



Welcome Center

In 2012, Johnsonville State Historic Park opened a new state-of-the-art welcome center. Visitors are encouraged to begin their visit at the welcome center where they can view a short video about the Battle of Johnsonville and explore exhibits on the Civil War and the town of Johnsonville. Visitors can obtain maps, brochures and other information about other parks and neighboring attractions. Call 931-535 2789 for operating hours.

Gift Shop

The gift shop is located in the welcome center and offers an assortment of books about the Civil War and other items.

Hiking

The park has approximately eight miles of hiking trails ranging from moderate to rugged. There are two trailhead locations inside the park boundaries where hikers may park. The lower trailhead parking lot is located on the right after you enter the main entrance. The upper trailhead parking is located up the road to your left after entering the park. Trail maps are located at each of these locations. There are three trails each blazed by a different color:

- [1] Historic Johnsonville Trail (blue);
 - [2] African-American Cemetery Loop (white);
 - [3] Fort Johnson Civil War Trail (red).
- All hikers must exit the park by closing time.

Fishing

Johnsonville State Historic Park offers year-round bank fishing. Catfish, brim, bass, and shell-crackers are the most abundant catch for anglers. A valid Tennessee fishing license is required.



Camping and Boating

Johnsonville State Historic Park is a day-use park only. Camping or boat launching is not available.

Picnicking

Johnsonville has one small picnic area. There are 10 open picnic sites with tables and most have grills. All picnic areas are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Restrooms are located in the picnic area.

Programs and Annual Events

Programs are offered throughout the year. Check the park website for more information. An annual Battle of Johnsonville living history event is held on the first weekend in November to commemorate the November 4, 1864 battle.

Nearby Attractions

- Humphreys County Museum and Civil War Fort, Waverly - 10 miles
- Patsy Cline Memorial, Camden - 15 miles
- Loretta Lynn's Ranch, Hurricane Mills - 20 miles
- Parker's Crossroads Civil War Battlefield - 43 miles
- Fort Donelson National Battlefield, Dover - 48 miles

We're Mobile!

The Tennessee State Parks Pocket Ranger app is available at the Apple app store and Google Play.



Take I-40 to Exit 143. Take Highway 13 North for 13 miles. Take Highway 70 West to New Johnsonville and then follow the signs to the park. Johnsonville State Historic Park is located in Humphreys County on the eastern bank of Kentucky Lake (Tennessee River) three miles north of U.S. Hwy 70 in New Johnsonville.



Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation authorization no. 327152, 20,000 copies. This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$.06 per copy, October, 2014.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation is committed to principles of equal opportunity, equal access and affirmative action. Contact the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation EEO/AA coordinator at 888-867-2757 or the ADA Coordinator at 615-532-0059 for further information. Hearing impaired callers may use the Tennessee Relay Service at 800-848-0298.

Hours of Operation

Open 7 days a week
8 a.m. – 6 p.m. April 1 – Oct. 31
8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Nov. 1 – March 31

Johnsonville State Historic Park

90 Nell Beard Rd.
New Johnsonville, TN 37134
931-535-2789

Tennessee State Parks

William R. Snodgrass TN Tower
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue, 2nd Floor
Nashville, TN 37243
888-867-2757

www.tnstateparks.com

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers and Friends assist in protecting, preserving and promoting the cultural and natural resources of their favorite state park, giving of their time and talents to ensure their park's integrity for future generations to enjoy. It's easy to show your support – join a Friends group or participate in one of the many volunteer opportunities we offer individuals, families and groups.



To learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area visit www.tnstateparks.com.



