

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

Annual tour will revisit 1864 campaign, 9-12 April 2026

In 2026, GBA will begin another multi-tour examination of what came to be known as the Atlanta Campaign. Our first swing through the campaign ran from 2004 through 2009, and our second swing ran from 2014 through 2019. While we'll certainly revisit some sites, we'll have some newly preserved land to show you and some changes to sites you may have seen before.

Dates: 9-12 April 2026

Meals: Breakfast at hotel, Thursday through Sunday.

Lunch and dinner provided Thursday through Saturday.

Guide: Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park historian [Jim Ogden](#).

Price: \$600 per person for members. \$625 for non-members. The non-member price includes membership for a year. Register for the tour at [this link](#).

Hotel: [Dalton Fairfield Inn](#). I-75 exit 333. Go west, turn north at first light onto College Drive.

The Atlanta Campaign (though destruction of the Confederate army in north Georgia, rather than the capture of Atlanta, was Sherman's original mission) is considered to begin on 7 May 1864. The October 2025 and November 2025 newsletters covered the extensive preparations and movements made by both sides before that date. With over 100,000 men and over 35,000 horses and mules in 18 infantry divisions, four cavalry divisions, and supporting artillery, Sherman's three armies headed south on several roads: Had they all used one road, the column—if all the standard spacing was followed, which hardly ever occurred—would have been about 45 miles long. So, even though this year's tour will cover only the first eight days of the campaign (through the Battle of Resaca), we'll attempt to cover at least some of the actions of the three U.S. armies involved, including the sites of Tunnel Hill, Crow Valley, Mill Creek Gap (also the site of action in February), Dug Gap, Snake Creek Gap, and Resaca. We'll also address the Confederate redeployment of three infantry divisions and a cavalry division from Mississippi and Alabama to join the seven infantry divisions and three cavalry divisions already in north Georgia.

American Battlefield Trust (ABT) Park Day

American Battlefield Trust (ABT) sponsors an annual Park Day, during which volunteers can help with maintenance of historic sites. <https://www.battlefields.org/parkday>. As shown below, the date of Park Day varies by park. Registration for volunteers is done through the site managers, so continue to watch the ABT web page to see sites that will be participating.

April 11

[Resaca Confederate Cemetery](#)

John Biddy 706 581 5366 johnbiddy@bellsouth.net

[Kennesaw Mountain NBP](#)

Amanda Corman 770 615 1801 kemo_volunteer@nps.gov

April 18

[Chattanooga National Military Park](#)

Will Wilson 706 966 9241 x 137 will_wilson@nps.gov

April 25

[Pickett's Mill State Historic Site](#)

770-443-7850 **Added since March newsletter**

[Shoupade Park](#)

Roberta Cook RiverLineGA@gmail.com

May 2

[Kettle Creek Battlefield](#)

