2 Battle Fields To Be Linked By Great Memorial Parkway

By BEN COOPER.

Plans for a magnificent memorial parkway extending from Kennesaw mountain on the west to Peachtree Creek Battle Park in the center and on to Stone mountain on the east will enter a definite new stage by the first of the year, with work being started on the Memorial highway from Marietta to Atlanta, and on the beautification of the Cheatham's Hill park near Kennesaw, it was announced Saturday.

The entire project comprehends one of the greatest in the country for the preservation of historic sites and for making the sites easy of access. Complete, it will afford a panorama of beauty devoted to the Confederacy and providing a pleasant drive for motorists.

In addition to its value as a preservation of the historical, the project has great practical worth in that it will open a new highway shortening the distance from Atlanta to Marietta by four miles and providing a wider and safer thoroughfare for traffic on one of the most important north and south arteries in north Georgia.

The survey of the new Macon highway has been made, and grading will be started with $290,000 allocated by the federal road bureau for that purpose. The Dixie highway from Atlanta to Marietta will be widened with state funds. Work on the project is expected to give jobs to many of Atlanta's unemployed.

Plans for the memorial highway, for which 90 per cent of the right-of-way has been donated, call for a 200-foot right-of-way and a 60-foot paved boulevard, starting at Church and Cherokee streets, in Marietta, and coming to Atlanta on a straight line by way of Lithonia. The proposed route would cross the Chattahoochee over a new $100,000 bridge over the 22-foot Ferry bridge and intersect North Side drive near the proposed Peachtree Creek Battle Park. From there point motorists will drive to Atlanta via North Side drive, or by traversing the heart of the Peachtree creek development on Memorial drive to Peachtree road.

Development of the historic sites will be given a substantial start with a fund of $42,000 appropriated by the federal government for the Cheatham's Hill park. Survey of this park and the Kennesaw mountain area was made recently by Major R. B. Randolph, of Chickamauga Park, and Vere E. Chatfield, chief of the historical division, parks and reservations division of the Department of the Interior. Government aid will be allowed in the paving of the three miles of the Marietta-Dallas road from Cheatham's Hill to Marietta. The survey of the proposed erection of life-sized statues of the states is underway, and work on the parkway is expected to be completed by next summer.

The project is expected to give jobs to many of Atlanta's unemployed. The site of the beginning of Sherman's siege of Atlanta, already developed in the park in the Hobby Jones golf course. Ultimately the park is to be beautified, and a memorial drive laid to connect with the Kennesaw development on the west and the Stone mountain area on the east. At Stone mountain, a great memorial to the Confederate is being erected on the face of the granite mountain.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.