The decisive battle of Nashville
MAP OF THE BATTLEFIELD of NASHVILLE

1. Charlotte Pike
2. Harding Pike (West End Avenue)
3. Woodmont Blvd.
4. (Present) Harding Place
5. Granny White Pike (Also 12th Ave. South)
6. 
7. (Present) Battery Lane
8. 
9. 

M—Historical marker, noting other key sites in the Decisive Battle of Nashville.
Key Sites in the Civil War's

There were many key sites and numerous skirmishes which played a major role in the decisive battle of Nashville. Listed below are nine of these noted Civil War sites. The descriptions are keyed to the map at left for easy reference. Other major points are noted on the map. Permanent historical markers are located at these sites. Upon each is information of what took place.


2. FEDERAL DEFENSES (started in 1862). Hill to west was key point in permanent Federal defenses, which extended to the river on both sides of town. Artillery was emplaced here from time to time.

3. INTERIOR DEFENSES (Dec. 2-15, 1864). Federal interior defense lines ran southwest seven miles to Harding Pike. First garrisoned by Wood's IV Corps, it was occupied December 15 by Donaldson's Division of Quartermaster employees. Part of the breastworks can be seen on the Vanderbilt University campus about 300 yards to the west.

4. CONFEDERATE SALIENT (Dec. 15, 1864). Stewart's Confederate Corps held this salient of the left of Hood's defenses. A thin infantry line ran south behind a stone wall on the east side of the pike. Ector's Brigade on Harding Pike was routed, Stewart's position was eventually flanked and he withdrew southwest toward Granny White Pike.
“Decisive Battle of Nashville”

5 SMITH’S ASSAULT (Dec. 16, 1864). The Federal XVI Corps attacked southward from here. After violent artillery bombardment, McArthur’s Division took the hill to the west, precipitating the rout of Hood’s Army. The hill is named for Col. W. M. Shy, 20th Tennessee Infantry, who was killed in its desperate defense.

6 FEDERAL FORTS (Dec. 15, 1864). The Federal defense line ran NE and SW from here. Fort Casino (site of present reservoir) was on hill to west; Fort Negley to NE. Garrisoned Dec. 2 by Schofield’s XXIII Corps, it was occupied by Cruft’s Provisional Division when Battle of Nashville began. Battle opened on morning of Dec. 15 with firing of big guns from Fort Negley.

7 LEE’S POSITION (Dec. 15, 1864). Stephen D. Lee’s Corps, Army of Tennessee, bestrode highway and railroad. Cheatham’s Corps held right of the line which ran NE two miles to Rains’ Hill. After Confederate left broke in afternoon, Lee’s forces fell back to high ground one and a half miles south.

8 CONFEDERATE DEFENSES (Dec. 16, 1864). Lee’s Corps held right flank of line on second day of battle, linked with Stewart to the west. Here line extended east, then south around Peach Orchard Hill. Violent attacks by Steedman’s brigades were bloodily repulsed, and Lee did not order withdrawal until left and center of Confederate line had collapsed.

9 CHEATHAM’S LINE (Dec. 15, 1864). Holding a line running NE and SW, and with its right on the old NC&StL Railway at Rains’ Cut, Cheatham’s Confederate Corps moved to the support of Stewart’s left late in the afternoon. Collapse of left wing forced Cheatham’s withdrawal southward during the night.
HOW TO GET THERE . . .

Using the State Capitol Building, which was completed six years before the Civil War started and is located between Sixth and Seventh Avenues facing Charlotte Avenue on the south, as an anchor point, you may reach the Civil War sites described on the preceding page if you will:

1. Go west on Charlotte Avenue, five miles to Richland Creek; just west of Richland Creek, near White Bridge Road is the marker.

2. Go Broad Street to 16th then West End Avenue to Centennial Park; the marker is on the Parthenon parking lot.

3. Go Broad Street to 21st Avenue, then south on 21st to entrance of Vanderbilt University, where the marker is located.

4. Go Broad Street to 21st Avenue, south on 21st (which is also Hillsboro Road) about five miles to Hampton Avenue-Hillsboro Road intersection, where the marker is located.

5. Go south on 12th Avenue, which becomes Granny White Pike, about six miles to Battery Lane-Granny White intersection, which is about 150 yards south of Burton School, where the marker is located.

6. Go Eighth Avenue South two and one-half miles to City Reservoir; marker is located on south slope of the hill on which the Reservoir is located.

7. Go south on Eighth Avenue (which becomes Franklin Pike) about five miles to Thompson Lane; the marker is located on the right of Franklin Pike at the Thompson Lane junction.

8. Go south on Eighth Avenue and Franklin Pike for about six miles; marker is just north of Elysian Fields Road.

9. Go south on Fourth Avenue for about four miles to Peachtree Street; marker is at intersection of Peachtree and Fourth Avenue.

While in Nashville, you are extended a most cordial invitation to visit our Chamber of Commerce at 310 Union Street. The Nashville Chamber, now housed in a very modern four-storyed structure, was formed fourteen years before the Civil War started. A warm welcome awaits you there.
NASHVILLE
Where Tradition and Progress Meet

On Christmas Day in 1779, James Robertson and a hardy band of pioneers established Nashville's first settlement on the west bank of the Cumberland River.

Today, Nashville is a vibrant city with a metropolitan population of 400,000. She serves a retail trade area of 1,441,500 people. Her wholesale trade population exceeds 2,568,100.

Nashville's Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1847 when the city's population was only 9,190. Her citizens of that day, however, recognized the vital need for cooperative effort if business and commerce were to be advanced. The Chamber has served—and continues to serve—that progressive purpose.

While Nashville is progressive in all aspects of modern life—commercial, industrial, professional, educational and religious—her historical background is virtually unexcelled. So while in this area be sure to see such sights as:

* The Hermitage—Home of Andrew Jackson.
* Fort Nashborough—First settlement.
* Parthenon—Replica of the Greek Temple.
* Belle Meade Mansion—Queen of ante-bellum Southern estates.
* Historic City Cemetery

There are dozens of other structures and places to visit. Descriptive literature may be obtained for the asking at the Chamber of Commerce, 310 Union St.

Our Thanks

Sketches of key skirmishes appearing in this pamphlet are taken from the book, "The Decisive Battle of Nashville," by Stanley F. Horn, published by the Louisiana State University Press.

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NASHVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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