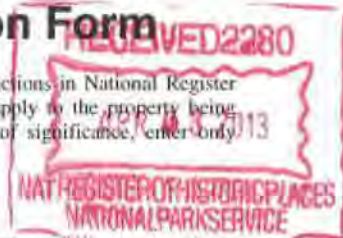


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Johnston's River Line (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)

Other names/site number: Johnston's Line (NRHP); 9CO26; 9CO79

Name of related multiple property listing:

Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

### 2. Location

Street & number: 6700 Discovery Boulevard

City or town: Mableton State: Georgia County: Cobb

Not For Publication:  Vicinity:

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this    nomination    request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property    meets    does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

   national    statewide   X   local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

  X   A    B   X   C    D

<u>J. Dane Crum</u> DIVISION DIRECTOR		<u>25 MARCH 2015</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

In my opinion, the property <u>  </u> meets <u>  </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	
Date	
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) Accept Additional Documentation

Patrick Andrews  
Signature of the Keeper

5/18/2015  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
15	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
15	_____	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register Unknown-  
original nomination did not specify and no records at NPS speak to this.

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Defense/Fortification

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Vacant/Not in Use

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: N/A- Earth

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

### Summary Paragraph

Please note: All information regarding the documentation, mapping, and historical context of the Chattahoochee River Line resources nominated herein was originally reported in *Archeology Inventory and GIS Analysis for the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield (July 5-10, 1864), Cobb County, Georgia* by Scott Butler and Keith Bohannon (2011).

The 83.22-acre Johnston's River Line tract is owned by Cobb County, Georgia, and located in the community of Mableton, Georgia. The tract is set within a wooded, hilly area on the northwest side of the Chattahoochee River. Surrounding land use includes light industry to the east and west, residential properties to the northeast, wooded sections along Nickajack Creek to the north, and the Chattahoochee River to the south. Importantly, the property retains landscape features, like Nickajack Creek, that were utilized by the Union and Confederate Armies during the battle for, and defense of, the Chattahoochee River Line. This tract contains 15 resources that contribute to the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property listing, all of which are earthen field fortifications. These fifteen resources are a Confederate Shoupade (a type of infantry redoubt), artillery redan, infantry trench, and rifle pits (previously recorded as 9CO26), and a Union artillery field redan and rifle pits (previously recorded as 9CO79). These resources

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meet all registration requirements for the infantry trench, artillery redan, rifle pit, and Shoupade property types associated with the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, including integrity of association, setting, location, and feeling. These fifteen resources were previously listed on the NRHP as Johnston's Line, with a total of 13.07 acres surrounding them. Further, it is unclear both to the National Park Service staff and our own staff if all of these resources were counted in the original nomination. The acreage previously listed as Johnston's Line is not included in the acreage being nominated here, though the previously listed field fortifications are listed as contributing resources for this nomination.

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### Narrative Description

The Johnston's River Line-Confederate and Union Fortifications at Discovery Boulevard property is located in the community of Mableton, Georgia, and is owned by Cobb County, Georgia (Figures 1, 2). The county is endeavoring to turn this property into a public park that will include walking trails and interpretive signage for the historic resources within the tract. While surrounded by development to the east and west, the tract itself is wooded and undeveloped. The absence of grading and construction has also helped to preserve the topography of the tract's landscape, which is an essential element to understanding the placement of the defensive structures of the Chattahoochee River Line, as well their relationship to the opposing Union field fortifications.

The Johnston's River Line tract contains four resource types that contribute to the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, and that represent both sides of the conflict. The Confederate field fortifications include a Shoupade (a distinctive type of infantry redoubt), infantry trenches, artillery redan, and rifle (or skirmish) pits. The Union field fortifications include an artillery redan and associated rifle pits. These Federal earthworks were previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as Johnston's River Line (see Figure 3). The Confederate Shoupade, infantry trench, and artillery redan were constructed in June, 1864 as an extension of the Chattahoochee River Line meant to protect the important river crossing at Turner's Ferry (now the Veteran's Memorial Highway Bridge). The Union field fortifications were likely built on or around July 9, 1864, when Federal troops began their direct assault on this section of the River Line. The registration requirements for each associated property type described here is included in Section F of the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination. A description of the current state of each resource is provided below.

It is important to note that all of the resources within the property being nominated here were previously listed on the NRHP in 1973 as Johnston's Line. The Johnston's Line nomination is fairly incomplete by today's standards, with no photographs, no accurate maps of the resources, no description of property types, and very brief descriptions of physical appearance, integrity, and statement of significance. The size of the previously nominated property is listed as 13.07 acres. The only map in the nomination shows this acreage divided between three locations, with

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one box drawn around the Union artillery redan and rifle pits, one undescribed resource located to the northwest, and one long, curved outline drawn around the location of the Confederate artillery redan, trenchline, Shoupade, and rifle pits. The unnamed resource to the northwest, whatever it was, no longer exists, having been destroyed by light industrial development. The boundaries in this nomination represent current conditions. Importantly, the 13.07 acres that were previously nominated as part of Johnston's Line are not included with the acreage listed in this nomination (see Section 10:Geographical Data for an explanation of how acreage for this nomination was calculated). The number of contributing resources listed in this nomination, though, does include these previously-listed resources. The purpose of this nomination is to include more acreage within the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield listing, as the topography and landscape features between and around the resources is important to understanding the logistics of the battle. This new nomination will also provide a more complete picture of the resources, including photographs of their present condition, description of their integrity and significance, and a more complete narrative of their use within the larger battlefield, as well as more accurate maps of the resources.

