

Timeline for the Civil War in Arkansas
(major events in Arkansas are noted in italics)

1860:

November 6: Abraham Lincoln elected President.

December 20: South Carolina secedes from the Union.

1861:

January 28: *Telegraph lines completed from Memphis to Little Rock.*

February 4: Confederate States of America formed in Montgomery, Alabama.

February 7: *Captain James Totten surrenders the U. S. Arsenal in Little Rock to Governor Henry Rector.*

March 4: *Arkansas convention meets and rejects secession.* Lincoln inaugurated as President of the U.S.

April 14: Fort Sumter in South Carolina surrenders after Confederate bombardment.

May 6: *Arkansas convention resassembles and Arkansas votes for secession.*

July 21: First Battle of Bull Run, Virginia.

August 10: *Battle of Wilson's Creek, Missouri where first Arkansan (Omer Weaver) is killed.*

1862:

February 6-16: Federal troops capture Forts Henry and Donelson in Tennessee.

March 7-8: *Battle of Pea Ridge (Elkhorn Tavern), near Bentonville, Arkansas.*

March-April: *Arkansas troops are moved out of the state to Tennessee.*

April 6-7: Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee.

May 26: *General Thomas Hindman of Helena, Arkansas takes command of the Confederate Department of the Trans-Mississippi and declares martial law in Arkansas.*

June 6: Federals capture Memphis, Tennessee.

June. 26-July 1: Seven Days Battle in Virginia.

September 16-17: Battle of Antietam in Maryland.

September 22: Lincoln issues preliminary draft of the *Emancipation Proclamation.*

December 7: *Battle of Prairie Grove, ten miles southwest of Fayetteville, Arkansas.*

1863:

January 1: *Emancipation Proclamation goes into effect.*

January 10-11: *Federals capture Fort Hindman (a.k.a. Arkansas Post).*

May 1-4: Battle of Chancellorsville in Virginia.

July 1-3: Battle of Gettysburg in Pennsylvania.

July 4: *Confederates attack Helena, Arkansas, and are defeated by Federals.* Union troops capture Vicksburg, Mississippi.

September. 10: *Federal army occupies Little Rock and the Confederate government of Arkansas moves to Washington via Hot Springs.*

September 19-20: Battle of Chickamauga in Tennessee

October. 25: *Battle of Pine Bluff, Arkansas.*

1864:

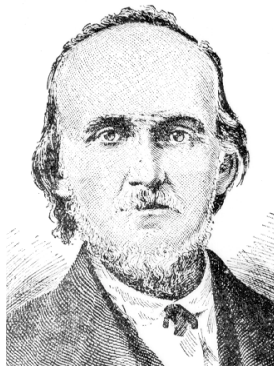
January 8: *17 year-old David O. Dodd of Camden, Arkansas, executed as a Confederate spy in Little Rock.*

April 8-9: Defeat of Federal army at the Red River campaign in Texas and Louisiana.

April 8: Battle of Sabine Crossroads (Mansfield), Louisiana.

April 9: Battle of Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, which caused a Union retreat during the Red River Campaign.

Pro-Union Governor Issac Murphy of Huntsville, Arkansas. Photo courtesy of the Arkansas History Commission; Little Rock, Arkansas.



April 18: *Marion County native, Isaac Murphy, takes office as Union governor of Arkansas. Harris Flanagin serves as the Confederate governor of Arkansas in Washington.*

March 23-May 3: *General Frederick Steele's Camden Expedition into south Arkansas with major engagements at Prairie D Ane (near Prescott, April 9-11), Poison Spring (near Camden April 18), Mark's Mill (near Fordyce, April 25), and Jenkins Ferry (near Sheridan, April 30).*

May 5-18: Battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania in Virginia.

June 1-3: Battle of Cold Harbor in Virginia.

September 2: Federal troops capture Atlanta, Georgia.

September 22-October 2: *Arkansas's Confederate state legislature meets in session at Washington.*

September 20-October 28: Sterling Price's expedition into Missouri.

Nov. 30: *Battle of Franklin, Tennessee. Death of Major-General Patrick Cleburne, resident of Helena, Arkansas.*

1865:

April 2: Federal army occupies Petersburg and Richmond, Virginia.

April 9: General Robert E. Lee surrenders to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia.

April 15: President Lincoln assassinated at Ford's Theater.

May 24: *Skirmish near Monticello is the last military action in Arkansas.*

May 26: *Confederate armies located west of the Mississippi River surrender.*



View of Pea Ridge Battlefield. Photo courtesy of the Arkansas State Parks; Little Rock, Arkansas.