

# GEORGIA

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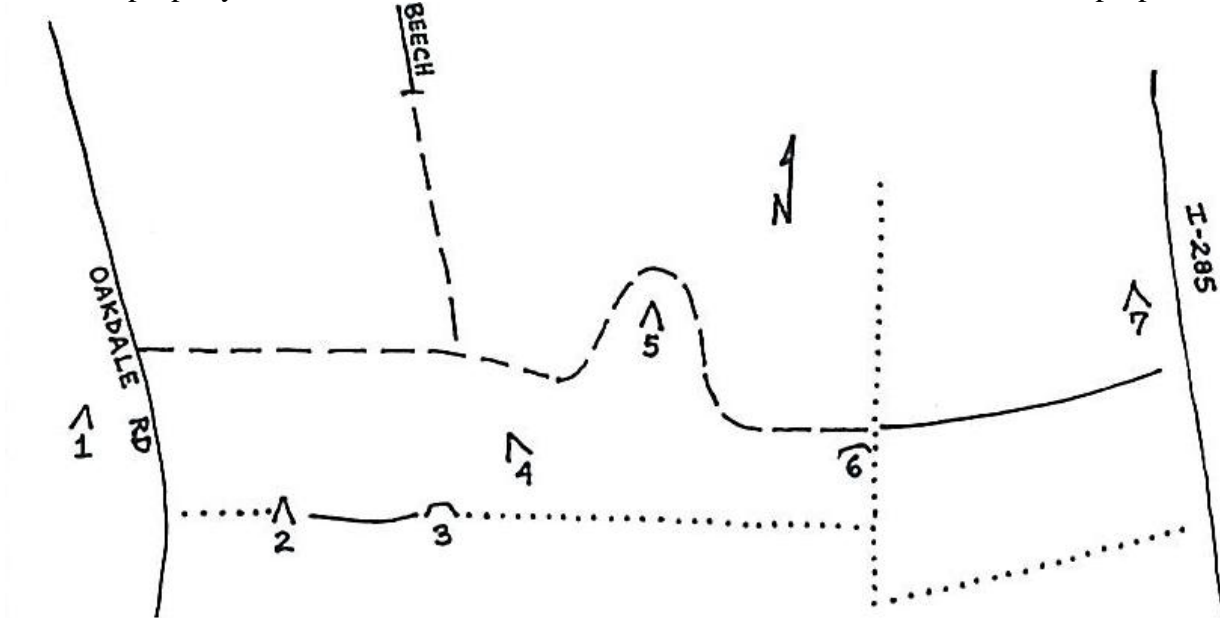
# BATTLEFIELDS

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Published by Georgia Battlefields Association, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to preservation of Georgia's Civil War history and sites. Contact newsletter editor by e-mail: [info@georgiabattlefields.org](mailto:info@georgiabattlefields.org)

## Construction underway at Fort Drive section of River Line

Several newsletter articles have addressed the planned construction on properties along Fort Drive in eastern Cobb County. Fort Drive itself was closed to traffic in mid-May, and the road has been removed for most of its length. Also, Beech Street was cut off. The missing portions of Fort Drive and Beech Street are indicated by the dashed lines on the map. The dotted lines show the property boundaries. 312 houses and townhouses will be built on the three properties.



In early July 1864, this area was part of Johnston's River Line, and the remains of seven fortifications were discernible for over 80 years thereafter.

1. Shoupade destroyed by property owner in 1980s.
2. Shoupade.
3. Artillery redan, connected to Shoupade 2 by earthen remains of log palisade, indicated by solid line between items 2 and 3. The line of the palisade was revealed in February 2006.
4. Shoupade, formerly in the yard of a house.  
Shoupades 2 and 4, redan 3, and the palisade will be incorporated into a park to be established by Cobb County when construction on the adjacent properties is complete.
5. Shoupade destroyed around 1950.
6. Redan destroyed around 1950.
7. Shoupade.

The photos below show Fort Drive's status as of early August 2006.



Photo on left looks southeast from the sidewalk along Oakdale Road. The site has been extensively graded, and construction is underway. The tree line in the distance contains Shoupades 2 and 4 and redan 3. Shoupade 2 is behind the houses being built at the right (west) edge of the photo. Shoupade 4 is in the trees near the left edge of the photo, with redan 3 and the palisade between the Shoupades. Photo on right looks north from behind Shoupade 2 and suggests the view that will result when construction is complete.

## **Lovejoy's Station site update**

Thanks to all newsletter readers who attended the Lovejoy City Council meeting on 8 August (see August newsletter). By one count, 138 people crowded a facility that seats only 65. The developer's attorney cited legal issues with the annexation and rezoning application, and the City Council decided not to consider the application again until at least the 12 September meeting.

Some of the legal issues were raised in a letter from the Clayton County Attorney to the City of Lovejoy. The letter questioned the authority of the City to annex non-contiguous property and also stated that any rezoning must first be approved by the County.

While the frustration of the annexation and rezoning is hopeful, it doesn't end the battle. Until the site is affirmatively preserved, the developer will almost certainly continue his efforts to prepare the site for construction.

## **2006 battlefield protection program grants announced**

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) announced the award of 11 grants totaling \$350,000 for 2006 ([www.cr.nps.gov/hps/abpp/2006grantawards.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/abpp/2006grantawards.htm)). Four of the grants were for Civil War sites, three of which were in Virginia. The other grant went to Coweta County, which will receive \$16,810 to determine the site of the Hotchkiss Battery in order to prepare a National Register of Historic Places nomination for the Battle of Brown's Mill.

Congratulations to the Newnan-Coweta County Historical Society, which has been working for years to protect the Brown's Mill site.

## **Friends of Chick-Chatt receive Bearss award**

The District of Columbia Civil War Round Table annually presents the Edwin C. Bearss Award for preservation. The 2006 winner is the Friends of the Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park ([www.chickchatt.org](http://www.chickchatt.org)). Friends of the Park is a non-profit group of volunteers that has helped maintain and advocate for Chick-Chatt for 20 years and has raised \$4 million for the park. The Friends will use the Bearss Award's \$1,000 honorarium to help restore the park's landscape to its 1863 appearance. Congratulations to a great preservation organization.

## **GBA web site updated**

The Georgia Battlefields Association web site ([www.georgiabattlefields.org](http://www.georgiabattlefields.org)) has had its annual update, thanks to webmistress Linda Geiger. The site contains much of the same useful information, but it now has a cleaner look and more photos. Our monthly newsletter (accessible through the web site) recounts our preservation activities, but the web site features a summary list of GBA's efforts. If you have ideas about how to make the site more useful to our members, please let us know by e-mailing [info@georgiabattlefields.org](mailto:info@georgiabattlefields.org).

## **150 years ago this month – September 1856**

Factional violence continues in Kansas, where a battle at the end of August earns John Brown the nickname "Osawatimie" for his defense of that town. On 9 September, President Pierce appoints a new territorial governor: John Geary commanded a regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers during the Mexican War and brought order to San Francisco as its first mayor. On 15 September, Geary uses U.S. troops to prevent an advance into Kansas by 2500 border ruffians.

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