NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas

other names/site number WN-2, WN-24, WN-73, and PU-131

2. Location

street & number See Continuation Sheet ☐ not for publication

city or town See Continuation Sheet ☒ vicinity

state Kentucky code KY county Pulaski & Wayne code 199/231 zip code

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☒ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

David L. Morgan
Executive Director/SHPO 12-30-92
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Kentucky Heritage Council/ State Historic Preservation Office
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☑ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper: Patrick Andrus
Date of Action: 2/18/93

Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas
Name of Property

Pulaski & Wayne Cos., Kentucky
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [x] private
- [x] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [x] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- [ ] building(s)
- [x] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	37	buildings
3		sites
		structures
	1	objects
		Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Battlefield

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Agricultural Field
Graves/Burials

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A
walls N/A
roof N/A
other N/A

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- [X] **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- [ ] **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- [ ] **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- [ ] **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- [ ] **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- [ ] **B** removed from its original location.
- [ ] **C** a birthplace or grave.
- [ ] **D** a cemetery.
- [ ] **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- [ ] **F** a commemorative property.
- [ ] **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Military

Period of Significance

January 19, 1862

Significant Dates

January 19, 1862

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Zollicoffer, Felix K., Thomas, George H., Crittenden, George B.

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibilography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- [ ] preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- [ ] previously listed in the National Register
- [ ] previously determined eligible by the National Register
- [ ] designated a National Historic Landmark
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- [ ] recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Name of repository:

Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas
Name of Property

Pulaski & Wayne Cos., Kentucky
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 687.3 acres in three parcels (see Verbal Boundary Description narrative)

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1				3			
2				4			

[X] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joseph E. Brent, Data Management Coordinator

organization Kentucky Heritage Council date August, 1992

street & number 300 Washington Street telephone 502/564-7005

city or town Frankfort state Kentucky zip code 40601

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name See Continuation Sheets

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

The Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas are the battlefield, the fortified encampment, and the fortified ferry landing/mill site. These three areas are in two counties and appear on two quad maps. The battlefield is located in Pulaski County north of Nancy, Kentucky between SR 235 and Cliffy Creek. The fortified encampment is approximately nine miles north of the battlefield area in Wayne County . The centerpoint is BM 895 which is on the Old Mill Springs Road about two miles north of the community of Trimble, Kentucky. The fortified ferry landing/mill site is located in Mill Springs in Wayne County south of SR 1275 and is mostly confined to the US Army Corps of Engineers Mill Springs Mill Park, except for about two acres on the northwest corner where the Brown-Lanier House is located.

The **Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas** consists of three related sites with integrity of association: the battlefield (PU-131) in Nancy, Kentucky and the two Confederate fortifications, in Beech Grove (WN-73) on the north side of Lake Cumberland and those in Mill Springs (WN-2 and 24) on the opposite bank. These sites have excellent integrity of setting, feeling, association and location. The nominated areas, approximately 687.3 acres, are located in two counties at three discontiguious locations. The three areas include: the battlefield in Pulaski County, the fortified encampment in Wayne County and the fortified ferry landing/mill site at Mill Springs also in Wayne County.

The Battle of Mill Springs, fought on January 19, 1862, began at midnight in Beech Grove in Wayne County, Kentucky. Confederate soldiers marched nine miles from that encampment to a semi-wooded area about a mile south of present day Nancy, Kentucky. Here in the morning hours of January 19, the first decisive battle for Kentucky was fought. A beaten Confederate Army retreated back to its fortifications at Beech Grove, leaving General Felix Zollicoffer and over 100 others dead on the field. The rebels were pursued in their flight by the Federal forces. The Union Army harassed the Confederates, within the fortifications, with an artillery barrage. During the night tired, hungry Confederate troops were ferried across the Cumberland River to Mill Springs abandoning all of their livestock, artillery, wagons, and even their wounded.

I. The Battlefield

The Battle of Mill Springs was fought in three discrete locations within the overall boundary of the battlefield. The first battle locus is west of SR 235 and east of Clifty Creek where the Union Army formed along an old road approximately 300 meters from the fork of the Mill Springs Road (SR 235) and Kinney's Ferry Road (Roberts Port Road). The two armies clashed along a fairly broad ridge west of the Mill Springs Road (SR 235) bound on the west by Clifty Creek. During this initial fighting Confederate General

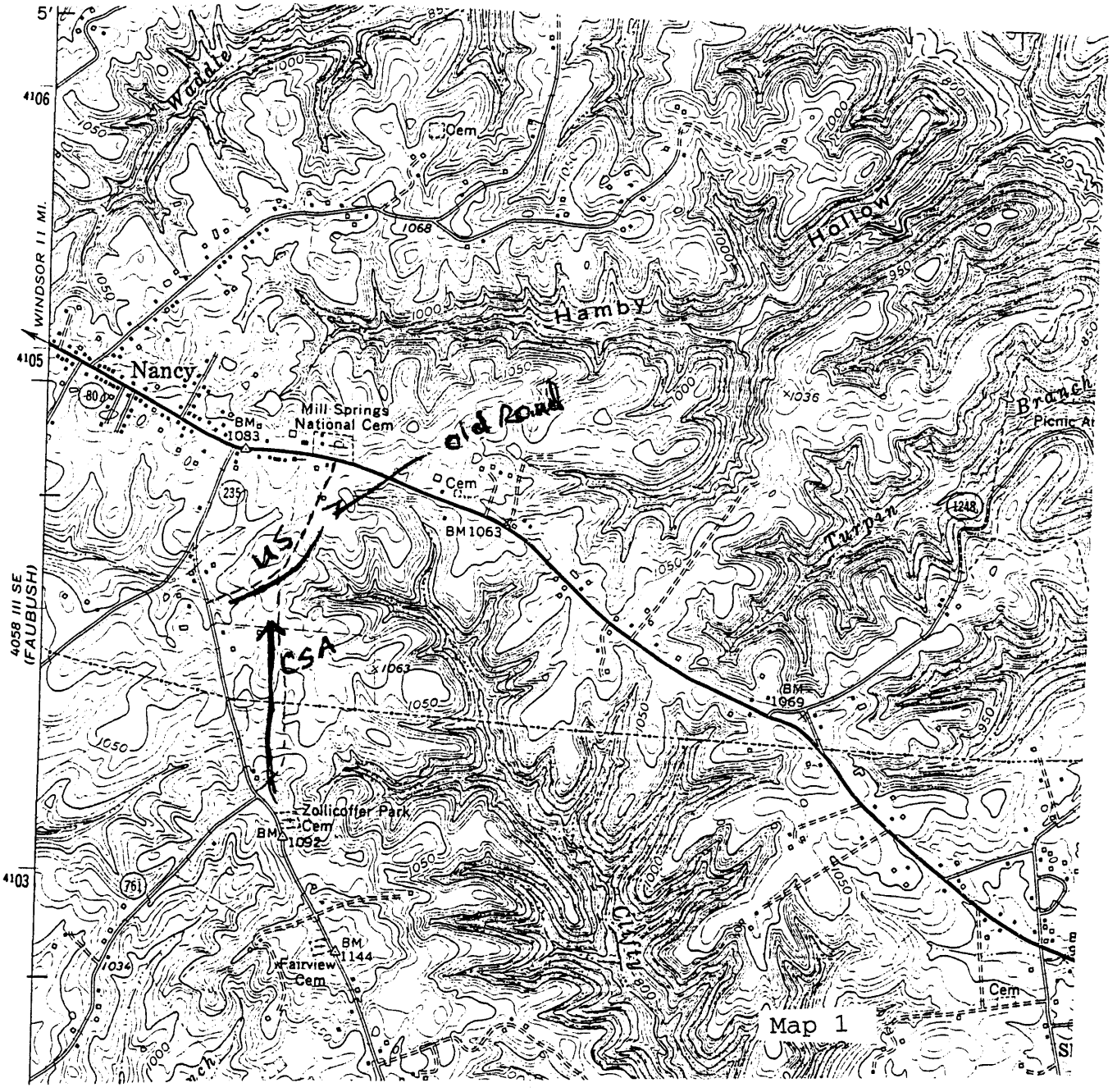
Zollicoffer was killed. This caused panic and the Confederate troops withdrew (see map 1).

The Confederate retreat and subsequent counter-attack brought about the second battle locale. The Confederates had withdrawn into the draw formed by Clifty Creek west of Zollicoffer Park. Once reformed the Confederate troops attacked. They struck a Union force drawn up in line along a ridge adjacent to SR 761 and running approximately 200 meters west of the intersection of SR 761 and SR 235. The attack failed when a Union regiment slammed into its eastern flank, which was anchored approximately at benchmark 1092. At this point most of the Confederate Army began to rush for the entrenchments at Beech Grove (see map 2).

The final phase of the conflict in the battlefield location began at this point. With the bulk of the Confederate Army rushing toward Beech Grove the Confederate reserve formed a line approximately 110 meters south of an unnamed two track road approximately 300 meters south of Zollicoffer Park. The Confederate line formed parallel to the two track road along in the area of Fairview Cemetery. This rear guard action held the Union Army at bay long enough for the Confederate army to reach Beech Grove unmolested. At this point the first phase of the battle ended (see map 3).

II. The Fortified Encampment

The final offensive action of the Battle of Mill Springs occurred at Beech Grove, in Wayne County, approximately nine miles from the battlefield in Pulaski County. The area between the battlefield and the encampment is not included in the nomination because neither on the Confederate advance nor retreat were contested. Again NR Bulletin 40 addresses this issue on page 12: "Generally boundaries should not be drawn to include the portion of the route taken to the battlefield where there was no encounters." The area known as Beech Grove is a peninsular formed by a bend in the Cumberland River and White Oak Creek. In the fall and winter of 1861 the Confederate troops crossed the Cumberland River and fortified a narrow neck of land between White Oak Creek and the


Waddle
Cem
Hollow
Hamby
Nancy
Mill Springs
National Cem
BM
1083
old Road
Cem
BM 1063
Turpin
Branch
Picnic Ar
CSA
BM
1069
Zollicoffer Park
Cem
BM
1092
BM
1144
Fairview
Cem
Cem
WINDSOR 11 MI.
4058 III SE
(FAUBUSH)
4106
4105
4103
5'

Map 1

NPS Form 10-900-a
1024-0018
(8-86)

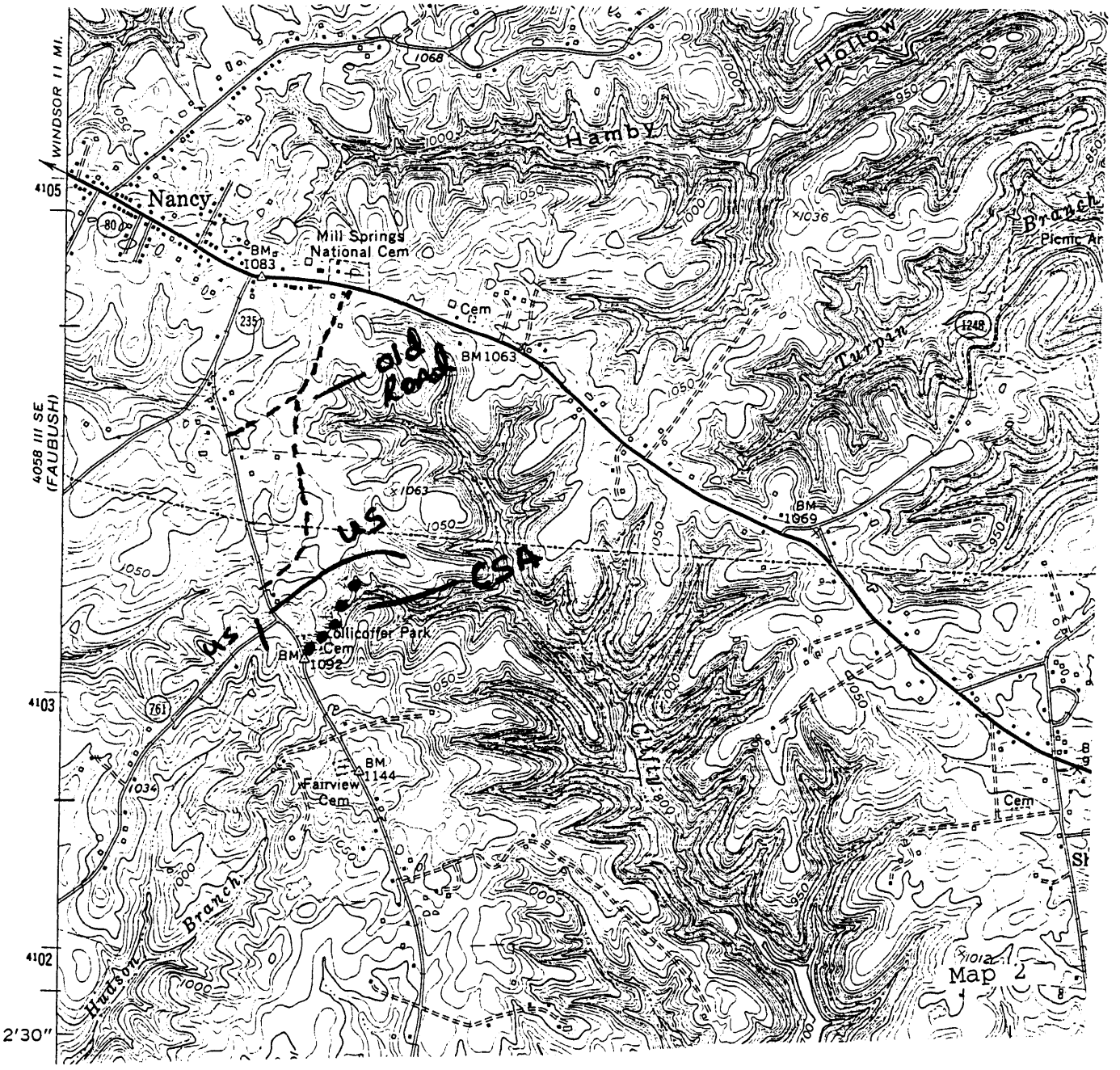
OMB Approval No.

