

FOREWARD

I am so humbled that my friend, Mark Zimmerman, would ask me to contribute to this fine work. So many books have been written about the famous Battle of Nashville but most have missed the details of the retreat down Franklin Pike, through the gap at present day Radnor Lake and the famous Battle of the Barricade on Granny White Pike that closed the fighting on December 16, 1864. Mark Zimmerman has been able to compile a concise overview of all the action which is a very difficult task.

I have walked the Nashville battlefield since 1966 when I was six years old living on land where history was created long ago. The Nashville battlefield has essentially been obliterated. There are only a few people left that know exactly where the troops fought and died. We know where the little spots of history – which have not been wrecked by development – still stand. The relics continue to come from the dark topsoil revealing death, destruction, and a desperate fight for this country. Mark Zimmerman has seen many of these small treasures with me and has gone to great efforts to map some of these sites.

In the preservation world, there are only a handful of people that step up to make an enduring financial contribution. Long ago, the author donated all the proceeds from Civil War Nashville 1st Edition to the Battle of Nashville Trust. The sale of these books – every year – has been an incredible gift to the Trust to maintain its protected sites in Nashville. The Battle of Nashville Trust can never express in words its gratitude to the author for this gift. We are so grateful that he has another work that is being produced that will give those with an interest in the Nashville campaign and the retreat another detailed and balanced perspective.

On behalf of a grateful Battle of Nashville Trust, I thank the author for his hard work, and I know that you will enjoy this.

James D. Kay, Jr.
Nashville Battle of Trust, Inc.
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