



# ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*Promoting and enhancing the awareness and preservation  
of the heritage and traditions of Bartow County*

Volume 93, September 2015

P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, GA 30120

Phone: 770-606-8862

## ANNUAL OBSERVATION OF THE BATTLE OF ALLATOONA PASS OCTOBER 3-4, 2015



Make your plans for Saturday and Sunday, October 3rd and 4th to join the Etowah Valley Historical Society and Red Top Mountain State park as they host the annual observation of the October 5, 1864 battle which took place at Allatoona Pass. The fierce fighting at Allatoona Pass resulted in one of the highest casualty rates for any battle of the war; out of the 5301 soldiers involved, a total of 1603 were either killed, wounded or missing. Because this engagement occurred between the fall of Atlanta and the beginning of Sherman's March to the Sea and Hood's invasion of Tennessee, the Battle of Allatoona is often overlooked.

Fortunately, the scene of the fighting at Allatoona Pass has been untouched by many of the elements that have damaged so many other battlefields; but as the population increases in the corridor between Atlanta and Chattanooga, the danger to the site grows. About 270 acres of the battlefield have been protected by the Army Corps of Engineers in its administration of the Lake Allatoona reservoir, but private landowners retain key sections of historic land. In a 2001 announcement, the Civil War Preservation Trust listed Allatoona as one of the ten most endangered battlefields in the country and declared it one of the best preserved and least appreciated sites.

*(Source: Georgia Battlefields Association, Inc.)*



Etowah Valley Historical Society  
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Email: [evhscartersville@gmail.com](mailto:evhscartersville@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.evhsionline.org](http://www.evhsionline.org)

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## LOCAL ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST TO EVHS MEMBERS

September 13, 2015 - Summer Picnic and Exploration of Dabbs Archeological Dig, 6:00

October 3 and 4, 2015 – Battle of Allatoona Pass Re-enactment

October 9, 2015 – Annual Dinner at Grand Oaks, 6:00

December 4, 2015 – Christmas Dinner at Roselawn, 6:30

Check back for updates and more upcoming events in 2015!

## PRESERVATION PROFILE

What exactly is historic preservation? It is much more than saving old buildings!

Historic preservation champions and protects places that tell the stories of our past. It enhances our sense of community and brings us closer together: saving the places where we take our children to school, buy our groceries, and stop for coffee – preserving the stories of ancient cultures found in landmarks and landscapes we visit – protecting the memories of people, places, and events.

Historic preservation is also about getting involved in saving these monuments, landscapes, and neighborhoods. It doesn't have to be complicated – it can be fun! There are many ways you can get involved in historic preservation and save places in Bartow County that matter in your life. The important part is that you recognize the places that are meaningful to you, and to our nation's heritage, and that they deserve to be around for future generations.

Preservation makes a statement – ***This Place Matters.***



*The front columns for which "White Columns" in Cartersville was named were inspired and added during the building of the 1903 courthouse across the street. During its rehabilitation in 2013, workers discovered a floor safe that had been buried under the home in the late 1800's.*

## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Scott Cooper	Lewis and Susan Tumlin
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## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

The fiscal year for the Etowah Valley Historical Society runs from October 1st until September 30th. Dues for the 2015-2016 fiscal year are now being collected. You may pay at the Annual Dinner, mail your check to the Etowah Valley Historical Society, P. O. Box 1886, Cartersville, GA 30120 or pay via PayPal at [evhsonline.org](http://evhsonline.org).

Dues are \$20.00 per person, \$25.00 per family AND \$100.00 for a corporation or patron. New members who recently paid dues are considered as paid for the coming year.

Monies received from the dues are a major source of funds needed to operate EVHS. Although it may not be possible for you to participate in the activities of our organization, your dues are needed to insure that we will be able to continue the preservation of the history and traditions of Bartow County.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### INTERESTING BARTOW COUNTY FACTS

