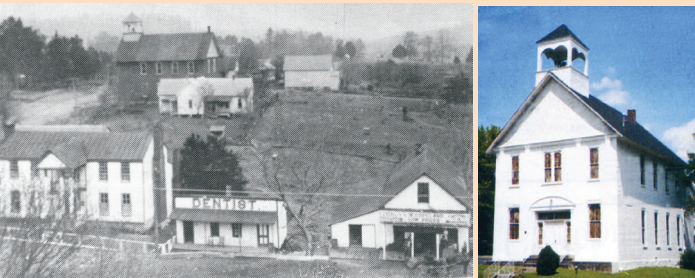


Waynesboro, the county seat was mostly abandoned during the war, often serving as a base for Confederate Col. Jacob Biffle's 9th Tennessee Cavalry, which skirmished frequently with Federal forces. A brief episode of mistaken identity between Union forces caused a friendly-fire incident near court square, resulting in three injuries. After the skirmish, the 5th Tennessee occupied Waynesboro and the 7th Illinois camped at Pointer's Barn (Wayne Furnace area) east of town.



Waynesboro Cumberland Presbyterian Church just off Waynesboro square stood empty holding no services and is rumored to have been used by both sides at various times during the war. Constructed circa 1850s, church records were lost or removed for safe-keeping during the War and have yet to be recovered. The first meeting after the Civil War was held on November 3, 1866. In direct view across the street is the home and final resting place of Col. William P. Kindrick, a Union officer involved in the Libby Prison escape.

Wayne Furnace and Forty-Eight Forge (Hwy 64 Waynesboro to Lawrenceburg) The Civil War came to the ironworks on the last day of March 1862 when a couple of Federal couriers commandeered "two good horses" from the Pointers' barn in order to continue their ride to Major General Ulysses S. Grant's headquarters in Savannah. Two days later, thousands of troops from Brigadier General Don Carlos Buell's Army of the Ohio stopped near Wayne Furnace on their way to Pittsburg Landing. Other Union detachments also camped near the facility at various times as the conflict continued.

In November 1864, Confederate Major General Benjamin F. Cheatham's corps rested at the furnace overnight on their march north that would end in catastrophe at Nashville the following month. An archaeological dig in early 2000s located much more than just the old "Wayne Furnace." Within the boundaries of the half-acre dig, the visiting scientists pinpointed remnants of much older iron works, defined the original Central Turnpike (Columbia-Clifton Road) that served the furnace, and identified one of the three paths known as the Trail of Tears.

Although thousands of troops passed through southern Wayne County during the Civil War, the city of Collinwood did not officially exist until nearly 50 years after the war. A Gateway Marker is located at the Wayne County Welcome Center in the vicinity of where these troops may have traveled to or from the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Franklin and Nashville. Informational materials on surrounding counties in Tennessee and Alabama are available at the center.

For more readings and information on the War Between the States' impact and influence on this region:

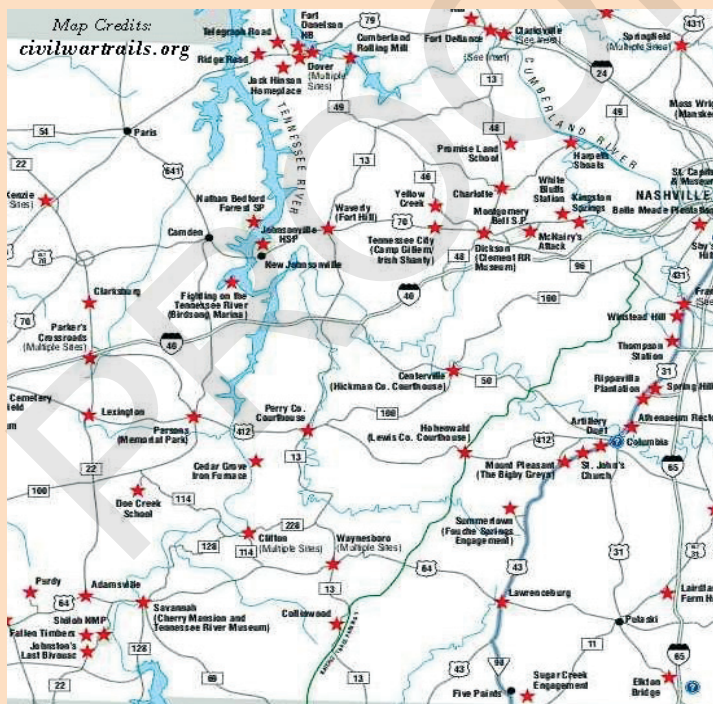
War Between the States - Wayne County, Tennessee In Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War. 2012. A collection of the history of Wayne County recounted by post Civil War diaries, residents and historians. Wayne County Historian Office.