The Shoupade located in the Johnston's River Line tract is a diamond-shaped earthwork that rises about one and half meters (five feet) from the ground surface. It is approximately 13 m (43 ft) wide and 15 m (50 ft) long. All four walls of the Shoupade are intact, and the wall measurements of this Shoupade match well with descriptions of Shoupades provided in Scaife and Erquitt (1992:32). These specify front walls that are approximately 42 feet long (12.8 meters) and rear walls that are about 22 feet (6.7 meters) long, though some variation is expected. In Shoup's design of the River Line, the Shoupades were to occupy areas of high ground. This placement ensures that these infantry redoubts then have better a defensive position and vantage point than did attacking troops. The Johnston's River Line tract Shoupade retains this key attribute, as it sits on a high point in the tract's terrain, which allows a visitor to view the surrounding landscape in much the same way as a Confederate soldier in 1864. Of the 36 Shoupades that were constructed along the Chattahoochee River Line, only nine are known to be extant, including the one in the Johnston's River Line tract (Butler and Bohannon 2011:56). This Shoupade meets the eligibility requirements established in the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, Section F, associated property types, by retaining four walls with appropriate Shoupade dimensions and shape, and being located within the core Battlefield area. It retains integrity of design, association, setting, location, and feeling.

The Confederate artillery redan in the Johnston's River Line tract is an impressive semi-circular earthwork that rises about 2.75 m (nine ft) from the ground surface, and is approximately 50 m (165) across. Larger than a typical Chattahoochee River Line artillery redan, this fortification supported seven guns. Given that this is the furthest western extension of the River Line, this redan acted as an "anchor fort," which explains why it was larger and better equipped, a fact that allowed it to better guard the vulnerable end-point of the Line. According to Shoup's design, redans and Shoupades acted in concert with one another to create an enfilading crossfire that could effectively protect the River Line and the defending troops. Typically, a redan would be placed in between, and somewhat behind, two Shoupades in order to create this interlocking field

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of fire. This artillery redan, however, is the end of the River Line, so there is no Shoupage on its left. Despite this, a modern visitor is able to understand the relationship of the two field fortifications when standing at one and looking to the other. This artillery redan meets the eligibility requirements established in the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, Section F, associated property types, by retaining a parapet that forms a curve (or angle), and being located within the core Battlefield area. It retains integrity of association, setting, location, and feeling.

A 450-m (1475-ft) segment of infantry trench runs between and to either side of the Shoupage and artillery redan. Rising about a meter (3.3 ft) from the ground, the trench displays a gutter on one side where defending Confederate troops would have stood, and a number of traverses that were necessary once this extension of the River Line began to take heavy fire from a Union artillery redan located a short distance to the west (and described below). This infantry trench meets the eligibility requirements established in the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, Section F, Associated Property Types, by retaining a parapet and gutter a relatively uniform height, and being located within the core Battlefield area. It retains integrity of association, setting, location, and feeling.

Six Confederate rifle pits not previously listed are located northwest of the trenchline (see Figure 3). These are smaller, informal structures, about 4.5 to five m (15-20 ft) across. These field fortifications would have been dug out quickly for the purpose of protecting defending Confederate riflemen. These rifle pits meet the eligibility requirements established in the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, Section F, associated property types, because they are discernible depressions placed in groups, in front of, or adjacent to, other identifiable field fortifications, and they are located within the core Battlefield area. They retain integrity of association, setting, location, and feeling.

A Federal artillery redan is located to the west of the Confederate redan/anchor fort, on a hilltop on the opposite (west) side of Nickajack Creek (see Figure 3). This two-gun redan was previously recorded as Site 9CO79, and is believed to have been occupied by Battery D, First Illinois, according to Scaife and Erquitt (1992:14a). This circular earthwork is really more like an excavated rifle pit with a low berm, which is about 16.5 m (55 ft) across. These fortifications were likely constructed on the night of July 5, 1864, when under cover of darkness, Union troops were able to avoid gunfire from the Confederate redan located only about 400 m (1310 ft) away (Butler and Bohannon 2011:15-16). Given the rapidity of the construction, and the danger of their position, it is understandable the Federal troops erected a less than formal artillery redan here. However, once established, this battery delivered withering attacks on the Confederate redan and along the River Line. It was able to fire at nearly point-blank range at the vulnerable end point of the River Line, as well as across and behind the Confederate trenchline. The numerous traverses that were thrown up to defend Confederate troops along this section of the Line are clear evidence of the enfilading fire from the two-gun Union redan. This artillery redan meets the eligibility requirements established in the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, Section F, Associated Property Types, by retaining a parapet that forms a

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curve (or angle), and being located within the core Battlefield area. It retains integrity of association, setting, location, and feeling.

Five Federal rifle pits are located to the east of the redan (see Figure 3) which would have offered further menace to the defending troops across Nickajack Creek. Much like the Confederate rifle pits, these are smaller, informal structures, about 4.5 to five m (15-20 ft) across. These rifle pits meet the eligibility requirements established in the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, Section F, Associated Property Types, because they are discernible depressions placed in groups, in front of, or adjacent to, other identifiable field fortifications, and they are located within the core Battlefield area. They retain integrity of association, setting, location, and feeling.

All the field fortifications within the Johnston's River Line tract meet the eligibility requirements laid out in the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property listing, within Section F, Associated Property Types. Each resource is readily discernible as an infantry trench, redan, rifle pit, or Shoupade, respectively, and each fits the broad outlines for their fortification type. No less important, the contributing resources within the Johnston's River Line tract display integrity, also detailed in Section F, including integrity of association, setting, location, and feeling, and in the case of the Shoupade, integrity of design. The following paragraph will describe each of these aspects of integrity.

