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**MUSCOGIANA**  
**JOURNAL OF THE MUSCOGEE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

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Book reviews of both local titles and general genealogical monographs are accepted for inclusion in *Muscogiana*. Reviews should be 350-750 words, and should contain an overview of the work and an analysis on the value of the work to genealogists and other researchers in the region. The editor maintains a list of books for review, which is available on request.

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Journal of the Muscogee Genealogical Society

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COLUMBUS STATE  
UNIVERSITY

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### From the editor's desk

The upcoming year will be one of change for the staff at *Muscogiana*, as both editorial assistant Sean Norman and I will be moving on to other career challenges. Sean, who has worked on the last five issues of the journal, will be graduating from Columbus State University in May with a bachelor's degree in history. He will be missed, as over the past two years he was responsible for transcribing source material and the typesetting of each issue. I want to personally thank Sean for his diligent work to improve the journal. As some of you may know, I am leaving Columbus State for a position in the History Department at Auburn University. While I will no longer be editor, I will remain on the editorial board to ensure a smooth transition. A new editor will be named soon, and the journal's publication will continue in its regular pattern. I want to thank the Muscogee Genealogical Society for allowing me the opportunity to edit this fine journal for the past two and a half years, and I will stand ready to assist in the future if needed.

On a different note, during a recent conversation with Board of Editors member Ken Thomas, the topic turned to the declining number of print journals in the field of genealogy. Due to the availability of information on the internet, the declining membership of local and regional genealogical societies, and the rising cost of publishing in print, a number of societies recently discontinued publication of their newsletters or journals. While our journal remains healthy, its success does rest with the strength of both the society and those interested in the content of the journal. To keep the journal fresh and interesting, the editors seek out three main types of material. The first is genealogical information, such as voter's lists, cemetery records, and the like. The second type of information includes unpublished primary sources which we can transcribe and share with our readers. Last but not least, we solicit footnoted journal articles which are timely and relate to the original Muscogee County. Our goal is to publish one of each of these types of material in each issue, along with book reviews and the feature "Learning about the Past." To be successful, we need the help of our readers in identifying possible source materials, completing book reviews, and submitting articles for publication. If you have a suggestion or are willing to complete an article or book review, please contact the editor at: Columbus State University Archives, 4225 University Avenue, Columbus, GA 31907.

Thank you,

Reagan L. Grimsley

Editor

**List of Registered Voters  
City of Columbus, Georgia  
For  
General Election, 1917  
Part Three**

Transcribed by Sean Norman

This is the third and final installment of the city of Columbus voters list for the 1917 General Election. The first and second portions of this article can be found in Vol. 18 No. 1 and Vol. 18 No. 2, respectively. Voters are listed alphabetically and ward number, age, occupation, and address are all included with each entry. This document was transcribed exactly as originally written and errors and incorrect order may be apparent. The original voters list is located in the Alva C. Smith Collection, Box 22, Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Georgia.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Address</b>
Page, W. E.	6	29	Business manager Ledger	
Page, R. W.	6	54	Publisher	1919 Hamilton ave.
Palmer, James	8	55	County Police	932 19th st.
Palmer, C. V.	8	35	County Police	1740 10th st.
Palmer, E. B.	3	64	Broker	902 Broad
Palmer, W. P.	8	46	Bookkeeper	1126 19th st.
Palmer, Geo. C.	5	47	Lawyer	1421 3rd ave.
Palmer, Jno. H.	2	72	Jeweler and optician	829 3rd ave.
Palmer, H. L.	2	39	Machinist	728 1st ave.
Parmer, D. L.	8	53	Lawyer	1306 19th st.
Parmer, J. B.	1	67	Cleaner and presser	609 Broad
Parton, T. P.	5	38	Mill operative	1611 3rd ave.
Patrick, F. A.	6	32	Salesman	521 25th st.
Patrick, R. B.	8	60	Machinist	2213 12th st.
Patrick, J. M.	1	65	Watchman	532 1st ave.
Patrick, W. L.	8	37	P. O. clerk	1208 20th st.
Patterson, W. T.	2	27	Patrol driver	811 3rd ave.
Patterson, P. B.	5	61	Planter	1528 4th ave.
Patterson, Edw. M.	4	56	Planter	116 Front st.
Patterson, E. D.	3	45	Salesman	Rankin house
Patterson, R. C.	7	40	Fire insurance	2908 10th ave.
Patterson, R. A.	3	69	Clerk	908 3rd ave.
Payne, Geo. W.	7	51	Minister	2309 Olive st.
Peabody, T. K.	2	46	Bookkeeper	720 Broad st.
Peacock, Jno. B.	5	33	Merchant	1523 2nd ave.
Pearce, H. E.	6	36	Salesman	531 23rd st.

