
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2009



Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is an evaluated inventory of all significant landscapes in units of the national park system in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest. Landscapes documented through the CLI are those that individually meet criteria set forth in the National Register of Historic Places such as historic sites, historic designed landscapes, and historic vernacular landscapes or those that are contributing elements of properties that meet the criteria. In addition, landscapes that are managed as cultural resources because of law, policy, or decisions reached through the park planning process even though they do not meet the National Register criteria, are also included in the CLI.

The CLI serves three major purposes. First, it provides the means to describe cultural landscapes on an individual or collective basis at the park, regional, or service-wide level. Secondly, it provides a platform to share information about cultural landscapes across programmatic areas and concerns and to integrate related data about these resources into park management. Thirdly, it provides an analytical tool to judge accomplishment and accountability.

The legislative, regulatory, and policy direction for conducting the CLI include:

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish...a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places...of historic properties...

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a)...Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA...No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior... (c) Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying... historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Council and the Secretary...

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A))

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Management Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories...about cultural resources in units of the national park system...Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes,... and historic sites...
ural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources.

Responding to the Call to Action:

The year 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. A five-year action plan entitled, “*A Call to Action: Preparing for a Second Century of Stewardship and Engagement*” charts a path toward that second century vision by asking Service employees and partners to commit to concrete actions that advance the agency’s mission. The heart of the plan includes four broad themes supported by specific goals and measurable actions. These themes are: Connecting People to Parks, Advancing the NPS Education Mission, Preserving America’s Special Places, and Enhancing Professional and Organizational Excellence. The Cultural Landscape Inventory relates to three of these themes:

Connect People to Parks. Help communities protect what is special to them, highlight their history, and retain or rebuild their economic and environmental sustainability.

Advance the Education Mission. Strengthen the National Park Service’s role as an educational force based on core American values, historical and scientific scholarship, and unbiased translation of the complexities of the American experience.

Preserve America’s Special Places. Be a leader in extending the benefits of conservation across physical, social, political, and international boundaries in partnership with others.

The national CLI effort directly relates to #3, Preserve America’s Special Places, and specifically to Action #28, “Park Pulse.” Each CLI documents the existing condition of park resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to improve condition. This information can be used to improve park priority setting and communicate complex park condition information to the public.

Responding to the Cultural Resources Challenge:

The Cultural Resources Challenge (CRC) is a NPS strategic plan that identifies our most critical priorities. The primary objective is to “*Achieve a standard of excellence for the stewardship of the resources that form the historical and cultural foundations of the nation, commit at all levels to a common set of goals, and articulate a common vision for the next century.*” The CLI contributes to the fulfillment of all five goals of the CRC:

- 1) *Provide leadership support, and advocacy for the stewardship, protection, interpretation, and management of the nation’s heritage through scholarly research, science and effective management;*
- 2) *Recommit to the spirit and letter of the landmark legislation underpinning the NPS*

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- 3) *Connect all Americans to their heritage resources in a manner that resonates with their lives, legacies, and dreams, and tells the stories that make up America's diverse national identity;*
- 4) *Integrate the values of heritage stewardship into major initiatives and issues such as renewable energy, climate change, community assistance and revitalization, and sustainability, while cultivating excellence in science and technical preservation as a foundation for resource protection, management, and rehabilitation; and*
- 5) *Attract, support, and retain a highly skilled and diverse workforce, and support the development of leadership and expertise within the National Park Service.*

Scope of the CLI

CLI data is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries, archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance. The baseline information describes the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in the context of the landscape's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit and generates spatial data for Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The CLI also identifies stabilization needs to prevent further deterioration of the landscape and provides data for the Facility Management Software System

Inventory Unit Description:

Cheatham Hill, a fully-integrated parcel within the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, is located within the southern half of the park, south of Dallas Road. Cheatham Hill marks the area of furthest Union penetration during the futile attacks of June 27, 1864. The property is accessible by vehicular traffic via a north-trending road that connects Cheatham Hill to Dallas Road. Cheatham Hill is also accessible by pedestrian traffic via foot trails from the north and the south. The site is circumscribed by second-growth hardwood forest and has no distinct edges that define its boundary.

The focal point of the commemorative landscape is the crest of Cheatham Hill where the Illinois Monument, its stone staircase, and related stone markers terminate the path from the parking lot and pedestrian trails. Cannons occupy gun emplacements within the Confederate fort and are accessed by trails behind the earthworks. The parcel is primarily wooded, with an open grassy understory interspersed with shade trees along the trails and on the hill behind the earthworks. The Union approach route to the Confederate earthworks is represented by open fields below the Illinois Monument that are mown for hay.

Site Plan

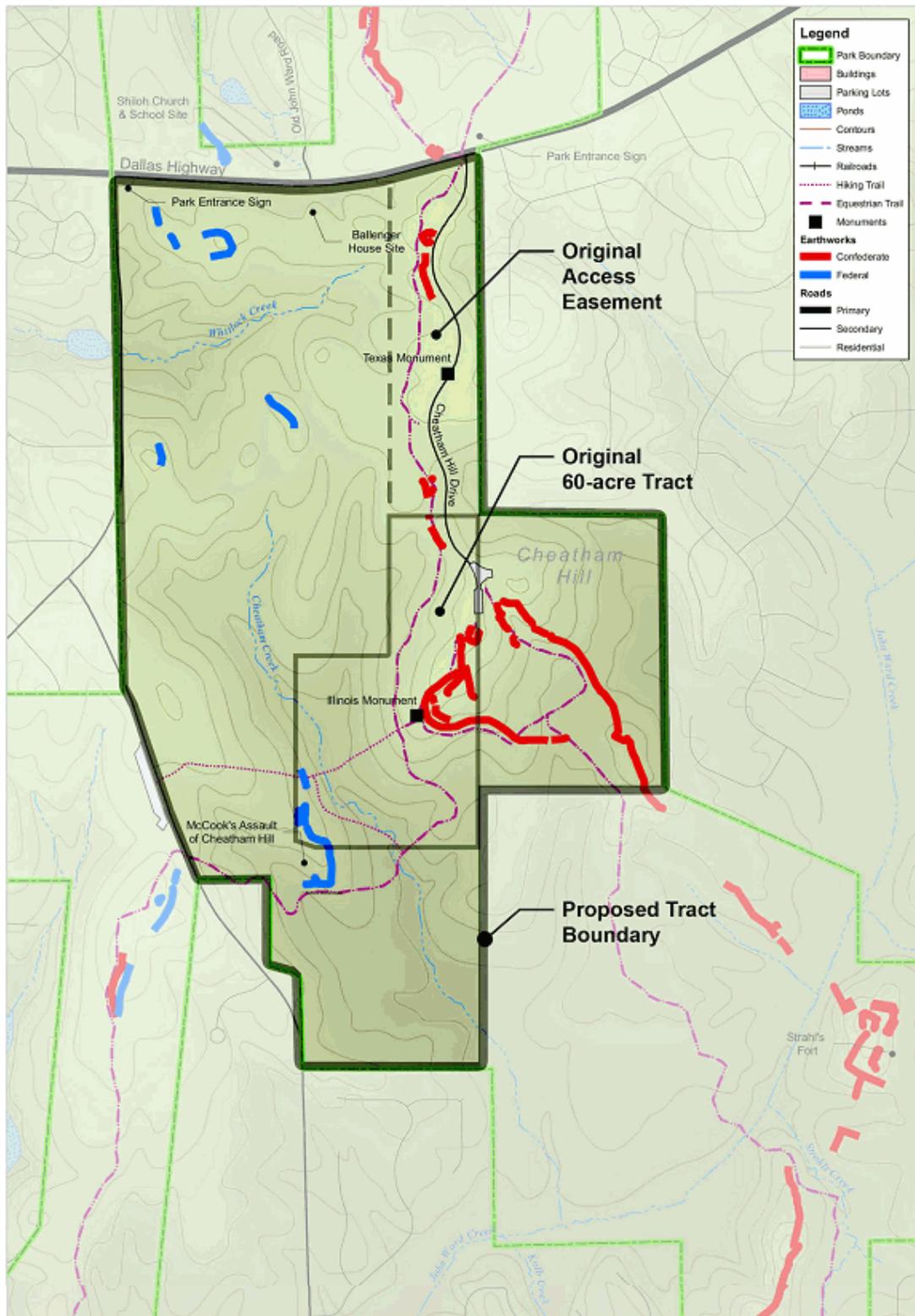


FIGURE 1. Site Plan of the Cheatham Hill component landscape. Source: John Milner Associates, 2008, using GIS data.

Property Level and CLI Numbers

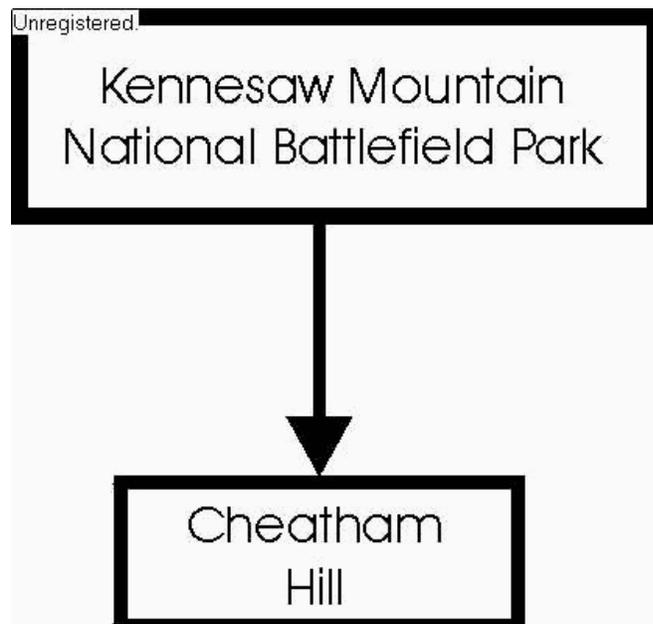
Inventory Unit Name:	Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Property Level:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	550051
Parent Landscape:	550050

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park -KEMO
Park Organization Code:	5490
Park Administrative Unit:	Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

CLI Hierarchy Description

The Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is classified as a primary landscape in the CLI database. Cheatham Hill is a component landscape of the park primary landscape, which is described in another CLI. By October 25, 1947, there were no defined boundaries between the original Cheatham Hill parcel and the larger park landscape.



*Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield
Cultural Landscape Hierarchy*

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

All documentation entered in this database inventory unit was obtained from the Cheatham Hill Cultural Landscape Inventory prepared by Cari Goetcheus of the National Park Service in 1997 and the Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Cheatham Hill Component Landscape prepared by Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. and John Milner Associates, Inc. in 2008. The information was entered into the CLI database by staff of the Southeast Regional Office.

Historical research for the CLI project was performed by Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., on site at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. The archival collection at the park included NPS reports, historic photographs of the site, historic aerial photography, and historic maps. Additional archival documents and maps were obtained from the NPS Denver Service Center. Research was also conducted online to obtain digital reference materials from sources such as the Library of Congress.

Analysis and evaluation involved documenting key landscape components and analyzing the evolution of landscape development. John Milner Associates, Inc., conducted the field survey used to document current conditions, primarily during the fall of 2007. Based on the history of the landscape and the evaluation of historic landscape features and patterns, landscape significance was determined. Comparative analysis between the existing conditions and the historic maps and photographs was then used to define the type and concentration of historic resources remaining in the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park landscape. From this information, cultural landscape integrity was determined.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	05/05/2009
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	04/22/2009

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

A SHPO concurrence signature was received on 22 April from Karen Anderson-Cordova.

Concurrence Graphic Information:



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama St., SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H22 (SERO-CRD)

12 February 2009

Richard Cloues
Historic Preservation Division
Department of Natural Resources
34 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 1600
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Mr. Cloues:

Enclosed please find a copy of two Cultural Landscape Inventories (CLIs) for Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, located in Cobb County, Georgia.

