



# Kennesaw Mountain



A view of Big Kennesaw Mountain in its fall glory with the visitor center tucked into the background. Photo courtesy of Tom Wilson.

## History Lives Here...

In June 1864, General William T. Sherman's advance toward Atlanta was delayed for two weeks at Kennesaw Mountain by Confederates under General Joseph E. Johnston. Since early May, in a fiercely contested campaign, Sherman had been moving south through northwest Georgia. On June 19, 1864, Johnston's Confederates entrenched along the ridgetops of Big and Little Kennesaw Mountain south towards Powder Springs Road, blocking Union movement.

To break the developed stalemate, on June 27, Sherman attacked Cheatham Hill and Pigeon Hill, two points he felt were vulnerable. The unsuccessful attack produced 3,000 casualties, mainly at Cheatham Hill. Heavy losses there led the Union soldiers to call this the "Dead Angle". Following the failed assault, Sherman returned to his previously successful flanking maneuvers and continued his drive towards Atlanta. Two months later, after a lengthy siege, Atlanta fell on September 2, 1864.



The Kennesaw Mountain Gun Crew atop Kennesaw Mountain.

### **Park Features & Hours**

Begin your visit at the visitor center. There, you will find a film, museum, and a bookstore. The visitor center is open daily from 9 am until 5 pm, except Thanksgiving, December 25, and January 1. Park hours vary seasonally.

The Battlefield has monuments, historical markers, cannon emplacements, and 22-miles of hiking trails. On weekends, a shuttle bus operates on the hour and half-hour for a nominal fee. This is a day-use only site. All gated lots have posted hours. No overnight facilities are available in the park.

### **Offered Programming**

The Battlefield offers a number of curriculum-based, family-friendly, and historically relevant programs to appeal to a variety of ages and interests.

Living history demonstrations are offered from late-spring until late-fall and include infantry, artillery, and civilian programs. Saturday Lecture Series programs are available from spring through fall. Topics include military, civilian, and regional histories, and cultural and natural history presentations.

Educational activities for children are available throughout the year, with field trips offered from August until mid-May. All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. *Please visit our website for a complete listing of programs and their availability.*