

CIVIL WAR HERITAGE TRAILS

September 2014 NEWSLETTER Issue No.27 www.CivilWarHeritageTrails.org

Alabama
Georgia
South Carolina

Historical Timeline
Along the Trails
Upcoming Events

**“So Atlanta is ours,
and fairly won.”**



Thursday, September 1, 1864 - Federal infantry reach and break the only remaining railroad line still able to supply Confederate-held Atlanta, Georgia. Convinced that a direct attack upon Atlanta is imminent, Confederate General John B. Hood, commander of the “Army of Tennessee,” recalls one of his two infantry corps in Jonesborough to Atlanta. Thus a second day of fighting at Jonesborough...

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Historical Timeline: September 1864

**Along the Trails:
Atlanta Campaign Heritage Trail®
BATTLE OF JONESBOROUGH
The First Day...**

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Along The Trails



Upcoming Events

**Upcoming Civil War Events in
Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina**
AL - Eutaw Pilgrimage & Tour Homes
GA- Chickamauga Bicycle Tour
SC - Free Admission - Fort Moultrie

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Atlanta Campaign
and March to the
Sea Brochures



The Civil War in Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina

Historical Timeline September 1864

Thursday, September 1, 1864 - Federal infantry reach and break the only remaining railroad line still able to supply Confederate-held Atlanta, Georgia. Convinced that a direct attack upon Atlanta is imminent, Confederate General John B. Hood, commander of the "Army of Tennessee," recalls one of his two infantry corps in Jonesborough to Atlanta. Thus a second day of fighting at Jonesborough (Jonesboro), Georgia involves only Confederate Lieutenant General William J. Hardee's lone corps against nearly six Federal corps. Fierce fighting at Jonesborough results in a predictable Confederate retreat, with Hardee slipping away to the south at Lovejoy's Station. Meanwhile, General Hood orders the evacuation of Atlanta by the remainder of his army, destroying anything of military value they cannot take with them as they march to join Hardee at Lovejoy's Station.



Battle of Jonesborough, Georgia, September 1, 1864

A skirmish involving the Federal 9th Indiana Cavalry Regiment occurs at Florence, Alabama.

Friday, September 2, 1864 - With the Confederate army having abandoned Atlanta, Georgia, a civilian delegation led by Atlanta Mayor James Calhoun surrenders the city to Federal forces approaching the city.

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“The fortune of war has placed Atlanta in your hands. As mayor of the city I ask protection of non-combatants and private property.” - Atlanta Mayor James Calhoun

Atlanta is now under Federal control. Union General William T. Sherman and the bulk of his armies still south of the city approach the new Confederate defensive position at Lovejoy’s Station, then slowly withdraw to Atlanta over the next few days. The opposing armies spend much of the next month resting and recuperating from almost constant fighting over the past four months of the Atlanta Campaign.

Saturday, September 3, 1864 - General Sherman sends a telegram to Washington, DC, which includes the famous line, *“So Atlanta is ours, and fairly won.”* U.S. President Abraham Lincoln declares September 5th to be a day of celebration for the recent Federal victories at Mobile Bay (Alabama) and Atlanta.

A skirmish involving the Federal 1st Alabama Cavalry occurs at Rollinsville, Georgia.

Sunday, September 4, 1864 - Another long Federal bombardment of Confederate-held Fort Sumter ends in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina, after 60 days and 14,666 rounds fired.

Monday, September 5, 1864 - Fearing that Federal prisoners held at Andersonville, Georgia could soon be released by the further advance of Sherman’s armies, the Confederate government begins moving some of them to other prison camps in South Carolina and southeastern Georgia.

Skirmishes occur near Atlanta at both East Point and Jonesborough, Georgia.

Tuesday, September 6, 1864 - After a one-day respite, another nine consecutive days of shelling begins against Fort Sumter, with another 573 artillery rounds being fired.

Confederate Lieutenant General Richard Taylor assumes military command of the Department of Alabama, Mississippi and East Louisiana. Taylor has little more at his disposal than the cavalry of Major General Nathan Bedford Forrest to defend this broad area.

A skirmish involving the Federal 1st Alabama Cavalry occurs at Rome, Georgia.

