BENTONVILLE BATTLEFIELD TOUR MAP

North Carolina Historic Sites

NC Natural and Cultural Resources

MARKER NAME

1. Sherman
2. Union Hospital
3. Confederate Hospital
4. Union Headquarters
5. Union Hospital
6. Michigan Engineer's Trenches
7. Confederate Cemetery
8. Union Headquarters
9. Federal Artillery
10. Confederate Main Charge
11. Fighting Below the Road
12. Main Confederate Line
13. Main Confederate Line
14. Bentonville
15. Confederate Works
16. Mill Creek
17. Hardee's Charge
18. Mower's Attack
19. Union Line March 21st
20. Union Line March 20th
21. Union Headquarters
22. Federal Junction
23. Main Union Line
24. Main Confederate Line

KEY

- Interpretive Sign
- Driving Tour
- Core Area of Battlefield
- Church
- Driving Tour Stop
- Audio Tour Stop

DRIVING TOUR

- A Confederate High Tide
- B Morgan's Stand
- C Junior Reserves
- D Merging of the Union Armies
- E Sherman's Headquarters
- F Johnston's Headquarters
- G Hardee's Countercharge

AUDIO TOUR

910-535-2008

Harper House (press 55)
Monument Area (press 95)
Morris Farm (press 3)
Cole Plantation (press 1)
Morgan's Stand (press 2)
Junior Reserves (press 4)
Merging of the Armies (press 5)
Sherman's Headquarters (press 6)
Johnston's Headquarters (press 7)
Hardee's Counter Charge (press 8)

Plaque #1 Sherman

Gen. Wm. T. Sherman camped in this area with his Left Wing on the night of March 18th, 1865. The following morning the Left Wing continued along this road meeting Gen. Joseph E. Johnston's Confederates in the Battle of Bentonville, 2 miles east. Meanwhile, Sherman joined his Right Wing, marching toward Goldsboro on another road, and thus missed the first day of battle.

Plaque #2 Union Hospital

The Harper House was used as a Hospital by the XIV Corps, March 19-21, 1865. About 500 Union wounded were treated here.

Plaque #3 Confederate Hospital

Following the battle 45 Confederate wounded were hospitalized in the Harper House. Nineteen of these men died here. Surgeons moved the others to regular Confederate hospitals.

Plaque #4 Union Headquarters

Maj. Gen. A.S. Williams, commanding the XX Corps, established his headquarters here on March 19th. In the woods to the north, the XX Corps erected breastworks which remain.

Plaque #5 Union Hospital

Field Hospital for the XX Corps during the Battle of Bentonville was located here. Four hundred Union soldiers wounded in the Battle of Averasboro (16 miles west) on March 16th were brought here for treatment.

Plaque #6 Federal Earthworks

Constructed by the First Michigan Engineers and others, March 19th, 1865. Occupied by Federals through the battle. Works began 75 yards behind this marker.

Plaque #7 Confederate Cemetery

The remains of 360 Confederates who fell in the Battle of Bentonville lie here. They were moved to this plot from other parts of the battlefield in 1893. The monument was erected at that time.

Plaque #8 Union Headquarters

Maj. Gen. H. G. Slocum, commanding Sherman's Left Wing had headquarters in this field, March 19-21, 1865.

Plaque #9 Federal Artillery

Union batteries (26 guns) formed a line here, March 19. These guns covered retreating Federals during the Confederate charges and finally halted the advance of the Confederate Right Wing.

Plaque #10 Confederate Main Charge

After overrunning two Union lines above this road, the Confederates crossed here in the main assault of March 19, 1865. Union reinforcements halted their advance in the woods below the road.

Plaque #11 Fighting Below the Road

One-half mile south of this point, across the road, Brig. Gen. J.D. Morgan's Union Division halted the main Confederate charge, March 19, 1865, in one of the fiercest engagements of the battle.

Plaque #12 Main Confederate Line

The Left Confederate Wing, part of a long hooked-shaped line designed to trap the Union forces, extended across the road here on March 19. This sector, occupied by Maj. Gen. R.F. Hoke's Division, was evacuated on March 20. A new line parallel to the road was established 500 yards north.

Plaque #13 Main Confederate Line

On March 19th the line extended ¾ mile to the rear of this marker and one mile to the left, forming a strong hook-shaped position with a right angle turn here. On March 20 the Left Wing was pulled back to this point and the new Confederate line crossed the road here. Earthworks remain.

Plaque #14 Bentonville

In 1865, a local market center for naval stores (tar, pitch & turpentine). Bentonville gives name to the battle fought nearby, March 19-21, 1865. Confederates concentrated here the day before the battle. As they retreated on March 22, they burned all stocks of naval stores. Union forces occupied the village, March 22-24.

Plaque #15 Confederate Works

Remains of breastworks on this hill mark a line of works built by the Confederates to protect Mill Creek Bridge.

Plaque #16 Mill Creek

The flooded state of this creek upstream prevented an attack by Wheeler's Confederate cavalry on the rear of Sherman's Army, March 19, 1865. A bridge here was the Confederates' sole line of retreat after the battle.

Plaque #17 Hardee's Charge

Near this point Gen. William J. Hardee led the charge of the 8th Texas Cavalry and other Confederates, repulsing the advance of Mower's Division, March 21, 1865.

Plaque #18 Mower's Attack

Advancing toward Mill Creek Bridge, Johnston's only line of retreat, Maj. Gen. J.A. Mower's Union Division broke the Confederate line near this point, March 21. Mower's Division reached a point 200 yards from Johnston's headquarters before it was driven back by Confederate infantry and cavalry.

Plaque #19 Union Line March 21

After withdrawing from the advance against Mill Creek Bridge, Mower's Federals reformed here and threw up works. This was the extreme right of the Union line on March 21st Earthworks remain.

Plaque #20 Union Line March 20

Trenches in the woods behind this marker formed the extreme right of the Union line on March 20. This sector was occupied by the XVII Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. F.P. Blair.

Plaque #21 Union Headquarters

Sherman's headquarters were located in the field 400 yards to the rear of this marker, March 20-21, 1865. Headquarters of the XVII Corps, which included Mower's Division, were 250 yards to the left rear.

Plaque #22 Federal Junction

Sherman's Left and Right Wings joined forces here during the afternoon of March 20, 1865. They constructed works across the road and skirmished with the Confederates.

Plaque #23 Main Union Line

Advanced to this point during the afternoon of March 21st. the XV Corps established a line of works across the road here. Earthworks remain.

Plaque #24 Main Confederate Line

Crossed the road at this point, March 20th-21st. Gen. R.F. Hoke's Division occupied this sector. Scene of much skirmishing but no heavy fighting. Earthworks remain.