- Corbin is named for the Corbin post office and general store. John Corbin came from N.C. in 1849 and settled on Stamp Creek. Approximate location of Corbin was just past the intersection of Bells Ferry Road and Wilderness Camp off of Ga. Hwy. 20.
- White was incorporated Aug. 7, 1919 and was named for James Alexander White, who came from the vicinity of Pine Log and from Buncombe, N.C. before that. He settled there about 1870 and established a store, a cotton gin, and was the first postmaster of the town. On June 4, 1925, all the businesses burned except 5.
- Puckett Road, south of Cartersville, was named for Edmund Douglas Puckett (born 1806) who came to Cass County (now Bartow) with Lewis Tumlin from Gwinnett County. He acquired a plantation of 1700 acres and built a home near Puckett's crossing.
- Richards Road, off U.S. 411 and Ga. 140 is named for Luther Floyd Richards, who was a clerk and city councilman of the city of White. He died in 1978.
- Stamp Creek rises in western Cherokee County and flows southward into Allatoona Lake. It was known as Lick Creek in state surveys of 1832. A lick or stamp was an area in which cattle were fed, and they stamped their feet while licking salt or feeding.
- Hall's Station is a community located five miles south of Adairsville. Also known as Hall's Mill, it was a rail station named for L.H. Hall, an agent for the Western & Atlantic Railroad there.
- Hardin Bridge Road is named for William Hardin, c. 1860, an agent of the federal government who dealt with the Cherokee Indians.
- Gilmer Street in Cartersville is named for George Rockingham Gilmer, governor of Georgia in 1837.
- Euharlee covered bridge was built in 1886 by Washington King and still stands. Originally called Burge's Mill around 1844, the town was incorporated Sept. 16, 1870 to July 1, 1995. It was previously known (1852) as Euharleyville. Euharlee is a Cherokee Indian word meaning "she laughs as she runs".



## Endowment Fund

### PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

As a private, non-profit organization, the Etowah Valley Historical Society relies on the support of our members and community. To make a contribution to the Etowah Valley Historical Society, please contact the office at (770) 606-8862.

Your contribution to honor a new baby, birthday gift, remember a special occasion, a memorial to a loved one, or as part of your estate plan are great reasons to participate in the Etowah Valley Historical Society Endowment Fund. Estate donations can be made through wills, assignment of life insurance, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and assignment of certificates of deposit and transfers of property and are exempt from estate taxes. You can leave a legacy with the EVHS Endowment Fund Memorial gifts and bequests are an important way you can make a lasting contribution to the preservation and maintenance of our local history. The Society's recognition system will keep memories of special people alive for generations to come.

## EMERSON - STEGALL'S STATION

Emerson was first established as an agricultural community on land belonging to Emsley Stegall (1812-1888) of Pickens County, South Carolina. He came to Cass County (now Bartow) in 1839 and settled on a 40 acre lot drawn in the 1832 lottery. To his good fortune, the route of the Western & Atlantic Railroad, surveyed in 1832, crossed his land. Upon completion of the railroad, a station was established and given his name with Emsley appointed as agent. Prior to the late 1880's, Stegall's Station remained a small community thriving on both agriculture and limited mining. No significant population existed as the land around Stegall's remained under Stegall family ownership. The only pre-war structure surviving today is the John P. Stegall home. John was the son of Emsley and served as agent for the railroad following the Civil War until 1890. He also served as postmaster for many years. The first post office was called Stegall's Depot and operated between 1870 and 1875, followed by Stegall, operated between 1883 and 1888.



*Emerson Post Office Early Days*

By April 1888, Stegall's became Emerson in honor of Ex-Governor Joseph Emerson Brown (1821-1894) and was incorporated on November 11, 1889 with John P. Stegall as mayor. The post office adopted the new name of Emerson in 1888 and has been in continual operation since. This name change was to give Stegall's Station a name more fitting to a prosperous community. Lt. Col. C. M. Jones (1829-1910), formerly of the Confederacy, was the driving force behind this change. Jones succeeded in inducing several northerners to invest in this community, believing that Emerson could support an abundance of manufacturing plants which could turn the numerous variety of minerals found into a finished product, instead of shipping them in their natural state.

C. M. and Sarah Jones moved to Bartow County in 1873, buying an 800 acre farm along nearby Pumpkinvine Creek and subsequently expanding his holdings to 2800 acres. The Jones farm contained rich deposits of minerals such as

manganese, ochre and iron ore, the latter of which was mined through the Brown-Jones Mining Company. Among Jones' holdings were the Emerson Malleable Iron Company, a limestone quarry, The Georgia Graphite Company, a kaolin clay deposit mined by Anderson & Armstrong of Marietta, ochre deposits, and the Georgia Fire Brick and Kaolin Company.