First, all the resources are located within the core Battlefield area as defined by Butler and Bohannon (2011), directly associated with the events and activities of the Atlanta Campaign. They are in their original documented locations, and have not been moved. In terms of setting, key earthworks, like artillery redans and the Shoupade, continue to occupy the highest parts of the landscape, and it is still possible to understand the relationship of individual earthworks, like trenchlines and redans, to each other, as well as the relationship of the opposing earthworks to each other. Furthermore, Nickajack Creek, an important landscape feature that divided the Federals and the Confederates, still flows through the tract, a fact that adds to an understanding of the original battlefield, as well as the feeling and setting of that battlefield. The feeling of the Battlefield is also enhanced by the fact that the tract has not been developed. While trees have been allowed to grow up and around the earthworks, which would have been denuded prior to the battle, during the Period of Significance, the surrounding area would have been wooded. Therefore, the trees do not detract a great deal from the character of the field fortifications. Additionally, the Shoupade retains integrity of design, as it still has walls of approximately the same length, and in the same configuration, as Shoup specified for his design. It also continues to occupy a high spot on the landscape, as Shoup intended. In sum, the fifteen resources within the Johnston's River Line tract contribute to the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield, are individually significant under Criteria A and C, meet eligibility requirements, and retain integrity.

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MILITARY

ENGINEERING

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1864  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

July 5-10, 1864  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

Shoup, Francis A.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The four resource types present within the Johnston's River Line tract are significant at the local level under Criterion A in the area of military history, as they associated with an event, the Atlanta Campaign, which made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of the local area's history, essentially helping to shape the course of the Civil War in this region. As part of the Chattahoochee River Line, the defensive field fortifications nominated in this document, including the Confederate Shoupade, infantry trench, rifle pits, and artillery redan, were a major obstacle to General Sherman in his march to capture Atlanta, thereby delaying an assault of the city and The Battle of Atlanta. The offensive Union field fortifications represent the Federal army's attempt to overcome the barrier of the River Line.

In addition, the elements of the Chattahoochee River Line within the Johnston's River Line tract are also significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of engineering, as the River Line itself was designed with distinctive characteristics that are entirely unique to this defensive fortification. The most prominent example of this is the Shoupade, named for the River Line's designer, General Francis A. Shoup, a West Point-trained Confederate engineer and General Joseph E. Johnston's Chief of Artillery. The concept and placement of these Shoupades, along with other earthworks like redans, makes the Chattahoochee River Line a distinguishable type of defensive field fortification that was not used at any other time during the Civil War, or built in any other part of the United States. The Union earthworks are also significant under Criterion C, as they represent types of field fortifications that were distinctive to the Atlanta Campaign.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

The resources within the Johnston's River Line tract are significant at the local level in the areas of military history and engineering. The Confederate and Union earthworks are considered significant under Criteria A and C. A broad historical context for the Chattahoochee River Line field fortifications and Atlanta Campaign, including the infantry redoubts known as Shoupades, is provided in the Chattahoochee River Line multiple property listing cover document. This Statement of Significance summarizes this context for the Johnston's River Line tract contributing resources, as well as explain the significance of these resources under Criteria A and C, and discuss their integrity.

Throughout the Atlanta Campaign, the Union and Confederate Armies engaged in the construction of field fortifications on a scale unknown in earlier phases of the war. Indeed, the construction and occupation of earthen defenses is one of the defining characteristics of the

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Atlanta Campaign (Hess 2009:xv). The Chattahoochee River Line was a unique system of earthworks built largely by impressed slave labor and occupied by the Confederate Army of Tennessee between July 5-9, 1864. Today, Cobb County, Georgia owns tracts of land that contain remnants of Confederate and Union fortifications associated with the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield, one of which is the Johnston's River Line tract.

Confederate General Francis A. Shoup, General Johnston's Chief of Artillery, was the principal designer of defenses built on the Chattahoochee River and supervised their construction. Shoup was an 1855 graduate of West Point, and though he was from Indiana, he chose to fight for the Confederacy. At thirty-three years old, Shoup, "an educated and disciplined officer" according to Braxton Bragg, received the appointment as the army's Chief of Artillery (Daniel 1984:136-137). General Shoup (1895:262) stated that he and Joseph E. Johnston were "intimately associated" during the opening weeks of the Atlanta Campaign and the army commander constantly used him on engineer duty. Shoup stated, "I had often talked with him about a system of works of a somewhat novel character which I wanted to build, and he had expressed himself favorably with regard to my project" (Shoup 1895:262). With General William T. Sherman approaching Atlanta from Kennesaw Mountain, Johnston allowed Shoup to construct his "novel" system along the Chattahoochee River.

Specific information about the history and implementation of the design of the River Line is provided in Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property nomination, but a brief description of Shoupades is provided here. Shoupades were a unique type of infantry redoubt, which is essentially any enclosed polygonal field fortification. Shoupades were different from other infantry redoubts in that they had a diamond, or "arrowhead" shape, with exaggerated salients that faced towards the enemy, and shorter, enclosed, rear walls. The Shoupade design is completely unique in Civil War field fortifications.

Years after the war, Shoup wrote an article for *Confederate Veteran* magazine that describes the design and construction of his unique field fortification. He credited Georgia Militia General Gustavis W. Smith with coining the term "Shoupades" (Shoup 1895:263). In period accounts, they were simply referred to as infantry "redoubts." Shoup (1895:263) also presented sketches (Figure 4) of them and stated:

"The nature of the line was quite novel. It was not a system of earth works, but a line of detached log redoubts packed with earth. They were entirely enclosed, of this form in ground plan, each intended to be defended by one company of about eighty men. They were nearly perpendicular on the outer faces, ten or twelve feet in height, and the front faces about twelve feet thick, while the backs were only five or six feet through. The front faces were finished at the top with parapets. They were built of logs ten inches to a foot thick, and carefully packed in with earth."

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In addition to the thickness and height measurements provided by Shoup, modern scholars report that the front walls of Shoupades were uniformly forty-two feet long while the rear walls measured twenty-two feet (Scaife and Erquitt 1992:32). General Shoup claimed that the redoubts, if defended by a determined garrison, could not be taken by assault (Shoup 1895:263). The Shoupade redoubts were laid out on key terrain in a sawtooth pattern, dispersed with V-shaped artillery redans containing two guns each. The pattern thus created interlocking fields of fire (Figure 5). In this way, the integrated system of alternating Shoupades and artillery redans protected each other's salients, with overlapping fields of fire that made it difficult for enemies to approach.