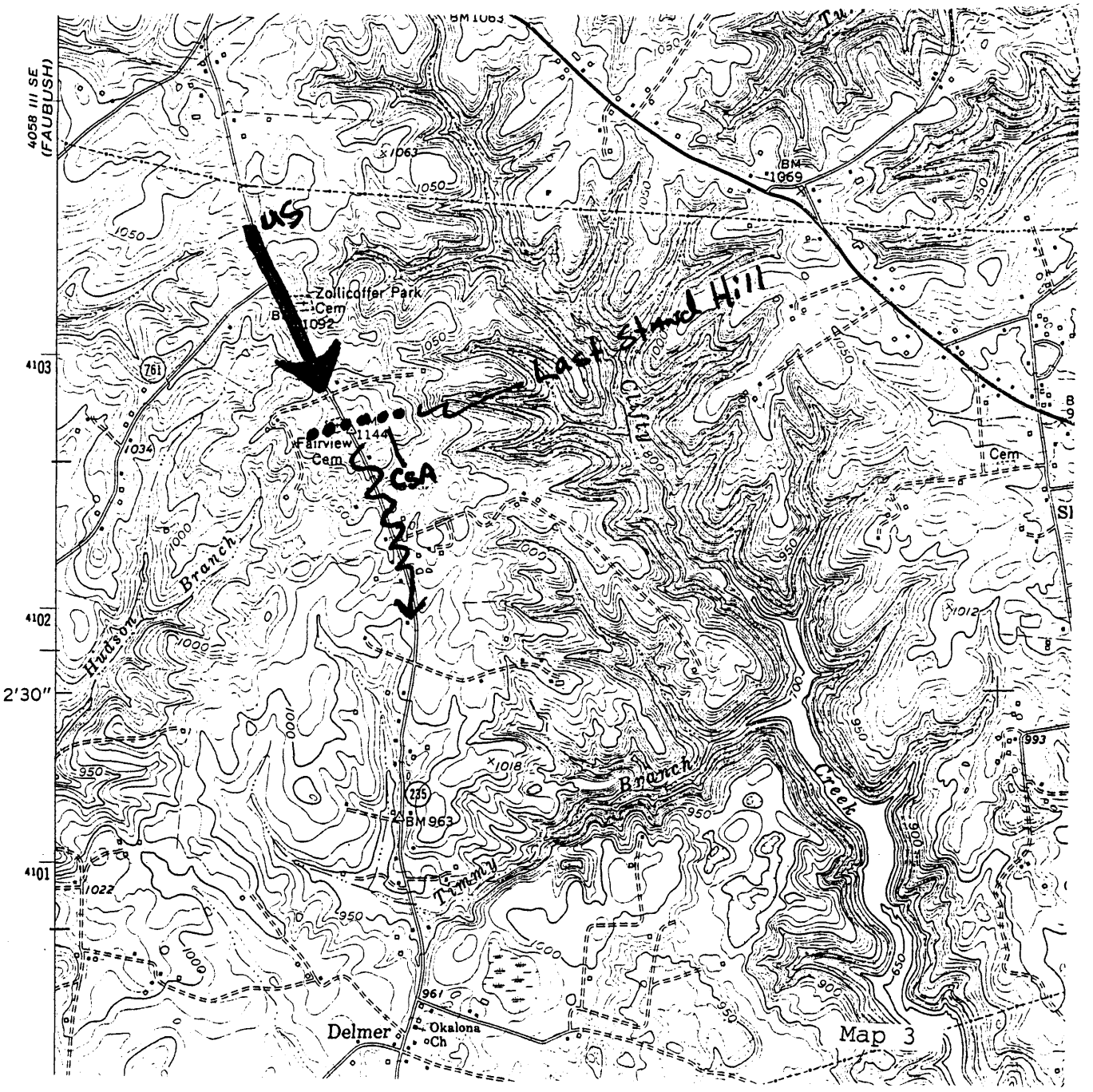
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET **Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas**

Section number ___7_

Pulaski and Wayne Counties,
Kentucky Page # 4



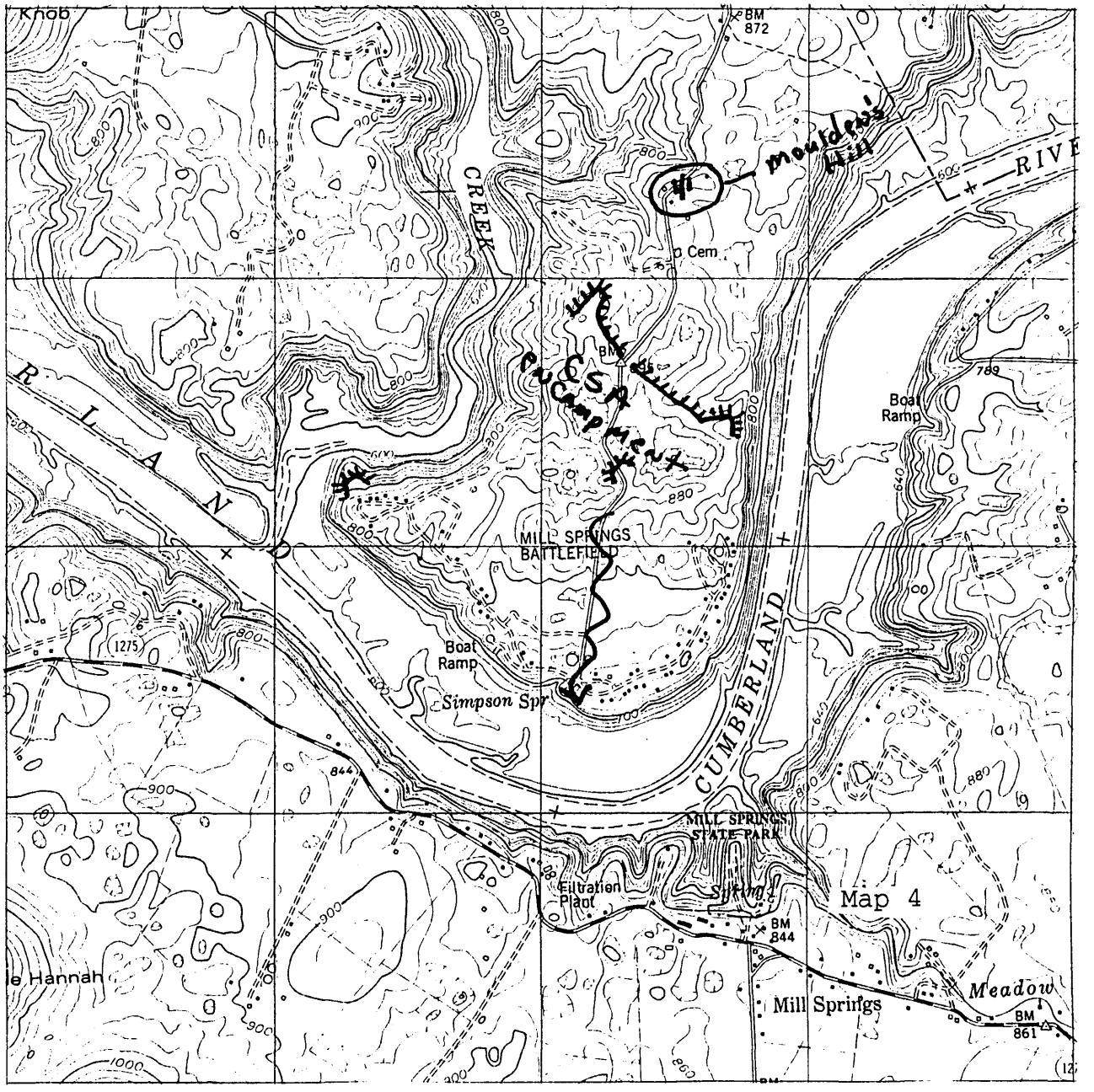

4058 III SE
(FAUBUSH)
4103
4102
2'30"
4101
US
Last Stand Hill
CSA
Zollicoffer Park
Cem
Fairview
Cem
Hudson
Branch
Timmy
Branch
Creek
Delmer
Okalona
Ch
Cem
BM 963
BM 1069
BM 1063
761
235
1034
1022
1018
1012
993
961
1050
1000
950
900
650
700
800

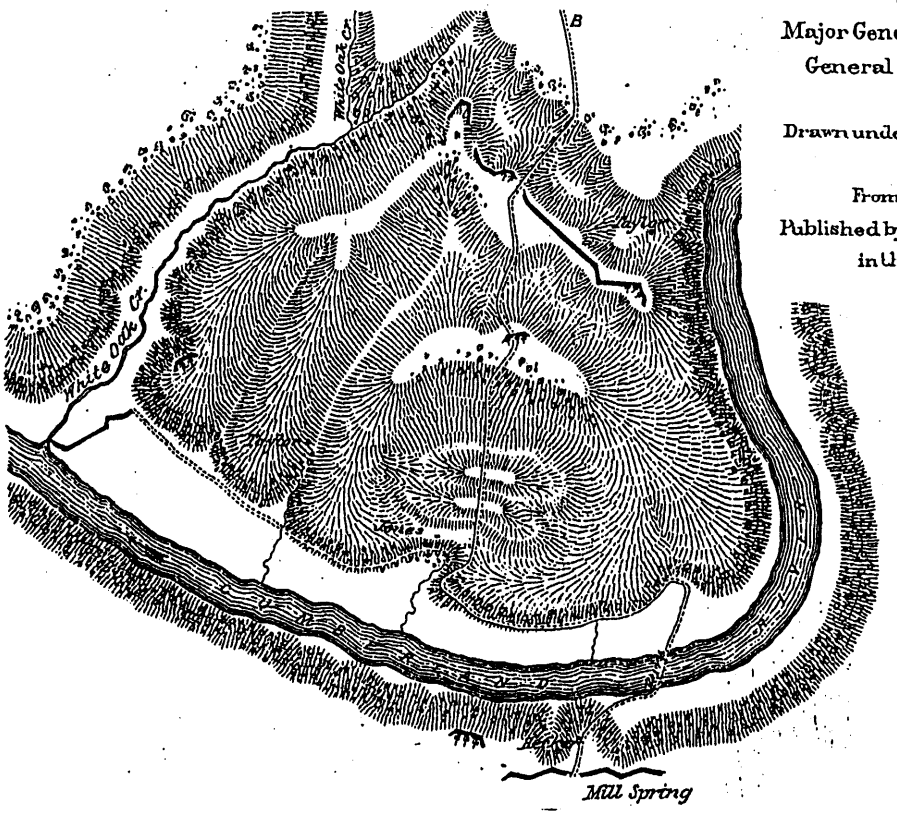
Map 3

Cumberland River. Following the battlenear Logan's Crossroads (Nancy, Kentucky) the Confederate troops returned to the relatively safe confines of the fortifications. General Thomas's Union Army, after a respite, followed the retreating Confederate Army and deployed its artillery on "Moulden's Hill" and fired upon the Southerners. "Moulden's Hill" is a narrow ridge approximately 600 meters North of benchmark 895 from this location. Thomas's artillery harassed the Confederate troops and even shelled the transport boat as it ferried fleeing troops across the river. This was the last offensive action taken as part of the Mill Springs campaign (see map 4).

III. FORTIFIED FERRY LANDING/MILL SITE

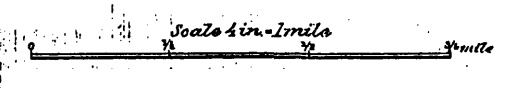
In the fall of 1861 Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston ordered Zollicoffer to move his army for Cumberland Ford to Mill Springs "in order to observe the enemy." Mill Springs was chosen as the initial base of Confederate operations because it was in an agriculturally rich area and also due to its proximity to the Cumberland River. The Mill Springs Road that has been a prominent feature in the other two locales terminated here. A ferry crossed the river and docked below the mill to bring people and goods to Mill Springs. Zollicoffer fortified a portion of this area before crossing the river and setting up his headquarters at Beech Grove (see map 5).


