

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received AUG 10 1987

date entered SEP 10 1987

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Union Battery F, Battle of Corinth

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number Rabbit Ranch Road N/A not for publication

city, town Corinth X vicinity of

state Mississippi code 028 county Alcorn code 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Harold Isbell

street & number Kimberly Road

city, town Corinth N/A vicinity of state Mississippi

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Chancery Clerk
Alcorn County Courthouse

street & number Waldon Street

city, town Corinth state Mississippi

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Battery F is one of a series of six batteries that were constructed by Federal troops during the summer of 1862 as an outer defense network around the southwestern portion of the town of Corinth, Mississippi. The Federal forces were still occupying Corinth when Confederate forces under Generals Earl Van Dorn and Sterling Price assaulted the town from the northwest during the Battle of Corinth (October 3 and 4, 1862). In their attack, the Confederates essentially bypassed all six batteries except for F, which was involved in heavy fighting. Today, ironically, Battery F is the only one of the six to have survived intact the ravages of modern progress.

The battery is situated in a field on the crest of a ridge overlooking the railroad that was known in the 1860s as the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. The battery consists of a relatively well-preserved semi-circular embankment with a radius of about 70 feet and is oriented facing the northwest. There is a cut in the center which was presumably to permit the firing of a cannon. A fosse lies on the outer side of the battery; it was created when earth was removed to form the embankment. The embankment is about 40 feet wide from its interior to the center of the fosse. Overall because of its state of preservation and because of its surrounding, the site is evocative of the events leading up to and occurring during the Battle of Corinth.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates October 3-4, 1862 **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The site of Battery F is significant on the basis of National Register Criterion A, in that it is associated with the Battle of Corinth, which was an important battle of the War between the States. Corinth was strategically located during the war because of its location at the intersection of two major railroads, the Memphis and Charleston and the Mobile and Ohio. Consequently, its occupation by Federal troops in May 1862 and the subsequent repulsion of Confederate troops during the Battle of Corinth (October 3-4, 1862) were severe blows to the Confederacy.

In mid-September 1862 Major General Sterling Price, C.S.A., marched with his troops to Ripley, Mississippi, where he was joined by General Earl Van Dorn, C.S.A., who had devised a plan to attack the Federal garrison at Corinth which consisted of about 23,000 troops under the command of Major General William S. Rosecrans. In late September Van Dorn and Price marched north from Ripley as a diversionary movement then turned and approached Corinth from the northwest. This approach allowed them to avoid all but one of the outer Federal batteries, most of which lay to the south of Corinth.

Fighting began on the morning of October 3 along the Chewalla Road and increased in intensity into the day. It was on this day that fighting occurred at Battery F. It was the division of Major General Mansfield Lovell, C.S.A., that came up against Federal forces around the battery. Lovell opened the battle by carrying the Federal stronghold in front of the battery. The Federal troops then abandoned this position for a stronger one, presumably Battery F, which Lovell described as "a strong redoubt, well flanked with infantry and with an abatis of felled timber half a mile in width extending around it in one direction, with no obstructions to the North, in the direction of Price's right" (War of the Rebellion, Series I, vol. 17, pt. 1, p. 405).

Apparently having difficulty dislodging the Federal troops, Lovell acquired the assistance of two brigades belonging to Brigadier General Dabney H. Maury, which were on the opposite (north) side of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. The two brigades were ordered to cross the railroad and attack the Federal position. Brigadier General John Creek Moore who was in charge of one of the two brigades wrote in his report of the battle:

On crossing [the railroad] the enemy opened on us a most terrific fire from the brow of a hill not more than 75 yards distant. The enemy opposed us with a heavy force, being formed in two lines, the first lying on the ground

9. Major Bibliographical References

United States. War Department. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Ser. 1, vol. 17. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1889.

(Continued)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one

Quadrangle name Corinth, Miss.

Quadrangle scale 1:25000

UTM References

A 16 358320 3868175
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification The nominated property includes the embankment and fosse that are extant remains of Union Battery F. The site is located in the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 34, Township 2 South, Range 7 East. It is approximately 390 feet east of Rabbit Ranch Road and approximately 470 feet north of the Smith Bridge Road.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title James C. Harris Revised by Jack D. Elliott, Jr., Historical Archaeologist, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, July, 1987

organization Chairman of Battlesite Commission date March 31, 1987

street & number 1002 Douglas Street telephone (601) 286-2187
(601) 287-3771

city or town Corinth state Mississippi 38834

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Kenneth H. P. Pool

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date August 4, 1987

For NPS use only

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

[Signature] Director of the National Register date 9-10-87
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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Union Battery F, Battle of Corinth

Continuation sheet Alcorn County, Mississippi

Item number 8

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8 - SIGNIFICANCE

and the other firing over them. This awful fire staggered us but for a moment and as soon as our line was steadied a little, we charged, drove them from the position, and carried the work, capturing a few prisoners, and taking a large camp with their supplies of commissary and quartermaster's stores. On discovering our approach the enemy removed and saved their guns. This we found to be a strong work, in a fine position, and well constructed. From this position we judged this to be the point from which a cannonading had been kept up during the day (War of the Rebellion, Series I, vol. 17, pt. 1, p. 398).

