

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, Civil War Markers Program

**Original Dedication Date** Circa 2005 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 SW So Main / John Holt Dr Odd Fellows Cem. W90°17'38" N37°32'45"  
 City/Village Fredericktown Township \_\_\_\_\_ County Madison

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 DNR Division of State Parks Dept./Div. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address PO Box 176  
 City Jefferson City State MO Zip Code 65102  
 Contact Person Jim Denny Telephone ( 800 ) 334-6946

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 = Cast Aluminum

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 <sup>3 1/2 feet</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Width <sup>4 inches</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Depth <sup>2 1/2 feet</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 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 None Located

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 TEXT ON SEPARATE PAGES

## Environmental Setting

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

### Type of Location

☒ Cemetery

☐ "Town Square"

☐ Municipal Building

☐ Courthouse

☐ Traffic Circle

☐ Park

☐ Post Office

☐ State Capitol

☐ College Campus

☐ Library

☐ Plaza/Courtyard

☐ School

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

**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 Riverside

**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)      ☐      ☐

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...      ☐      ☐

Good shape

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) .

This type of material starts fading in 5 years. Recommend reinspection by 2013

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**Supplemental Background Information**

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

**Inspector Identification**

Date of On-site Survey 19 May 2008

Your Name Walter E Busch, US Grant Camp #68

Address PO Box 381 City Arcadia

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

Please send this completed form to:

Kevin P. Tucker, PDC, Chair  
 58 Forest Street  
 Wakefield, MA 01880  
 (617) 595-7721

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

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





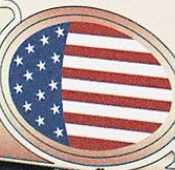


# BATTLE OF FREDERICKTOWN

A STATE DIVIDED:  
THE CIVIL WAR IN MISSOURI  
MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



Col. Joseph B. Plummer



## The Battle of Fredericktown

The Battle of Fredericktown was fought immediately south of its location on Oct. 21, 1861. Gen. M. Jeff Thompson set the stage for the battle by leading the 1st Division, Missouri State Guard, to disrupt the Iron Mountain Railroad, the main Union artery from St. Louis into the southeastern Ozarks.

From a base in Soudard County, Col. Aden Lowe and the State Guard Infantry marched to Fredericktown on Oct. 15, 1861. They burned the big River railroad bridge. On Oct. 15, Thompson's Missourians captured a company of Union bridge guards, burned the bridge and then scattered another company nearby at Blackwell's Station.

On Oct. 16, Lowe reached Fredericktown. The next day, there was minor skirmishing with Union scouts. Thompson and his cavalry rode into the town later that day to surprise the Union forces. On Oct. 21, 1861, a few miles and then turned back to Fredericktown. For the next three days, he remained there and gathered recruits. He also accumulated 18,000 pounds of badly needed lead from local mines.

Thompson and his brigade threatened Ironton, which prompted Brig. Gen. U.S. Grant, commanding in southeast Missouri, to send troops to dislodge the troublesome "Swamp Fox." Col. Joseph Plummer left Cape Girardeau on Oct. 18 with the 20th Illinois Cavalry. On Oct. 21, 1861, Thompson's Carlin, with 3,500 troops, marched from Pilot Knob to attack Thompson.

Learning of the dual Federal advance on the same day, Thompson decided to move south to Greenville. With lead-filled wagons in front, the Missouri State Guard and the larger Union force met at Fredericktown and gave the larger Union force a fight. On the morning of Oct. 21, he placed his 1,200 men in concealed positions on both sides of the Greenville road south of Fredericktown and prepared to give battle.

