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**Battle Cry deadline is
1:00PM Wed. two weeks
before the regular meeting.
Items can be given the
editor by hand, mail or
e-mail.**

Battle Cry

Founded 1961,
Newsletter of the Sacramento Civil War Round Table
P.O. BOX 254702
Sacramento, CA 95865-4702
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President's Message:

Scott Hartwig was well received at our fine turnout last week. It was a pleasure to meet him and his lovely wife. I enjoyed his talks both here and at the Peninsula Round Table where he presented a superb discussion of the Repulse of Pickett's Charge. Jim Middleton, Paul Ruud, and Bob Williams accompanied me to San Mateo for this most informative talk. It was a pleasure to meet with many of their members as well. We owe a debt of gratitude to Phil Avila of the North Bay group for bringing the Hartwigs out and for hosting them. We spent a pleasant day at Coloma prior to our meeting and enjoyed a splendid tour arranged by Brad Schall and conducted by a docent who dressed as James Marshall. Many thanks to George Foxworth for setting up the room, providing the lists of members and guests, collecting the contributions for travel expense, setting up the amplification, and the myriad of wonders he does for us all. Also I am grateful to John Zasso and all the members whose contributions to the raffle keep us in the black and help to finance our continuing efforts to maintain the quality of our splendid organization.

Scott's expertise is second to none. In addition to his intensive research into the Civil War, his years of conducting visitors around the battlefield have stood him in good stead to impart his extensive knowledge to those of us fortunate to benefit from it. The detail apparent in both of his presentations was astounding and I am certain we will all profit from his role of Gettysburg Supervisory Park Historian for years to come. I hope all who attended enjoyed his talk as much as I, and for those who were unfortunate to have missed it, we have a videotape which I can make available.

Gibson Ranch weekend is close at hand and we could still profit from a few more volunteers. This year a few of our regulars will be out of town and I welcome any interested parties to contact me. We will pass around the sign-up sheet at the next meeting, May 10th at the Hof Brau and also will be happy to welcome members willing to staff our "booth" Sat. or Sun. The school children tours will be Friday, 19 May and the re-enactments and other events the 20th and 21st. Friday we need at least 15 to spend a few hours walking groups of students from station to station where the re-enactors present short discussions of infantry, cavalry, artillery, civilian life, medicine and other aspects of the era. We are simply guides and the process is quite simple and extremely informative and actually a great deal of fun. We meet at 8:30 AM at the Ranch Store. Gibson Ranch is on Elverta Road, about a half mile west of N. Watt Ave.

See you May 10th when Brad Schall will inform us of "Black Jack" Logan, Political Generals and Memorial Day. Come early for dinner and camaraderie.

Don Hayden 485-1246 djhbooklover@yahoo.com

**NEXT MEETING: May 10th at 7:00PM at the
Hof Brau El Camino & Watt on "Black Jack"
Logan, Political Generals and Memorial Day.
SEE UPCOMING PROGRAMS ON PAGE 3.**

MINUTES
SACRAMENTO CIVIL WAR ROUND TABLE
APRIL 19, 2006
VIP SEAFOOD BUFFET, 3405 EL CAMINO AVE, SACRAMENTO

Attendance-62

Members-36

Don Hayden, President	Kyle Glasson	Brad Schall	Barbara Hartwig
George Foxworth, Treasurer	Scotty Hayden	Richard Sickert	Don Hayden Jr.
Eddie Keister, Secretary	Pam Hubbard	Drew Van Winkle	Nancy Hayden
Ricki Adams	Chuck Hubbard	Bob Williams	Scott Hayden
Dudley Albrecht	Dennis Kohlmann	Maxine Wollen	Laurel Hayden
James Armstrong	Lloyd Limprecht	John Zasso	Mark Hayden
Bob Baskerville	Grace Long	<u>Guest-27</u>	Sean Hayden
Roy Bishop	Sharon McGaughey	Phillip Avila	Tammy Hayden
Fred Bohmfalk	Leslie Michaels	Mrs. Larry Baur	St. Howe
Bernie Buenrostro	Jim Middleton	Larry Baur	Chuck Hubbard
Evan Cole	Betty Mitchell	Phil Blake	Gary Kailes
Irene Cole	Maurice Mitchell	T. Brent	Joe Maxwell
Charles Collins	John Nevins	Loretta Clinton	Horst Penning
Kirk Fujikawa	Ron Perisho	Bill Figenshu	Art Scully
Alan Geiken	Paul Ruud	Scott Hartwig	Donna Shaw
			Steve Shaw
			Michael Spencer
			Pattie Spencer
			Gary Tindle