Pearce, I. F.	4	50	None	1333 Broad st.
Pearce, J. E.	6	32	Salesman	526 23rd st.
Pearce, G. A.	6	63	Pres. City Mills Co.	1519 2nd ave.
Pearce, Alvah	5	43	Wholesale produce	1529 1st ave.
Pearson, B. F.	3	35	R. R. conductor	908 3rd ave.
Pearson, H. M.	4	27	Salesman	529 13th st.
Pease, W. C. Jr.	5	30	Ins. And real estate	1531 3rd ave.
Pease, J. J.	5	26	Clerk	1438 3rd ave.
Peddy, Tipppo W.	1	27	Bookkeeper	448 Broad
Peddy, C. R.	5	45	C. F. D.	204 R. R. st.
Peed, G. W.	7	31	C. F. D.	2119 Talbot ave.
Peed, Jas. L.	1	29	Linesman	216 5th st.
Pekor, V. J.	3	54	Jeweler	1115 2nd ave.
Pendergrass, J. P.	8	39	Mill operative	630 25th st.
Perkins, J. O.	8	43	Locomotive engineer	1721 10th ave.
Perkins, R. O.	7	27	Court reporter	1966 Hamilton ave.
Perry, R. E.	1	58	Lt. Police	636 2nd ave.
Perry, K. Dupont	1	22	Shipping clerk	636 2nd ave.
Peterman, M. C.	1	31	Druggist	630 1st ave.
Peterson, R. W.	8	26	Electrician	1026 18th st.
Petri, F. Theodore	4	28	Merchant	1429 2nd ave.
Petry, O. E.	4	27	Printer	1103 2nd ave.
Phelts, A. J.	8	40	Merchant	1340 17th st.
Phelts, A. P.	8	38	Butcher	2020 Talbot ave.
Phelts, T. L.	8	51	Butcher	1044 18th st.
Phifer, E. A.	8	34	Cotton mill	1019 20th st.
Philips, Chas.	6	76	Lumber dealer	2103 Hamilton ave.
Philips, E. W.	5	32	Merchant	1400 3rd ave.
Philips, E.	5	66	Merchant	1400 3rd ave.
Philips, Geo. B.	5	38	Merchant	1406 3rd ave.
Phillips, S. T.	7	61	Teacher	630 21st st.
Phillips, Chas. S.	4	49	Traveling salesman	Waverly Hotel
Phillips, O. C.	1	28	Police	216 7th st.
Phillips, C. E.	6	22	Barber	2711 4th ave.
Phillips, Walter	3	37	Cabinet maker	211 9th st.
Phillips, J. H.	4	42	Clerk	1225 4th ave.
Phillips, Robert	1	35	Plow worker	437 2nd ave.
Phipps, C. V.	5	61	Merchant	501 5th ave.
Phipps, N. E.	6	31	Bookkeeper	2015 Thomas ave.
Pierce, J. W.	7	51	Dentist	636 21st st.
Pierson, C. A.	1	22	C. F. D.	622 1st ave.
Pierson, J. W.	1	64	Clerk	622 1st ave.
Pitts, D. W.	5	63	Painter	206 R. R. st.
Pitts, H. C.	4	27	Clerk	1325 5th ave.

