

# **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF WORLD WAR II MILITARY SITES IN TENNESSEE**



**Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation  
Division of Archaeology  
Report of Investigations No. 13**

**2007**

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Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation  
Division of Archaeology  
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Cover photo: Tennessee Maneuvers, Second Army, Company F., 347<sup>th</sup> Inf. Reg., 87<sup>th</sup> Inf. Division, standing for inspection, May 8, 1943 (Signal Corps Photo No. 164-007-43-989, Record Group 111, Still Picture Branch, National Archives).

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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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G. Frank Burns was a reporter during the Tennessee Maneuvers and witnessed some of the events as they occurred. Dr. Burns is currently the archivist for Cumberland University, though he resides in Texas for most of the year, and he shared his knowledge of the Tennessee

Maneuvers and information on potential informants. Jack Cato, businessman in Lebanon, provided assistance in the initial phase of the project, including a place in which to meet for some of the initial discussions.

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## INTRODUCTION

This is a somewhat modified version of a report previously distributed in limited numbers under the title "A Survey of World War II Military Sites in Tennessee." The demand for copies of this report proved sufficient to warrant making it available as a Tennessee Division of Archaeology publication.

Since 1977 there have been approximately fifteen large-scale historic-period site survey projects carried out by the Division of Archaeology, all of them partially funded by Federal Survey and Planning matching grants. A majority of these have been thematic in nature, including a number devoted to military site themes. A discussion of the kinds of Tennessee archaeological sites associated with at least six major phases of military site history appears in an issue of the Tennessee Historical Quarterly (Smith 2000). The Division of Archaeology's military site surveys began with two concerning Civil War sites (Smith et al. 1990; Prouty and Barker 1996), and work on the Civil War site theme ended with the completion of a statewide study (Smith and Nance 2003). There are relatively few early Federal military sites in Tennessee, and an understanding of this theme was developed in conjunction with excavation projects concerning three of the sites (Polhemus 1979; Smith 1993; Smith and Nance 2000). Under a broad definition of meaning, Tennessee sites related to the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 are much more common, and these themes were investigated during a recent survey (Nance 2004). The Division also conducted a survey concerning Tennessee routes used during the Cherokee Removal or "Trail of Tears," and this included an examination of Federal military sites related to this topic (Nance 2001).

By 2004 the only major Tennessee military site theme that had not been investigated was World War II. A survey of World War II military sites was initiated late that year and extended into early 2006. Though World War II sites may seem too recent a topic for an archaeological investigation, one must consider that in 2005 the war had been over for 60 years. Therefore sites associated with the war exceed the 50-year mark set as one of the Secretary of the Interior's criteria for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. A greater impetus for conducting this study was the diminishing population of people old enough to have been witnesses to the wartime events. Even those informants who were children during the war were in their seventies at the time of the survey.

World War II activity in Tennessee can be divided into three general categories: military facilities and activities, civilian manufacturing of war materials, and civilian activities supporting the war effort (bond drives, scrap metal collection, waste fat collection, victory gardens, etc.). The Division's survey of World War II sites focused on those sites with direct military involvement. The United States Army and Navy established several facilities throughout Tennessee including training camps, air bases, prisoner of war camps, and bombing and artillery ranges. Perhaps the greatest impact that the military had on Tennessee was the series of military training exercises collectively known as the Tennessee Maneuvers.

Beginning with the first phase of the Maneuvers in June 1941, before the United States had entered the war, and continuing through March 1944, men and vehicles ranged over a 21-county area in Middle Tennessee fighting mock battles and bivouacking on seemingly every available parcel of land that provided shelter for a night or longer. There appears to be little documentation regarding the specific locations where these activities occurred, and there was a level of secrecy about the location of troops at any given time. Therefore, much 2004 to 2006 survey activity focused on finding and interviewing people who saw the soldiers and knew of the bivouac sites. Many of the people interviewed were children during the war, and meeting the soldiers made a great impression on them.

Many commercial firms in Tennessee produced war materials ranging from ammunition, weapons, and aircraft to blankets, boots, and food. This report includes a list of World War II period manufacturers of such goods in Tennessee, though there are probably many more that were not found during the project. Some of these manufacturing sites were visited during the project and a few were recorded, but the emphasis of the survey was to record military sites.

## **WORLD WAR II IN TENNESSEE**

### TENNESSEE'S WAR PREPARATIONS

In 1937 Prentice Cooper, who would be elected Governor of Tennessee in 1938, met Adolf Hitler during a Rotary tour of Europe and returned to Tennessee convinced that the United States would not be able to avoid war with Germany. During his administration Cooper encouraged Tennesseans to be ready for war, and the State established the Tennessee Defense Council in 1940. On the national level in May 1940, President Franklin Roosevelt initiated a \$2.5 billion program to rebuild the infrastructure of the United States military (Brake 1998:1081; Tennessee Adjutant-General's Office 1944:19).

Governor Cooper knew the importance of the National Guard and realized the poor quality of Guard facilities in Tennessee, so he asked the State legislature to appropriate more than \$3 million for construction of new armories throughout the state. Through recruitment and training the Tennessee National Guard almost doubled in number of personnel before the guard was called to active duty in 1941 (Tennessee Adjutant-General's Office 1944:23).

Congress passed the Selective Service act in June 1940, calling reserve officers into duty and starting the country's first peacetime draft. The Tennessee National Guard, which had been placed under Federal jurisdiction by the National Defense Act of 1933, was called up for active duty as the 117<sup>th</sup> Regiment, 30<sup>th</sup> Division in February 1941. The call up for duty also involved turning about \$10 million in Guard property back over to the federal government (Sligh 1992:3; Tennessee Adjutant-General's Office 1944:23).

To provide protection for the state during the guard's absence, the Tennessee State Legislature created the Tennessee State Guard in January 1941, and appropriated \$500,000 per year for training, equipment, and facilities maintenance. Because equipment and funds were scarce for State Guard units, officials had to be frugal. The State Guard purchased Civil War bayonets at a cost of 15 cents each, and had prisoners refurbish and modernize them for State Guard use. Tennessee had the largest State Guard in the south (Tennessee Adjutant-General's Office 1944:25).

The Tennessee Defense Council on Preparedness consisted primarily of people with planning experience whose job it was to gather information and act as liaison to the national Office of Civilian Defense. Even before the United States' entry into World War II, civilians participated in defense preparedness activities such as the Red Cross

Knitting Division or the Emergency Service Corps. They also participated in the preparation of Red Cross supplies and in scrap metal drives (Spinney 1998:116-117).

Tennessee also established the Office of Civilian Defense to organize home front activities. Tennessee civilians participated in scrap metal drives, cooking fat collection (glycerin from fat was used to make explosives), paper collection, Red Cross training, and War Bond rallies. There were competitions, especially among students, to see who could collect the greatest amount of any of the needed items (Gordon 1992:6-7; Tennessee Adjutant-General's Office 1944:26).

Tennessee cities and counties competed to attract government facilities. Governor Cooper also worked to bring in government money, and his foresight in preparing the state for the inevitable war was instrumental in attracting military bases. Tennessee cooperated fully, though many civilians protested that they lost their lands to some of these facilities (Toplovich 1992:21; Tennessee Adjutant-General's Office 1944:19-20).

## THE TENNESSEE MANEUVERS

Preparation for war required realistic training, and to that end, the United States military designated several areas throughout the country for combat Maneuvers. The largest scale Maneuvers held throughout the war were in the California-Arizona desert area, Louisiana, and Middle Tennessee. Tennesseans would be profoundly affected by the influx of soldiers and their equipment into the region.

The Army chose Middle Tennessee because the terrain resembled Western Europe and the Cumberland River was similar to the Rhine River in Germany. General George Patton, responsible for finding a suitable location for the war games, was familiar with Middle Tennessee because his grandmother lived in Watertown in Wilson County (Burns et al. 2004:227-229). From the opening phase of the Maneuvers in June 1941 until the training was suspended in March 1944, about 850,000 combat and support troops including armor, infantry, artillery, engineers, airborne infantry, and others participated in the Maneuvers. With them came tanks, jeeps, halftracks, trucks, artillery, pontoon bridges, planes, and all the other equipment that an army needs. Most units participated in only one phase of Maneuver activity, but two infantry units, the 30<sup>th</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup>, participated in three phases of Maneuvers, and the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne participated twice. Eleven Middle Tennessee counties hosted the 1941 Maneuvers, but subsequent activity covered 21 counties. The counties affected by the Maneuvers are Bedford, Cannon, Coffee, DeKalb, Hickman, Humphreys, Jackson, Lawrence, Maury, Moore, Perry, Putnam, Rutherford, Smith, Sumner, Trousdale, Warren, Wayne, White, Williamson, and Wilson (Sloan 1995).

Training fell under the authority of the Second Army with its headquarters in Memphis. The permanent ranks of the Second Army consisted of a headquarters regiment, but during the Tennessee Maneuvers, the ranks swelled with thousands of troops from many units. During the 1941 Maneuvers the Second Army established a temporary headquarters at Manchester High School. This first phase of the Maneuvers in Tennessee is sometimes referred to as the Duck River Maneuvers since much of the action took place along the Duck River. General Patton demonstrated the effectiveness of armor as he led the Second Armored Division from Cookeville through Lebanon then southwest toward Shelbyville where his force captured the Thirtieth Infantry (Burns et al. 2004:229-231).

Seventy-seven thousand troops had gathered in Tennessee by June 1, 1941, when the United States had still not entered the war. A map (Figure 1) published in The Nashville Tennessean shows the general disposition of 50,000 troops camped between Nashville and Chattanooga.

Patton's Second Armored Division was scheduled to arrive as secretly as possible sometime in the second week of the Maneuvers with 11,000 men, 400 tanks, and more than 1,500 trucks (Yahner 1941:1,5)

General Patton's Second Armored Division, called the "Hell on Wheels" Division, arrived in Cookeville from Fort Benning, Georgia, and on June 17, 1941, he led a lightning attack down Highway 70, one of the main arteries in Tennessee at that time. Moving at night, his force turned southward on Highway 10 and crossed the Stones River at Walter Hill then moved to flank his enemy southeast of Murfreesboro. Patton caught the 30<sup>th</sup> Infantry "Old Hickory" Division completely by surprise and demonstrated the effectiveness of swift armored attacks (Burns et al. 2004:230-231).

In addition to proving the effectiveness of realistic combat training, the first phase of the Maneuvers pointed out many logistical problems related to the influx of large numbers of soldiers. More than 4,000 soldiers visited Nashville in the weekend before the beginning of the 1941 Maneuvers, and hundreds were unable to find affordable lodging, so they slept in public areas. The Nashville police directed many soldiers to the state capitol to sleep on the grounds. Since the March 1941 opening of Camp Forrest, a large training camp in Tullahoma, the Nashville police had averaged 10 arrests of soldiers per week, but in the weekend before the Maneuvers, they arrested 54 soldiers. With the prospect of expanding the Maneuvers, these events resulted in civic leaders calling a conference to discuss soldier lodging (The Nashville Banner, 6/2/1941).

Two results of the meeting were the establishment of a soldiers' hotel in the Jonas Building, which stood at 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and Commerce Street during the war, and a Recreation Camp on the north side of Centennial Park, both in Nashville. Construction on the Recreational Camp started in September 1941 and was completed in November 1941. The camp included barracks and tents for the men, a mess hall, and a recreation tent with pool tables and writing tables. The men could sleep in the camp at no charge, but they paid for meals. The camp opened with a parade led by the 191<sup>st</sup> Artillery (The Nashville Tennessean, 11/6/1941, 9/18/1941).