Knob
BM 872
Moulden's Hill
RIVE
CREEK
Cem
CSA Encampment
Boat Ramp
789
MILL SPRINGS BATTLEFIELD
Boat Ramp
Simpson Spr
CUMBERLAND
1275
844
MILL SPRINGS STATE PARK
Filtration Plant
Spring
Map 4
BM 844
Mill Springs
Meadow
BM 861
le Hannah



SKETCH OF THE
BATTLEFIELD OF LOGAN'S CROSS ROADS
AND OF THE ENEMYS FORTIFIED POSITION
AT AND OPPOSITE MILL SPRING KY.
to which he retreated after his defeat,
Major General GEORGE H. THOMAS Comdg. the U.S. Forces
General G.B. CRITTENDEN Comdg. the Confed. Forces
Jan. 19th 1862.
Drawn under the direction of Capt. N. MICHLER Top.l Engrs U.S.A.
and EDWARD RUGER
From a survey by Lt. Col. HUNTEN 11th Mich. Engrs.
Published by authority of the HON. THE SECRETARY OF WAR
in the Office of the CHIEF OF ENGINEERS U.S.A.
1877

Map 5



The Mill Springs Battlefield Historic Area is eligible under National Register Criterion A and has national significance, under the context of the American Civil War. The Civil War was a watershed in the history of the United States. The Battle of Mill Springs was an important early victory by Union forces which helped secure Kentucky for the Union. The Confederate forces, originally commanded by General Felix K. Zollicoffer and under the command of General George B. Crittenden at the time of the conflict, were defeated by Federal troops led by General George H. Thomas. The significance of this battle is derived both from its timing and from its strategic consequences. It was the first major Union victory of the war following the debacle at Bull Run of July 21, 1861, where the Confederate Army humiliated a federal Army near Manassas Junction, Virginia. The rout of the army left morale low on the northern side. Other Union set backs of the summer and fall included: Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri on August 10, 1861, siege and subsequent surrender of Lexington, Missouri on September 20, 1861, and the Battle of Ball's Bluff fought on October 21, 1861 near Leesburg, Virginia in 1861. All of these defeats dispirited the nation.[1]

The Confederate defeat at Mill Springs led to the total collapse of the eastern portion of the newly established Confederate defence line in Kentucky. This setback forced Confederate authorities to alter their western strategy completely, which had been based upon defending a line stretching from Columbus on the Mississippi River to Cumberland Gap. Mill Springs was one of a string of Confederate set-backs, preceded by Middle Creek and followed by the Battles at Forts Henry and Donelson, that eventually culminated in the Battle of Shiloh in April of 1862, that resulted in Union control of Kentucky and most of west Tennessee (see map 6).

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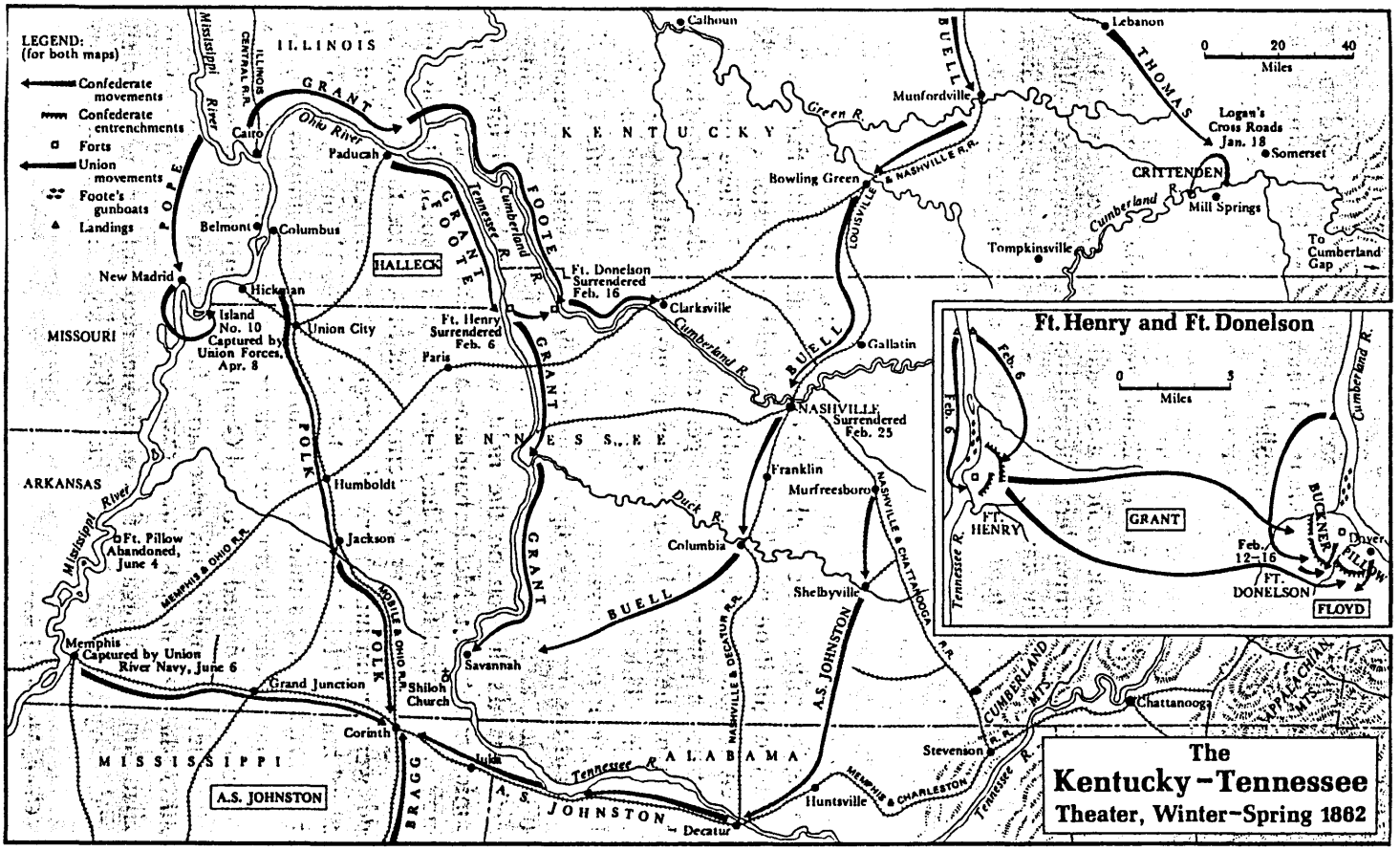
[1]. James M. McPherson, Battle Cry of Freedom (New York, 1988), 367.



Map 6

James M. McPherson, Battle Cry of Freedom (New York, 1988)

I. BACKGROUND

The adjournment of the Kentucky state legislature in February of 1861 coincided with the formation of the Confederate government in Montgomery, Alabama. The Kentucky lawmakers refused to entertain Governor Beriah Magoffin's call for a secession convention and instead sent delegates to the ill-fated "Peace Conference" in Washington. By the time the legislature reconvened on March 20, 1861 the nation was divided, yet, the Commonwealth of Kentucky vowed to take no part in a Civil War. Just over three weeks later, the Confederacy brought on a war with the bombardment of Fort Sumnter on April 14, 1861. The next day as President Lincoln called for 75,000 troops to suppress the rebellion, Kentucky declared neutrality.[2]

After months of waiting, the Confederacy became the first to move troops into Kentucky. On September 4, 1861, Confederate General Gideon Pillow marched north from Tennessee and occupied Columbus, Kentucky and subsequently General Ulysses S. Grant moved south from Illinois, crossed the Ohio River and seized Paducah. The actions of the belligerents forced the state to make a stand; Kentucky chose to remain in the Union. Dissatisfied with their state's choice, Southern sympathizers from 68 counties, gathered in Russellville in Logan County. The Russellville Convention declared a new Confederate state government and seceded from the Union on November 18, 1861. In December 1861, the Russellville government was recognized by the Confederacy and Kentucky "officially" became a Confederate state.

With a Confederate state government in place, and Albert Sidney Johnston installed as the commander of the Confederate forces in Kentucky, a defensive perimeter stretching from Columbus on the Mississippi River, through Bowling Green to Pound and Cumberland

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[2]. Lowell H. Harrison, The Civil War In Kentucky (Lexington, 1975), 8-10, John S. Bowman, The Civil War Almanac (New York, 1983), 51.

Gaps in the east was established. Johnston hoped to hold Kentucky and protect the Confederacy's northern borders. Unfortunately for Johnston and the Confederacy, he had too few troops and too much area to secure. (see map 7).[3]

II. THE CAMPAIGN

To protect the eastern end of the Confederate defense line and to guard eastern Tennessee from invasion, two columns of Southern troops were sent into the mountainous region of Kentucky. One under the command of General Humphrey Marshall, marched from Abington, Virginia through Pound Gap and down the Big Sandy Valley towards Paintsville and Prestonsburg. A second larger force, under General Felix K. Zollicoffer, marched from Knoxville, Tennessee entering Kentucky through Cumberland Gap.

Felix Kirk Zollicoffer, a Tennessean of Swiss extraction, had been a newspaper editor and politician prior to the war. Politically Zollicoffer had been a Whig, serving three consecutive terms in Congress from 1853-1859, and he supported Constitutional Union candidate, John Bell in the 1860 election and opposed secession, but went with his state when it left the Union during the summer of 1861. He served in the military during the Seminole War.[4]

In the late fall of 1861, Zollicoffer led his army through the Gap into Kentucky. His mission was to relieve the pressure on Johnston's right flank by keeping General George Thomas's army

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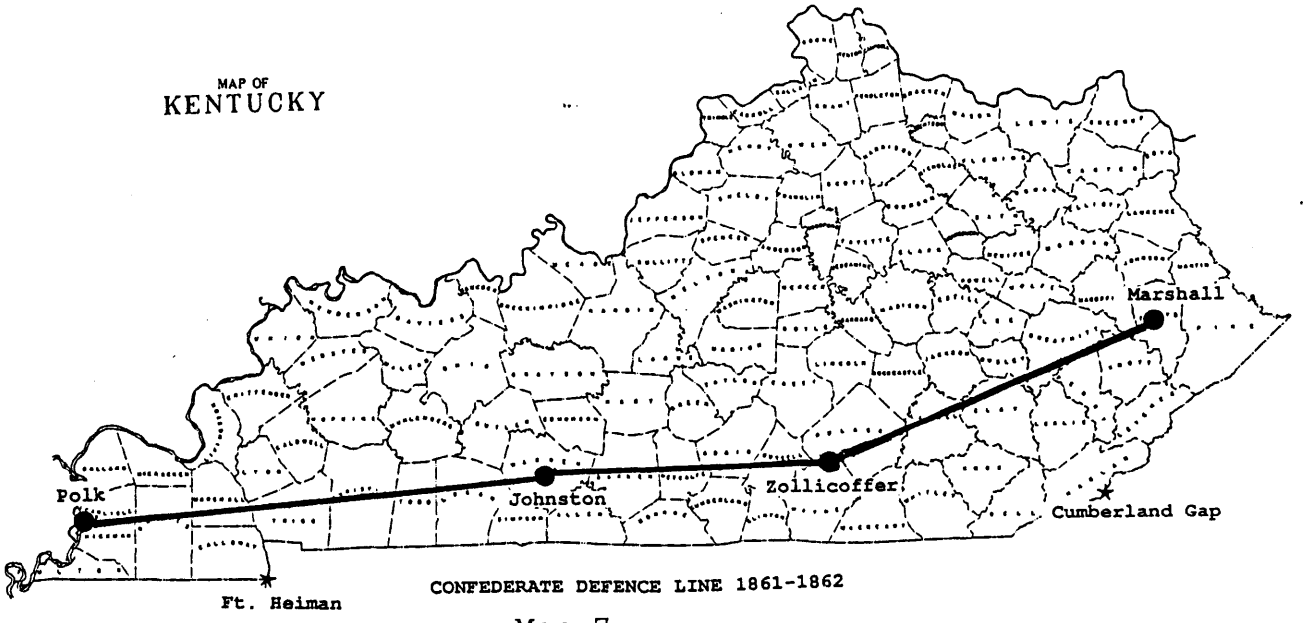
[3]. Harrison, Civil War 11-12 and 20-23.

[4]. Henry P.Scalf, Kentucky's Last Frontier (Prestonsburg, Kentucky, 1966), 295; Thomas Lawrence Connelly, Army of the Heartland: The Army of Tennessee, 1861-1862 (Baton Rouge, 1967), 86-88; Stanley F. Horn, The Army of Tennessee: A Military History (New York, 1941) 66-67, Gerald R. McMurtry, "Zollicoffer and the Battle of Mill Springs," The Filson Club History Quarterly Vol. 29 Number 4, 304-305.