By the end of the day Van Dorn and Price had successfully forced the Federal troops into their last line of defense within Corinth, but darkness, thirst, and exhaustion forced a halt to the fighting for the day. On the following day the Confederate forces resumed their attack but were eventually forced with withdraw by nightfall. If the Confederates had taken and held Corinth, this strategic position would have resulted in better communication and an improved flow of troops and supplies between the Army of Tennessee to the north and General John C. Pemberton's army headquartered in Jackson.

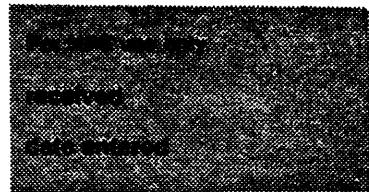
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Union Battery F, Battle of Corinth

Continuation sheet Alcorn County, Mississippi Item number 9

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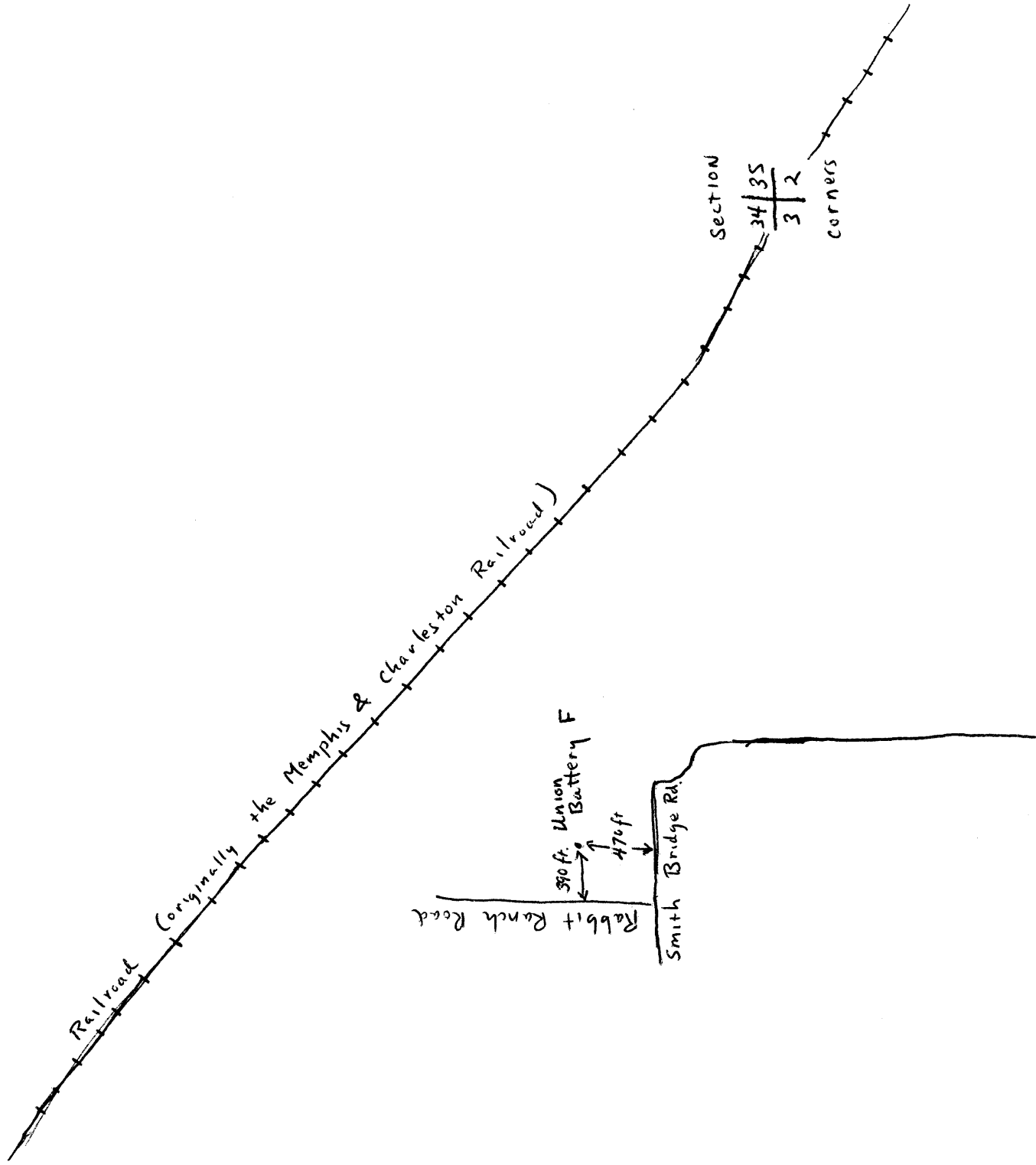


9 - MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cockrell, Monroe F., ed. The Last Account of the Battle of Corinth. Jackson, Tenn.: McCowat-Mercer Press, Inc., 1955.

