

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

American Battlefield Trust Park Days in April

American Battlefield Trust (ABT) sponsors an annual Park Day, during which volunteers can help with maintenance of historic sites. Date of Park Day varies by park. See below.

Historic site support groups or managers can register their site to participate on ABT's web site <https://www.battlefields.org/parkday>. Registration for volunteers is done through the site managers, so continue to watch that ABT web page to see which sites will be participating.

April 1

Chickamauga National Military Park Will Wilson 706 966 9241 x 137 will_wilson@nps.gov

April 8

Kennesaw Mountain Donald Olds 770 427 4686 president@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Dunagan Cemetery (Rocky Face) Steve Hall 706 673 7987 tunnelhill@windstream.net

April 15

Prater's Mill Historic Site Melanie Chapman 706 694 6455 info@pratersmill.org

Rocky Face Ridge Park Brian Chastain 706 226 8341 bechastain@whitfieldcountyga.com

Dalton Confederate Cemetery Marvin Sowder 706 278 3925 msowder@dalton.net

Resaca Confederate Cemetery John Bidby johnbidby@bellsouth.net

Andersonville National Historic Site Caitlyn Price ande_information@nps.gov

Fort McAllister State Historic Park Autumn Pinault 912 727 2339 autumn.pinault@dnr.ga.gov

April 22

Shoupade Park (Smyrna) Roberta Cook RiverLineGA@gmail.com

Last chance to register for 13-16 April tour of Savannah sites

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

GBA rate is \$179 per night for Wednesday and Thursday nights and \$259 per night for Friday and Saturday nights. If you reserve for all four nights, it's \$219 per night. The almost 16% tax adds \$34.47 per night, for a daily total of \$253.47. Parking in the hotel lot is \$30 per night.

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 buffet and program at the hotel.

Friday – Seaward defenses of Savannah: [Fort Pulaski](#), [Old Fort Jackson](#) (lunch), [Wormsloe State Historic Site](#) (Fort Wimberly). Dinner at [Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum](#).

Saturday – Landward defenses of Savannah: [Ebenezer Creek](#), Monteith Swamp, Bazemore Park, Shaw's Dam, [King's Bridge](#) (lunch), [Fort McAllister](#). Dinner at [The Pirates House](#).

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.

Telecommunications tower proposed at Resaca

Viewshed is a word that isn't often heard outside of preservation discussions. Viewshed refers to all that can be seen from a given location. While giving battlefield tours, GBA has found that the intrusion on the viewshed by modern facilities, such as buildings, interstate highways, power lines, and telecommunications towers, impair a person's ability to imagine how the site appeared at the time a historic event occurred. The more intrusions, the greater the impairment. Thus, we advocate not only for preserving battlefields but also for maximizing natural features, such as fields and forests, in the viewshed.

In March, GBA received notice of a proposed "305-foot overall height self-supporting lattice telecommunications structure" (i.e., a cell phone tower) to be built on the Resaca battlefield. The relevant parcel is privately owned, as is a great deal of battlefield land at Resaca.

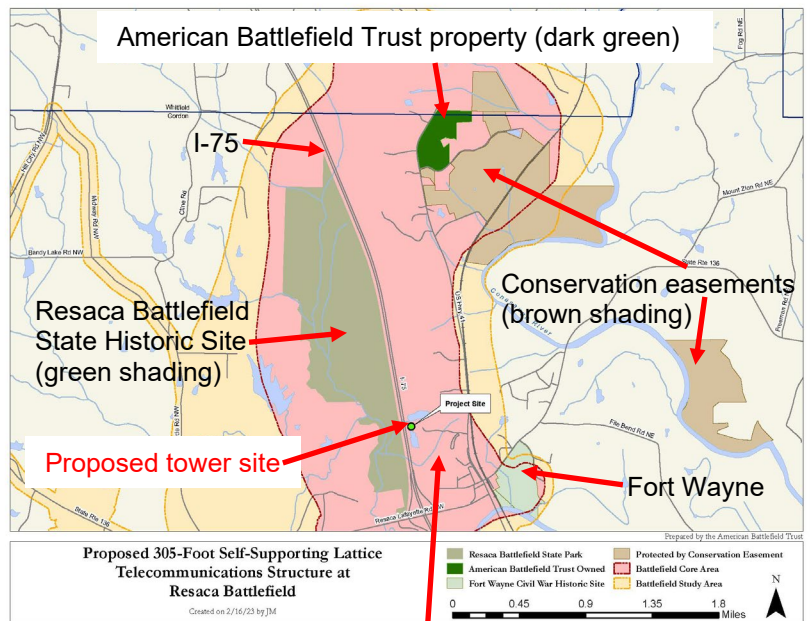
Resaca has had the advantage of being relatively distant from Chattanooga and Atlanta, two cities whose populations have grown greatly since the Civil War. For example, the 1860 census showed Atlanta had just under 10,000 people. The 2020 census indicates the Atlanta Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (the city and its suburbs) has a population over 6,000,000. Resaca also has more people than it did 160 years ago, but it is still largely rural. The area was greatly affected in the 1960s and 1970s by the construction of I-75, which runs through the middle of the battlefield. Still, a great deal of the battlefield has been preserved since 2000, when GBA and others advocated for and the state of Georgia finally bought 505 acres west of I-75. In 2010, GBA helped fund a conservation easement on 474 acres east of I-75; and in 2012, GBA helped fund American Battlefield Trust's (ABT) outright purchase of 51 acres. After several plan revisions, the Resaca Battlefield State Historic Site west of I-75 was finally opened in 2014.

The proposed tower will most affect the viewshed from the southern portion of the State Historic Site and also affects the viewshed from Fort Wayne Civil War Historic Site, a Gordon County Park. See ABT map at right.

For section 106* review, GBA sent the State Historic Preservation Office an e-mail opposing the tower location, as have the Georgia Civil War Commission and the Friends of Resaca Battlefield (FORB), whose web site includes justification for FORB's opposition, as well as instructions on how people and organizations can comment using this web address:

<http://www.resacabattlefield.org/CellTowerConcern.htm>

*Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requires federal agencies to evaluate the effects of their proposed actions on historic or cultural resources and to give the [Advisory Council on Historic Preservation](#) a reasonable opportunity to comment. The relevant federal agency in this case is the Federal Communications Commission.



Battlefield Core Area (pink shading)



Blue line indicates where tower will appear from Historic Site entrance road. Wentworth photo.



Blue line indicates where tower will appear from Site interpretive kiosk #2. Wentworth photo.

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