The construction of the River Line began in June, 1864. Originally, the plans for River Line did not have it extend as far southwest as the Johnston's River Line tract. However, a primary concern for General Joseph E. Johnston was the defense of any river crossings that could be used by the Union Army, including bridges, ferries, and fords. For this reason, and to the chagrin of Shoup, a three-mile extension of the River Line was ordered to protect the important crossing at Turner's Ferry, now Veteran's Memorial Highway Bridge. The Confederate earthworks within the Johnston's River Line tract are part of this extension, though evidence of Turner's Ferry itself has been mostly obliterated by the construction of the Veteran's Memorial Highway Bridge (Butler and Bohannon 2011:53).

After being forced to retreat several times during the late morning and afternoon of July 5, General John Bell Hood's Corps entered the earthworks comprising the southernmost portion of the River Line, including the section of line in the Johnston's River Line tract. As Sherman's men pursued the retreating Confederates on the morning of July 5, the Federals took up positions facing the River Line. Sherman wrote in his memoirs that a personal reconnaissance, during which he saw the enemy's "abatis and strong redoubts," convinced him that Johnston had decided to make a stand. Sherman received additional details about the River Line from one of Shoup's impressed slaves who been forced to construct the fortifications, but who on July 5 escaped to the Union side. The details he provided about the River Line convinced Sherman not to attack Johnston's lines, but to order his army instead to take up positions opposite the enemy.

By the afternoon of July 5, Federal troops had advanced to a point near Nickajack Creek within roughly five hundred yards of the main Confederate works along the Chattahoochee. The Seventeenth Corps commander claimed that the Federals pushed to within seventy yards of the enemy skirmish line, "completely silencing" the Rebels (Official Reports of the U.S. War Department 38, III:579). During this advance, Union artillery batteries placed on the ridges behind the infantry fired at the large Confederate forts opposite them. A Southern general witnessing the exchange noted that the Union fire "was so rapid and well directed, throwing many of their shot through the embrasures, or just striking the inner edge of the parapet" that the Confederate cannoners lost their nerve. The nature of this close fighting is readily apparent within the Johnston's River Line tract, as the two-gun Union redan is only about 400 m (1310 ft) from the seven-gun Confederate redan. It is likely that this Union redan was constructed on the

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night of July 5, when the Federals used the cover of darkness to place the fortification as close as possible to the River Line (Butler and Bohannon 2011:15-16).

Fighting continued along the River Line for four days while Sherman and his generals attempted to locate areas where they could cross the Chattahoochee and breach the Confederate's defenses, finally succeeding on July 9. Johnston ordered the evacuation of the River Line that evening after having learned of the Federal crossings.

Both the Union and Confederate earthworks within the Johnston's River Line tract are significant under Criterion A at the local level. These resources played a role in the Atlanta Campaign, the outcome of which impacted the course of the Civil War, especially in this region. If the defenses of the Chattahoochee River Line had been more secure, Sherman may not have been able to attack Atlanta. Had they been less secure, Sherman may have marched on the city sooner than he did. The River Line held the Federal's advance by several days, effectively allowing the citizens and troops in Atlanta more time to prepare, and delaying the Battle of Atlanta. The resources within the Johnston's River Line tract are well-documented as being part of the three-mile extension of the Chattahoochee River Line designed to protect Turner's Ferry, which came under heavy fire by Union forces.

In addition, the Confederate and Union earthworks here are significant at the local level under Criterion C in the area of engineering, as these earthworks are distinctive to the Atlanta Campaign. On the Confederate side, the artillery redans, Shoupades, and infantry trenches were designed and placed in a manner that is completely unique to the Chattahoochee River Line. Shoupades, in particular, do not exist anywhere else in the world, and of the 36 that were originally constructed on the Line, only nine are known to be extant, including the Johnston's River Line tract Shoupade. The Federal earthworks, while not arranged in a "novel" way, are also of a type distinctive to the Atlanta Campaign. In other words, the Federal artillery redan and rifle pits are readily discernible as the kind of earthworks that Sherman and his generals were ordering constructed throughout the Campaign. More information is available about the distinctive nature of these earthworks in the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield multiple property listing, Section F, Associated Property Types.

All the field fortifications within the Johnston's River Line tract meet the eligibility requirements laid out in the multiple property listing, within Section F, Associated Property Types. Each resource is readily discernible as an infantry trench, redan, rifle pit, or Shoupade, respectively, and each fits the broad outlines for their fortification type. No less important, the contributing resources within the Johnston's River Line tract display integrity, also detailed in Section F. They are all within the core Battlefield area as defined by Butler and Bohannon (2011), directly associated with the events and activities of the Atlanta Campaign. They are in their original documented locations, and have not been moved. In terms of setting, key earthworks, like artillery redans and the Shoupade, continue to occupy the military crest on the highest parts of the landscape, and it is still possible to understand the relationship of individual earthworks, like trenchlines and redans, to each other, as well as the relationship of the opposing earthworks to

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each other. Furthermore, Nickajack Creek, an important landscape feature that divided the Federals and the Confederates, still flows through the tract, a fact that adds to an understanding of the original Battlefield, as well as the feeling and setting of that Battlefield. The feeling of the Battlefield is also enhanced by the fact that the tract has not been developed. While trees have been allowed to grow up and around the earthworks, during the Period of Significance, the area would have been wooded, so the trees do not detract a great deal from the character of the field fortifications. Additionally, the Shoupade retains integrity of design, as it still has walls of approximately the same length, and in the same configuration, as Shoup specified for his design. It also continues to occupy a high spot on the landscape, as Shoup intended. In sum, the fifteen resources within the Johnston's River Line tract contribute to the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield, are individually significant under Criteria A and C, meet eligibility requirements, and retain integrity.