The CLI is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or that contribute to an existing historic property. In order for CLI data to become certified, National Park Service regulations require concurrence from the SHPO on the eligibility of these properties. We are requesting your review of the Kennesaw Mountain Landscape and Cheatham Hill CLIs and ask that you sign and return the enclosed concurrence form.

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield was administratively listed on the National Register in 1966, with additional documentation provided in 1995. Based on our research, we suggest that further consideration should be given to Marietta-Cassville Road, the CCC Camp, and the Maintenance Complex as potentially contributing features of this historic property. Additionally, the nomination should be updated to include the purchase of the 34-acre Hensley property and the Federal earthworks it contains. And finally, the nomination should be updated to include Criterion D, as the battlefield is likely to yield information important to prehistory, the time of battle, and the period of commemoration.

With concurrence from your office, the findings become certified in the CLI database. Your concurrence also gives us justification to submit proper additional documentation to you at a



Letter to SHPO

future date. If you have any questions about these documents, please contact David Hasty, CLI Coordinator, Southeast Region (SER), at (404) 562-3117 extension 630 or by e-mail at david_hasty@nps.gov. The concurrence form can be returned by fax at (404) 562-3202, or mailed to the address above.

We greatly appreciate your office's assistance with the project.

Sincerely,

Dan Scheidt
Chief, Cultural Resource Division
Southeast Region

Enclosures

Letter to SHPO; 2nd page

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Historic Preservation Division

Chris Clark, Commissioner

W. Ray Luce, Division Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
34 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1600, Atlanta, Georgia 30303-2316
Telephone (404) 656-2840 Fax (404) 657-1040 <http://www.gashpo.org>

April 22, 2009

Dan Scheidt
Chief, Cultural Resource Division
National Park Service
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center, 1924 Building
100 Alabama Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

**RE: NPS: Kennesaw Mountain NBP Cultural Landscape Inventory
Cobb County, Georgia
FP-090323-001**

Dear Mr. Scheidt:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has reviewed the reports, *National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory, Cheatham Hill Component Landscape, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, and National Park Service Cultural Landscapes Inventory, Kennesaw Landscape, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park*. Both reports are dated January 2009. Our comments are offered to assist the National Park Service (NPS) in complying with the provisions of Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).

Based on the information contained in the report, HPD concurs with the NPS' findings regarding the Cultural Landscape Inventory of the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). HPD concurs that the features identified in the report are potentially contributing features to this important historic property and an updated NRHP nomination including these features is appropriate.

Please refer to project number **FP-090323-001** in any future correspondence regarding this review. If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Jackie Tyson, Environmental Review Historian, at (404) 651-6777, or Elizabeth Shirk, Environmental Review Coordinator, at (404) 651-6624.

Sincerely,



Karen Anderson-Cordova
Manager, Planning & Local Assistance Unit

KAC:jht

cc: Le'Var Rice, ARC
Daryl Barksdale, Cobb Landmarks & Historical Society

SHPO Signature of Concurrence



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama St., S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



H22(SERO-CRD)

17 March 2009

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
From: Chief, Cultural Resources Division, Southeast Region
Subject: Cultural Landscape Inventory

We are pleased to transmit to you the Kennesaw Mountain and Cheatham Hill Cultural Landscape Inventories (CLI). The CLI is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NR) or that contribute to an existing historic property. These CLIs were produced through a SERO contract with Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. and John Milner Associates, Inc. in 2008.

In order for the CLIs to be certified and counted in PMDS under KEMO's goal Ia7 and the systemwide goal Ib2B, the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office needs to concur on the eligibility of the identified contributing cultural landscape features to the existing nomination. Kennesaw Mountain NBP was administratively listed on the National Register in 1966. Additional documentation was accepted in 1995 and it sufficiently documents the periods of significance that encompass the time of battle and later commemoration. We believe that further consideration should be given to Marietta-Cassville Road, the CCC Camp and the Maintenance Complex as potentially contributing features to this National Register property. The nomination should also be updated to reflect the purchase of 34-acre Hensley property and the Federal earthworks it contains. And finally, the nomination should be updated to include Criterion D, as KEMO is likely to yield archeological evidence important to prehistory, the time of battle, and the time of commemoration. David Hasty, CLI Coordinator for the Southeast Region, will send a request to the Georgia Historic Preservation Division for concurrence on the CLI findings.

Approval by the park superintendent is also needed for certification. If the findings of the CLIs are agreed upon – especially regarding condition assessment and management category – please sign the attached approval form and return it to our office to the attention of David Hasty.

Enclosures



Superintendent Signature of Concurrence

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONCURRENCE SHEET – 17 March 2009

Park Information

Park: Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
State: Georgia
Counties: Cobb

Cultural Landscape Condition

Inventory Name	CLI ID #	Condition
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield	550050	Fair
Cheatham Hill	550051	Fair

Cultural Landscape Management Category

Should Be Preserved and Maintained 10 March 2009

Park Superintendent Concurrence

Concur Do Not Concur

Superintendent Date 5/5/09

Superintendent Signature of Concurrence

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The boundary for the Cheatham Hill component landscape was established to include most historic landscape features associated with the Battle of Cheatham Hill, including earthworks and important views into the landscape, as well as commemorative features from the 1917–1927 period and CCC-constructed improvements, such as Cheatham Hill Drive.

The component landscape is an expansion of the original sixty acres that was purchased by the Kennesaw Memorial Association in 1917 and additional property optioned for access to the Marietta-Dallas Highway by the National Park Service in 1934. Dallas Road creates the northern boundary and John Ward Road defines the western boundary until it diverges from the park property line. The boundary follows the park property line until it meets Cheatham Hill Road. On the east side, the boundary extends south from Dallas Road along the park property line to the approximate end of the Confederate earthworks. Here, the boundary extends west, then south, and then west again to meet Cheatham Hill Drive.

State and County:

State: GA

County: Cobb County

Size (Acres): 397.00

Boundary Coordinates:

UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	720,510
UTM Northing:	3,758,650
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	720,510
UTM Northing:	3,756,550
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	721,310
UTM Northing:	3,756,550
UTM Zone:	16
UTM Easting:	722,310
UTM Northing:	3,758,450

Location Map:

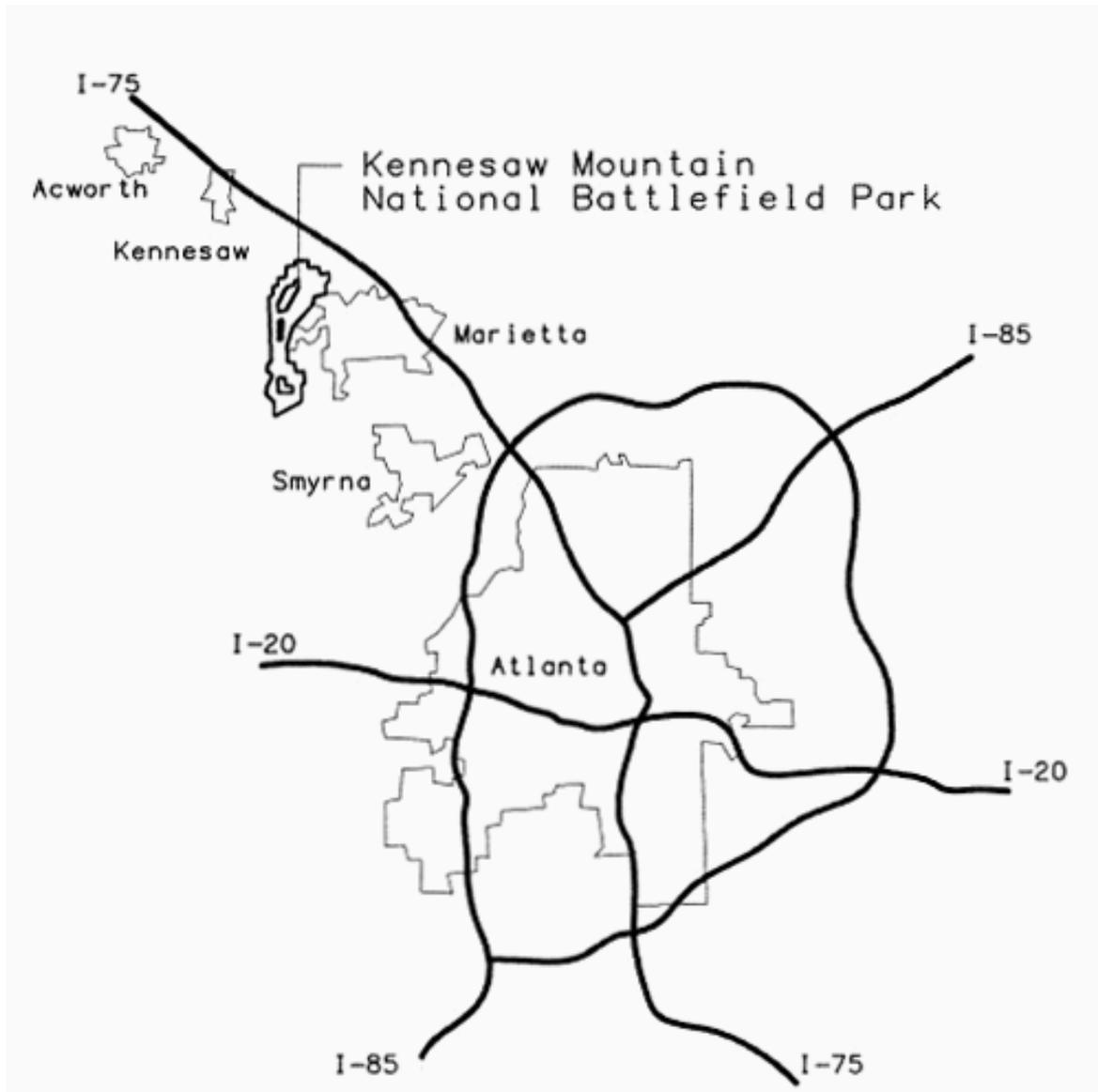


FIGURE 2. Regional location map. Source: Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Historic Resource Study, 1995, 2.

