



March 2019

***License Plate on the 1864 Campaign to Nashville
The Battle of Spring Hill***



This battlefield preservation supporter visited Rippavilla Plantation, the 1855 Nathaniel Cheairs home on the Spring Hill Battlefield. Rippavilla was a headquarters for both Confederate and Union generals during the Civil War.

On November 30th, Confederate General Hood had breakfast with his commanders at Rippavilla, angered that during the night, while his troops camped near the home, federal troops had passed by on the Columbia Pike – a few hundred yards away.



On November 28th, 1864, as Lt. General John Bell Hood's Confederate forces advanced towards **Spring Hill**, the cavalries of Union General James H. Wilson and Maj. General N. B. Forrest skirmished throughout the day at Spring Hill. On the 29th, Hood's infantry converged on Spring Hill while Maj General Schofield's federal troops held the crossroads at Spring Hill. Late that afternoon the Federals repulsed a piecemeal Confederate attack. That night, the rest of the Federal army joined Schofield, having passed undetected along the Columbia Pike past encamped Confederates. The next morning, having discovered the Federals had slipped by, Hood ordered his army to pursue. By late afternoon, the armies were engaged at the massive **Battle of Franklin**. Hood's failure to cut off the Federal advance to Nashville at Spring Hill led to this engagement being described as "one of the most controversial non-fighting events of the entire war."



The American Battlefield Trust preserves a portion of the rolling agricultural landscape of the Spring Hill battlefield.

Save the Date: TCWPA's Annual Membership Meeting will be held at Rippavilla on April 27th. The meeting is open to the public. Following the meeting, the 4th annual preservation tour will explore how several preservation partners have helped preserve the Spring Hill Battlefield. Watch for details in an upcoming e-news.

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The Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association preserves and interprets Tennessee's Civil War Battlefields and their contributing landscapes for present and future generations.

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