## Jeff Thompson, the "Swamp Fox" of Missouri

Fredericktown was the biggest fight of the Missouri State Guard under the command of Jeff Thompson. A businessman and prowar mayor of St. Joseph, Thompson was a major figure of the war. When he gained command of Missouri State Guard, he introduced himself to his men with the statement: "I understand you want a fight. By God! You shall have it. I'm a rip squaler and my name is Thompson. Thompson was the only Southern leader to display initiative in military equipment. Thompson's personal deficiencies in manpower and military equipment were greatly outweighed by his personal qualities. He shielded his weakness not only with wit, but also by issuing bombastic proclamations and a stream of disinformation. His skill at eluding his foes earned him the "Swamp Fox" nickname.

But despite his native ability and tremendous personal energy, Thompson could not match the military forces of the Confederacy, commanded by Gen. Leonidas Polk. Thompson was forced to retreat, to cooperate with him and march up the west bank of the Mississippi to St. Louis, or even seize St. Louis. The Federal high command, however, did not take Thompson seriously. They strengthened their presence along the Mississippi River at New Madrid and pushed Thompson out of Missouri in 1862.



Brig. Gen. M. Jeff Thompson

This illustration of the Battle of Fredericktown by artist, W. J. Hinchy appeared in the *New York Illustrated News* on Nov. 11, 1861. The artist is standing behind the attacking lines of Federal soldiers, who are observing the face of fierce State Guard resistance.

Courtesy of Carole Magnus



Thompson had planned only an ambush and quick retreat. He arranged his forces in a line of battle, consisting of a regiment and two battalions, totaling some 500 men took position behind a fence and cordoned east of the Greenville road. Behind him was the four-gun battery that comprised the State Guard artillery. Across the road to the west, two infantry regiments held a line to the rear of Lowe's cavalry and a small reserve force protected the flanks and rear.

Plummer ordered two guns of the Federal battery to unlimber on the Greenville Road and open a brisk fire. Thompson's artillery responded in kind. Plummer deployed additional Federal units west of the road, including the 8th Wisconsin Infantry were held in reserve.

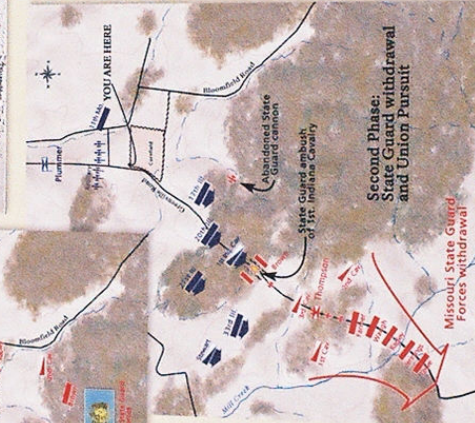
Plummer sent the 17th Illinois and 11th Missouri infantry regiments into the cornfield to attack Lowe's position. The Federal skirmishers encountered the fire and were driven back by the Missourians. The 20th Illinois was then ordered to attack. The Federal cavalry began to flank their position. Lowe was supposed to fall back at this point, but recklessly fought on until he was shot dead. In the face of well aimed artillery fire and superior numbers, the Guardsmen, at last, retreated. Union rifles exacted a heavy toll as the Missourians fled for their reserve line. Seeing the enemy's overwhelming numbers, Thompson ordered a retreat down the Greenville road, leaving behind several killed and wounded and a damaged cannon.

Hoping to rout the retreating Missourians, Plummer ordered the 1st Indiana Cavalry to charge. But Thompson had anticipated such a move and had set an ambush. As the Indiana cavalry thundered down the road, soldiers of the 1st Indiana were met by a volley of fire from the State Guard. The volley that killed four cavalrymen, including a captain and unleashed 28 wounded. The Missourians wheeled in retreat while the Missourians hurried down the Greenville Road. A half-hearted Union pursuit was broken off after a few miles with no further exchange of shots.

Elated by success, the Federals returned to Fredericktown. Angry soldiers, angry at the hapless townspeople knew of Thompson's ambush, burned eight churches and destroyed the courthouse and Catholic Church before the rampage was halted.

Federal losses in the battle tallied 4 killed and 60 wounded. Reports of Thompson's casualties vary, but his known losses totaled 17 killed, 52 wounded, and 78 captured, including 38 wounded.