Wayne County's War. A compilation of information on Wayne County's Confederate history. Wayne County Historical Society.

The Store and other literary works by T.S. Stribling, former Clifton resident and Pulitzer Prize Novelist. Mr. Stribling wrote about life after the Civil War through his parents' and grandparents' recollection of the South during Reconstruction.

The Bugger Saga by Wade Pruitt. 1977.

Historical markers have been placed at many of the sites of historical significance yet many more are left to be identified and properly marked. With assistance from these and other partner organizations, we continue to tell the stories of our ancestors.



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Wayne County, Tennessee



Chalk Creek was the Mason-Dixon Line for Wayne County, Tennessee. Upper Factory Creek, 48 Creek, Buffalo River, Green River, Moccasin Creek and Northern Beech Creek were Confederate; the lower portion of the county remained loyal to the Union.

Although no major battles were fought here, Wayne County experienced two large-scale troop movements. In April 1862, Union Gen. Don Carlos Buell's Army of the Ohio marched across the county on its way to reinforce Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's army at Shiloh. In November 1864, Confederate Gen. John Bell Hood led the Army of Tennessee northward through the county. His campaign ended at Franklin and Nashville. Churches and cemeteries are all that remain where thriving towns once stood. The communities of Martin's Mill, Carrollville, Ransom, Ashland and Light were among these.

Light (Cedar Grove) Community - During the late 1800s and early 1900s, there was a community in southern Wayne County called Light. It was located where the Cedar Grove Church and Cemetery is now, just north of the Alabama state line off Route 227. The church was a part of the community as early as 1845. County records show S. S. Kelley, J. R. Olive, and L. Robertson as residents of Light, according to their War Between the States pension records.

Ashland (Near Natural Bridge) - Once a prosperous community and the original county seat, Ashland was home to the Biffle family. "In the summer of 1862, Colonel Jacob Biffle was sent to Tennessee to recruit a new cavalry regiment, which became the 19th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment. Although the 19th was its official number, the group was known in the field as, mustered as, and paroled as, the 9th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment. Men would fight and die believing themselves members of the 9th Cavalry, whereas they were officially members of the 19th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment. In December 1862, the 9th Cavalry became part of Forrest's brigade and fought with him in his raids in West Tennessee, in the battles at Thompson Station, and Brentwood, and in the pursuit of Streight into Alabama. At Brentwood, Biffle gave his most famous charge. His command was cut off from the other Confederates, and the colonel shouted, 'All who will go back live or die, hold up your right hands.' All his men held up their hands. Their charge was a winning one.

Ransom Town - There was a place between Waterloo, Alabama and Murphy's Chapel about two miles from the Wayne County line called Ransom Town. Here Federal agents were on hand to give a ransom or reward to any Confederate soldier who would desert or "turn over" and join the Union Army. Capt. S.P. Emerson (CSA) and Capt. Bert Hays (CSA) are said to have caught a Will Davis, who was on his way to Ransom Town when captured. They punched his eyes out and hung him to a tree at Ransom Town, then sent word to the Union men that Davis was ready to run over and they could come and pick him up.

Martin's Mill - was one of the oldest mills in the area. The exact date of construction is unknown but probably was built around 1850. When the Civil War began the Strawhorne family, owners of the mill, were Southern sympathizers. They aided the Confederate cause by supplying flour and meal to the Rebel Army. The flour and meal were sneaked out at night. These pro-Southern activities led to the destruction of Martin's Mills by Union forces. The mill and town built around it came to an abrupt end in March of 1862.

"At one time, the town of Carrollville was the shipping center for much of North Alabama, Northeast Mississippi, and Southern Tennessee. This was because the river was navigable up to this point. To say what Carrollville contributed to our county and society is unknown. We do know that several companies of men were recruited for the Confederate Army in Wayne County. Many of these were from the Carrollville area. We can say the town of Carrollville is like a child. It was born with a great potential in the dreams of its founders. It lived and thrived for a short span of time and died at the end of the Civil War. Its part had been played. Its history forever lost and unrecorded."

