

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

Savannah tour 13-16 April 2023

For more details, see the [October Georgia Battlefields newsletter](#).

Hotel: [Hampton Inn & Suites Historic District](#) at 603 W. Oglethorpe Ave. 912 721 1600.

Meals: Breakfast is included in the hotel price. Lunch and dinner are included in the tour price.

Program: *Thursday* – Morning: Walking tour of the city's Revolutionary War sites. Afternoon: Walking tour of Bonaventure Cemetery. Evening: Reception at the hotel.

Friday and Saturday – Itinerary still being developed but is almost certain to include [Fort Pulaski](#), [Old Fort Jackson](#), [Wormsloe State Historic Site](#), [King's Bridge](#), [Fort McAllister](#), [Ebenezer Creek](#), and remnants of the 1864 landward defenses.

Sunday – Walking tour of Civil War sites in downtown Savannah. Tour ends at noon.

Guide: [Jim Ogden](#), Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park historian.

Price: \$460 per person for the usual Thursday night through Sunday morning tour of Civil War sites. \$120 additional for Thursday tours. So, \$580 per person includes all tours.

Registration: Mail a check payable to Georgia Battlefields Association to **PO Box 669953, Marietta GA 30066**, or use PayPal or credit card to register online at our web site tours page <http://georgiabattlefields.org/tours.aspx>. If you have trouble, e-mail billgurry@bellsouth.net.

Note: We're pleased that an unusual number of people have registered early. Also, people have asked, "How much walking?" A lot on Thursday and Sunday, less on Friday and Saturday.

Battlefield Road Trip – Quebec

Quebec, Canada, was the site of two pivotal battles: A 13 September 1759 battle during the Seven Years War (what we often call the French and Indian War), and a 31 December 1775 battle during the Revolutionary War. The 1759 British victory helped determine that Canada would be a British rather than a French colony, and the 1775 British victory essentially put an end to the Second Continental Congress's attempt to have Canada's residents join the revolution against British rule. The Quebec battlefields are appearing in the Georgia Battlefields newsletter because they provide a varied example of commemoration, preservation, and interpretation.

Quebec was a fortified city almost from its founding in 1608. In 1985, it was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in part because it is one of the best-preserved examples of a fortified city, still having most of the walls from the 1745 enlargement of its fortifications. <https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/300/>

The British under General James Wolfe first landed near Quebec in late June 1759, began bombarding the city, made several unsuccessful forays against its defenses, and finally discovered a footpath up a precipitous slope, deploying 4,500 troops overnight on the Plains of Abraham, west of the city. Rather than remain within the fortifications, French General Louis Montcalm yielded to the military convention of the time and sortied with 3,500 troops to engage the British in a stand-up fight. The British won, though Wolfe was killed. Montcalm was mortally wounded and died the next morning. In September 1760, the French military commander and the civilian governor surrendered the colony to the British. Today, when residents of Quebec refer to The Conquest, they mean the British takeover in 1760.

In 1775, the Second Continental Congress hoped to persuade disaffected residents of Canada to join the 13 colonies in rebellion against British rule, but the Congress waited until June to authorize a military campaign to achieve that objective. Consequently, a two-pronged advance—one up the Hudson River Valley ultimately under General Richard Montgomery, the other using a river and portage route through Maine under Colonel Benedict Arnold—would not arrive near Quebec until November, when winter weather was closing in. For an account of the latter effort, see Tom Hand's Americana Corner blog <https://www.americanacorner.com/blog>. Arnold had with him Colonel Daniel Morgan. Despite Arnold's traitorous acts in 1780, he and Morgan were two of the best combat commanders of the Revolutionary War.

After taking Montreal (at the time a smaller and less important city than Quebec), Montgomery brought 300 men to join Arnold's 500 men near Quebec. Defending Quebec were 1,800 troops, including British regulars and militia, all under General Guy Carleton, who had also been

provincial governor of Quebec since 1768. Because the last day of enlistment for some colonial troops was 31 December, Montgomery and Arnold decided to attack the city gates before the end of that day and hoped for bad weather to mask their advances. They attacked in a blinding snow storm before daybreak on 31 December. During Arnold's attack from the northeast, he was painfully wounded in the left leg at the first barricade, whereupon Morgan overcame the first barricade but was repulsed at the second barricade and surrendered along with over 300 of his men. In Montgomery's separate assault from the west, he was killed by a grapeshot to the head, and his attack was repulsed. Arnold and some colonial troops remained until the Spring of 1776, trying to convince Carleton to surrender, but when the weather permitted the British navy to sail up the St. Lawrence River, the colonial forces retreated, taking with them the chances of Canadians joining the rebellion.