Gordon, Col. James. "The Battle and Retreat from Corinth." Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society, 4(1901):63-72.

Union Battery F Site
 Battle of Corinth
 Corinth, Alcorn County, Mississippi



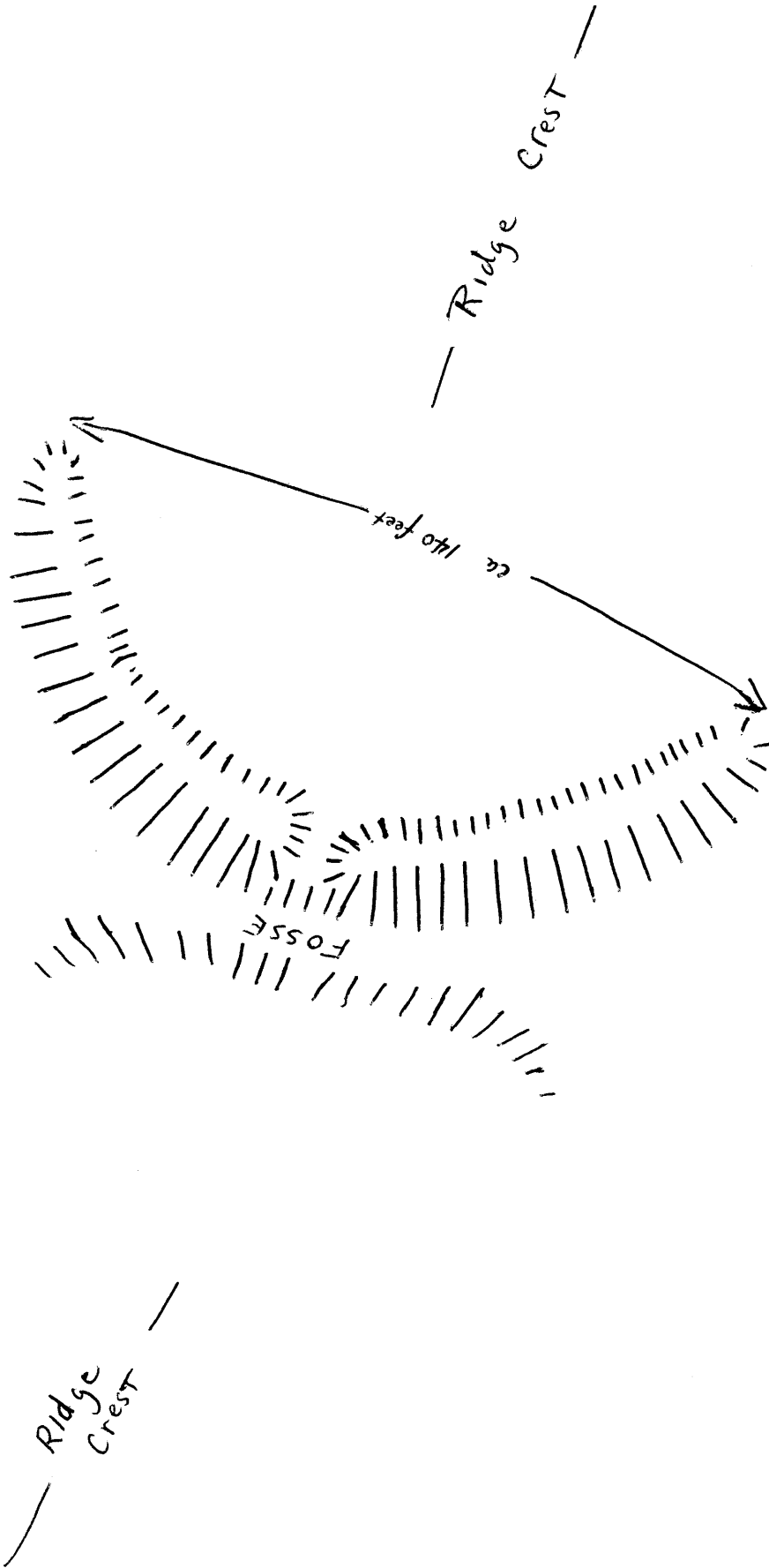
North

SECTION

33	34
4	3

corners

North
↑



Union Battery F Site
Battle of Corinth
Corinth, Alcorn County, Miss.

CORINTH QUADRANGLE
MISSISSIPPI-TENNESSEE
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE4 CORINTH 15 QUADRANGLE
35°00' (MISS.) 1 940 000
35°00' (MISS.) 1 940 000

UNION BATTERY F, BATTLE OF CORINTH
Corinth Vicinity, Alcorn County, Mississippi
UTM REFERENCES:
16/358320/3868175

