

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

Return to Chickamauga: Georgia Battlefields Association annual tour 27-30 March 2025

Chickamauga is one of two Georgia battles that the 1993 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission report characterized as decisive, its highest rating of significance. Our perception at the end of our 2013 tour focusing on the Chickamauga Campaign was we had covered important though less familiar events during the lead-up to the battle but left perhaps too little time to cover the combat of 19-20 September. Consequently, our 2025 tour will be four days instead of three. Our guide will again be National Park Service historian Jim Ogden. More details of the itinerary are in the [October Georgia Battlefields Association newsletter](#).

Price: As with our 2024 tour, this will be a three-and-a-half-day tour: All day Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, plus Sunday morning. On Wednesday evening (26 March), GBA representatives will be in the hotel lobby to hand out materials. Dinner on your own that evening. The **\$580** price includes bus transportation, handouts, three lunches and three dinners (Thursday through Saturday). If you can't join us for whole tour, send an e-mail (be sure to include your phone number) to info@georgiabattlefields.org, and we will correspond with you about a reduced price.

Registration: Register online using [this link](#). Alternatively, you can mail a check to Georgia Battlefields Association at 315 S. 5th St., Griffin GA 30224-4343.

Hotel: TownePlace Suites, 6801 Ringgold Rd, East Ridge TN 37412, 423 933 2700. GBA rate for a king room is \$125 (\$147 if you include the unavoidable tax) per night. Queen double is \$135 (\$160) per night. Price includes breakfast. To book online, use [this link](#). Note that online booking will be unavailable after 25 February 2025 (one month before the tour begins).

Georgia Battlefields Association still looking for a new treasurer

Our current treasurer will be leaving his post in January. We'll be happy to discuss the duties in more detail or answer your questions if you'll first e-mail info@georgiabattlefields.org. Please provide a phone number when you respond.

GBA will help save portions of three Georgia Battlefields

Georgia Battlefields Association (GBA) is glad to report that portions of three battlefields—Ringgold Gap, Rocky Face Ridge/Mill Creek Gap, and Kennesaw Mountain—are now under purchase agreements, and GBA will be providing part of the funding.

Opportunities to save battlefield properties depend on owners being prepared to sell, and such events don't occur on a predictable schedule. Most commonly, our awareness of opportunities comes from people who are familiar with the sites, often because they belong to local preservation groups and are also GBA members. In this case, GBA member Bob Jenkins and Save the Dalton Battlefields did most of the work acquiring the Rocky Face Ridge site, GBA member and former trustee Jeff Wright (who grew up in the Ringgold area) discovered the Ringgold Gap property, and GBA member and former treasurer Bill Gurry (formerly Trails Director for the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club) discovered the Kennesaw Mountain property.

Following the lead of American Battlefield Trust (ABT), the nation's principal acquirer of battlefield properties, GBA does not disclose when we have interest in or when we've been alerted that battlefield land might soon be or already is for sale. This secrecy is important to prevent commercial interests that have larger financial resources from buying the land. This is not a theoretical concern: Over 25 years ago, GBA and other preservation organizations lost the chance to save over 1,500 acres of a battlefield when our negotiations with the owner became public, and a private buyer preempted our purchase with a larger offer. We regret that the need for secrecy prevents the GBA trustees from sharing potential purchases with our members until the formal agreements have been signed.

While GBA has provided the entire purchase price for some properties, most purchases are beyond our funding capabilities. Consequently, the usual situation is GBA contributing to ABT's purchase of a property. ABT has much more experience accessing American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) funds. Also, ABT has much more experience negotiating with

property owners and has a larger legal and administrative staff. We are quite comfortable with this approach since it has proved effective in saving battlefield properties, and that is the prime objective for both ABT and GBA.

