

Kennesaw Mountain

Kennesaw Mountain
National Battlefield Park
Georgia
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

The Battle of Kennesaw Mountain

In June of 1864, 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 to the Powder Springs Road, blocking Union movement.

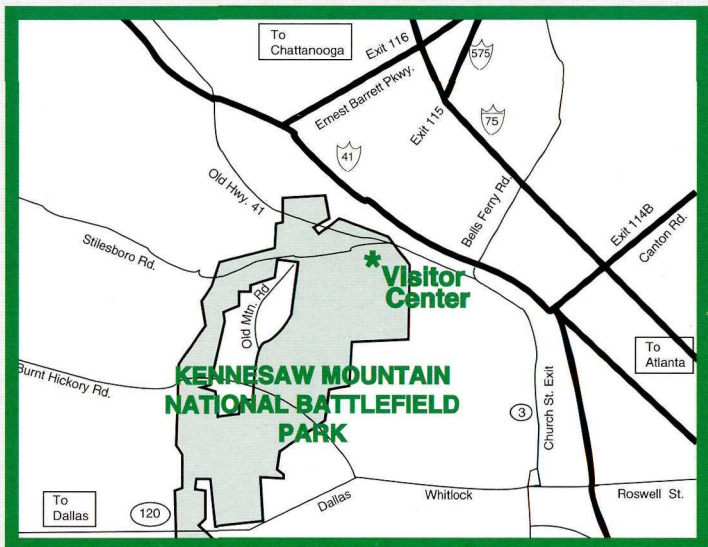


To break the stalemate which had developed, Sherman attacked Cheatham Hill and Pigeon Hill, two points he felt were vulnerable. The unsuccessful attack produced 3,000 casualties mostly at Cheatham Hill. Heavy losses here led the Union soldiers to call this the "Dead Angle". Fifty years later, surviving Illinois veterans dedicated a monument here to their fallen comrades. Following the failed assault, Sherman returned to his previously successful flanking maneuvers and continued his drive toward Atlanta. Two months later, after a lengthy siege, Atlanta fell on September 2, 1864.

The 2,884 acre National Park preserves the battleground where Johnston's army temporarily stopped the Union advance southward. Preserved here are the strong earth-work trenches largely responsible for the temporary Southern victory.

HOW TO GET HERE:

To visit Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, visitors should access I-75 from north or south, and use exit #116. Here, brown signs will lead you to the park.



PARK FEATURES:

The Visitor Center offers an orientation program of the battle, exhibits, and a bookstore.

The mountaintop features a panoramic view of the surrounding area including downtown Atlanta and Stone Mountain, weather permitting.

Cheatham Hill, location of the fiercest fighting, should be seen. The Illinois Memorial and surviving Confederate and Union trenches are featured.

The park has 16 miles of hiking trails, troop movement maps, monuments, historical markers, and cannon emplacements. Special programs are presented on weekends during peak season. A free shuttle bus, mandatory transportation on weekends to the mountaintop, operates on the hour and half-hour starting at 9:30 a.m. Picnicking areas are available. Recreational fields for ball playing, kite flying or family fun, are available in designated areas only. No overnight facilities are available in the park. Please see a ranger for specific details.

HOURS:	Visitor Center
	8:30 - 5:00 Daily
	Kennesaw Mountain
	8:00 - 5:30 Daily
	Cheatham Hill Area
	8:00 - 5:30 Daily

For seasonal park hour changes, contact the Visitor Center at (404) 427-4686 or the Superintendent at 900 Kennesaw Mtn. Drive, Kennesaw, Ga. 30144.

METAL DETECTING IS PROHIBITED!!