“I shall make dispositions to prevent the enemy, as far as possible, from foraging south of Atlanta, and at the same time endeavor to prevent his massing supplies at that place. I deem it important that the prisoners at Andersonville should be so disposed of as not to prevent this army from moving in any direction it may be thought best. According to all human calculations we should have saved Atlanta had the officers and men of the army done what was expected of them. It has been God's will for it to be otherwise. I am of good heart and feel that we shall yet succeed. The army is much in need of a little rest. After removing the prisoners from Andersonville, I think we should, as soon as practicable, place our army upon the communications of the enemy, drawing our supplies from the West Point and Montgomery Railroad. Looking to this, I shall at once proceed to strongly fortify Macon. Please do not fail to

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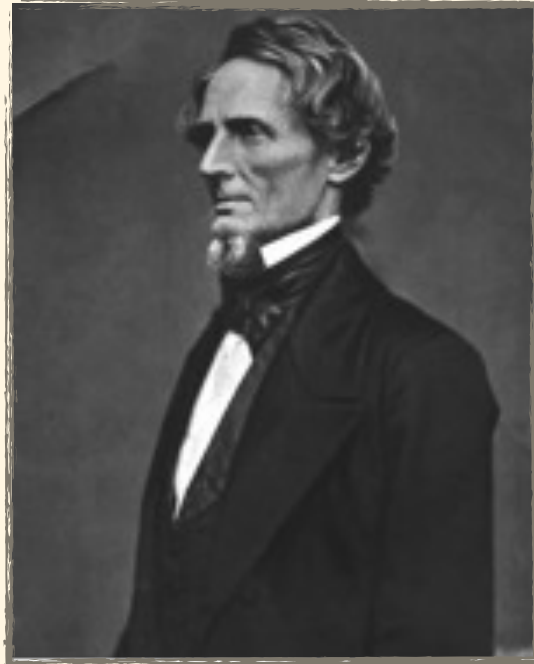
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give me advice at all times. It is my desire to do the best for you and my country. May God be with you and us."

- Confederate General John B. Hood to President Jefferson Davis



Confederate General John B. Hood



Confederate President Jefferson Davis

Wednesday, September 7, 1864 - Union Major General William T. Sherman orders the removal of most civilians from Atlanta. His reasoning is that Atlanta is now a Federal military fortress and his armies are unable to feed both themselves and the civilian population. Confederate officials are outraged, but realize they have no choice but to comply. Approximately 1,600 Atlantans depart over the next two weeks, forced to leave most of their possessions behind.

A skirmish involving the Federal 10th Independent Battery, Light Artillery, occurs at Jonesborough, Georgia.

Thursday, September 8, 1864 - U.S. President Abraham Lincoln sends a congratulatory message to Union Major General William T. Sherman plus the officers and men of his armies - *"The nation's thanks are tendered by the president to Major-General William T. Sherman and the gallant officers and men of his command before Atlanta, for the distinguished ability, courage and perseverance displayed in the campaign in Georgia, which, under Divine favor, has resulted in the capture of the City of Atlanta. The marches, battles and sieges, and other military operations that have signalized the campaign, must render it famous in the annals of war, and have entitled those who have participated therein to the applause and thanks of the nation."*

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U. S. President Abraham Lincoln



Union Major Gen. William T. Sherman

A Federal joint army-navy attack destroys 55 furnaces used by Confederates at Salt House Point near Mobile Bay, Alabama.

Friday, September 9, 1864 - A 3-day Federal scouting mission by the 20th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment begins between Mobile Bay and Bonsecours, Alabama.

Saturday, September 10, 1864 - Skirmishes take place at Campbellton, Georgia, near Atlanta, and at Florence, Alabama.

Monday, September 12, 1864 - A skirmish involving the Federal 9th Indiana Cavalry Regiment occurs at Florence, Alabama.

“Atlanta is really a very fine city; there must have been a great deal of wealth in it. There are many large mansions and it looks much like a western city...The citizens of Atlanta are all leaving; large wagon trains leave daily with southern families...” - A Federal soldier from Wisconsin writing a letter to his family

Tuesday, September 13, 1864 - More than 20 Federal prisoners and Confederate guards are killed or wounded when a train transferring them from the Camp Sumter/Andersonville prison to Camp Lawton near Millen derails near the Andersonville depot.