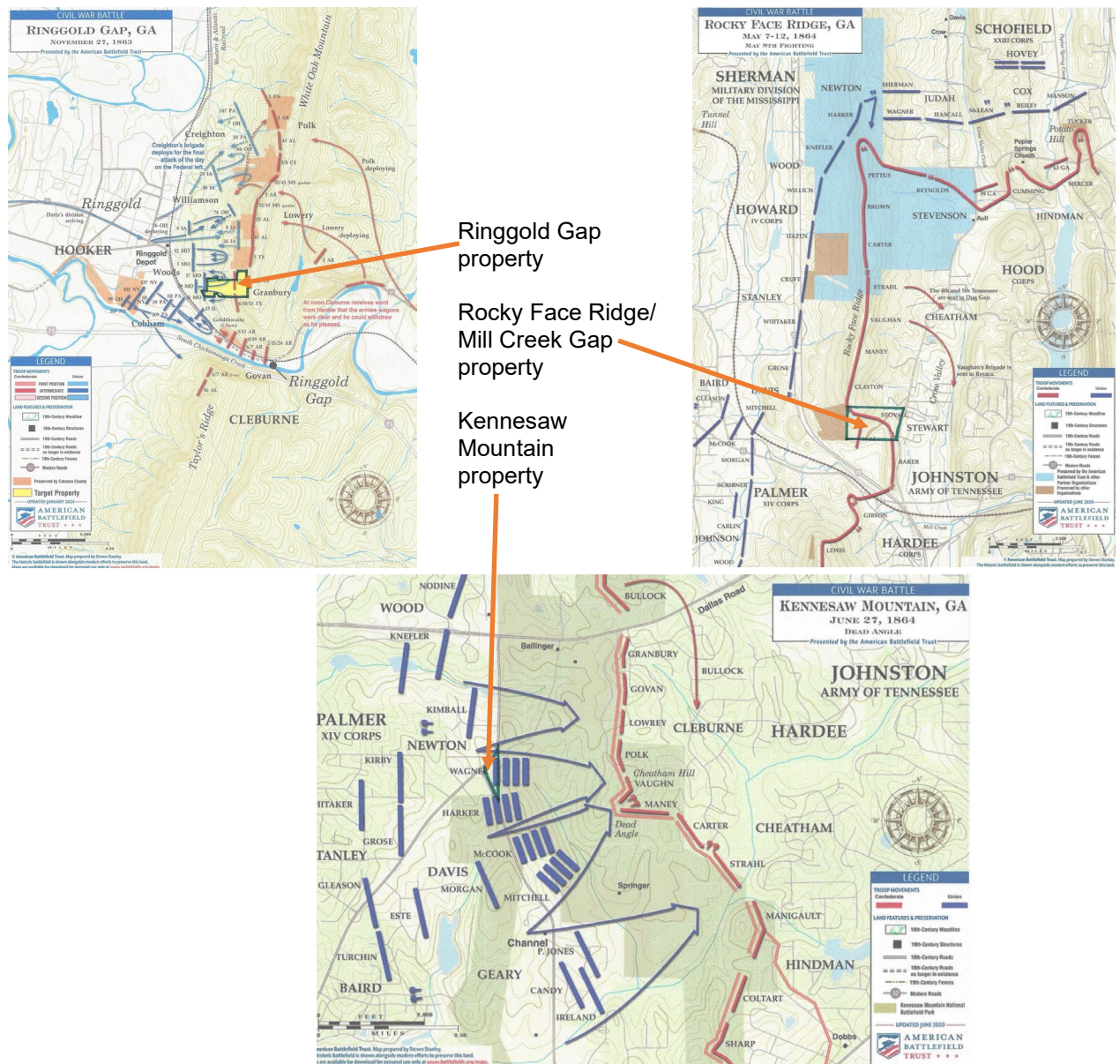
Data for the three properties now under contract:

Site	Acreage	Price	Price per acre	Notes
Ringgold Gap	13.07	500,000	38,255	Includes buildings on site
Rocky Face Ridge	61.54	677,000	11,000	Forested hills
Kennesaw Mountain	2.63	1,035,000	393,536	Includes buildings on site

We prefer not to have buildings on properties, but sometimes we can't get what we prefer. It shouldn't surprise anyone that land closer to suburban Atlanta costs more.

Below are ABT battle maps with the properties outlined in dark green.

Please help us save these properties by donating through the [GBA web site](#) or by sending a check to GBA at 315 S. 5TH ST, Griffin GA 30224-4343. You may specify the property you wish to support or leave it to GBA to distribute the donation among the three.



Ringgold Gap property

Rocky Face Ridge/
Mill Creek Gap property

Kennesaw Mountain property

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