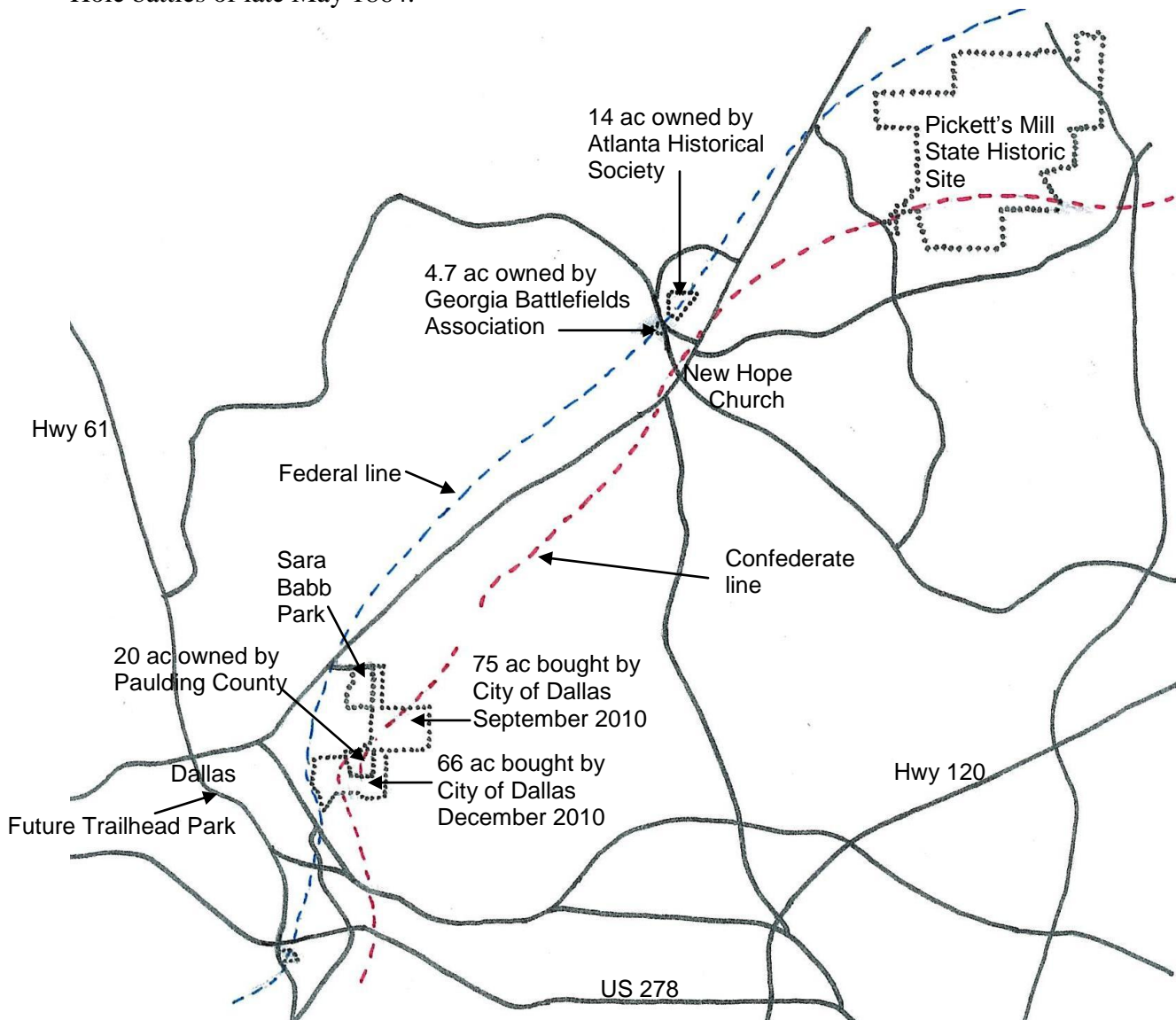


# GEORGIA BATTLEFIELDS

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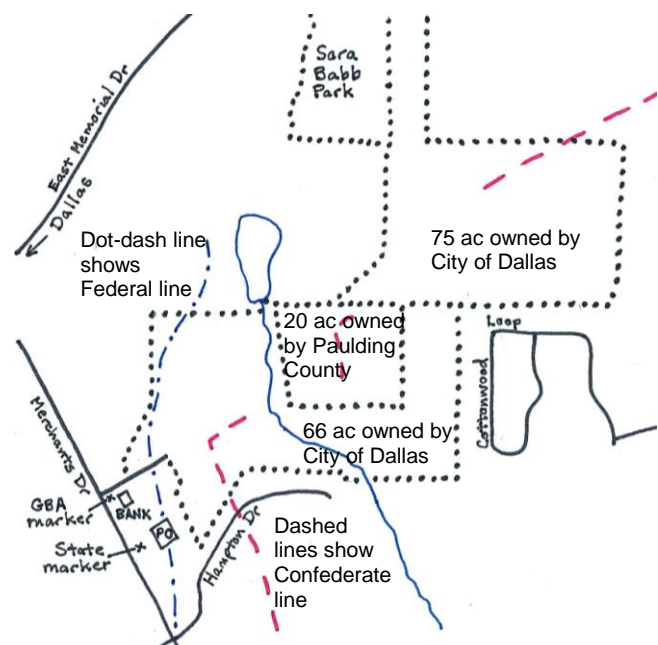
## City of Dallas buys more historic land

The October 2010 newsletter mentioned the City of Dallas purchasing 75 acres of historic land. In December, the city closed on another 66 acres that contains more discernible earthworks. The map below shows the 66 acre property in context with other preserved land relating to the Hell Hole battles of late May 1864.



The map at right narrows the focus to the area just east of Dallas. The City of Dallas anticipates that Paulding County will transfer its 20 acre holding to the city so that the three adjacent properties can be collected into a single 161 acre park that will connect to the existing Sara Babb Park.

The recently purchased property's western boundary abuts the US Post Office on Merchants drive. The earthworks on the property were likely the ones occupied by the 9<sup>th</sup> Kentucky (Confederate) Infantry during the ill-fated 28 May 1864 attack by the rest of the Orphan Brigade.



## State budget forecast not good for preservation

While the Georgia Department of Revenue has reported increased collections over the last few months, the budget forecast is gloomy. Governor-elect Deal has warned of major reductions in the budget proposals (State Fiscal Year 2011 adjustment and State Fiscal Year 2012) that he will submit once he is inaugurated and the General Assembly convenes in January. The incoming governor specifically mentioned cutting the number of state employees.

Preservation-related items (such as Historic Preservation Division, State Historic Sites, Civil War Commission, and Sesquicentennial planning) are certain to be a low priority.

## 150 years ago this month

3 January: Under orders from Governor Brown, volunteer militia units take Fort Pulaski, which guards the mouth of the Savannah River. The fort was garrisoned only by a sergeant and a civilian caretaker, so the seizure of federal property is more notable than the lack of a fight.

7 January: Georgia's Robert Toombs gives his farewell speech to the U.S. Senate.