With the Japanese bombing of the Naval Base at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, the United States stepped up its training program and expanded the scope of the Tennessee Maneuvers. In 1942 the Second Army established a Maneuver Director's Headquarters at Cumberland University in Lebanon for the duration of the Maneuvers. Each phase of the Maneuvers lasted eight weeks with one "problem" per

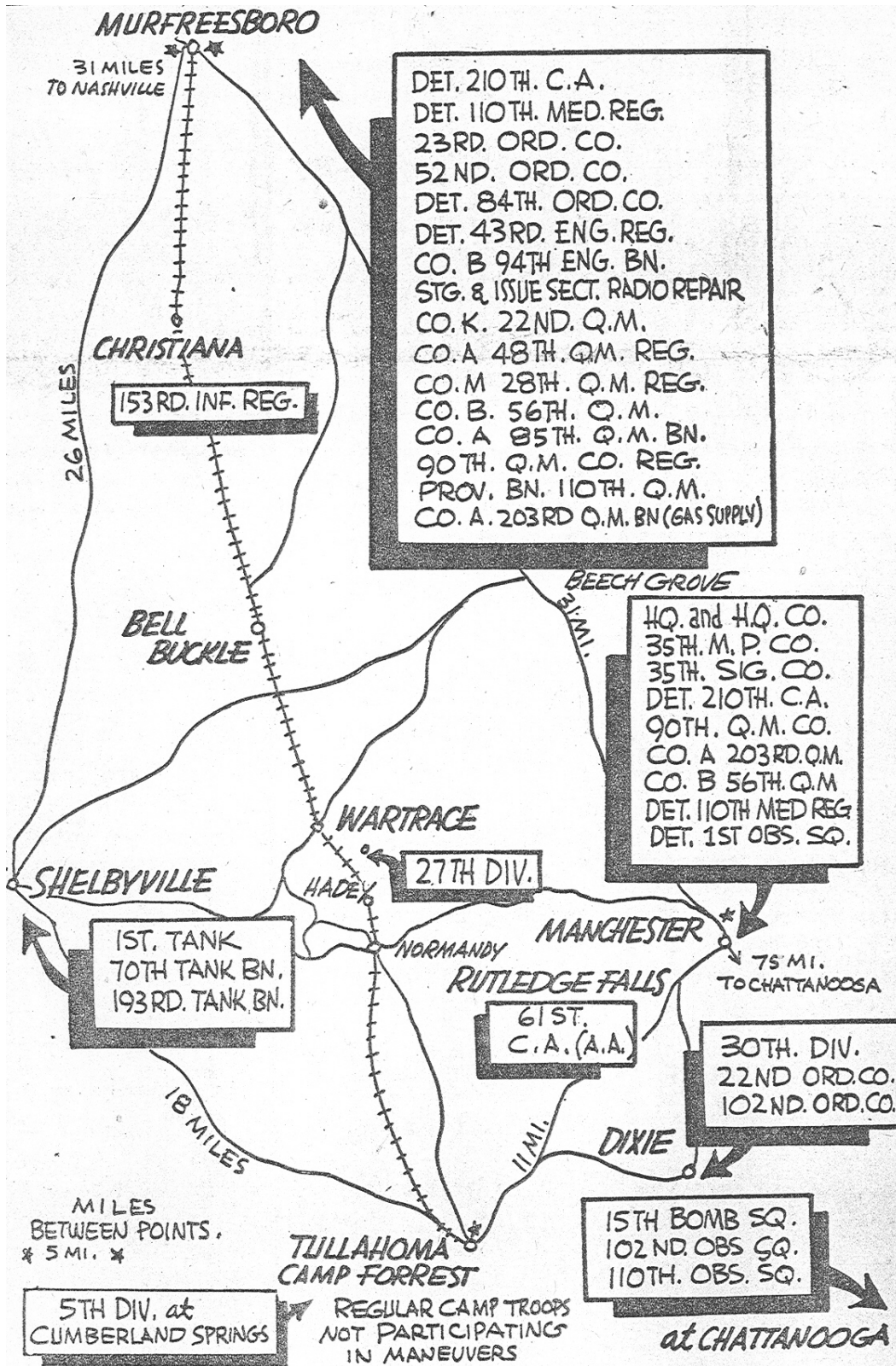


Figure 1. Map of 1941 Maneuver area (The Nashville Tennessean, June 1, 1941).

week. These problems generally lasted four days. Problems included attacks from Manchester northward to Gallatin, assaults on bridges on the Cumberland River, crossing the Cumberland in assault boats or pontoon bridges, an armored attack on the railhead at Hartsville, and attack from Donelson to Smith and DeKalb Counties, a counterattack from Chestnut Mound to Donelson, and the defense of Murfreesboro against ranger attacks. Army rangers practiced climbing the cliffs at Carthage and Hunter's Point, and airborne divisions practiced paratrooper drops in several areas (Burns et al. 2004:231-234).

Army officials solicited permission from landowners to cross, Maneuver on, or camp on private property throughout Middle Tennessee. Before the 1941 Maneuvers Governor Prentice Cooper urged land owners in the 600-square mile Maneuver area to cooperate with the Army Board assembled to obtain rights of Maneuver and trespass (Baulch 1941). Prior to the Maneuver phase that began in September 1942, The Sumner County News (9/3/1942) reported that 96% of the requested landowners had signed permission for use of land. This permission was a mere formality though, as one Wilson County farmer would find out. He did not want troops on his farm, located east of Lebanon, and he put up signs that read "Army Keep Out." According to a current resident of the area, that farmer suffered the worst fence damage of anyone in the vicinity.

The exercises gave locals a taste of what real warfare might be like, and local newspapers reported some events that occurred in their readers' own communities. The "Battle of the Cumberland," as one newspaper called it, started on September 17, 1942 (The Sumner County News 9/17/1942). The Blue Army (units were divided into Blue and Red armies for the Maneuvers) moved northward from their base at Manchester and attacked the Red forces at Gallatin. Described with landmarks that locals would know, The Sumner County News (10/1/1942) report of the battle said that the Blue Army penetrated red defenses of Gallatin and occupied a portion of the town from Hancock's tobacco barn and the bridge at Kelly's Tire Company, around Ed Mac's, up Muddy Run, and as far into town as Trousdale Place. Figure 2 shows soldiers in mock battle during the Maneuvers.

Following this part of the exercise, off duty soldiers swamped Gallatin and other towns. Gallatin hosted about 6,000 soldiers during the first weekend in October 1942, and the Service Center that the Army established at Trousdale Place reported that 1,700 free baths had been provided over the weekend with another 4,000 during the week. There were six dances for the soldiers, and the Daughters of the American Revolution with the United Daughters of the Confederacy hosted a buffet





Figure 2. Soldiers in mock battle in Tennessee Maneuvers (Farm Security Administration - Office of War Information Photograph Collection, Photo No. LC-USW33-000261-ZC DLC, Library of Congress).

for over 700 men. The American Legion fed another 500, and the Service Center placed 240 soldiers in private homes for Sunday Dinner. Many families took soldiers home with them after church services. The Service Center mailed 1,033 letters for soldiers, while many more soldiers mailed their own (The Sumner County News 10/1/1942). Soldiers were treated to other recreation as well. Weekly Saturday night square dances were held at the lodge in Cedars of Lebanon (The Nashville Tennessean, 3/20/1944).

Subsequent problems during this phase of the Maneuvers had the Red and Blue armies facing off from opposite sides of the Stones River. Soldiers dug trenches and foxholes for defense. Early in October 1942 the Blue Army drove southward from the Cumberland River to capture the railheads at Shelbyville, Tullahoma, and Manchester. The fighting started with a street battle on the Lebanon Public Square, and by the end one Blue Infantry Battalion reached Manchester. This problem saw the use of a large armored force of General Grant tanks and combat aviation as well as the use of propaganda. The Blue Army dropped leaflets on the Reds that read, "Prisoners on our side have good food and three blankets with fires at night to keep warm" (Sumner County News 10/8/1942).

The Army held four more Maneuver phases in 1943, beginning April 26, July 5, September 13, and November 22. The last phase of the Tennessee Maneuvers began on January 31, 1944, and future exercises were suspended because of the great need for troops in Europe. Middle Tennessee was not without an Army presence between Maneuver phases. Besides the regular training being conducted in the area, Signal Corp and Engineer troops came in before and stayed after the combat troops. The Signal Corps strung miles of wire for field communications and outfitted the message center that connected the Maneuver Director Headquarters in Lebanon with the Second Army Headquarters in Memphis and with officials in Washington, D.C. The Signal Corps also maintained messenger pigeons to carry messages between headquarters and front line troops. The photographic section of the Signal Corps maintained a visual record of the Tennessee Maneuvers. The engineers had the task of repairing some of the damage to area farms, roads, bridges, and anything else that the mock fighting had damaged. Landowners could also file claims for compensation for damage incurred. Army inspectors settled claims as quickly as possible (Sloan 1995). Some of the troops left behind for damage repair were black soldiers. A resident of Bellwood in Wilson County remembers black troops camping near his farm after a Maneuver phase. They were in the area to repair fences.

The Nashville Tennessean (3/26/1944) reported in March 1944 that the Rents and Claims Headquarters was seeking to wrap up all damage claims within 60 days, attesting to the promptness with which the Army took care of most Maneuver damage. The Second Army was to keep several thousand engineer troops in the Maneuver area until the end of May. About 10,000 claims had already been settled. Congress then approved a bill for \$5 million to repair the Maneuver damage in Tennessee and Louisiana (The Nashville Tennessean 4/1/1944). Nine battalions of engineer troops were still in the Tennessee Maneuver area in April 1944, repairing roads and bridges and operating quarries (The Nashville Tennessean 4/2/1944).

Clarence R. Pearce from Missouri was a First Lieutenant stationed in Tennessee beginning in November 1943, and his job was Special Claims Adjuster. Pearce and two other officers had farming experience, and they replaced claims adjustors who had a legal background but no experience with farming. Without farming experience, the previous adjustors had not been able to make accurate damage estimates. Some farmers had become reluctant to talk to the adjustors, but when they learned that the new adjustors were farmers, too, the process went smoother than before (Fletcher 1994a)

One of the more interesting and somewhat mysterious engineer units was the 1800<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, which was composed of American soldiers of German, Italian, and Japanese ancestry. The 1800<sup>th</sup> camped for a time in Lebanon near the airport, and they were often thought to be prisoners of war. Locally they became known as the P-W Battalion. Their presence gave rise to several stories remembered by informants interviewed during this project about a prison camp on the west side of Lebanon and the prisoners that were forced to work in the area. Some local residents were no doubt surprised when the musicians of the 1800<sup>th</sup> gave a concert at Castle Heights Military Academy in Lebanon on June 10, 1944 (Sloan 1995).

The Tennessee Maneuvers resulted in the deaths of 268 soldiers and 10 civilians. Many of these deaths were the result of vehicular accidents while driving in blackout conditions at night. The highest ranking officer to die was a major whose jeep was hit by a train while he tried to cross the rails in a heavy rain. Twenty men died in 1942 when a truck skidded off an overpass in Nashville, and many others died in crashes involving jeeps, motorcycles, halftracks, and tanks. Two tanks fell off a pontoon bridge while crossing the Cumberland River during a night crossing in October 1942, and six men died. Nine died in plane crashes during the Maneuvers (this does not count several deaths from crashes of planes involved in regular training in Tennessee), and many died from drowning. The greatest single loss of life came on March 23, 1944 at the end of the last Maneuver phase when an assault boat crossing the Cumberland River at night capsized. Twenty-one of the 23 soldiers in the boat drowned in the flood-swollen river. Other men died from lightning strikes, explosions, weapons accidents, and natural causes such as heart attacks. There were three homicides, two resulting in court martial death sentences. A tornado in Lebanon killed one soldier when the high wind picked up a fighter aircraft and dropped it on the barracks in which the soldier was sleeping (Zepp 2005:3B; Sloan 1995; The Nashville Tennessean 3/24/1944).