Pool, G. E.	8	55	Merchant	1402 22nd st.
Pope, A. A.	1	57	Sexton	14 7th st.
Pope, J. W.	6	51	Mill operative	2210 3rd ave.
Porcher, P. C.	5	62	Mfg. fertilizer	212 13th st.
Portman, W. T.	1	51	Merchant	446 2nd ave.
Porter, J. F.	2	25	Clerk	829 1st ave.
Porter, W. D.	2	51	Machinist	211 8th st.
Porter, E. B.	4	70	Pressman	407 13th st.
Porter, C. E.	4	55	Cotton buyer	1350 3rd st.
Porter, Geo. C.	7	64	Attorney	619 20th st.
Porter, H. L.	7		Shipping clerk	3112 Hamilton ave.
Posey, S. E.	4	33	Manager theatre	1245 2nd ave.
Posey, C. A.	4	46	Manager Western Union	1309 2nd av
Potts, T. F.	6	35	Mechanic	1205 17th st.
Post, Kirby	8	51	Insurance agent	1318 17th st.
Pou, Felder	5	57	Merchant	11 15th st.
Pou, Jno. Dozier	3	55	Farmer	1044 Front st.
Pou, J. F.	5	50	Merchant	7 15th st.
Power, Frank G.	1	46	Merchant	639 2nd ave.
Pouncey, J. F.	6	54	Cotton mill	2912 2nd ave.
Poyner, T. H.	8	40	Wood workman	2140 1th ave.
Pratt, T. P.	6	33	Painter	2909 2nd ave.
Pratt, E. M.	8	37	Minister	1011 13th ave.
Price, J. E.	8	28	Mill operative	733 23rd st.
Proctor, C. C.	6	40	Hostler	18th st. and 1st ave.
Profumo, F. X.	4	41	Bookkeeper	1233 4th ave.
Puckett, H. K.	7	30	Sanitary inspector	
Quartermus, C. L.	2	40	Merchant	112 8th st.
Quinn, J. H.	2	57	Drummer	616 Broad st.
Raiford, C. M.	6	38	Woodworkman	628 24th st.
Rainey, S. D.	6	38	Mill operative	339 28th st.
Rainey, Thos. M.	6	35	Mi'l hand	2908 2nd ave.
Raines, B. A.	6	35	Mill operative	2905 2nd ave.
Ramsey, J. R.	7	70	Retired	2614 Hamilton ave.
Ramsey, J. Robert, Jr.	3	30	Bookkeeper	1016 2nd ave.
Randall, L. W.	8	29	Boiler maker	1108 19th st.
Rankin, E. J.	5	67	R. E. agent	1440 2nd ave.
Rankin, Jno. A.	5	50	Sec.-Treas. Rankin R. Co	1440 2 ave.
Rawls, J. C.	4	45	Conductor	1109 5th ave.
Ray, C. H.	4	35	Machinist	1227 3rd ave.
Raymond, W. H.	4	32	Laundry	509 11th st.
Reaves, E. J.	6	23	Clerk	2215 Hamilton ave.
Redmond, J. L.	7	43	C. F. D.	2733 Beacon ave.
Read, C. A.	4	36	Salesman	Racine hotel

Read, N. H.	1	41	Motorman	116 6th st.
Reid, Robert	5	50	Clerk	818 1st ave.
Reid, R. E.	7	49	Overseer	534 19th st.
Reese, Al. G.	6	25	R. R.	20 18th st.
Reich, J. H.	1	24	Shipping clerk	
Reich, F. C.	1	55	Merchant	22 W. 5th st.
Reich, F. C., Jr.	1	29	Buyer notions	510 Front st.
Reich, W. O.	1	26	Merchant	14 W. 5th st.
Renfro, B. A.	4	30	Salesman	1217 2nd ave.
Revel, R. W.	3	78	None	1015 4th ave.
Reynolds, A.	7	60	Watchman	2200 22nd st.
Reynolds, R. L.	8	45	Carpenter	2117 10th ave.
Reynolds, H. A.	6	42	Loco. Engineer	2200 Thomas ave.
Rhodes, J. A.	6	43	Mill work	2949 2nd ave.
Rice, W. J.	1	36	Tailor	605 Broad
Richard, J. R.	3	27	Merchant	Y. M. C. A.
Richard, J. W.	7	61	Carpenter	729 23rd st.
Riddle, H. C.	6	71	None	10 17th st.
Ridenhour, T. F.	1	80	None	514 1st ave.
Rider, B. H.	6	49	Machinist	414 23rd st.
Rigdon, J. T.	8	64	Clerk	1311 19th st.
Rigdon, R. M.	8	34	Minister	1311 19th st.
Riles, W. N.	8	80		1204 22nd st.
Riley, R. R.	1	31	Barber	602 1st ave.
Ritch, J. H.	8	68	Farmer	1018 18th st.
Roberts, Columbus	4	47	Manufacturer	519 12th st.
Roberts, H. G.	7	27	Machinist	1130 18th st.
Roberts, T. S.	6	44	Printer	533 24th st.
Roberts, Firm	8	35	Merchant	1312 18th st.
Roberts, I. J.	5	24	Collector	1613 2nd ave.
Roberts, Harry	6	31	Printer	1714 3rd ave.
Roberts, John S.	3	54	Supt.	927 5th ave.
Roberts, L. F.	4	35	Peddler	1250 1-2 Broad st.
Robinson, J. N. W.	6	53	Mill operative	2947 4th ave.
Robertson, W. C.	6	25	Mill operative	
Rodgers, Geo. R.	7	30	Mill operative	1209 22nd st.
Roland, J. A.	4	57	Passenger agent	1224 2nd ave.
Robinson, J. D.	7	24	P. O. clerk	629 24th st.
Rose, Mike	3	63	Musician	Commercial hotel
Rosenberg, L.	2	44	Merchant	932 3rd ave.
Rosenthal, F. L.	4	53	Minister	1215 5th ave.
Rosser, H. L.	3	37	Salesman	901 4th ave.
Rothschild, H.	4	50	Merchant	1314 4th ave.
Rothschild, B.	5	53	Private	1440 4th ave.



