

HB NO 47m

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Mississippi	
COUNTY: Hinds	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.10.28.0011	DATE 10/7/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Champion Hill Battlefield

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Approximately 4 miles southwest of Bolton

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **28** COUNTY: **Hinds** CODE: **049**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Multiple private

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Champion Hill** STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **28**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Hinds County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Raymond** STATE: **Mississippi** CODE: **39154 28**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Natchez Trace Parkway Survey

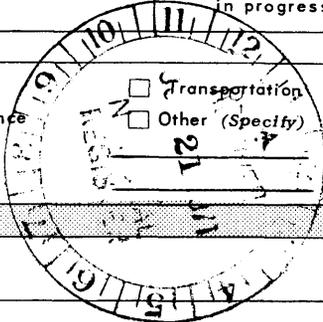
DATE OF SURVEY: **1940** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
National Park Service

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 19th Street, N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **District of Columbia** CODE: **08**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The physical appearance of the Champion Hill Battlefield is much the same as it was on May 16, 1863, when the opposing armies, of Grant and Pemberton, gathered to do battle. This land is very hilly with thousands of gullies and many deep ravines, flat plateaus and heavy woods. The old, unpaved deep-cut dirt roads are still in existence today and some are still used. Unfortunately, the hotly contested crest of the hill which carried the name of Champion Hill has been partially excavated for gravel, which is in abundance in this area. Some of the original houses are still in existence today, and the sites of the ones no longer standing may be located by the surviving cisterns.

The original Champion property is still retained by the Champion family. The site of the Champion house is occupied by the Champion Hill Church. The Roberts house, which General John Pemberton used as his second headquarters is still standing, but no longer is occupied. It has been changed by the addition of a front room and another fireplace and chimney. The cistern of the Roberts house shows deep cuts around the top edge where ropes have worn grooves in the brick.

The Coker house, now the property of Adams Egg Farm, is well preserved and until recently was occupied. It still shows the scars of the battle. There are several holes in the north side made by the six-pounders of Captain John Cowan's Battery (Battery G, First Mississippi Light Artillery). All sides show the smaller holes made by minie balls. It was near this site that General Lloyd Tilghman was killed while personally sighting one of the field pieces. A stone marker with a metal plaque notes the spot which is located on a small hill and is surrounded by a metal railing.

"Hiawatha," a wood frame house, now the property of Mr. C. C. Floyd, used as a Confederate hospital during the battle, still stands and is in good condition. It is little changed except for the connection of the kitchen, which was originally separate from the main house.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

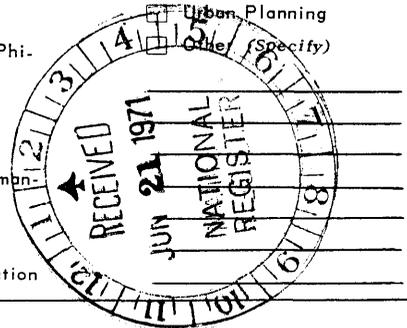
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) May 16, 1863

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal* | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> losophy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> itarian | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Located about 4 miles southwest of Bolton and south of the old Edwards road, is the site of the Battle of Champion Hill, which was fought on May 16, 1863, from about 11:15 a.m. until dark, and which played a crucial role in the Vicksburg, Mississippi, campaign. Strategically, this campaign and the capture of Vicksburg were among the most decisive military events of the Civil War, for Vicksburg was the funnel through which supplies from the west were channeled to the Confederate forces. "Vicksburg is the key, and the war cannot be brought to a successful conclusion until that key is in our pocket," said Lincoln.

The Battle of Champion Hill began at the present Champion Hill Church and continued down old Jackson Road, over the crest of the hill and past the crossroads of the old Jackson Road, Ratliff Road and Middle Road, where the heaviest fighting occurred, to the Raymond-Edwards Road (Highway 467). On the crest of this hill, Confederate General John C. Pemberton's left wing was placed, facing east against the far larger Union Army under General Ulysses S. Grant.

The occasion was momentous. Grant's forces were in possession of Jackson and were moving west toward Vicksburg. The three divisions of Pemberton's army were trying frantically to unite with General Joseph E. Johnston's army, which had just evacuated the fortifications of Jackson. Grant had moved in between Johnston's and Pemberton's armies.