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

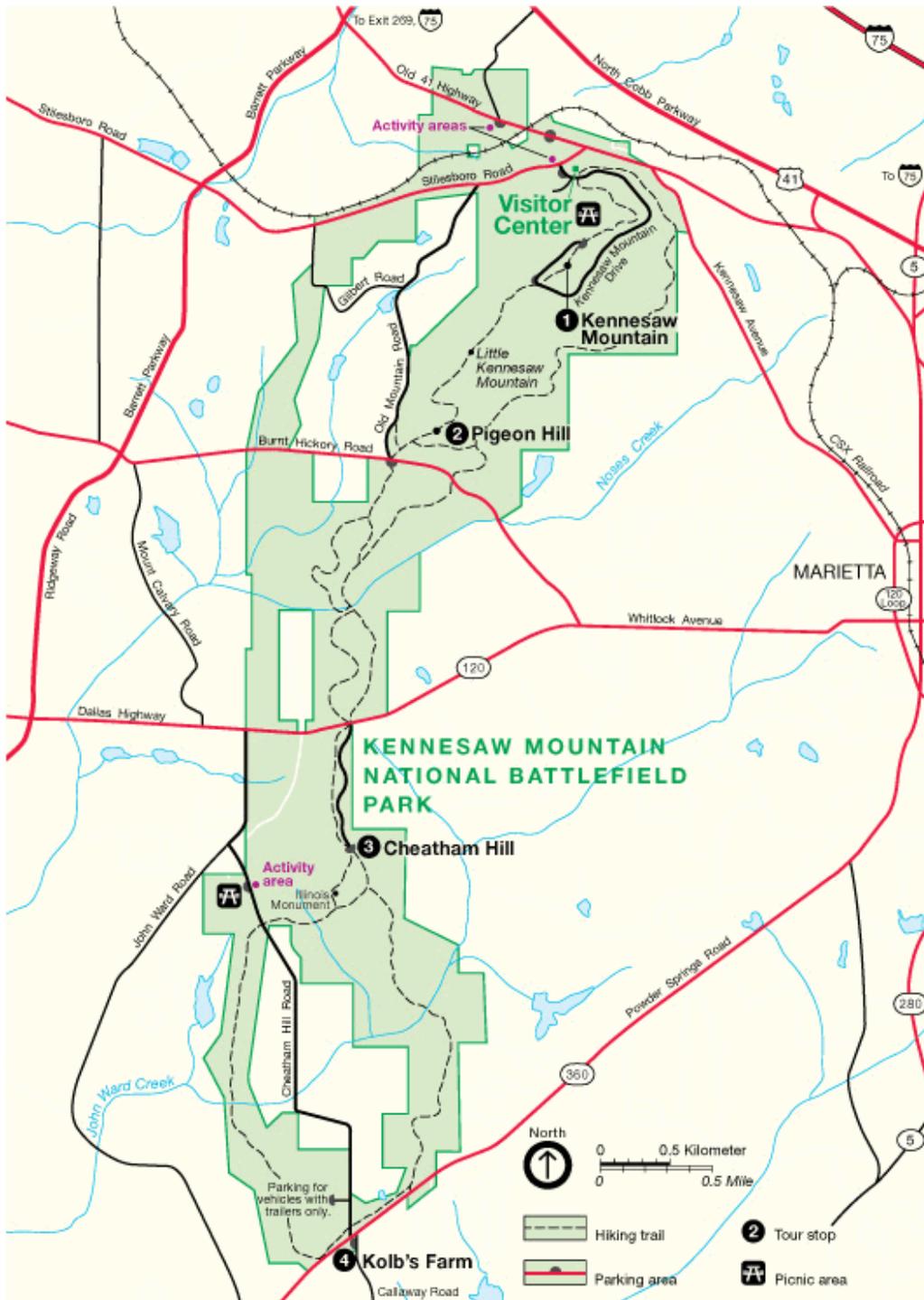


FIGURE 3. Map of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park with Cheatham Hill located south of the mid-line of the park. Source: Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park web site, <http://home.nps.gov/applications/parks/kemo/ppMaps/KEMOmap1.pdf>

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

Cheatham Hill is a component landscape within the larger Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is in a densely settled suburban concentration of single family residences and businesses, most of which have been constructed since the late 1960s as part of the northern expansion of the Atlanta metropolitan area into Cobb County. As a result, the park, including the component landscape of Cheatham Hill, is becoming increasingly popular as a local recreational facility for hiking, jogging, and other outdoor activities.

Cobb County was created in 1832, shortly after the removal of the native Cherokees and the subsequent Georgia land lottery. The closest town to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is Marietta, established as the county seat in 1834. The town plan was designed in 1833 by James Anderson in the likeness of his home town, Savannah. The original plan is still in evidence, complete with courthouse square, although the original courthouse was destroyed by Union troops around the time of the Battle of Kennesaw. Today, a large number of antebellum and late nineteenth century residences and commercial buildings can still be found within the historic downtown area.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

Cheatham Hill, a fully integrated parcel within the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, is located within the southern half of the park, south of Dallas Road. The property is accessible by vehicular traffic via a north trending road that connects Cheatham Hill to Dallas Road. Cheatham Hill is accessible by pedestrian traffic via foot trails from the north and the south.

The landscape component of Cheatham Hill lies to the southwest of Little Kennesaw Mountain and Kennesaw Mountain and north of Kolb's Farm. The landscape of this parcel rises 120 feet from the entrance drive at Dallas Road to the summit of Cheatham Hill. This high area became the fortified redoubt for the Confederates and was known by both sides as the "Dead Angle." Here, assaults by Union troops upon the Confederate line were repulsed, with heavy casualties among the attacking force.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

In 1917, federal legislation authorized the acceptance of the sixty-acre Cheatham Hill parcel owned by the nonprofit Kennesaw Memorial Association; problems with the chain of title delayed the transfer of the property to federal ownership until 1928. On December 7, 1926, legislation was introduced to Congress for the creation of a national memorial military park in

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
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the vicinity of Kennesaw Mountain that included Cheatham Hill and additional lands. In 1934, the Cheatham Hill Reservation Map depicted the Dallas-Marietta Road and the then-existing entrance road into the Channel farmstead to the west of the property. It is through this property that the original entrance road to Cheatham Hill reached the summit. In 1935, federal legislation established Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield Park under the authority of the National Park Service.

The Secretary of the Interior declared Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park officially established on October 25, 1947. By this time, there were no defined boundaries between the original Cheatham Hill parcel and the larger park landscape.

Tract Numbers: 01-103, 01-104, 01-121, 01-122, 01-123, 01-124, 01-126, 01-127, 01-128
(Tract 01-123 is the original 60 acre parcel.)

GIS File Description:

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Cheatham Hill component landscape of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park meets all of the criteria for Management Category B, Should Be Preserved and Maintained: the unit meets National Register criteria; the unit is compatible with the park's legislated significance; and the unit has a continuing or potential purpose that is appropriate to its traditional use or function.

As a part of a battlefield unit of the National Park Service, Cheatham Hill was included on the National Register of Historic Places when the register was created in 1966. As defined in National Register documentation prepared in 1995, the park meets National Register significance Criterion A for its association with the Civil War; Criterion B for its association with the lives of persons significant in our past such as the leaders of the Union and Confederate forces involved in the battle; and Criterion C, for the designed features associated with commemoration such as the Illinois monument and the various access roads in the park. In addition, the park meets Criteria Consideration F, as a property primarily commemorative in intent.

The unit is compatible with the park's legislated significance. In 1917, federal legislation authorized the Secretary of War to accept the sixty-acre parcel at Cheatham Hill from the Kennesaw Memorial Association (39 Stat. 901, February 8, 1917). In 1935, federal legislation established the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park "for the benefit and inspiration of the people. . ." (Public Law 49 Stat. 423, June 26, 1935). The enabling legislation stated that upon creation of the national battlefield park, "the Secretary of the Interior shall . . . allow monuments and memorials to be erected in the park by and to the various organizations and individuals of either the Union or Confederate Armies, . . . Make such regulations as are necessary from time to time for the care and protection of the park. . . [and] Provide for the ascertainment and marking of the route of march of the Union and Confederate armies from Chattanooga, Tennessee, through Georgia, and of principal battle lines, breastworks, fortifications, and other historical features along such route, and for the maintenance of such markers to such extent as deemed advisable and practicable." (16 USC sec. 430) Additional legislation in 1939 authorized the acquisition of additional land for the park (53 Stat. 1274, August 9, 1939).

The continuing purpose of the unit, to preserve the battlefield and to interpret the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and the Atlanta Campaign of the Civil War, is appropriate to its traditional use or function as a Civil War battlefield and later as a commemorative park. The 1985 General Management Plan/Environmental Assessment identified a preferred strategy "for long term protection and visitor use" of the park, with an emphasis on ensuring that recreational uses of the park be directed to areas of lesser historic significance, and that historic resources such as Civil War earthworks be stabilized and protected. The 1992 Statement for Management identifies key long term management objectives for the park, in order to "protect and preserve, and where appropriate and practicable to stabilize, restore or rehabilitate the historic resources in the park."

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

Type of Agreement: Special Use Permit

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

Special use permits exist at KEMO with utility companies, Cobb County, State of Georgia, and the FCC to maintain radio equipment atop Big Kennesaw. A special use permit also exists for haying fields.

Type of Agreement: Memorandum of Understanding

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

An MOU exists between KEMO and the Cobb County Sheriff's Department, Cobb County Police Department, and Cobb County Department of Transportation.

Type of Agreement: Memorandum Of Agreement

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

A MOA exists between KEMO and the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park as well as the Kennesaw Mountain Historical Association.

NPS Legal Interest: Fee Simple

Type of Interest:

Explanatory Narrative:

Approximately 397 acres comprise the Cheatham Hill component landscape
The full 397 acres are administered by the National Park Service

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Explanatory Narrative:

Cheatham Hill is accessible to the public and contributes to the larger park as important recreational resource for the surrounding community. Cheatham Hill Drive provides vehicular access to Cheatham Hill and is open to the public every day of the week from morning to early evening and closed only on major holidays. The site is also accessible via the north-to-south trail system that extends throughout the larger park.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Description:

By October 27, 1947, there were no defined boundaries between the original Cheatham Hill parcel and the larger park landscape. Earthworks located outside the park boundary contribute to the significance of the cultural landscape of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park and the component landscape of Cheatham Hill. Three "islands" of private property exist within the boundaries of the park; these areas are considered non-contributing due to residential development that has resulted in a loss of integrity for the historic landscape.

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Cheatham Hill component landscape is contained within the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, which is listed as a historic district in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The park was administratively listed in the NRHP with the establishment of that program in 1966. The Cheatham Hill component landscape is documented in the National Register nomination prepared by Robert W. Blythe, Historian; Maureen A. Carroll, Historian; and Steven H. Moffson, Architectural Historian, National Park Service Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, Georgia, dated October 24, 1994. The nomination was certified by the National Park Service on March 14, 1995, and accepted by the Keeper of the National Register on March 31, 1995.

The National Register nomination identifies three criteria, all of which are applicable to the Cheatham Hill component landscape: Criterion A for its association with the Civil War; Criterion B for its association with persons significant in our past, including Major General William T. Sherman and General Joseph E. Johnston, among others; and Criterion C, for designed features relating to the commemoration of the battlefield. Criteria Consideration F, a property that is primarily commemorative in intent, is also cited.

Criteria A and B, related to the events of the Civil War battle, are especially relevant to the Cheatham Hill component landscape. This location was the scene of the heaviest fighting during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. Criterion C, related to the early commemoration of the battlefield by Civil War veterans, is also particularly relevant to the Cheatham Hill component landscape. This component within the larger park was purchased in 1899 by a nonprofit association founded by veterans of the battle and was the scene of the earliest commemorative structures built on the battlefield, the Illinois Monument and related markers, dedicated on the fiftieth anniversary of the battle in 1914. After the federal government acquired the site in 1928, the incipient park included only the sixty-acre Cheatham Hill parcel. Therefore, federal conservation and interpretative work was at first concentrated in the Cheatham Hill component landscape, including the construction of the Cheatham Hill access road in 1932 and planting of trees near Cheatham Hill by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Acquisition of more land for the park did not begin until the late 1930s.

Criterion D, property has yielded or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history, is not noted as applicable in the National Register nomination but is considered relevant to this site, with respect to Civil War research questions that can be answered through archeological investigation. As noted in *Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park: Archeological Overview and Assessment* by Robert Hellman of the Southeast Archeological Center (2003), most archeological studies at the park to date have been conducted as Section 106 compliance and were therefore limited in scope and extent. Additional survey of the park's prehistoric and historic era resources would be needed to determine if these archeological resources are eligible for inclusion in the National Register.

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

Documented areas of significance for the component landscape include military, commemoration, and architecture. Other relevant categories not cited in the listing include politics/government, conservation, landscape architecture, and archeology, both historic and prehistoric.