Rothschild, David	4	57	Merchant	1220 3rd ave.
Rothschild, Gerson	5	46	Merchant	1408 5th ave.
Rowe, R. A.	6	32	Trav. Salesman	2333 Hamilton ave.
Rowe, A. L.	1	27	Decorator	13 W. 5th st.
Rumsey, Oscar L.	4	40	Merchant	14th st. and 1st ave.
Ruple, Frank W.	4	55	Train dispatcher	1315 3rd ave.
Russell, R. C.	5	26	Sheet metal worker	111 16th st.
Russell, Wesley	8	29	Fireman	2013 11th ave.
Russell, J. C.	6	56	Tinner	1606 2nd ave.
Russell, M. A.	3	67	Pants Mfr.	Russell House
Russell, J. C., Jr.	6	23	Barber	1716 3rd ave.
Ryckley, L. T.	1	62	Salesman	620 1st ave.
Ryckely, C. E.	1	71	Retired	419 Broad st.
Ryckely, G. J.	6	50	Joiner	1711 2nd ave.
Ryckely, C. J.	5	40	Chiropodist	1610 2nd ave.
Salisbury, Thos.	4	54	Bookkeeper	1323 5th ave.
Salter, T. L.	3	28	Clerk	927 1st ave.
Sampey, E. R.	4	70	Storekeeper	1221 5th ave.
Sams, J. K.	3	53	Clerk	1002 4th ave.
Sanders, J. O.	5	29	Carpenter	1638 3rd ave.
Sanders, W. L.	8	24	Machinist	Talbot ave.
Sanders, H. G.	2	43	Salesman	212 Chappell st.
Saunders, J. M.	4	45	Chief clerk C. R. R.	1100 5th ave.
Sanes, J. S.	6	59	Clerk	2005 3rd ave.
Sanes, J. L.	6	31	Mill operative	2005 3rd ave.
Satlof, B.	2	34	Merchant	
Sauls, T. B.	3	39	Machinist	622 10th st.
Sayres, W. P.	6	38	Machinist	2211 Thomas ave.
Scarborough, Jno. F.	5	53	Merchant	1532 2nd ave.
Scarborough, L. A.	4	60	Warden	1102 4th ave.
Scarborough, Claude	4	33	Warehouseman	1344 3rd ave.
Schnell, Jno. D.	3	52	Mfr.	918 2nd ave.
Schnell, Frank T.	2	40	Salesman	723 Broad st.
Schomburg, C.	1	65	Jeweler	514 Front st.
Schomburg, F. H.	3	36	Jeweler	1013 2nd ave.
Schomburg, H. H.	6	32	Engraver	526 Front st.
Scott, W. A.	5	44	Veterinarian	1508 4th ave.
Screw, Henry	5	44	Motorman	1640 3rd ave.
Seals, D. M.	7	35	Cotton mill	612 23rd st.
Seay, H. H.	6	21	Mill operative	100 20th st.
Seay, Henry	6	59	Carpenter	100 20th st.
Seligman, J.	2	47	Merchant	938 3rd ave.
Shackelford, G. C.	4	43	Druggist	1112 4th ave.
Shaver, Jas. B.	1	45	Electrician	511 1st ave.

