

# Cumberland Gap

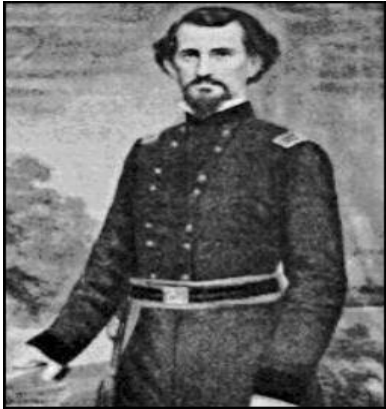
National Historical Park  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## During the Civil War

**“I wish a movement made to seize...the mountain pass called Cumberland Gap.”**  
**-Abraham Lincoln (Oct. 1, 1861)**

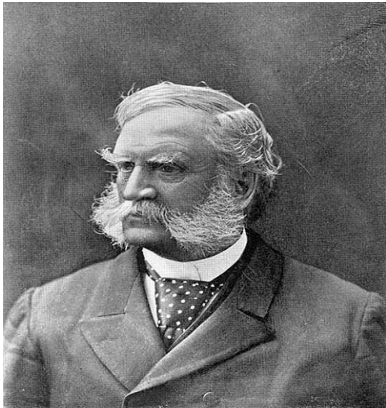
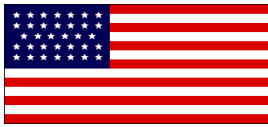
### *First Occupation of the Cumberland Gap* *Mid 1861 - June 17, 1862*



General Felix Zollicoffer

Confederate General Felix Zollicoffer took control of the Gap, easily overcoming local Home Guard opposition, and began building fortifications on the north side of the mountain face to halt any Union invasion of Tennessee. After Zollicoffer was killed at the Battle of Mill Springs, Colonel James E. Raines, soon to become General, commanded the Gap until General Carter Stevenson reinforced the Gap and became commander.

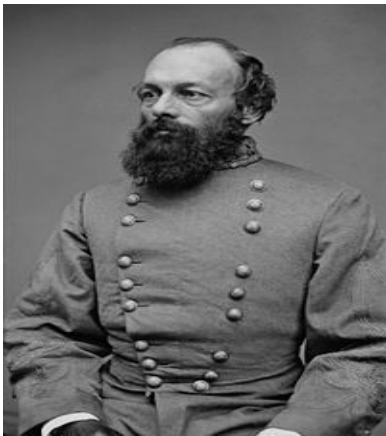
### *Second Occupation of the Cumberland Gap* *June 18 - Sep. 17, 1862*



General George Morgan

General Stevenson and his command were ordered away from the Gap and deeper into Tennessee. With Confederate forces gone, Union General George W. Morgan took control of the Gap and built fortifications along the southern side of the mountain on orders from President Abraham Lincoln. The President was determined to keep Kentucky in the Union and to protect the pro-Union population of East Tennessee. Holding the Gap could also be a staging point for a Union advance on Knoxville that would sever the rail line from Knoxville to Richmond, Virginia.

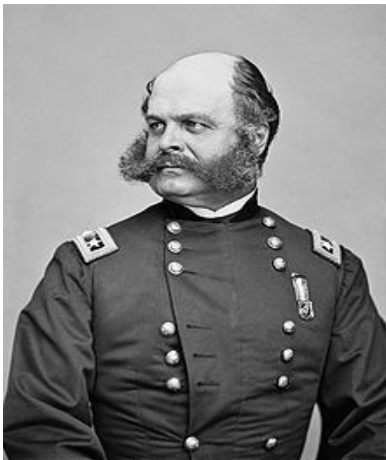
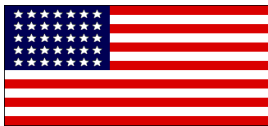
### *Third Occupation of the Cumberland Gap* *Sep. 18, 1862 - Sep. 9, 1863*



General Edmund Kirby Smith

In 1862, a major invasion of Kentucky was launched by the South. General Morgan left the Gap and Confederate General Edmund Kirby Smith took control during the Kentucky Campaign led by Confederate General Braxton Bragg. The Gap served as the route through which Bragg retreated into Tennessee. The Gap was under the direct command of General Archibald Gracie until he was transferred to the Eastern Theater of the war. He left in command General John Frazer, who controlled the Gap from August 8, 1963 until September 9, 1863.