As the Tennessee Maneuvers progressed the Army laid down many rules for the soldiers. In March 1943 Lieutenant-General Ben Lear, commander of the Second Army, issued a set of rules on conduct for soldiers in the Maneuver area. Each soldier was expected to conduct himself like a gentleman. Officers and men were to only patronize businesses that had been inspected by military authorities and posted as acceptable. Hitchhiking was prohibited. Troops were required to drink water only from inspected sources. Crops were supposed to be protected, and trees were not to be damaged by driving nails into them. Troops and vehicles were to move to the side of the road when they were stopped. Food could only be bought at approved establishments, and

troops could only use approved barber shops (Sumner County News 3/13/1943).

Interaction between soldiers and civilians was supposed to be limited during the Maneuvers. While the Army encouraged citizens to take soldiers into their homes on weekends when they were off duty, a soldier on duty was not to enter a civilian home or barn or accept food from civilians. However, a common theme throughout the research for this project was the interaction of soldiers and civilians. Troops camped in close proximity to farmhouses during the exercises, and many families fed soldiers while they were in the area. Most people interviewed during the survey said that their mothers (most of the informants were children during the war) cooked for soldiers and sometimes did laundry. Farmers allowed soldiers to sleep in the barns, always with the warning to not smoke. Some even allowed soldiers to sleep in the house. One Wilson County resident remembered that after a night of heavy rain, they found that a soldier had slept in the family car. One Smith County resident remembered that her mother invited soldiers from a camp across the road to sit at the family dinner table and eat with them. She remembers being horrified that one of the soldiers, an Italian-American man from New York, sang at the table.

The soldiers repaid the kindness as best they could. Though families insisted that they didn't want payment, most found money under the dinner plates after the soldiers had left. A dairy farmer in Wilson County said they stored milk that they took to Watertown to sell to the Carnation plant there. Soldiers camping nearby would enter the barn at night and drink the milk, but they would always leave money for what they drank. Sometimes they drank all the milk, but they left more money than Carnation would have paid for the milk.

Many people have stories of things that the soldiers left for them. Sometimes these items, usually rationed commodities like coffee and sugar, were left at the door when the soldiers left the area. They were supposed to bury unused provisions, but knowing that they were throwing away things that many people could not get, they would often bury the goods in holes with only a tarp over them and maybe a small amount of dirt. The soldiers would then tell the families where they had buried the supplies. Informants told stories of receiving coffee, sugar, lemons, apple butter, flour, condensed milk, and canned fruits. Soldiers left one farmer two large cans full of gasoline, one received fence wire, and two were given towing chains.

Sam Perkins remembered that a large group of soldiers camped on his father's farm in New Middleton during the Maneuvers. The Army set up seven field kitchens in the feed lot around their house, and the family

traded eggs and fresh vegetables to the soldiers in exchange for sugar, coffee, apple butter, and orange marmalade. One soldier gave Perkins an old Royal brand typewriter and some books that the soldier was tired of carrying (Perkins 1994:14).

Local boys seem to have been most affected by the soldiers' presence, and the soldiers seemed to be happy to let the boys stay around the camp. Children often became entrepreneurs when the soldiers were close by. Several people interviewed told stories of buying candy bars and reselling them to the soldiers. Some boys had shoe shine kits with which they polished soldiers' boots. A Shop Springs resident sold egg sandwiches to soldiers who manned a gun position on the hill near his house. A Smith County resident, whose farm still bears the scars of tank treads, said that one night the soldiers set up a projector in camp, and he watched Last of the Mohicans with the soldiers. One of the more unusual interaction stories came from a Wartrace man who, while a teenager during the war, was allowed to drive a halftrack around the farm fields.

The meeting of soldiers from large northern towns with the rural Tennessee farm folk made for interesting encounters and many stories, some probably apocryphal, others documented. Private Mitchell Dabrowski of Massachusetts wrote home on June 17, 1943 asking his family to "please write pretty often because it will be pretty dead up there in that hillbilly country. I bet they have a lot of moonshiners there". Dabrowski wrote on July 4 that he and other soldiers had asked a lady to fry six chickens for them. When they returned later that night, she served them fried chicken, hot biscuits, milk, and raspberry pie for which they paid \$8 and thought it worth the price. He also wrote, "The way they live in the shacks around here is a crime. They are nothing but rough boards with clay pasted between the boards. I wouldn't live here for anything. But the people around here seem to be very accommodating" (Dabrowski 1943).

Private Dabrowski wrote home on August 9, 1943 complaining of the canned rations that the Army issued. He said that in the previous week he and some other men became separated from their unit and asked for food at a farmhouse. "We had the lady fix us up a short snack of milk, fried eggs, cake, and tomatoes." He also said that anyone caught getting food other than Army rations could face a court martial, "but it seems like even the looies [lieutenants] do it here" (Dabrowski 1943).

Tennesseans also had their opinions of this second "Yankee" invasion. Informants told many stories during this project about soldiers who had never experienced farm life. Some didn't know where milk came from, and a few got their first, and maybe only, experience with milking a

cow. One Wilson County resident said that a New York soldier once asked which cows gave the chocolate milk. A Cannon County resident remembers that many of the troops camping on her family's farm took the green tobacco leaves from the barn where they had been hung to cure, and tried to chew the leaves. Most of the soldiers who tried this became ill.

The Maneuver action during one January had passed around a farm where the farmer and his son were busy slaughtering hogs. When the two were unable to hoist a 500-pound hog to the scalding trough, the boy asked two soldiers standing in the front yard to help them. The two men pitched in, helping hoist the hog and taking orders from the farmer. The two soldiers were Major-General W. A. Burrell, commander of an infantry division, and Brigadier-General John B. Murphy, artillery commander (Sloan 1995).

The Army learned valuable lessons throughout the Tennessee Maneuvers, which, by design, gave realistic combat experience to the soldiers and commanders. At the conclusion of each week's problem, officers met to discuss the exercises to determine what worked and what did not work. "We are here," said Lieutenant-General Ben Lear in 1942, "To toughen the men for dirty work". General Leslie McNair, speaking at his field headquarters in June 1943, said, "Maneuvers are a dress rehearsal for the grim and dirty business. When the chips are down, lessons learned in Middle Tennessee will make the going easier from the beaches to Berlin". Several foreign dignitaries also observed the war games. It was rumored that President Franklin Roosevelt secretly visited the area to meet with Chinese General Chiang Kai-Shek (Sloan 1995).

The soldiers had another perspective on the Tennessee Maneuvers. Pfc. Mitchell Dabrowski wrote home on July 4, 1943, "These Maneuvers are pretty tough. In fact it's about the toughest thing I ever had in the Army." He wrote again in August, "They want to make a hillbilly out of me the way they keep shoving me from one hill to another hill." Dabrowski was looking forward to the end of the Maneuvers and being able to sleep in a bed again, but he wrote, "Maybe I'll have to put rocks in the mattress to make me feel at home, I'm so used to sleeping on the ground" (Dabrowski 1943).

There is also a story about a member of Merrill's Marauders, a specialized unit that operated behind Japanese lines in the jungles of Burma, who had been lost in the jungle and was found near death. When a hospital attendant later commented, "It must have been hell in there," the soldier responded, "If you think where I've been was rough, you should have been on Tennessee Maneuvers" (Sloan 1995).

As rough as the Maneuvers were, many soldiers returned after the war and met with the locals who had befriended them. A Wilson County resident remembered that soldiers from Wyoming, who had camped on their farm during the Maneuvers, returned after the war to visit. While they were in Tennessee they help break some horses that the family had just purchased. Other men came back and married local girls that they had met here. Some took their new brides home and some stayed in Tennessee.

Velma Apple, whose son Frank was in the service during the war, once gave some cold milk to a soldier who was passing by the house. He had been willing to drink it warm straight from the cow, but Mrs. Apple would not let him, nor would she accept payment. After the war, the soldier and his wife came from Missouri to Tennessee so that he could seek out and thank all the locals who had been kind to him. The Apples invited the couple to stay the night. They left after breakfast the next morning, and while cleaning up, Velma Apple found that each had left \$20 under the breakfast plates (Fletcher 1994b).

A Watertown resident remembers that three soldiers whose vehicle had broken down near his family's farm were left behind by their unit until the vehicle could be recovered. They stayed about two weeks in December, and on Christmas Day, the family invited the soldiers into their home and shared Christmas dinner with them. Such hospitality seems to be typical of what most soldiers experienced.

Marion King, a soldier who had been on Maneuvers in Tennessee, wrote a letter to the editor of The Nashville Tennessean (3/30/1944) saying, "The people of Tennessee and all other towns and cities of the Maneuver area and nearby have exemplified the willingness of most civilians to cooperate with the armed forces." He further stated that, "The enlisted men of my outfit, and, in general, all I've spoken to have remarked on the attitude of the people of Tennessee. We're truly grateful to them. 'A home away from home' was brought to our attention very forcibly. I can only say, 'Thank you.'"

## **SURVEY OF WORLD WAR II MILITARY SITES**

### TYPES OF WORLD WAR II SITES AND SITE COMPONENTS

One of the primary goals of the World War II survey was to collect information from those informants who were witnesses to the events in Tennessee. The supporting information for many of the sites recorded came from informants who were able to point out where soldiers had camped or trained. Another source of information was two maps that showed bivouac areas. G. Frank Burns provided a copy of a Lebanon quadrangle map printed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (in all respects the same as a USGS topographic map) on which areas of interest had been marked with a red pen. Evidently this was used during one of the Maneuver phases. The areas include bivouacs, watering points, and bridges (with notations as to how much weight the bridge could hold or whether it was open to military traffic). Jim Henderson provided a copy of a similar map, this one the Hartsville quadrangle. Location information from these maps was sufficient to record several bivouac sites, and some of these were confirmed by informant information.

Archival information was also useful in locating sites. Newspaper articles from the Maneuver period sometimes mention where military activities occurred giving enough landmarks to locate the site. Some local history books also provide location information, sometimes in the form of reminiscences by local residents.

Some of the sites recorded during the survey are well known and documented. Examples of these include Camp Crossville, Camp Forrest, Dyersburg Army Air Base, and the Second Army Maneuver Director's Headquarters at Cumberland University.

Table 1 is a list of the 118 World War II sites recorded during the survey and the military or military related components that comprise each site. These components help explain the nature of each site and its importance as a cultural resource. Some of these sites also include non-military components, but these are not listed. The survey of World War II sites necessitated the addition of two new types of site component to the list of Historic Site Types maintained by the Tennessee Division of Archaeology. These are "Military Post" and "Airfield."

"Military Post" was added under the "Military" heading of the Historic Site Type list. A military post as defined during this survey is a more or less permanent facility established by a branch of the military that does not fit one of the other categories such as fort or headquarters. A "Military Post," though usually secure, may not necessarily be fortified



by earthworks or other defensive structures like a "Fort." Such a facility may include a "Headquarters" for one or more military units but is not limited to just the headquarters facilities. Examples recorded during this project are the Second Army Maneuver Director Headquarters in Lebanon and Camp Tyson in Henry County to name just two. "Airfield" was added under the "Transportation" heading, but is listed on Table 1 as a military-related component, since all of the airfields recorded during this survey were used by the military. The term "Airfield" applies to any facility from which aircraft operated and is synonymous with airport, landing field, or landing strip. The types of airfields recorded during this survey range from basic turf airstrips, some of which were really no more than flat open farm fields, to large Army air bases with long asphalt runways.

The Army commonly used the term "bivouac" for the encampments established during World War II, and these sites are listed in Table 1 as "Short-Term Encampments." Similarly the term "foxhole" was common during World War II, and the existing site category "entrenchments" was used for these. Site components that were recorded under the general heading "Military" because they do not fall within an established site type, such as pontoon bridge or bombing range, are listed parenthetically on Table 1.

