

# G E O R G I A

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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)

## Annual tour will revisit 1864 campaign, 9-12 April 2026

In 2026, GBA will begin another multi-tour examination of what came to be known as the Atlanta Campaign. Our first swing through the campaign ran from 2004 through 2009, and our second swing ran from 2014 through 2019. While we'll certainly revisit some sites, we'll have some newly preserved land to show you and some changes to sites you may have seen before.

**Dates:** 9-12 April 2026

**Meals:** Breakfast at hotel, Thursday through Sunday.

Lunch and dinner provided Thursday through Saturday.

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

**Price:** \$600 per person for members. \$625 for non-members, but that price includes membership for a year. Register for the tour at [this link](#).

**Hotel:** Dalton Fairfield Inn, starting at \$129 per night plus tax. Make reservations at [this link](#).

## Urge legislators to fund Vince Dooley Battlefield Trust Fund Act

The [June 2025 Georgia Battlefields newsletter](#) reported that Georgia Governor Kemp on 13 May signed into law the Vince Dooley Battlefield Trust Fund Act. The [May 2025 newsletter](#) provided a link to the text of the Act and reported that the next Georgia General Assembly, which will convene in January 2026, will have the all-important task of appropriating funds so that battlefield preservation can occur.

We urge you to contact your state senator and state representative well before the General assembly convenes and indicate your support for making the Vince Dooley Trust Fund as robust as possible. Use this link to find their contact info: <https://georgia.gov/contact-state-legislators> .

Vince Dooley gained deserved fame as a coach and athletic director, but did you know he returned to college to get an M.A. in history after his service as a Marine Corps officer? Coach Dooley became a member of Georgia Battlefields Association in 2003 and went on to serve on the board of trustees of the American Battlefield Trust. He remained an active participant in both organizations until he died and never lost his love for studying history by visiting battlefields.

In several of this year's newsletters, we've reported on preservation successes at Kennesaw Mountain ([February](#)), Rocky Face Ridge ([July](#)), and Ringgold Gap ([September](#)) and the latest preservation opportunity at Resaca ([November](#)). We'll always seek your help when we contribute towards battlefield acquisitions, but a state-funded entity would expedite success and reduce missed opportunities. We tend to avoid dramatic phrasing, but robust annual appropriations to the Vince Dooley Battlefield Trust Fund might well revolutionize preservation efforts in Georgia. So, please contact your legislators now and continue throughout the coming General Assembly and all subsequent General Assemblies to periodically remind them of your interest.

## Using PayPal through the Georgia Battlefields Association web site

We've had periodic problems when people try to use PayPal to pay membership dues and tour registration fees through the GBA web site. If you already have a PayPal account, the PayPal link we are required to use will not allow you to pay other than through your already established account. If you do not have a PayPal account, you should be able to pay with a credit card as a guest. In either case, if your payment is successfully completed, you should receive a confirming e-mail from PayPal within minutes. If you do not receive a confirming e-mail, please try again later. PayPal's system sometimes clogs with so many people ordering online, especially leading up to Christmas. If you try a second time and still don't receive confirmation, or if you receive an error message, you can mail a check to

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or you can e-mail us at [info@georgiabattlefields.org](mailto:info@georgiabattlefields.org), and we will contact you (providing a phone number helps) to resolve the issue.

## How Georgia Battlefields Association has spent your money

A treasurer changeover (see [July newsletter](#)) always provides an opportunity to review financial records from the beginning of the organization's existence. Georgia Battlefields Association was established in March 1995. Since then, our principal sources of revenue have been membership dues and any profit from our annual tours. We also get donations, usually for a specific battlefield purchase or as honoraria for giving a presentation or a tour other than our annual tour. Whatever we receive, we're very careful about expenditures. No GBA trustee or officer has ever received a salary, and we've never rented office space, instead conducting business from our residences. In our early years, we snail-mailed the monthly newsletter, and postage and printing costs were our largest recurring expense. With the near total transition to e-mail, that spending is routinely under \$10 per month.

We believe our spending is consistent with our objectives of preservation and education, often by supporting larger efforts by the American Battlefield Trust (ABT) or its predecessor organizations (Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites, Civil War Preservation Trust, and Civil War Trust). With that preface, here are the dollar numbers from 1995 to the present:

424,000.00	Acquiring or placing conservation easements on battlefield properties
27,744.00	Creating and installing historical markers, both our own and those of Georgia Historical Society
10,000.00	Supporting restoration of the McPherson and Walker monuments in Atlanta
13,329.00	Donating to organizations that permitted GBA to tour or use their facilities
8,400.00	Supporting production of ABT educational videos about the Atlanta Campaign
4,680.80	Paying for production of videos featuring our Civil War Atlanta downtown walking tour. The videos were subsequently sold as a fund raiser.
488,153.80	Total

Although it doesn't appear on our books, GBA has also facilitated donations by GBA members directly to American Battlefield Trust. Notably, this year, American Battlefield Trust received \$617,000 from GBA members with GBA's encouragement.

We hope you agree that we spend our funds wisely and will continue to support our efforts.

## Like GBA on Facebook

You've probably noticed that both our web site address and Facebook address are at the bottom of the front page of our monthly newsletters. We established our Facebook page in the summer of 2017. Our usual procedure is to cover preservation opportunities and less time-sensitive news in the newsletter, while our Facebook page is more likely to include more transient and wide-ranging items, often from other sources. Like most people and organizations, we like to be "liked," and if you are willing, please like us on Facebook and write a review. More importantly, when you peruse our Facebook page, our web site, and our monthly newsletter, please let us know what you think, especially if you have specific suggestions on how we could improve each product.

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