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register: Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
NRIS Number: 66000063
Primary Certification Date: 10/15/1966

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual: Individual
National Register Classification: District
Significance Level: National
Significance Criteria: A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria: B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
Significance Criteria: C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values
Criteria Considerations: F -- A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own historical significance

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	CE 1864
Historic Context Theme:	Shaping the Political Landscape
Subtheme:	The Civil War
Facet:	Battles In The North And South
Other Facet:	None
Time Period:	CE 1887 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Transforming the Environment
Subtheme:	Historic Preservation
Facet:	The Federal Government Enters The Movement
Other Facet:	The Federal Government Enters the Movement, 1884-1949: Battlefield Preservation; Archeological Preservation; The National Park Service and the New Deal; The National Trust; Growth in Professionalism and Technology
Time Period:	CE 1887 - 1942
Historic Context Theme:	Transforming the Environment
Subtheme:	Conservation of Natural Resources
Facet:	The Great Depression And Conservation

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Military
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Other
Area of Significance Category:	Architecture
Area of Significance Subcategory:	None
Area of Significance Category:	Politics - Government
Area of Significance Category:	Conservation
Area of Significance Category:	Landscape Architecture
Area of Significance Category:	Archeology

Statement of Significance:

As stated in the National Register documentation:

[The National Register documentation] evaluates the historic integrity and assesses the eligibility of the park's historic resources within two historic contexts identified by the survey team. [These two contexts are] the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and the Atlanta Campaign, May–September 1864; and Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park: The Commemoration of American Battlefields and National Park Development, 1887–1942.

Context A, “The Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and the Atlanta Campaign, May- September 1864,” relates to the NPS subthemes “War in the West” and “Political and Diplomatic Scene” of Theme VI, “The Civil War.” Context A also relates to one aspect of Georgia history, “Major Theater for the Civil War.” Context A examines the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain as one in a series of clashes during Sherman's Atlanta Campaign, which began with Sherman's march from Chattanooga in May 1864 and ended with the capture of Atlanta in September of that year. The context discusses military and political aspects of the Battle of Kennesaw

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Mountain and Sherman's successful execution of the Atlanta Campaign. The context describes the battles fought at Kennesaw and discusses how military strategy and tactics, developed through the course of the Civil War, were employed at Kennesaw Mountain.

Context B, "Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park: The Commemoration of American Battlefields and National Park Development, 1887–1942," relates to the NPS facets "Battlefield Preservation" and "The National Park Service and the New Deal" of the subtheme "The Federal Government Enters the Movement, 1884–1949" of Theme XXXIII, "Historic Preservation." National battlefield commemoration stemmed from efforts by veterans groups to honor both the men that fought and died during the Civil War, and the places where they fought. Following these efforts, the Federal government sought protection of these sites through the development of national battlefield parks and national cemeteries. Context B examines the commemoration of Civil War battlefields, beginning with the efforts of veterans at the close of the Civil War and culminating with the establishment and subsequent development of national battlefield parks by the National Park Service. The narrative traces the activities of private commemorative associations at Kennesaw from the 1880s through the 1910s, the administration of the battlefield by the War Department from 1928 to 1933, its establishment as a national battlefield park in 1935, and its development by the National Park Service from 1933 to 1942.

Historic resources within the park represent three periods of significance. The period of the Atlanta Campaign, May to September 1864, is primarily represented by the Kolb House, earthworks, and roads constructed prior to the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. The second significant period, representing commemoration of the Kennesaw Mountain battlefield by private individuals and associations, lasted from 1887 to 1917. This period began with reunions by military units that fought at the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and is represented by numerous monuments and markers erected on the battlefield as memorials to individuals and units. The third period witnessed the management and subsequent development of the battlefield by the federal government from 1917 to 1942. This period included the administration and development of the battlefield by the War Department and the National Park Service. Few historically significant structures remain that demonstrate the importance of early park development planned by the NPS and performed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) from 1938 to 1942.

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is the only National Park Service property that commemorates the Atlanta Campaign. This campaign had important military and political significance in the final phases of the Civil War. The earthworks, landscape, some of the roads, and the Kolb House at Kennesaw are tangible links to the Atlanta Campaign. The role of the battle in the Atlanta campaign, the grand strategy of the war, battlefield tactics, and the life of the average soldier are represented by these resources.

The historic resources dating to the time of the battle have varying levels of significance. The entire eleven miles of earthworks are nationally significant under National Register Criteria A, B, and C. The earthworks clearly indicate the areas of combat during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, a crucial engagement in the Atlanta Campaign, and were built at the orders of Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman and General Joseph E. Johnston. Although not nominated under Criterion D, the earthworks may also possess information potential.

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Gilbert, Old John Ward, Stilesboro, Dallas, and Burnt Hickory Roads were all present at the time of the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. Stilesboro, Dallas, and Burnt Hickory Roads contribute to the national significance of the battlefield under Criterion A, because they served as transportation corridors for the approaching armies. The antebellum road, which was used by the Confederates to haul artillery to Big Kennesaw’s summit, also contributes to the national significance. Gilbert and Old John Ward Roads are locally significant under Criterion A for their association with early Cobb County settlement.

Two types of historic properties located within Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park are significant under Criteria A and represent commemorative activity at the park. The Illinois Monument and the associated markers at Cheatham Hill are significant at the state level because they represent the efforts of Illinois veteran organizations to commemorate the participants of the battle in the postwar period, between 1887 and 1917. The War Department continued this commemorative theme, but did not construct any monuments or enlarge the battlefield, and no historic resources are extant that relate to this period, 1917–1933. The NPS also continued a commemorative tradition at the battlefield by enlarging the park boundaries and significantly altering the post-battle landscape. Both the Illinois Monument and Cheatham Hill Drive are locally significant under Criterion C because they possess high artistic value and embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction. . . .

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Historic Site

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Battle Site

Primary Current Use: Monument (Marker, Plaque)

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Cheatham Hill	Historic
Kennesaw Mountain National Bat	Both Current And Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1830	Settled	During the 1830s, white settlement occurred in the Cobb County region of Georgia, and subsistence farms of 50 to 150 acres were established.

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CE 1864	Military Operation	May 7: Union forces under Sherman move out from Chattanooga, opening Atlanta campaign.
	Military Operation	May–June: In a series of battles, the Union forces push the Confederates south to a line 30 miles northwest of Atlanta.
	Graded	May–June: Confederate Lt. Col. S. W. Presstman lays out the defensive lines around Kennesaw Mountain.
	Military Operation	June 18–19: Confederate forces fall back to the prepared line around Kennesaw Mountain.
	Military Operation	June 27: Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.
	Military Operation	July 2: Outflanked by Sherman’s Union forces, Confederates withdraw from Kennesaw Mountain lines to Smyrna Station, four miles southeast of Marietta.
	Military Operation	July 9: Confederates withdraw to outer defenses of Atlanta.
CE 1865	Cultivated	After the Civil War, agricultural use of the battlefield resumed.
CE 1864	Military Operation	September 1: Confederates abandon Atlanta.
CE 1887	Memorialized	Veterans hold blue-gray reunion held at Kennesaw Mountain.
CE 1899	Purchased/Sold	Lansing J. Dawdy, a veteran of the 86th Illinois Regiment, purchases a sixty-acre parcel at Cheatham Hill.
CE 1914	Memorialized	Illinois monument dedicated at Cheatham Hill. Also at about this time, a masonry arch was built marking the entrance to the Union Tunnel and the McCook Brigade Marker, Coffey Marker, and Fellows Marker were placed.

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CE 1917	Planned	Public Law 39 Stat. 901: Congress authorizes a national battlefield for the sixty-acre Cheatham Hill parcel.
CE 1926	Platted	Public Law 44 Stat. 588: Federal commission surveys Civil War battlefields of northern Georgia, including Kennesaw Mountain.
CE 1928	Land Transfer	Kennesaw Memorial Association conveys sixty-acre Cheatham Hill parcel to the War Department.
CE 1932	Graded	War Department creates new entrance drive to the Cheatham Hill parcel and erects a fence partially around the parcel.
CE 1933	Established	Executive Orders 6166 and 6228: Administration of the Cheatham Hill parcel by the National Park Service begins.
CE 1935	Established	Public Law 49 Stat. 423: Congress establishes Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.
CE 1935 - 1938	Planted	Civil Works Administration (CWA) and Public Works Administration (PWA) funds stabilization work at the new park, primarily at the Cheatham Hill parcel, including channeling of streams and planting of ground cover on former agricultural lands.
CE 1937 - 1941	Purchased/Sold	Public Law 53 Stat. 1274: In late 1930s and early 1940s, federal government acquires additional property for park.
CE 1938 - 1942	Planted	Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp at Kennesaw Mountain. CCC workers constructed roads, erected eight park entrance signs, demolished buildings, planted trees, and guided tours within the park.
CE 1964	Memorialized	Texas Monument dedicated.

Physical History:

Settlement and Development of the Kennesaw Mountain area, 1830–1864

Prior to European settlement, the Kennesaw Mountain area was inhabited by Native Americans of the Creek and Cherokee tribes. In the first decades of the nineteenth century, traders and settlers began to move into north Georgia. When gold was discovered near Dahlonega, Georgia, in 1829, white settlement in the area increased rapidly, leading to conflict with the native tribes. In 1838, federal troops began to force the last of the Cherokees in Georgia to move west to Oklahoma; this event has become known as “The Trail of Tears.”

Cobb County was established in 1832, and in 1834 Marietta was incorporated and made the county seat. The 1835 Cherokee Land Lottery officially opened the area for white settlement. During the second half of the 1830s, the county was homesteaded, with farms typically ranging from 50 to 150 acres. The low-lying portions of the Cheatham Hill parcel likely began to be farmed around this time.

Cobb County was crossed by the Western & Atlantic Railroad on its route from Atlanta to Chattanooga. Completed by 1850, the railroad allowed limited industrial development to occur in the county, although most of the population remained engaged in agriculture. The route of the railroad became the axis of the Union advance during the Atlanta Campaign in 1864.

By the 1860s, Cobb County was an established agricultural area. As documented by contemporary battle maps, buildings, fields, and orchards were concentrated in flatter, low-lying areas. The slopes and ridges of Kennesaw Mountain remained forested, although most likely some cutting of timber for firewood and timber sales had occurred at the more accessible areas. The wooded hillsides provided the defending Confederates with natural protective cover and views of the approaching Union troops. Some trees were cleared by the Confederates to provide fields of fire toward the attacking forces. The Union troops established earthworks mainly under the protective cover of forested areas, but the open agricultural fields made any direct assault on the Confederate lines difficult.

The Atlanta Campaign and the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, May–September 1864

By the spring 1864, Union forces had gained control of the Mississippi River and most of Tennessee, but the major manufacturing and productive centers of the Confederacy had not been directly affected by the war. Atlanta was an important industrial city as well as a major railroad junction for the Southeast. In March 1864, President Lincoln promoted Ulysses S. Grant to the rank of lieutenant general and placed him in charge of all Union armies. Grant went to the Eastern Theater and placed Maj. Gen. William T. Sherman in charge of the Union forces in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Grant’s strategy was for simultaneous attacks, southward in Virginia in the east and from Chattanooga southeast into Georgia in the west.

In early May, 100,000 Union troops under Sherman’s command began to move south from Chattanooga, opposed by 65,000 Confederates under the command of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. Throughout May, with the superior numbers of Union troops, Sherman was able to out-manuever

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Johnston, who was forced to retreat to avoid being cut off from his supply route along the Western & Atlantic Railroad. By the first week of June, the Confederates had taken up a defensive position thirty miles northwest of Atlanta in Cobb County, encompassing Lost Mountain, Brushy Mountain, and Pine Mountain—a line west of Kennesaw Mountain. After fighting near Gilgal Church on June 15 and at Lost Mountain on June 16, the Confederates retreated to the Kennesaw Mountain line.

Confederate Lt. Col. S. W. Presstman oversaw the construction of the Confederate defensive lines on and around Kennesaw Mountain in May and June 1864. The Confederate defenses consisted of an almost six-mile long network of earthen fortifications, extending from a point northeast across the Western & Atlantic Railroad, along the western slope just below the crest of Big and Little Kennesaw, to a point south of Powder Springs Road and east of the Kolb farm. Earthworks were dug to protect troops in trenches, and trees were cut on the slopes to create cleared fields of fire and abatis. Smaller rifle pits were created forward of the main Confederate line.