Shaver, D. H.	6	25	Weaver	2105 2nd ave.
Shehan, W. M.	8	66	Mill operative	1212 22nd st.
Shell, A. L.	7	42	Furniture	536 25th st.
Shelnutt, L. G.	8	30	Mail carrier	1200 18th st.
Sheram, Geo. L.	1	38	Merchant	527 1st ave.
Sheridan, H. R.	7	41	Metal Con.	2926 Hamilton ave.
Shirah, J. R.	8	39	Painter	2130 10th ave.
Short, J. W.	1	30	Candy maker	502 2nd ave.
Silas, F. B.	7	54	Merchant	2110 Comer ave.
Simerly, J. H.	7	66	Merchant	2928 Waverly place
Simmons, H. M.	8	26	Clerk	1414 18th st.
Simmons, Ed	1	29	Foreman	502 Broad st.
Simmons, S. L.	2	55	Grocer	701 2nd ave.
Simons, Louis	4	45	Merchant	1010 4th ave.
Simpson, Thos E.	5	32	Clerk	1651 3rd ave.
Simpson, C. M. D.	5	66	None	208 R. R. st.
Sims, H. L.	8	34	Machinist	800 19th st.
Sims, W. H.	6	27	Electrician	113 17th st.
Sims, E. H.	5	58	Physician	1516 Broad st.
Sims, E. I.	4	26	Machinist	1126 5th ave.
Sizemore, Doc	6	21	Cold drinks	106 23rd st.
Skinner, L. W.	8	69	Carpenter	1311 20th st.
Skinner, D. L.	4	68	Carpenter	522 11th st.
Slade, O. H.	4		Steward	Racine hotel
Slade, Lester C.	7	43	Lawyer	2929 Beacon ave.
Slade, R. W.	5	66		1531 2nd ave.
Slaton, G. W.	4	23	R. R. clerk	212 13th st.
Slaughter, W. J.	8	46	Conductor	2514 Hamilton ave.
Slaughter, R. E.	8	50	Watchman	1815 10th ave.
Slaughter, Jno. L.	4	49	Lumber dealer	1226 4th ave.
Slaughter, L. D.	6	44	Salesman	2411 Hamilton ave.
Slaughter, J. E.	3	48		944 1-2 Broad
Slaughter, J. Guy	6	23	Grocery clerk	1815 10th ave.
Slaughter, J. F.	8	40	Merchant	2048 Comer ave.
Smaw, W. H.	4		Insurance	1011 1-2 1st ave.
Smith, Alvah C.	6	32	Sales manager	2700 1st ave.
Smith, Fred A.	6	40	Wheelwright	1716 2nd ave.
Smith, W. G.	3	40	Stableman	931 3rd ave.
Smith, Arthur M.	7	36	Trucker	2820 10th ave.
Smith, Roy C.	6	29	Clerk	1715 2nd ave.
Smith, Willard	6	47	Painter	1914 2nd ave.
Smith, H. C.	2	38	Druggist	701 3rd ave.
Smith, H. W.	8	48	Machinist	2126 11th ave.
Smith, J. H.	8	39	Conductor, C. of Ga.	1527 11th ave.

Smith, W. F.	2	34	Insurance agent	223 8th st.
Smith, L. S.	5	33	Mill operative	1621 1st ave.
Smith, T. H.	3	37	Foreman round house	1020 5th ave.
Smith, Robt. L.	2	47	Blacksmith	817 1st ave.
Smith, W. D.	1	45	Cashier	610 Broad st.
Smith, Oscar C.	1	33	Letter carrier	438 2nd ave.
Smith, F. E.	8	34	Carpenter	1336 18th st.
Smith, W. L.	3	22	Mill operative	Broad st.
Smith, J. L.	4	26	Bookkeeper	1201 5th ave.
Smith, S. M.	6	61	Mill operative	203 20th st.
Smith, A. G.	1	29	Laundry	610 Broad st.
Smith, Oscar D.	4	32	Lawyer	1321 2nd ave.
Smith, M. B.	7	62	Finisher	3016 Hamilton ave.
Smith, Thos. W.	7	57	Architect	2850 Hamilton ave.
Smith, C. D.	3	35	Insurance	Springer hotel
Smith, H. E.	8	41	Laundry	2518 Hamilton ave.
Smith, A. L.	7	45	Merchant	951 20th st.
Smith, Leonidas	4	29	Watchmaker	423 13th st.
Smith, E. B.	8	46	Druggist	2906 10th ave.
Smith, Arthur C.	8	40	Barber	1105 19th st.
Smith, J. M.	5	38	Barber	1617 2nd ave.
Smith, W. Lewis	8	23	Printer	2126 11th ave.
Smith, Eugene L.	8	45	Cotton mill	1100 21st st.
Smith, Joe	2	40	Merchant	109 9th st.
Snead, Jno. C.	1	35	Insurance	215 5th st.
Snell, E. T.	8	51		
Snider, W. F.	2	70	Cotton buyer	842 Broad st.
Snuggs, W. C.	3	28	Druggist	415 10th st.
Spano, Antonio	2	45	Shoemaker	719 3rd ave.
Spano, Angelo	2	48	Merchant	737 3rd ave.
Sparkman, C. S.	5	33	Agent S. A. L. Ry.	1411 4th ave.
Spear, G. G.	6	37	Conductor	2800 Hamilton ave.
Spear, J. W.	8	61	Carpenter	1124 21st st.
Speer, W. H.	8	46	Tax receiver	1209 17th st.
Speed, J. J.	4	47	Traveler	13th st. and 2nd ave.
Speed, W. H.	4	46	Furniture	1300 2nd ave.
Spence, W. G.	3	25	Merchant	308 10th st.
Spencer, R. P.	4	71		
Spencer, R. P., Jr.	4	36	Bank clerk	1334 2nd ave.
Spivey, S. A.	2	37	Secretary	120 9th st.
Spurlock, T. F.	4	26	Shipping clerk	313 12th st.
Stanford, R. S.	1	24	Shipping clerk	609 1st ave.
Stanford, J. H.	7	25	Minister	1954 Hamilton ave.
Stanford, P. D.	1	29	Salesman	627 Broad st.

