

Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

Fort Defiance
120 Duncan Street
Clarksville, TN 37040

General Information:

This should be considered a Challenging hike as there is a great degree of elevation change and it covers approximately 11 miles.

Sturdy shoes, compass, GPS, and water bottles are recommended.

There are restaurants, and public buildings along the way. On the map provided, some potential sources of water and restrooms are located. Note: Do not rely on these! Hikers have found some of these sources to be turned off or disabled on previous hikes!

Fort Defiance Hike

Hike begins at rectangular sign (Title on sign: Fort Defiance; Defending the River) at far right side of the building along the sidewalk in the parking lot.

- Q 1. Title on Sign: "Fort Defiance; Defending the River" (N36.54179 W87.37285)
What was the original name of Fort Defiance? _____

Follow the sidewalk towards and past the interpretative center, continue past the flag pole on your left. At "circle" in the sidewalk turn right (off sidewalk) and up the hill into the "Earthworks" Note to hikers, please do not climb or walk on Earthwork mounds.

- Q 2. Title on Sign "Life as A Garrisoned Union Soldier" (N36.54110 W87.37319)
What washardtack made from? _____

Continue deeper into the Fort.

- Q 3. Title on Sign: "Building Fort Sevier" (N36.54119 W87.37349)
What were the Earthen walls called? _____

Continue deeper into the Fort.

- Q 4. Title on Sign: "Forts versus Iron Clads" (N36.54112 W87.37390)
What gunboat carried 32-pounder smoothbores and one 12-pounder rifled gun? _____

Return out of Fort to the sidewalk.

Turn right on sidewalk, and follow path to cannon. Note to hikers, please do not climb or play on cannon.

At cannon veer left, and follow sidewalk down the hill.

Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

Q 5. Title on Sign: "Tobacco Trade & the Rivers" (N36.54024 W87.37293)

This fort is located between what two rivers? _____

Continue following trail.

Q 6. Title on Sign "Town of Cumberland" (N36.54009 W87.37252)

What is the difference between Keelboats and Flatboats? _____

Continue following trail. At the cul-de-sac, continue to far side and pick up marked trail again. Marked trail will end at New Providence Blvd. At New Providence, you will follow city sidewalk towards downtown Clarksville. Cross the bridge, and continue to intersection of New Providence / 2nd Street / Kraft Street / Riverside drive. Turn right to follow Riverside Drive, staying on sidewalk. At the 2nd Entrance of the O'Charley's parking lot cut through the parking lot to pick up marked trail of the Clarksville Riverwalk. You will proceed south along the Riverwalk (parallel to the river, and towards downtown Clarksville.

At the "As the River Flows" Museum pavilion, turn right, and proceed down the stairs to the lower walk of the Riverwalk. Again, turn south and follow the river towards the overhead pedestrian bridge.

Q 7. At the pedestrian bridge. Title on Sign: "Surrender of Clarksville" (N36.52919 W87.36414)

On February 19, 1862 Thomas W. Wisdom, County Judge, Clarksville Mayor George Smith, and former Congressman Cave Johnson surrendered the City of Clarksville to Union Flag Officer, _____
_____.

Climb the stairs and cross Riverside Drive via the pedestrian bridge. Follow bridge for its full length, and exit at the intersection of College Street and Spring Street.

Follow Spring Street north.

Note to hikers, there are only sparse sidewalks along Spring Street. It is recommended that you walk on the left side of Spring Street facing traffic.

You will follow Spring Street until the intersection of McClure Street. At McClure Street, turn right, and climb hill. The Smith – Trahern Mansion will be on your left. Take note of the architecture. A question will follow at the intersection of McClure Street and 1st Street.

Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

Q 8. Title on Sign: "Smith Trahern Mansion" – (N36.53448 W87.36303)

Why is this mansion important? _____

Follow 1st Street ("Dead End") North. The street will end at a back entrance to Riverview Cemetery. Continue into the cemetery.

Note to visitors, the hours of the cemetery are 8 am until Dusk.

Further Note to visitors: Please be respectful while in the cemetery. This is an open cemetery, and there may be funerals or families present.

Turn west (left) and follow one of the three cemetery roads back to Spring Street.

Follow Spring Street north again (you will pass a large stone retaining wall for the cemetery on your right), until you reach the main entrance to the cemetery on your right. Enter the cemetery again. Follow the cemetery road, and turn left on the second road. Follow this road, and look for a large plot on the right (it is bordered by four large cedar trees, and has monuments of a cannon and a soldier in its midst. Proceed to this plot. Find the plaques on either end (north and south) of the plot

Q 9. Riverview Cemetery (N36.53695 W87.36478)

a. How many are buried in this mass burial site? _____

b. What 7 states are represented by the Confederate States of America mass burial site?

Return to cemetery road, and continue north (right). At the next intersection, turn right. Follow that road until it comes to an intersection, then turn left, and then left again until you reach exit of cemetery (back at Spring Street). Turn right on Spring Street and continue to Riverside Drive, where you will turn right towards the intersection of New Providence / 2nd Street / Kraft Street / Riverside drive.