9-11 January: On successive days, Mississippi, Florida, and Alabama follow South Carolina into secession. Georgia's northern border is now its only physical connection to the United States.

16 January: Georgia's secession convention opens in Milledgeville, the state capital. After three days of often heated debate, the delegates vote 208 to 89 to withdraw from the Union. By 23 January, all of Georgia's members in the U.S. Congress have quit their office, either resigning or indicating that Georgia no longer desires to be represented.

**Note:** The newest Georgia Historical Society marker, which addresses the secession convention and vote, will be dedicated in a ceremony scheduled for 10 a.m. on 19 January at the Old State Capitol, 201 E. Greene St, Milledgeville. [www.oldcapitalmuseum.org](http://www.oldcapitalmuseum.org).

23 January: Governor Brown, having already ordered the seizure of Fort Pulaski, demands the surrender of the U.S. Arsenal in Augusta. Arsenal commander Arnold Elzey refuses the demand but telegraphs the War Department for instructions. Early the next day, Captain Elzey hears from Secretary of War Joseph Holt that if compelled to surrender through threat of violence or starvation, Elzey is to stipulate honorable terms and unimpeded passage of the 80-man garrison to New York. At 4 p.m. on 24 January, Elzey surrenders to local militia commander W.H.T. Walker, his West Point classmate. Both Elzey and Walker later become Confederate generals.

26 January: Louisiana becomes the sixth state to secede.

## GBA tour led by Ed Bearss set for 10-13 March in Augusta

**Hotel:** Homewood Suites, 1049 Stevens Creek Rd, Augusta GA 30907. Call 706 738 3131. Ask for the Georgia Battlefields Association rate of \$105 per night that includes breakfast.

**Tour price:** Still \$395 per person, but you must be a GBA member to register. Your reservation is confirmed when your check to GBA arrives at 7 Camden Rd NE, Atlanta GA 30309.

**Subject:** The end of the Confederacy and the importance of Augusta to the war effort. Stops include Crawfordville, Kettle Creek, Washington, Chennault, and Augusta.

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