
NEWS RELEASE

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Missouri Border Site Included in CWPT History Under Siege

Lone Jack, Missouri– The Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) recently issued its annual History Under Siege report of the 10 most endangered battlefields and 15 most at risk sites. These represent 25 battlefields CWPT and historians believe have significant military importance and need the most immediate preservation attention. The Lone Jack Battlefield is included in the 15 most at risk sites – the only site in Missouri. The 3-1/2 acre battlefield site of the museum and cemetery is owned by Jackson County and operated by the Lone Jack Historical Society. It is surrounded on three sides by residential and commercial property and on the fourth side by commercially zoned property for sale.

The acknowledgement by the CWPT of a site as having military importance and in immediate need of preservation assistance west of the Mississippi River is a tremendous achievement in the national Civil War preservation picture. In the current list, 5 of the 25 are in the western theater. To be acknowledged and ranked in this listing of sites is a significant honor, albeit a dubious one.

Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area in western Missouri and eastern Kansas has drawn international recognition to this border area where residents with diverse definitions of freedom collided, thus inciting and fueling the Civil War. In 1854 the Missouri-Kansas Border War ushered in the Civil War, consumed the region in bloody conflict before and through war's end and devastated communities on both sides of the border. The August 16, 1862 battle at Lone Jack, MO is increasingly being acknowledged as an important military point in the war by historians. Lone Jack provides opportunities for visitors to explore a unique physical and cultural landscape and inspire tolerance and respect for multiple perspectives.

As a member of the Missouri-Kansas Border War Network, Lone Jack provides resources for the study of the area's unique story of civil strife that took place during the extended war years. This Border War rivalry continues into the 21st century in the college sports venue between the University of Missouri and the University of Kansas.

The impact of these border events continues to be woven into the nation's fabric. Appreciating and preserving such unique historical landscapes for future generations to interpret multiple views of freedom offers an understanding of the region's importance by sharing and respecting diverse perspectives.

For additional information on the Lone Jack Battlefield, please contact Alinda Miller at 816-805-1815; president@historiclonejack.org.