Stanton, B. F.	8	70	Merchant	1903 12th ave.
Stanton, C. J.	8	29	Clerk	1810 10th ave.
Stephenson, James L.	8	32	Salesman	1201 17th st.
Sternberg, Herman	2	69	Merchant	804 2nd ave.
Sternberg, Mark	4	41	Merchant	1106 4th ave.
Stickwether, E. J.	5	21	Mill operative	1408 5th ave.
Stoffel, Chas. J.	1	31	Plumber	520 1st ave.
Stokes, J. W.	6	35	Police	2013 2nd ave.
Stokes, N. A.	8	26	Druggist	1512 12th ave.
Storey, E. D.	5	26	Salesman	1430 3rd ave.
Stratford, W. E.	7	26	Police	2206 North st.
Straus, A., Jr.	3	32	Merchant	934 3rd ave.
Stripler, D. A.	2	33	Embalmer	837 1st ave.
Stripling, E. K.	3	25	Clerk	Y. M. C. A.
Stringer, O. E.	8	40	Barber	1317 19th st.
Stringer, T. E.	8	72	Cash. barber shop	1308 19th st.
Stroud, J. C.	5	37	Merchant	1415 3rd ave.
Struppa, H. I.	4	37	Manufacturer	1208 5th ave.
Strupper, G. E.	4	45	Merchant	1120 3rd ave.
Sturkie, W. C.	2	34	Merchant	420 1st ave.
Sturkie, Dayton	7	28	Mechanic	2316 Olive st.
Suggs, H. A.	2	47	Clerk	712 1st ave.
Sullivan, W. A.	2	38	R. R. clerk	738 2nd ave.
Summerlin, J. A.	3	35	Bookkeeper	1011 4th ave.
Swift, H. H.	4	37	Lawyer	1145 3rd ave.
Swift, Clifford J.	5	35	Cotton manufacturer	1417 2nd ave.
Swift, E. W.	5	52		
Swift, Geo. P.	4	30	Salesman	1145 2nd ave.
Talbot, W. A.	8	36	Conductor, C. of Ga.	1806 11th ave.
Talbutt, Henry E.	6	46	Postman	521 28th st.
Tarvin, T. L.	8	64	Contract painting	2126 Comer ave.
Tatum, P. A.	6	36	Physician and surgeon	2517 2nd ave.
Tay, W. I.	7	45	Mill operative	2805 10th ave.
Taylor, Sam	6	50	Watchman	1712 1st ave.
Taylor, T. K.	6	40	Clerk	2206 Thomas ave.
Taylor, Joe S.	5	36	Salesman	1413 3rd ave.
Taylor, A. J.	3	36	Salesman	113 10th st.
Taylor, T. Earle	7	21	Bookkeeper	2214 Hamilton ave.
Taylor, U. C.	4	28	Salesman	1126 3rd ave.
Taylor, H. B.	8	36	Cabinet maker	1324 Barnett
Temples, W. P.	3	39	Stock dealer	422 10th st.
Terry, R.	4	48	Lawyer	
Thames, J. B.	1	47	Lineman	445 Broad
Tharp, C. W.	6	52	Clerk	1713 3rd ave.