South of the Champion house, Pemberton's army stretched for three miles, 15,000 Confederates fighting desperately to save Vicksburg. One of the most brilliant movements on either side was the charge of Colonel Francis M. Cockrell's brigade of Brigadier General John S. Bowen's division, preparing the way for the advance of the Confederate front to beyond the crest of the hill. Despite the hail of shell, shot, grape and canister, the Missourians and Arkansans were not slowed by this artillery fire and recaptured the crest of Champion Hill. Among the booty falling to the

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bearss, Edwin C. Decision in Mississippi. Jackson: Mississippi Commission on the War Between the States, 1962. Pp. 211-96.
 Editors of Civil War Times Illustrated. Struggle for Vicksburg; the battles & siege that decided the Civil War. Harrisburg: Stackpole Books, 1967. Pp. 24-6; 43-5.
 Parks, Ken. The Civil War in Mississippi, 1861-1865. Bolton, Mississippi: Ken Parks Associates, 1959. P. 2.

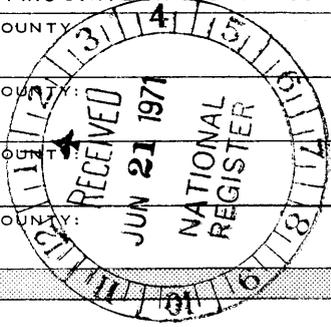
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			LATITUDE	LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	32°	22'	30"	90°	34'	15"	0			0		
NE	32°	22'	30"	90°	30'	00"						
SE	32°	17'	54"	90°	30'	00"						
SW	32°	17'	54"	90°	34'	15"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Approximately 12,096 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **William C. Wright, Historian**

ORGANIZATION: **Mississippi Department of Archives and History** DATE: **May 21, 1971**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Post Office Box 571**

CITY OR TOWN: **Jackson** STATE: **Mississippi 39205** CODE: **28**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name R. A. McLemore
 Title Director, Miss. Dept. of Archives and History
 Date May 21, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 OCT 7 1971

ATTEST:
William C. Wright
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date SEP 23 1971

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Mississippi	
COUNTY	
Hinds	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
71-10-28-0011	10/7/71

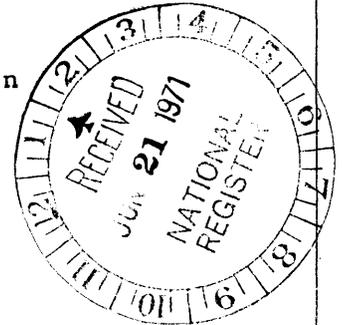
(Number all entries)

8.

Missourians, were two of the four guns captured from the Confederates earlier in the day, along with the two guns of the 16th Ohio Battery which had been rushed to hold the Confederate advance. Many of the troops of Bowen had fired all 40 of the rounds carried in their cartridge-boxes. Instead of abandoning the field, they turned to rifling the cartridge-boxes of the dead and wounded, both friend and foe. Some of the soldiers fired between 75 and 90 rounds of ammunition during this fierce engagement.

For some unknown reason, Major General Carter Stevenson had ordered Bowen's ammunition train off the field. The officers now informed the men that they must continue to drive the enemy, even if it had to be done at the point of the bayonet. Six-hundred yards beyond Bowen's advanced troops was the Champion house, where the Union ordnance trains were parked. One of the Missourians observed:

Once the enemy was driven so far back before fresh forces were brought up, that we were in sight of his ordnance train, which was being turned and driven back under whip. This could be seen where our lines were advanced through the woods to the edge of a large field in front, near which point was...the Champion house. Though the force in front was vastly superior to ours, yet, if the fortunes of the day had depended upon the issue of the contest between us, as victory thus far won, it might still have remained upon our side-Grant's centre was undoubtedly pierced.



As the Confederates broke out of the woods and were climbing a rail fence, the cannoneers of Captain Samuel De Golyer's 8th Michigan Battery opened fire. Shell after shell was sent crashing into the milling Confederates. The heavy fire from artillery and the fresh Union troops entering the engagement proved too much for the practically unarmed Confederates. The weight of the Federal forces, increased by fresh divisions moving up from Raymond, compelled Pemberton to order the withdrawal of his army across Baker's Creek into the town of Edwards and across the Big Black River. Major General William W. Loring decided to take his troops southeast around the Union army to Crystal Springs.

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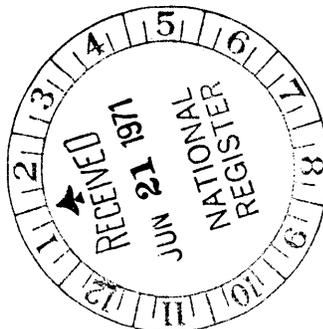
The Confederates suffered 381 killed, 1,018 wounded and 2,441 missing. Twenty-seven pieces of artillery were left on the field by the retreating Confederates. The Union forces counted their losses at the end of the day as 410 killed, 1,844 wounded, 187 missing.

