



CAMP JACKSON

Located about four miles northeast of Maysville (Benton County), Camp Jackson was established to train Confederate troops of the Fourth Arkansas and Third Louisiana infantries. It became Gen. Benjamin McCulloch's principal headquarters and a staging ground for Confederate forces prior to the Battle of Wilson's Creek on August 10, 1861.

Sgt. W. H. Tunnard, Co. K, Third Louisiana Infantry, described Camp Jackson: "The prairie in front of the encampment furnished a fine and ample parade-ground, and the grass was not left to grow undisturbed by the evolutions of armed men. . . Day after day passed away at Camp Jackson during the month of September [1861] with little that proved of much interest. There were morning company drills and evening parades, the latter being largely attended by ladies from the surrounding country, to witness the evolutions of the regiment. The fine manly appearance of the men, their soldierly bearing, discipline, splendid evolutions, and marching elicited the admiration of the spectators and the wonder of the new troops. The weather, most of the time, was beautiful, the atmosphere genial and pleasant. The sun looked lovingly down."

Camp Jackson was deserted by mid-October 1861, as troops were given their marching orders and relocated.