Wayne County

TENNESSEE



Clifton was all but destroyed during the Civil War. Early in the war the city of Clifton was occupied by Confederate troops, many of whom were Clifton and Carrollville residents. Clifton would soon play a significant role in the War Between the States due to its strategic location along the Tennessee River. During the second year of the war, Clifton became an invasion route for the Union Army. In early 1862, Union forces occupied Stockade Hill behind Clifton Presbyterian Church. Officers' headquarters were set up in what is now the yard of Frank Hughes School on Main Street.

December 15, 1862 – January 3, 1863 marked General Nathan Bedford Forrest's West Tennessee Raid, a significant contribution to the abandonment of Grant's campaign in central Mississippi. Forrest's troops crossed the Tennessee River at Clifton twice during this campaign. A commemorative marker is viewable at the intersection of Water and Main streets.

A Federal gunboat commander patrolling the river discovered a conscription gathering at Carrollville on the night of March 23, 1863, and ordered his men to shell the town. "Many people hid in caves to survive. One cave on Ross Creek (Clifton) was called 'Indiana'. Women and children would say they had gone to 'Indiana' in hopes that they could avoid detection." –Tim Anderson, WBTS Historian & Colonel in the Cedar Creek Confederate Re-enactment Unit.



During the war, the Union Army took charge of the **Clifton Cumberland Presbyterian Church** and used it for a livery stable and blacksmith shop.

It is said to have been used as a hospital. Church members found horseshoes and a bayonet under the floor of the church when the interior was remodeled in 1999. A closer look reveals a large hole that was knocked out during the war to enlarge the front entry. This church was one of the few remaining structures in Clifton after the Civil War.

"One of the [Yankee] officers that landed in Clifton noted in his diary that Clifton was a shambles. The town appeared to be empty. When he and his troops were about halfway to Waynesboro, they came to a green patch of land. He stated that he stood in his saddle and could see no bark on the trees from that height to the ground. They headed towards it to let their horses graze. Coming toward them on the road was a group of civilians, mostly old men, women, and children. The civilians began running towards the [Yankees] instead of away, so the [Yankees] thought it was an ambush. The cavalry went forward, but the civilians ran to the green pasture instead and began grazing. He realized that the bark was gone from the trees because people were eating it." – Unknown

Eagle Creek (between Clifton and Waynesboro) The decades before the Civil War brought peace, prosperity, and abundance to the community nestled in the mountains and valleys along Eagle Creek. Days were filled with hard farm work but also frolics of log rollings, quilting bees, and singings at camp meetings. However, this peace was shattered by the advent of the war. "...I was born the first year of the Civil War. I can remember the last of it...ended 1865. The old turnpike (Clifton Turnpike) road was full of horses and men; this was when Gen. Don Carlos Buell's army of the Ohio was rushing to the Battle of Shiloh. The soldiers were four abreast double time (trotting) most all the time...soldiers would come in and take everything they wanted and tear or destroy the rest. If they would find the meat, [she] would empty the cradle, put more meat in it and covered it with a large bed spread. No one could sleep on it. We also kept our meal in it. If we hadn't done that we would not have anything at all to eat." –Rachel Walker Thompson, Eagle Creek Resident (1949)

The Columbia-Clifton Central Turnpike that connected Clifton and Columbia, a distance of 69 miles was the longest and perhaps most important turnpike to the farmers and planters in Maury County from the 1830s to the War Between the States. Gideon Pillow appears to have been the guiding force in developing this turnpike. Pillow was a close friend and political operative of James K. Polk. He is best known in history as a Brigadier General in the Mexican War of 1848 and as a Major General during the Civil War. References to both Clifton and Pillow can be found in the cities of Columbia and Clifton Tennessee. The turnpike began in Columbia and Clifton. The telegraph lines played an important role in communication of troop movements during the Civil War. Clifton-Columbia Turnpike was used by General Cheatham's Corps to travel from Florence, AL, towards Mt. Pleasant, TN, where the three wings of General Hood's army would combine for the battles of Columbia, Spring Hill, Franklin, and Nashville. A section of Clifton Turnpike connecting Waynesboro square to the city limits of Clifton still exists and passes through the Eagle Creek Tennessee Wildlife Management Area.