CONFEDERATE BATTERY POSITION  
GPS: N33 55.366 | W084 25.687  
Location: Chattahoochee Recreational Area parking lot just north of I-285  
The Confederate Army had occupied and protected the house and land that belonged to Judge James Powers on the Cobb side of the river in early July. James’ son, Samuel, was not at home to protect his aged father. He was away fighting with the Confederate Army. On July 12th Federal forces, crossed the river at Judge Powers Ferry and started working their way up the original Powers Ferry Road towards the current intersection with Mt. Vernon Highway where Crossroads Primitive Baptist is currently located. The bridge across the river approximates the ferry crossings closest to Sherman’s troops. A two gun battery was above Powers Ferry and a single gun was above the former site of Isom’s Ferry. This ferry was operated by the Heard family after the war and so is also referred to as Heard’s Ferry. (Near the present day site of the River Chase neighborhood Swim and Tennis Club).

Powers Ferry  
GPS: N33 54.136 | W084 26.639  
Location: Chattahoochee Recreation Area parking lot just north of I-285  
The Federal army had occupied and protected the house and land that belonged to Judge James Powers on the Cobb side of the river in early July. James’ son, Samuel, was not at home to protect his aged father. He was away fighting with the Confederate Army. On July 12th Federal forces, crossed the river at Judge Powers Ferry and started working their way up the original Powers Ferry Road towards the current intersection with Mt. Vernon Highway where Crossroads Primitive Baptist is currently located. The bridge across the river approximates the ferry crossings closest to Sherman’s troops. A two gun battery was above Powers Ferry and a single gun was above the former site of Isom’s Ferry. This ferry was operated by the Heard family after the war and so is also referred to as Heard’s Ferry. (Near the present day site of the River Chase neighborhood Swim and Tennis Club).

HOWARD’S 4TH AC LINE AND CABLE WELL  
GPS: N33 53.907 | W084 25.568  
Location: Northside Dr at Mt Vernon Highway, Sandy Springs  
General Thomas’ 4th Corp, led by General Howard, left Crossroads and headed south on Powers Ferry Road, across Long Island Creek and on towards Buckhead. At the corner of Mt. Vernon Hwy and Northside drive are the remains of the Cable home place. XXX died at first Manassas. XXX and XXXX son fought with the 38th Georgia Infantry, CSA.

GENERAL SHERMAN PLANS ATLANTA CAMPAIGN  
4th and 23rd Advance  
GPS: N33 54.336 | W084 24.982  
Location: Old Powers Ferry Rd. and Mt. Vernon Highway, Sandy Springs  
General Sherman crossed into Sandy Springs on July 16th at Powers Ferry and established quarters near the crossing. From the morning of the 16th through the evening of the 17th he ranged through Sandy Springs from near present day Holy Innocents School to the edge of Nancy Creek. He met with his two generals, Schofield and Howard and corresponded General McPherson who was camped on the south banks of the Chattahoochee from present day Huntcliff neighborhood to Island Ford. With his three Armies successfully across the river, Sherman could now plan his attack of Atlanta. This high ridge still affords a commanding view of Atlanta and surroundings.

Schofield Moves toward Cross Keys  
GPS: N33 54.994 | W084 23.820  
Location: Mt. Vernon Highway at Heards Ferry Rd, Sandy Springs  
General Schofield’s troops marched from Crossroads the area of Heards Ferry and Holy Innocents School through Sandy Springs, headed for old Cross Keys, now the intersection of Johnson’s Ferry and Ashford Dunwoody Roads.

23rd Moves Toward Decatur  
GPS: N33 55.135 | W084 23.573  
Location: Mt. Vernon Highway at Long Island Dr., Sandy Springs  
Part of Schofield’s troops (Hascall’s Division) went south from Mount Vernon Hwy. along Long Island Drive to Mount Paran Road, where they camped for the night near Burdett’s farm. They then headed east to rejoin Schofield’s other troops (Cox’s Division), who had gone eastwards on Mt Vernon Hwy. past the Sandy Springs Methodist Church and Campgrounds and through the very heart of Sandy Springs. At the intersection of Mount Vernon Hwy. and Johnson’s Ferry Road they turned south.

Woodall House  
GPS: 7865 Nesbit Ferry Road  
Location: 7865 Nesbit Ferry Road  
In 1854, Charles N. Woodall built his family’s 1-1/2 story farmhouse on 500 acres along the Chattahoochee River. By 1860 they were raising five children in the house and farming with the help of ten slaves. Charles Woodall enlisted in the Cherokee Legions State Guards, Company B, from late 1863 until 1864, thus serving for the Confederacy in the Civil War

Garrard Crosses at Roswell  
GPS: N33 56.705 | W084 24.373  
Location: Lower Roswell Rd at Timber Ridge Rd at Willeo Creek  
With the occupation of Marietta by Federal forces July 3, 1864, Garrard’s cav. was sent to Roswell to secure a Chattahooche River crossing for the passage of McPherson’s Army of the Tennessee, which was later shifted from the Federal right to the extreme left.