Thursday, September 15, 1864 - Skirmishes occur in Snake Creek Gap east of LaFayette, Georgia, as well as near Dahlonega and Cartersville.

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Friday, September 16, 1864 - A Georgian fighting in Confederate General Robert E. Lee's army in Virginia writes to his fiancé back in Georgia - *"Since your last was ritten Atlanta has fallen...Its capture, did at first, I'm sorry to say, have quite a demorallizing effect on our army; but since the true condition of affairs has been made known, the same determined resistance and hatred to the Yankeys has returned stronger, if possible, than ever...I'm fully convinced that your opinion, of the in competency of Hood to command so large an army was correct. I judged his ability by his previous successes while in command of a division in this army....You may think from the above, that I'm proud to belong to Genl. Lee's army. Well, I am, and I believe 'tis an honor too."*

Saturday, September 17, 1864 - A skirmish involving the Federal 3rd Ohio Cavalry Regiment occurs at Florence, Alabama.

Sunday, September 18, 1864 - Confederate General John B. Hood begins shifting his army from Lovejoy's Station, Georgia, where it has been resting since abandoning Atlanta, to Palmetto, Georgia. From there Hood will be in better position to move north in an attempt to disrupt Sherman's railroad supply line into Atlanta.

Monday, September 19, 1864 - Intermittent fire by Federal artillery during the remainder of September results in another 494 shells pounding Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor.



*Fort Sumter, in Charleston Harbor, South Carolina,
after months of near constant Federal bombardment*

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Tuesday, September 20, 1864 - Near Cartersville, Georgia, Confederate cavalry skirmish with Federals guarding the vital Western & Atlantic Railroad re-supplying Sherman's armies in Atlanta.

About 4,500 Confederate cavalymen commanded by Major General Nathan Bedford Forrest ride through northern Alabama on their way to Tennessee. Their aim is to disrupt railroads re-supplying Sherman's armies in Atlanta.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis departs Richmond, Virginia, for Georgia via train. Davis's aim is to revive the fortunes of the Confederate "Army of Tennessee" commanded by General John B. Hood after their recent retreat from Atlanta.

Skirmishes occur at Jonesborough and Cartersville, Georgia.

In a rare pleasant moment at Andersonville prison, prior to their departure by train for Camp Lawton near Millen, Georgia, a group of Federal prisoners present a gold watch to a Confederate soldier in appreciation for the kindnesses he has shown them during their imprisonment.

Thursday, September 22, 1864 - The train carrying Confederate President Jefferson Davis arrives in Macon, Georgia. Davis delivers an impassioned and encouraging speech.

Friday, September 23, 1864 - Confederate Major General Nathan Bedford Forrest's cavalymen skirmish against Federals at Athens, Alabama.

"I can but think that to hold men and women in perpetual bondage is wrong. During my comparatively short life, spent wholly under Southern skies, I have known of and heard too much of its demoralizing influence to consider the institution a blessing..." - Diary entry of Ella Gertrude Clanton Thomas of Augusta, Georgia.

Saturday, September 24, 1864 - General Forrest's Confederate troopers capture Athens, Alabama. Most of the 1,350 Federal casualties are members of the captured garrison.

A Confederate soldier writing to his fiancé in Georgia makes a hauntingly accurate prediction - *"I think it is Sherman's intention to inflict as great injury upon the people of Ga. as he possible can. O how I do pity those who as so unfortunate as to be in their line of march. May you and others, dear to me, escape that dreadful calamity."*

Sunday, September 25, 1864 - Forrest's Confederates continue actions to disrupt Federally-operated railroads in north Alabama. Another 1,000 Federals are killed or captured at Sulphur Creek Trestle, six miles north of Athens. Over three days Forrest's cavalymen inflict about 2,350 casualties while suffering only 139 of their own.

