

# GEORGIA

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# 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](mailto:info@georgiabattlefields.org)

## Old Clinton War Days returns 4-5 May

The Old Clinton Historic District will again host reenactments of the July 1864 Battle of Sunshine Church and the November 1864 Battle of Griswoldville. On both Saturday and Sunday, gates open at 9 a.m. and reenactments begin at 2:05 p.m. Saturday's activities conclude with a memorial service at the Methodist Church Cemetery. Before the reenactments, tour the historic buildings, including the McCarthy-Pope House, the oldest house in town, which will have displays relating to the Griswold Pistol Factory and other relics. Food, including items from Civil War recipes, and crafts of the era will be demonstrated. Proceeds (\$5 for adults, \$3 for ages 6-18, and free for ages 5 and under) are used to help preserve the historic district. Old Clinton is 12 miles northeast of Macon, just a block northwest of US 129. For more information and directions see <http://www.oldclinton.org/war-days-3/> or call 478-251-6745.

Those of you who attended Georgia Battlefields Association's 2022 visit to Old Clinton will remember how our guide Earlene Hamilton provided an evocative narrative that helped us imagine the site's appearance when Stoneman's cavalry passed through the town twice during his July 1864 raid and when part of Sherman's forces passed through during the March to the Sea in November. War Days provides an opportunity for visitors to have a similar experience.

## Society for Women and the Civil War conference in Atlanta 26-28 July

The [Society for Women and the Civil War](#) will hold its [annual conference](#) in Atlanta in 2024. Kennesaw State University's [Center for the Study of the Civil War Era](#) is a cosponsor partner organization for the conference. Hotel will be the [Courtyard by Marriott Kennesaw](#). Georgia Battlefields Association provided input for the planning of events and tours.

The conference agenda will focus on the lives and roles of women during the Atlanta Campaign and will feature presentations on Friday (26 July) afternoon, a buffet dinner that night, and a keynote presentation after dinner. Saturday (27 July) will include a guided tour of special collections at the [Atlanta History Center](#), a boxed lunch, a tour of Roswell sites associated with the mill workers who were shipped north after U.S. cavalry occupied the town in early July 1864, a visit to the [Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History](#), and a visit to [Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park](#) for a presentation and tour. Saturday's dinner will again be a buffet, followed by a trivia contest. Sunday (28 July) morning will include three presentations, and the conference will close between noon and 1 p.m. Register for the conference [here](#).

## GBA annual tour, 18-21 April 2024: Chattanooga & Ringgold

Knowing that he had an audience (from eight states) that was already knowledgeable about the Civil War, National Park Service historian Jim Ogden took us to some lesser visited sites in the Chattanooga area and provided more detail than seemed possible for one human to retain. He also provided context and insight about events and decisions, though—having used his services for many years—we were not surprised by his exceptional quality as a guide.



April 18: Misty morning trek to the eastern end of Brown's Ferry, whose dramatic seizure was crucial to the U.S. Army garrison in Chattanooga avoiding starvation.



April 18, early afternoon: When we got to the western end of Brown's Ferry, the mist had dissipated, and Lookout Mountain was visible in the distance. Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association helped save the site, and president Anthony Hodges joined us.



April 18, afternoon: By the time we viewed the Wauhatchie battle sites, shade was desirable. Who says only old men can be preservationists?



April 19 morning visit to Orchard Knob.



April 19: A Cherokee-built road the U.S. Army used to approach Lookout Mountain.



April 19: The vista from Lookout Point. The Ohio monument near the Cravens House is just visible below. Many of us traversed the winding, sometimes rocky trail to the Cravens House.



April 19: Bronze tablet on the sheer side of Lookout Mountain along the trail to the Cravens House.



April 19: The small section of level ground around the Cravens House.



April 20: Mist returned for our visit to the north bank of the Tennessee River, where Sherman crossed to begin the assault on Missionary Ridge.



April 20: About to climb to the Sherman Reservation on the north end of Missionary Ridge.



April 20: Never a great tactician, Sherman's assault stalled here.



April 20: Missionary Ridge's Bragg Reservation. From here, Bragg was alarmed to observe U.S. troops over-running Confederate lines to the north.



April 20: Four U.S. divisions made an unplanned but successful assault up the west face of Missionary Ridge, remembered at sites such as the DeLong Reservation.



April 21: We finished the tour on Sunday morning at Ringgold, where everyone looked cheery despite the now familiar morning mist.

April 21: Photo at right shows us taking in even more of Jim Ogden's knowledge at Ringgold City Hall. Jeff Wright joined us to aid in the interpretation. In the right distance is the Whitman House, Grant's HQ the night after the battle.



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**May 2024**