



# Rebel Underground

Sons of Confederate Veterans  
Major John C. Hutto Camp # 443  
Jasper, Alabama

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The Major John C. Hutto Camp's September Camp Meeting  
will be in Jasper, Alabama on  
Sunday 21 September 2025 at 2:00 pm



The York Light  
Artillery at the Smith  
Lake Rotary Club  
Veteran's Parade  
23 August 2025





Official portrait of John Anthony Winston,  
fifteenth governor of Alabama

John Anthony Winston was a man of many firsts. He was the first governor of Alabama born within the borders of the territory (and later, the state) of Alabama. When the Civil War began, he became the first colonel of the Eighth Alabama Infantry. After the war, he was among the first delegates from the former Confederate states to attend a national political gathering—the 1868 Democratic National Convention.

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Gov. John Anthony Winston:  
A Man of Many Firsts

by Phil Muskett, President,  
Association of Licensed Battlefield Guides

Born on September 4, 1812, in what would become Madison County, in the Alabama Territory, Winston moved to Mobile in 1844, where he worked as a cotton broker and merchant. His political ascent was swift: On December 6, 1845, he was elected President of the Alabama Senate. He continued his rise through state politics, eventually serving as Governor of Alabama from 1853 to 1857, where he earned the nickname John Anthony “Veto” Winston for his frequent use of the executive veto.



William Yancey,  
Confederate States Senator  
from Alabama

During the tumultuous presidential election of 1860, the former governor served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Charleston. A supporter of Stephen Douglas, Winston found himself at odds with fellow Alabamian William Yancey, a staunch “Fire-Eater” backing John C. Breckinridge. Like many pro-Douglas delegates, Winston walked out of the convention, contributing to its collapse. Historian Hilary Herbert later wrote: “Not even Andrew Jackson had a more inflexible will than John A. Winston.”

Following Abraham Lincoln’s election, Alabama Gov. William Moore sent commissioners to neighboring Southern states, urging them to join Alabama in secession. Winston was dispatched to Louisiana, where he reported, “There is little or no doubt, but that Louisiana will co-operate with the States taking action.”

In 1861, Winston was given command of ten Alabama companies already in, or en route to, Virginia. This force became the Eighth Alabama Volunteer Infantry—the first regiment from the state to enlist for the duration of the war. Lacking military experience and disliking the demands of drilling raw recruits, Winston delegated training duties to Lt. Col. Young Lea Frazier, a West Point graduate.



At the Battle of Seven Pines on June 1, 1862, the Eighth Alabama saw heavy fighting. At one point, Union soldiers demanded Winston's surrender. He famously replied that he "did not join the army to surrender" and that it was "not his business here." Though he fought with gallantry, the physical toll of campaigning proved too great. Just over two weeks later, on June 16, 1862, he resigned his commission due to rheumatism.

Winston returned home to Alabama by July 3 and remained as active as his health allowed in supporting the Confederate cause. He unsuccessfully sought to fill the Confederate Senate seat left vacant by the death of William Yancey and later attempted to organize a Home Guard unit, a project he was unable to complete.

John Anthony Winston died on Dec. 21, 1871, in Mobile, Alabama. He is buried in the Winston family cemetery near Gainesville, Alabama.

The Major John C. Hutto Camp participated in Rolling Thunder and grave marker service in commemoration of Gov. John Anthony Winston on **Sunday, 10 October 2021** - Alabama Gov. Colonel John Anthony Winston's grave marker dedication at Gainesville, Al down I-20-59 towards Mississippi.

Gainesville is a town in Sumter County, Alabama, United States. Founded in 1832, it was incorporated in 1835. At the 2010 census the population was 208, down from 220. Confederate Lieutenant General Nathan Bedford Forrest surrendered his men near Gainesville on May 19, 1865, at the War for Southern Independence's end.

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## HUTTO CAMP OFFICERS

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Commander	James R. Blackston
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt. Cmd	Trent Harris
2nd Lt. Cmd	Jeremy Jackson
Adjutant	John McGraw
Chaplain	Larry Elliott
Judge Advocate	Cherokee Brasher
Communications	Tony Pennington
Facebook	Brandon Prescott - Jeremy Jackson
Quartermaster	Billy Kinchelov
Flag Committee Chairman	Trent Harris
Newsletter Editor	James Blackston

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Website: [www.huttocamp.com](http://www.huttocamp.com)

Facebook - [Hutto Camp](#)

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The Rebel Underground is dedicated to bringing our readers the very best of important news concerning Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We are not ashamed of our Confederate History and Southern Heritage. We dare to defend our rights.