In order to create the town of Emerson, the Emerson Land Company was formed primarily by John P. Stegall and C. M. Jones with the financial backing of several northerners. Its sole purpose was to acquire several hundred acres from Emsley Stegall, John P. Stegall and C. M. Jones in order to lay out town lots. The city was surveyed in 1889 by H. J. McCormick, with the street names of Minnesota, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Georgia, Florida, and Vermont running east and west; First, Second and Third streets running north and south. East of the railroad was a new three story, forty eight room hotel to accommodate an influx of prospective citizens and investors. The Courant American newspaper in nearby Cartersville was quite complimentary of Emerson's quest for growth. Published in 1888 and 1889 were articles on Emerson's new telegraph office, the new Emerson Malleable Iron Plant employing 150 skilled mechanics, the increased shipments of iron to Birmingham by the Etowah Iron & Manganese Company, a proposal by Mr. Barber of Milwaukee, WI to build several hundred houses, a new manufacturing plant for paint, a new post office and express office and the prospects of an Emerson newspaper to be called the Emerson Graphite.

The vast expansion and population growth of Emerson was never realized. Though some were enticed to settle in Emerson, it proved too close to the growing town of Cartersville some three miles to the north. Following the Civil War in 1866, Cartersville had been selected as the Bartow County seat. In addition, the nearby community of Bartow less than a mile east discontinued its iron

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*Emerson School 1916*



*Emerson Hotel - photo courtesy of Bartow Ancestors*

### WE NEED YOUR HELP..

Need information in reaching descendants of Stegall - Lackey families buried at Old 41 and Allatoona Road at Emerson underpass. Plans are underway to move Cemetery to Emerson Cemetery due to expansion of Lake Point property. Any information on Nancy Ward (who married into Stegall family) or Margaret Lackey (children William Wallace and Mary Stegall, 1843-1853) please call Neil Bowen at Robert S. Webb Associates - 770-345-0706.

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## THE LOST CITY OF ETOWAH, GEORGIA

*(Portions reprinted from social media blog October 11, 2013 by thecamakstone)*



*Iron Hill – 1924 (courtesy of Bartow Ancestors)*



*Cooper Iron Works – Circa 1930 (Bartow History Museum)*

Vanishing cities - the lost city of Atlantis according to Plato, disappeared due to some vast cataclysm swallowing the island with water. The city of Pompeii was destroyed by a volcanic eruption. The town of Etowah; however, fell victim to war. Many Georgians have not heard of Etowah but may have visited the Coopers Furnace Day Use area at the base of Allatoona Dam near Emerson, Georgia.

Etowah is recorded as being founded in 1845, established by Mark Anthony Cooper which started out as the Etowah Manufacturing and Mining Company. Cooper came into business with Moses Stroup and family that built the original furnace. Soon Stroup would build more furnaces eventually selling out to Cooper over a period of time. Cooper was very influential and made improvements to the Etowah River with Stroup and Wiley as business partners. The company had a blast furnace, foundry, rolling mill, nail factory, a flour mill, 2 saw mills, 2 corn mills and a bank. Not to mention other shops, warehouses and a hotel. Etowah was about five to six miles away from the W & A Railroad completed October 19th, 1858 Etowah manufactured nails, bolts, hollow ware, railroad iron, pots and pans. The flour mill produced two to three hundred barrels of flour daily. Iron was shipped to England to be converted to steel. Coal was sent from Coopers Coal mines in Dade County for the bloomery

furnace. The city of Etowah was growing into an industrial center for Cass County.

Etowah grew to a population of around 2,000 and among this population included slaves. Mark Anthony Cooper employed as much as five or six hundred operators and laborers with about one hundred being black. Cooper personally owned 22 slaves and the Etowah Manufacturing and Mining Company owned 11 bondsmen. Cooper sought to hire even more help as he sought to hire more black labor for the company.

Among the stories about Etowah, all were not met with success. It was in 1849 that a small pox outbreak occurred. In 1857, Mark Anthony Coopers home was devastated by fire. "Major Coopers elegant residence near his iron Works, we are sorry to hear, was completely destroyed by fire in 1858. Every piece of timber in this unique and tasteful building was native growth of Cass County,"

It is noted that also mentioned are accidents that occurred at the iron works as in 1858, "The moulder, Joseph Costner, was casting a large roll for the Rolling Mill. A large ladle with 5000 Lbs of melted iron, suspended by a Crane, was passing by the bands round to the mould. Before pouring it became top heavy, turned, and was emptied into a puddle of water. This produced an explosion which threw the metal through the roof of the shed, and in every direction, burning five or six, more or less. Only three were seriously burned, and the others are at work again. Most of which is to be expected in a growing thriving town."