When the Union forces approached, they dug their own system of trenches and fortifications for protection from Confederate fire. The Union forces were positioned in low lying agricultural land below Kennesaw Mountain. Sherman began the attack on June 20 with a cavalry raid around the north end of the Confederate line along the railroad, and a simultaneous attack on the south end of the line along Powder Springs Road. Johnston countered by shifting troops under the command of Lt. Gen. John Bell Hood to reinforce and extend the south end of the Confederate line.

On June 22, Union troops began a new advance eastward along Powder Springs Road. Hood's Confederate forces met this advance with an attack by two divisions, in an engagement known as the Battle of Kolb's Farm. The Union forces hastily constructed defensive works and were able to repulse the Confederate counterattack. The Confederates suffered 1,000 casualties to 350 for the Union, but the battle caused Sherman to reconsider his plan to outflank the Confederate line to the south.

Sherman decided to launch a two-pronged direct frontal attack on the Confederate line, an approach which had been avoided up to that time in the Atlanta Campaign. One corps under Maj. Gen. John A. Logan would attack at the junction of Little Kennesaw and Pigeon Hill. One mile farther south, a larger force would attack at Cheatham Hill. The Cheatham Hill position was at a bend in the Confederate line. Named the "Dead Angle," this vulnerable bend allowed the Union forces to concentrate their fire at one point which could not be as easily supported by the rest of the Confederate line. However, the Confederates had created a particularly strong position, with unusually deep trenches along the contour of the ridge, concealed artillery positions on either side of the bend, and heavy abatis supplemented by cheveaux-de-frise.

On the morning of June 27, the battle began with a fifteen minute artillery barrage. At Pigeon Hill, 5,550 federal troops moved forward through dense underbrush and abatis along Burnt Hickory Road. The difficult terrain, combined with Confederate batteries on Pigeon Hill and nearby Little Kennesaw, repelled this attack after two hours of fighting.

At Cheatham Hill, 9,000 federal troops crossed an area of mixed open fields and forest to attack the Confederate line. Maj. Gen. John A. Newton's division attacked the west-facing portion of the line, to the north of the bend. When the Union troops emerged from the last small stand of trees, the Confederates infantry and artillery opened fire, quickly repulsing the attack. At the center of the line, two brigades, one under Col. Daniel McCook and one under Col. John G. Mitchell attacked the Dead Angle. The two brigades had to cross a wheat field to reach the Confederate line, and they were subject to intense defensive fire as they approached. A few Union troops reached the Confederate trenches before the attack was repulsed; McCook was mortally wounded in the attack. The Union troops fell back, and in a small depression near the bottom of the hill, they were able to dig new defensive trenches. From this position, the federal troops began an attempt to tunnel under the Confederate line in order to use explosives to blow apart the defensive earthworks.

During the one day of fighting, Union forces suffered 3,000 casualties to less than 1,000 for the Confederates. The failure of the attacks caused Sherman to reconsider his strategy. A small diversionary move by Maj. Gen. John M. Schofield at the south end of the line near the Kolb farm was the only gain of the day for the Union forces. This advance allowed Union cavalry to advance south toward the Chattahoochee River.

Sherman decided to reinforce Schofield's sector of the line in the days following the battle. Once again, Johnston was forced to retreat to avoid being outflanked. On July 2, the Confederates withdrew from Kennesaw Mountain to a position around Smyrna Station four miles southeast of Marietta, and further to the north bank of the Chattahoochee River on July 4. After Union cavalry were able to cross the river upstream of Johnston's main position, the Confederates were forced to retreat across the river to the outer defenses of Atlanta on July 9. After a series of battles in July and the bombardment of the city by Union artillery throughout August, Sherman decided to abandon his lines and move counterclockwise around the city, cutting the railroad connections to the south. On September 1, with all railroads in Union hands, the Confederates were forced to abandon the city.

Continued Agricultural Use, 1865–1930s

In the years after the Civil War, agricultural use resumed on the former battlefield. In the late nineteenth century, tenant farming became common in Cobb County, as in much of the South, and larger farms were divided up into lots of 72 or fewer acres. From 1860 to 1900, the population of Cobb County grew from more than 14,000 to more than 24,000, and the acreage of land in agricultural use increased by one-third. The increased density of population and intensity of farming led to the conversion to agricultural use of many areas that had been forested at the time of the battle. Some Union earthworks which had been in forested areas in 1864 were obliterated when the areas became open fields. Additional access roads and farm buildings were built on the battlefield area, and some areas of steep slope were terraced for better farming.

Early Commemorative Efforts, 1887–1928

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Commemoration of Civil War battles began during the war, with the creation of national cemeteries and monuments erected by the combatants to honor their fallen comrades. Immediately after the war, Union and Confederate veterans organizations were organized. By the 1880s, as the political issues and bitterness of the war faded, commemoration became more generalized, with a focus on heroism in battle and sacrifices common to both sides. In 1887, Confederate and Union veterans held the first blue-gray reunion at Kennesaw Mountain.

The veterans pressured Congress to establish national military parks on the former battlefields, leading to the creation of the first military park at Chickamauga and Chattanooga in 1890, followed by parks at Antietam (1890), Shiloh (1894), Gettysburg (1895), and Vicksburg (1899).

At Kennesaw, veterans undertook private commemoration of the battle site while petitioning Congress to establish a park. Lansing J. Dawdy, a veteran of the 86th Illinois Regiment, purchased a sixty-acre parcel at Cheatham Hill in December 1899. He conveyed this parcel to the Kennesaw Memorial Association, a nonprofit veterans organization incorporated in Illinois in 1901. The Kennesaw Memorial Association raised funds from veterans to build a memorial at the battlefield. In 1913, the group received a \$20,000 appropriation from the State of Illinois, and construction began on a monument at the Cheatham Hill parcel. The Illinois monument was dedicated on June 27, 1914, the fiftieth anniversary of the battle. At about this same time, other smaller markers were placed on the battlefield, including the McCook Brigade Marker, the Sergeant Coffey Marker, the Captain Fellows Marker, and the original Captain Neighbour Marker. Also, a stone arch was built next to the Illinois monument at the start of the tunnel dug by Union troops who attempted to mine the Confederate earthworks at Cheatham Hill.

Other than construction of these monuments, relatively little alteration occurred at the Cheatham Hill parcel during the period of Kennesaw Memorial Association ownership. Portions of the parcel that were agricultural fields remained in cultivation. In 1922, Reverend J. A. Jones was hired as caretaker. His responsibilities included maintenance of the monuments and their immediate surroundings; as payment, he was allowed to occupy the buildings on the site and to cultivate portions of the parcel that would not interfere with access to the monuments.

From its inception, the Kennesaw Memorial Association intended to promote the establishment of a national park at Kennesaw Mountain. After several unsuccessful efforts, in 1917 Congress authorized the War Department to accept the sixty-acre Cheatham Hill parcel. Due to problems with the chain of title, it was not until 1928 that the Kennesaw Memorial Association finally conveyed the sixty-acre Cheatham Hill parcel to the War Department.

In 1926, Congress created a commission to survey the Civil War battlefields of northern Georgia and to judge their suitability to serve as a park representing the Atlanta Campaign. The commission, comprised of one Union veteran, one Confederate veteran, and an officer of the Army Corps of Engineers, determined that Kennesaw Mountain was the most appropriate park site, due to its scenic value, accessibility, and significance to the campaign. However, proposed legislation in 1926 to establish the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield did not pass.

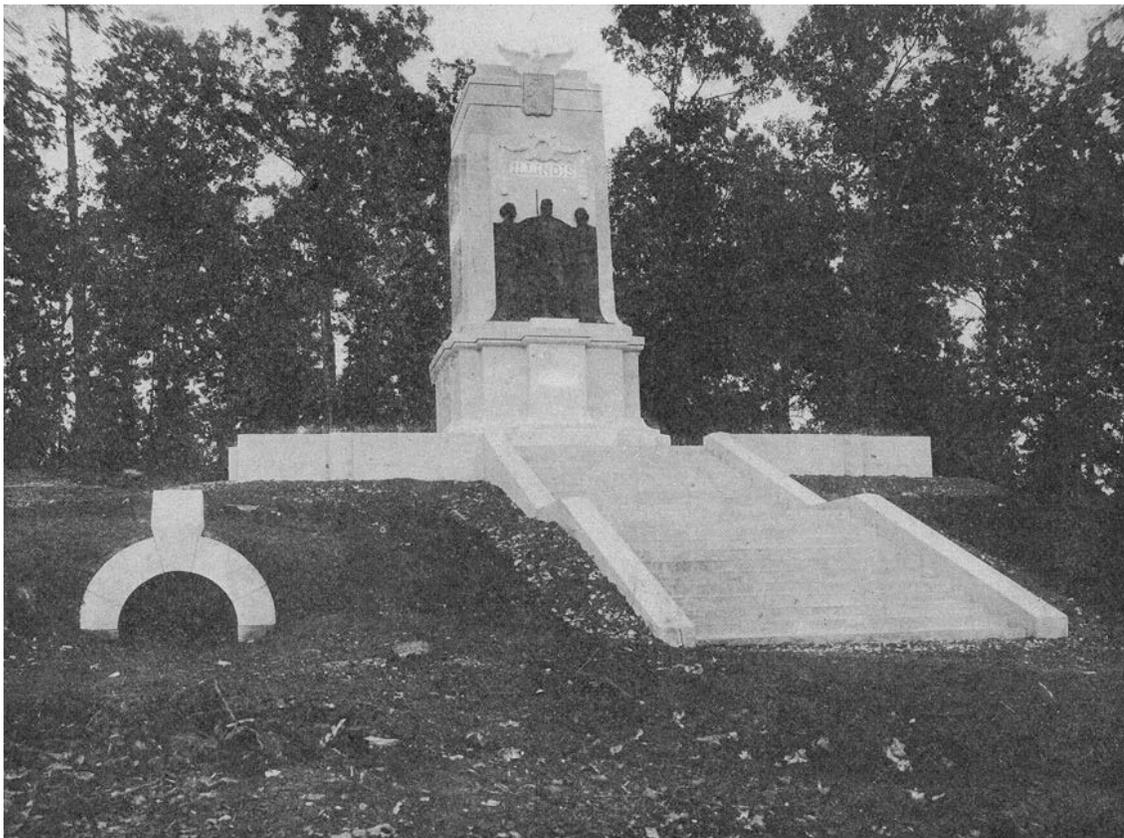


FIGURE 4. The Illinois Monument and the tunnel entrance arch shortly after its dedication. Source: NPS files at park.

War Department Administration, 1928–1933

During the brief period of War Department administration, relatively few changes occurred to the landscape of Kennesaw Mountain. Since the site was never designated a national military park, no additional land was acquired beyond the original sixty acres. At first, the superintendent of Marietta National Cemetery was made responsible for maintenance of the site. In 1932, Benjamin Jones, the son of Reverend Jones, was hired as caretaker; he was allowed to inhabit the buildings on the site and to cultivate “thirty acres of the lowlands” as payment for his services. Also in 1932, the War Department built a three-quarter mile long entrance road, from John Ward Road south toward the vicinity of the Illinois monument. A wire fence with circular iron posts and ten feet on center was built along portions of the site boundary to mark the limits of government property.

National Park Service Administration and the CCC Era, 1933–1942

The sixty-acre battlefield parcel at Cheatham Hill, referred to as the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Site, was transferred to the administration of the National Park Service as part of a larger reorganization of federal parks. Legislation in 1935 officially established Kennesaw Mountain

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National Battlefield Park with boundaries that extended beyond the original sixty acre parcel. Funds were appropriated for land acquisition, and development of the park began. In 1935, as stated in the Administrative History of the park, the Cheatham Hill parcel was inspected by forester A. Robert Thompson. Thompson found that the ridgeline was covered by sparse forest with no undergrowth. The open fields were partially cultivated but otherwise covered with broom sedge and Johnson grass, with small stands of loblolly pine.

