Milledgeville was Georgia’s capital from 1807 until 1868. As part of the planning of Milledgeville, four public squares of 20 acres each were established, with one square (the South square) set aside for public use. In 1809, the Methodist church, with approximately 100 members, was built in the South square, and a cemetery was established in about 1810. Other churches began building in State-house square, rather than the South square. Eventually the Methodist church moved to Statehouse square also, and the South square became the Milledgeville City Cemetery. In the mid 19th century the cemetery expanded on its north side through various land acquisitions and now totals 30 acres. In about 1945, the Milledgeville City Cemetery was renamed Memory Hill. The cemetery contains over 7700 identifiable graves and at least 1200 graves with no markers or names. For a searchable index see the last page of this brochure.

For more info, email info@FriendsofCems.org

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Soldiers and Statesmen buried in Memory Hill Cemetery

Total numbers of soldiers or statesmen known to be buried in Memory Hill or recognized with markers:

Revolutionary War (1775-1783): 10
War of 1812 (1812-1815): 8
Seminole War (1835-1842): 2
Mexican War (1846-1848): 4
War Between the States (1861-1865): Confederate: 326 Federal: 4
Spanish American (1898): 12
Buffalo Soldiers (1866-1951): 3

Please use caution when walking the cemetery. The ground is uneven and contains obstacles and fire ants. Travel at your own risk. Also please respect the monuments, plantings, as these represent memorials to those interred in Memory Hill.

For a smart phone version of this walking tour, please see last page of this brochure.

1. Flannery O’Connor (Mar 25, 1925-Aug 3, 1964), Milledgeville’s most famous daughter. She was an internationally famous fiction writer who wrote unusual stories mostly about the South.

2. Marvin Parks (Nov 29, 1872-Dec 29, 1926) A president of Georgia College, formerly Georgia State College for Women. He was born in Raleigh, Georgia. His gravestone mimics Parks Hall, located on the college campus and named in his honor.

3. John Sherrod Thomas (1779-Jan. 9, 1881) lived to be 101. Note that his marker is zinc, often called “white bronze.” It was made by Monumental Bronze Co. of Bridgeport, CT, which cast the markers 1877—1914. It was hoped that the zinc marker would last better than stone, but it turned out to be fragile, as can be seen by Thomas’ wife’s broken marker.

4. Susan Myrick (Feb 20, 1893-Sep 3, 1978) A reporter for the Macon Telegraph starting in 1928. Among her most memorable columns were those of 1939, when she became the technical adviser for the filming of Gone With the Wind upon the recommendation of Margaret Mitchell. Myrick and a Southern manners and traditions during its filming.

5. Lt. Col. John M. Brown (2nd Regiment Georgia State Troops) (April 12, 1839-July 26, 1864) was the brother of Georgia Governor Joseph Brown and was a cavalryman. He went on to lead his regiment in a charge on a battery of Federal artillery in Atlanta on July 22, 1864 and died in the Governor’s Mansion in Milledgeville on July 26, 1864.

6. General George Doles (4th GA Vol. Infantry, Baldwin Blues) (May 14, 1830-June 2, 1864) This “diamond blue granite” monument was unveiled on July 25, 1954 to commemorate the 4th GA Vol. Infantry. Dedicated to Military Academicians in battles in Virginia. At Spotsylvania, in 1864, his brigade suffered very high casualties. Doles was later cited for his actions in some newspapers. At the battle of Cold Harbor, maybe thinking of the criticism, he exposed himself excessively to enemy fire. He was shot through the chest and died the following day.

7. Mary V. Little Adams (Jun 20, 1847-Feb 2, 1867) This marker is carved by stone carver, J. Artopé of Macon, and shows an angel holding a scythe and book of life, and a stump with ivy, symbolizing a life left unfinished when cut off by death.

8. Edwinjemison (2nd LA Infantry) (Dec. 1, 1844-July 1, 1862) Pvt. Jemison was killed at Malvern Hill, Va. His famed photograph is widely recognized but was only associated with Jemison in recent years. (This monument has this photograph.)

9. The Soldiers’ Monument was erected in 1868. It is one of the first such Confederate monuments in Georgia. It was erected to commemorate Confederate soldiers and sailors. This monument is general and, more specifically, to mark the graves of unknown Confederate soldiers buried here who had been in Brooklyn Hospital in Milledgeville in 1864.

10. William A. Choice, (died August 15, 1879) was one of Atlanta’s finest amateur actors of the 1850s. He also drank heavily. Unproicted he shot and killed a man in Atlanta. His erected in March 1858 at a cost of $20,000. It is 37 feet tall not including the figure at the top that represents Hope.

