been occupied by their enemy the night before.

Long Day of Battle and Retreat At Last End For Weary Union Troops

Sigel's bone weary column still had an eighteen mile march ahead of them before their long day would be over. At three a.m. they drug into Sarcoxie, having marched 34 miles in 24 hours, engaged in a moving battle for much of that time, and without opportunity to eat or sleep. For these men, too, the Battle of Carthage was at long last over.