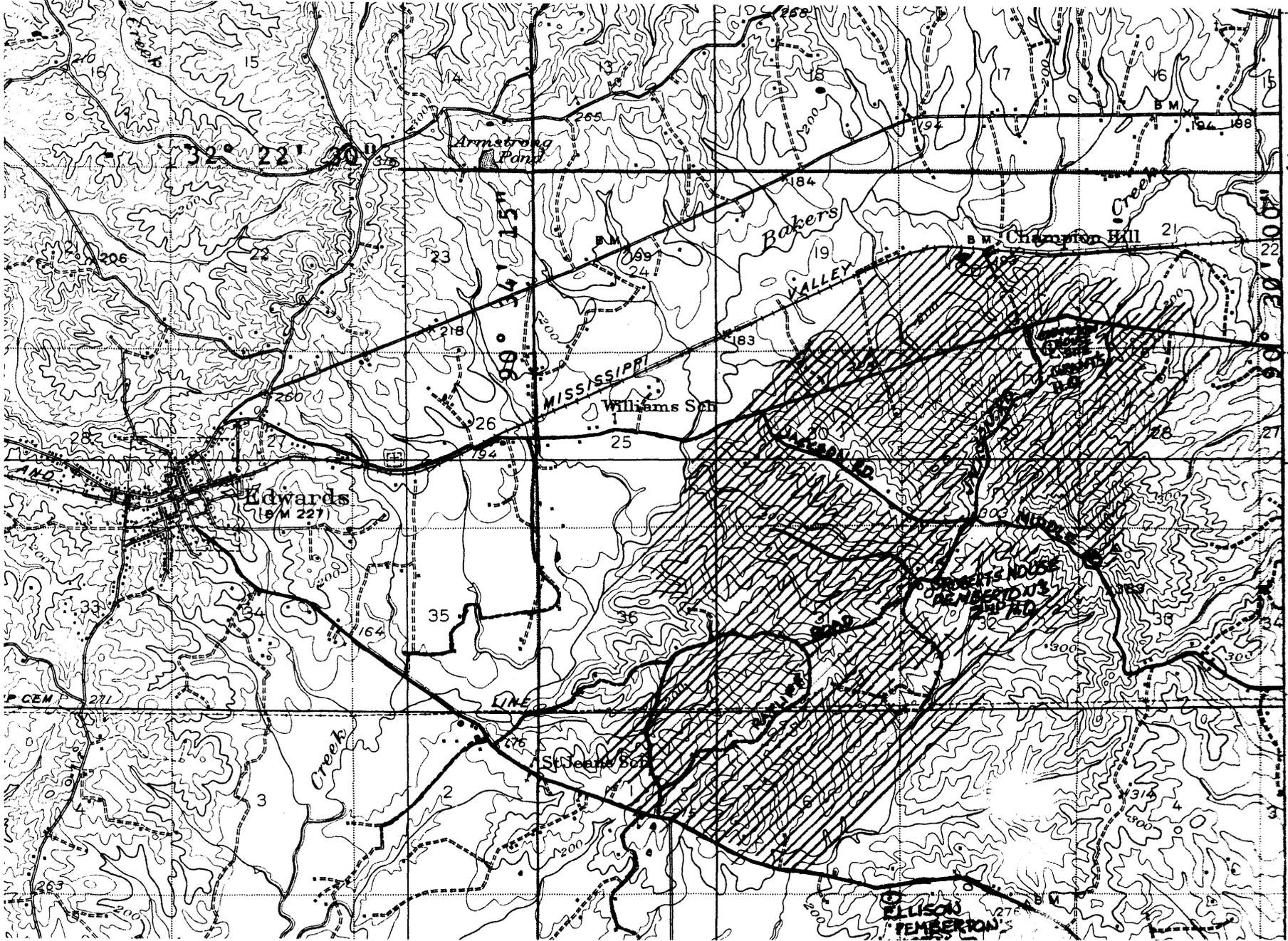
Grant's victory was the decisive stroke of the campaign. The Confederates were scattered, and the Federals were rapidly nearing Vicksburg, their objective. The evening after the Battle of Champion Hill, Grant received Major General Henry Halleck's order sent five days earlier, telling him on no account whatever to undertake such a campaign. Grant could read the order with calmness; he had staked everything and had won.