MAP OF
KENTUCKY
Marshall
Polk
Johnston
Zollicoffer
Cumberland Gap
Ft. Heiman
CONFEDERATE DEFENCE LINE 1861-1862

Map 7

(then being assembled at Camp Dick Robinson located in the southern Bluegrass) occupied. General George Henry Thomas, a Virginian, opted to stay in the United States Army after his native state left the Union. He was a career officer, graduating from West Point in 1840, and he fought in the Seminole and Mexican Wars. He was to achieve a well deserved reputation during the Civil war and was one of only thirteen officers to receive the "Thanks of Congress."[5]

Zollicoffer's army was considerably smaller and not nearly as well equipped as Thomas's. Zollicoffier had between 4,000 and 7,000 troops (depending upon the account), and approximately 1,500 were unarmed. Of those under Zollicoffer's command at the Battle of Mill Springs, only a small portion carried percussion cap muskets. The remainder had an assortment of flint locks and shotguns, weapons that were makeshift at best and totally undependable in wet conditions. Inadequate weapons and the supply logistics faced by Zollicoffer were typical of the Confederate armies in the west during the early stages of the war. The western part of the Confederacy did not enjoy the concern the Davis Government gave to the armies in front of Richmond.[6]

In September 1861 Zollicoffer moved his forces into Kentucky. He secured and fortified Cumberland Gap. Marching north on the old Wilderness Road he sent detachments of troops out to break up Union recruiting camps at Barbourville and Laurel Bridge. His plan was to continue to move toward the Bluegrass region along the Wilderness Road. In October that plan changed. A well fortified Union army under General Albin Schoepf blocked the road at Camp Wildcat, near Livingston in Laurel County. Schoepf's well dug in force occupied the high ground surrounding the Wilderness Road as it wound through the Rockcastle Hills.

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[5]. Stewart Sifakis, Who Was Who in the Civil War (New York, 1988), 650.

[6]. McMurtry, "Zollicoffer", 312, Connelly, Army of Tennessee, 92-93.

Zollicoffer made several unsuccessful attacks against the Union lines. After determining that his force was inadequate to carry the Federal works, he withdrew back to Camp Buckner at Cumberland Ford (near present day Pineville, Kentucky). The problems with provisioning an army in the barren country of east Kentucky became all to clear. If Zollicoffer had stayed at his base at Cumberland Ford he would have lost the advantages of surprise and choice of ground for a fight, plus the Union Army would have grown larger, marching to attack him as he was in a very pro-Union area. Finally, in November, under orders from Johnston "to observe the enemy," Zollicoffer moved his army to Mill Springs on the north bank of the Cumberland River in Wayne County. This also put Zollicoffer's army 75 mile closer to Johnston's army at Bowling Green. (see map 8).[7]

Zollicoffer fortified the south bank of the river in late 1861 and made his headquarters in Mill Springs. Local lore names at least two standing structures as "Zollicoffer's headquarters," the Brown-Lanier House on the banks adjacent to the site of the old mill and West-Metcalf House (Wn-1 listed on the National Register) about a mile east of Mill Springs. It is quite possible that the general occupied both of these houses, at least briefly, while the main body of his army camped in the Wayne County hamlet. Both houses were said to have been utilized as hospitals following the battle.

The choice of Mill Springs as a base of operations for the Confederate Army was no accident. Wayne County had the advantage of being on the Cumberland River where supplies could be brought in and the county had fertile farmland that produced an abundance of corn and hogs. With the river as a buffer and a reliable source of supplies Zollicoffer was in a good position to defend the Confederate eastern flank.[8]

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[7]. McMurtry, "Zollicoffer", 304-305; Horn, The Army of Tennessee, 67 and Connelly, Army of Tennessee, 88.

[8]. Lewis Collins, History of Kentucky Volume II, (Covington, Kentucky, 1874), 753-754.

Schoepf

Zollicoffer

Map 8

222 HARPER'S HISTORY OF THE GREAT REBELLION. [JANUARY, 1862.

MAP OF KENTUCKY AND NORTHERN TENNESSEE.

III. THE PREPARATION

In the winter of 1861 Zollicoffer's troops settled in at Mill Springs and fortified the south bank of the Cumberland River. Zollicoffer had hoped that by positioning himself on the Cumberland he could be supplied more readily by river from Nashville, rather than having to rely on the overland route from Knoxville. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Atlas (see map 9) shows breastworks on the heights above the mill and the old ferry landing below the town. To the east a smaller gun emplacement is shown. The fortifications face the river that would have been perhaps 100 feet below the works. Only a small remnant of a trench remains visible on the south bank. This is within the boundaries of the Corps of Engineers recreational area at Mill Springs. To date, the exact location of additional fortifications have not been found. This could be due to the creation of Lake Cumberland which dramatically increased the depth of the water in the area. The position of these defenses would have allowed Zollicoffer's command to watch the river and keep an eye on any offensive movements via the south bank.[9]

The general from Tennessee had larger plans than merely to watch the Yankees to the north in Pulaski County. Zollicoffer crossed the Cumberland with most of his army and fortified a narrow strip of land between White Oak Creek and a bend in the Cumberland near a small hamlet known as Beech Grove. This maneuver positioned his army where its line of retreat was blocked by the river. However, Zollicoffer's apparent tactical error was actually calculated, because Zollicoffer saw his primary goal as protecting Johnston from Thomas. If the Confederate Army remained on the south bank it could only watch the federal build and ran the risk of the Union army slipping past him somewhere between Cumberland Gap and Mill

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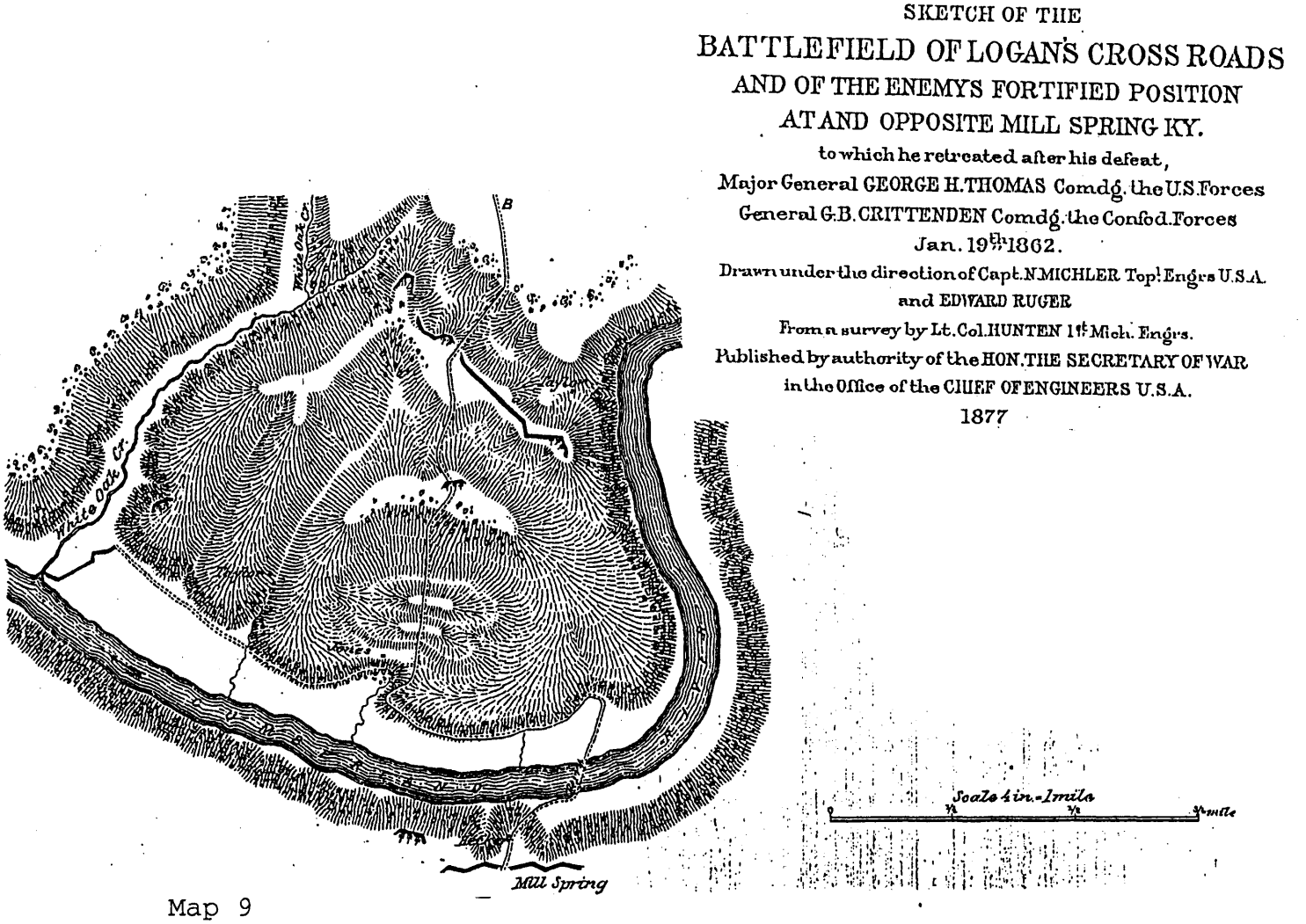
[9]. War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Atlas (Washington, 1882), plate 6 number 3 (hereafter cited as O.R.) and Connelly, Army of Tennessee, 89-90.


SKETCH OF THE
BATTLEFIELD OF LOGAN'S CROSS ROADS
AND OF THE ENEMY'S FORTIFIED POSITION
AT AND OPPOSITE MILL SPRING KY.
to which he retreated after his defeat,
Major General GEORGE H. THOMAS Comdg. the U.S. Forces
General G.B. CRITTENDEN Comdg. the Confed. Forces
Jan. 19th 1862.
Drawn under the direction of Capt. N. MICHLER Top.l Engrs U.S.A.
and EDWARD RUGER
From a survey by Lt. Col. HUNTEN 1st Mich. Engrs.
Published by authority of the HON. THE SECRETARY OF WAR
in the Office of the CHIEF OF ENGINEERS U.S.A.
1877
B
White Oak Cr.
White Oak Cr.
Mill Spring
Scale 4 in. = 1 mile
½ mile

Map 9

Springs. If he crossed the river and put his force on the northern shore he had an opportunity to strike Thomas before the latter could concentrate his forces.[10]

The logistical and political problems of the Confederate forces in the west caught up with the troops in and around Mill Springs in the winter of 1861/62. Jefferson Davis appointed George B. Crittenden, a Kentuckian, overall commander of the district. Davis hoped to send Crittenden into Kentucky with ten regiments to free the Bluegrass State from the yoke of Yankee aggression. However, Davis had no troops to send with the Kentuckian, nor to reinforce Zollicoffer, who had been awaiting additional troops since his arrival in south central Kentucky in November of 1861. Upon assuming command, Crittenden ordered Zollicoffer to move his army back to the south shore of the Cumberland. This order dashed Zollicoffer's hopes of smashing Thomas. Zollicoffer chose to ignore Crittenden's command. He stayed put, awaiting the arrival of Crittenden on the northern shore of the Cumberland River.[11]

III. THE BATTLE

George Bibb Crittenden was the son of U.S. Senator John J. Crittenden of Kentucky. He was a native of Kentucky and a graduate of West Point, Class of 1832. He was commissioned a Brigadier General in the Confederate Army. Upon his promotion to major General he was given command of the Department of East Tennessee, which included parts of East Kentucky.[12]

Crittenden arrived at Mill Spring on January 2, 1862. He found his army distributed on both sides of the river. Occupying the entrenchments below Mill Springs, on the south bank of the Cumberland, were the seventeenth, twenty-eighth and thirty-seventh

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[10]. Connelly, Army of Tennessee, 90-91.

[11]. Ibid. pp. 96-97.

[12]. Sifakis, Who Was Who, 151-152.

Tennessee regiments, the first battalion Tennessee cavalry, two companies of the third battalion Tennessee cavalry and four pieces of artillery. Across the river at Beech Grove the Confederates had assembled the fifteenth Mississippi, sixteenth Alabama, nineteenth, twentieth, twenty-fifth, and twenty-ninth Tennessee regiments, two battalions of Tennessee cavalry, two independent cavalry companies and twelve pieces of artillery altogether a force of about 4,000 men.[13]

General George H. Thomas's Union Army left Lebanon, Kentucky on December 31, 1861, they had marched to within ten miles of the Confederates at Beech Grove upon their arrival at Logan's Crossroads (present day Nancy, Kentucky) on January 17, 1862. His effectives there consisted of fourth, tenth Kentucky, tenth Indiana regiment, ninth and fourteenth Ohio regiments, second Minnesota regiment, Wolford's first Kentucky cavalry, plus two batteries of the first Ohio artillery and the ninth Ohio battery. Three regiments from Schoepf's column, the twelfth Kentucky regiment, and the first and second Tennessee regiments were added to his force bringing the total to approximately 8,000 troops. Unlike the Confederate troops, the Union army was well armed. Thomas and Schoepf had not brought all of their troops together at Logan's Crossroads; however, most of Schoepf's column had crossed Fishing Creek, south of Somerset, and the federal forces stood ready to remove the Confederate threat from the area and open up an invasion route to east Tennessee. This is exactly what Zollicoffer had hoped to prevent when he moved his army across the river.[14]

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[13]. Connelly, Army of Tennessee, 97, McMurtry, "Zollicoffer," 315, Gen. Clement A. Evans, editor, Confederate Military History, Volume IX, (Secaucus, NY, n.d.) reprint edition, 54.