In 1859, a new building was mentioned in Etowah was a chapel, with a school room below and divine room above. This was located near the residence of Mr. Cooper and Mr. A. Hicks. It was commented that the town was not only using the products of nature but improving intellectual and moral attributes. The homes in the area were neat in appearance along the steep hillsides. It is mentioned in 1859, that the number living here was around one thousand souls. Currently there are about three hundred employed at the iron Works. The Blast Furnace is run day and night not to mention the Rolling Mill and Merchant mills runs six days a week day and night. This facility started with 1,500 acres growing to 12,000 acres with an annual product of twelve to fifteen tons of iron per day. The cost of this immense operation began to become difficult for Cooper who sought a loan from the State of Georgia for a fourth a million dollars. When the State denied his request possibly due to being misrepresented by the Know Nothing Party, Cooper proposed to sell the property in 1861. It was in February that Cooper presented the Etowah Iron Works as being a suitable foundry for the Confederacy. The iron works had already manufactured a cannon fired at the opening of Tunnel Hill and other commemorative events including the opening of

*(continued on page 7)*

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## ORMSBY MITCHEL

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*This guest article from David Dundee, Astronomy Program Manager at Tellus Museum reveals a new chapter about the Great Locomotive Chase. David's fondness of trains and astronomy has uncovered an interesting connection between the little known Union General, Ormsby Mitchell and his connection to inspiring the Andrews Raid that unfolded to become the Great Locomotive Chase and its connection to Bartow County.*

Even though I am not a historian but an astronomer I have always been interested in history. Plus I have always had a love of trains. So I stumbled on a story that involves both astronomy and trains. I went to a lecture recently given by a local archeological society about Civil War activity on Hilton Head Island. It was on Hilton Head that the town of Mitchelville was established in 1862. This was a town for freed slaves and at its height a few thousand people lived there. It was named Mitchelville for Ormsby Mitchel, a major general for the Union army. Before the war he was an astronomer, and his nickname was "Old Stars". In fact, he had two towns named for him, as well as an observatory, some mountains on Mars and even a crater on Mars bears his name. So who was Ormsby Mitchel?

Mitchel was born in Kentucky in 1810. He graduated from West Point in the same class as Robert E. Lee. After graduating, Mitchel became an assistant professor of Mathematics at West Point.

Later, he moved to Cincinnati, passed the bar and became an attorney. He then joined the faculty of Cincinnati College becoming a professor of mathematics, philosophy, and astronomy. Ormsby Mitchel built the Cincinnati observatory, established the Cincinnati Astronomical Society, established a law school and in his spare time he was chief engineer of the local railroad. (Did this guy ever sleep?) He was a famous lecturer in astronomy; his lectures at first attracted a dozen or so people, but in a few years his lectures typically attracted over 2,000 people. His lectures were considered the most brilliant in America.

He moved on to Albany, New York as the astronomer at the Dudley Observatory. Mitchel then helped establish observatories for the United States Navy and at Harvard University. He also published the first monthly magazine in the United States devoted to astronomy.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Mitchel enlisted and was commissioned as a brigadier in the Union army. He helped plan to steal a train from behind enemy lines. (This was the great locomotive chase that came through Northwest



Georgia.) He and his troops seized Huntsville, Alabama, and he was promoted to major general. Ormsby was one of the principal planners of the great locomotive chase. It was his in depth knowledge of railroads that made him invaluable in planning the stealing of the locomotive and train in April 1862. It was also in 1862 that he assumed command of the community on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.

Shortly after speaking at the establishment of the first free African Baptist Church on the island, he died of yellow fever in 1862. But the residents there held him in such high esteem, they renamed the community Mitchelville.

## EMERSON - STEGALL'S STATION

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furnace operation in 1885, affecting Emerson's economy. Of most importance was the passing of visionaries like C. M. Jones and John P. Stegall.

Of most importance was the passing of visionaries like C. M. Jones and John P. Stegall.

Today, the old depot is gone as is the fine hotel which was once the pride of Emerson. Only New Riverside Ochre Company still mines the area. Doug's Restaurant is the major anchor for the city, an inviting piece of Emerson's history which continues to draw tourists and locals alike. However, this community historically tends to thrive around the churches, schools and thoroughfares. Emerson is situated for substantial growth being on the railroad and bordering Interstate 75 and U. S. Highway 41. The main road through Emerson is GA Highway 293, known as the old Dixie Highway. One only needs to travel these roads to see the changes with the addition of the Lake Point Sporting Community, currently under construction, with tournaments and events which began in Spring of 2014. LakePoint is on track to be one of the world's largest and most unique destinations for travel sports. With more than 1,300 acres nestled in the foothills of the North Georgia Mountains and adjacent to beautiful Lake Allatoona, LakePoint will feature state-of-the-art sports venues and five million square feet of amenities including on-site hotels, restaurants, themed retail, bowling, zip-lines, water parks and much, much more.