Johnston's River Line  
(Boundary Increase and Additional  
Documentation)  
Name of Property

Cobb County, Georgia

County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Braley, Chad O.

1987 *A Preliminary Archeological Survey of the Discovery Tract, Cobb County, Georgia*. Southeastern Archeological Services, Inc. Athens, Georgia.

Butler, Scott, and Keith S. Bohannon

2011 *Archeology Inventory and GIS Analysis for the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield, July 5-10, 1864, Cobb County, Georgia*. Submitted to the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program by Brockington and Associates, Norcross, Georgia, under Grant No. 2255-09-013.

Daniel, Larry

1984 *Cannoneers in Gray: The Field Artillery of the Army of Tennessee, 1861-1865* University of Alabama Press, University, Alabama.

Dodge, J. T., and H. H. Ruger

1874 Map IV illustrating the Military Operations of the Atlanta Campaign Map Collection, Pocket 4, Folder 3, Park Library, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Marietta, Georgia.

Fryman, Robert J.

1993 *Mapping and Archeological Reconnaissance of Johnston's Chattahoochee River Defense Line, Cobb County, Georgia*. Garrow & Associates, Inc. Atlanta, Georgia.

Hess, Earl J.

2009 *In The Trenches at Petersburg*. University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill and London.

Shoup, Francis A.

1895 Dalton Campaign- Works At Chattahoochee River- Interesting History. *Confederate Veteran* 3, No. 9: 262-264.

Scaife, William R., and William Erquitt

1992 *The Chattahoochee River Line An American Maginot*. Privately printed by the authors, Atlanta, Georgia.

U.S. War Department

1880-1901 *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Reports of the Union and Confederate Armies*, 127 volumes, index, and atlas. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C.

Johnston's River Line  
(Boundary Increase and Additional  
Documentation)  
Name of Property

Cobb County, Georgia  
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**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
  - Other State agency
  - Federal agency
  - Local government
  - University
  - Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** 73.38 acres

The acreage included in this nomination does not include 3.23 of the 13.07 acres previously nominated as Johnston's Line. Boundaries have been adjusted to account for resources that no longer retain integrity. As Figure 3 shows, only part of the acreage previously nominated falls within the proposed nomination boundary; the size of this overlapping area is 9.84 acres. The size of the entire property proposed for nomination is 83.22 acres. Subtracting the 9.84 acres that overlap with the 83.22 acres results in 73.38 acres, which is the number of acres being nominated here.

Johnston's River Line  
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Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- 1. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

**See Figure 6, map of UTM references**

Label #	Zone	Northing	Easting
1	16N	3741936.81551000000	729841.07364800000
2	16N	3741558.77809000000	729579.66479200000
3	16N	3741309.43426000000	729286.08253800000
4	16N	3741190.79486000000	729348.41849600000
5	16N	3741123.04000000000	729391.81600000000
6	16N	3741269.21751000000	729662.10912400000
7	16N	3741745.78597000000	730375.95638500000
8	16N	3741912.68547000000	730231.17609500000

Johnston's River Line  
(Boundary Increase and Additional  
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Name of Property

Cobb County, Georgia

County and State

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Johnston's River Line tract includes portions of Cobb County-owned tax parcels 18039900010 and 18039800020. The property being nominated here is bordered to the south by the Chattahoochee River, to the north by Discovery Boulevard, to the east by the Discovery Boulevard Industrial Court, and to the west by a line drawn through parcel 18039900010.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

These boundaries encompass fifteen intact Civil War-era earthen field fortifications, including a Confederate Shoupage (infantry redoubt), artillery redan, infantry trench, and rifle pits, and a Union artillery field redan and rifle pits. These resources maintain their integrity and are associated with the events of the Atlanta Campaign and the defense of the Chattahoochee River Line, from July 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864. All acreage within the boundaries is owned by Cobb County. These boundaries exclude 3.23 of the 13.07 acres that were previously listed in the NRHP as part of Johnston's Line but which have now lost their integrity (Figure 3). The boundaries presented here also exclude areas of modern development, and the woods surrounding the resources assist in blocking views of such development. In addition, the forested environment helps to reflect the setting of the period of significance for the resources. Though it represents only a small fragment of the much larger battlefield, this tract of land is one of the only undisturbed fragments of the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield that is still extant.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Jana J. Futch, RPA, and Scott Butler, RPA  
organization: Brockington and Associates, Inc.  
street & number: 6611 Bay Circle, Suite 220  
city or town: Norcross state: Georgia zip code: 30071  
e-mail [janafutch@brockington.org](mailto:janafutch@brockington.org); [scottbutler@brockington.org](mailto:scottbutler@brockington.org)  
telephone: 678-638-4139; 678-638-4116  
date: 4/16/2013

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Johnston's River Line  
(Boundary Increase and Additional  
Documentation)  
Name of Property

Cobb County, Georgia

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

**Name of Property:** Johnston's River Line- Additional Information and Boundary Increase

**City or Vicinity:** Mableton

**County:** Cobb

**State:** Georgia

**Photographer:** Charlie Miller; Historic Preservation Division

**Date Photographed:** December 18, 2013

**Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:**

1 of 13: View of Federal redan; photographer facing northeast.

2 of 13: View of rifle pit on hill overlooking Nickajack Creek; photographer facing north.

