

DONIPHAN

Join Us For Civil War Days
Annual Festival in April

DONIPHAN

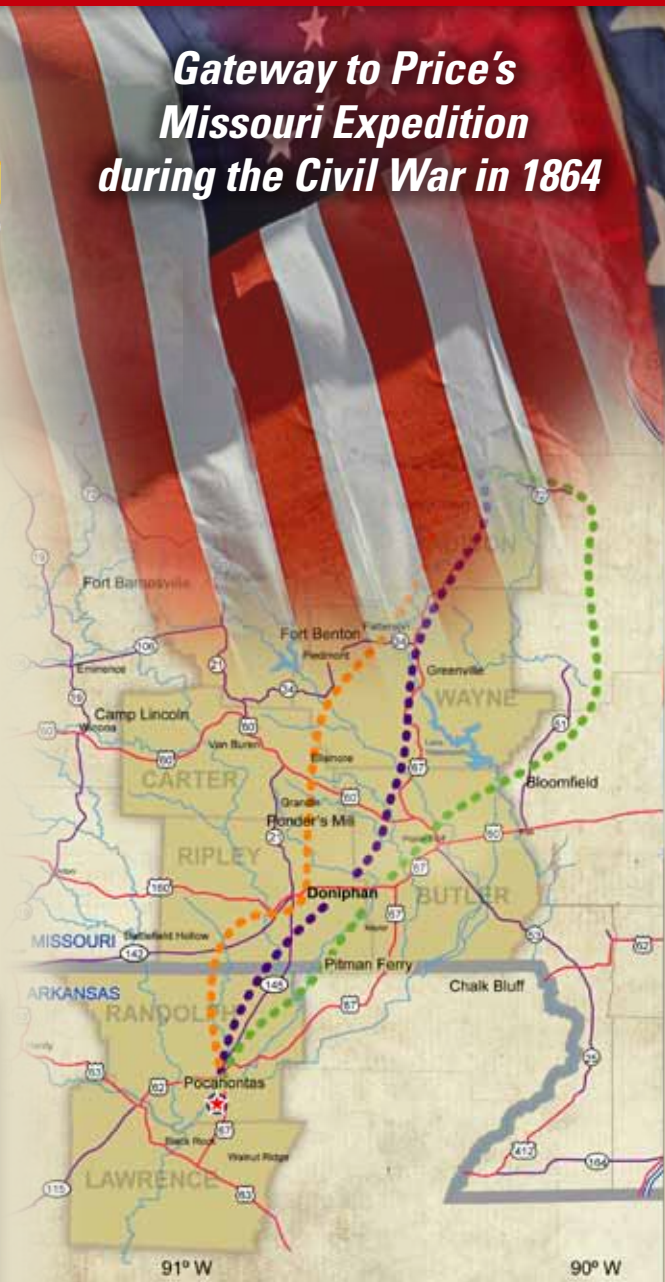
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Visit Historic Downtown Doniphan, MO.



Gateway to Price's Missouri Expedition during the Civil War in 1864



Stirling Price was a hero of the Mexican War and governor of Missouri from 1852-1857. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he tried to keep Missouri in the Union but later joined the Confederacy as a Major General. Price's Missouri Expedition began on September 19, 1864 with the goal of capturing Saint Louis and reclaiming Missouri for the Confederacy.

Price's army set out from Pocahontas, Arkansas and divided into three columns as they entered Missouri through Ripley County. The column to the west, commanded by Brigadier General Joseph Shelby, advanced toward Doniphan.

Shortly before Shelby arrived, a detachment of Union troops drove out Confederate soldiers from Doniphan and burned down the wooden courthouse and most of the town. Per Shelby's official report, his division arrived in Doniphan to find the "helpless and ill-fated town" in ashes.

Despite several early victories, the longest cavalry raid of the Civil War ended in defeat after 1,400 miles and 43 battles and skirmishes. It proved to be the last major Confederate campaign in a Northern territory. Price's failure bolstered confidence in an ultimate Union victory in the war, thereby contributing to President Abraham Lincoln's re-election, and cementing Federal control over the hotly contested border state of Missouri.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
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