

G E O R G I A

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

Federal legislation news

On 15 February, President Trump signed the Department of the Interior FY 2019 Appropriations Bill that included the full \$10 million funding for the Battlefield Land Acquisition Grants program. Administered by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program, the grants have protected more than 30,000 acres of Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War sites in 20 states since 2002.

On 12 March, President Trump signed the Natural Resources Management Act. This bill sets forth provisions regarding various programs, projects, activities, and studies for the management and conservation of natural resources on federal lands. The full content of the Act is on the Congressional web site <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/47>.

Of interest to Georgia, the Act changes the designation of Ocmulgee National Monument (which has Civil War significance) as Ocmulgee National Historical Park and expands the boundaries of Ocmulgee (sec. 2102), Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park (sec. 2103), and Fort Frederica National Monument (sec. 2104). Kennesaw Mountain's 8-acre expansion includes the Wallis House and Harriston Hill, currently preserved by Cobb Landmarks.

American Battlefield Trust Park Day is 6 April

American Battlefield Trust (formerly Civil War Trust, Revolutionary War Trust, and Civil War Preservation Trust) annual park day will be 6 April. This is an opportunity to help maintain national, state, and local historic sites. Some of the national parks need help more than usual because of the shut-down earlier this year. <https://www.battlefields.org/events/park-day>. If you don't use the internet, call Courtney Wilke at (202) 367-1861 x7222.

In addition to the eleven Georgia sites listed in the March newsletter, two have been added:
 Shoupade Park, Smyrna Roberta Cook riverlinega@gmail.com
 Fort Pulaski, E. of Savannah Margo Blewett margo_blewett@nps.gov 912 786 5787

Old Clinton rezoning defeated: "War Days" Festival is 4-5 May

On 5 March, the Jones County Board of Commissioners denied a rezoning application that would have allowed commercial development of a property in the Old Clinton Historic District. Georgia Battlefields Association had e-mailed the commissioners urging such a denial.

Reminder: The annual Old Clinton War Days event www.oldclinton.org/war-days-3/ occurs on 4 & 5 May. On both days, gates open at 9 a.m. and battle reenactments (Sunshine Church and Griswoldville) start at 2:05 p.m. The event also features food, crafts, and artifact displays. Proceeds (\$5 for adults, \$3 for children age 6 to 18) are used to preserve the Old Clinton Historic District. The memorial service at 8:05 p.m. Saturday at the Old Clinton Cemetery is free. Old Clinton is 12 miles northeast of Macon, just a block west of US 129.

GBA led Phoenix Flies downtown Atlanta tour on 2 & 16 March

We had good weather for both our 2 & 16 March Civil War Atlanta downtown walking tours.



The photos were taken from this spot, but 20 feet below where we are now. Photo by Tom Langford.



The Spiller & Burr pistol factory was at the other end of this block.

Photos by John Carr.

Right: If you'll all look at photo #4 ...



GBA 2019 tour with Ed Bearss

Despite predictions of rain every day, we managed to stay dry during our 7-10 March tour with Ed Bearss. Friday started at the Newnan Cemetery, followed by a visit to the historic depot. After a trip to Brown's Mill battlefield with its recently completed trails, we returned to Newnan for lunch. We proceeded to Lovejoy's Station to discuss the multiple actions there, then visited Nash Farm, where Bill Dodd told us not only about the action but also about preservation and recent issues. Saturday began with a drive by the site of Camp Oglethorpe in Macon, then a visit to Fort Hawkins. Next was Sunshine Church, where we were met by Jones County, Old Clinton, and Griswoldville preservationists. Lunch was in Madison, where Federal troopers passed through on their retreat from Sunshine Church. We had several good stops in Athens: Don Parr explained the action at Barber's Creek, Coach Dooley helped us at Oconee Hill Cemetery, we made the obligatory stop at the double barreled cannon, and ate at the T.R.R. Cobb House. Sunday morning saw us make three stops to cover the decisive battle of Jonesborough.



The folks in Newnan couldn't have been nicer. Photo by Liz Camp.



Ed Bearss studies a map, and Coach Dooley views a painting at Newnan Depot. Photo by Liz Camp.



Informative markers at Brown's Mill battlefield.



Nash Farm. Photo by David Hull.



Fort Hawkins' replica blockhouse. Photo by Bill Porter.



Ed Bearss (red hat) at Sunshine Church. Photo by Carlton Mullis.



Coach Dooley points out the grave of Col. Delony, subject of Coach's book. Photo by Skip Johnson.



Don Parr explains the action at Barber's Creek, south of Athens.



You have to take a photo at the double barreled cannon.

GBA is making donations to Brown's Mill Battlefield Association, Fort Hawkins Foundation, and T.R.R. Cobb House. See more about the tour at www.georgiabattlefields.org/tours.

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Address correction requested
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