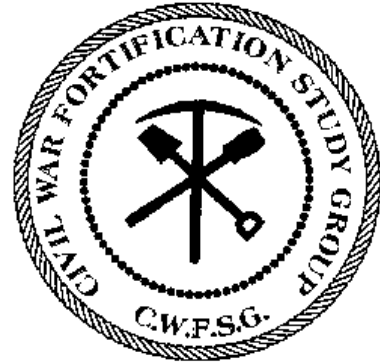


The seventeenth annual meeting of the Civil War Fortification Study Group will convene at the Holiday Express, Middlesboro, Kentucky, Wednesday evening, March 11, 2009.



Wednesday 11 March

6-9 pm: Informal gathering for welcome and registration in the CWFSG hospitality room. Dinner on your own. Numerous options in the area. *Advisory: Bell County is DRY. Beer is available at Cumberland Gap, TN. Any distilled spirits (required for medicinal purposes) will need to be packed in.*

Thursday 12 March

8 am: Leave hotel, travel through the highway tunnel to village of Cumberland Gap, TN.

8:30 am: Orientation at old hotel site. Travel to the Park Service Pavillion. Old Wilderness Road. Park at furnace, walk to view 1889 Railroad Tunnel. Discussion of Union and Confederate engineering and Batteries 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

9:30 am: Depart town of Cumberland Gap.

10:00 am: Visit National Park Service Visitor Center exhibits and book store.

10:30 am: Depart Visitor Center. Travel to Pinnacle Peak parking area.

10:45 am: Orientation at the Gap overlook. View Fort Lyon (US)/Pitt (CS). Hike out the Pinnacle Trail to view the "Far Ridge Battery," the Block House site, and associated rifle pits. Return to parking area.

12:30 am: Bag lunch provided. View nearby military road and military camp site.

1:30 pm: Start back down the mountain. View Fort Edgar (US)/Fort Green (CS) and unidentified stacked stone structures.

2:00 pm: Park picnic area; site of destroyed Fort McRae (US)/Fort Mallory (CS). Walk out military road to 1920s homestead. Follow earthworks down the mountain to Fort McCook (US)/Fort Raines (CS). (Drivers will move vehicles and meet group at Fort McCook parking area.)

3:30pm: View and discuss erosion at Fort McCook.

4:00 Park at the pump house/old homestead area. View “Fort Halleck Line” and one-gun battery. View what is thought to be a regimental camp. Hut sites and tent pads. View Saddle of the Gap and site of Fort Halleck.

5:30 pm: Make way back to vehicles.

6:00 pm: Return to hotel. Dinner on your own. Hospitality room opens at 8 pm.

Friday 13 March

8 am: Depart hotel. Travel through the highway tunnel to village of Cumberland Gap, TN. Park at the Furnace. Pack lunches. (Drivers will move vehicles to Object Lesson Road lower parking area.)

8:30 am: Follow old road/hiking trail up into the gap. View railroad “trenches.” View Battery 6. View Fort McClellan.

10:00 am: Walk out military road to view Battery 7. View outlying rifle trenches. Return to Fort McClellan.

11:00 am: View military road. Follow rifle trench up the side of the mountain to the Tri-State monument. Continue on Tri-State Trail to view Fort Farragut.

12:30 noon: Return to Tri-State Monument for lunch (packed in).

2:00 pm: Descend mountain (difficult and briary) following earthworks along powerline cut to salient angle and “Fort Grigg.”

3:00 pm: Visit Fort Foote (US)/Fort Hunter (CS). Discussion of Commissary and Magazine.

4:00 pm: Return to Saddle of the Gap. Descend Object Lesson Road to meet vehicles at the lower parking area. (Drivers will move vehicles from Furnace through tunnel to Object Lesson Road lower parking area.)

5:30 pm: Return to hotel. Dinner on your own. Hospitality room opens at 8 pm.

Saturday 14 March

8:00 am: Depart hotel in bus via Cumberland Ford for all day tour of Mill Springs battlefield and related sites, including new museum and visitor center. Details to be announced.

6:00 pm: Catered dinner at the historic, refurbished Brown-Lanier House on the Cumberland River, featuring classic Kentucky hospitality.

10:00 pm: Return to hotel.