Some military facilities are still under federal jurisdiction, and they are subject to federal regulations. These have been the subjects of other studies, so they were not the focus of this particular survey. Camp Campbell, now Fort Campbell, is still an active military base in Montgomery County, Tennessee and southern Kentucky. Camp Forrest is now part of the Arnold Engineering Development Center and Arnold Air Force Base in Tullahoma. It is a military flight testing center. A portion of Camp Forrest is recorded as an archaeological site and listed on Table 1. Milan Army Ammunition Plant in Gibson and Carroll Counties and Holston Ordnance Facility in Sullivan County are active military facilities. Oak Ridge in Anderson and Roane Counties is a large complex once controlled entirely by the U.S. government. Some of it is still under federal jurisdiction while parts are now privately owned.

**Table 1. Recorded World War II Military Archaeological Sites**

<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Military and Military Related Components</b>
<b>Bedford County</b>		
40BD143	Wartrace Redoubt and Camp	Short Term Encampment
40BD229	Tullahoma Bombing and Gunnery range	(Aerial Bombing Range)
40BD230	Wartrace Bivouac at Jernigan Field	Short Term Encampment
40BD231	Wartrace Bivouac (Smotherman Farm)	Short Term Encampment, Artillery Emplacement
40BD232	Wartrace Bivouac	Short Term Encampment
40BD233	Military Weather Station and Bivouac in Wartrace	Short Term Encampment
40BD234	Wartrace bivouac on Highway 269	Short Term Encampment
40BD235	Pontoon Bridge on Wartrace Creek	(Pontoon Bridge)
40BD236	Bivouac on Union Ridge Road	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40BD237	Bivouac on Knob Creek Road, Ferrell Farm	Short Term Encampment
40BD238	Bivouac on Bedford Lake Road	Short Term Encampment
40BD239	Bivouac near Bellville	Short Term Encampment
40BD240	Wartrace Service Station	(Military Vehicle Repair)
40BD241	Bivouac on Morton Farm	Short Term Encampment
<b>Cannon County</b>		
40CN118	Bivouac in Gassaway	Short Term Encampment
40CN119	Bivouac on Blanton School Road	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
<b>Chester County</b>		
40CS167	Jacks Creek Airfield	Airfield
<b>Coffee County</b>		
40CF309	William Northern Airfield	Military Post, Airfield
40CF310	Camp Forrest	Military Post, Military Prison
<b>DeKalb County</b>		
40DK65	Bivouac in Dowelltown	Short Term Encampment
40DK66	Abraham Overall house	Short Term Encampment
40DK67	Bivouac North of Gassaway	Short Term Encampment
<b>Cumberland County</b>		
40CU63	Camp Crossville	Military Prison
<b>Dyer County</b>		
40DY80	Dyersburg Bombing Range	(Aerial Bombing Range)
<b>Henry County</b>		
40HY173	Camp Tyson	Military Post, Headquarters, Military Prison, Long Term Hospital.

Table 1 continued.

<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Military and Military Related Components</b>
<b>Lake County</b>		
40LK92	Ridgely Precision Bombing Range	(Aerial Bombing Range)
<b>Lauderdale County</b>		
40LA173	Dyersburg Army Air Base	Military Post, Headquarters, Airfield
40LA174	Dyersburg Turret Gunnery/AAF Range	(Aerial Gun Range, Anti-Aircraft Practice Range)
40LA175	Dyersburg Air To Ground Range	(Aerial Bombing And Gun Range)
<b>Lawrence County</b>		
40LR42	Lawrenceburg Prisoner of War Camp	Military Prison
<b>Moore County</b>		
40ME41	Target Butt at William Northern Field	(Target For Gun Alignment)
40ME42	Cumberland Springs Bivouac	Short Term Encampment
<b>Obion County</b>		
40OB207	Embry-Riddle Field	Short Term Encampment, Airfield
<b>Putnam County</b>		
40PM116	Bivouac in Buffalo Valley	Short Term Encampment, Short Term Hospital.
40PM117	Bivouac at N. Maple and E. 10 <sup>th</sup> , Cookeville	Short Term Encampment
40PM118	Bivouac north of Baxter, Higgenbottom Rd.	Short Term Encampment
40PM119	Bivouac north of Baxter, Hwy 56	Short Term Encampment
<b>Sevier County</b>		
40SV177	Camp Morgan (Camp Rufus Jones)	(Conscientious Objectors Camp)
<b>Shelby County</b>		
40SY700	Memphis General Services Depot	Military Post, Military Prison
40SY701	Second Army Headquarters, Memphis	Military Post, Headquarters,
40SY702	Memphis Naval Air Station	Military Post, Airfield
40SY703	"The Wagon Wheel" airfield	Airfield
40SY704	Charles W. Baker Field	Airfield
40SY705	Kennedy Veterans Hospital	Long Term Hospital
<b>Smith County</b>		
40SM204	Bivouac on Hiwassee Road	Short Term Encampment
40SM205	Bivouac at Jack Apple Church, Enigma	Short Term Encampment
40SM206	Bivouac on Ditty Hollow Road	Short Term Encampment

Table 1 Continued.

<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Military and Military Related Components</b>
40SM207	Bivouac in Monoville	Short Term Encampment
40SM208	Bivouac in Nixon Hollow	Short Term Encampment
40SM209	Bivouac in Old Middleton	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40SM210	Bivouac on Thomas Farm, New Middleton	Short Term Encampment
40SM211	Bivouac Smith Farm (New Middleton School)	Short Term Encampment
40SM212	Bivouac near New Middleton	Short Term Encampment
40SM213	Bivouac south of Hickman	Short Term Encampment
40SM214	Bivouac on Thomas Farm, Hickman	Short Term Encampment, Airfield
40SM215	Bivouac at Stonewall	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40SM216	Bivouac northwest of Bluff Creek	Short Term Encampment
40SM217	Bivouac south of Bluff Creek, Gibbs Farm	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40SM218	Bivouac south of Bluff Creek, Wooten Farm	Short Term Encampment
40SM219	Bivouac near Kempville	Short Term Encampment
40SM220	Bivouac in Kempville	Short Term Encampment
40SM221	Bivouac on Gualtney Farm	Short Term Encampment
<b>Sumner County</b>		
40SU238	35 <sup>th</sup> Evacuation Hospital	Short Term Hospital
40SU239	Bivouac at old Gallatin High School	Short Term Encampment
<b>Trousdale County</b>		
40TR83	Averitt's Ferry/Maneuver river crossing	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment, Artillery Emplacement, (Pontoon Bridge)
<b>Weakley County</b>		
40WK116	Gill-Dove Field	Airfield
<b>Wilson County</b>		
40WI191	Cumberland University/2 <sup>nd</sup> Army Maneuver headquarters	Military Post, Headquarters
40WI192	Lebanon Municipal Airport	Short Term Encampment, Airfield
40WI193	Barton's Creek Bivouac #1	Short Term Encampment
40WI194	Barton's Creek Bivouac #2	Short Term Encampment
40WI195	Barton's Creek Bivouac #3	Short Term Encampment
40WI196	Camp and Stockade at Lebanon HS	Long Term Encampment, Military Prison

Table 1 Continued.

<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Military and Military Related Components</b>
40WI197	Airstrip on McFarland Farm	Airfield
40WI198	Bivouac and foxholes on McFarland Farm	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40WI199	Paratrooper Drop zone at Taylorsville	(Demonstration Drop Zone)
40WI200	Bivouac on Spencer Creek	Short Term Encampment
40WI201	Bivouac on Smith Farm	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40WI202	Bivouac northeast of Lebanon	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40WI203	Bivouac on Bone Farm	Short Term Encampment
40WI204	Bivouac on Purnell Farm	Short Term Encampment
40WI205	Bivouac in Bellwood	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40WI206	Bivouac on Nixon Farm, Lebanon	Short Term Encampment
40WI207	Bivouac on Vance Lane	Short Term Encampment
40WI208	Bivouac and Airstrip on Spring Creek/Vance House	Short Term Encampment, Airfield
40WI209	Bivouac and Stockade on Central Pike	Short Term Encampment, Military Prison, Airfield
40WI210	Bivouac on Central Pike	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchments
40WI211	Bivouac on Harkreader Road	Short Term Encampment
40WI212	Bivouac on Taylorsville Road	Short Term Encampment
40WI213	Bivouac near Martha	Short Term Encampment
40WI214	Bivouac at Wilson County High School	Short Term Encampment
40WI215	Bivouac southwest of Gladeville	Short Term Encampment
40WI216	Bivouac on Stewarts Ferry Pike, west of Gladeville	Short Term Encampment
40WI217	Bivouac at Gladeville	Short Term Encampment
40WI218	Bivouac on Stewarts Ferry Pike	Short Term Encampment
40WI219	Bivouac at Wilson County Fairgrounds	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment
40WI220	Bivouac near Silver Springs	Short Term Encampment
40WI221	Bivouac northwest of Leeville	Short Term Encampment
40WI222	Bivouac on Hurricane Creek	Short Term Encampment
40WI223	Bivouac near Centerville	Short Term Encampment
40WI224	Bivouac on Dyer Road	Short Term Encampment
40WI225	Bivouac on Patton Hollow Road	Short Term Encampment
40WI226	Bivouac on Conatser Road	Short Term Encampment
40WI227	Bivouac on Conaster Road near Old Rome Pike	Short Term Encampment

Table 1 Continued.

<b>Site Number</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Military and Military Related Components</b>
40WI228	Bivouac on Patton Hollow Road (Ferrell Farm)	Short Term Encampment
40WI229	Bivouac on Patton Hollow Road opposite Moore Hollow Road	Short Term Encampment
40WI230	Bivouac on Castle Heights Avenue	Short Term Encampment
40WI231	Bivouac on Meadow Lake Drive	Short Term Encampment
40WI232	Bivouac on Dawson Lane	Short Term Encampment
40WI233	Bivouac on Coles Ferry Pike	Short Term Encampment
40WI234	Bivouac at Greenbrier lake	Short Term Encampment
40WI235	Bivouac on Poplar Hill Road	Short Term Encampment
40WI236	Airfield on Poplar Hill Road	Airfield
40WI237	Bivouac and field hospital near Doaks Crossroads	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment, Short Term Hospital
40WI238	Cairo Bend Bivouac	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment, (Airfield)
40WI239	Bivouac north of Doaks Crossroads	Short Term Encampment
40WI240	Field artillery position north of Shop Springs	(Artillery Position-No Earthworks)
40WI241	Artillery Emplacement on Sparta Pike (Shop Springs)	Artillery Emplacement
40WI242	Bivouac near Tuckers Crossroads	Short Term Encampment, Entrenchment

### **Encampments**

Short term encampments, or bivouacs, account for 87 of the 118 sites recorded during the survey. The Maneuver exercises were very fluid, testing the mobility and speed of the Army. Soldiers camped in convenient locations for one night or several weeks depending on a variety of circumstances. Bivouac sites were sometimes difficult to pinpoint and assign clear boundaries. Most bivouac sites were identified based on eyewitness accounts. Because people generally did not travel far from home during the war, most eyewitnesses are only aware of what happened in the vicinity of their homes. The recorded encampment sites represent only a sample of the potential hundreds or thousands of sites created by the Army during the Tennessee Maneuvers. When asked where the soldiers camped during the Maneuvers, most eyewitnesses responded, "They were all over."

Formal camps such as shown in Figure 3 were laid out in neat rows, and some informants did report that soldiers put up rows of tents in their fields. Sometimes troops camped in wooded areas and on hillsides where tents could not be laid out so neatly. The temporary nature of most of these camps probably left little in the way of archaeological remains, at least in terms of tent placement. The modern army of the 1940s did not light campfires to cook their meals as had been done in previous eras. Locals have reported finding artifacts left over from the Maneuvers including spent shells, practice land mines, food cans, and occasionally uniform parts. Other archaeological remains might be found in the form of pits dug to bury trash, latrine trenches, or foxholes (recorded under the category "Entrenchment").

Sam Perkins, who lived in Smith County during the war, remembered that soldiers often lost personal gear at encampments. Whenever soldiers moved out and abandoned their bivouacs during the



Figure 3. Tennessee Maneuvers, Second Army, Company F, 347<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 87<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division standing for inspection on May 8, 1943 (Signal Corps Photo No. 164-007-43-989, Record Group 111, Still Picture Branch, National Archives).

