



### **1907 Florence, AL Map**

Vice President Harris Griggs, of Franklin, TN, has obtained a photocopy of a map of the Florence, AL area. It was printed in 1907. The primary value to us is that it shows the approaches to the crossing at Bainbridge, the roads in the area that were used in the WBTS, place and creek names and other detail that was recorded only 42 years after the war. In many cases the roads did not change and the community names did not change during those years.

One diary entry records that men of the 41<sup>st</sup> Georgia were digging trenches “two miles north of Florence” before their departure to Nashville. By association, we can be nearly certain that the other four regiments of the Stovall’s brigade were digging too in the same general location. When I scale off the two miles, from the center of Florence, the two miles falls on “ Mars Hill”, just above “ Cox Creek”. That makes perfect sense. The entrenchments would be on the high ground , overlooking the creek, that the Yankees would have to cross as an obstacle. Mars Hill and Cox Creek were there in 1907 and I submit they are still there today. Now we have two names in addition to the distance reference from the diary entry.

The “ Military Road” goes through Mars Hill and later becomes the “Nashville Road” , according to the 1907 map.

### **Resaca Battlefield Farm Trouble**

Trouble comes in many forms. This personal story of battlefield preservation comes from Founder and Historian Emeritus Gary R. Goodson Sr. Gary was contacted by Jule Medders of Resaca, GA. Gary knows Jule through earlier research. Gary passed the information on to me so that it could reach our members and a wider audience through the Newsletter and your contacts.

Jule is asking for help in obtaining funds to save the family farm **which is located on the right flank of the Confederate Line at Resaca. Recall that Stovall’s Brigade was on the far right of the CSA Line at Resaca and made their attack from that position.**

Jule lives on the family farm near Resaca. It has been in the family for nearly 100 years. Her grandfather, Thurman Chitwood bought it and she has lived there since 1968. For over 20 years they host the reenactment of the Battle of Resaca.

The trouble started when a cousin used the farm for collateral for his trucking business. Several misfortunes hit his business. After several years the bank was on the verge of foreclosing on the farm.

The Trust For Public Lands had been working with the family to put a historic easement on the property. Since they knew the history of the land, the TPL offered to help. The TPL offered to buy the Farm from the bank for what was owed.

A contract was entered into between the family and TPL so the family could buy the farm back.

Jule reports that they are, “ Working on an agricultural deal to put the farm to work so that it would pay itself off.” “ We are looking for all other options to raise the money.” They need to borrow/ raise \$1.4 Million. Jule is confident that she can get a loan but .... she is asking for help

One of the ways that Jule is raising money is from the sale of a CD of songs she wrote and recorded, about the Civil War. Many of the songs have connections to the Resaca battle. The CD is titled *Shades of Blue and Grey*. It is a quality recording by some of Nashville’s top musicians. Gary has one of the original CDs and he likes the music.

If you would like to buy this CD, please contact Jule for more information at <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/julemedders> or [julenjoy@aol.com](mailto:julenjoy@aol.com)

Our members have many contacts in Georgia and the Civil War community. We have members that are lawyers and real estate agents. Our ancestors fought on her farm in 1864 and we visited that battleground in 2005. If you have any ideas on who to contact or how to help, please contact Jule at the above addresses.

One way to help is to provide the contact information for a lending source that will loan on farms in North Georgia. One can never have too many sources of money. If you have lender sources that might loan in this situation, I’m sure she would like to hear from you.

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I will try to have the next Newsletter out about April 15.

Mike Griggs  
President