1. Meeting started at 7:10. President Hayden welcomed members and guest-many from local California CWRT. President Hayden spoke of his time spent with our guests- Scott Hartwig and his wife Barbara. We had a great turnout.
2. Before his presentation, Scott Hartwig talked about the restoration of the Gettysburg battlefield to restore it to it's original state. It will be completed in 2008.
3. Mr. Hartwig then presented "The Maryland Campaign and Antietam," a very thorough and concise presentation. Maps were provided to share the battles and maneuvers. Thank you and Scott, it was wonderful. We hope you and Barbara enjoyed your stay and will visit us again.
4. Raffle was held and meeting ended at 9:10.
5. We have a new member- Lloyd Limprecht - Welcome Lloyd!

Edie Keister
Secretary

Treasurer's Report

The cash balance following the April 19, 2006 meeting was \$1,782.34. Thanks to members and guests, the raffle brought in \$102.00.
George W. Foxworth, Treasurer

Coming Programs 2006		
Month	Speaker	Topic
May 10 th	Brad Schall	Black Jack Logan, Political Officers & Memorial Day
June 14 th	George Beitzel	John Brown
July 12 th	Ron Perisho	Civil War Photography
August 9 th	Phil Avila	Wade Hampton
September 13 th	Thomas Brown	2 nd Day at Chickamauga (as General Thomas)
October 11 th	Paul Wagstaffe	Franks & Brits : Rebels & Yankees
November 10-12 th	Conference	War on the Waters
December 13 th	Don Hayden	Winfield Scott Hancock

**Ranger Scott Hartwig Visits
Northern California**
by George W. Foxworth

Phil Avila, a member of the North Bay CWRT in consultation with Fred Bohmfalk (a Sacramento CWRT member), invited Mr. Scott Hartwig of the National Parks Service (NPS) to Northern California to meet with Round Tables. Accompanying Mr. Hartwig was his lovely wife, Barbara, an Educational Counselor with the NPS.

Mr. Hartwig was born in Baltimore, Maryland and grew up in Pennsylvania. He graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1979 and studied under Civil War expert E.B. "Pete" Long. He has been with the NPS since 1979 and has made numerous appearances in Civil War programs on the History Channel. Mr. Hartwig is the author of multiple publications and in 1993, he won the NPS Tilden Award for excellence in interpretation.

Mr. Hartwig and Barbara traveled from Baltimore, Maryland to Oakland, California, on Sunday, April 16, 2006. They were met by Phil Avila and whisked off to a tour of

Fort Point National Historic Site. Fort Point was constructed by the United States (US) Army Corps of Engineers between 1853 and 1861 to prevent the entrance of a hostile fleet into San Francisco Bay. The Fort was designed to mount 141 cannons. However, only 69 were mounted during the War and a total of 102 were mounted after the War before the Fort closed. Rushed to completion at the beginning of the Civil War, Fort Point was first garrisoned in February 1861 by Company I, 3rd US Artillery Regiment. During the Civil War, as many as 500 men from the 3rd US Artillery, the 9th US Infantry, and the 8th California Volunteer Infantry were garrisoned at Fort Point.

Although the fort was occupied throughout the Civil War, the advent of faster, more powerful rifled cannon made brick forts such as Fort Point obsolete. In 1886, the troops were withdrawn, and the last cannon were removed about 1900. The Fort was then used for storage and training purposes for many years. Between 1933 and 1937, the Fort was used as a base of operations for the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge. During World War II, Fort Point was occupied by

about 100 soldiers who manned searchlights and rapid-fire cannon mounted atop the Fort as part of the protection of a submarine net strung across the entrance to the Bay.

Fort Point is the only third-system brick fort on the West Coast of the United States. The Fort has three tiers of casemates (vaulted rooms housing cannon), and a barbette tier on the roof with additional guns and a sod covering to absorb the impact of enemy cannon fire. It became a National Historic Site on October 16, 1970.