34. Andrew J. Micklejohn (Co B 1st GA. Batt.) (died Nov. 24, 1861) was the first local battle casualty of the Civil War. He was killed during the bombardment of Ft. Pickens, near Pensacola, FL. His body was returned to Milledgeville and buried in a ceremony that the entire city attended.

35. Benjamin White (1793-1866) Surgeon General of the Georgia State Troops. He did not want a gravestone and so his friends planted this oak as a headstone for his grave.

36. Dr. Frederick J. Foard (died March 18, 1868) This tombstone, erected in 1896, misspells the name. “Foard” is correct. Dr. Foard was the Medical Director of the Army of Tennessee. In February 1865 he was promoted to Medical Inspector of the armies and hospitals in the States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. After the war he was a professor at the Ohio Military College in Baltimore.

37. Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus Lamar (Jul 15, 1779-Jul 4, 1834) Judge of the Ocmulgee Circuit. Lamar committed suicide. A false legend relates that he had hanged an innocent man because he was young and was remorseful; there was no trial, but a public execution at the time of the man’s innocence. His brother Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar was the second President of the Republic of Texas.

38. Bonner Dogs: Nick and Bruno (died 1926) were those of 1939, when she became the technical adviser for the filming of Gone With the Wind upon the recommendation of Margaret Mitchell. Myrick and a Southern manners and traditions during its filming.

40. Milton Lee Olive III (Feb 20, 1893-Sep 3, 1978) A reporter for the Macon Telegraph starting in 1928. Among her most memorable columns were those of 1939, when she became the technical adviser for the filming of Gone With the Wind upon the recommendation of Margaret Mitchell. Myrick and a Southern manners and traditions during its filming.

42. David Brydie Mitchell (Oct 22, 1779-Apr 22, 1837) served as governor of Georgia from 1806-1808 and 1815-1817, during which time he passed an act to prevent dueling and set up a system at the state penitentiary in Milledgeville that was more than simple imprisonment—teaching prisoners to learn a trade.

43. Julia Force would be buried, as was herself, in Governor Mitchell’s lot.

44. Tomlinson Fort (Jul 14, 1787-May 11, 1859) This marker is carved by stone carver, J. Artopé of Macon, and shows an angel holding a scythe and book of life, and a stomp with ivy, symbolizing a life left unfinished when cut off by death.

46. Dixie Haygood (died March 18, 1868) This tombstone, erected in 1896, misspells the name. “Foard” is correct. Dr. Foard was the Medical Director of the Army of Tennessee. In February 1865 he was promoted to Medical Inspector of the armies and hospitals in the States of Georgia, Florida, Alabama and Mississippi. After the war he was a professor at the Ohio Military College in Baltimore.

47. Wilkes Flagg (buried Apr 15, 1861) was the first local battle casualty of the Civil War, having been killed during the bombardment of Ft. Pickens, near Pensacola, FL. His body was returned to Milledgeville and buried in a ceremony that the entire city attended.

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Amanda Barnett Thomas (May 4, 1859-Feb 28, 1953) is credited with the first mosquito eradication experiment in the face of a major yellow fever epidemic. Working as part of an American Red Cross team, she persuaded her husband, Dr. Walter Reed, to prove in 1900 that yellow fever is transmitted by mosquito. Dr. White’s management of the 1905 New Orleans yellow fever epidemic is contradictory proof that yellow fever could be prevented.

McMillan family lot - James W. McMillan told people that they were living on a gold mine of red clay. He owned a well-known brick business in the late 1800s and created the famous brick rope which surrounds the lot.

Buffalo Soldiers - James A. Gibson (Sept. 13, 1880-May 5, 1945), along with Solomon Washington, James A. Wilson, and Robert Lee (died November 4, 1924 West I), were Buffalo Soldiers, the name given to black Americans fighting in the Indian Wars of the 1815-1865 and the Spanish American War. They fought in the Spanish American War, charging up San Juan Hill with Teddy Roosevelt. They later served in the Philippines.

Lucius James Lamar (Cadet, Co. B, GA. Military Institute) (May 11, 1824 - November 10, 1899) enlisted in the GMU cadet corps June 15, 1844 at the age of 17. Five months later he was defending Milledgeville, with two companies of cadets formed from the Milledgeville State Penitentiary, against the army of General Sherman. Because of overwhelming odds, the cadets retreated from Milledgeville without offering resistance.

Kate L. Cline (died Aug. 1, 1884) gravestone consists of an anchor, cross, ferns and a wreath of flowers symbolizing well-grounded hope (anchor) and eternal life (wreath and ferns) with humility (fern) and Christianity (cross).