Maneuvers, the local children would scour the area finding belts, canteens, and first aid packs. The Army was in the process of switching from canvas leggings to a new combat boot, so soldiers often abandoned the old gear. Dog tags were often lost when soldiers took them off to wash, and Perkins found many dog tags hanging on bushes. He also found plastic canteens, which the Army was just beginning to issue. The water often froze during cold weather and split the plastic, so the soldiers discarded them (Perkins 1994).

Land mines are particularly worrisome artifacts that have turned up on several Middle Tennessee sites. There were three basic types of land mines in use by the U.S. Army during the war. An inert mine, usually painted black, could be shown to soldiers during training as an example of what a typical mine looked like. High explosive mines, painted olive green, were used in actual combat situations. Mines used in Tennessee during the Maneuvers were practice mines, painted light blue. These mines, examples of which are shown in Figure 4, contained a small explosive charge that could only be detonated with about 600 pounds of pressure. When a heavy vehicle detonated a mine, causing a loud noise but no damage to the vehicle, a Maneuver referee would count that vehicle as destroyed. The weight of an infantryman was not enough to detonate these mines (McFarland 2005).



Figure 4. Practice land mine and two pressure rings found in Wilson County (photo courtesy of Jerry McFarland).



Figure 5 shows an encampment in Old Middleton, Smith County where tents are arranged in rows in an open field. That same area, recorded as archaeological site number 40SM209, was relatively unchanged as of 2005 (Figure 6). Mrs. Louise Parsons, who was a young woman during the war, photographed a similar bivouac in Bellville, Bedford County (40BD239) (Figures 7 and 8).



Figure 5. Old Middleton bivouac (photo courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Bass, TDOA WWII image file, photo#P020).



Figure 6. 2005 photograph of bivouac site (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S133).



Figure 7. Bivouac near Bellville, Bedford County (courtesy of Louise Parsons, TDOA WWII image file, photo #P004).



Figure 8. Bivouac near Bellville, Bedford County (courtesy of Louise Parsons, TDOA WWII image file, photo #P008).

## **Prisoner of War Camps**

When the United States entered the War in December 1941, Britain's prisoner of war camps were already overcrowded. Many prisoners were sent to the U.S. and placed in POW camps all over the country with most being located in the South and Southwest because of the milder climate. According to one source, Tennessee had eleven prisoner of war camps (Wages 1992: 20). Not all of these could be identified during this study.

### Camp Crossville (40CU63)

Camp Crossville was located just southwest of Crossville in Cumberland County. The first prisoners arrived at Camp Crossville in November 1942, and by the time it closed in 1945 the facility had housed more than 1,500 German and Italian prisoners. The locals called it the "Jap Camp" because they believed that Japanese prisoners or perhaps Japanese civilians living in the United States would be kept there. Camp Crossville was designated as an enemy officers' camp, but enlisted men were also kept there (Hennes 2004:35; Kupsky 2003:1-2).

Two twelve-foot high barbed wire fences enclosed the camp stockade, and there were guard towers outside the perimeter (Figures 9 and 10). The stockade had six compounds, four for officers and two for enlisted men. There was an office for the stockade commander, a hospital, barracks, latrines, mess halls, and the prisoner canteen inside the stockade. The camp commander's office was outside the stockade as were staff quarters, administrative buildings, an auditorium, a firehouse, and guard house. As officers the prisoners could not be required to perform labor outside the camp, but many volunteered to work, and they earned extra canteen coupons for it. Most prisoners worked at farm labor (Hennes 2004:35; Kupsky 2003:2-4).

One incident at the camp occurred in February 1943 when a group of prisoners refused to leave their quarters during an inspection. A German Captain, Jurgen Wattenberg, who acted as spokesman for the prisoners would not translate the guard's orders, and eventually guards drove the prisoners away at bayonet point. Later that day a prisoner grabbed the camp commander and a fight ensued. Guards came to the commander's rescue and the prisoner sustained injuries, either from the commander kicking him or from a blow from a rifle butt. The prisoner later died of these injuries. The incident was rare for Camp Crossville and prison camps in the United States in general. Wattenberg was eventually transferred to Papago Park Prisoner of War Camp in Arizona where he participated in one of the largest escapes of German prisoners in the U.S. All were soon captured (Kupsky 2003:5-8).



Figure 9. Camp Crossville guard tower, photographed in 1963 (from Gordon 1992:12).



Figure 10. Perimeter fence for prisoner compound at Camp Crossville. Guard tower is in background with barracks at right (copied from original photo housed at University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service 4-H Camp, Crossville).

As prisoners were released at the end of the war and shipped back to Europe, Camp Crossville officially became a branch camp of Camp Forrest. On December 5, 1945 the last prisoners left Camp Crossville and the facility was turned over to Army Engineers (Hennes 2004:91-92).

Camp Forrest (40CF310)

See description under Training Camps.

Camp Tyson (40HY107)

See description under Training Camps

Camp in Lawrenceburg (40LR42)

Prior to the outbreak of World War II, a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was located on Shoal Creek west of Lawrenceburg. The CCC camp had been closed prior to 1942, but Lawrenceburg's local newspaper, The Democratic Union (1/9/1942), reported in January 1942 that the camp would soon be reoccupied. On April 24, 1942 The Democratic Union (4/24/1942) reported that buildings at the CCC camp were being dismantled. Whether or not the camp was reused during the brief span from January to April is not known, but it is likely that the wartime demand for troops and defense industry workers precluded the need for the CCC camp.

The March 17, 1944 issue of The Democratic Union (3/17/1944) first reported a plan to use 200 to 300 German prisoners of war to cut wood for the Wrigley Chemical Plant in Hickman County. The wood was to be cut in Lewis County, and barracks would be built near the work site. One week later the newspaper reported that the prisoners, about 250 of them, would be kept at the "former CCC camp at Pine Bluff, one-half mile west of Lawrenceburg" (The Democratic Union, 3/24/1944). This article also said that barracks would be built and barbed wire would be put up. By the end of March, construction was underway on the prison camp. Prefabricated barracks were brought in along with barbed wire to surround the camp. The former site of the CCC camp was at this time owned by J. H. Stribling (The Democratic Union, 3/31/1944).

The German prisoners arrived at the camp on April 19, 1944. The camp had a commissary, mess hall, kitchens, sewage, and drainage facilities (The Democratic Union, 4/21/1944). There were 250 prisoners and 48 guards, and the prisoners prepared their own meals. The first

contingent of 79 prisoners with five guards was sent to cut wood near Napier in the southern part of Lewis County on land owned by the Christian Home (The Democratic Union, 4/28/1944). They were paid 80 cents per day in canteen coupons for their work (The Democratic Union, 2/23/1945).

On September 14, 1944 two of the German prisoners, Willy Graul and Berthold Schmidt, escaped from camp. They were picked up almost two weeks later by a barber south of Waynesboro and taken to Camp Forrest. The prisoners gave up their escape because they had no food (The Democratic Union, 9/29/1944).

The prisoners continued to cut wood for several months after the war ended (The Democratic Union, 10/26/1945). In December 1945 they were transferred from the Lawrenceburg camp to Camp Forrest in Tullahoma for eventual transport back to Germany (The Democratic Union, 12/7/1945).

### Unrecorded Prisoner of War Camps

References were found during the course of the project to other prisoner of war camps, but not enough information was found to determine a site location. These are assumed to be small facilities. Prisoners were kept in Nashville (Brake 1998:1081), and there was also a facility for American soldiers arrested for various crimes (Gordon 1992:25). There was a prisoner of war camp near Tellico Plains in Monroe County (Sloan 1995) and an interrogation center in Pigeon Forge in Sevier County (Kirkpatrick 2006).

### **Military Airfields**

#### Dyersburg Army Air Base (40LA173)

Construction on Dyersburg Army Air Base was begun in March 1942, and crews began training in B-17 bombers in May 1943. The 346th Bomb Group of the 2nd Air Force trained at the base. The first commander of the base was Lieutenant Colonel George B. Mackey. Eventually the base became home to the 330th Combat Training School of the 3rd Air Force, and the name of the base was changed to Dyersburg Army Air Field. Nearly 8,000 crewmen trained in B-17s at the base, and at the peak of operation there were 71 B-17s on the base (Fulbright 1998:109-110). A contingent of Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) was also stationed at the base ("WASP on the Web" website <[www.wasp-wwii.org](http://www.wasp-wwii.org)>).

The bomber crews used several practice bombing ranges including the Ridgely precision bombing range in Lake County (40LK92), the Dyersburg bombing range in Dyer County (40DY80), the Dyersburg anti-aircraft fire turret gunnery range near Porters Gap in Lauderdale County (40LA174), the Dyersburg air to ground range near Chisolm Lake in Lauderdale County (40LA175), and an unrecorded bombing range near Covington where the current airport is located. The crews later used high altitude bombing ranges at Spencer in Van Buren County and near Shelbyville in Bedford County. During the war 23 bombers crashed at Dyersburg Army Air Base and 114 crewmen died (Fulbright 1998:110-111).

The base was deactivated following the war, and in 1947 the Town of Halls bought the property. The runways were used for drag racing during the 1950s and 60s, and in 1979 the town began operation of a municipal airport named Arnold field, which is still active. The Veterans' Museum, which houses World War II memorabilia, is located on the tarmac of the former base (Fulbright 1998:110-111; "Air Sho '95" 1995:5).

Of the many buildings that once comprised the large base, there are only a few remains including a maintenance hangar (Figure 11), the vaults (Figure 12) in which Norden bomb sites were locked when not in use (the Norden bomb site was still a closely guarded military secret because of its great accuracy), and building foundations.

#### William Northern Field (40CF309 and 40ME41)

The U.S. War Department chose Tullahoma, Coffee County, as the site of a large Army airbase for training bomber crews. According to Bradford (1981:1) The Tullahoma Guardian reported on March 6, 1941 that the War Department intended to spend \$1,000,000 to construct the base on 640 acres 1½ miles northwest of Tullahoma. Most of this land (513 acres) was the William J. Crouch farm.

Originally designated as Tullahoma Army Air Base, the facility was named William Northern Field on November 11, 1942 in honor of the first Tennessee pilot to die in the war. The field was designed for heavy bombers and had three runways, each about 5,000 feet long. The original base included more than 100 buildings, and by 1943 the facility covered 1,300 acres. A variety of Army Air Forces units used the field during the war, and the facility eventually came under the authority of the Army Air Forces Eastern Flying Training Command headquartered at Sewart Air Base in Smyrna (Fulbright 1998:148-149). The Tullahoma



Figure 11. 2004 photo of the maintenance hangar at Dyersburg Army Air Base (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S053a).



Figure 12. 2004 photo of vaults at Dyersburg Army Air Base (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S049).



Guardian reported in August 1946 that more than 100 barracks at the airfield had been dismantled, and the building materials were being shipped to colleges in Tennessee (Bradford 1981:1).

A World War II era hangar (Figure 13), boiler room, and storage building still stand at the site. The foundations of another building believed to be a barracks is also evident. A structure called a target butt is at the end of one runway, just over the county line in Moore County (recorded as site 40ME41). It is a concrete structure that appears to have once had thick wooden timbers bolted to the walls and possibly a sand fill. Planes were tethered at the end of the runway, and they fired into the target butt so that their guns could be aligned (Figure 14).



Figure 13. 2004 photo of World War II hangar at William Northern Field (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S114a).



Figure 14. Interior of target butt at William Northern Field (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S094).

