

Battle Reunion 2012

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Invitation

Please Join Your Battle Kinsmen for A Family Celebration

**Saturday, April 28
Edgecombe County, North Carolina**

**11: 30 AM Service of Remembrance and Rededication
Battle Old Town Cemetery**

**Lunch afterwards at Old Town Plantation
Hosts: Owners Kathy and Chris Wilson**

**2:00-4:00 PM Open Time for Visits to:
Cool Spring, restored home of Jean and Joel Boseman;
Blount-Bridgers House;
and Other Battle-related Sites**

**4:00 PM Afternoon Tea at Lone Pine
Hosts: Owner Anne Lewis and Kinsmen Alix Coolidge, Bill Mebane, and George
Eatman**

RSVP by April 10: Gordon Folger, gfolger@bellsouth.net; (919)833-3353; or George Eatman,
gheatman@hotmail.com

DIRECTIONS TO BATTLE REUNION VENUES

Saturday, April 28, 2012

Old Town Cemetery - NC-97 east of Rocky Mount

From Rocky Mount, take US-64 East Bypass. Exit at Atlantic Ave. (Exit #470). Right at bottom of ramp. Just over 1 mile take right at stoplight onto NC-97 East. Continue on NC-97 for approx. 4 miles (passing Old Town House and Cool Spring House on left). Cemetery and gravel road approach are visible on right within half mile past the Cool Spring curve. (Westray Battle Long historical marker directly beyond driveway).

Old Town House - 9642 NC 97 West (phone: 252/442-2203)

From Cemetery, west (left turn) on NC-97. Approx. 1 mile, entrance and marker to Old Town Plantation House on right.

Cool Spring House - 42 Cool Spring Rd. (phone: 252/442-9583)

Approx. ½ mile east of Old Town House on NC-97. Left on Cool Spring Rd. (S.R. 1406) with entrance on right.

Blount- Bridgers House - 130 Bridgers St., Tarboro (phone: 252/823-4159)

US-64 E toward Tarboro. Exit US-64 ALT (Exit # 485). Take ramp right for 3/10 mile, then left onto US-258/US-64 ALT. Continue on US-64 ALT. Right on W. Wilson St. Left on N Main St. Third right onto Bridgers St.

Lone Pine - 690 McNair Rd., Tarboro (phone: 252/823-8367)

Exit 484 off US-64 E between Rocky Mount and Tarboro. Left onto McNair Rd. Approx 4 miles, through Howard Ave. stoplight, cross railroad track, 2/10 mile on left in grove.

Google Map with Reference Points

<http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?msa=0&msid=211339270502023589503.0004be49a69b987d49ffd>

Notes:

Recently, the government renumbered the roads and reassigned districts. Your GPS might not be able to locate the first three locations. Check your GPS before driving or looking at the map and following the instructions.

Keying Cool Spring Rd, Rocky Mount on a 2010 Garmin gets close, but the road numbers are off. Same with a Honda 2012 GPS.

Keying 42 Cool Spring Rd, Rocky Mount on an Android finds the right place, but changes the town to 7, Swift Creek, NC on the display.

If it helps, the GPS coordinates for the Westray Battle Boyce Long NC Highway Marker that's near Old Town Cemetery are Long/Lat. 35.97185 , -77.70967. The sign says "Director of the Women's Army Corps, 1945-1947. First woman honored with Legion of Merit, 1944. Grave 175 yds. S."

Battle Family Places of Interest in Edgecombe and Nash Counties, NC

Old Town Cemetery, HWY 97 approx. 4 miles east of Rocky Mount, the site of today's rededication service, contains the remains of a number of Battle family members beginning with James Smith Battle (1786-1854). After the death of James Smith Battle those interred here are primarily members of the family of his second son, Turner Westray Battle. Across the road from the Old Town Cemetery sits a small cemetery surrounded by fields, the older Battle cemetery, containing the remains of the 18th century political figure, Elisha Battle, and his son Jacob.

Across the road from the Old Town Cemetery are the recently-restored Cool Spring house and the Old Town House, the latter which was originally located beside the cemetery. The Old Town house dates from the 18th century and the original Cool Spring was mid-19th century, but burned twice by the end of that century. The luncheon after the rededication service will be hosted at Old Town by owners Kathy and Chris Wilson and the Cool Spring house will be open for viewing by the Boseman family, its current owners, after lunch.

Both Church of the Good Shepherd, Rocky Mount, and Calvary Church, Tarboro, have a number of stain glass windows and other too-numerous-to-list items given in memory of Battle family members. Additionally, Calvary cemetery has a lovely section for the family of William Smith Battle, the eldest son of James Smith Battle.

The Rocky Mount Mills, at the Falls in Rocky Mount, was in operation from 1818 until it ceased operations in 1998, and was in varying degrees of family ownership and direction for most of its existence. Battle Park faces the Mills across the Tar River.

The 1808 Blount Bridgers House, 130 Bridgers Street, Tarboro, is an Edgecombe County museum containing the important Thomas Sully portrait of James Smith Battle and a number of Garle Brown portraits of Battle family members. Its first director and a founder was Meade Bridgers who still lives in Tarboro.

The Barracks on Battle Ave. in Tarboro was designed by the English architect William Percival for the large family of William Smith Battle and while not open to the public, is beautifully-maintained and worth a drive-by. It survived being a B and B and its gardens have been restored to their 1858 design.

Lone Pine (the site of the afternoon tea) at 690 McNair Road, approx. 4 miles north of its intersection with HWY 64 west of Tarboro, has been owned uninterruptedly by Battle family members since the mid-1850s. It contains portraits, extensive correspondence and furnishings. Its present owner is Mrs. Ed (Anne) Lewis, her late husband Ed being a gr-grandson of William Smith Battle.