Note to hikers: this is a VERY busy intersection, and this can be one of the most hazardous street crossings. You can either cross the intersection at the crosswalk (the hike continues on the east side of 2nd Street) or, you can turn right on the west side of 2nd Street and cross 2nd Street when you are parallel to the Emerald Hill sign! The traffic on 2nd Street tends to be lighter than the traffic on the other three streets! Regardless, you will be climbing 2nd Street to the south (right), and up the hill to the next waypoint.

Q 10. Title on sign: "Emerald Hill" (N36.53906 W87.36329)

Emerald Hill was the home of _____, a TN representative in the Senate of the _____.

Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

Continue on 2nd Street south, towards downtown Clarksville . You will pass a Point of Interest (POI 1) on your right – Forbes Home (N36.53532 W87.36089): This was once the home of Colonel W.A. Forbes, commander the 14th Tennessee Infantry, CSA, of the Army of Northern Virginia. Later, Cave Johnson, former Congressman, lived here at the time he helped negotiate the surrender of Clarksville in February 1862.



Follow 2nd Street to College Street. Cross 2nd Street at College Street so that you are on the west side of 2nd. Then cross College Street, and continue to the next question which is on the front of the Regions Bank building (near ATM).

Q 11. Title on Sign: “Kennedy & Glenn’s Bank” (N36.52863 W87.35912)

What happened to the funds and securities during the War Between the States? _____

Continue south on 2nd Street.

Turn right on Strawberry alley.

Turn left onto 1st Street.

Turn left on Main St.

Turn left into Public Square. The next waypoint is in the median area of Public Square.

Q 12. Title on Sign: “Clarksville in the Civil War” (N36.52809 W87.36157)

What are the unit numbers of the 1800 U.S. Colored Troops were inducted in to Federal Army in ceremonies in Clarksville’s Public Square? _____

Continue walking through Public Square towards Franklin Street and pick up sidewalk in front of F&M Bank. Turn left on Franklin Street towards downtown Clarksville. Follow Franklin Street (crossing 1st Street) past Roxy Theatre. The next waypoint is a large mural.

Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

Q 13. Mural on Franklin Street (N36.52732 W87.35995)

What is item #6 on the mural and when was it built? _____

Note: You will visit this site later in the hike...

At the mural, go down the stairs and cut through parking lot to sidewalk on 1st Street to your right.

Go north (left) on 1st Street to Commerce Street. Turn right onto Commerce Street (towards the river) and then turn right into Clarksville Police Department parking lot. Walk to back of parking lot, at the hill and you will see a sign located between the Handicapped Parking.

Q 14. Title on Sign: "Whitefield, Bradley & Co." (N36.52638 W87.36080)

now known as Clarksville Foundry and Machine Works Office

Prior to making cannon, shot and shell for the Southern war effort what did this ironworks factory produce? _____

Return to Commerce Street. Turn left on Commerce Street and proceed to 2nd Street.

Turn right onto 2nd Street and follow until next waypoint near corner of 2nd Street and Madison Street.

Q 15. Title on Sign: "Horace Lurton" (N36.52544 W87.35805)

Who was Horace Lurton? _____

Continue on 2nd Street and turn Left onto Madison Street until waypoint. You will want to be on the north sidewalk of Madison Street.

Q 16. Title on Sign: "Cave Johnson" (N36.52637 W87.34738)

Who was Cave Johnson? _____

Continue on Madison Street and cross to the south sidewalk at Pageant Lane. Continue on Madison Street and turn left unto Madison Terrace. Follow road carefully to Madison Terrace Court.

Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

- Q 17. “Oak Top” on the corner of Madison Terrace Court / Hillcrest Drive (N36.52271 W87.33773) was the home of Thomas W. Wisdom, County Judge during the Civil War. He was one of the three men that surrendered the city of Clarksville to the Union forces.

What is the house number of Oak Top? _____

Return to Madison Street, and head towards downtown. Turn right on Trahern Terrace.

Continue to top of hill

**Point of Interest (POI2) - Trahern Terrace is known as, Tip Top. It was designed by Adolphus Heiman, after whom Fort Heiman is named in the 1850's. It is said to be on the highest point in the City.*



Return to Madison Street, and head towards downtown. You will turn right on 2nd Street.

At 2nd Street and Commerce Street, turn left to read the sign on the front of the Leaf-Chronicle Building (200 Commerce Street).

- Q 18. Title on Sign: “Pioneer Newspaper” (N36.52632 W87.35791)

This is the home of The Leaf Chronicle Newspaper. From what two historical newspapers did it get its present name? _____

Return to 2nd Street. Turn left, and continue to the intersection of 2nd Street and Main Street. Cross Main Street, and follow the sidewalk in front of the church. There is a historical marker that is the next waypoint.

