

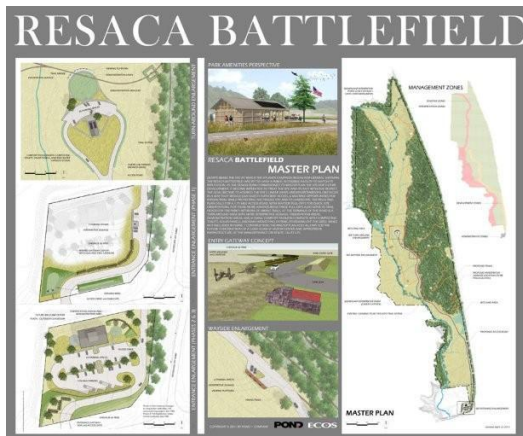
GEORGIA

BATTLEFIELDS

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

State scales back Resaca plans, but may get moving soon

A new sign (right) west of I-75 exit 320 indicates that the state will next year begin installation of parking, an access road, walking trails, and interpretive signs at Resaca. The visitors' center anticipated after the October 2008 ground breaking was delayed by the state's reduced revenues and is now planned for Phase II at an undetermined date, but a scaled back interpretation of the site may be in place by 2013.



**Phase I
construction
begins 2012**

GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE PARKS & HISTORIC SITES

Civil War Trust conference focuses on Manassas

GBA representatives again attended the annual Civil War Trust conference, held 19-22 May in Chantilly, Virginia.

Main tours focused on the battles of First and Second Manassas, but we also toured the sites of the Fall 1863 battles at Bristoe Station and Rappahannock Station.

Photo at right shows GBA members Pat & Michael Marx, Charlie Crawford, and Cindy & Jim Wentworth on Chinn Ridge at Manassas National Battlefield Park.

GBA continues to work with the Civil War Trust as it helped stop the Wilderness WalMart and the Gettysburg Casino. In Georgia, the Trust recently helped with the Resaca conservation easement and purchase of historic land near Dallas.



150 years ago this month

3 June: Stephen Douglas dies. Exhausted by his 1860 presidential campaign and by his efforts to preserve the union since Lincoln's election, Douglas succumbs to typhoid fever.

8 June: Tennessee becomes the 11th state to secede when a popular vote ratifies the 6 May declaration of independence by the state legislature. Earlier votes had rejected secession, with the eastern part of the state being pro-union, the western part being pro-secession, and the central part holding the balance. In the 8 June vote, the middle part of Tennessee swung to secession, with the overall vote being 104,471 to 47,183.

28 June: The Central Pacific Railroad Company is incorporated to begin work on the western section of a transcontinental railroad.

30 June: *CSS Sumter*, commanded by Raphael Semmes, runs the blockade out of New Orleans.

Battles (which will be considered insignificant compared to fighting over the next four years) occur at Philippi (3 June) and Big Bethel (10 June) Virginia.

The formation of armies and assimilation of militia units continues on both sides. Other than Winfield Scott, no officer on either side has experience managing a unit larger than a division.

What GBA does in its “spare” time

Each newsletter covers GBA activities, but many of the things we do don't justify a full article. What follows is a partial recounting of items we've handled so far in 2011.

- Responded to a Civil War Trust request for information on the historical significance of a property for sale near Brushy Mountain.
- Sent e-mails to both U.S. Senators and the relevant U.S. Representative supporting National Park Service acquisition of a property near Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.
- Visited another property adjacent to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park to determine historical significance and appropriateness of asking price.
- Visited property east of Dallas to prepare assessment for Civil War Trust.
- Provided written comments on Riverview Road tract survey (near Chattahoochee River Line).
- Met with Mableton Improvement Coalition representative to discuss plans for Chattahoochee River Line park.
- Provided information to *Georgia Trend* magazine regarding site purchases by City of Dallas.
- Provided written input for March/April edition of *Cobb in Focus* magazine regarding significance of Civil War events in Cobb County.
- Wrote article for Georgia Historical Society publication *Georgia History Today*.
- Agreed to be listed as a partner on Atlanta History Center's Civil War web site.
- Provided assessment of Civil War significance of Atlanta's Capitol View neighborhood.
- Corresponded with Virginia historian on status of sites around Atlanta.
- Corresponded with historians regarding:
 - Exact location of the Ponder House.
 - Accuracy of a post-war sketch of Atlanta and whether it was based on an as yet undiscovered photograph.
 - Northwest salient forts shown in George Barnard photographs of Atlanta's defenses.
- Helped Bowling Green State University (Ohio) professor of photography identify sites of and replicate George Barnard photos taken in Fall 1864.
- Assisted Department of Transportation cultural resource specialist in identifying Confederate soldiers whose headstones contained only partial information.
- Advised Columbus group on proposed commemoration and historical markers.
- Helped people who contacted us through the GBA web site to find:
 - Wounding and death sites of two Confederate ancestors.
 - Death and burial site of Federal ancestor.
 - Wounding site of Federal ancestor.
- Provided journalist with:
 - Location of a Federal trench line in Atlanta,
 - Original source of a photograph, and
 - Background on new historical marker in Savannah.
- Responded to a request from Belgium for information on Civil War sites in Georgia.
- Responded to a request from Texas regarding which Georgia sites to visit.
- Suggested Atlanta-area Civil War sites for visitors from Maryland to see.
- Informed Atlanta Civil War Round Table members how to:
 - Find *Official Records* online.
 - Estimate number of regiments raised during the Civil War.
 - Determine seniority of Confederate generals.
- At family's request, established memorial fund for preservationist who died.
- Provided movie review of “The Conspirator.”

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