



New markers in Ga. show neglected Civil War history of blacks, women, Union loyalists in South

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ATLANTA — New markers being placed across Georgia are recognizing the Civil War history of long-ignored groups such as women, blacks and Southerners loyal to the Union.

The latest marker will be dedicated Thursday at the site in Dalton where Confederate Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne proposed freeing black slaves who were willing to fight in badly outnumbered Southern ranks. That idea was quickly rejected by high-ranking Southern leaders committed to protecting slavery.

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Confederate President Jefferson Davis ordered Cleburne not to discuss it.

The markers are being installed for the 150th anniversary of the conflict. W. Todd Groce, president of the Georgia Historical Society, says one goal is to re-examine parts of Civil War history that were difficult to discuss while the Civil Rights movement shook the South decades ago.

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