California's second lighthouse was built at Fort Point and was completed in 1853. The structure was a California cottage-style dwelling with a lantern room on the roof. After three months, the new lighthouse was torn down, and Fort Winfield Scott constructed on the site. A new 36-foot wooden tower lighthouse was constructed on a ledge between the Fort and the seawall and was completed in 1855. This lighthouse lasted only eight years due to the Pacific Ocean erosion. When the seawall was repaired in 1863, the second lighthouse was removed. The third Fort Point lighthouse was built in 1864. The 27-foot iron tower was built on the roof of the Fort, placing it 83 feet above sea level. The tower was white with a black lantern room, and a black iron spiral staircase to the tower. This tower still stands today.

Major changes occurred in the 20th Century. The lighthouse survived the 1906 San Francisco

Earthquake, but was made obsolete by the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge. The Bridge overshadowed the Point and obscured the light. The lighthouse was discontinued in 1934. Today, Fort Point is on the grounds of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Mr. Hartwig and Barbara spent Sunday evening with Phil Avila in Sebastopol.

On Monday, Mr. Hartwig and Barbara were given a special tour of the Civil War Fort under Alcatraz Prison by Fred Bohmfalk, Brad Schall (Sacramento CWRT member), and Phil Avila. The tour included the Fort's history and a walk-through that was conducted by a NPS Ranger. At the end of the War, the existing guardhouse with additional construction became a military prison and remained until 1933. At that time, the military left and the United States Department of Justice turned the Island into the Alcatraz that we know today. In 1963, the Federal Prison closed and Alcatraz was designated as Federal surplus. In 1972, it was acquired by the NPS and opened for tours in 1973. During the various uses of the Island, the Fort was either sealed off or built over. At an unknown date in the future, the NPS plans to open the Fort to the public for tours. Later, Mr. Hartwig and Barbara toured the Wharf, Cable Cars, Chinatown, and North Beach in San Francisco. They spent the night with the Cohn Family in San Francisco.

For lunch on Tuesday, Mr. Hartwig spoke to the Peninsula CWRT about "The Repulse of

Pickett's Charge." Also in attendance were members of the North Bay CWRT (Santa Rosa), South Bay CWRT (San Jose), and Sacramento CWRT, Dr. Don Hayden, Paul Ruud, Jim Middleton, and Bob Williams. Approximately 50 participants attended and were excellent students of the Civil War. Later on Tuesday, Mr. Hartwig and Barbara were treated to an Oakland A's baseball game by Phil Avila. Mr. Hartwig and Barbara spent Tuesday evening with Phil Avila in Sebastopol.

Phil Avila drove Mr. Hartwig and Barbara to Sacramento on Wednesday. Later, they were taken to Sutter's Mill in Coloma for a tour. Sacramento CWRT Members Dr. Don Hayden, Fred Bohmfalk, and Brad Schall accompanied them. In January 1848, James W. Marshall, an employee of John A. Sutter, discovered gold while constructing a lumber mill on the South Fork of the American River. When the news broke, it caused one of the largest migrations that the world had ever seen. William T. Sherman, also a future Civil War Major General who was in California during the Gold Rush, knew about Sutter's Mill. The State of California acquired the area (15 acres initially and the cabin of James Marshall) in 1890 and it was named Marshall Monument. Per the Information Officer, Department of Parks and Recreation, this was the first Park to enter the State Park System. Acquiring more land was an on-going process over the years and the Mill Site was obtained in 1941. The Park was officially designated a California State Park in

1942 and was opened to the public at that time. Today, Sutter's Mill and Area are known as Marshall Discovery State Historic Park. They enjoyed the tour.

On Wednesday evening, Mr. Hartwig spoke to the Elk Grove CWRT and Sacramento CWRT on "The Maryland Campaign and Antietam." Also in attendance were members of the North Bay CWRT, San Joaquin Valley CWRT, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Sons of Union Veterans, and the public at large. Notable from these organizations was Phil Avila and Patty Spencer. The meeting place was the VIP Seafood Buffet in Sacramento. A medium crowd of 63 (36 Sacramento CWRT members and 27 guests) were lively, energetic, and appreciated the speech and the informative question and answer period that followed. The glorious evening officially closed with the monthly raffle. For Wednesday night and beyond, Mr. Hartwig and Barbara resided with his brother in Oakland. Phil Avila was a great chauffer. Mr. Hartwig and Barbara departed for Baltimore on Sunday.