[14]. Alferd H. Guernsey and Henry M. Alden, Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War (New York, 1866) 223-224.

While the Federal troops had made no threatening movements toward the rebel forces south of them, it would only be a matter of time before Thomas took the initiative to remove the Southern army. Crittenden decided that the only chance to defeat Thomas was to strike him at once. Crittenden, unaware that a portion of Schoepf's force had already joined General Thomas at Logan's Crossroads, convened a council of war on January 18 and ordered his army to move north at midnight. The march of some nine miles was hindered by cold wet conditions that turned the roads into quagmires, dampening the spirits and the gunpowder of the rebel troops, who encountered the Union pickets around 6 a.m. on January 19, 1862.[15]

Crittenden's troops were deployed in two brigades with a small reserve. General Zollicoffer commanded the first brigade which had a cavalry screen led by Captain Saunders and Captain Bledsoe's independent units, followed by the fifteenth Mississippi regiment, the nineteenth, the twentieth, and the twenty-fifth Tennessee regiments, and four guns of Rutledge's battery. General Carroll commanded the second brigade that consisted of the seventeenth, twenty-eight, and twenty-ninth Tennessee regiments, plus two guns of McClung's battery. The sixteenth Alabama and two cavalry battalions made up the reserve. Once contact was made with the enemy, Zollicoffer deployed his brigade in line of battle generally to the right of the Mill Springs road, with some of the Tennessee troops on the left. Zollicoffer's brigade struck the fourth Kentucky, and portions of the tenth Indiana and Wolford's cavalry "near where the roads fork leading to Somerset." (see map 10)[16]

At approximately 7 a.m., the Confederates charged through a corn field pushing the tenth Indiana back before them until Thomas brought up reinforcements, the ninth Ohio and the second Minnesota, stopping the rebel advance. During the confusion of the battle

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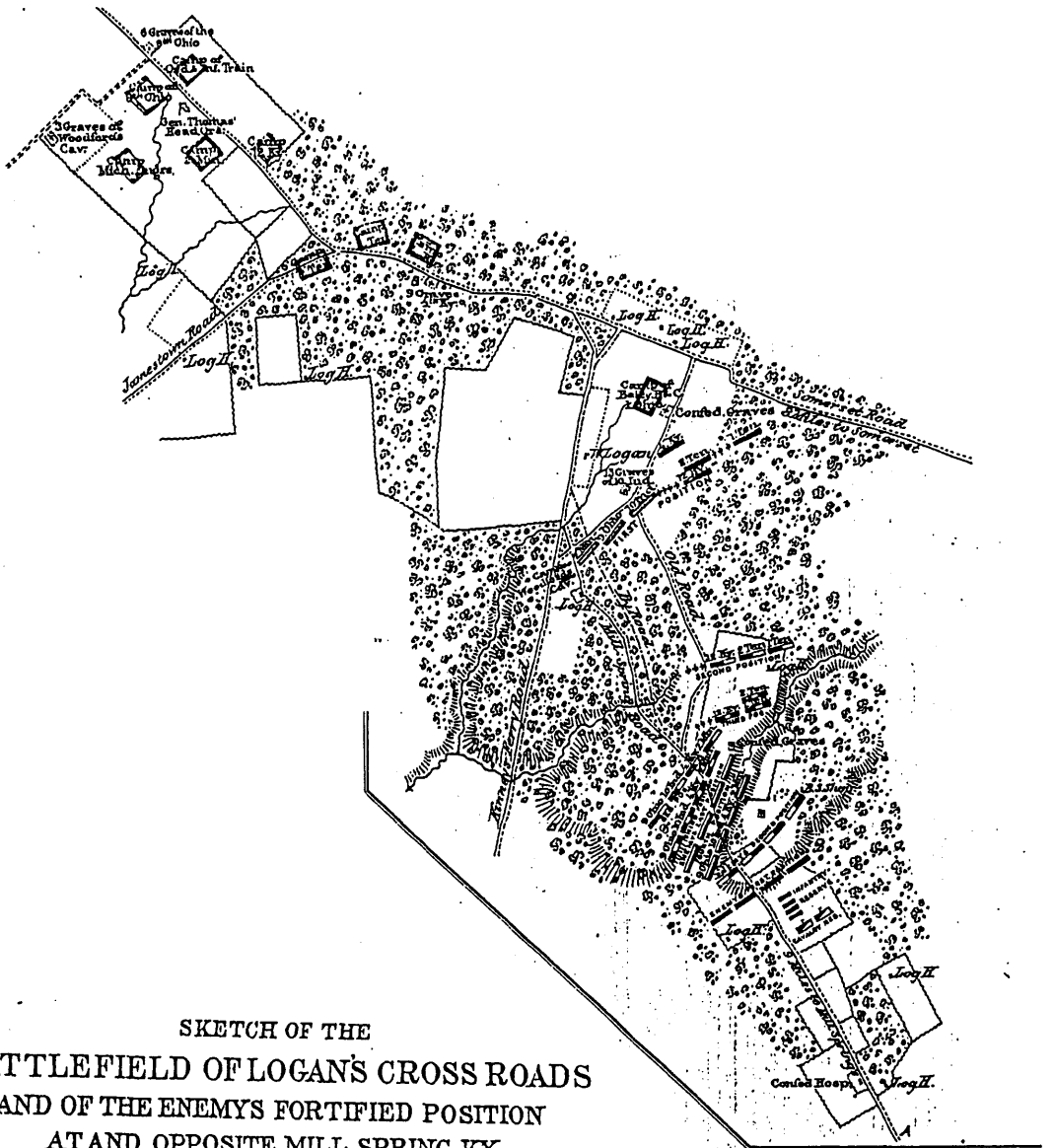
[15]. McMurtry, "Zollicoffer," 308.

[16]. OR, 106 and 79-89.



SKETCH OF THE
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1877

Section of road from A to B omitted.
Length of Section - 8 miles.

Map 10

POSITIONS

	U.S.	CONFED.
First		
Second		
Third		
Final		

General Zollicoffer rode up to the nineteenth Tennessee and ordered it to cease fire as he was convinced that they were firing upon Southern soldiers. The general then advanced toward the troops the Tennessee regiment was firing at and ordered these troops also to cease firing. General Zollicoffer was mistaken, his troops had been firing at the fourth Kentucky, a union regiment. During the confusion the Confederate general was killed by federal troops. Zollicoffer's death caused a panic among some of the Tennessee troops and the Confederate line fell back.[17]

Crittenden rallied his troops and ordered a counterattack, with the fifteenth Mississippi and the twenty-fifth Tennessee supported by the twenty-eighth Tennessee. Thomas reinforced the Ohio and Minnesota troops with the first and second Tennessee (U.S.) and the twelfth Kentucky (U.S.). The infusion of these troops halted the Confederate advance and the grey line slowly began to give ground. This was perhaps the hottest part of the battle both lines were raked with heavy fire and hand to hand fighting broke out along a fence line. A bayonet charge by the ninth Ohio into the Confederate right demoralized the rebel line, which soon began a general retreat toward Beech Grove. The immediate federal pursuit was checked by the efforts of the sixteenth Alabama, allowing the beaten Confederates to retire within the fortifications at Beech Grove.[18]

V. CONCLUSION

The initial battle lasted less than four hours and pursuit of the beaten Confederates was not prompt. After a respite to replenish his ammunition Thomas followed the Confederates. His army arrived opposite the rebel fortifications about 4 o'clock. At that time Thomas deployed his troops in line of battle at Moulden's Hill, a

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[17]. Ibid, 80 and 106-107.

[18]. OR, 107 and 80, McMurtry, "Zollicoffer," 311 and Col. James Edmonds Saunders, Early Settlers of Alabama Part I (New Orleans, 1899) 188.

rise commanding Beech Grove, and ordered hisartillery to shell the rebel positions. The bombardment continued until dark. During the night the Confederates retreated across the swollen river after abandoning their supplies, artillery, mules and wounded. Crittenden's losses in battle had been less than 500, but the retreat had cost him his army. Thomas lost less than 300 men, and in the process had destroyed Crittenden's army and consequently Johnston's right flank.[19]

The Battle of Mill Springs not only caused the destruction of the Confederate Army at Logan's Crossroads left the Confederate forces at Bowling Green open to attack. Strategically their flank had been turned. While General Albert Sidney Johnston's forces still sat on the railroad in Warren County, the Union Army held the Cumberland River, at least east of Nashville. On February 6, Confederate Ft. Henry on the Tennessee River would surrender and on February 16 Ft. Donelson on the Cumberland River would also surrender. Confederate setbacks at Middle Creek, Mill Springs and the capitulations of Forts Henry and Donelson forced the Confederate commanders to withdraw their troops from Columbus and Bowling Green. The withdrawal of Confederate forces abandoned both Kentucky and most of west Tennessee to Union forces (see map 11). Apart from victories at those river bound forts in western Tennessee, the out come at Mill Springs opened up an avenue of invasion for Federal troops in eastern Tennessee even to Nashville if they chose.

Besides the military advantage gained at Mill Springs, the Federal forces achieved a significant morale boost for the nation. This was the first major battle that the Union armies had won since the disaster at Bull Run the previous summer. This was a total and clear cut victory. Zollicoffer was dead and Crittenden's army was in disarray and full retreat. There was no way for the South to put a good face on this battle, the northern press flush with the news of Garfield's triumph at Middle Creek, fought nine days earlier, played the victory for all it wasworth. Thomas and Mill Springs grabbed the headlines and a Southern Army was on the run.

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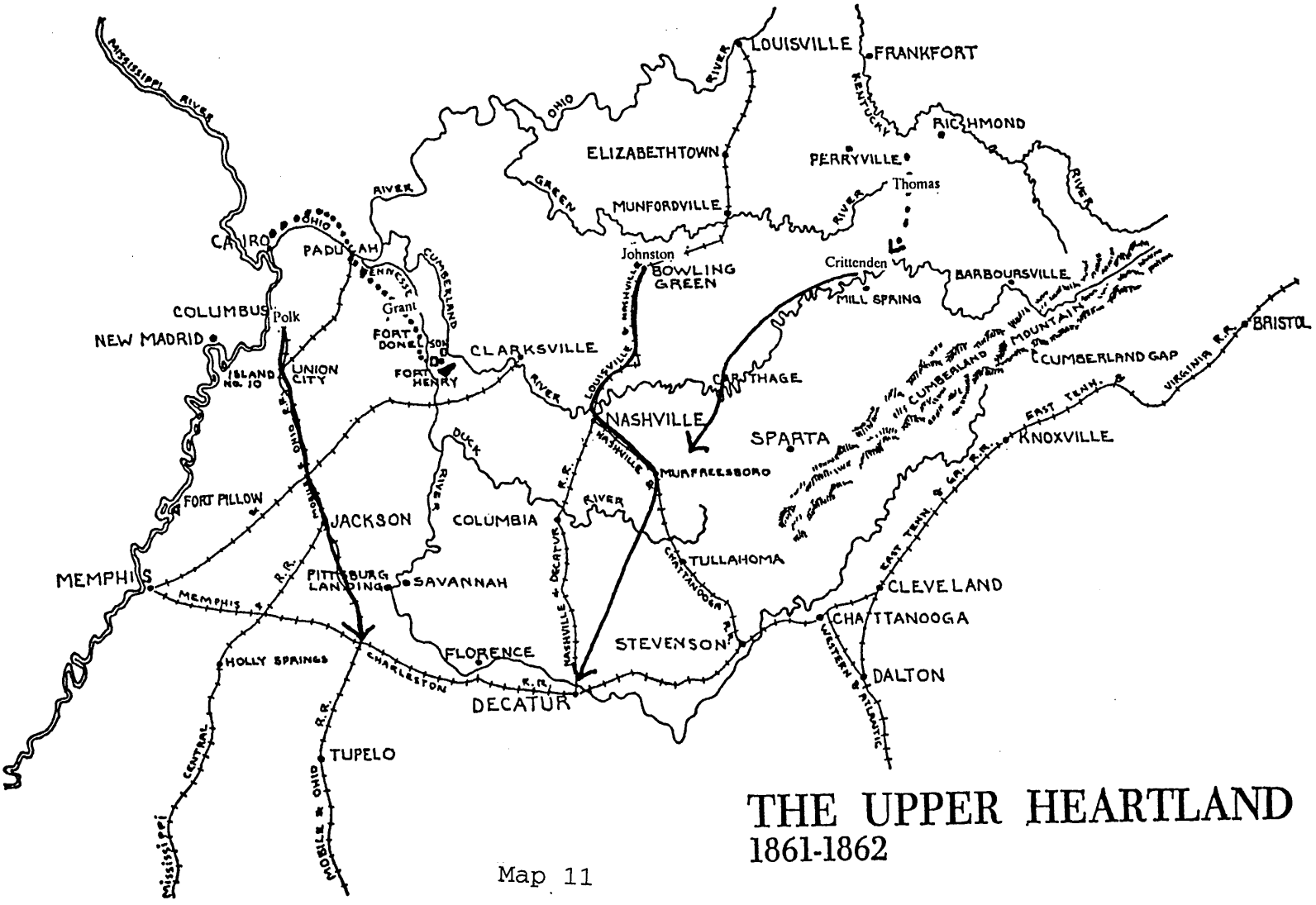
[19]. Connelly, Army of Tennessee, 99, McMurtry, "Zollicoffer," 311.