### Smyrna Airbase (not recorded)

The Smyrna Army Airbase in Rutherford County was constructed in 1942 and served as home to the Army Air Forces Combat Crew School that trained troops to fly the B-24 and B-17 bombers. These troops acted as pilots for the Ferry Command that flew planes to combat bases. The base was deactivated in July 1947 then reopened in the following year and designated Smyrna Air Force Base. In 1950 the facility was renamed in honor of Allan J. Sewart, a pilot who died in the Solomon Islands in 1942. Sewart AFB was home to several Air Force units until the base was again deactivated in March 1970 and taken over by civilian authorities. The base was renovated in the 1990s and the World War II era buildings were torn down (Global Security website, [www.globalsecurity.com/facility/Smyrna](http://www.globalsecurity.com/facility/Smyrna)).

### Memphis Naval Air Station (40SY702)

The Aviation Section of the United States Army Signal Corps, which would eventually evolve into the United States Army Air Forces in 1941, began work on an aviation school near Millington in August 1917 to train combat pilots for World War I. The 907-acre facility was named Park Field, and it consisted of 60 buildings including twelve hangars, barracks, officers' quarters, mess halls, school buildings, a machine shop, a garage, and an administration building. The school opened on November 26, 1917. At the end of the war in 1918, training ceased but permanent personnel at Park Field began providing mail service throughout Tennessee. Lack of interest in military aviation contributed to the demise of Park Field, and by 1922 the facility was only used for storage. The planes were sold for \$50 each. In 1923 most of the buildings were torn down, and extra plane parts were burned. Most of the land was returned to farming but some civilian flying took place at the remaining portion of the field. During the Depression in the 1930s, a transient camp for unemployed people was established on the site. In 1942 after the United States had entered World War II, the Navy chose Park Field as the site of a Naval air training station (Norris 1983: 1-33).

The Navy purchased additional land, making the facility over 3,000 acres. New buildings were constructed, and the first class of cadets graduated in December 1942. The facility was originally called the Naval Reserve Aviation Base, but in 1943 it was renamed the Naval Air Station Memphis. Construction was nearly complete in July 1943. Following the war the facility underwent major changes. The base evolved throughout the 1950s to accommodate jet training. In 1994 the airfield became a joint military and civilian facility. Most of the facility was turned over to the Millington Municipal Airport Authority in 1995 (Fulbright 1998:125-126). Figure 15 shows the control tower at the

former Naval Air Station. The recorded archaeological site is an area at the center of the former air station, containing some surviving buildings and areas where buildings formerly stood.



Figure 15. 2006 photo of World War II era control tower at the former Memphis Naval Air Station. (TDOA WWII image file, photo #138a).

#### Embry-Riddle Field (40OB207)

Embry-Riddle Field is an example of an Army Air Forces training facility on a smaller scale than large bases such as Dyersburg Army Air Base. In 1942 Union City leaders learned from Colonel Herbert Fox, Director of the Tennessee Bureau of Aeronautics, that the Florida-based Embry-Riddle Company was looking for land for an Army Air Forces training facility. Civic leaders and businessmen secured the required 800 acres, and the Army approved the contract between Union City and the Embry-Riddle Company. By mid-1942 the company had constructed a 4,000 foot north-south runway and a 2,000 foot east-west runway along with a paved ramp, two metal hangars, a control tower, an administration building, two maintenance buildings, and several barracks (Fulbright 1998:150-151).

Training began in July 1942 and cadets used PT-17s, PT-19s, and PT-23s. At the height of training there were 400 cadets and 150 aircraft at the airfield. Following the war the owners deeded the airfield to Obion County and renamed it in honor of Tennessee Senator Tom Stewart. The name of Congressman Robert Everett was added in 1969, and the airport is known today as Everett-Stewart Field. During the 1960s the main runway was lengthened eventually to 5,000 feet, and lights were added (Fulbright 1998:151-152.).

## **Military Posts (Training Camps)**

### Camp Forrest (40CF310)

The site of Camp Forrest, located on the east side of Tullahoma, remains largely under federal jurisdiction, and Arnold Engineering Development Center, Arnold Air Force Station, and the Tennessee National Guard Volunteer Training Site are now located there. The recorded site, 40CF310, includes only 2,451 acres of the 85,000 acres that comprised Camp Forrest during World War II and is located within the 7,000-acre Tennessee National Guard Volunteer Training Site. The site boundaries include the area where most of the World War II era barracks were located. There have been past assessments of the historical and archaeological resources at the former Army base, and the National Guard continues to take an interest in the archaeological remains by contracting with archaeologists to study the site.

Camp Forrest was a large U.S. Army basic training camp located on the east side of Tullahoma. It was earlier Camp Peay, a National Guard training facility covering more than 1,000 acres, established in 1926. At the outbreak of World War II in Europe, the camp was expanded to 85,000 acres and renamed Camp Forrest. The construction began in October 1940 and the camp was largely complete in March 1941. The Army built 408 barracks, 158 mess halls, 14 officers' mess halls, 19 guard houses, 35 warehouses, 20 administration buildings, 38 officers' quarters, a bakery, an ice plant, an incinerator, a cold storage facility, a laundry, a water and sewage treatment plant, a hospital, and many concrete pads for temporary tents. There were also several miles of roads and railroads in the camp (Pyle et al. 2002:3-5; Duggan and McIlvenna 1995: 24-26).

In addition to troops that came to the camp for basic training, some of the troops participating in the Tennessee Maneuvers were temporarily housed at Camp Forrest. In 1942 the first prisoners of war were brought to Camp Forrest, and by 1945 most of the facilities would be devoted to prisoners. Between May 1942 and May 1943 the camp also housed civilians designated as Enemy Aliens. These were later moved to a facility in North Dakota (Pyle et al. 2002:25-29; Duggan and McIlvenna 1995: 24-26). The prisoner portion of the camp is shown in Figure 16.

During the course of the war, an estimated 250,000 troops passed through Camp Forrest. The camp eventually housed about 22,000 prisoners of war; most of them were Germans. Following the war the facilities were dismantled and sold as surplus (Pyle et al. 2002:25-29; Duggan and McIlvenna 1995: 24-26).



Figure 16. Prisoner of war facility at Camp Forrest (Sloan 1995).

#### Camp Campbell (not recorded)

Camp Campbell, now Fort Campbell, spans portions of Montgomery County, Tennessee, northeast of Clarksville, and southern Kentucky. The facility is still an active military base and has been the subject of other cultural resource studies. It was not recorded during this study.

Construction of Camp Campbell, named for Tennessee Governor William Bowen Campbell, began in February 1942, and the post became a training ground for the 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> Armored Divisions. The facility was also the headquarters for the IV Armored Corps and the 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. The camp covered about 102,000 acres from which about 700 families were displaced (Muir 1998:323; Toplovich 1992: 21).

The construction of the base and the influx of soldiers caused a boom for the local economy. The City of Clarksville nearly doubled in size during the war, and special zoning was implemented to handle the rapid expansion. About 250,000 soldiers trained at Camp Campbell during the war. Four thousand German prisoners of war were also kept at the base (Muir 1998:323).

After the war the camp almost closed, but in 1947 the government opened the secret Clarksville Base within Camp Campbell. The Clarksville Base was used to prepare nuclear weapons until it was deactivated in 1969. In 1950 Camp Campbell was designated Fort Campbell. After a succession of units passed through the facility over

the years, Fort Campbell became the home of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne in 1956 (Muir 1998:323-324; Fort Campbell Online 2006).

### Camp Tyson (40HY173)

Camp Tyson was a unique World War II facility, being the only barrage balloon training camp in the United States. The U.S. Army, following the lead of the British who were successfully using barrage balloons, established a training facility about six miles southwest of Paris in Henry County. The facility was named for General Lawrence D. Tyson, a Tennessean who served in the Spanish American War and World War I (Fulbright 1998:135).

The purpose of the barrage balloons (Figure 17) was to deter low flying enemy aircraft and protect vulnerable targets such as ships and bridges. The large balloons were filled with hydrogen (helium was often used in training), and they were allowed to rise on steel cables up to 10,000 feet, thus restricting airspace and forcing enemy bombers and fighters to fly higher. Sometimes cables were fitted with explosives as a further deterrent (Skylighters 2004).

Construction of the camp began in September 1941, and while it was being built, the Army established a temporary training center at Camp Davis, North Carolina. Almost 8,000 people worked to construct Camp Tyson, and the work was completed March 14, 1942. Brigadier General John Maynard assumed command of Camp Tyson on February 16, 1942, just three days after the 302nd Barrage Balloon Battalion flew the first balloon at the camp (Williams 1990; Skylighters 2004).

The government reserved 1,680 acres for Camp Tyson, and the final camp covered about 900 of those acres. There were quarters for 535 officers and 8,356 enlisted men. The cost of constructing the camp was nearly 12 million dollars. Camp Tyson had 400 buildings, ten miles of asphalt road, five miles of railroad, a hospital, post office, service club, two chapels, a library, theater, a hydrogen generation plant, an incinerator, and a sewage treatment facility. The flagpole on the parade ground was 75 feet tall (Williams 1990; Skylighters 2004).

The U.S. Coast Artillery deployed the balloons in strategic places throughout the country. The balloons were used during the Normandy invasion on June 6, 1944, and the barrage balloons used in that initial phase of the invasion were deployed by the 320th Antiaircraft Balloon Battalion, the only black combat unit to take part in the initial D-Day landing (Skylighters 2004).



Figure 17. Barrage balloon training at Camp Tyson (Skylighters 2004).



Figure 18. 2004 photo of balloon hangar at Camp Tyson (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S026).



Figure 19. 2004 photo of incinerator building at Camp Tyson (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S015).



Figure 20. 2004 photo of motor pool building at Camp Tyson (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S147).



Late in the war the barrage balloons were becoming obsolete. The refinement of accurate high level bombing coupled with the reduction of the German Luftwaffe spelled the end of the need for the balloons. Camp Tyson became a staging area for American troops bound for various theaters of war, and it was also used to house German prisoners of war.

An April 20, 1945 newspaper article (clipping copied from a file in the Metro Nashville Archives; the newspaper is not identified, but is most likely either The Nashville Banner or The Nashville Tennessean) states that Camp Tyson had been declared surplus six months previous and on a standby basis since, and would be dismantled. The buildings were to be salvaged for critical war materials. As a test of the cost of dismantling the camp, engineers were going to dismantle some of the old CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) houses “at the barrage balloon beds.” This statement indicates that either the camp was built on a former CCC camp site or that some of the buildings were brought in from a nearby CCC camp. Since some other CCC camps were reused for wartime purposes (e.g. Camp Rufus Jones in Sevier County; German POW camp at Lawrenceburg in Lawrence County; Camp Crossville prisoner of war camp in Crossville, Cumberland County; and evacuation hospitals in Murfreesboro, Rutherford County and Portland, Sumner County) it seems likely that Camp Tyson was built on the site of a CCC camp.

Among the surviving buildings left from World War II are the balloon hangar (Figure 18), the incinerator building (Figure 19), the motor pool building (Figure 20), and a building now used as an office (a portion of which is visible on the right side of Figure 20). The H. C. Spinks Clay Company, Inc. owns the site and uses some of these buildings. The remains of what was originally the camp fire station are still evident. According to a Spinks employee, the fire station was converted to a residence in the 1970s but later burned.

#### Army Air Forces Classification Center (not recorded)

The U.S. Army Air Forces Classification Center was a large complex in Nashville, south of Thompson Lane between what is now CSX Railroad's Radnor Yards and Interstate 65. A 1952 map from an unidentified newspaper clipping (Metro Archives File on Classification Center) shows this area. The Army Air Forces established a 560-acre classification center where cadets were brought for induction, preliminary training, physical examinations, and aptitude tests. The cadets were then classified by their skills and sent for advanced training as pilots, navigators, bombardiers, or gunners (Fieth 2004:1).

The center eventually became the largest of three such Air Forces centers in the United States and had 200 officers and 500 enlisted men as well as many civilian employees on permanent staff. The center processed about 10,000 soldiers per year. Women's Army Corps (WAC) cadets also stayed at the facility. Late in the war the center became a convalescent hospital for wounded soldiers, and in 1945 it served as a separation center for Navy personnel (Fieth 2004:1).

