

The Civil War in our National Park System – the Parks

By David Kroese

Session #2: Clash of Arms

Slide #2: Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park, Charleston, SC, Ft. Sumter, thirty-hour bombardment started at 4:30 AM on April 12, 1861 by a single, 10-inch mortar, ended in Major Robert Anderson's capitulation to Brig. Gen. Pierre G.T. Beauregard, the first Confederate officer made a full general, giving both north and south the nation's first two military generals.

Slide #3: Ft. Sumter, fingerprints of enslaved brick workers

Slide #4: Ranger Jim at Ft. Sumter

Slide #5: Ft. Moultrie

Slide #6: Manassas National Battlefield, Eastern Virginia, Stone House, First battle on July 21, 1861 and second battle in August 1862

Slide #7: Cumberland Gap NHP, junction of Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee, experienced three occupancies by each side during the Civil War, however, no battles were ever fought at the gap.

Slide #8: Wilson's Creek National Battlefield, Southwest Missouri, August 10, 1861, tactical Confederate victory but strategic Union victory in that it bought the Union time to organize a defense of Missouri

Slide #9: Wilson's Creek NB, Bloody Hill at the peak of the fighting near where General Nathaniel Lyon fell

Slide #10: Gulf Island National Seashore, Florida Panhandle Gulf Coast, Fort Barrancas abandoned by Lt. Slimmer in charge of Union forces in favor of Fort Pickens, Attack on Fort Pickens October 9, 1861

Slide #11: Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument, Central Kentucky, In the second half of 1861, Confederate forces established a defensive line across the state of Kentucky from Columbus on the Mississippi River to the Appalachians. Entering the state before Federal forces to establish this line broke Kentucky's declared neutrality, no small factor in the sitting government's decision to remain in the Union. The first major Union breakthrough of this defensive line occurred on January 19, 1862, at what is most known as the Battle of Mill Springs. Although the battle received extensive coverage at the time, it would soon be eclipsed by Grant's victories over Fort Henry and Fort Donelson farther west. In aggregate, these three victories secured Union control of Kentucky.

Slide #12: Fort Donelson National Battlefield, Tennessee-Kentucky border, February 6-16, 1862, the Cumberland River from Ft. Donelson's river batteries

Slide #13: Ft. Donelson, NB, Dover Hotel, where Brig. General Simon Buckner surrendered 13,000-man garrison to Grant on February 16, 1862

Slide #14: Pea Ridge National Military Park, Northwest Arkansas, battle against arguing Confederate generals secured Union control of Missouri on March 7-8, 1862

Slide #15: Pecos National Historical Park, North Central New Mexico, Battle of Glorietta Pass on March 26-28, 1862, ended Confederate hopes to secure men and supplies from the southwest territories. This is the campaign very loosely referenced in Clint Eastwood's classic, *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*

Slide #16: Shiloh National Military Park, Southwest Tennessee, Bloody Pond, April 6-7, 1862, 23,746 casualties

Slide #17: Fort Pulaski National Monument, Georgia Atlantic Coast, reduced on April 10, 1862 by Captain Quincy Gillmore and his rifled cannon a mile away on Tybee Island

Slide #18: Richmond National Battlefields Park, Eastern Virginia, Drewry's Bluff, Richmond defensive work on James River, June-July 1862

Slide #19: Homestead National Historical Park, Southeast Nebraska, Homestead Act passed in May 1862 and took effect January 1, 1863

Slide #20: Clara Barton National Historic Site, Maryland near DC, Barton first made a significant impact at the Battle of Cedar Mountain August 9, 1862, home of American Red Cross 1897-1912

Slide #21: Clara Barton's desk, American Red Cross dates to 1882

Slide #22: Antietam National Battlefield, Western Maryland, Sunken Lane, September 17, 1862

Slide #23: Burnside's Bridge

Slide #24: Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park, Eastern Virginia, Chatham, Burnside's HQ Battle of Fredericksburg December 13, 1862

Slide #25: Stones River National Battlefield, southeast of Nashville, Tennessee, Slaughter Pen, December 31, 1862, January 2, 1863, Union regiments defended this point in the line until their ammunition was exhausted and southern troops outflanked them on both sides. Total casualties, 24,645, roughly 30% of combined strength, highest loss of any major Civil War battle.

Slide #26: Hazen's Brigade Monument, the oldest in the park system, erected in 1863. 8th Tennessee suffered 444 casualties, or nearly 70% of their number, attacking Hell's Half Acre. 32nd Alabama suffered 222/280 casualties

Slide #27: Lowell National Historical Park, Lowell, Massachusetts, Boot Mill

Slide #28: Springfield Armory National Historic Site, western Massachusetts, armory made most of the US Army's small arms 1777-1968

Slide #29: Governor's Island National Monument, New York, City, Castle Williams, example of 2nd System of US Seacoast Defense, Confederate prison

Slide #30: Boston Harbor Islands National Recreation Area, Fort Warren Boston Harbor built 1833-1861