

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

Lovett School construction will destroy Federal trenches

Construction of athletic fields at Atlanta's Lovett School (www.lovett.org) will destroy about 100 yards of trench remnants associated with the Atlanta Campaign.

After being contacted by a concerned student, a GBA rep met with the school headmaster and director of operations just before construction began, but we were unable to prevent the loss. We appreciate the headmaster's utmost civility in discussing the issue, his intent to install a historical display explaining the site's significance, and the fact that another trench section remains; but we regret the loss of such rare earthworks.

The trenches may have been dug as early as July 1864 so that a regiment or two could guard the nearby Pace's Ferry crossing, but they were certainly occupied by the Federal 20th Corps in late August 1864 to protect the river crossings while Sherman took his other six corps to cut the remaining railroads into Atlanta, precipitating the decisive Battle of Jonesboro.

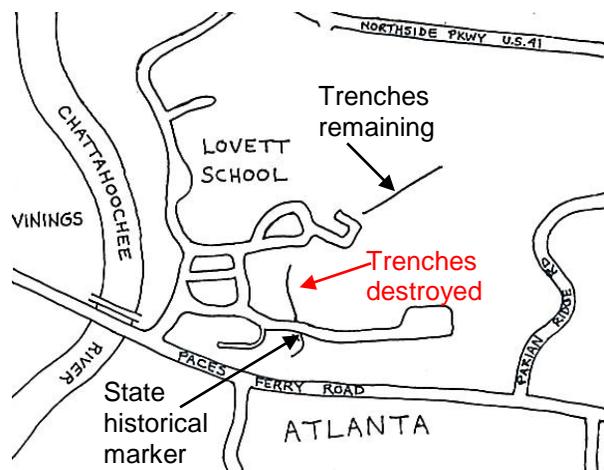


Photo: Trench line that will be destroyed by construction at the Lovett School in Atlanta.

Another River Line Shoupade gets a marker

Using text and graphics supplied by Georgia Battlefields Association, the City of Smyrna has installed a historical marker at the remains of a Shoupade initially saved by the city in January 2004 (March 2004 newsletter).

The fortification was part of Brigadier General Shoup's original line, but it wasn't occupied because General Johnston ordered the line extended to include the Mayson-Turner Ferry site (where Bankhead Highway now crosses the Chattahoochee River).

Sitting at the end of a woods trail until a few years ago, the Shoupade now faces a housing development and the soccer fields of River Line Park (April 2006 newsletter).



State budget forecast even gloomier

Although the Georgia legislature will not consider the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2011 budget until January and typically doesn't pass a budget until early April, the latest revenue reports indicate that spending will again be reduced significantly. Overall tax collections for SFY 2010 are down almost 14% compared to SFY 2009. Preservation-related departments (Historic Preservation Division, State Parks & Historic Sites) took larger percentage reductions in the SFY 2010 budget than most other agencies. Since the prospects for the SFY 2011 budget are so poor, please contact your legislators if you think preservation spending should be increased.

GBA leads Atlanta Campaign tour

On 23 & 24 October, Georgia Battlefields Association led an Atlanta Campaign Tour for the Filson Historical Society of Louisville, Kentucky (www.filsonhistorical.org). Rather than paying the guide, the Historical Society made a \$400 contribution to GBA.

Photo: Tour participants at the Major General Patrick Cleburne statue unveiled on 3 October at the WPA Pavilion in Ringgold Gap. Creation and installation of the statue was the culmination of several years of effort by Cleburne admirers and the local community.



Time to apply for annual battlefield preservation grants

The American Battlefield Protection Program annual project grant process is underway. See www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp/grants/battlefieldgrants/2010grants.htm for guidelines and an application form. Mailed applications must be postmarked by 2 January 2010.

Unfortunately, an ABPP grant cannot be used to acquire land.

Bearss tour 2010

Dates: 11-14 March 2010

Hotel: Fairfield Inn, 20 Canyon Pkwy, Cartersville (I-75 exit 288). 770 387 0400.

Ask for the Georgia Battlefields Association rate of \$89 per night. With tax, the cost will be just under \$100. Includes breakfast and access to fitness center and indoor pool.

Price: \$395. Register by sending a check to GBA at 7 Camden Rd NE, Atlanta GA 30309.

You must be a GBA member to register. See our web site for how to become a member.

Topic: The Fall 1864 (mid September to mid November) campaign in northwest Georgia. This overlooked period featured a lot of marching, several skirmishes, and a battle at Allatoona Pass. We'll also visit Cedar Bluff, Alabama, site of Streight's surrender to Forrest in May 1863.

150 years ago this month

On 2 November, in Charlestown, Virginia, John Brown's trial concludes with a conviction on charges of murder, conspiracy, and treason. Brown is sentenced to hang one month hence.

On 24 November, the French navy launches *La Gloire*, the first ironclad, ocean-going warship.

On 24 November, Charles Darwin's On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life is published. When the sixth edition was published in 1872, the title was shortened to The Origin of Species.

Georgia Battlefields Association
7 Camden Rd NE
Atlanta GA 30309

www.georgiabattlefields.org

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