Mr. Hartwig and Barbara enjoyed Northern California, the tours, talking with the Round Tables, and the warm reception that they received. It was wonderful to have him and Barbara for a visit. Thank you again Mr. Hartwig and Barbara; Northern California awaits your return. Finally, I give special thanks to Dr. Don Hayden and Phil Avila whose contributions made this article possible.

How John Bell Hood Ruined the CSA Army of Tennessee: Part Two The Battle of Nashville

This article is the belated sequel to “Part One, The Battle of Franklin”, which was carried in the *Battle Cry*, July 2003 edition¹. In that tragic affair, the CSA army commander, Hood had ordered a series of frontal attacks against the well fortified 4th and 23rd Corps of the Union army in the City of Franklin, Tennessee. The result was the death and wounding of 6,300 of his army, about one-third of its effective fighting forces, over a five hour period on 30 November 1864. His officer corps was decimated; included in the loss were 13 of 28 general officers (six killed, one being the irreplaceable Patrick Cleburne) and 52 field-grade officers, nearly 50% of the regimental commanders.

Hood’s orders had been given in a vindictive fit of temper to punish his army for letting the federal forces “walk past them” the previous night at Spring Hill; while he slept in a drunken or drug-induced stupor unable to be fully awakened. (Why he needed to be informed was that he had so intimidated his subordinates that they would no longer take independent actions.) Hood had planned to renew the attacks the following day, but the federal forces under John Schofield had withdrawn 12 mile north to behind the Nashville fortifications, which had been their original plan as soon as the Harpeth River bridges were repaired. (Some say that the Feds should have remained at Franklin one more day, for they could have there and then fully destroyed the Rebel forces?)

Hood’s reports to his government were a deceitful sham. He declared “Victory”, and lied about the events that occurred; reason why he could not use artillery was because of women and children (real reason was because it had not come up yet), and phony reasons why a flanking movement was inappropriate, although it had been recommended by Forrest and all of the corps commanders (real reason was that he did not have the ability to conduct flanking and other complex maneuvers). At this stage in his career, John Bell Hood had become an accomplished liar, a superb backbiter, and a superior in the art of brown nosing.

On 2 December, Hood marched the remnants of the Army of Tennessee, tired ill-nourished and poorly clothed, to the outer fortified gates of Nashville and took up a position with both flanks open, right flank completely “in the air” and left “refused”. This was insane. What he rationally proposed to do there is unexplainable. Although he may have scared the hell out of U.S Grant and Henry Halleck in Washington (which is another story), he did not much disconcert General George Thomas, who commanded the Nashville Union forces. Hood’s next blunder was to send N. B. Forrest and his cavalry to Murfreesboro to protect his rear. Good grief, it was not his rear that was in danger, it was his front and flanks!

With the exception of Washington D.C., Nashville was the most heavily fortified city in the country. It was naturally protected on the North and Northeast by the Cumberland River, with large naval Ironclad patrols and artillery; and on the Southeast, South and West by extensive field defensive works, including eleven major forts, the largest of which was Fort Negley². The Nashville defense system had been designed in 1862-3 by BG (then Capt.) James St Clair Morton, USCE, who was later killed at Petersburg; and was then being managed by BG Zealous B. Tower, USCE, later Chief of Engineers. Reason for the heavy defense system was that Nashville would become a major rail hub for the Union with massive quartermaster, commissary and ordnance depots.

Fort Negley (see Battle Map, Graphic Two) controlled the N&C and N&D Railroads plus three of the six turnpikes to the south, Murfreesboro, Nolensville, and Franklin. It consisted of very large bomb proof bastions equipped with eleven Parrot rifles that could hurl 30 pound shells 2.5 miles in any direction. (Even into the city, if necessary, in the event of a revolt.) Other Forts in the system, also named after Union officers, were Morton, Harker, Houston, McCook, Sill, Gillem, Donaldson, Garesche and Whipple. Also included was Fort Casino³. The Forts were arranged in two defense lines, the inner line being seven miles long and containing 20 artillery batteries in addition to the Forts. The outer line was some 12 miles long. Encompassing the City and all significant Federal works, the lines would be manned by a garrison of 3,000 soldiers supported by 2,000 mobile troops. Some 4,000 quartermaster employees were also available, if necessary; and, it was estimated that this elaborate defense system could repel an enemy force of from 8 to 10 times the garrison number. Compare this to the actual 70,000 Union forces in the Army of the Cumberland under Thomas at that time, and the 20,000 then under Hood in the rag tag Rebel Army of Tennessee. *And John Bell Hood really thought he could capture Nashville, and move on into Kentucky and Ohio or where ever his fancy carried him?*