The government finally declared the property surplus in 1952. The Nashville Chamber of Commerce planned for an industrial development of the site, and the Suburban Industrial Development Company (SIDCO) was formed in 1953. By 1959 all World War II era buildings had been torn down for newer industrial development (Fieth 2004:1-2)

### **Headquarters/Military posts**

#### Second Army Maneuver Director Headquarters at Cumberland University (40WI191)

Just before the United States entered World War II, the Second Army, responsible for training combat troops, moved its headquarters from Chicago to Memphis, establishing itself at the fairgrounds (Gurney 1945:2). Most of the training exercises conducted during the war were held in Middle Tennessee, so the Second Army established a Maneuver Director Headquarters at Cumberland University in Lebanon, with the permanent headquarters remaining in Memphis.

Enrollment at Cumberland University was down at the outbreak of World War II, so university officials made the campus available to the U.S. Army beginning in 1942. The Army held one previous exercise in June 1941 before the United States entered the war, and during this time the Second Army had its temporary headquarters at the high school in Manchester. Cumberland University provided better facilities for the Second Army's headquarters in subsequent Maneuver phases.

The Second Army was a training army consisting of one Division of support personnel. During training Maneuvers the army's ranks were temporarily swelled with other units for the purpose of giving the troops realistic combat training. Because the terrain in Middle Tennessee closely resembled that of Western Europe, officials chose the region for their war games.

Every available building on the Cumberland University campus served some function for the Second Army. The administration building was used for G-2 (Army Intelligence) and some Army administration. The

gymnasium served as the message center and umpire headquarters, and the athletic field served as the motor pool. The residence halls, both men's and women's, were used to house officers, and the commanding general's quarters were first in one fraternity house then another, both on campus. Campus buildings also housed the mess hall, barracks, infirmary, and central venereal disease clinic. The Red Cross set up a field headquarters on campus, and the USO headquarters was located in a fraternity house across from Caruthers Hall at 248 West Main Street. The Army Air Forces, which had been the Army Air Corps from 1926 to 1941, housed cadets in campus dorms and in tents on the grounds (Merritt 1961:396; Burns 2005). Figure 21 shows the campus during the war.



Figure 21. Cumberland University during Maneuvers (photo courtesy of Harry Snodgrass, who served with the 503<sup>rd</sup> Quartermaster Car Company, attached to Second Army, April to October 1943).

#### Memphis General Services Depot (40SY700)

The United States Quartermaster Corps was the primary supply organization for the military, being responsible for the procurement, storage, and distribution of goods. The Corps handled subsistence goods, petroleum, lubricants, clothing, equipment, and general supplies but not weapons or ammunition, vehicles, or animals. General Depot facilities handled supplies for Quartermaster, Ordnance, Signal, Medical, Chemical Warfare, and Engineer services, with each branch reporting to its own commanders. There was a depot commander who took care of guards, utilities, transportation, and fire protection (Maxwell 1995:2-3).

The Quartermaster Corps did not have adequate warehouse space at the outset of World War II, and the Army proposed a new facility in Memphis on a 500-acre parcel known as the Goodman tract. After six months of construction the Memphis Depot began operation on January 7, 1942, though it was not yet complete. A dedication ceremony and flag raising were held April 1, 1942. By July, the Army changed the facility name to the Memphis Quartermaster Depot. Construction ended in October (Tucker 1942; Maxwell 1995:5-7).

The Depot, like many other Army facilities, was also used to confine prisoners of war. The POW facilities at the Depot consisted of four barracks and 50 tents. The prisoners worked in the warehouses and a few did farm labor outside the camp (Maxwell 1995:11-12).

Following the war the name of the facility was changed back to the Memphis General Depot. It continued operating until September 1997, a victim of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission. The Memphis Depot Redevelopment Corporation, acting for the U.S. Army, now leases warehouse space in the complex (Memphis Depot Redevelopment Corporation 2006).



Figure 22. Memphis General Services Depot under construction (Memphis Depot Business Park website <http://www.memphisdepot.net/history.htm>).

### **Other Military Facilities**

#### Milan Army Ammunition Plant (not recorded)

The Milan Army Ammunition Plant was completed on December 31, 1941 and was used for the production of fuses and ammunition of various sizes. The Army contracted with the Proctor and Gamble Company to manage the plant, and the company introduced innovations such as an automatic filling machine for the shells and the first use of a

conveyor belt in an ammunition assembly plant. The original facility consisted of the Wolf Creek Ordnance Plant, operated by Proctor and Gamble, and the Milan Ordnance Depot, operated by the Army. They were merged in 1943 into the Milan Ordnance Center. Following the war it was renamed the Milan Arsenal, and today is the Milan Army Ammunition Plant (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1989:2-4).

#### Oak Ridge (not recorded)

The Oak Ridge Reservation in Roane and Anderson Counties is the largest and most complex of the Army controlled facilities built in Tennessee during World War II. Eventually including 58,575 acres, the facility was dedicated to the development and production of an atomic bomb. In the fall of 1942 the government began purchasing land through court condemnation, and about 1,000 families were removed from the land. The Army originally designated the area as the "Kingston Demolition Range" and later the "Clinton Engineering Works." Because Tennessee Governor prentice Cooper refused to cede sovereignty of the land to the federal government, it became a militarily restricted area instead of a military reservation (Souza et al. 2001:section 3, p. 44; Johnson 1998:699-700).

The government gathered a community of scientists to work at the Oak Ridge facility and built a town for them to live in. Security and secrecy were foremost concerns at Oak Ridge. The facility was protected by the Clinch River on three sides and a fence on the exposed north side. Entry to the site was closely monitored (Johnson 1998:699-700).

The Oak Ridge facility included a nuclear reactor, an electromagnetic separation facility known as the Y-12 plant, and a gaseous diffusion plant. Hundreds of buildings were constructed to support activities at the Oak Ridge Reservation, and a city for workers sprang up nearby. Many of the World War II era buildings are standing today and there are two National Register of Historic Places Districts that encompass many of them (Souza et al. 2001:section 3, pp. 44-45, 89).

#### Camp Morgan (Camp "Rufus Jones") (40SV177)

Camp Rufus Jones, officially designated as Civilian Public Service Camp No. 108 (originally Camp Morgan Civilian Conservation Corps facility), was a camp for conscientious objectors during World War II. The residents of the camp named it after Rufus Jones, a leader in the national conscientious objectors movement. The camp was located in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, close to the current park

headquarters, and was administered by the American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organization headquartered in Philadelphia. This was one of 40 such camps in the country. The government provided tools but did not pay the men's salaries, this coming from private organizations such as the American Friends Service Committee. The men worked about 51 hours per week in the National Park under the supervision of the Park Superintendent, Major J. R. Eakin. There were 130 men in the camp (The Nashville Tennessean, p. 27A, undated newspaper clipping on file in Metro Archives).

### **Aerial Bombing, Gunnery, and Artillery Ranges**

Aerial bombing and gunnery ranges were recorded as having a "Military" component, and they are described parenthetically on Table 1. Five were recorded during the survey (40BD229, 40DY80, 40LK92, 40LA174, and 40LA175). These sites are important to understanding the training associated with military airfields such as Dyersburg Army Air Base (40LA173) and William Northern Field (40CF309). Most of these sites were identified from the United States Army Corps of Engineers Military Munitions Response Sites Inventory for Tennessee website ([http://63.88.245.60/Deparc\\_FY02/DERP/Reports/MMRP\\_Tennessee\\_Report\\_FY02.htm](http://63.88.245.60/Deparc_FY02/DERP/Reports/MMRP_Tennessee_Report_FY02.htm)) that identifies Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS). The ranges were used for dropping practice bombs or for firing guns from aircraft. An example of a full-size dummy practice bomb housed in the Veterans Museum at the former Dyersburg Army Air Base is shown in Figure 23. A smaller dummy bomb, less than one foot long (Figure 24), was found on the Ridgely Precision Bombing Range in Lake County (40LK92). It is also housed in the Veteran's Museum.

The Dyersburg turret gunnery and anti-aircraft fire range (40LA174), west of Dyersburg Army Air Base in Lauderdale County, was used for bombing practice, but it also had several turrets set up for ground crews to practice anti aircraft fire. The remains of some of the concrete structures that housed the guns are still on the site, although they have been moved from their original location (Figures 25 and 26). A local resident who lived in the area during the war said that the concrete structures housed .50 caliber machine guns. There was an abandoned house on the hill near the guns, and the soldiers shot up the house for target practice. Another local resident said that he had seen circular concrete structures with concentric steel rings that resembled targets in the woods on this site. He also reported finding spent cartridge casings and ammunition belts.



Figure 23. Practice bomb in Veteran's Museum at Dyersburg Army Air Base, Halls, TN (TDOA WWII image file, photo #X009).



Figure 24. Practice bomb in Veteran's Museum at Dyersburg Army Air Base, Halls, TN (TDOA WWII image file, photo #X008).



Figure 25. Concrete structure for anti-aircraft gun turret at 40LA174 (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S046).



Figure 26. Concrete structure for anti-aircraft gun turret at 40LA174 (TDOA WWII image file, photo #S043).



Bombers participating in the Tennessee Maneuvers used sacks of flour or other grain as simulated bombs. During one of the maneuver phases, a bomber flew off course and dropped a 500-pound sack of flour on Gainesboro in Jackson County (McFarland 2005).

The Spencer Artillery Range is located in southern Van Buren County and parts of Sequatchie and Warren Counties. The Army used this 30,000-acre site for artillery and small arms fire as well as aerial bombing. This large area was not recorded in the context of this World War II military site study, but there are many recorded archaeological sites within the boundaries of the former Spencer Artillery Range. These sites, most of which were recorded during a cultural resource assessment of the former range, are all prehistoric Indian sites except for the recorded road segments associated with the Cherokee removal of 1838 (Stallings et al. 2005; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2006).

The Army began acquiring land for the Spencer Artillery Range in 1940 and, with the help of local laborers, began clearing over 700 acres across the site in early 1941. The cleared areas became impact sites, campsites, and gun positions. Eighteen miles of roads were graded and eight wooden bridges were constructed. The Army also built seven observation towers, four metal structures for ammunition storage, dugouts, and temporary living quarters. By September 1944, ground activity had ceased, and the site was used for aerial bombing (Stallings et al. 2005:62-67).

The Army started clearing the land of unexploded ordnance in 1946, and the Army Corps of Engineers has conducted periodic clean up operations to remove such material. The wartime structures were disassembled following the war, and the materials were sold locally (Stallings et al. 2005: 67, 92)

## WAR INDUSTRY

World War II was a boon to the economy of the United States, and Tennessee, like the rest of the country, benefited from the increased demand for supplies. The degree to which Tennessee benefited from war production was not as great as many states, however, because the state had few existing industrial facilities that could readily capitalize on war contracts. Between June 1940 and September 1945, Tennessee companies received slightly over \$1.2 billion worth of war supply contracts ranking 27<sup>th</sup> among the 48 states and the District of Columbia (Spinney 1998:18-19).

One of the largest wartime industries in the state was the Consolidated Vultee Aircraft plant in Nashville. Producing a total of 33,000 aircraft of several types for both Britain and the United States, Consolidated Vultee, with five major plants nationwide, accounted for 13 percent of the nation's war production output, making it the third largest war producer for World War II. Vultee's Nashville plant accounted for about \$143 million in defense contracts (Spinney 1998:20-21).

