

ATLANTA HISTORY CENTER and ATLANTA CYCLORAMA & CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2019

Tour includes:

- Coach transportation to and from the Atlanta History Center
- Box Lunch
- Tour of the Atlanta History Center
- Tour of the fabulous Atlanta Cyclorama depicting the Battle of Atlanta

Welcome explorers of the world!

If you're looking for history, knowledge and adventure, you've come to the right place. The second tour during the 2019 DUVCW National Convention is on Friday. We will be going to the amazing **Atlanta History Center (AHC)**. There are wonderful permanent Civil War exhibits at the AHC to see but the newest, and most amazing, is the **Cyclorama** recently installed in its newly-built facility.

The Battle of Atlanta was depicted in a remarkable painting by German artists; this rare treasure is called the **Battle of Atlanta Cyclorama** and originally debuted in 1886. For almost 100 years, it was housed in a leaky building in Grant Park near the Atlanta Zoo.

The move of this painting occurred in February 2017. The painting was in a fragile condition and weighed between 4 and 5 tons. It has miraculously been moved to a place of honor within the Atlanta History Center and is carefully being restored as needed.

The locomotive **Texas** has also moved to the *Atlanta History Center*; it was one of two locomotives to star in the famous tale of the *Great Locomotive Chase of 1862*. **The General**, the second locomotive in the chase, resides at the *Southern Museum of Civil War and Locomotive History* in Kennesaw, GA.

The *Atlanta History Center* offers exhibitions on the Civil War, African-American heritage, and Southern Folk Art, with a wing dedicated to the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games.

The Cyclorama painting was relocated in July 2014...the **150th Anniversary of the Battle of Atlanta**. The painting is now unscrolled in its new home and is undergoing a full restoration, including restoring seven feet of sky across the top of its full circumference.

The 128 plaster figures that are the focal point of the painting's diorama will also be restored. The full experience, complete with the addition of the restored 1856 **Texas** locomotive and enhanced interpretation and exhibitions. The exhibitions in the Lloyd and Mary Ann Whitaker Cyclorama Building will add thoughtful context about the battles for Atlanta and the Civil War as well as the history of cycloramas.

The History Center utilizes a multitude of perspectives to interpret the painting. This interpretation will consider the role of slavery in the Civil War and the impacts of the conflict on American history.

Restoration of the **Texas**, an important artifact of Atlanta's early railroading days, and famed for its pivotal role in 1862's *Great Locomotive Chase*, was completed in April 2017 at the North Carolina Transportation Museum. The locomotive was relocated to Atlanta History Center in May 2017. The **Texas** is in a glass-enclosed exhibit gallery on the front of the museum building, visible at all hours and lit up at night.

Alongside the **Texas** is an exhibition focused on the history of the famous locomotive, including the story of the *Great Locomotive Chase* with **The General**, as well as the vital role of railroads in Atlanta and the Southeast.



Link: "The Best story-telling artifact of the Civil War that survives. A monument of a Northern victory which has become a Southern treasure." Video: <https://youtu.be/NOh2q5Zwlc0>