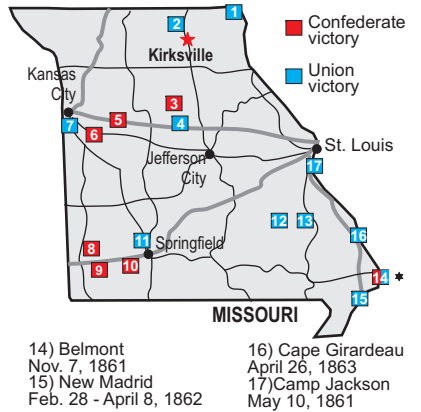## IMPORTANT MISSOURI CIVIL WAR BATTLE SITES

1) Athens
Aug. 5, 1861
2.) Kirksville
Aug. 6-9, 1862
3) Gasgow
Oct. 15, 1864
4) Boonville
June 17, 1861
5) Lexington
Sept. 13-20, 1861
6) Lone Jack
Aug. 15-16, 1862
7) Westport
Oct. 23, 1864
8) Carthage
July 5, 1861
9) Newtonia
Sept. 30, 1862
10) Wilson's Creek
Aug. 10, 1861
11) Springfield
Jan. 8, 1863
12) Pilot Knob
Sept. 27, 1864
13) Fredericktown
Oct. 21, 1861

✳ both sides claimed victory
🟥 Confederate victory
🟦 Union victory

14) Belmont
Nov. 7, 1861
15) New Madrid
Feb. 28 - April 8, 1862
16) Cape Girardeau
April 26, 1863
17)Camp Jackson
May 10, 1861

Sources National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program, www.civilwar.com   or   www.missouricivilwarmuseum.org

A Civil War Heritage group is planning a Missouri Civil War Tour in 2011. The Battle of Kirksville will be included. Tourism officials said that promotion of the Civil War will be good for business in towns small and large. The state is creating an advertising campaign called "Missouri: Where the Civil War Began" leading up to the 150th anniversary of the start of the war in 1861. Missouri was torn over slavery for years before the war started. Men fought on both Union and Confederate sides, and only Virginia and Tennessee had more battles than did Missouri. For more information: http://www.wherethecivilwarbegan.com/itineraries_ne.cfm

Adair Historical Markers

The Adair County Historical Society has placed four historical markers on the courthouse square. The first one describes the Battle of Kirksville and is placed on the southeast side of the courthouse. The second marker, Cyclone of April 27, 1899, was erected on the southwest side of the courthouse. The third and fourth markers were erected on the north side of the courthouse. One is a history of Adair County and the other about the three Adair County Courthouses.
The ACHS board believes that these markers add significantly to the downtown area by making the area historical appealing to both residents and visitors. The board envisions as many as fifteen markers could be placed around Adair County. Each one of these historic markers cost approximately $2,000. ACHS is accepting donations from members, non-members, service organizations and businesses. Any non-member who makes a $15 donation or more will receive a membership to the historical society. Any individual or organization who makes a donation of $1,000 or more will have the name inscribed on a plaque at the historical society. All donations are fully tax deductible within the limits of the law.
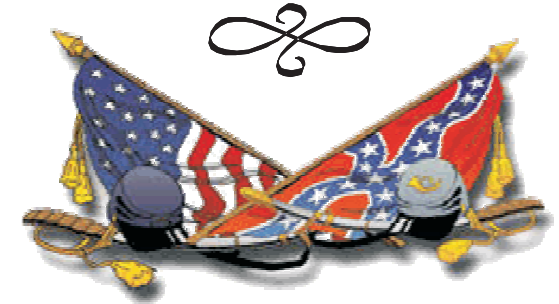Please make your check out to The Adair County Historical Society.
Thank you for your support!

Adair County Historical Society
211 South Elson St.
Kirksville, Missouri 63501

The Battle of Kirksville
August 6, 1862

Battle of Kirksville painting. It is a copy from an original oil painting by Prof. Allen T. Towne of the Kirksville Normal School Facility.

Adair County Historical Society
211 South Elson St.
Kirksville, Missouri 63501
660-665-6502
Hours: 1:00-4:00 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
http://www.adairchs.org

The Battle of Kirksville - August 6, 1862

Confederate Lieutenant Colonel Joseph C. Porter of Lewis County had been recruiting and harrying in Northeast Missouri throughout the summer of 1862. Adair County farmer Captain Mathias (Tice) Cain (Confederate), in command of irregulars from Schuyler County, sent word to Porter that he held Kirksville, then a village of 700 extending only a few blocks from the courthouse square. Their combined force was about 2000. Only about 500 were well equipped and took part in the battle; fully 1000 were unarmed, raw recruits. Porter arrived before noon on August 6.