Although it was a tactical victory for the Union, the battle had no important strategic effect on the war in southeast Missouri. Each side simply returned to their posts to await another opportunity.



## Second Phase: State Guard withdrawal and Union Pursuit

On the same day, Carlin's column reached Fredericktown and was told that the Missourians had left the previous day. Carlin, who was ill, decided not to give chase, pleading short rations. When the Cape Girardeau column arrived about noon, however, Plummer decided to pursue Thompson despite what he assumed was a long head start.

Taking a portion of Carlin's units, Plummer started down the Greenville road. The cavalry where he was ordered to lead a mile from town when they encountered Lowe's guardsmen ahead. Plummer immediately deployed his troops to surround a cornfield. Plummer immediately deployed his troops to surround a cornfield.



Battle of Fredericktown  
A State Divided: The Civil War In Missouri  
Missouri Department of Natural Resources

[US FLAG] [Picture: "Col. Joseph B. Plummer"] [Picture: Col. William P. Carlin]

The Battle of Fredericktown

The Battle of Fredericktown was fought immediately south of this location on Oct. 21, 1861. Gen. M. Jeff Thompson set the stage for the Battle of Fredericktown in mid-October 1861 when he led the 1st Division, Missouri State Guard, to disrupt the Iron Mountain Railroad, the main Union artery from St. Louis into the southeastern Ozarks.

From a base in Stoddard County, Col. Aden Lowe and the State Guard infantry marched to Fredericktown while Thompson took his cavalry directly to the Big River railroad bridge. On Oct. 15, Thompson's Missourians captured a company of Union bridge guards, burned the bridge and then scattered another company nearby at Blackwell's Station.

On Oct. 16, Lowe reached Fredericktown. The next day, there was minor skirmishing with Union scouts. Thompson and his cavalry rode into the town later that day to support Lowe. He chased the Federal cavalry for a few miles and then turned back to Fredericktown. For the next three days, he remained there and gathered recruits. He also accumulated 18,000 pounds of badly needed lead from local mines.

Thompson and his brigade threatened Ironton, which prompted Brig. Gen. U.S. Grant, commanding in southeast Missouri, to send troops to dislodge the troublesome "Swamp Fox." Federal columns soon converged on Fredericktown. Col. Joseph Plummer left Cape Girardeau on Oct. 18 with 1,500 soldiers. Two days later, Col. William P. Carlin, with 3,500 troops, marched from Pilot Knob to attack Thompson.

Learning of the dual Federal advance on the same day, Thompson decided to withdraw south to Greenville. With lead-filled wagons in front, the Missourians marched 12 miles before Thompson rashly decided to return to Fredericktown and give the larger Union force a fight. On the morning of Oct. 21, he placed his 1,200 men in concealed positions on both sides of the Greenville road south of Fredericktown and prepared to give battle.

[Insert: Jeff Thompson, the "Swamp Fox" of Missouri]  
Fredericktown was the biggest fight of the Missouri State Guard under the command of Gen. M. Jeff Thompson. A businessman and prewar mayor of St. Joseph, Thompson was one of the most colorful figures of the war. When he gained command of Missouri State Guard in southeast Missouri, he introduced himself to his men with the statement: "I understand you want a fight. By God! You shall have it. I'm a rip squealer and my name is fight! Get ready to march...in the morning. We are too far from the enemy." Thompson was the only Southern leader to display initiative in southeastern Missouri in 1861. Despite serious deficiencies in manpower and military equipage, Thompson repeatedly confounded the Federals. He shielded his weakness not only with quick marches and countermarches from one end of the region to the other, but also by issuing bombastic proclamations and a stream of disinformation. His skill at eluding his foes earned him the "Swamp Fox" nickname.