While both the 1759 and 1775 battles were significant, the 1759 battle is much better known and involved far more troops. Consequently, that action is better preserved and interpreted.



The British climbed a path (off map to west) from the river and deployed on the Plains of Abraham. Photo looks northeast from here.



An entire museum is devoted to the 1759 battle.



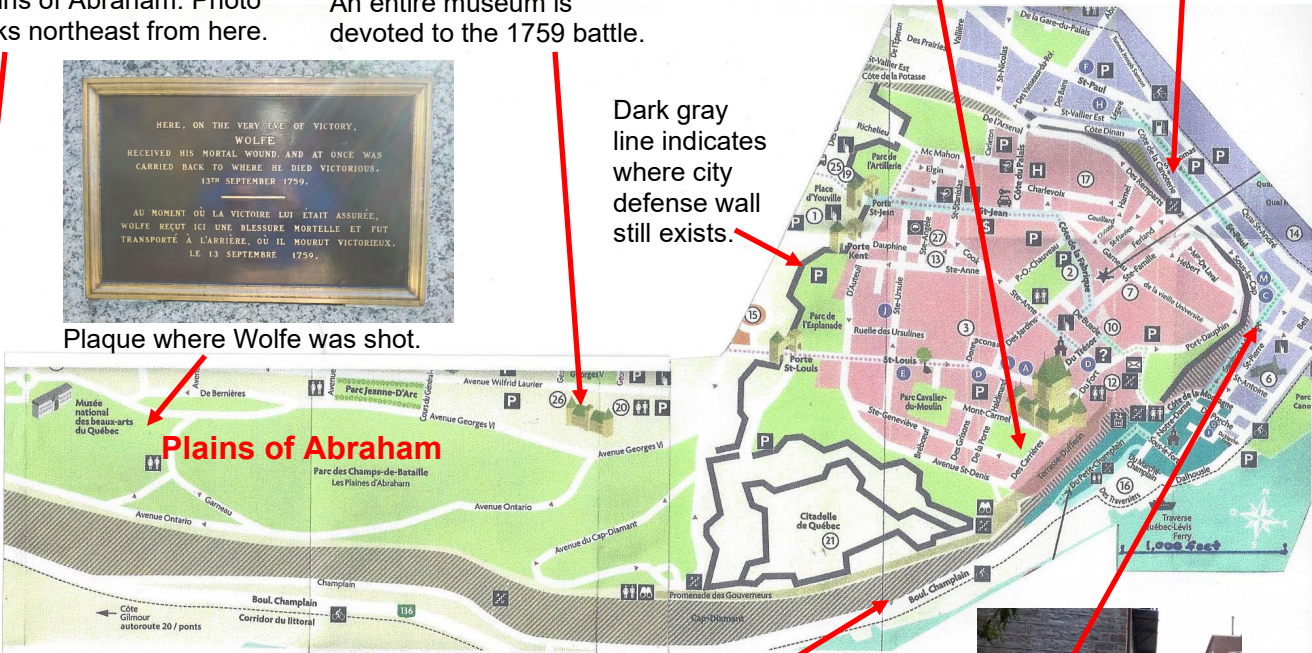
Obelisk on left honors both Wolfe and Montcalm.



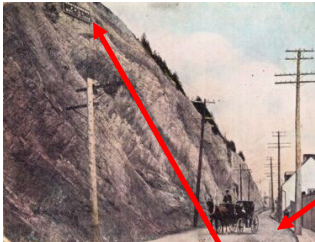
Plaque indicating where Arnold was wounded at the first barricade.



Plaque where Wolfe was shot.



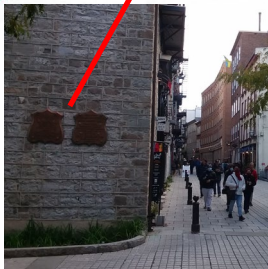
Dark gray line indicates where city defense wall still exists.



1910 photo shows marker for Montgomery's death.



When the road was widened, a retaining wall was built; and plaques in English and French now indicate Montgomery's death site.



Plaques mark site of second barricade and Morgan's capture.

Georgia Battlefields Association
PO Box 669953
Marietta GA 30066

www.georgiabattlefields.org

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