Johnston's River Line  
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- 3 of 13: View across Nickajack Creek toward Discovery Boulevard; photographer facing north.
- 4 of 13: View across Nickajack Creek toward Discovery Boulevard; photographer facing north.
- 5 of 13: View of rifle pit; photographer facing northwest.
- 6 of 13: View down embrasures / trenchline; photographer facing north.
- 7 of 13: View of Shoupade; photographer facing west.
- 8 of 13: View of Shoupade; photographer facing west.
- 9 of 13: View of embrasures / trenchline; photographer facing west.
- 10 of 13: View down embrasures / trenchline; photographer facing northeast.
- 11 of 13: View of Confederate redan showing gun emplacements; photographer facing northwest.
- 12 of 13: View of Confederate redan; photographer facing northeast
- 13 of 13: View of rifle pit with Discovery Boulevard; photographer facing north.

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Figure 1. Map showing the 83.22- acre Johnston's River Line property.

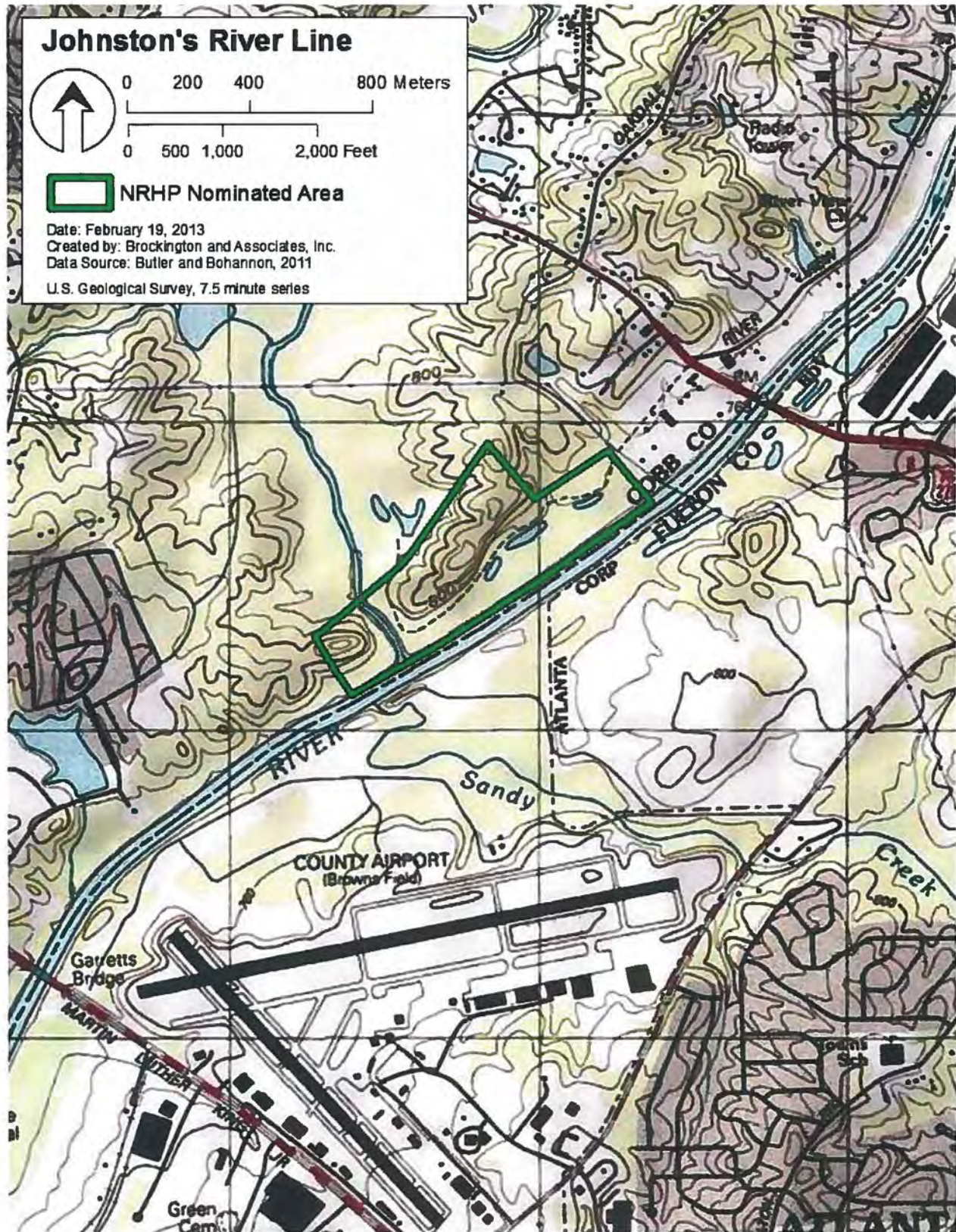


Figure 2. Topographic map showing the 83.22- acre Johnston's River Line property.



Figure 3. Map showing the boundaries of the original Johnston's River Line NRHP listing (NR# 73000618) (in white) and identifying contributing features of Johnston's River Line.