Jacob M. Caraker (Co. H, 4th GA, Baldwin Blues) (February 11, 1834-November 2, 1907) Elected Captain of the Baldwin Blues May 9, 1861. Before the war he was the guard at the state penitentiary in Milledgeville. Severely wounded at the battle of Sharpsburg on September 17, 1862, he recovered from February 18, 1863.

Lewis Holmes Kenan (Co. I., 1st GA Reg.) (Jan. 18, 1833-July 3, 1871) was wounded July 7, 1864 at John's Island, SC.

State Senator and Secretary of the Georgia Senate. He was murdered on Hancock Street by John R. Strotter, who had recently married Kenan's father's widow. Strotter escaped justice after he was intercepted by Federal troops advancing on Milledgeville, the only violent death during Sherman's capture and occupation of Milledgeville. His remains were reburied here in March 1866. His monument is a broken column symbolizing his life was cut short and a wreath of oak leaves and laurel crowns.

Charles Holmes Herty (Dec 4, 1867-Jul 27, 1938) Charles Holmes Herty was a noted researcher and chemist. He also was University of Georgia's first football coach. He invented a device that allowed young pines to mature and reseed while allowing extraction of turpentine or other products. In the 1930s, he proved that high-grade gum turpentine paper products could be made from Southern pine, thereby greatly aiding the economy of the South. It is for this achievement that most C. Herty is known. James W. Herty (August 14, 1838-December 20, 1876 - gravestone is incorrect) After graduation from the University of New York, James Herty joined the U.S. Navy as an assistant surgeon. He was assigned to the USS San Jacinto patrolling the African coast. Returning from African waters, the San Jacinto intercepted the British ship HMS Trent carrying Confederate diplomats to England. After returning to port in Boston in November 1861, Herty resigned from the US Navy and started a practice in Milledgeville. He was exchanged for a U.S. physician held by the Confederacy. Herty was assigned to the CSS Richmond and then the Rappahannock. He was wounded in battle, but the wounds he received while serving honorably both served the Confederacy and the United States during the Civil War.

Benjamin Jordan (ca. 1793-October 11, 1856) was a wealthy plantation owner. The monument was created by E.A. Walker, of New York, who also designed the similar Pulaski Monument in Savannah. It was only defense was insanity. His performance during the trial won him an acquittal but con finement to the Asylum in Milledgeville.

Central State Hospital (formerly the State Lunatic Asylum) On December 28, 1842, the Georgia Legislature passed a bill that created a “State Lunatic, Idiot, and Epileptic Asylum.” In 1842, the first patient was admitted. By the 1960s the inpatient census had decreased to the point where the hospital was one of the largest mental hospitals in the world at the time, leading to the phrase “Gone to Milledgeville” to indicate insanity.

Jesse Sanford Beall (Co. K 51st GA) (October 18, 1840-Nov. 30, 1863) was Captain of the “Albany Greys” in Semms’ Brigade. He fought though the Virginia campaigns in General Lee’s Army and was wounded at Chancellorsville. At Chickamauga, while leading his company in an assault, he fell mortally wounded. His body was returned from the field. His remains were reburied here in March 1866. His monument is a broken column symbolizing his life was cut short and a wreath of oak leaves and laurel crowns.

Patrick Kane (died November 20, 1864) was not a Confederate soldier. However, he was killed by Federal troops advancing on Milledgeville, the only violent death during Sherman’s capture and occupation of Milledgeville. His remains were reburied here in March 1866. His monument is a broken column symbolizing his life was cut short and a wreath of oak leaves and laurel crowns.

John Ruggles Cotting (1784-October 13, 1867) was born in Massachusetts and was a professor at Amherst and other colleges. After 1810 he helped establish St. Stephens Church in Milledgeville. In 1823 he was engaged as the Georgia State Geologist and began a statewide survey of Georgia.

Legislators These four men, members of the state legislature when it was in Milledgeville, did not wish to leave the city and were unable to be shipped home for burial.

Samuel Beckcom (Beckham) (Nov. 21, 1760-Nov. 2, 1825) served in the Revolutionary War as a Lieutenant and later a Captain in Colonel William Thompson’s Regiment of South Carolina Rangers. He also commanded a rifle company for the greater part of the war under Gen. Elijah Clarke. He was wounded at the battle of Cowpens. After 1802 he commanded militia at Fort Hawkins (in Macon).

17 Elizabeth Taylor Jordan (August 14, 1796-June 4, 1858) This beautiful monument was created by Robert E. Luritz of New York who is known as “the Father of Monumental Art in America” from Carrara, Italy. It is his enduring, yet entirely false, legend lingers that the chain links are the symbol of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), a charitable fraternal organization, and mark the graves of members of that organization.