Lt. Col. Joseph C. Poter

Colonel John McNeil (Union), Commander of the Northeast Division of the District of Missouri, had been following Porter since July 29. McNeil's forces were based in what is now Memorial Park. After unnerving the enemy with an artillery barrage, the Federals arrived on the edge of Kirksville about 10 a.m. The focal point of the battle was the courthouse square. McNeil sent in a squad who drew fire from the rebels concealed in the courthouse and the houses and shops around the square. The Confederates being discovered, the battle was joined, with Lieutenant Colonel Shaffer in charge of the Union right wing while Major Caldwell commanded the left. McNeil used about 500 of his 1250 soldiers in the battle.

Col. John McNeil

As the two wings met and succeeded in driving the Confederates from the courthouse area, Porter yielded ground and concentrated his forces behind a fence on the western edge of town. From this position the Confederates poured withering fire into McNeil's men, who moved against the line and drove it to the west, while the left wing took full possession of the southern part of Kirksville. The battle lasted about three hours, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Many residents evacuated town before the battle, and only two civilians were killed, McNeil reported five of his troops killed and thirty-two wounded, against 150 Confederates killed, 300 to 400 wounded and forty-seven taken prisoner. A number of rebels were tried and executed for violation of parole on August 7 and 8. The day after the battle Colonel McNeil ordered Kirksville residents to bury the Confederate dead. The Battle of Kirksville is regarded as consolidating Union control of Missouri.

Col. John McNeil

In the Forest Lewellyn Cemetery a tall memorial at the head of the long, empty tomb still stands, reading "In Memory of Twenty-Six Confederate Soldiers Killed in Battle at Kirksville, Mo. Aug. 6, 1862." The Forest Lewellyn Cemetery is located west of the Kirksville square.

To find more information about the Battle of Kirksville visit these:

Truman State University
http://library.truman.edu/scpublications/Chariton%20Collector/Spring%201982/The%20Battle%20of%20Kirksville.pdf
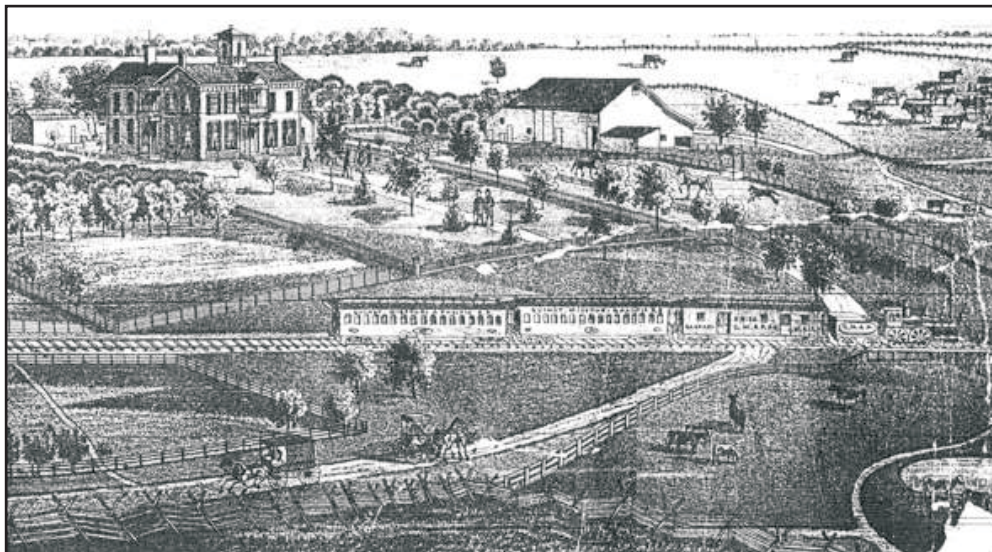
http://index.truman.edu/PDF/2002-2003/March20/Page%2016.pdf

http://index.truman.edu/PDF/2003-2004/November20/Page%204%20&%205.pdf

A re-visit of The Battle of Kirksville by Craig Asbury
http://www.adairchs.org/BattleofKville/BofK-1.htm

http://www.mycivilwar.com/battles/620806c.htm

http://timelines.com/1862/8/6/battle-of-kirksville

A rendering of William Parcell's Plantation. This was where the Union set up a base of operations and later buried their dead. The plantation, built before the Civil War, was reportedly damage by cannon fire during the Battle of Kirksville.

The Parcell Plantation is often confused with the Kellogg house the site of which is nearby and both homes were at one time owned by the Kelloggs. Though the Parcell house was frame, whereas Kelloggs was brick, the door and window arrangement was similar. Finally, various mentions of a fenced-in causeway or walkway between the two homes led to further confusion.

For more information:
http://library.truman.edu/scpublications/Chariton%20Collector/Fall%201980/In%20Search%20of%20Kellwood.pdf