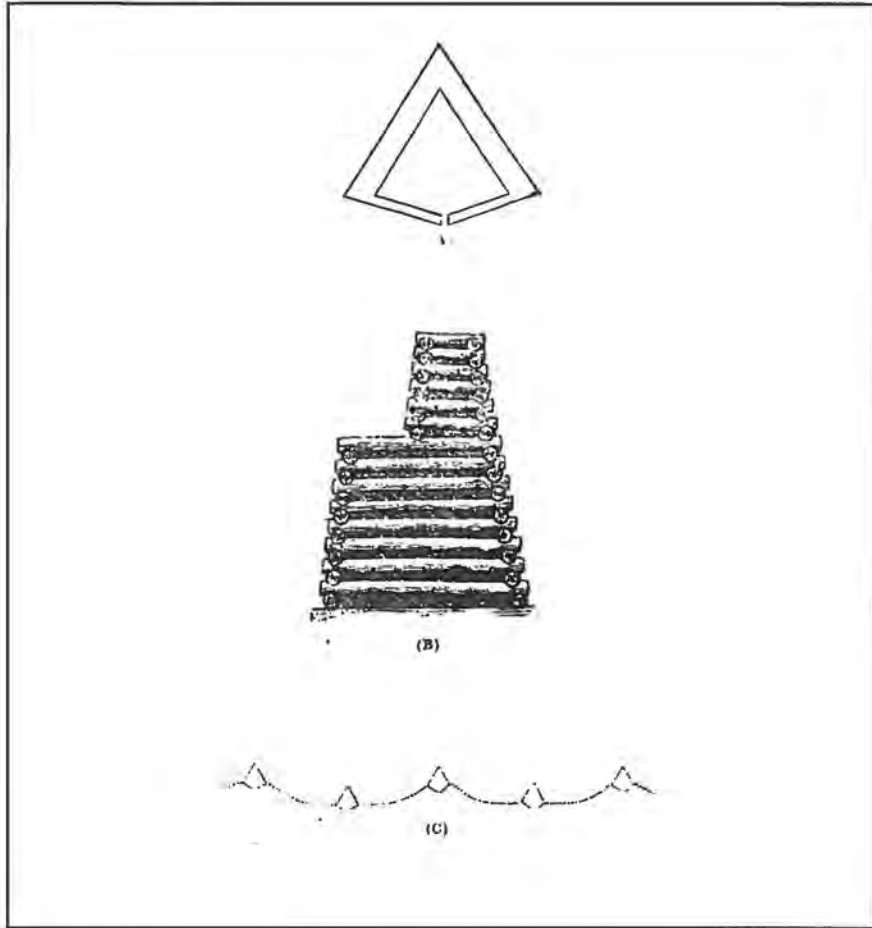


Figure 4. Sketches by Francis Shoup (1895:263) showing Shoupade (a) plan, (b) profile, and (c) placement.



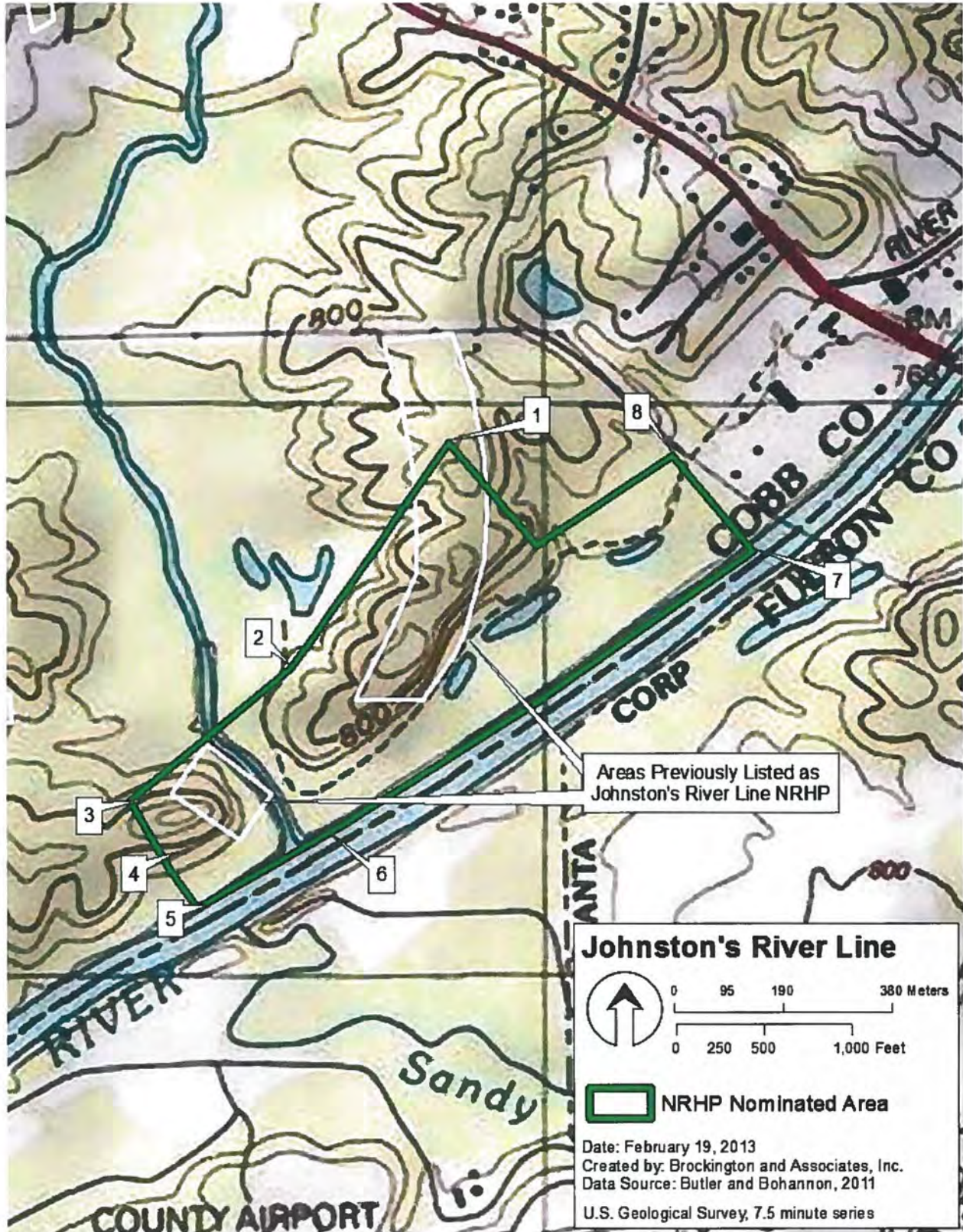
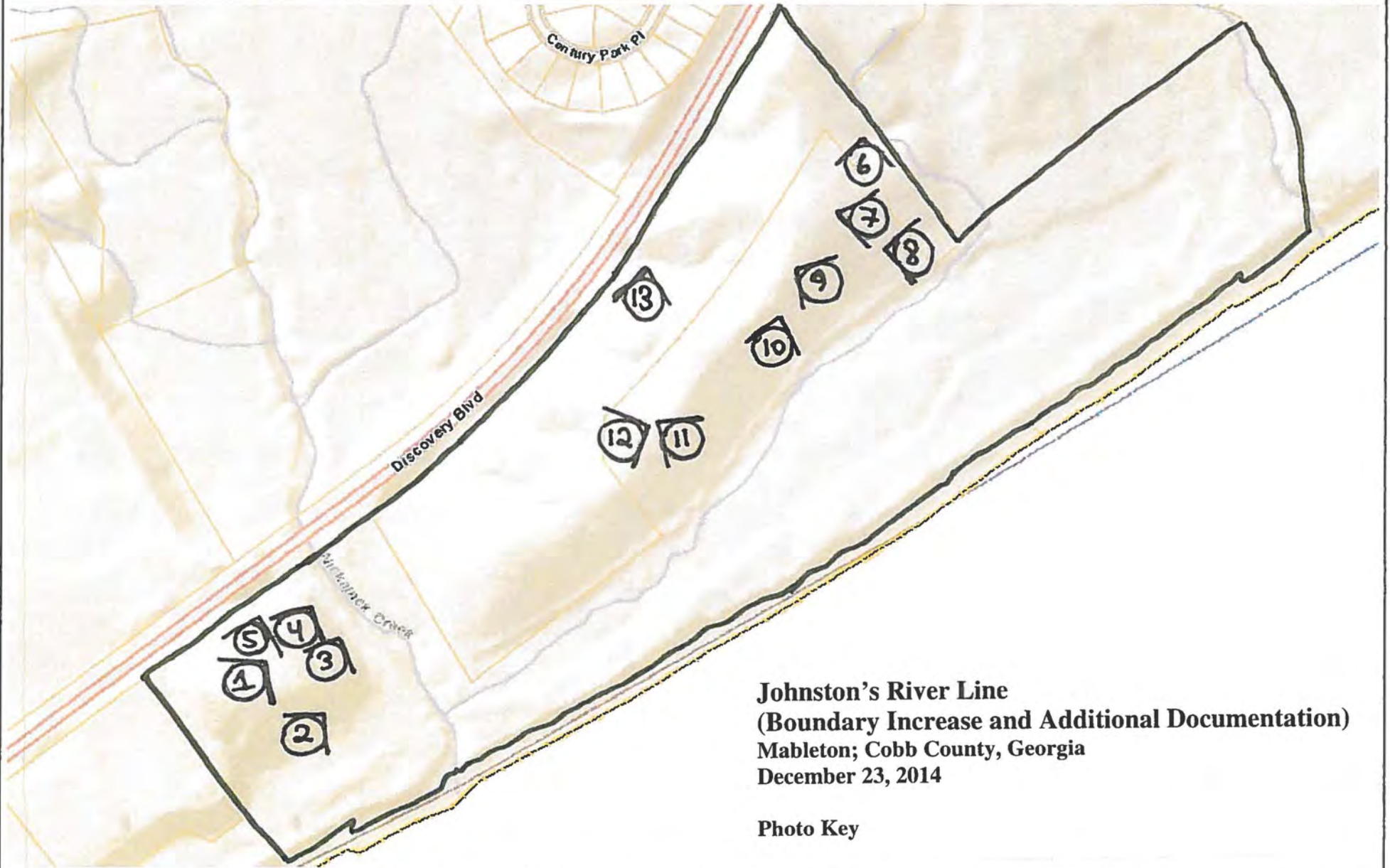