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Battle of Sulphur Creek Trestle, Alabama, September 25, 1864

Confederate President Jefferson Davis arrives at General John B. Hood's army headquarters at Palmetto, Georgia, southwest of Atlanta, where the army had recently re-located from Lovejoy's Station. Hood asks Davis to remove his top subordinate, Lieutenant General William J. Hardee. That evening a regimental band of Louisiana soldiers entertains the President.

Monday, September 26, 1864 - A skirmish occurs near Roswell, Georgia.

Wednesday, September 28, 1864 - A skirmish takes place near Decatur, Georgia. The Federal 65th Indiana Infantry Regiment suffers 1 man killed and 3 wounded.

Confederate President Jefferson Davis agrees to transfer Lieutenant General William J. Hardee to the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Hardee's new principal responsibility is the defense of Savannah, Georgia.

The Confederate "Army of Tennessee" begins moving north from Palmetto, Georgia with the hope of forcing the Federal armies to give chase and abandon Atlanta.

Friday, September 30, 1864 - Skirmishes occur near Atlanta and Camp Creek, Georgia. Federal losses are 2 killed and 5 wounded.

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“Along the Trails”
Atlanta Campaign Heritage Trail®

www.civilwarheritagetrails.org/ga-civil-war-trails-map/ga-atlanta-campaign.html

Two new interpretive markers have been installed
 along the Atlanta Campaign Heritage Trail® in Jonesboro, Georgia



BATTLE OF JONESBOROUGH
The First Day

Located across McDonough Street from the Jonesboro Depot Welcome Center
 Interpretive marker #38 in the Atlanta Campaign Heritage Trail® brochure
 GPS: 33.5215, -84.3539

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PATRICK
CLEBURNE
CONFEDERATE
CEMETERY

*Battle of
Jonesborough
The Second Day*

Located on Johnson
Street at the entrance
to the Confederate
Cemetery

Interpretive marker
#39 in the Atlanta
Campaign Heritage
Trail® brochure

GPS: 33.5302,
-84.3536



www.civilwarheritagetrails.org/ga-civil-war-trails-map/ga-atlanta-campaign.html

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Upcoming Events

Details about these and more Civil War era events can be found at
www.CivilWarHeritageTrails.org

Alabama: The Eutaw Pilgrimage & Tour of Homes - Saturday & Sunday, October 11 & 12, Eutaw AL. Tour of a selection of Eutaw's fabled antebellum homes and churches. Antique shops will be open on the downtown square, where you can also see the historic Courthouse Complex. Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Tickets: Adults \$20.00, Children (under age 12) \$10.00, Groups of 10+ \$15.00. 205-292-0015,
http://greencountyhistoricsociety.org/GCHS/Annual_Tour.html#0

Georgia: Chickamauga Battlefield Bicycle Tour - Saturday, September 20, 9:30 to 11:30 am, Visitor Center, Chickamauga National Military Park, 3370 LaFayette Road, Fort Oglethorpe GA. Chickamauga National Military Park offers a FREE historical bike tour through Chickamauga Battlefield. Bring your bicycle and join in the leisurely-paced historical ride. National Park Service rangers will talk about the history of the battlefield. Ride length is approximately three to four miles on flat to moderately-hilly terrain. The rides are appropriate for adults and children ages eight and older when accompanied by an adult. All participants are required to wear helmets. Loaner bicycles will be available for riders at least 5 feet tall at no charge. Reservations for these bicycles are required, contact the Chickamauga Battlefield Visitor Center. 706-866-9241, www.nps.gov/chch/index.htm

South Carolina: Free Admission Day at Fort Moultrie - Saturday, September 27, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Fort Moultrie Visitor Center, 1214 Middle Street, Sullivan's Island SC. The National Park Service offers FREE admission to ALL its parks, monuments and historic sites (whether or not connected to the Civil War) that normally charge an admission fee on the following dates during the remainder of 2014:

- September 27 – National Public Lands Day
- November 11 – Veterans Day

These FREE admission days include Fort Moultrie National Monument near Charleston. Admission to Fort Sumter National Monument is always free, although there is charge for the private ferry service to/from the fort. 843-883-3123, www.nps.gov/fosu/historyculture/fort_moultrie.htm



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[Cedar Bluff, AL](#)



[GA Civil War](#)
[Sesquicentennial](#)



[SC Civil War 150](#)