In the mid-1930s, work was undertaken by the Civil Works Administration (CWA). The CWA efforts were focused on repairing former agricultural land. As the NPS acquired various properties and agricultural use ceased, erosion became a concern. CWA constructed stone and earthen dams, terraces, and stream channels. Abandoned fields were planted with grasses as well as trees (pine and cedar are noted in the documentation), shrubs (sweet shrubs, black haw, and sumac), and ground cover species such as Bermuda grass and honeysuckle. Local plant species including chokeberry, ferns, white azalea, trillium, and euonymus were also collected and planted. A parking area built in 1934 south of the Illinois Monument at the Cheatham Hill parcel was rebuilt north of the monument in 1937. The CWA also developed trails throughout the park.

In 1938, a Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was established at Kennesaw. The sixty-acre camp was established east of Big Kennesaw just south of U.S. Highway 41. It consisted of twenty-two wooden structures placed on concrete and brick foundation piers, with many of the structures complete by April 1938. Continuing the work started by the CWA, the CCC labor worked at controlling erosion and revegetating of former agricultural land. The surviving Civil War earthworks were protected by grass and ground cover plantings. Roads and trails were graded throughout the park, and ditches were improved and planted with grass. The roads built or improved by the CCC included a paved road leading south from Dallas Road to a parking area near the main fortifications at Cheatham Hill and widening and improvements to ditches and shoulders on Dallas Road; the old entrance from John Ward Road was obliterated. Near Cheatham Hill and elsewhere in the park, 25,000 trees were planted. The CCC also constructed eight brick park entrance signs and two maintenance buildings. Structures in the park that post-dated the Civil War were demolished, including agricultural buildings and stone field terracing. Also as part of the CCC work, some trees were cleared on the west slope of Cheatham Hill to more closely approximate the scene at the time of the battle.

As the CCC work proceeded and more land was acquired, a master plan for the park was developed in 1939 by the National Park Service. The master plan suggested the development of a closed loop road for tours of the park, selected the location of a future visitor center, and identified areas of existing forest cover to be cleared and open fields to be planted, in order to reestablish the pattern of fields and forest that existed in 1864. However, much of the proposed work was not implemented. The master plan includes a map showing existing ground cover at the time (1940), which included more open fields than exist at present. For example, at the Cheatham Hill parcel, the open field below the Illinois Monument extended northward and connected to other open fields along John Ward Road.

National Park Service: The Mission 66 Era and Recent Developments, 1945–2008

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World War II and a lack of funding for the parks in the immediate postwar years delayed completion of the projects begun during the CCC years at Kennesaw. Under the Mission 66 program, development of park facilities and restoration of historic resources resumed at Kennesaw, including a permanent Visitor Center, park employee housing, and the restoration of the Kolb House. Relatively few changes were made to the Cheatham Hill parcel during this time.

As part of the centennial of the battle, the Texas and Georgia Monuments were dedicated. In the early 1960s, the remaining dirt roads in the park were paved with asphalt. New pedestrian and access trails were cleared in the park during the 1960s and 1970s. After 1970, the emphasis shifted to maintenance and upgrading of existing park facilities. At Cheatham Hill, work during the 1970s and 1980s included cleaning the Illinois Monument and other commemorative markers, removal of picnic tables and pit toilets, and upgrading of interpretive signage.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The landscape of the Cheatham Hill component of the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is considered significant as the site of the major frontal attack launched by Union forces against the Confederate lines on June 27, 1864, during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. In a broader context, the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is the single commemorative landscape for the entire Atlanta Campaign of spring and summer 1864. The landscape component contains earthworks, circulation patterns, topography, water features, vegetation, views, and a spatial organization that remains from the period of significance, as well as a fragment of the rural landscape of Cobb County, Georgia.

The component landscape is also significant because it contains features of late nineteenth and early twentieth century efforts to commemorate those who fought and died at the site. The present-day Cheatham Hill component within the larger park is the area that was the focus of early commemorative efforts by veterans, and the component landscape includes the original sixty acre parcel purchased as a permanent memorial site on behalf of the Kennesaw Memorial Association in 1899. Monuments and markers placed as part of this effort remain within the landscape of the Cheatham Hill component, including the Illinois Monument, dedicated in 1914 on the fiftieth anniversary of the battle.

During the middle of the nineteenth century, small farms of 50 to 150 acres surrounded the site, reflecting typical antebellum land-use patterns of the Georgia Piedmont. The rocky soil supported sturdy crops, such as grains, and some farms contained orchards. Dwellings were generally small, one-story frame, or log structures. Farm complexes contained yards and several outbuildings, including barns and smokehouses. Dirt roads and smaller dirt lanes meandered throughout the area.

In June 1864, Confederate and Union forces transformed this landscape into a line of battle more than eight miles long. The lines ran east to west for a short distance from a point east of Big Kennesaw and then curved around the west face of the mountain and ran south to a point beyond the Powder Springs Road. The Confederates, who chose the site, had more time to construct their field fortifications than did the advancing Union army. The substantial nature of these works reflects their importance in the Confederates' defensive strategy. Placed along high ground, these earthworks consisted of essentially a single infantry line punctuated with artillery positions at key points. Distinctively, at the Cheatham Hill area, secondary lines were erected to support the main forward lines. The Federal forces constructed defenses composed of a series of overlapping lines supported with artillery emplacements, rather than a continuous line. Both sides had rifle pits for skirmishers in advance of their main entrenchments. Vast numbers of trees were cut to clear paths of fire and to construct the earthworks. The forested ridges provided material for head logs, revetments, and obstacles that slowed the enemy advance. The hilltops were thinned or cleared to provide artillery with a wider field of fire.

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Following the battle, stands of pine soon replaced the hardwoods that were removed along the Kennesaw ridge in 1864, and for approximately seventy years following the battle, much of the surrounding area was intensely cultivated. In the decades following the battle, farmers terraced their fields and expanded them as agricultural technology improved, leading to the destruction of some earthworks. The patchwork of open fields and wooded areas that characterized this agricultural area in 1864 is now decidedly more wooded, because most agricultural production has ceased, and many fields have been released to forest succession. Many infantry and artillery positions that were once situated in clearings with commanding views of the landscape now stand in the midst of mature, second-growth trees. The open fields maintained by the National Park Service approximate the location of earlier fields but are smaller and less rectilinear. Post-Civil War agricultural practices, in which sloping fields were leveled and terraced to minimize erosion, are still evident. In areas that represent some of the most significant action of the battle, efforts have been made to rehabilitate and maintain the historic appearance of the landscape. In 1935, Civil Works Administration laborers under the guidance of the National Park Service engaged in an effort to rehabilitate overgrown and abandoned agricultural fields and establish meadows in the Cheatham Hill vicinity. In addition, the National Park Service assigns Special Use Permits to local agricultural concerns that raise hay in the open fields. The National Park Service maintains approximately half of the open field below Cheatham Hill, which Federal forces ascended in their unsuccessful assault.

In recent years, the small farms that surrounded the park have been replaced by residential and commercial development, reflecting the continued growth of Cobb County and the northern suburbs of Atlanta. Within the bounds of the park, three densely settled areas of private ownership, one of which adjoins the Cheatham Hill component landscape on the south, contain large single-family homes that were constructed within the last twenty years.

Although land-use patterns have changed over time, many of the components that convey the historic significance of the landscape remain intact. Within park bounds, the general topography of the component landscape remains essentially as it appeared at the time of the battle, with ridges and rolling hills characteristic of the Georgia Piedmont region. The location of streams remains as it was at the time of the battle.

Most of the earthworks within the component landscape remain intact, with nearly the entire Confederate line and fragments of the Federal line preserved. Wood elements such as head logs and revetments have long since disappeared. Currently, the earthworks are defined by an earthen parapet, rear and sometimes front ditches, and in the case of some gun emplacements, embrasures. In most areas, trees have taken root in the earthworks, creating holes in the parapet walls as the dead trunks and roof systems rot away. In a few places, grasses and other benign undergrowth cover undergrowth cover the earthworks.

Two present-day roads that pass near the component landscape—Old John Ward Road and Dallas Highway—existed prior to the battle and, though improved, still partially follow the course of their historic road beds. The northern portion of John Ward Road historically curved eastward into the present-day boundaries of the park within the Cheatham Hill component landscape; the contemporary road has been re-routed on a due north-south line at the western park boundary, from Cheatham Hill Road to Dallas Highway. Smaller, unpaved roads that date to the middle of the nineteenth century can still be found within the park, but have been considerably altered.

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape

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Nearly twenty buildings, including dwelling, churches, and mills, existed within the present park boundary in 1864. No nineteenth century structures survive within the Cheatham Hill component landscape.

The National Register nomination establishes two contexts for significance of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park: Context A, the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and the Atlanta Campaign, May–September 1864, and Context B, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park: The Commemoration of American Battlefield and National Park Development, 1887–1942. Under Context A, the National Register nomination identifies the following contributing structures that are present within the component landscape: the earthworks (1864), Old John Ward Road (circa 1840–1864), Dallas Road (circa 1840–1864), and the Grave of the Unknown U.S. Soldier (1864; 1934). Under Context B, the National Register nomination identifies the following contributing structures that are present within the component landscape: the Illinois Monument (1914), Union Tunnel Marker (circa 1914), McCook Brigade Marker (circa 1914), Coffey Marker (circa 1914), Fellows Marker (circa 1914), and Cheatham Hill Drive (1939–1940). Aside from eight brick park entrance signs constructed 1939–1942, all of the contributing commemorative features listed above are within the Cheatham Hill component landscape.

The earthworks are significant as physical vestiges of the Union and Confederate campaigns at the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. The integrity of the earthworks varies; however, all earthworks retain integrity of location and most exhibit integrity of design, setting, materials, feeling, and association. In the more intact earthworks, a front and rear ditch and a well-defined parapet wall may be visible. Most of the earthworks are in stable condition, with grasses and other benign understory growth checking erosion. In limited areas, the integrity of the earthworks has been compromised by erosion or visitor impacts. For example, among the artillery positions located along the ridgelines, protective foliage covering the works has been killed by visitors walking along the crest of the parapet walls. All earthworks within the bounds of the park are potential archeological resources that are likely to yield further information.

Dallas and Old John Ward Roads are significant in that they are built features of the component landscape that pre-date the battle. These roads exhibit integrity of location and design and, although paved and widened, they maintain their nineteenth-century roadbeds. Where they pass through or near the battlefield, these roads possess considerable integrity of setting, feeling, and association, allowing visitors to understand how troops reached their positions before and during the battle.

Of those structures that contribute to the historic district under the theme of commemoration and park development, the Illinois Monument, the McCook Brigade Marker, the Sergeant Coffey Marker, the Captain Fellows Marker, the stone arch marking a tunnel dug by Union troops, and Cheatham Hill Drive exhibit all aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Although the Historic Resources Study states that the McCook Brigade Marker has been relocated approximately 200 feet northwest of its original location, it still retains integrity of setting, marking the approximate location where McCook's brigade began its assault on Cheatham Hill.

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

The Illinois Monument, Cheatham Drive, and markers associated with this site also meet Criteria Consideration F. These landscape features illustrate commemorative activities at Cheatham Hill, which began in the late nineteenth century with a blue-gray reunion. In the years that follows, numerous monuments and markers were erected on the battlefield that reflect the efforts of veterans groups to honor their fallen comrades and recognize the places where they fought. This associated tradition and its symbolic value has invested the commemorative resources at Kennesaw with their own historical significance.

At the time that the National Register nomination was prepared, the Texas Monument (1964) and Neighbour Marker (1914; replaced 1985) were designated as non-contributing based on their age.