The ill equipped Army of Tennessee, many shoeless and barely surviving on rations of parched corn, and suffering greatly from exposure to the severe winter weather established their positions about 3,000 to 4,000 yards south of the Union outer defense line. Hood and his staff established luxurious headquarters at Traveler's Rest⁴, the home of a wealthy Rebel supporter six miles south of Nashville. It was stated to be "a place of warmth and hospitality with the pleasure of women; an abundance of good food including beef, mutton, pork, flour and potatoes; plus barrels of whiskey for solace and inspiration". The Rebel's "attack" line, or whatever it might be called, was about four miles in length running west to east from Hillsboro Pike to the N&C RR with flanks open. Positioned from left to right were A. P. Stewart's, S. D. Lee's and B. F. Cheatham's Corps'. As previously mentioned, Forrest's cavalry was not present.

Meanwhile General Thomas was busy consolidating an assortment of troops and arguing with his Washington superiors, who wanted him to attack Hood immediately. By 14 December, Thomas was ready. A. J. Smith's Corps had arrived, Wilson's cavalry horses had been at least partially replaced and rejuvenated, and the troublesome ice storm had abated. The Union and Rebel troop deployments by Corps and Divisions are indicated on Graphic Two. The battle began the morning of 15 December. Siege guns from the federal forts opened fire, and at 8:00 a.m. J. B. Steedman's Provisional Detachment made a diversionary attack against the Rebel right flank to "pin it in place", while the main Union attack, involving J. H. Wilson's Cavalry Corps, A. J. Smith's and T. J. Wood's Infantry Corps', with some help from Schofield's Corps, was on the Rebel refused left flank. Outnumbered, soon surrounded on three sides and bombarded by artillery, the Rebels cut a hasty, but still organized, retreat to their southeast and established a new shorter line.

What saved the Army of Tennessee that day was the coming of darkness at 6:00 pm. Hood would have been well advised to have immediately headed his Army south down the Franklin and Granny White Pikes as far as he could travel that night toward the safety of the Tennessee River, 100 miles distance; but instead he drew back to the shorter east-west line 2.5 miles long, and some 4,000 yards south, where he had his dead-tired

soldiers dig in again. The 16th was somewhat a repeat of the day before. Hard fighting occurred, but finally the Confederate lines broke and discipline disappeared. Panic spread like wildfire among the southerners, particularly those who remembered the slaughter at Franklin. They would fight no more for John Bell Hood. He had Ruined the Army of Tennessee. Cheatham's and Stewart's Corps' became rabble. Only Lee's Corps (which had not been deployed at Franklin, because of late arrival) retained any semblance of organization. The army remnants did succeed to retreat, but with tremendous attritions, into Alabama on 26 December and on to Tupelo, MS. arriving 12 January 1865. Credit for this withdrawal was due largely to Nathan Bedford Forrest's rear guard action. Hood submitted his resignation as commander later that month, hoping that his friend J. Davis would not accept it; but Davis, in a rare display of wisdom, approved it⁵.

During Hood's Tennessee campaign, lasting just over three months, it is estimated that he had lost 24,000 of his 38,000 men; 63%, an all time record for any "American" army. To this day there are those who extol the virtues of John Bell Hood: including distant descendants and lost cause philosophers, who cite his performance in earlier actions as a basis for their support. Yet, as one leading Civil War historian has stated, "No segment of a man's life stands alone; it must be put in the context of the whole. Hood ultimately was a tragic failure, a sad pathetic soldier whose ambitions totally outstripped his abilities. Essentially, he was an anachronism: an advocate of outmoded concepts and a person unable to adapt to new methods or technology". Moreover, in addition to his other flawed attributes mentioned above, he was prone to blame subordinates unfairly and unable to admit his own mistakes, and to the bitter end never understood his failings. More succinctly, it has been said of John Bell Hood that, "He had a heart of iron and a head of wood". Indeed, there were many reasons why the Confederacy lost the Civil War. John B. Hood was but one of them.