July 5. Garrard reached this point on Willeo Creek, where he camped. From here a regiment was sent to burn the Soap Creek Paper Mills. On the same day a detachment moved to Roswell & while the 7th Pa. Cav. drove the Confederate defenders across the bridge, the cotton & woolen factories were burned.

METHODIST CHURCH AND CAMPGROUNDS  
Location: 86 Mt. Vernon Highway  
Sandy Springs Methodist Church is one of the oldest churches in the community. Established in 1848, the church moved to its present location in 1851. The building has been replaced several times. The area around the church was known as the “camp ground or meeting ground.” Camp meetings were popular until well into the 20th century. The meetings lasted up to five days and featured revival preaching and singing. It was also a gathering place for isolated farm families and friends could reunite for a few days. The camp ground is noted on Schofield’s maps and the cemetery is the final resting place of many CSA soldiers and veterans.

Obediah Copeland’s  
Location: 8100 Roberts Drive  
The Copeland’s were one of the first families to move to Sandy Springs after the 1820 land lottery. Obediah Copeland served in the Confederate Army. Located at the old intersection of the Hightower and Shallow ford trails, his home became an important stop for travelers. The home and well were destroyed to build Dunwoody Springs Elementary School. A reproduction of his well, on school grounds, serves as a remembrance of earlier times.

Wagon Stop house  
(private property)  
Location: Johnson Ferry and Glenridge Drive NE  
Although remodeled several times, the Wagon Stop House retains the core cabin built by the Wade family sometime before 1854. Several Wade’s are listed in local CSA regiments and are likely related to the home’s builders.

Heard Cemetery  
GPS: 33°55’16”N, 84°25’20”W  
Location: End of Heard’s Drive  
This cemetery was once located near the home place of the Heard Family. The house is gone, but the cemetery is one of the oldest known burial grounds in the area. The site was overrun and occupied by Federal forces in July 1864.

Holcomb Bridge  
Location: 4300 Holcomb Bridge Road  
On July 9th the Federal attack from the Roswell area began on two fronts, one at Roswell itself, and another further east at McAfee’s bridge, now known as Holcomb Bridge. The battle to cross from Roswell was successful and soon the area of what is now Huntcliff Riding Stables became the staging area for Federal soldiers, supplies, and equipment. At McAfee’s Bridge Confederate forces were able to repulse the attack at first, but it would fall by July 10th.
Heritage Sandy Springs Presents
Civil War Tour

Heritage Sandy Springs Museum
Location: 6075 Sandy Springs Circle
Discover the rich natural and cultural history of the community at Heritage Sandy Springs Museum. Permanent exhibit, Sandy Springs: Land and People traces the development of the area from prehistoric to modern times. Two changing exhibits explore complimentary themes. Museum open Wednesday and Saturday 11AM-2PM. Grounds open daily.

Fish Weir
GPS: N33 55'48.87”/ W 84 25'11.13”
Location: Edgewater Drive
This is one of three Native American Fishing weirs or dams in Sandy Springs. The stone structures span the Chattahoochee River and were used to trap fish. On July 8, 1864 a detachment of Federal soldiers used these stones to cross the river as part of an attack that would result in the first Federal crossing of the Chattahoochee River.

Schofield’s Crossing at Sope Creek and Isom’s Ferry
GPS: N 33 54’53.52” / W 84 25’9.56
On July 7th General Sherman sent troops to the Sope Creek area (Cobb County side of the river) with orders of minimal noise and no fires. They were to spread out in concealed positions along the ridges on the north side of the river. On July 8th one detachment was sent ½ mile upstream of Sope Creek to an ancient Native American fish dam, made of rock, which spanned the river between present day Columns Drive and Edgewater Drive. They were to cross the river and then head south toward the lone Confederate gun that guarded the crossing.

At 4:00 PM on the 8th, Federal troops on ridges along the Sope Creek side of the river opened a barrage of rifle and cannon fire aimed at the Confederate position. At the same time, about a hundred soldiers rushed out of the woods toward the river and began to fire across the river at the water level. From behind the ridge, twenty-five pontoon boats full of soldiers plunged into Sope Creek and began racing downstream and toward the opposite bank of the river. The Confederate gunners were only able to get off one shot before they were overtaken. By 4:15 PM the attack was over. Oarsmen would continue to ferry troops across the river and by dusk Federal engineers had two pontoon bridges in place shuttling more men and equipment into Sandy Springs.

By nightfall, the Federal Army held three hill tops: one in the present day River Chase neighborhood, one at the hilltop home of the Heard family (the present location of Heard Cemetery on Heard’s Drive), and the last on the high ground at the end of present day Edgewater Drive.

Heritage Sandy Springs is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to preserving and promoting the historic and cultural identity of Sandy Springs. Heritage Sandy Springs funds and operates Heritage Green, a four-acre City park located in the heart of Sandy Springs. Heritage Green is the home of the Heritage Sandy Springs Museum, the original springs and the Sandy Springs Society Entertainment Lawn. Each year, thousands of residents and visitors come to this unique green space to enjoy free concerts, participate in the award-winning Sandy Springs Festival, stroll the shady gardens, visit the Museum and attend weddings, meetings and corporate functions.

Information: 404.851.9111 • www.heritagesandysprings.org