Sound arguments have been given for calling the Battle of Champion Hill the most important single engagement of the Civil War. British military historian, Major General J. F. C. Fuller, has written "The drums of Champion's [sic] Hill sounded the doom of Richmond." According to National Park Service historian and Civil War authority, Edwin C. Bearss, the 47 day siege of Vicksburg was only an anti-climax to the decisive battle of Champion Hill, which made the fall of Vicksburg inevitable.

9.

The War of Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Washington, D. C.: Government Printing Office, 1889. Series 1, Vol. 24, Part 2. Pp. 94, 108.





32° 22' 30"
T. 6 N.

6
5
4
3
2



CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD
4 MILES SOUTHWEST OF
BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTO BY: BILLY BOYANTON

DATE: NOVEMBER, 1970

LOOKING SOUTHWEST
ACROSS JACKSON ROAD

DE GOLYER'S BATTERY (U.S.)
WAS EMPLACED IN ROAD
TO LEFT OF PICTURE

NPS Number 71.10.28.0011

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. Hindus, Miss.

2



CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD
4 MILES SOUTHWEST OF
BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTO BY: BILLY BOYANTON

DATE: NOVEMBER 1970

LOOKING WEST FROM YANKEE
LINES. THE CONFEDERATES
CHARGED TO THIS CLEARING
FROM THE FAR WOODS

NPS Number 710.25.001

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. HINDS, MISS.

looking west from yankee
lines



CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD
4 MILES SOUTHWEST OF
BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTO BY: BILLY BOYANTON

DATE: NOVEMBER, 1970

CHAMPION HILL CHURCH
ON ORIGINAL SITE OF
THE CHAMPION HOUSE.

NPS Number 71.10.22.0011

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. Miss., Miss.

Champion Hill Church.

⑥



CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD
ABOUT 4 MILES SOUTHWEST
OF BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTO BY: WILLIAM C. WRIGHT
DATE: MAY 16, 1971

JACKSON ROAD, LOOKING NORTH.

NPS Number 71.10.28.0011

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. HINDS, MISS.

Jackson, Miss Road

7



CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD
LOCATED ABOUT 4
MILES SOUTHWEST OF
BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY:
WILLIAM C. WRIGHT

DATE: MAY 16, 1971

ROBERTS' HOUSE
USED AS HEADQUARTERS
BY GEN. JOHN C. PEMBERTON, CSA.
DURING BATTLE

NPS Number 71.10.28.00

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. HINDS, MISS.

Robert's house

⑨



CHAMPION HILL
MIDDLE ROAD,
LOOKING SOUTH
4 MILES SOUTHWEST
OF BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTOGRAPH BY WILLIAM C. WRIGHT
DATE: MAY 16, 1971

NPS Number 71-10-28-0011

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. Hinds, Miss

Champion Hill Middle Road.



CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD
4 MILES SOUTHWEST OF BOLTON, MISS.
PHOTOGRAPH BY BILLY BOYANTON
DATE: NOVEMBER, 1970

TYPICAL WOODED SECTION SHOWING
RAVINES WHICH ABOUND ON THE
CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD

NPS Number 71.10.28.0011

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. Hinds, Miss.

TYPICAL WOODED SECTION



CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD
ABOUT 4 MILES SOUTHWEST
OF BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTO BY: WILLIAM C. WRIGHT