Figure 6. Topographic map showing the acreage of the previous Johnston's Line listing that falls within the Johnston's River Line boundaries, and the location of all UTM references.



# Johnston's River Line



**Johnston's River Line**  
**(Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)**  
 Mableton; Cobb County, Georgia  
 December 23, 2014

**Photo Key**

0.2 0 0.09 0.2 Miles

WGS\_1984\_Web\_Mercator\_Auxiliary\_Sphere  
 © Cobb County Georgia

This map is a user generated static output from an internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.

THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

1: 5,848





























UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Johnston's River Line (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation)

MULTIPLE NAME: Chattahooche River Line Battlefield MPS

STATE & COUNTY: GEORGIA, Cobb

DATE RECEIVED: 4/03/15      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/24/15  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/11/15      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/19/15  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000222

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    5/18/2015 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Additional Documentation and Boundary Increase  
REVIEWER Patrick Arduin      DISCIPLINE Historian  
TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_      DATE 5/18/2015

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

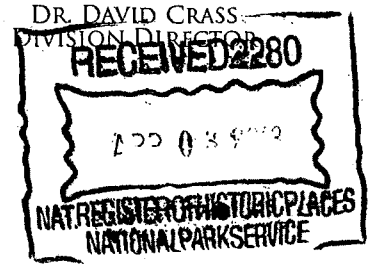


GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

March 27, 2015

J. Paul Loether
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W. 8th floor
Washington, D.C. 20005



Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copies of the nominations for the Chattahoochee River Line Battlefield Multiple Property Documentation Form, Cobb County; Johnston's River Line (Boundary Increase and Additional Documentation), Cobb County; and Union Field Fortifications at Henderson Road, Cobb County, Georgia to the National Register of Historic Places.

- X Disk of National Register of Historic Places nomination form and maps as a pdf
X Disk with digital photo images
X Physical signature page
Original USGS topographic map(s)
Sketch map(s)/attachment(s)
Correspondence
Other:

COMMENTS:

- Please insure that this nomination is reviewed
This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
The enclosed owner objection(s) do do not constitute a majority of property owners.
Special considerations:

Sincerely,

Lynn Speno
National Register Specialist

Enclosures