Notes

¹Part One is available on the SCWRT Website: www.sacramentocwrt.com/

²Union forts in Confederate areas were not popular. Fort Negley was no exception. It was abandoned, neglected and desecrated after the War, and for a time used as a meeting place for the KKK. In the 1930's the WPA reconstructed much of it, but those works also fell into disrepair, and the Fort was closed to the public for the past 35-40 years. Recently, the City of Nashville has spent over two million dollars in renovations and added some excellent displays. The area is now open as a City Historical Park and is a most interesting place to visit.

³Fort Casino was a massive brick blockhouse built in the shape of a "T". It was demolished in the 1890's to build an above-ground reservoir to pressurize the City's water system. The site has historical significance, is also interesting and was open to the public until 9-11; now permanently closed, but can be visited with advanced special permission.

⁴Traveler's Rest is privately owned, open to the public, and has a small museum

⁵But Davis later wrote in his memoirs that he had acted solely on Hood's request, not because of his performance in Tennessee.

References: Same as for Part One, plus "Guide to Nashville Civil War" by Mark Zimmerman, 2004

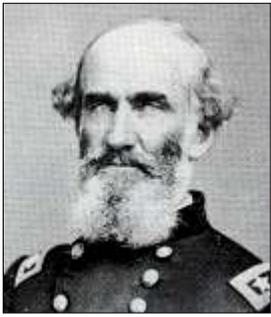
Bob Williams: 4-21-06

How John Bell Hood Ruined the CSA Army of Tennessee

Part Two

The Battle of Nashville

Graphic Page 1



A. J. Smith, USA



J. B. Steedman, USA



George H. Thomas, USA



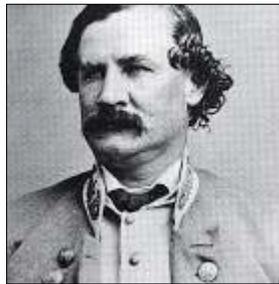
J. H. Wilson, USA



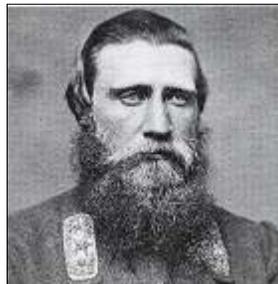
T. J. Wood, USA



N. B. Forrest, CSA



B. F. Cheatham, CSA



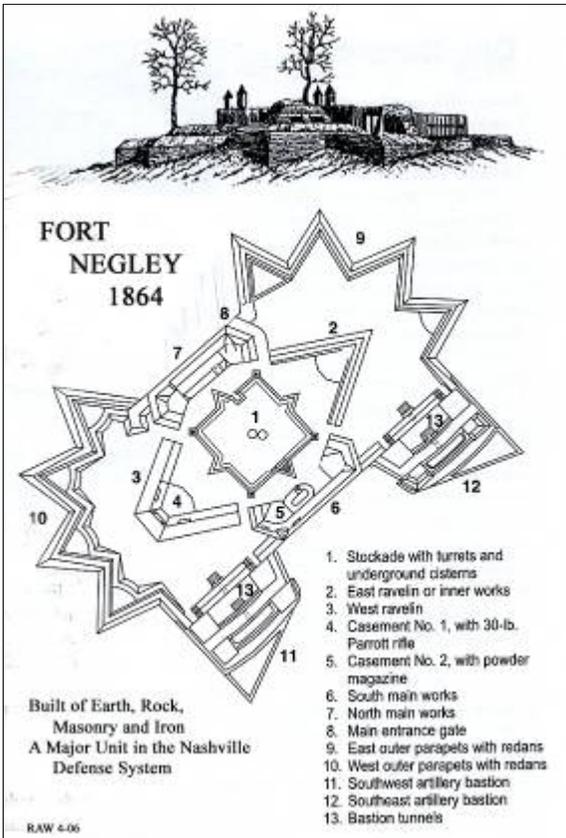
J. B. Hood, CSA



S. D. Lee, CSA



A. P. Stewart, CSA



Drawing of Fort Negley (Largest Inland Fort in US)



Nashville & Chattanooga R.R. Station with State Capitol (upper right)



Entrance to Fort Negley Today



Fort Negley Commanded 3 Turnpikes