(Source: *Lakepoint Sports, EVHS records and History of Bartow County, Georgia, (Formerly Cass) by Lucy Josephine Cunyus*)

## THE LOST CITY OF ETOWAH

(continued from page 5)

the railroad to the town of Etowah. Cooper also designed a pistol using the high quality iron and offered it to Samuel Colt and arranged to purchase \$75,000 to prepare making arms for the Confederacy.

It was also noted that Cooper flew the first disunion flag which was hoisted atop what he called Mount Anthony (Pine Mountain) which could be seen from the bridge and many directions. It was in May 22nd, 1864 General Wheeler reports of the burning of the Etowah Iron Works and the town of Cartersville. The DAILY CONSTITUTIONALIST [AUGUSTA, GA], May 27, 1864, p. 1, c. 1 Etowah Iron Works.—A dispatch was received in this city yesterday says the Savannah Republican of the 25th, stating that the Yankees had made a complete destruction of these works which were situated a few miles above Cartersville. Most of the valuable machinery had been removed to a place of safety. Where the equipment was moved is not known. From July 12 to November 10, 1864, the 6th Independent Battery, Wisconsin Light Artillery was stationed here.

This is a brief description of Etowah. Articles in 1869 report the United States Government in 1869 claimed the Iron Works. With the building of Allatoona dam portions of the city are flooded located to the East of the Dam not to mention a cemetery. The story of Etowah may not be as dramatic as Atlantis or Pompeii but still an interesting mystery nonetheless.

## DID YOU KNOW?

### INTERESTING CIVIL WAR FACTS

- If the names of the Civil War dead were organized similar to the names on the Vietnam Memorial wall, the Civil War memorial would be over 10 times longer.
- During the Civil War, 2% of the U.S. population died. This is equivalent to 6 million men today. While rifles were the deadliest weapons during the war, disease killed more men. Camps became breeding grounds for measles, chicken pox, and mumps. One million Union soldiers contracted malaria.
- More Americans died at the Bloody Angle at Spotsylvania, Virginia, in May 1864 than at Omaha Beach on D-Day in 1944.
- The most common operation performed on soldiers during the Civil War was amputation. The best surgeon could have a limb severed and discarded within five minutes. Civil War doctors were nicknamed "sawbones." There were 60,000 partial or complete amputations during the war.
- Most Civil War soldiers marched 15 to 20 miles a day.
- After the Southern states seceded, both the United States and the Confederacy instituted the first ever national income tax. Ever since the Civil War, Americans have lived with the IRS.
- Of the 3 million soldiers in the Civil War, 1% were regular army, 9% were draftees or substitutes, and the rest were volunteers.



- President Lincoln's personal copy of the Emancipation Proclamation would be worth millions if it were still in existence. It was donated to the Chicago Historical Society in 1864, but destroyed in the Great Fire of 1871.
- During the war, the Union confiscated Robert E. Lee's estate and turned it into a cemetery so that he would be reminded of the carnage he caused. It later became Arlington National Cemetery.
- In March 1863, the government passed a law drafting men into the army. A man could avoid the draft by paying \$300 to hire someone to take his place. Among those in the Union who hired substitutes were future president Grover Cleveland, J.P. Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, and Lincoln's personal secretary John Nicolay. Lincoln himself also hired a substitute—John Summerfield Staple—for \$500.
- In the North, inflation rose 100% over the four years of the Civil War. In the South, the rate neared 100% every year of the war. Immediately after Lee's surrender at Appomattox, it took 1,200 Confederate dollars to buy 1 U.S. dollar.

*www.evhsonline.org*  
Use the above website to  
keep up with the activities of the  
Etowah Valley Historical Society



## CAN YOU DIG IT?

Join EVHS on Sunday, 9/13/2015 @ 5:30 PM at WALNUT GROVE for BBQ and tour of LEAKE EXCAVATION SITE. Space is limited – Call 770.607.8862 to RSVP. (Walnut Grove Home will not be open for Tours – Optional Tram Ride to Dig Site)

# COMMEMORATIVE CIVIL WAR EDITION



## ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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