Map 11

Connelly, Army of Tennessee

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

I. The Battlefield

The Mill Springs Battlefield was confined to an area of approximate 320 acres, located along a series of ridges and hills that are mostly west of SR 235 (the Mill Springs Road) and east of Clifty Creek. The conflict began and came to a close on the Mill Springs Road (SR 235) just south of the present day site of Fairview Cemetery. It was here that Zollicoffer's brigade encountered the Union pickets at dawn to open the battle and here the Confederate rear guard held off Federal pursuit long enough for the rebel army to escape. The area is locally known as "Last Stand Hill."

The boundary of this nominated property is based on the depiction of the battlefield in historical maps and the after battle reports in the War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. The northern boundary of the battlefield segment of the **Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas** begins just south of Nancy, Kentucky on the Roberts Port Road UTM point A, approximately 100 meters east of where an unnamed seasonal stream crosses under it. The seasonal stream bed becomes northern boundary the on the west side of the road and it follows the stream bed until it terminates. From the ridge nose where the stream stops the boundary continues along the next ridge over and then becomes an arbitrary line that arcs to the west until it intersects a farm pound, UTM point B. The northern edge of the farm pond becomes the boundary which then becomes a season tributary of Clifty Creek. The boundary of the battlefield segment becomes the seasonal tributary of Clifty Creek, UTM point C. It follows the stream bed south until the main portion of the stream forks, UTM point D. At the fork the boundary follows the contour of the south fork nearly due east for about 100 meters then it swings south bisecting a ridge line. From here the boundary becomes an arbitrary line that runs southeast passing east of two unnamed seasonal drainages. From here the boundary cuts diagonally southeast across a series of contours that are part of "Last Stand Hill," UTM point E. The boundary generally follows the 1050 foot

contour line, near the base of the hill and it crosses SR 235, UTM point F. Once again an arbitrary boundary is drawn east northeast until it intersects with an unnamed two-track road, UTM point G. From here a line is drawn approximately 600 meters north northeast to a point where it intersects SR 761, UTM point H. From that point the line continues for approximately 920 meters northeast which intersects Roberts Port Road, at UTM point A, completing the boundary (see map 12).

II. The Fortified Encampment

The fortified encampment is approximately 360 acres. It is bound on the north by an arbitrary line running west southwest from a bend in White Oak Creek, UTM point A, that intersects Lake Cumberland at UTM point B approximately 800 meters west of White Oak Creek. The boundary follows the bluff line above the lake for approximately 1000 meter south to UTM point C. From this point another arbitrary line is drawn generally east about 300 meters to a spot in a cleared field due east of a house at the end of an unnamed two-track road, UTM point D. Here the boundary drops due south approximately 250 meters to a point along ridge line north of a road where seasonal houses have been constructed, UTM point E. The boundary follows the ridges in an easterly direction to a point adjacent to a small pond near the Mill Springs Road, UTM point F. From here the boundary goes due south to the banks of the lake, UTM point G. Form UTM point G the boundary follows the lake 200 meters east to a point adjacent to a small inlet, UTM point H, from the lake the boundary zig-zags first north approximately 100 meters to UTM pint I and the west about 150 meters to UTM point J. The eastern edge of Mill Springs Road becomes the boundary for approximately 210 meters at a point adjacent to a small depression, UTM point K. At UTM point K the line turns due east for approximately 300 meters roughly paralleling a ridge line before turning north at UTM point L. Here the boundary runs north northeast to the banks of White Oak Creek, UTM point M the boundary follows the creek back to UTM point A (see map 13).

NPS Form 10-900-a
1024-0018
(8-86)

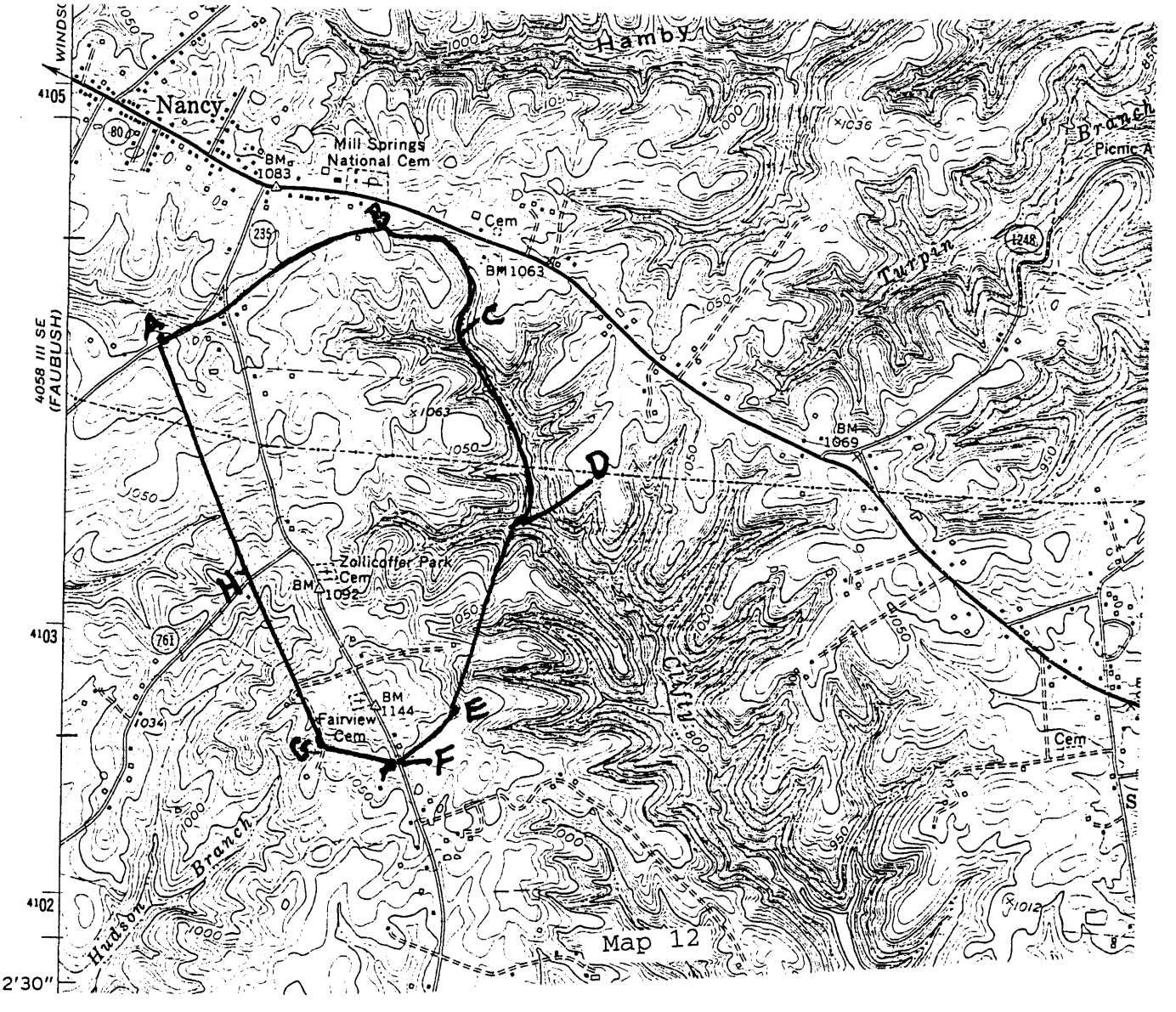
OMB Approval No.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

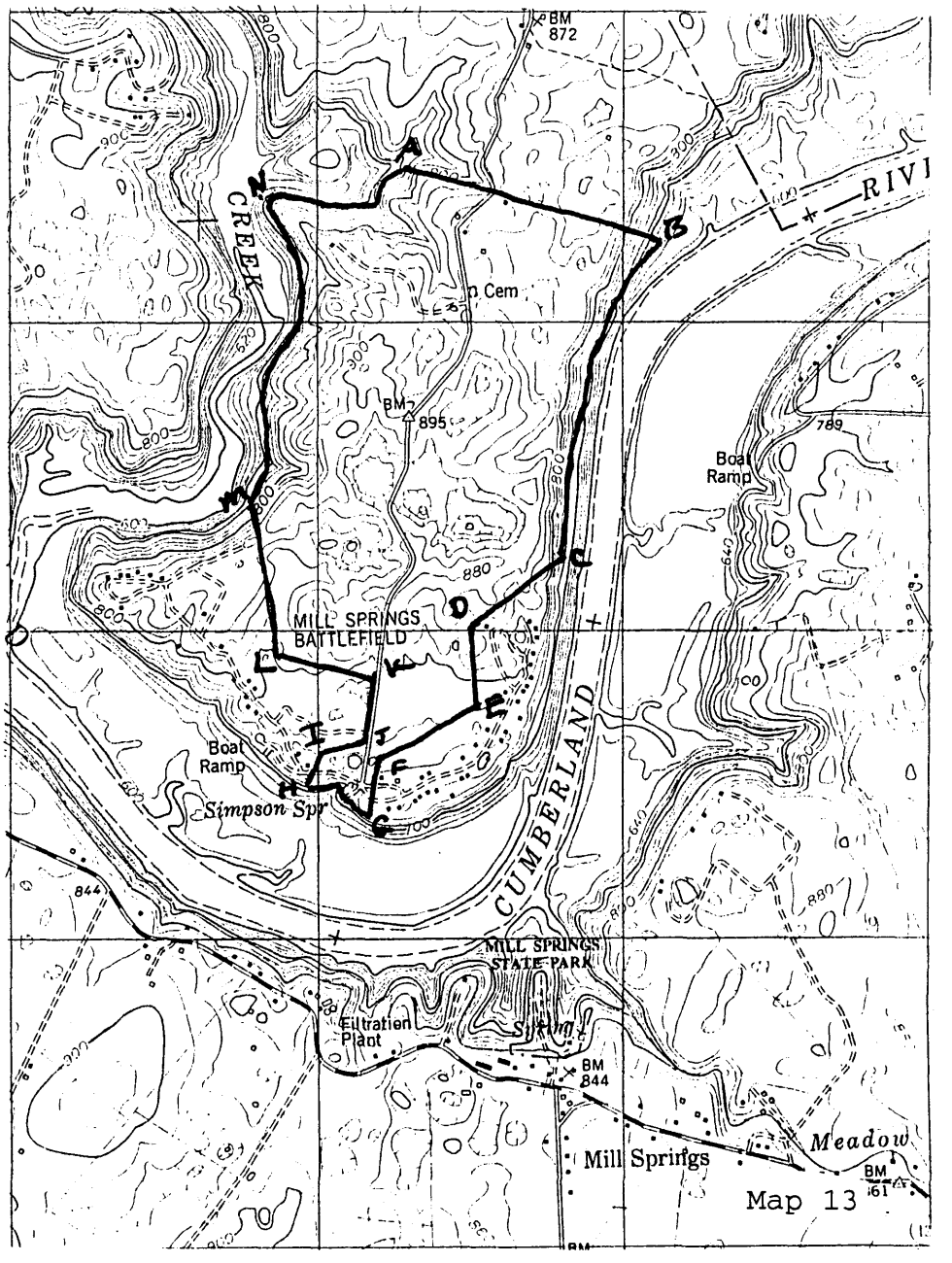
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET **Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas**

Section number ___10_

Pulaski and Wayne Counties,
Kentucky Page # 3



Map 12


BM 872
CREEK
Cem
BM 895
Boat Ramp
MILL SPRINGS BATTLEFIELD
CUMBERLAND
Boat Ramp
Simpson Spr
MILL SPRINGS STATE PARK
Filtration Plant
BM 844
Mill Springs
Meadow
BM 161
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
I
J
K
L
M
N