Thetford, C. M.	6	47	C. F. D.	2300 Hamilton ave.
Thomason, John G.	7	41	Clerk	2401 2nd ave.
Thomason, L. W.	6	38	C. F. D.	828 3rd ave.
Thomason, O. W.	2	57	Merchant	828 3rd ave.
Thomason, Louis F.	2	24	Salesman	828 3rd ave.
Thomason, Foy D.	2	25	Salesman	1222 5th ave.
Thomason, J. D.	4	52	Engineer	2310 Hamilton ave.
Thompson, C. A.	7	46	Grocer	310 13th st.
Thompson, Thos. H.	4	41	Minister	415 13th st.
Thompson, W. R.	4	61	R. R.	102 11th st.
Thompson, J. W.	3	59	Harness maker	1118 5th ave.
Thompson, P. D.	4	32	Engineer	2004 Thomas ave.
Thornton, Albert C.	6	28	Printer	2003 Hamilton ave.
Thornton, W. A.	6	63	Salesman	2207 1st ave.
Thornton, J. B.	6	39	Textile worker	922 Broad st.
Thornton, W. C.	3	49	Salesman	1326 4th ave.
Thornton, Hama D.	4	35	Salesman	1315 5th ave.
Thornton, C. M.	4	39	Soda dispenser	2003 Hamilton ave.
Thornton, Clyde D.	6	32	City salesman	2003 Hamilton ave.
Thornton, M. H.	6	26	Printer	535 28th st.
Thurmond, W. J.	7	59	Dentist	1110 31st st.
Thurmond, C. H.	7	34	Salesman	535 28th st.
Thurmond, Roy H.	6	26	Paymaster	102 9th st.
Thweatt, R. H.	2	37	Drayman	320 9th st.
Threlkeld, J. Willis	1	54	Merchant	647 29th st.
Tibbs, F. C.	7	35	Supt. power plant	745 23rd st.
Tice, J. Ward	2	67	Watchman	2016 Comer ave.
Tidd, H. T.	8	33	Plumber	1324 2nd ave.
Tigner, W. F.	4	83	Dentist	1519 11th ave.
Tigner, G. Y.	8	60	Judge city court	710 Broad st.
Tillery, W. E.	2	40	Special agent R. R.	1719 2nd ave.
Tillman, Thos. F.	6	35	C. F. D.	1147 23rd st.
Tinxley, H. B.	8	61	Mill operative	1147 23rd st.
Tinxley, W. H.	8	23	Laundry	2127 8th ave.
Tippins, D. B.	8	37	Merchant	2015 Thomas ave.
Tolbert, Wheeler H.	6	34	Trav. salesman	2025 Comer ave.
Tomlin, J. R.	8	57	Guard	2025 Comer ave.
Tomlin, J. T.	8	21	Taxi driver	1127 19th st.
Tomlin, J. A.	8	26	Machine fixer	312 10th st.
Tondee, R. L.	3	39	Printer	833 1st ave.
Torbett, C. H.	2	32	Embalmer	737 Broad st.
Torbett, C. L.	2	55	Undertaker	1109 1-2 5th ave.
Torbett, R. P.	4	31	Advertising	1714 3rd ave.
Treadaway, J. Lank	6	38	Real estate	

Treadaway, Theo. F.	2	31	Salesman	715 2nd ave.
Truett, J. W.	6	63	Mill operative	1934 2nd ave.
Trulock, T. B.	6	37	Salesman	537 Hughes ave.
Trussell, C. W.	8	39	Foreman	1539 Dudley ave.
Tucker, N. F.	7	53	Police	1712 Hamilton ave.
Tucker, E. O.	6	46	Mill operative	105 20th st.
Tucker, P. W.	7	28	Grocer	620 25th st.
Tune, C. J.	4	43	Bookkeeper	1246 4th ave.
Turnage, R. D.	8	44	Salesman	2333 Talbot ave.
Turner, H. G.	3	29	Salesman	221 10th st.
Turner, W. B.	3	49	Electrician	1036 4th ave.
Turner, Jno. P.	7	55	Postmaster	2204 Redd place
Turner, W. A.	5		Cotton factor	1440 3rd ave.
Tyson, J. S.	4	36	Police	1343 6th ave.
Urquhart, W. F.	2	58	Mechanic	700 3rd ave.
Van Landingham, J. F.	4	28	Bookkeeper	509 13th st.
Van Houton, F. L.	2	52	Assistant undertaker	509 13th st.
Voight, C. H.	6	51	Police	2315 3rd ave.
Voight, D. F.	6	45	Salesman	2025 Robinson st.
Waddell, E. S.	4	35	Clerk	2nd ave.
Wade, C. F.	8	47	Merchant	1701 10th ave.
Wade, A. B.	4	30	Salesman	213 12th st.
Wade, T. P.	4	39	R. R.	1222 5th ave.
Walden, Geo. F.	5	44	Manager Rankin house	
Walker, H. C.	3	41	Baggage master	1019 5th ave.
Waller, C. F.	8	43	R. R. conductor	1308 18th st.
Walters, T. L.	6	50	Salesman	430 21st st.
Walton, Chas. E.	4	42	Hotel	The Waverly
Walton, J. A.	4	70		Racine hotel
Walton, J. E.	4	43	Clerk	1328 Warren st.
Walsh, R. P.	2	60	Dyer	829 4th ave.
Ward, J. D.	6	29	Motorman	2945 2nd ave.
Ware, Jas. E.			Col. and bookkeeper	1019 4th ave.
Ware, J. L.	3	27	Clean and press.	2003 Hamilton ave.
Warner, H. H., Jr.	8	29	Insurance	1219 17th st.
Warner, H. H.	4	55	Clerk	1216 5th ave.
Wasserman, B.	2	37	Merchant	841 4th ave.
Watkins, L. F.	8	45	Lieutenant police	546 19th st.
Watson, D. P.	3	32	Barber	1036 4th ave.
Watt, T. B.	3	62	Clerk	1018 Front st.
Watt, C. H.	4	61		1125 Front st.
Watts, J. M.	5	50	Mill work	20th st. and 12th ave.
Watts, W. M.	8	47	Bookkeeper	1102 17th st.