**Point of Interest: First Presbyterian Church is the charter organization for Boy Scout Troop 500, Clarksville, TN; Cogioba District; Middle Tennessee Council.*

Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

Q 19. First Presbyterian Church (N36.52905 W87.35853)

When was the First Presbyterian Church founded? _____

Turn around, and go east on Main Street (away from down town). Cross the divided street University Avenue (a.k.a. 6th Street).

Note to hikers, there is no formal crosswalk here. You can go south on University Avenue and cross at Grant Avenue if desirable).

The waypoint is on the corner of University Avenue and Main Street.

Q 20. Title on sign: "Robert Loftin Newman" (N36.53020 W87.35320)

Who was Robert Loftin Newton? (*Point of Interest, he is buried in Riverside Cemetery). _____

Continue south on University Avenue towards Austin Peay State University (APSU). (Point of Interest – Did you know what Austin Peay State University was called Stewart College during 1855-1874?).

Cross University Avenue at College Street so that you are on the west sidewalk of University Avenue and the south sidewalk of College Street.

Q 21. Title on sign: "Recapture of Clarksville" (N36.53113 W87.35393)

How many months did the Union hold onto Clarksville? _____

At this point, you will be retracing your trail (to some degree...) to Fort Defiance.

Continue west on College Street.

Use the pedestrian bridge to at the corner of College and Spring Streets to cross Riverside Drive.

Follow Riverwalk to the "As the River Flows" Museum (use the upper trail, and not the river trail).

Follow the Riverwalk to the O'Charley's parking lot, cut through, follow the Riverside Drive sidewalk to the corner of New Providence / 2nd Street / Kraft Street / Riverside drive.

Turn left on New Providence, and cross the bridge.

Follow the Fort Defiance trail back up and into the park...

Near the Interpretive Center, and across from the flagpole you will find the next waypoint

Q 22. Title on Sign: "Bringing the War To Clarksville" (N36.54136 W87.37305)

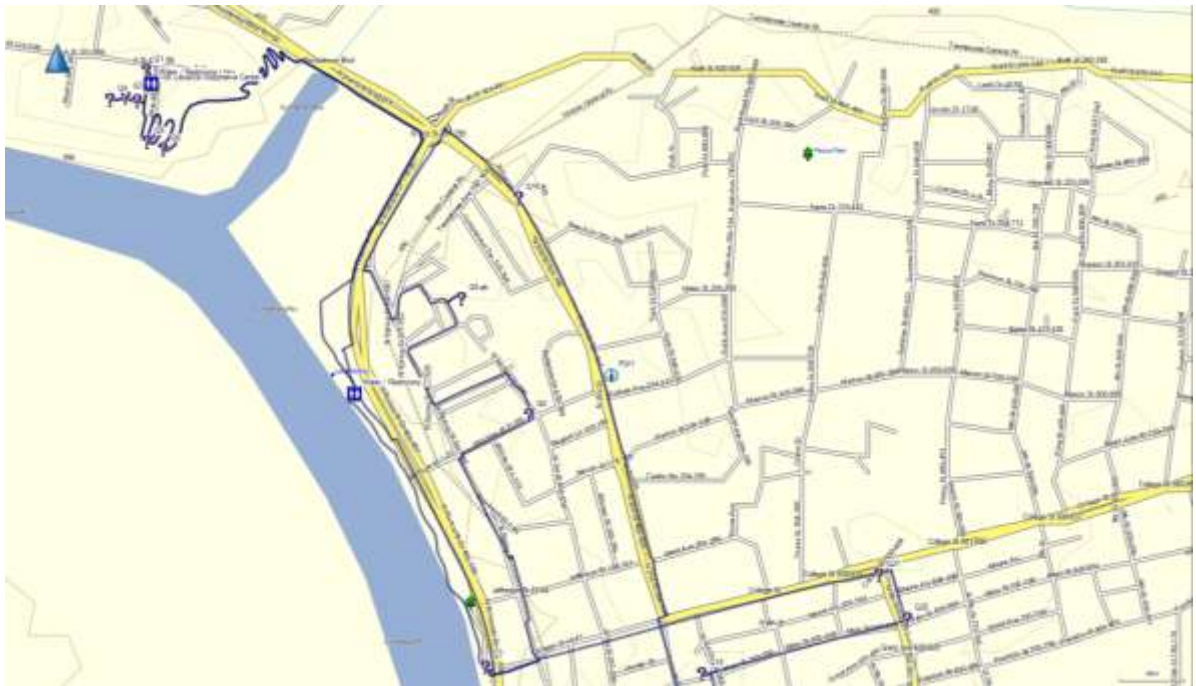
Who represent the Union in Clarksville? _____

Proceed to the parking lot, and follow the sidewalk on the left, past the sign for Question 1. You will find a much older sign there (on a higher pole) that is the last waypoint...

Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

Q 23. Title on sign: "Fort Defiance; Fort Bruce" (N36.54188 W87.37310)
How long did Union Troops occupy this fort? _____

Congratulations! You have finished the Fort Defiance Hike!



Fort Defiance Civil War Trail