Map 13

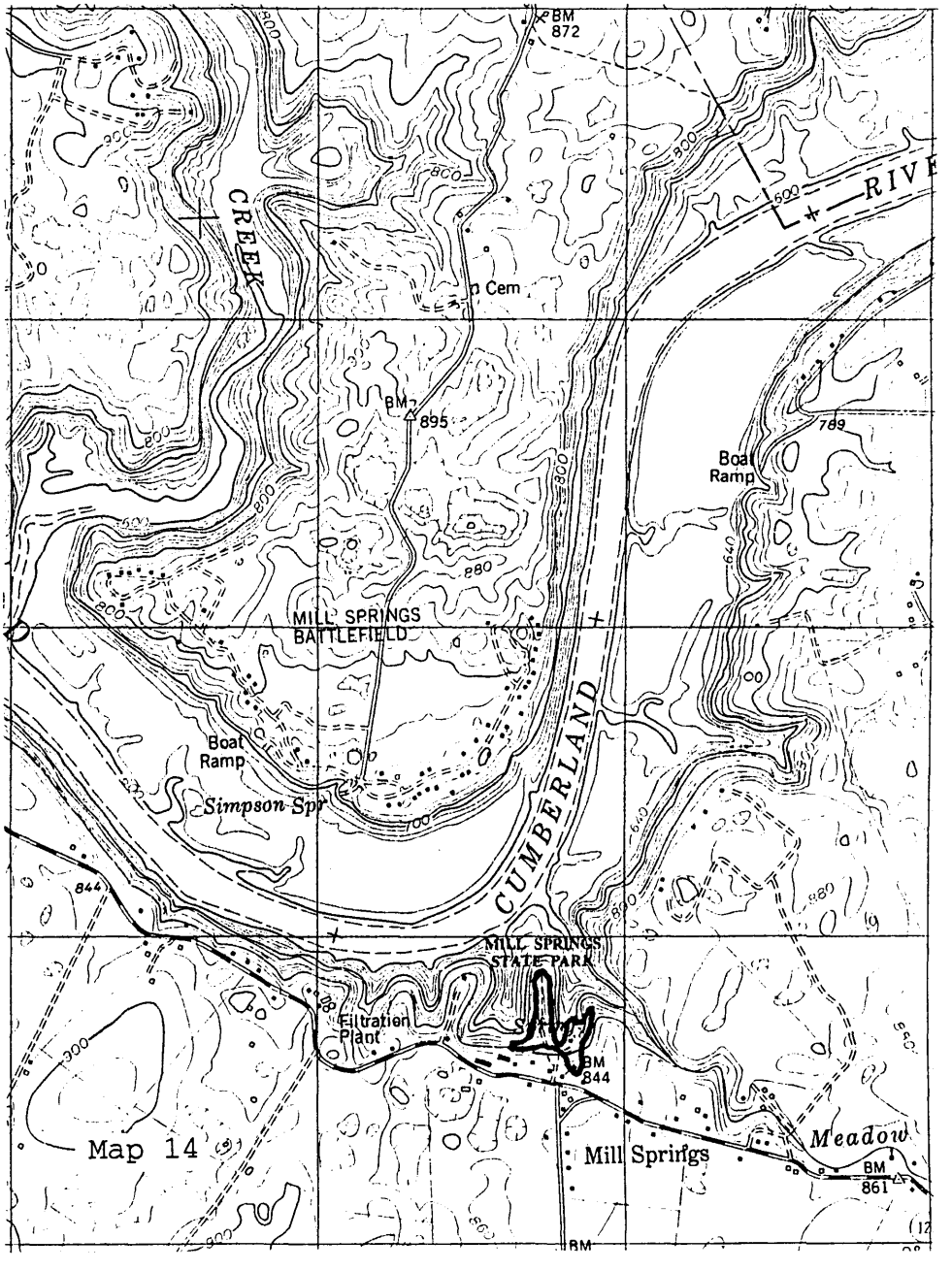
III. FORTIFIED FERRY LANDING/MILL SITE

The area included in the boundary at the fortified ferry landing/mill site is the 5.3 acre Corps of Engineers park which is already on the National Register, Mill Springs Mill Site, WN-2, plus an additional 2 acres to include the Brown-Lanier House Wn-24. This house is locally believed to have been Zollicoffer's headquarters when his army was at Mill Springs (see map 14).

JUSTIFICATION

I. The Battlefield

The battle was fought in three discrete locations within an area of approximately 320 acres. The battlefield area is defined generally by SR 235 on the east and a crescent formed by Clifty Creek on the west, to the north by US 80 and to the south by Fairview Cemetery (see above). The battlefield, while less wooded today than in January of 1862, retains much of its rural character. In 1862 Logan's Crossroads was a quiet farming community west of Somerset. The historic maps of the battle show less than ten buildings in the area. Today there are no extant structures from the Civil War within the boundary of the nomination. In fact there are some 29 noncontributing structures within the battlefield area. Yet, none of these structures, with the exceptions of the two small oil wells and adjacent oil storage tanks, detracts seriously from the battlefield's integrity of setting, feeling or location. Neither the wells nor the tanks can be readily seen from the road and one well is mixed in with a complex of farm-related out buildings. Nancy, Kentucky today remains a farming community. Most of the noncontributing structures are farmhouses, barns and silos. Part of the battlefield is now a commercial orchard, other parts are in pasture, corn and tobacco and there is one active cemetery also located in the area.


BM
872
CREEK
Cem
BM
895
Boat
Ramp
MILL SPRINGS
BATTLEFIELD
Boat
Ramp
Simpson Spr
CUMBERLAND
MILL SPRINGS
STATE PARK
Filtration
Plant
BM
844
Mill Springs
Meadow
BM
861
Map 14

The 29 noncontributing features do not pose a problem to the battlefield's integrity. National Register Bulletin 40: Evaluating and Documenting America's Historic Battlefields specifically refers to this issue on page 11:

> "If the type of noncontributing property reflects a continuing later development of traditional land use, then the impact of these properties may not be as great as that of modern properties that do not reflect the historic use of the land. For example, in battlefields located in rural or agricultural areas, the presence of farm related buildings dating from outside of the Period of Significance generally will not destroy the battlefield's integrity. It is important that the land retain it rural or agricultural identity in order for it to convey its Period of Significance."

Nancy, Kentucky and the nominated land are in every sense a rural farming community as they were in 1862. SR 235 follows the route of the historic Mill Springs Road, with some of the curves NPS taken out. Kinney's Ferry Road now known Roberts Port Road which forks off to the west of SR 235 still retains its historic path.

In addition to the structures on the landscape, SR 761, which forks off SR 235 just North of Zollicoffer Park, did not exist at the time of the battle. It runs down the ridge that the Union Army would have occupied during the second phase of the battle. The road is an intrusion, yet the construction of the road bed generally follows the natural ridge, consequently the historic landscape is still basically intact and the battlefield's integrity is not adversely compromised.

II. The Fortified Encampment

The fortified encampment is the key to understanding the Battle of Mill Springs. This area is a peninsula formed by a bend in the Cumberland River and White Oak Creek, which flows into the Cumberland. The area sometimes called "Zollicoffer's Den" was fortified and occupied by the Confederate troops during the winter

of 1861/62 and it is essential to understanding why and how the battle occurred. All of this area except the extreme southern end, retains excellent integrity of setting, feeling, association and location. Development of seasonal lake front housing and indeed the creation of Lake Cumberland has destroyed the integrity of the southern most portion of the area. The presence of the seasonal housing accounts for the disjointed southern boundary of the encampment area. The remaining area is much like the battlefield area in that it retains its rural character. The fortified encampment area is mostly in forested with some tobacco. There are no above ground remains of the earthworks constructed by the Confederate Army nor any other extant structures from the period of significance. There are five noncontributing resources in the area two of these are barns, one is a ruined farmhouse, a farmhouse and a cemetery.

Between November 1861 and January 1862 over 4,000 men lived at Beech Grove consequently, the fortified encampment nomination area includes more than Moulden's Hill and the general area of the fortifications. This is due in part to the archaeological potential of the site which served as an base of operations for Confederate troops for several months. While the Battle of Mill Springs Historical Areas site is not being nominated under Criterion D, the fact that soldiers spent several months in the area coupled with the lack of disturbance at the site would indicate that there is an archaeological potential. Beech Grove is a significant early war site and could add valuable information to our understanding of the Civil War soldiers life. Long term occupation by military forces should have left an archaeological footprint behind, as we do not know the exact location of any of the features, and cannot without an archaeological investigation we include the area south of the fortifications in the nomination. Again if the Confederates had not been at Beech Grove the battle of Mill Springs may well have not occurred.

III. FORTIFIED FERRY LANDING/MILL SITE

This site should be included in the nominated area as it was the area where the Confederate Army initially set up camp. This area

was fortified, indeed a portion of the fortification remains on the Corps park property. It was also the point to which the Confederate Army retreated following its defeat at the battle in Pulaski County. A portion of the old ferry landing road is still quite visible to the east of the mill site and the Brown-Lanier House still stand west of the mill. The mill, the restrooms, and the giftshop would not contribute to the nomination. However, the mill is built on the site of a mill that was there at the time of the battle and subsequent retreat. The historic character of the area as a mill/ferry land site remains and is interpreted by the Corps of Engineers as such.

UTM REFERENCES:

Battlefield (Area 1, Delmer, KY Quad)

A. 16/700360/4104040
B. 16/701140/4104480
C. 16/701520/4104020
D. 16/701770/4103400
E. 16/701520/4102700
F. 16/701300/4102520
G. 16/701020/4102550
H. 16/700720/4103120

Fortified Ferry Landing/Mill Site (Area 3, Mill Springs Quad)

A. 16/697700/4089870
B. 16/697770/4089630
C. 16/697860/4089760
D. 16/697800/4089540
E. 16/697620/4089600

Fortified Encampment (Area 2, Mill Springs Quad)

A. 16/697290/4092490
B. 16/698040/4092230
C. 16/697790/4091200
D. 16/697490/4091020
E. 16/697510/4090730
F. 16/697180/4090580
G. 16/697150/4090390
H. 16/696940/4090480
I. 16/696980/4090595
J. 16/697140/4090600
K. 16/697180/4090840
L. 16/696870/4090900
M. 16/696750/4091380

Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas
Name of Property

Pulaski & Wayne Cos., Kentucky
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- [x] private
- [x] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [x] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- [ ] building(s)
- [x] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	44	buildings
3	1	sites
1	6	structures
	2	objects
5	53	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

1

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Battlefield

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Agricultural Field
Graves/Burials

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation limestone
walls weatherboard
roof asphalt shingles
other ~~road bed is limestone~~

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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The Battle of Mill Springs Areas are the battlefield, the fortified encampment, and the fortified ferry landing/mill site. These three areas are in two counties on two quad maps. The battlefield is located in Pulaski County approximate 1.5 to 2 miles south of Nancy, generally between SR 235 and Clifty Creek, extending as far south as Fairview Cemetery. The fortified encampment is approximately nine miles south of the Zollicoffer Park in Wayne County. The centerpoint of this area is Benchmark 895 which is on the Old Mill Springs Road about two miles south of the community of Trimble, Kentucky, locally and historically this area is known as Beech Grove. The fortified ferry landing/mill site is located south of Beech Grove on the south bank of Lake Cumberland in the town of Mill Springs in Wayne County. It is north of SR 1275 and approximately 8 miles north of Monticello, the county seat of Wayne County. The portion of the nominated area is confined to 7.3 acres, all but two acres is within the limits of the Corps of Engineers Park, the other two acres, which includes the Brown-Lanier House (Wn-24), is just south of the Corps of Engineer property.

The **Battle of Mill Springs Historic Areas** consists of three related sites with integrity of association: the battlefield (PU-131) in Nancy, Kentucky and the two Confederate fortifications, in Beech Grove (WN-73) on the north side of Lake Cumberland and those in Mill Springs (WN-2 and 24) on the opposite bank. These sites have excellent integrity of setting, feeling, association and location. The nominated areas, approximately 687.3 acres, are located in two counties at three discontiguious locations. The three areas include: the battlefield in Pulaski County, the fortified encampment at Beech Grove in Wayne County and the fortified ferry landing/mill site at Mill Springs also in Wayne County.

The Battle of Mill Springs, fought on January 19, 1862, began at midnight in Beech Grove in Wayne County, Kentucky. Confederate soldiers marched nine miles from that encampment to a semi-wooded area about a mile south of present day Nancy, Kentucky. Here in the morning hours of January 19, the first decisive battle for Kentucky was fought. A beaten Confederate Army retreated back to its fortifications at Beech Grove, leaving General Felix Zollicoffer and over 100 other Confederate soldiers dead on the field. The rebels were pursued in their flight by the Federal forces. The Union Army harassed the Confederates, within the fortifications, with an artillery barrage. During the night tired, hungry Confederate troops were ferried across the Cumberland River to Mill Springs abandoning all of their livestock, artillery, wagons, and even their wounded.

I. The Battlefield

The Battle of Mill Springs was fought in three discrete locations within the overall boundary of the battlefield. The first battle locus is generally east of SR 235 and west of Clifty Creek where the Union Army formed along an old road approximately 300 meters south of the fork of the Mill Springs Road (SR 235) and Kinney's Ferry Road (Roberts Port Road). The two armies clashed along a fairly broad ridge that extends just east of the Mill Springs Road (SR 235) and south of SR 761 bound on the west by Clifty Creek. During this initial fighting Confederate General Zollicoffer was killed. This caused panic and the Confederate troops withdrew (see map 1).