Landscape Characteristic:

Natural Systems and Features

The component landscape of Cheatham Hill is a ridge formed by intrusion of granite, an igneous rock that was thrust upward through the surrounding sedimentary and metamorphic rocks during the formation of the Appalachian Mountains. Cheatham Hill is smaller than either Big Kennesaw or Little Kennesaw and approximately the same size as Pigeon Hill. Pigeon Hill and Cheatham Hill form a north-to-south line.

At the base of Cheatham Hill is Cheatham Creek, which is a tributary of John Ward Creek. These creeks form the low points around Cheatham Hill to the east and west.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Cheatham Hill
Feature Identification Number:	135272
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Cheatham Creek and John Ward Creek
Feature Identification Number:	135274
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing

Spatial Organization

At Cheatham Hill, spatial organization is characterized by 1) alternating patterns of vegetation that open and close views and vistas at various points on the entrance road and trails; 2) large open fields surrounded by forest vegetation which define large open spaces; 3) patterns of earthworks that create space at a smaller scale and define a place of historical significance and; 4) clusters of twentieth-century housing that form the left border of the entrance road to Cheatham Hill.

General character-defining spatial organization patterns include the open fields on the right of the entrance road, with interspersed Confederate entrenchments (Figure 5). This is the beginning of the entrenchments of Benjamin Franklin Cheatham and Patrick Cleburne, two of the generals who withstood an assault by the Union Army that spanned almost two miles. This field and entrenchment pattern creates the character-defining spatial organization and survives the historic period.

At the crest of Cheatham Hill are numerous Confederate entrenchments, defining an impenetrable line of defense against the Union forces. This series of entrenchments would become known by both sides as the “Dead Angle.” The view down the hill from the “Dead Angle” past the Illinois Monument offers a dramatic view of an open field with surrounding forest vegetation (Figure 7). This spatial pattern defines the character of Cheatham Hill and inherently interprets the massive assaults by the Union Army up the hill toward the Confederate entrenchments.

However, this field does not retain its full historic configuration. Based on the map, “Field Planting Recommendations for Cheatham Hill,” prepared by the NPS in 1939; the “Historic Ground Cover Map – June 1864,” prepared by Emmet Nichols in 1978; and conversations with Willie R. Johnson, NPS Historian at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, the field at the time of the battle was larger, extending further to the south and west of the “Dead Angle” entrenchments. Historically, the west boundary of the open field was Cheatham Creek, a tributary of John Ward Creek.

Past the Illinois Monument, the loop trail past the field becomes visually closed in by forest vegetation with occasional waysides for interpretation and small features, such as the Tomb of the Unknown U.S. Soldier, the C. H. Coffey Marker, and the Fellows Marker.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Cheatham Hill
Feature Identification Number:	135276
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Open Fields defined by Forest Vegetation
Feature Identification Number:	135278
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

Feature: Cheatham Hill Earthworks

Feature Identification Number: 135280

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 90133

LCS Structure Name: Cheatham Hill Earthworks

LCS Structure Number: HS-12

Feature: Clusters of twentieth-century housing

Feature Identification Number: 135282

Type of Feature Contribution: Non contributing – incompatible

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 5. Open field along Cheatham Hill Drive. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 6. Cheatham Hill Drive narrows as it passes through groves of trees. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 7. Open field as viewed from the Illinois Monument. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.

Land Use

Land use constitutes the principal activities in the landscape that have formed, shaped, and organized the landscape as a result of human interaction.

Agriculture was the primary land use at Cheatham Hill from 1838 to 1861, as represented by the former Virgil Channell Farmstead, which is no longer extant. During the Civil War, earthworks were created by both Union and Confederate troops within the Channell property and a confederate fort was established. The Cheatham Hill Battlefield was the site of some of the most intense fighting anywhere in the state of Georgia during the War Between the States. The Channell Farmstead remained in operation after the war until 1899, when sixty acres at Cheatham Hill, including the Union and Confederate trenches, were acquired from Virgil Channell by Lansing J. Dawdy, a Union veteran (Figure 8). This is the beginning of the commemorative use of the landscape at Cheatham Hill. Three-strand barbed wire fencing was erected on the south, west, and part of the east boundary to enclose the sixty acre tract. On December 7, 1926, legislation was introduced to Congress for the creation of a national memorial military park in the vicinity of Kennesaw Mountain that would include Cheatham Hill and additional lands.

From 1933 to the present, earthwork remnants, monuments, and markers have been preserved or restored, and the commemorative landscape partially preserved. Trails connecting to the rest of the park and a new entrance road from Dallas Highway were constructed at Cheatham Hill by CCC workers. Monuments were erected and signage placed to interpret the site's Civil War history. The Secretary of the Interior declared Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park officially established on October 25, 1947. At this time, there were no defined boundaries between the original Cheatham Hill parcel and the larger park landscape.

Evidence of military use associated with the Civil War remains in the park in the form of earthworks, primarily Confederate, at the crest of Cheatham Hill and along Cheatham Hill Drive. Within the boundaries of the park and including Cheatham Hill, historic site interpretation is the primary land use, while hiking and horse trails provide recreational opportunities throughout. Commemoration is also an important use within the park, with the presence of the Illinois Monument and other commemorative markers at the Cheatham Hill site.

Today, residential development encroaches onto Cheatham Hill to the east of the entrance road. Homes are visible through the forest vegetation, especially in the winter.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

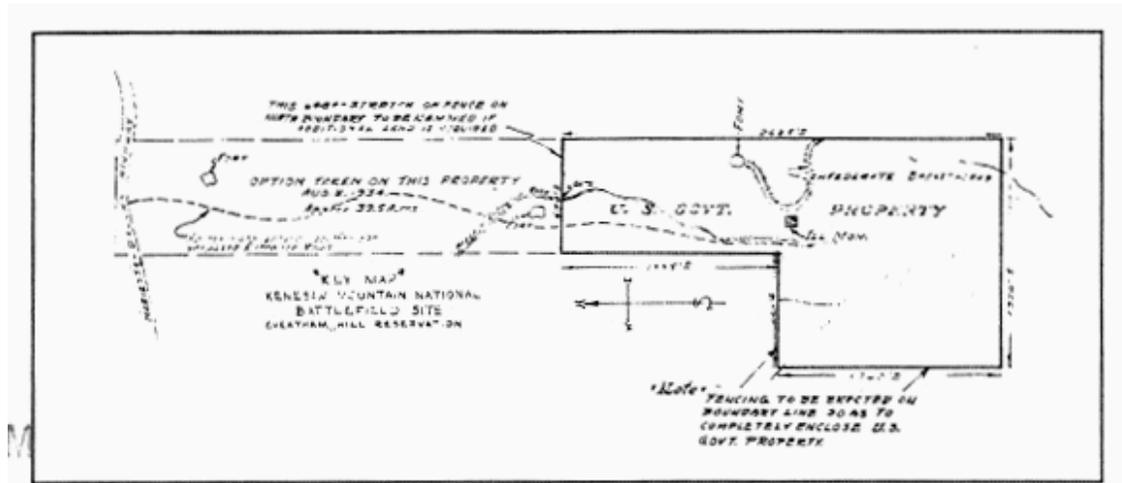


Figure 4. Original 60-acre tract at Cheatham Hill purchased by Illinois veterans (NPS drawing NBS-KM-1051)

FIGURE 8. The original 60-acre tract at Cheatham Hill purchased by Illinois veterans. Source: National Park Service, NPS drawing NBS-KM-1051.

Topography

Rising 1000 feet above the relatively flat plateau geologically known as the Central Uplands, Kennesaw is the tallest mountain in a short string of peaks north and west of Atlanta. Just south of it is a smaller peak known as Little Kennesaw. Together these peaks are a unique formation that can be spotted from Lookout Mountain to the north and west, Oglethorpe Mountain to the northeast, and Stone Mountain due east. Pigeon Hill and Cheatham Hill create a north-south line of smaller hills to the south of Kennesaw Mountain (Figure 9).

The topography of the Cheatham Hill battlefield site remains the same as it was during the Civil War. The hill and some of the open fields have not changed their appearance from the historic period. Cheatham Creek runs north and south below Cheatham Hill and there were Union camps and earthworks to the west of the stream. The Confederate entrenchments were straight up the hill from this position to the west of Cheatham Creek. Cheatham Hill rises approximately 120 feet from the stream bed.

The earthworks throughout Cheatham Hill are topographic features surviving from the Civil War period (Figure 10 and Figure 11). They create a spatial pattern and also interpret the battle at Cheatham Hill.

Character-defining Features:

- Feature: Cheatham Hill
- Feature Identification Number: 135286
- Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

Feature: Cheatham Creek
Feature Identification Number: 135284
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Cheatham Hill Earthworks
Feature Identification Number: 99969
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 90133
LCS Structure Name: Cheatham Hill Earthworks
LCS Structure Number: HS-12

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

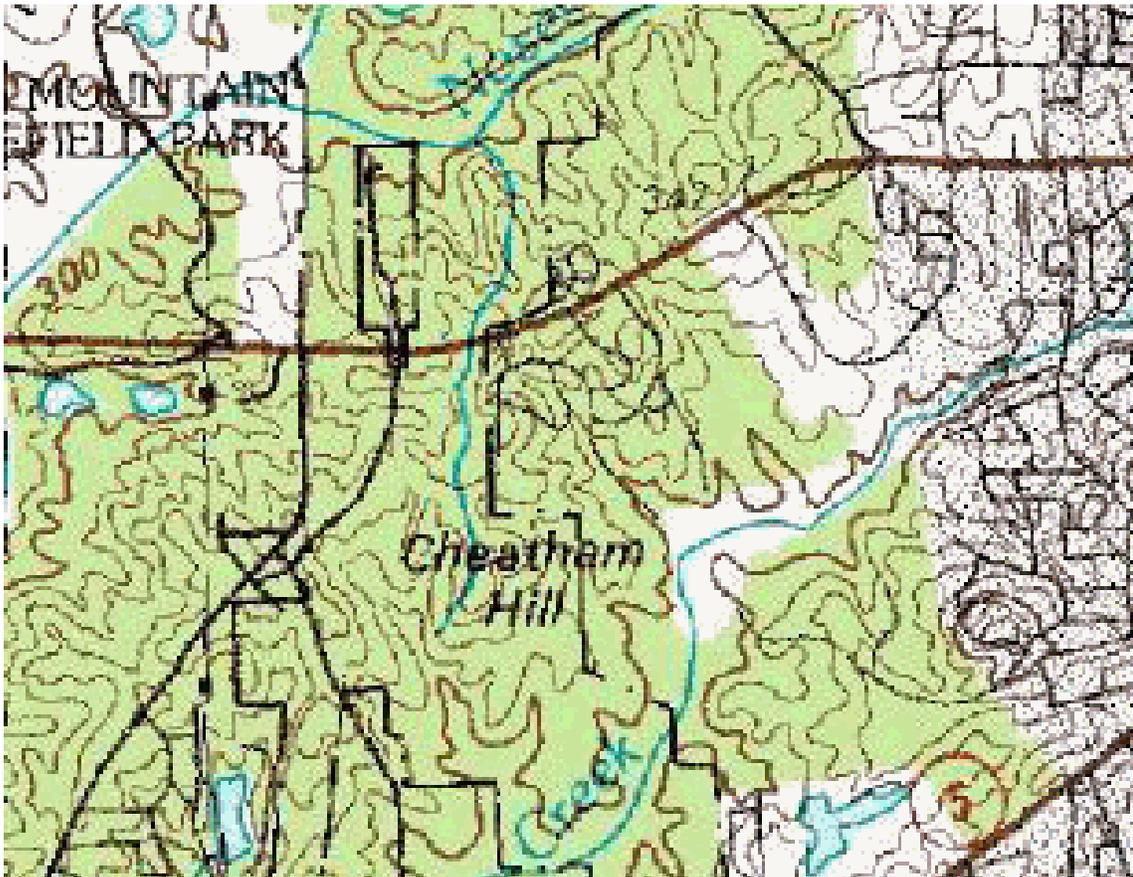


FIGURE 9. USGS map depicting the topography of Cheatham Hill. Source: The USGS Store <www.usgs.gov/pubprod>, accessed June 9, 2008.



