

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Alison Zielenbach, Communications Manager
912.651.2125, ext. 153 or azielenbach@georgiahistory.com

Georgia Historical Society to Dedicate Civil War 150 Marker for U.S. Army General

SAVANNAH, Ga., November 26, 2012 – The Georgia Historical Society will unveil a new historical marker in Augusta, Ga., in the 600 block of Broad Street, to mark the birthplace of U.S. Quartermaster General Montgomery C. Meigs, **Fri., Dec. 7, 2012, at 12 p.m.**

Meigs was born in Augusta on May 3, 1816, and graduated fifth in his class from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was assigned to the Army Corps of Engineers and oversaw the construction of many of Washington's most important buildings, including the wings and dome of the U.S. Capitol and the Washington Aqueduct, which all speak to his ability as an engineer. During the Civil War he remained in the United States Army and was appointed Quartermaster General in 1861.

"Meigs, a native Georgian, played an important and decisive role in arguably the most crucial event in American history," said GHS President and CEO, Dr. W. Todd Groce. "This marker allows us to share his story with an audience that is today largely unfamiliar with him."

GEN Montgomery C. Meigs, USA (Ret), the great-great-grand-nephew of Meigs will make the keynote address. General Meigs is President and CEO of Business Executives for National Security. During a 35-year career in the U.S. Army, General Meigs served as Commander, U.S. Army Europe (1998-2002). For the first year of that assignment, he also served as Commander of SFOR, NATO's peacekeeping force in Bosnia. He also led the 1st Infantry Division in its deployment enforcing the Dayton Treaty in Bosnia (1996-1997) and commanded the Iron Brigade of the 1st Armored Division in Operation Desert Storm and at Medina Ridge. He holds a Ph.D. in history and has taught at Georgetown University's Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin and the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University.

In partnership with the Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Georgia Battlefields Association, this event is part of a statewide commemoration of the Civil War's 150th anniversary. The program is conducted across the state to unveil new and recently-replaced historical markers that explore the stories of Georgia's Civil War history as lived and experienced by its people during those tumultuous and transformative years.

The Georgia Historical Society has administered Georgia's statewide marker program since 1998, erecting almost 200 historical markers across Georgia on a wide variety of subjects. Now, online mapping tools allow you to design statewide driving routes based on historical markers, while mobile apps give

(More)

information about markers nearby. Visit www.georgiahistory.com for more ways to use Georgia's historical markers and experience history where it happened.



###

ABOUT GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Georgia Historical Society (GHS) is the premier independent statewide institution responsible for collecting, examining and teaching Georgia history. GHS houses the oldest and most distinguished collection of materials related exclusively to Georgia history in the nation. To learn more, go to www.georgiahistory.com

Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs, U.S.A.

One of two native Georgians who served as generals in the U.S. Army during the Civil War, Montgomery C. Meigs was born here on May 3, 1816, grandson of a University of Georgia president. After graduating from West Point, he oversaw construction of some of Washington D.C.'s greatest engineering feats, including the U.S. Capitol dome. Meigs became Quartermaster General of the U.S. Army in 1861, coordinating the massive supply effort throughout the Civil War, and continuing in that position until he retired in 1882. His organizational genius created an efficient war machine that helped defeat the Confederacy. In 1864, Meigs ordered that Arlington, the confiscated plantation of Robert E. Lee's wife, be used for military burials, creating the nation's premier national cemetery. Meigs was buried there when he died Jan. 2, 1892.