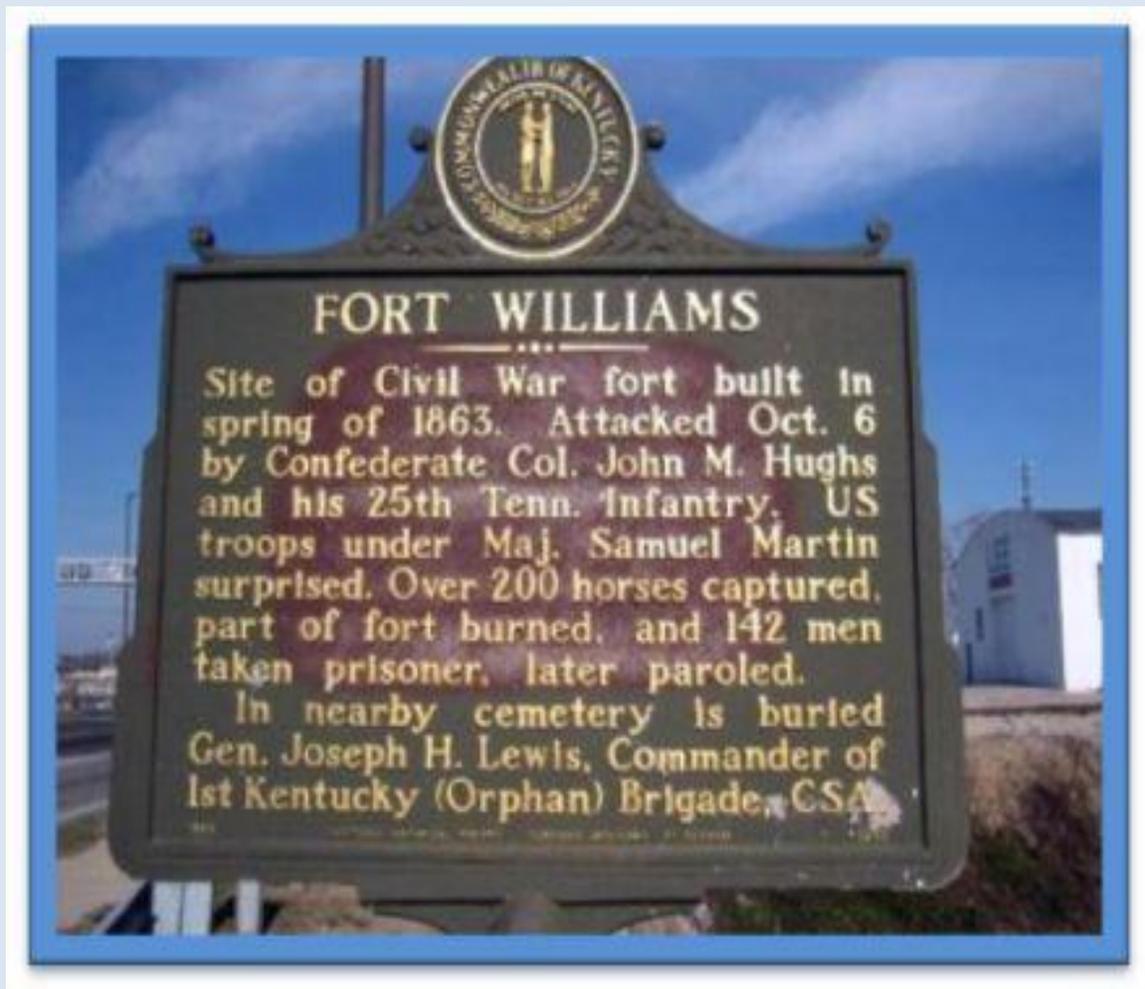


**HISTORIC FORT WILLIAMS  
100 LESLIE AVENUE  
GLASGOW, KY 42141**

- Fort Williams was ordered constructed in Glasgow in the spring of 1863. It was during the spring and summer of 1863 that the Union army began to build defensive works at strategic points in Kentucky to defend transportation networks and supply depots in the Commonwealth from Confederate raids.



- Fort Williams was constructed under the supervision of Lieut. Miles D. McAlister. Who was Chief Engineer for the Department of the Ohio. He constructed a “figure 8” shaped redoubt, an enclosed fort, built to withstand attacks from all sides. The fort was armed with 24-pounder and 6-pounder cannon. The fort had several names but was finally officially named Fort Williams in November of 1863 in honor of Gen. Thomas Williams who was killed in battle. Glasgow was garrisoned by Union troops throughout the war. Glasgow’s strategic importance was due to its location. It was the crossroads of several north-south and east-west roads and by June 1863 a branch of the L&N Railroad.



- Thomas Williams was born in Albany, New York on January 10, 1815. Williams, a soldier most of his life, began his service as a private in the Black Hawk War (1832). In 1833, he received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, graduating in 1837. He was a brave and competent officer, but was a strict disciplinarian, who often conflicted with his subordinates.



- In 1861, as the Civil War began, Williams was serving as an instructor at the Artillery School at Fort Monroe in Virginia. Williams was assigned to Gen. Benjamin Butler's command in the land operations against New Orleans.
- From New Orleans Williams and his brigade were assigned the task of occupying Baton Rouge. In August 1862, Confederate forces under the command of Gen. John C. Breckinridge attacked the city. Gen. Williams was killed leading the successful defense of the city and was buried in the family plot in Detroit, Michigan.

