



Fort Donelson National Battlefield

Highway 79 and Donelson Parkway
Dover, Tennessee 37058
8th Congressional District

Fort Donelson National Battlefield, established by the Act of March 26, 1928, was set aside "with view of preserving and marking such field for historical and professional military study." The park commemorates the battle that gave the North its first victory of the Civil War. More importantly, the military post acted as a safe haven for enslaved runaways from 1862-1865. It was at Fort Donelson that refugees received assistance from Union soldiers and religious and charitable organizations. Fort Donelson eventually became a recruiting station for African American troops in 1863.



NPS Photo

\$1,250 NTF Grant—

Dover, Tennessee: Understanding the African American Experience at Forts, Henry, Heiman, & Donelson/Fort Donelson National Battlefield

- Grant supported research by park staff at the National Archives and the purchase of Freedman's Bureau microfilm records specific to Fort Donelson's role as safe haven for freedom seekers from 1862 to the end of the Civil War.
- This research provided information on the welfare and education of former slaves in Tennessee and Kentucky, allowing the park to develop and produce interpretive stories and media for visitors.