



July 2018

## *Honoring Tennessee Soldiers License Plate to Shiloh*



*This battlefield preservation supporter visited the Tennessee Monument, “Passing of Honor,” at Shiloh National Military Park. The monument stands near the crossroads of the Corinth-Pittsburg Landing and the Hamburg-Purdy Roads, ground zero for the killing zone at Shiloh. During the battle, 90% of Tennesseans at Shiloh passed within a half-mile of that crossroads.*



*The nine-foot high bronze sculpture was designed by G.L. Sanders of Pampa, TX. Enroute from its Lander, Wyoming foundry, the sculpture remained uncovered on a flatbed trailer. The truck driver quickly realized he had to refuel at out of the way gas stations as the statue always drew a crowd, delaying his trip.*

For nearly 150 years, no monument to all Tennesseans who fought at Shiloh stood on the battlefield, yet Tennessee had sent more troops than any other state to this April, 1862 battle. In 2005, after a large effort by local citizens, organizations, the State of Tennessee and the National Park Service, the **Tennessee Monument** was erected and dedicated to Tennesseans who fought at Shiloh. An estimated 3,225 officers and men from Tennessee were among the 23,746 soldiers, both Confederate and Union, who were either killed, wounded, or reported missing in the battle.

The bronze statue depicts a fallen flag bearer, a soldier picking up the flag, and a third soldier standing watch. In addition to a modern patina featuring skin tones and red and blue flag colors, the work has eleven stainless steel stars. The State of Tennessee, the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, private donors, and the U.S. Government funded the \$280,000 project.

Gov. James D. Porter (1899) in reflecting on the Tennesseans who fought at Shiloh, said *“The great body of the Tennessee troops never fought better than at Shiloh. Though many of them had little training, they fought in the open field and exhibited remarkable steadiness and readiness to obey orders. Tennessee was represented on all parts of the field and in all commands. Her sons sustained and promoted the character and reputation of the State, and elevated the standard of courage, fidelity and*

*patriotism.”*

*Special thanks to Shiloh NPS staff for their assistance. Second photo credit: National Park Service.*

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Please help us acquire photos of the “Save Our Battlefields” license plate at a Civil War site in every county of the state. With a photo of your license plate at one (or more) sites, we’re able to share stories about the multi-faceted and often little-known history of the Civil War in Tennessee in these monthly emails. Please keep that camera handy as you travel the backroads ...and send photos to [info@tcwpa.org](mailto:info@tcwpa.org). Thank you!



### **Complimentary Membership**

If you’ve purchased a Civil War Battlefield preservation license plate you are eligible for a complimentary 1-year membership in TCWPA. For more information visit [tcwpa.org/license-plate](http://tcwpa.org/license-plate).

You can purchase the license plate at your County Clerk’s office for \$36.00 plus your regular registration fees. Proceeds from the sale of the plate will help protect and interpret important battlefields in Tennessee. For more information, visit: [tcwpa.org/license-plate](http://tcwpa.org/license-plate)



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