DATE: MAY 16, 1971

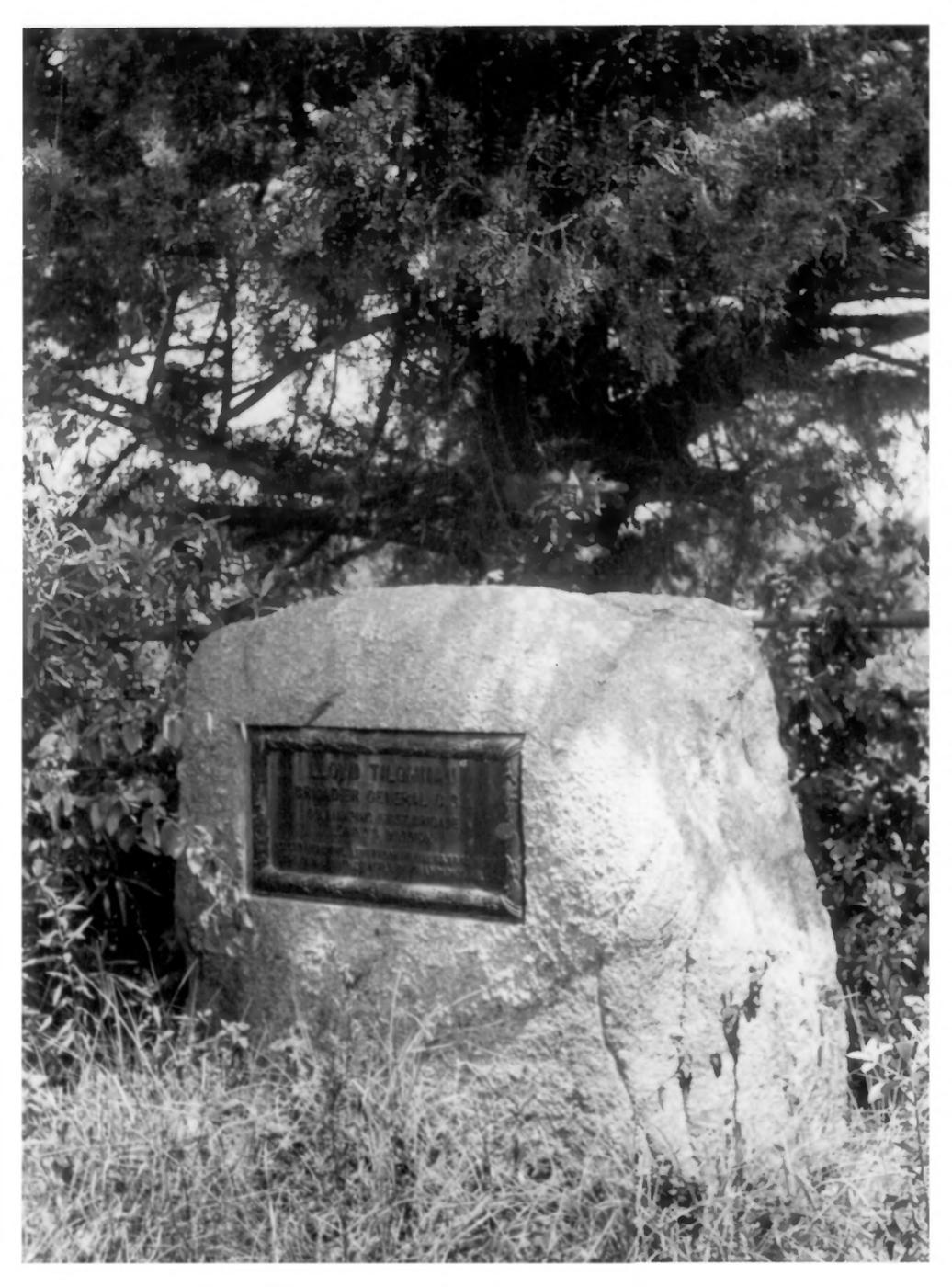
JACKSON ROAD, LOOKING NORTHEAST

NPS Number 71.10.28.0011

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. Miss., Miss.

Jackson Road, looking northeast



LLOYD TELGARD
BRIGADE GENERAL
U.S. ARMY
BORN [illegible]
DIED [illegible]

CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD

4 MILES SOUTHWEST OF BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTO: B4; WILLIAM C. WRIGHT

DATE: MAY 16, 1971

(MONUMENT LOCATING THE
SITE OF GEN. LLOYD TILGHMAN'S
DEATH)

NPS Number 71.10.28.0011

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. Hinds, Miss.

NO TRESPASSING



CHAMPION HILL BATTLEFIELD
A MILES SOUTHWEST OF
BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTO BY: WILLIAM C. WRIGHT
DATE: MAY 16, 1971

VIEW OF CROSSROADS LOOKING
NORTHEAST TOWARD JACKSON
ROAD.

THE CHAMPION HOUSE WAS
IMMEDIATELY UP THE ROAD
FACING.

NPS Number 71.10.28.0011

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. HINDS, MISS.

~~RESEARCH CENTER~~





CHAMPION HILL
CISTERN AT ROBERT'S HOUSE
(PEMBERTON'S HEADQUARTERS).
NOTE WELL WORN GROOVES
FROM WELL ROPES.

NORTH VIEW

LOCATED ABOUT 4 MILES
SOUTHWEST OF BOLTON, MISS.

PHOTOGRAPH BY: WILLIAM C. WRIGHT

DATE: MAY 16, 1971

NPS Number 7110.28.0011

Title: Champion Hill Battle Field

Loc. MISS., MISS.



RATLIFF ROAD LOOKING
WEST TOWARD SITE OF
DEMBERTON'S HEADQUARTERS
CHAMPION HILL

PHOTOGRAPH BY: WILLIAM C. WRIGHT
DATE: MAY 16, 1971

NPS Number 71.10.2B.001

Title: Champion Hill Battlefield

Loc. Hinds, Miss