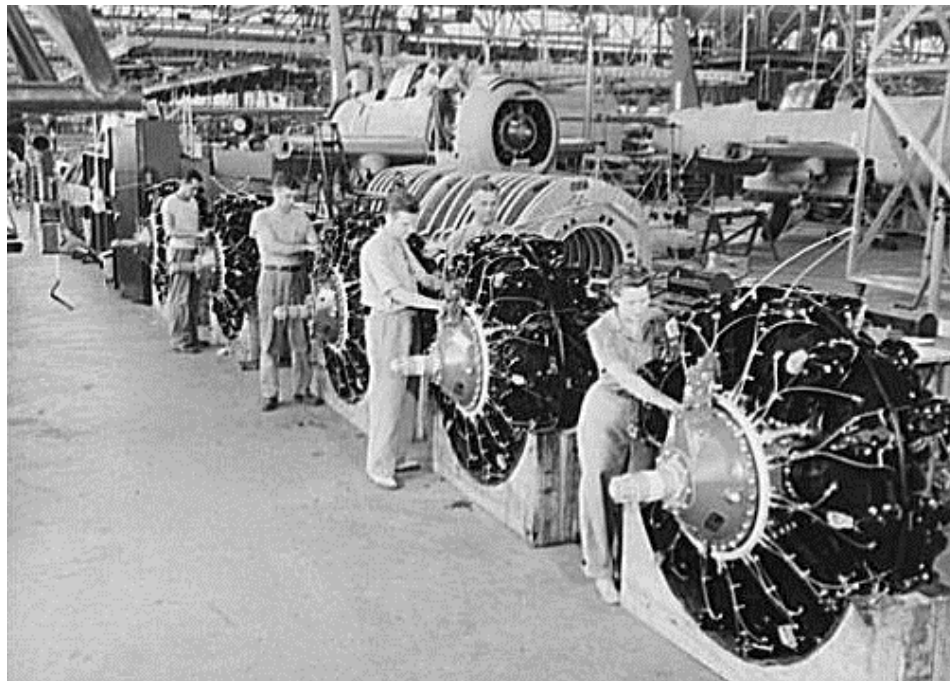


Figure 27. Production of A-31 "Vengeance" Dive Bombers at Vultee Aircraft in Nashville (Library of Congress, American Memory Collection, #LC-USE6-D-009573).

Ranked among other U.S. cities by value of War Supply Contracts awarded between June 1940 and September 1945, Memphis, at 66th, ranked highest among Tennessee cities. Chattanooga ranked 74th, Nashville ranked 82<sup>nd</sup>, and Knoxville 104<sup>th</sup> (Spinney 1998:22-24). Table 2 is a list of Tennessee industries that produced war related goods. Because non-military industrial sites were not the focus of this project, the list is by no means complete, but reflects information found during the course of the study of military sites.

Tennessee's economy did receive a boost during the war from sources other than war industry. Because of the favorable southern climate, Tennessee was home to a disproportionately large number of military installations, such as those discussed in the previous section. The soldiers from these installations as well as the thousands of men moving through the state during the Maneuvers spent a great deal of money in Tennessee communities.

**Table 2. Tennessee Companies Producing War Materials.**

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>COMPANY</b>	<b>Product</b>
Bradley	Cleveland	Hardwick Stove Co.	Wing Flaps, Practice Bombs
Bradley	Cleveland	Hardwick Industries	Practice Bombs, Water Tanks
Bradley	Cleveland	Hardwick Clothes	Uniforms
Bradley	Cleveland	Cleveland Tennessee Enamel Co.	Practice Bombs, Water Tanks
Bradley	Cleveland	Brown Stove Co	Stoves
Bradley	Cleveland	Cleveland Casket Co.	Caskets
Carter	Elizabethton	North American Rayon/American Bemberg	Rayon
Davidson	Nashville	Nashville Bridge Company	Navy Minesweepers
Davidson	Nashville	Consolidated Vultee Aircraft	Fighter Aircraft
Davidson	Nashville	Tennessee Enamel Co.	Shell And Torpedo Parts
Davidson	Nashville	Kerrigan Ornamental Iron Works	Navy pontoons, Landing Mats, Truck Cabs, Ship Parts, Locomotive Cabs
Davidson	Nashville	Allen manufacturing	Army And Navy Stoves
Davidson	Nashville	Phillips and Buttorff	Pontoons
Davidson	Nashville	Dupont	Parachutes
Davidson	Nashville	Werthan Bag	Sandbags
Davidson	Nashville	General Shoe	Military Footwear
Davidson	Nashville	Washington Manufacturing	Uniforms
Davidson	Nashville	Southern Manufacturing	Uniforms
Davidson	Nashville	O'Bryan Brothers	Uniforms
Davidson	Nashville	Kennedy and Bowden Machine Co.	Machine Tooling
Davidson	Nashville	A. L. Kornman	Uniforms
Davidson	Nashville	May Hosiery Mill	Mortar Fuses, Underwear
Davidson	Nashville	Gray and Dudley	75mm Shell Casings
Davidson	Nashville	Tennessee Aircraft, Inc	Twenty Different War Products
Davidson	Nashville	Jakes Foundry	Trucks And Trailers
Davidson	Nashville	Teas Extract Co.	Tannic Extracts
Davidson	Nashville	Victor Chemical Co.	Phosphorus
Davidson	Nashville	Neuhoff Packing Co.	Canned Meat

Table 2 continued

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>COMPANY</b>	<b>PRODUCT</b>
Davidson	Nashville	Goodyear	Military Tires
Davidson	Nashville	Polar Cold Storage	Ice
Davidson	Nashville	Se Ling Hosiery (Aircraft Div)	Aircraft Parts
Gibson	Humboldt	Gibson Food Products Co.	Dehydrated Fruits And Vegetables
Gibson	Milan	Proctor and Gamble (Milan Ordnance)	Ordnance
Greene	Warrensburg	Warrensburg Foundry and Machine Shop	Munitions
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Air Products Inc.	Portable Oxygen Generators
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Cavalier Corp.	Ammunition Boxes
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Chattanooga Implement and Manufacturing Co.	60mm Shells
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Chattanooga Stamping and Enameling Co.	Tank Shoes, Gas Cans, Anti-Tank Mines, Other
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Hercules Powder Co.	TNT, DNT, Oleum (explosives)
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Mohawk Rubber Co.	Rubber
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Southern Ferro-Alloys Co.	Ferro-Silicon
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Superheater Co./Combustion Engineering Co. Inc.	Steam Generating Equipment, Boiler Heaters, Marine Boilers
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Tennessee Products Co.	Coke (Refined Coal)
Hamilton	Chattanooga	Wheland Co.	Guns, Artillery Shells
Knox	Knoxville	Electro manganese Corp	Electrolytic Manganese
Knox	Knoxville	Rohm and Haas Co	Methyl Methacrylate Sheeting
Knox	Knoxville	US Foil Co, Fulton Sylphon	Cartridge Cases, Fuses
Marshall	Lewisburg	Sear Roebuck/Marshall Stove	Magnesium Sand Castings
Maury	Columbia	Union Carbide & Carbon Corp./ National Carbon Co.	Whetlerite, Charcoal, Carbon Electrodes
Montgomery	Clarksville	B.F. Goodrich Co.	Heels, Soles
Polk	Copperhill	Tennessee Corp. /Tennessee Copper Co.	Sulfuric Acid, Copper, Iron Sinter
Roane	Rockwood	Tennessee Products Co	Pig Iron, Alloys
Stewart	Cumberland City	Cumberland Iron Co.	Pig Iron

Table 2 continued

<b>COUNTY</b>	<b>CITY</b>	<b>COMPANY</b>	<b>PRODUCT</b>
Sullivan	Kingsport	Eastman Chemical	RDX (Explosive)
Shelby	Memphis	Chicago and Southern Airlines	Aircraft Modification
Shelby	Memphis	Donaldsonville Hardwood Lumber Co.	Lumber
Shelby	Memphis	Firestone Tire and Rubber	Military Tires, Machine Gun Links
Shelby	Memphis	Fisher Body Div.	B-25 Parts
Shelby	Memphis	Hobac Veneer and Lumber Co.	Veneer And Lumber
Shelby	Memphis	Humko Co.	Hydrogen Gas
Shelby	Memphis	Lewis Supply Co. Inc.	Cans, Seal Rings
Shelby	Memphis	McDonnell Aircraft Corp.	AT-21 Plane
Shelby	Memphis	Peerless Production Co	Ordnance Parts
Shelby	Memphis	Pidgeon Thomas Iron Co	Landing Craft Tank
Shelby	Memphis	Proctor & Gamble	Chemical Cotton Pulp, Cotton Seed & Soybean Oils
Shelby	Memphis	Quaker Oats Chemical Co.	Furfural (Solvent)
Shelby	Memphis	Southern Acid and Sulfur Co. Inc.	Phenol, Liquid Chlorine, Caustic Soda
Shelby	Memphis	Tennessee Coal Iron and RR Co.	Food Processing
Shelby	Memphis	U.S. Foil Naval Ordnance Plant	Aluminum Extrusions
Shelby	Millington	Chickasaw Ordnance Works	Gunpowder, TNT, DNT
Washington	Johnson City	Harris Manufacturing Co.	Dummy Cartridges, Tent Pins, Proximity Fuse Parts
Washington	Johnson City	Leon-Fernbach Inc.	Hosiery For WAC, Parachute Cloth
Washington	Johnson City	Interstate Foundry & Machine Co.	Metal Castings For ALCOA
Washington	Johnson City	Artcraft Glove Co.	Gloves
Washington	Johnson City	Johnson City Spring and Bedding Co.	Mattresses
Washington	Johnson City	Johnson City Foundry and Machine Works	Landing Craft Rudders

## CONCLUSIONS

The 2004-2006 survey project described in this report was focused on World War II military sites. While 118 sites representing this theme were recorded, it is clear this is only a representative portion of the sites that exist. This is especially true in the case of military encampment sites related to the Tennessee Maneuvers. Though wartime industry played an important role in Tennessee's post-depression economy, the state lagged behind many other states in terms of total production. There were, however, a substantial number of military facilities in Tennessee. These facilities are, for the most part, well documented.

Aside from major facilities such as Oak Ridge and the Memphis Depot, the war's greatest impact in Tennessee came from the Tennessee Maneuvers, when 850,000 soldiers ranged over a 21-county area of Middle Tennessee, between June 1941 and March 1944. These troops did not have a great effect on the economy nor did they build permanent structures that stand as memorials to their presence, but they did have a profound effect on the civilians with whom they interacted. Of the 118 sites recorded during this study, 87 include the component "Short Term Encampment," either alone or in association with some other component(s). There are usually few if any surface indications remaining from these encampments, and they are often difficult to identify. Most were recorded based on interviews with local residents who had seen the troops during the Maneuvers. These informants represent a valuable but, unfortunately, rapidly disappearing source of information. Another source was two maps on which the sites of bivouacs had been marked. Individuals who have studied the Maneuvers provided copies of these maps, which Army officials left behind towards the end of the war. Such documents probably represent a fraction of the material potentially available from archived Army records, and future research concerning this theme should include an investigation of the kind of relevant records that exist at the National Archives and elsewhere.

It quickly became evident during the course of this survey that there was insufficient time to record every World War II bivouac site. In almost every community there were one or more life-long residents over 70 years of age able to point out several locations where soldiers camped for anywhere from one night to several weeks. The common exclamation, "They were everywhere," illustrates the wide-ranging nature of the Maneuver exercises. Some additional program of site recording related to the World War II theme would be desirable, and additional research based on eyewitness accounts will only be possible for a few more years.

As with other archaeological sites, World War II military sites are continually disappearing in the face of new development. Because of the recent nature of these sites, there is probably less concern for their destruction than for some other types of cultural resources. It is hoped this survey will inspire the preservation of some relevant site examples or at least lead to the recovery of associated archaeological information in cases where a site might face destruction. Until an actual sample of representative World War II encampment sites has been investigated by controlled archaeological excavation, it will remain unclear what questions of relevance they can answer. Other types of sites, such as prisoner of war camps, also stand out as clear candidates for archaeological investigation. With any specific site it should be possible to integrate documentary and archaeological information in a manner that provides information beyond what could be known by just one approach. As always, the value of archaeology applied to historic-period sites is that it can corroborate, increase, or in some cases even belie the information suggested by documentation alone. With World War II military sites we are just at the beginning of an understanding of the kinds of information they are capable of yielding.



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