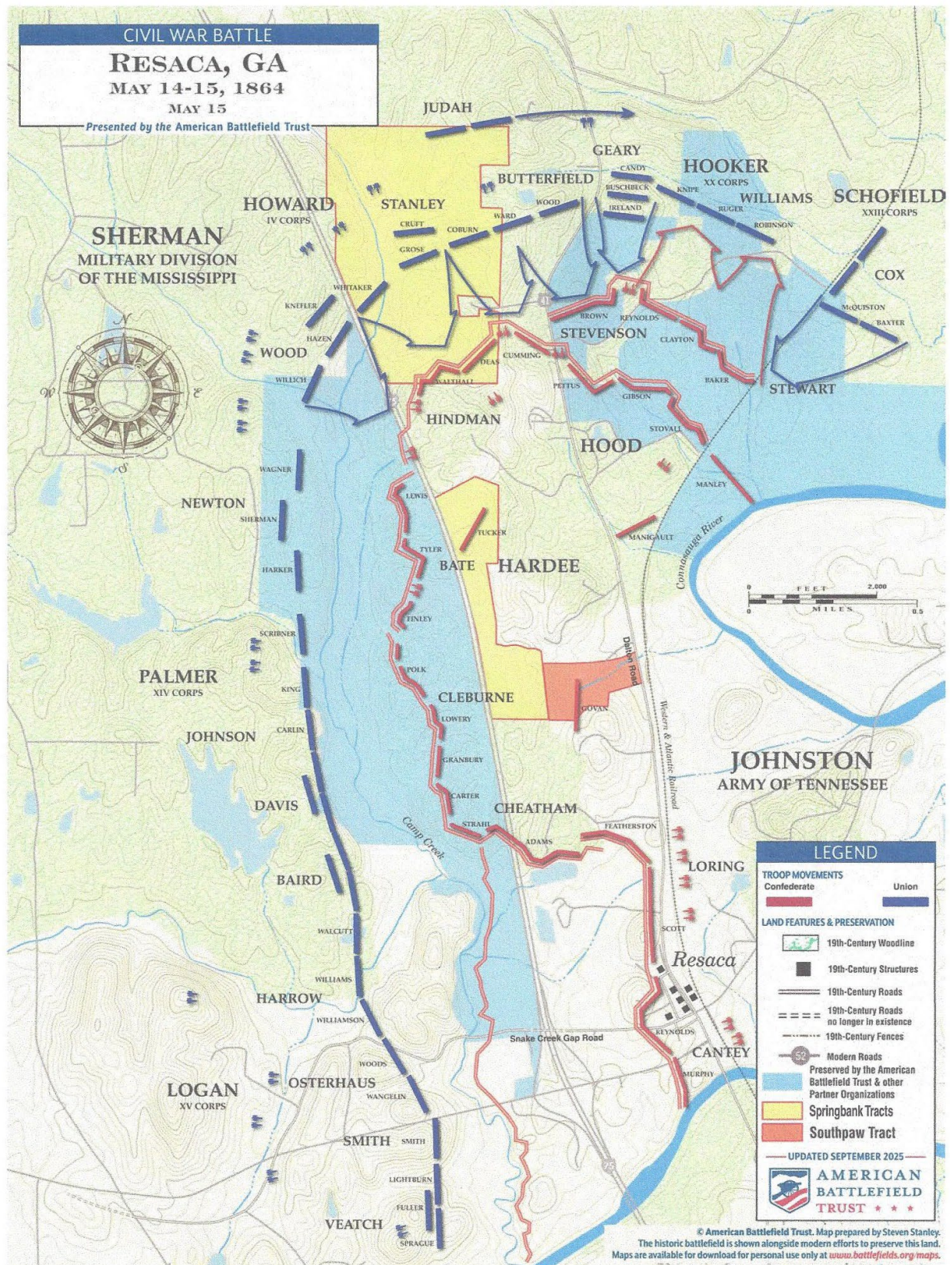
Chuck Garnett 478 214 3715 garnett31016@bellsouth.net

FY 2026 supplemental budget includes funds for preservation

Georgia legislators meet for 40 days each year in what is known as the General Assembly. The 2025 General Assembly passed, and the governor signed into law, the Vince Dooley Battlefield Trust Fund Act: <https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/70326>. See [May 2025](#) and [June 2025](#) Georgia Battlefields newsletters. Even though creation of the Act was a good sign for preservation, no money was appropriated.

The General Assembly always considers a supplemental budget for the current fiscal year, in this case FY 2026 (1 July 2025-30 June 2026). The [FY 2026 supplemental budget](#), signed by Governor Kemp on 3 March, included \$2 million for the Dooley Fund, which will be administered by the Department of Natural Resources, which will review and approve or deny applications for matching grants to organizations that intend to purchase battlefield land.

The American Battlefield Trust is applying for a matching grant to help purchase three tracts—shown on the map below—that are part of the Resaca Battlefield. See the [November 2025](#) and [May 2025](#) newsletters for background on these properties.



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