FIGURE 10. Confederate earthworks at Cheatham Hill. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007



FIGURE 11. Confederate earthworks along Cheatham Hill Drive. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.

Vegetation

Today, Cheatham Hill is heavily forested with stands of shortleaf pine, loblolly pine, and second growth hardwood, including chestnut oak, blackjack oak, and scarlet oak (Figure 12). Lower ground around the base of the hill has stands of hardwood and pine, and open meadows growing hay (Figure 13). In most of these areas trees have taken root in the extant earthworks with grass and undergrowth covering the ground where trees are not present. The undergrowth includes exotic plants such as Japanese honeysuckle, kudzu, privet, ailanthus, and mimosa in addition to native species.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Hay Fields

Feature Identification Number: 135288

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Pine and Hardwood Forest

Feature Identification Number: 135290

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 12. Secondary-growth pines and hardwoods border the edge of Cheatham Hill Drive. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 13. Line of trees bordering open field along Cheatham Hill Drive. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.

Circulation

Circulation within the cultural landscape of Cheatham Hill includes both vehicular and pedestrian patterns. State Highway 120 (Dallas Road) bisects Kennesaw National Battlefield Park from east to west and is the road from which visitors access the Cheatham Hill entrance road (Figure 14). Due to the rapid growth of the area around the park, this road and others are extremely busy and are used to commute into Marietta and to Atlanta, beyond. This makes ingress and egress into Cheatham Hill very difficult for park visitors, especially at the times of peak traffic volumes.

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

The entrance drive and parking area together form the major circulation pattern found on the landscape of Cheatham Hill (Figure 14). In March 1940, fifty CCC workers began construction of the entrance road from Dallas Road to Cheatham Hill that skirted behind the confederate earthworks. The road was graded and surfaced with gravel from the quarry still located within park boundaries today. Headwalls and culverts were also constructed. The old War Department Road to the southeast was abandoned in favor of the new connection to the north. There are layers of paving on this road, with the current asphalt constructed with Mission 66 monies in July 1963.

The trail that crosses Dallas Road into Cheatham Hill and parallels the entrance road is used for hikers and equestrians (Figure 15). This trail is part of the overall trail system of Kennesaw National Battlefield Park and is a minor circulation feature. The trail down from the Illinois Monument into the large open field is for hikers only. The trails at Cheatham Hill are of CCC construction. Close to the parking lot, asphalt has eroded away, revealing a pattern of red brick that may have been a pathway constructed by the CCC (Figure 17).

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Dallas Road

Feature Identification Number: 135292

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Cheatham Hill Drive

Feature Identification Number: 99962

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 90156

LCS Structure Name: Cheatham Hill Drive

LCS Structure Number: HS-26

Feature: CCC Trails

Feature Identification Number: 135294

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 14. Cheatham Hill Drive. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 15. Cheatham Hill parking lot. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 16. Trail system constructed by the CCC. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 17. Brick paving found underneath asphalt trail leading from parking lot. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.

Buildings and Structures

Structures:

Cheatham Hill features three structures. The most prominent is the Illinois Monument, designed by architect James B. Debelka, executed by artist J. Mario Korbel, and constructed in 1914 by the McNeel Marble Company of Marietta (Figure 18). The monument is composed of a twenty-five foot tall battered marble shaft rising from an eight foot square base. It is sited on the crest of Cheatham Hill and overlooks a small plaza paved in marble and two flights of marble steps leading down the western slope of the hill. Although the eagle sculpture on top of the monument was damaged by lightning in 1984, it was replaced in 1991 and the monument is in overall good condition.

The second structure at Cheatham Hill is the Union Tunnel Marker, a five foot wide by three foot tall marble arch with an inscribed keystone flanked by a dry-stacked stone wall (Figure 19). It was built to mark the location of the tunnel begun by Federal troops attempting to undermine the Confederate trenches during the Battle of Cheatham Hill in 1864 and was constructed around the same time as the Illinois Monument.

The third structure is the Texas Monument, located along Cheatham Hill Drive and erected in 1964.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Illinois Monument

Feature Identification Number: 135296

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 12177

LCS Structure Name: Illinois Monument

LCS Structure Number: HS-3

Feature: Union Tunnel and Stone Wall

Feature Identification Number: 99961

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 90142

LCS Structure Name: Union Tunnel and Stone Wall

LCS Structure Number: HS-9

Cheatham Hill Component Landscape
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

Feature: Texas Monument
Feature Identification Number: 135298
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing
IDLCS Number: 90143
LCS Structure Name: Texas Monument
LCS Structure Number: HS-10

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 18. Illinois Monument. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 19. Union Tunnel with stone wall and stairs of Illinois Monument. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.

Views and Vistas

Access to views and means of observation were extremely important in the battle strategy at Cheatham Hill. The summit provided the means to observe enemy movements from Cheatham Creek and woodlots or forested vegetation provided ready-made screens to mask troop movement and battery position. The open field below the Illinois Monument provided an excellent view of the entire Union line (Figure 20). Key views were from the top of Cheatham in the Confederate entrenchments.

Some of the views have changed since the battle with the regrowth of forest and the erection of commemorative monuments and interpretive waysides. The introduction of interpretive features, however, made the battle more understandable in that one could clearly see the location where various units were positioned.

The trails constructed by the CCC, especially the Cheatham Loop Trail and additional interpretation and commemoration, now move visitors through the site with new views and or reinforced battle views. The encroachment of vegetation prompted the park to perform vista clearing to maintain strategic battlefield views in the appropriate areas (Figure 21). Fortunately many of the historic views from strategic positions established by each army have been preserved through the continuation of historic land use patterns.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Views from Illinois Monument
Feature Identification Number: 135300
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Views to Open Fields
Feature Identification Number: 135302
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Forest Vegetation
Feature Identification Number: 135304
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 20. View from the Illinois Monument into the field below. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 21. View from Cheatham Hill Drive into the battlefield beyond. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.

Small Scale Features

Most small scale features at Cheatham Hill are associated with the commemoration of the battle and include historic markers and recently installed interpretive signage (Figure 22 through Figure 25). There are also examples of fencing demarcation along the entrance drive to Cheatham Hill, primarily snake-rail fencing (Figure 26). Site furnishings such as benches, kiosks, and a drinking fountain provide modern visitor amenities.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Fellows Marker

Feature Identification Number: 99964

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 12178

LCS Structure Name: Fellows Marker

LCS Structure Number: HS-4

Feature: Grave of Unknown U.S. Soldier

Feature Identification Number: 135308

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 12179

LCS Structure Name: Grave of Unknown U.S. Soldier

LCS Structure Number: HS-5

Feature: C. H. Coffey Marker

Feature Identification Number: 99963

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 90139

LCS Structure Name: C. H. Coffey Marker

LCS Structure Number: HS-8

Feature: McCook Brigade Marker

Feature Identification Number: 99966

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 90141

LCS Structure Name: McCook Brigade Marker

LCS Structure Number: HS-6

Feature: Neighbour Marker

Feature Identification Number: 99967

Type of Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

IDLCS Number: 90140

LCS Structure Name: Neighbour Marker
LCS Structure Number: HS-7
Feature: Snake Rail fencing
Feature Identification Number: 135310
Type of Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible
Feature: Site Furnishings
Feature Identification Number: 135312
Type of Feature Contribution: Non contributing – compatible

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



FIGURE 22. Fellows marker. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 23. Grave of Unknown U.S. Soldier. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 24. C.H. Coffey marker. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 25. McCook's Brigade marker. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007.



FIGURE 26. Snake rail fencing marking the path from the Illinois Monument. Source: John Milner Associates, 2007

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 05/05/2009

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Given the relative stability of the landscape, reassessment will occur by FY 17 after FMSS-CL project is complete.

The greatest threats to the historic character of features within the Cheatham Hill component landscape are adjacent development, erosion from foot traffic, and invasive vegetation. While it is difficult to control development on adjacent parcels not owned by the NPS, ongoing efforts should be pursued to develop conservation easements and other protective arrangements with developers to protect viewsheds from within the park. Erosion from foot traffic can be controlled by clarifying pathways, particularly at the Illinois Monument, and providing mulch cover where foot traffic is particularly heavy. Control of invasive vegetation is an ongoing effort by park staff and could be enhanced by use of occasional volunteer campaigns.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Adjacent Lands

External or Internal: External

Impact Description: Areas of commercial and residential development outside the boundary of the park negatively affect the integrity of historic views and vistas. In addition, lack of delineated boundaries has created confusion as local residents have inadvertently built structures on park property.

Type of Impact: Deferred Maintenance

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Deferred maintenance by the National Park Service has led to deterioration of some buildings and structures. Due to erosion created by foot traffic, the footings of the Illinois Monument stairway have been exposed, which may eventually lead to structural damage. The cheek walls of this stairway also exhibit cracking and spalling, and should be repaired.

Type of Impact: Erosion

External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Earthworks not protected by grasses or mulch layers under trees are vulnerable to erosion from foot traffic, aggravated by rainfall. Particularly problematic is the extreme erosion at the Illinois Monument, which has led to the creation of gullies in the landscape below the monument.
Other Impact:	Drainage
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Many culverts under roads within the park have filled with sediment and are no longer providing adequate drainage.
Type of Impact:	Operations On Site
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	It appears that a frequent mowing regime may be leading to increased foot traffic off-trail and may be contributing to increased erosion around monuments and earthworks.
Other Impact:	Structural
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Erosion at the Illinois Monument may affect the structural stability of the monument.
Other Impact:	Deterioration
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The concrete cheek walls of the stairway at the Illinois Monument are beginning to crack and spall along the top surface. The cause is not clear.
Type of Impact:	Pruning Practices
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Monitoring of weakened or dead limbs and threatened trees should continue to reduce windfall and other hazards. Judicial pruning and vegetation removal are needed to maintain or open up important historic views.
Type of Impact:	Release To Succession
External or Internal:	Internal

Impact Description: Most of the park's acreage is in second-growth forest. The loss of historic field patterns and viewsheds to forestation could increase the difficulty of eventual restoration.

Type of Impact: Impending Development

External or Internal: External

Impact Description: Residential development on the periphery of the park is pending and may negatively affect the historic character of the site. Consider screening of undesirable views from within the park.

Type of Impact: Vegetation/Invasive Plants

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Invasive vegetation on the site threatens the integrity of historic views. Secondary tree growth threatens the stability of earthworks in danger of wind-throw. Continual monitoring of this vegetation is important.

Type of Impact: Visitation

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: Heavy visitation in some areas of the park many threaten historic resources, primarily in the amount of erosion created by heavy foot and vehicular traffic. This occurs particularly at the Illinois Monument and at popular trail heads and picnic areas such as the ones on Powder Springs Road and Dallas Highway. At the Illinois Monument, clarification of access paths around the structure may help reduce this problem.

Other Impact: Visual Clutter

External or Internal: Internal

Impact Description: The accumulation of interpretive, informative, and regulatory signage, along with site furnishings such as benches, bollards, kiosks, and trash cans, contributes to visual clutter that detracts from the historic character of the area. Consolidating some of these furnishings is recommended to clear views.

Treatment

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Supplemental Information

- Title:** ARI No.: KEMO00001.00 - 1.66; 2.00; 3.00; 4.00; 5.00; 6.00; 7.00; 8.00; 9.00; 10.00; 11.00; 12.00; 13.00; 14.00; 15.00.
- Title:** DSC/TIC No.: 352/20007; 352/80014; 352/80014-1
- Title:** HABS No.: GA-1171; GA-1178-E; GA-2169
- Title:** NRID No.: 66000063