T E N N E S S E E
State Parks

JOHNSONVILLE
STATE HISTORIC
PARK
TENNESSEE



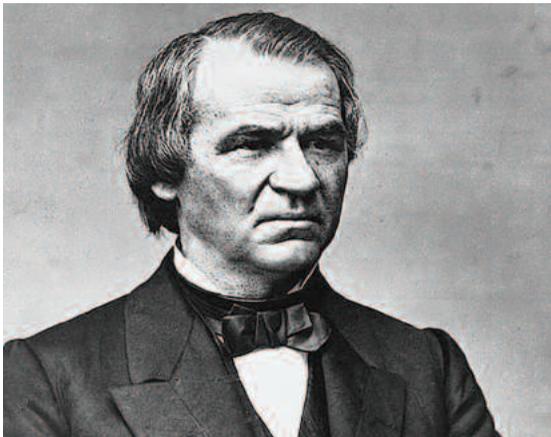
www.tnstateparks.com



Johnsonville State Historic Park is located in Humphreys County on the eastern bank of Kentucky Lake (Tennessee River) three miles north of U.S. Hwy 70 in New Johnsonville. The park features a modern welcome center complete with exhibits focusing on the 1864 Battle of Johnsonville, a multi-media film and a gift shop. This wooded park encompasses 527 acres and has a wide variety of plant and animal life. Johnsonville's primary cultural features consist of two well preserved Civil War fortifications and a mile of earthen entrenchments constructed in 1863-1864 during the Civil War.

Historical Significance

The historic town of Johnsonville was named for Andrew Johnson (pictured below). Johnson served as Tennessee's Union Military Governor during the Civil War and became the 17th President of the United States following Abraham Lincoln's assassination in April 1865. Trade along the Tennessee River had been vital to the surrounding communities since the 1830s. In 1858, a small river port called Lucas Landing began operations along the Tennessee River at the present day site of Johnsonville State Historic Park.



In February 1862, the Civil War was less than a year old when Nashville, located on the Cumberland River, fell to the Union Army. By summer, it became apparent that using the Cumberland River as a supply route proved unreliable due to low water levels. Union commanders agreed that a supply depot on the Tennessee River, navigable year round, would provide Union forces in the west with a stream of vital supplies. To connect the supply depot with Nashville, an existing railroad, the Nashville and Northwestern, which ended at Kingston Springs, was extended to the Tennessee River at Lucas Landing.

In October 1863, Union General William S. Rosecrans ordered the completion of the single-track Nashville and Northwestern Railroad. Designed by the First Michigan Engineers, the railroad was constructed primarily by 7,000 African American civilians impressed into labor units by the Union army.



By May 1864, the Union supply depot at Lucas Landing was completed (pictured above). In only eight months, the sleepy river landing had been converted into a bustling 90-acre military supply operation complete with docks, wharves, offices, warehouses, horse corrals, a sawmill and military quarters for housing a 2,500 man garrison. To protect the depot from a Confederate attack, Union soldiers constructed a redoubt (a small enclosed earthen fort) equipped with artillery and a line of outer defenses (rifle pits). On May 10, 1864, Military Governor Johnson rode the first train from Nashville to the Tennessee River and ceremoniously opened the supply depot. From that day forward, the depot and town would forever be called Johnsonville. On the afternoon of November 4, 1864, Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest attacked Johnsonville



from across the Tennessee River. At 2 p.m., a heated artillery exchange commenced at Forrest's artillery upon anchored Union naval vessels and supplies piled alongside the riverfront. Fearing capture, Johnsonville's commander, Colonel Charles R. Thompson, ordered the burning of naval transports docked at the wharf. The fire quickly spread and consumed most of the depot's buildings. That evening, Forrest withdrew by the light of the burning depot, having caused more than \$6.7 million in damages.

After the battle, some of Johnsonville's depot was rebuilt and a second larger (upper) redoubt was constructed on a hill overlooking the (lower)

redoubt. Following the Confederate defeat at the Battle of Nashville in December 1864, the Union army all but abandoned Johnsonville except for a small detachment of United States Colored Troops left to guard the depot until the war's end in April 1865. In 1867, Johnsonville flourished as a railroad town when the Tennessee River was bridged to the western shore allowing trains to run continuously between Nashville and Memphis. The town of Johnsonville existed another 80 years until 1944 when the Tennessee Valley Authority flooded the Tennessee River and formed Kentucky Lake. Johnsonville State Historic Park officially opened in 1971 to preserve existing Civil War fortifications, the historic town site and to protect all wildlife and natural resources.