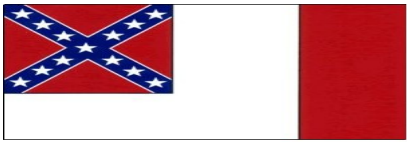
### *Fourth Occupation of the Cumberland Gap* *Sep. 9, 1863 - April 1865*



General Ambrose Burnside

Ordered to the Gap in September of 1863 for a possible northern occupation, Union Colonel John DeCourcy arrived from the north. Likewise, Union General Shackelford approached from the south. The two forces trapped Confederate General Frazer at the Gap. General Ambrose Burnside, who had just taken Knoxville after it had been evacuated, arrived at the Gap from the South on September 9. Upon Burnside’s arrival, General Frazer surrendered knowing there were no Confederate reinforcements in East Tennessee as Knoxville was under Union Control.

# Civil War Units at Cumberland Gap



Confederate Forces 1861 – June 17, 1862	Confederate Forces Sep. 18, 1862 – Sep. 9, 1863	Union Forces June 18 – Sep. 17, 1862	Union Forces Sep. 9, 1863 – May 1865
42nd Georgia Infantry Regiment	25th Virginia Cavalry Regiment	2nd Tennessee Cavalry Regiment	1st Michigan Artillery Battery “L” & “M”
3rd Georgia Infantry Battalion	21st Virginia Infantry Battalion	1st Tennessee Infantry Regiment	11st Michigan Cavalry Regiment
9th Georgia Infantry Battalion	64th Virginia Infantry Regiment	2nd Tennessee Infantry Regiment	9th Michigan Cavalry Regiment
52nd Georgia Infantry Regiment	Smith’s Company G Cavalry Battalion	3rd Tennessee Infantry Regiment	1st Ohio Light Artillery Battery “D”
3rd Regiment Tennessee Mounted Infantry (Lillard's)	16th Georgia Cavalry Battalion	4th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	2nd Ohio Cavalry Regiment
4th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	55 <sup>th</sup> Georgia Infantry Regiment (Captured)	5th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	7th Ohio Cavalry Regiment
11th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	65th Georgia Infantry Regiment	6th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	22nd Ohio Artillery Battery
17th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	5th North Carolina Cavalry Battalion	9th Ohio Artillery Battery	45th Ohio Infantry Regiment
19th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	29th North Carolina Infantry Regiment	16th Ohio Infantry Regiment	86th Ohio Infantry Regiment
20th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	58th North Carolina Infantry Regiment	42nd Ohio Infantry Regiment	104th Ohio Infantry Regiment
34th Tennessee Infantry Regiment	62nd North Carolina Infantry Regiment (Captured)	1 Company, Munday’s Cavalry (1st Kentucky Volunteer Cavalry)	129th Ohio Infantry Regiment
29th North Carolina Infantry Regiment	64th North Carolina Infantry Regiment (Captured)	1st Battalion, Kentucky Cavalry	16th Illinois Cavalry
16th Alabama Infantry Regiment	1st Tennessee Cavalry Regiment (Carter's)	3rd Kentucky Infantry Regiment	1st Tennessee Light Artillery Battery “B”
23rd Alabama Infantry Regiment	5th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment	7th Kentucky Infantry Regiment	11th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment
30th Alabama Infantry Regiment	63rd Tennessee Infantry Regiment	14th Kentucky Infantry Regiment	23rd Indiana Artillery Battery
31st Alabama Infantry Regiment	43rd Alabama Infantry Regiment	19th Kentucky Infantry Regiment	91st Indiana Mounted Infantry Regiment
46th Alabama Infantry Regiment	59th Alabama Infantry Regiment	22nd Kentucky Infantry Regiment	115th Indiana Infantry Regiment
9th Mississippi Infantry Regiment	60th Alabama Infantry Regiment	1st Michigan Artillery Battery "G"	117th Indiana Infantry Regiment
15th Mississippi Infantry Regiment	9th Georgia Artillery Battalion (Captured)	1st Independent Battery, Wisconsin Light Artillery	118th Indiana Infantry Regiment
Botetourt Virginia Artillery Battery	Baxter's Company Tennessee Light Artillery	33rd Indiana Infantry Regiment	34th Kentucky Infantry Regiment
Burrough's Company Tennessee Light Artillery	Mabry’s Artillery (Captured)	49th Indiana Infantry Regiment	2nd North Carolina Mounted Infantry Regiment
Eufaula Alabama Light Artillery	12th Georgia Light Artillery Battalion		
	Barbour Alabama Light Artillery		

Units will be added as research continues