

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

Construction progress at Resaca state historic site

Over the past 13 years, this newsletter has frequently covered the status of the state-owned land at Resaca battlefield. As forecast in the June 2011 newsletter, the state began construction of an access road, and the current plan will include an interpretive kiosk, markers, and a walking trail. Progress on the road was notable as of mid February (see photo).

Dotted outline indicates 474 acre easement.
GBA contributed funding.

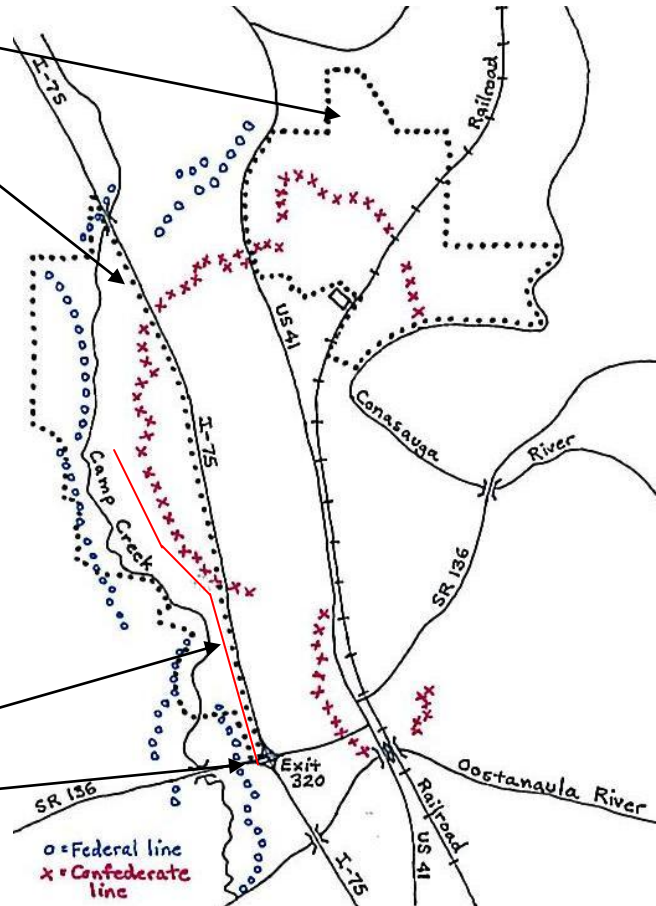
Dotted outline indicates 505 acre state park.



Photo looking north from future park entrance along access road.

New access road under construction.

Entrance to park under construction.



Civil War Trust Park Day scheduled for 6 April 2013

The annual Civil War Trust Park Day is scheduled for 6 April. Park Day provides an opportunity for volunteers to help maintain national, state, and local sites. For more information, see the web site www.civilwar.org/parkday, or call Mary Stephens at 301 665 1400. Contact these Georgia sites (going from Chickamauga to the coast) if you want to help:

Chickamauga National Military Park, Fort Oglethorpe www.nps.gov/chch 423 752 5213

Contact William Sunderland at 706 866 9241 x137 or william_sunderland@nps.gov

Historic Prater's Mill, Varnell www.pratersmill.org

Contact Judy Alderman at 706 694 6455 or judy@pratersmill.org

Dalton Confederate Cemetery

Contact Marvin Sowder at 706 278 3925 or msowder@dalton.net

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Marietta www.nps.gov/kemo

Contact Benita Duling at 770 427 4686 or benita_duling@nps.gov

Nash Farm Battlefield Park (E. of Lovejoy's Station) www.henrycountybattlefield.com

Contact Cassie Barrow at 770 486 4313 or nashfarmbattlefieldmuseum@gmail.com

Andersonville National Historic Site www.nps.gov/ande

Contact Eric Leonard 229 924 0343 or eric_leonard@nps.gov

Blue & Gray Museum and Evergreen Cemetery, Fitzgerald www.fitzgeraldga.org

Contact Alesia Davis at 229 426 5069 or fitztourism@mchsi.com

Jefferson Davis Historic Site, Irwinville www.gastateparks.org/jeffd

Contact John Hughes at 229 831 2335 or jeffdavis1@windstream.net

Fort McAllister State Historic Park, Richmond Hill www.gastateparks.org/ftmcallister

Contact Danny Brown at 912 727 2339 or dannybrown@coastalnow.net

Kennesaw State annual Civil War symposium

Kennesaw State University's Civil War Center will hold its annual symposium on 23 March. Topic is "1863: Struggles East & West." Speakers are Richard McMurry, Brian Wills, Larry Daniel, and Larry Hewitt. For details, see www.kennesaw.edu/civilwarera, or call 678 797 2551.

GBA will again lead a tour for Phoenix Flies

Atlanta Preservation Center's annual Phoenix Flies program will again feature a GBA-led walking tour of downtown Atlanta Civil War sites. For 2013, the tours will start at 1 p.m. on both 9 and 23 March. You can make reservations by calling 404 688 3353. Information about this and the other tours is at www.preserveatlanta.com.

Last chance to register for Chickamauga tour

Dates: Evening of 14 March through morning of 17 March 2013.

Subject: Chickamauga Campaign, including the weeks leading up to the September 1863 battle.

Hotel: Hampton Inn at 6875 Battlefield Pkwy, Ringgold GA. 706 935 4800. Just east of I-75 exit 350. GBA rate is \$99, including breakfast. www.ringgoldftoglethorpe.hamptoninn.com.

Price: Send \$395 check to GBA at 7 Camden Rd NE, Atlanta GA 30309. You must be a GBA member to participate. November 2012 newsletter has more details.

150 years ago this month

On 2 March, the U.S. Congress confirmed the appointment of four major generals and nine brigadier generals in the Regular Army and 40 major generals and 200 brigadier generals in the U.S. Volunteers. On 3 March, President Lincoln signed the conscription act, applying to males between 20 and 45. Several other acts were signed by the President as the Congress neared the end of session, including one making Idaho a territory.

On 3 March, the U.S. Navy shelled Fort McAllister, Georgia, for another eight hours.

On 10 March, Federals, mostly newly raised Colored Troops, occupied Jacksonville, Florida, but withdrew from the city on 31 March.

On 7 March, a Federal force under Nathaniel Banks advanced from New Orleans towards Baton Rouge. On the same day, E. Kirby Smith assumed command of all Confederate forces west of the Mississippi. Throughout the month, U.S. Grant's forces continued digging a canal opposite Vicksburg and attempting to approach the city via the bayous to its north. On 14 March, a U.S. Navy squadron under Admiral Farragut passed the batteries at Port Hudson, losing one ship to Confederate fire. On 19 March, Farragut will run past the Confederate batteries at Grand Gulf, not far south of Vicksburg.

In Virginia, on 8 March, Captain John Mosby made his first raid at the head of a newly formed partisan unit. During the night, he entered Fairfax Court House, capturing 33 men, including a brigadier general, 58 horses, and much needed equipment. On 13 March, an explosion at the Confederate ordnance laboratory in Richmond killed or injured 69 people, 62 of them women. On 17 March, a much larger cavalry engagement occurred at Kelly's Ford, with the Federals initially surprising the Confederates but ultimately pulling back across the Rappahannock. Celebrated Confederate artilleryman John Pelham was killed during the fight.

Two Confederate cavalry raids operated in Kentucky in the last ten days of the month.

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