The "battlefield" area retains a high degree of integrity in terms of modern intrusions onto the landscape. In 1862 old US 80 was known as the Somerset Road and at or near the point where Kinney's Ferry Road (SR 235/Roberts Port Road) intersects was the settlement of Logan's Crossroads. Today, Logan's Crossroads has become the town of Nancy that

stretches from the intersection SR 235/Roberts Port Road intersection east for about a mile and a half along old US 80 and SR 196.

Maps of the battle indicate that in 1862 there were four houses in the village. Logan's Crossroads at the time of the battle was merely a hamlet, in fact at the time of the battle, Somerset, the largest town in the county had a population of some 662. Most of the county was rural and agricultural in nature. The land adjacent to Logan's Crossroads was cleared, south of the village the land remained forested. North and west of the intersection of "the old road" and the Mill Springs Road, the battle map indicates a cleared field. This clearing stretched north from the aforementioned intersection just north of a jog in "the old road," the clearing continued west to the ravine formed by Clifty Creek. The cleared land picked up again on the west side of Clifty Creek and continues to the south on in a fairly broad, if uneven band on either side of the Mill Springs Road to the present day location of Fairview Cemetery (see maps 10 and 12).

Today the field use patterns have changed, yet the overall flavor of the landscape as an agricultural area has remained. In January of 1862 the settlement of Logan's Crossroads was in its infancy, consequently the majority of the land had not been cleared for farming. Yet in the most settled portion of the area, nearest the intersection of the Somerset Road and Kinney's Ferry Road, it had been largely cleared at the time of the battle. As time passed and the population grew, more land was cleared so that more of the land could be put into agriculture. The present condition of the land underscores that the area has been and continues to be used for agricultural purposes.

The northern most portion of the battlefield is east of SR 235 and north of a dashed line that appears on the Delmer quad (see map 12), that extends just south of a finger of Clifty Creek is mostly utilized as a commercial orchard. The remainder of the battlefield area is utilized as pasture or for planting corn or tobacco. Except for the wooded ridges and the ravines caused by Clifty Creek the area is cleared for some type of agricultural activity. Even though the field pattern has changed the contours of the landscape, that caused the battle to be fought as it was remain intact, consequently the area retains a very high degree of integrity of feeling, setting, association and location.

Only the 320 acre site is considered contributing, there are no contributing extant building or structure. There are 32 (see map 15) noncontributing resources in this area. These are mostly one story frame or brick ranch style houses that date from the 1920's to the 1980's. In addition there are farms buildings, included stock, tobacco

and multi-use barns, there are also silos, both modern metal and the older concrete varieties. SR 761, the Fairview Cemetery, and the monuments in Zollicoffer Park are also non-contributing as they were constructed after the battle. A modest oil boom has resulted oil wells and storage tanks being located in the area. These structures offer the only major distraction from the integrity of the battlefield.

The Confederate retreat and subsequent counter-attack brought about the second battle locale. The Confederates had withdrawn into the draw formed by Clifty Creek west of Zollicoffer Park. Once reformed the Confederate troops attacked. They struck a Union force drawn up in line along a ridge adjacent to SR 761 and running approximately 200 meters west of the intersection of SR 761 and SR 235. The Confederate attack failed when a Union regiment slammed into its eastern flank, which was anchored approximately at benchmark 1092. At this point most of the Confederate Army began to rush for the entrenchments at Beech Grove (see map 2).

The final phase of the conflict in the battlefield location began at this point. With the bulk of the Confederate Army retreating toward Beech Grove the Confederate reserve formed a line approximately 110 meters south of an unnamed two track road approximately 300 meters south of Zollicoffer Park. The Confederate line formed parallel to the two track road along the
ridge occupied by Fairview Cemetery and east of present day SR235. This rear guard action held the Union Army at bay long enough for the Confederate army to reach Beech Grove unmolested. At this point the first phase of the battle ended (see map 3).

II. The Fortified Encampment

The final offensive action of the Battle of Mill Springs occurred at Beech Grove, in Wayne County, approximately nine miles from the battlefield in Pulaski County. The area between the battlefield and the encampment is not included in the nomination because neither on the Confederate advance nor retreat were contested. Again NR Bulletin 40 addresses this issue on page 12: "Generally boundaries should not be drawn to include the portion of the route taken to the battlefield where there was no encounters." The area known as Beech Grove is a peninsular formed by a bend in the Cumberland River and White Oak Creek.

In the fall and winter of 1861 the Confederate troops crossed the Cumberland River and fortified a narrow neck of land between White Oak Creek and the Cumberland River. Following the battle near Logan's Crossroads (Nancy, Kentucky) the Confederate troops returned to the

relatively safe confines of the fortifications. General George Thomas's Union Army, after a respite, followed the retreating Confederate's and deployed its artillery on "Moulden's Hill" and fired upon the Southerners. "Moulden's Hill" is a narrow ridge approximately 600 meters North of benchmark 895. From this location, Thomas's artillery harassed the Confederate troops and even shelled the transport boat as it ferried fleeing troops across the river. This was the last offensive action taken as part of the Mill Springs campaign (see map 4).

The fortified encampment is 360 acres site located in Wayne County on a narrow neck of land formed by Lake Cumberland on the east and south and White Oak Creek on the west and on the north by an 800 meter arbitrary line running from the eastern most bend in White Oak Creek west to the shore of Lake Cumberland (see map 13).

The OR map of the fortified encampment is indefinite as the ground cover of the area, but the area was probably mostly wooded as the contemporary map only indicates 3 civilian houses scattered about the perimeter of the encampment. However, if standard military practice were followed, 1500 feet of the area in front of the fortifications would have been cleared for to enable to defenders to have a good field of fire. It is also conceivable that the troops would have cut trees for wood to keep them warm that winter and as fuel for their cook fires. The Mill Springs Road, ran the length of the peninsular. At the edge of the peninsular it descended the river bluff down onto the flood plain and turned easterly hugging the bluff line until it was opposite the Mill Springs Road on the south bank of the Cumberland River. Here the road made a "hair pin" turn south away from the bluff and ran south across the flood plain to the edge of the river a ferry took passengers and goods from here to Mill Springs on the south side of the river.

The OR map also indicates that the Confederate forces built a line of fortifications across the narrow neck in the northern portion of the peninsular. This line of works was east and west of the Mill Springs Road. It is show along a ridge line with terminuses that command the river and White Oak Creek. South of the main line a gun emplacement was constructed that straddles the Mill Springs Road and another that was constructed on the extreme southwestern portion of the peninsular overlooking White Oak Creek. Just south of this gun emplacement in the flood plain at the confluence of White Oak Creek and the Cumberland River another line of works was constructed. These works stretched north from the confluence northward to the bluff line and a road ran west below the bluff line connecting the works to the Mill Springs Road.

The encampment retains a high degree of integrity, except along the shoreline on the southern end of the area. The creation of Lake Cumberland destroyed the Confederate works at the confluence of the creek and the river, this also wiped out the historic flood plain and the roads that were constructed along it. Due to the construction of the lake a proliferation of vacation houses have been built along the southern shoreline. Because of this the integrity of this portion of the sites has been severely compromised and consequently it was not included in the nominated area (see map 16).

The nominated area is mostly wooded. Several of the land owners in this area have planted trees and are utilizing their lands as a tree farms. These farms are in their infancy, it is unlikely that any of these trees will be harvested in the current owners lifetimes. Much of the remaining acreage is also forested. There are several large meadows that are cut for hay and a very small amount of tobacco is also planted here. Except for the changes in the shoreline this area remains much as it would have appeared in 1862. There are no extant structures or sites in the nominated area, however an archaeological investigation would help identify the earthworks that were constructed by the Confederate troops in the winter of 1861-62. Within the nominated area there are 14 noncontributing resources. There are 10 houses and the remaining four buildings are barns or garages (see map 16).

III. FORTIFIED FERRY LANDING/MILL SITE

In the fall of 1861 Confederate General Albert Sidney Johnston ordered Zollicoffer to move his army from Cumberland Ford to Mill Springs "in order to observe the enemy." Mill Springs was chosen as the initial base of Confederate operations because it was in an agriculturally rich area and also due to its proximity to the Cumberland River. The Mill Springs Road that has been a prominent feature in the other two locales terminated here. A ferry crossed the river and docked below the mill to bring people and goods to Mill Springs. Zollicoffer fortified a portion of this area before crossing the river and setting up his headquarters at Beech Grove (see map 5).

In the winter of 1861-62 Mill Springs was a small mill village approximately 8 miles north of the county seat at Monticello. During the Civil War the three most important buildings in Mill Spring were the mill, the Brown-Lainer House (Wn-24) and the West-Metcalf House (Wn-1). This small hamlet served the nearby areas milling and to some extent

transportation needs. No extant map of the area exists for the period of the battle that gives a detailed locations of the structures that were in existence when the Confederates occupied the town. The nominated area 7.3 acres includes the 5.3 acres Corps of Engineers Park and a two acre tract which includes the Brown-Lainer House (Wn-24). As show on Map 5, there was a road that led from the ferry landing up to Mill Springs and the area below the mill was fortified.
Today the ferry landing and the lower portion of the road is gone due to the creation of Lake Cumberland. There is, however, a segment of the old ferry road extant that is approximately 200 meters long running from the lake to a level ridge just below the present day parking lot for the park. This road remanet is approximately 10 meters wide composed of the limestone bedrock that under lies this portion of Wayne County. Portions of the road are heavily rutted from the vehicles that traversed it in the past. Approximately 40 meters from northern most boundary of the park is a small extant earthwork running east-west approximately 10 meters in length. This earthwork approximately 1.5 meters high is all that remains of a once extensive fortification network that was located in this area. The road is contributing, the earthwork is too small of a fragment to be considered contributing. The only other contributing element a the locus is the Brown-Lanier House (Wn-24). The house was constructed between 1856 and 1860, it is a two story frame side passage structure with a two story ell. The house has two story porches on the south west faces. It has some gothic revival details as well as mill work along the top of the porches in addition there are "fish scale" trim between the upper and lower bays in the same line as the second floor porch and along the gable line on the northern face of the house.

The present mill was constructed in 1870 near the site of the antebellum mill. The Corps of Engineers have constructed a gift shop, restrooms, and a shed that covers a cannon that overlooks the earthwork remanet, which is also noncontributing. These elements are noncontributing. (see map 16)

Legend to Map 15

1) Farmstead in parcel 18 consisting of a frame twentieth century farm house and six agricultural outbuildings - (7 total buildings).

2) Brick late twentieth century house and a metal garage - (two buildings).

3) One late twentieth century brick house and shed outbuilding - (one building and one structure).

4) Fairview Cemetery and SR 761 - (one site and one structure).

5) One late twentieth century concrete block commercial building - (one building).

6) One frame twentieth century house - (one building)

7) One frame early twentieth/late nineteenth century farm house and a barn - (two buildings).

8) One frame twentieth century farm house - (one building).

9) one twentieth century farm house and garage - (two buildings).

10) one multi-use wood barn - (one building).

11) Two granite monuments - (two objects)

12) one house trailer - (one building).

13) one brick late twentieth century house - (one building).

14) Farmstead, one brick late twentieth century house and five agricultural outbuildings, two oil storage tanks - (six buildings two structures)

Total 26 non-contributing buildings
4 non-contributing structures
1 non-contributing sites
2 non-contributing objects

Legend to Map 16

15) Frame late nineteenth century farm house vacant - (one building, non-contributing)
16) Modern frame barn - (one building, non-contributing)
17) Late twentieth century frame house - (one building, non-contributing)
18) Twentieth century barn and outbuilding - (two buildings, non-contributing)
19) Twentieth century brick house - (one building, non-contributing)
20) Seven twentieth century frame houses one metal garage - (eight buildings, non-contributing)
21) Restroom facilities - (one building, non-contributing)
22) Mill and gift shop - (two buildings, non-contributing)
23) Shed and earthwork remnant - (two structures, non-contributing)
B) The fortified encampment - (one site, contributing)
C) The fortified ferry landing/mill site - (one site, contributing)
D) The road remnant - (one structure, contributing)
E) The Brown-Lanier House - (one building, contributing)

Total
18 non-contributing buildings
2 non-contributing structures
2 contributing sites
1 contributing structure
1 contribuing building

For All Photos

Photographer: Joseph E. Brent
Negative Location: Kentucky Heritage Council
300 Washington Street, Frankfort, Ky.
Date Taken: January 19, 1992

Photo Nos. & View or Elevation

1 - 8. Panorama of general battlefield area looking south from National Cemetery, panning from east to west. Note houses and farm out buildings, these are typical of noncontributing structures in the nominated area.

9 - 16. Panorama of general battlefield area looking north from "Last Stand Hill," panning from west to east, again note noncontributing structures and cemetery.

17. Remnant of Old Mill Springs Road as it runs down to the Lake Cumberland from the Beech Grove area looking north.

18. Suspected location of Confederate fortifications at Beech Grove, looking west.

19. The Mill Springs Ferry Road at the Corps of Engineers Park in Mill Springs, Kentucky looking north.

20. The Mill Springs Mill at the Corps of Engineers Park in Mill Springs, Kentucky looking generally south.