



NASHVILLE AND THE CIVIL WAR

Suggested Readings and Sources

Primary Sources on the Web

Annals of the Army of the Cumberland: Comprising Biographies, Descriptions of Departments, Accounts of Expeditions, Skirmishes, and Battles.

John Fitch published this comprehensive work in 1864 with vivid descriptions of Nashville and Fort Negley. A PDF is available online for download.

<http://books.google.com>

Born in Slavery: Slave Narratives from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1938

African American accounts of occupied Nashville are rare. During the 1930s, the Works Progress Administration, a Federal New Deal initiative, conducted oral interviews of former slaves. This online collection, hosted by the Library of Congress, consists of the original interviews assembled, transcribed and microfilmed in 1941 as the seventeen-volume *Slave Narratives: A Folk History of Slavery in the United States from Interviews with Former Slaves*. The collection also includes more than 200 photographs from the Prints and Photographs Division. After accessing this site, search "Nashville" to find local accounts. Patsy Hyde's account mentions Fort Negley.

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/snhome.html>

The Freedmen's Bureau Online

A large number of slave and free African Americans fled to Nashville during the Union occupation. The Union Army impressed many to build fortifications around the city and some eventually served in United States Colored Troop regiments. The Freedmen's Bureau, created by the U.S. government in 1865, documented many of the challenges they faced following the war. After accessing this site, click on "Tennessee" to find accounts related to Davidson County and Nashville.

<http://www.freedmensbureau.com/>

Hospital Pencillings; Being a Diary While in Jefferson General Hospital, Jeffersonville, Ind., and Others at Nashville Tennessee as a Matron and Visitor

In 1866, Elvira J. Powers, a civilian aid worker from Massachusetts, published her diary kept during her travels in 1864 and 1865. A PDF is available online for download.

<http://books.google.com>

The Library of Congress: Civil War Nashville Images

The Library of Congress website contains a number of images of Civil War Nashville that may be downloaded free, including the few known photographs of the Battle of Nashville. After accessing this site, search "Civil War Nashville" to locate the images.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/catalog.html>

Robert R. Muntz Library, The University of Texas at Tyler

This comprehensive site includes transcribed articles from a variety of period newspapers including *Nashville Daily Union* and *Nashville Dispatch*.

http://www.utt Tyler.edu/vbetts/newspaper_titles.htm

Tennessee Civil War Sourcebook

This site contains Union, Confederate and civilian primary documents. Excerpts from the diary of John Hill Ferguson illustrate the experiences of a Union soldier garrisoned at Fort Negley.

<http://www.tennessee.civilwarsourcebook.com/>

The Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War

The Valley of the Shadow project website, hosted by the University of Virginia, contains some letters written by Union soldiers while stationed in Nashville. After accessing this site, enter the "War Years" section and search "Letters and Diaries" using the term "Nashville." The Henry M. Erisman letters are especially useful.

<http://valley.vcdh.virginia.edu/>

The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies

In 1863, Union General-in-Chief Henry Wager Halleck recommended to the Committee on Military Affairs the collection and publication of official documents and reports on all Civil War operations. On May 20, 1864,



President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill into law "to provide for the printing of the official reports of the armies of the United States." The Official Records were compiled in 127 volumes, plus a *General Index* and accompanying *Atlas*. The *eHistory* website offers the Official Records in a searchable format.

<http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/sources/records/>

Suggested Readings

- Berlin, Ira, Joseph P. Reidy, Julie Saville, Thavolia Glymph and Leslie S. Rowland, eds. *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867: The Wartime Genesis of Free Labor: The Lower South, Vol. 3*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.
- Durham, Walter T. *Reluctant Partners: Nashville and the Union, July 1, 1863 to June 30, 1865*. Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society.
- Durham, Walter T. *Nashville: the Occupied City, The First Seventeen Months, February 16, 1862 to June 30, 1863*. Nashville: Tennessee Historical Society, 1985.
- Eggleston, Larry G. *Women in the Civil War: Extraordinary Stories of Soldiers, Spies, Nurses, Doctors, Crusaders, and Others*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland and Company, Inc. Publishers, 2003.
- Field, Ron and Peter Dennis, illustrator. *American Civil War Fortifications: Land and Field Fortifications*. Oxford: Osprey, 2005.
- Hale, Will Thomas and Dixon L. Merritt. *A History of Tennessee and Tennesseans, Vol. 3*. Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1913, 668.
- Hoobler, James A. *Cities Under the Gun: Images of Occupied Nashville and Chattanooga*. Nashville: Rutledge Hill Press, 1986.
- Horn, Stanley F. *The Decisive Battle of Nashville*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1957.
- Lindsley, John Berrien, M.D. D.D., ed. *The Military Annals of Tennessee: Confederate, First Series: Embracing a Review of Military Operations, with Regimental Histories and Memorial Rolls, Compiled from Original and Official Sources*. Spartanburg, S.C.: Reprint Co., 1974 [1886].
- Logsdon, David R., ed. *Eyewitnesses at the Battle of Nashville*. Nashville: Kettle Mills Press, 2004.
- Lovett, Bobby L. *The African-American History of Nashville, Tennessee, 1780-1930: Elites and Dilemmas*. Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 1999.
- McDonough, James Lee. *Nashville: The Western Confederacy's Final Gamble*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2004.
- Maggie!: Maggie Lindsley's Journal, Nashville, Tennessee, 1864, Washington, D.C., 1865*. Southbury, Conn.: M.D. Mackenzie, 1977.
- Maslowski, Peter. *Treason Must be Made Odious: Military Occupation and Wartime Reconstruction in Nashville*. Millwood, NY: KTO Press, 1978.
- Massey, Mary Elizabeth. *Refugee Life in the Confederacy*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1964.
- Massey, Ross. *Nashville Battlefield Guide*. Nashville: Tenth Amendment Publishing, 2007.
- Smith, John David, ed. *Black Soldiers in Blue: African American Troops in the Civil War Era*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2002.
- Sword, Wiley. *The Confederacy's Last Hurrah: Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville*. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1993.
- Zimmerman, Mark. *Guide to Civil War Nashville*. Nashville: Lithographics, Inc., 2004.