But despite his native ability and tremendous personal energy, Thompson could never persuade nearby forces of the Confederacy, commanded by Gens. Leonidas Polk, William Hardee and Gideon Pillow, to cooperate with him and march up the west bank of the Mississippi to threaten, or even seize, St. Louis. The Federal high command, however, did take Thompson seriously. They strengthened their presence along the Mississippi River at New Madrid and pushed Thompson out of Missouri in 1862.]

[Map: Battle of Fredericktown, October 21, 1861, First Phase: Battle in the Cornfield]  
[Map: Second Phase: State Guard withdrawal and Union Pursuit]

On the same day, Carlin's column reached Fredericktown and was told that the Missourians had left the previous day. Carlin, who was ill, decided not to give chase, pleading short rations. When the Cape Girardeau column arrived about noon, however, Plummer decided to pursue Thompson despite what he assumed was a long head start.

Taking a portion of Carlin's units, Plummer started down the Greenville road. The cavalry advance had only proceeded a mile from town when they encountered Lowe's guardsmen ahead, formed for battle behind a rail fence surrounding a cornfield. Plummer immediately deployed his troops to attack.

[Picture: Big. Gen. M. Jeff Thompson] [Picture: Confederate flag]

[Picture: This illustration of the Battle of Fredericktown by artist, W.J. Hinchy appeared in the *New York Illustrated News* on Nov. 11, 1861. The artist is standing behind the attacking lines of Federals, who are obviously advancing in the face of fierce State Guard resistance. Courtesy of Carole Magnus.]

Thompson had planned only an ambush and quick retreat. He arranged his lines to support each other for a withdrawal. Lowe's command, consisting of a regiment and two battalions, totaling some 500 men took position behind the fence and cornfield east of the Greenville road. Behind him as the four-gun battery that comprised the State Guard artillery. Across the road to the west, two infantry regiments held a line to the rear of Lowe's cavalry and small reserve force protected the flanks and rear.

Plummer ordered two guns of the Federal battery to unlimber on the Greenville Road and open a brisk fire. Thompson's artillery responded in kind. Plummer deployed additional Federal units west of the road, including for more cannons under Mar. John Schofield. Part of Schofield's battery and the 8th Wisconsin Infantry were held in reserve.

Plummer sent the 17th Illinois and 11th Missouri infantry regiments into the cornfield to attack Lowe's position. The Federal skirmishers encountered heavy musket fire and were twice driven back by the Missourians. The 20th Illinois was thrown into the fray. For 40 minutes, the fighting raged. State Guard casualties mounted and the Federals began to flank their position. Lowe was supposed to fall back at this point, but recklessly fought on until he was shot dead. In the face of well aimed artillery fired and superior numbers, the Guardsmen, at last, retreated. Union rifles exacted a heavy toll as the Missourians races for their reserve line. Seeing the enemy's overwhelming numbers, Thompson ordered a withdrawal down the Greenville road, leaving behind several killed and wounded and a damaged cannon.

Hoping to rout the retreating Missourians, Plummer ordered the 1st Indiana Cavalry to charge. But Thompson had anticipated such a move and had set an ambush. As the Indiana cavalry thundered down the road, soldiers of Thompson's command suddenly arose from concealment and unleashed a volley that killed four cavalymen, including a major and a captain, and left 28 wounded. The Indianans wheeled in retreat while the Missourians hurried down the Greenville Road. A half-hearted Union pursuit was broken off after a few miles with no further exchange of shots.

Elated by success, the Federals returned to Fredericktown. Angry soldiers, suspecting the hapless townspeople knew of Thompson's ambush, burned eight dwellings and looted the courthouse and Catholic Church before the rampage was halted.

Federal losses in the battle tallied 14 killed and 60 wounded. Reports of Thompson's casualties vary, but his known losses totaled 17 killed, 52 wounded, and 78 captured, including 38 wounded.

Although it was a tactical victory for the Union, the battle had no important strategic effect on the war in southeast Missouri. Each side simply returned to their posts to await another opportunity.

Missouri Department of Natural Resources [DNR Logo]