Weathers, W. E.	4	37	Assistant cashier	1328 2nd ave.
Webb, R. K.	4	29	Secretary	422 11th st.
Weeks, A. M.	5	29	Mill operative	530 13th st.
Weiner, I.	2	55	Merchant	715 1st ave.
Welborn, Chas. E.	4	21	Printer	Waverly hotel
Wellborn, S. M.	3	47	Mdse. broker	204 11th st.
Wells, L. C.	1	41	Insurance	644 2nd ave.
Werbin, J. M.	3	33	Rabbi	933 5th ave.
West, H. D.	8	26	Tinner	1532 10th ave.
Westbrook, C. E.	2	41	Merchant	800 1st ave.
Whaley, J. A.	8	25	Conductor	705 19th st.
Whaley, J. R.	8	61	Collector	705 19th st.
Whaley, H. E.	8	30	Drug clerk	1920 7th ave.
Whatley, J. T.	7	59	Merchant	615 20th st.
Whatley, J. A.	2	67	Mill operative	813 Broad st.
Whatley, J. T., Jr.	6	30	Merchant	2907 Hamilton ave.
Wheat, E. M.	2	54	Druggist	802 Broad st.
Whitaker, S. T.	6	57		2517 2nd ave.
White, Warren A.	8	48	Locomotive engineer	1028 16th st.
White, J. N.	5	33	Mill operative	1618 2nd ave.
White, J. Linton	1	34	Merchant	505 1st ave.
White, W. H.	4	40	Insurance	1305 2nd ave.
White, K. D.	8	33	Electrical engineer	1427 17th st.
White, W. A.	6	43	Merchant	504 23rd st.
Whitehead, W. F.	3	32	Physician	213 13th st.
Whiteside, George B.	3	62	Pres. Mus. Ice Co.	914 Broad st.
Whitten, J. F.	7	42	Bailiff	722 3rd ave.
Whitten, D. O.	2	31	Merchant	744 Front st.
Whitten, R. R.	8	28	Pressman	1000 19th st.
Whitten, F. A.	6	32	None	1908 2nd ave.
Whittlesey, J. P.	2	60	Carpenter	837 1st ave.
Wickham, Fred L.	6	36	Agent N. Y. Life Insurance Co.	
Wiggins, B. H.	7	25		622 19th st.
Wiggins, James	1	64	Mill operative	621 Front st.
Wilder, J. M.	7	42	Park police	1031 30th st.
Wilding, C. S.	8	50	Engineer	17th st. and 13th ave.
Willett, R.		57	Clerk	1722 2nd ave.
Wilkinson, C. C., Jr.	4	27	Clerk	11th st. and 2nd ave.
Williams, Jos. H.	5	71	Brick mason	1447 1-2 1st ave.
Williams, J. H.	7	30	Salesman	518 24th st.
Williams, J. J.	8	47	Manufacturer	11th ave.
Williams, J. Sewell	4	35	Salesman	1239 4th ave.
Williams, Jno. A.	6	42	Salesman	1913 Hamilton ave.
Williams, T. F.	1	37	Mill operative	

Williams, A. E.	5	60	Ticket agent	209 16th st.
Williams, Wm. L.	3	40	Secretary	724 4th ave.
Williams, P. J.	6	51	Agent	531 W. 30th st.
Williams, P. J.	7	47	Dyer	2313 Olive st.
Williams, A. E.	5	60	Ticket agent	209 16th st.
Williams, E. C.	6	32	Salesman	518 24th st.
Williams, W. T.	5	49	Clerk	1524 2nd ave.
Williams, J. Hasty	7	25	Clerk	716 23rd st.
Williams, C. W.	1	37	Insurance	645 2nd ave.
Williams, T. A.	3	52	Banker	1020 3rd ave.
Williams, L. B.	2	32	Merchant	801 5th ave.
Williamson, W. H.	4	77	Contractor	1322 4th ave.
Williamson, J. E.	4	44	Carrier P. O. Dept.	1320 4th ave.
Willis, C. J.	6	62	Salesman	2907 Hamilton ave.
Willis, Ben H.	6	42	C. F. D.	114 18th st.
Willis, R. Homer	6	51	Salesman	539 Hughes
Willis, H. J.	6	35	Cable splicer	2203 Hamilton ave.
Willis, Cecil C.	6	39	Invoice clerk	436 21st st.
Willis, J. O.	1	40	C. F. D.	543 1st ave.
Willis, Chas. C.	1	34	Cashier	609 1st ave.
Willis, Grover C.	8	32	Officer	1419 16th st.
Wills, J. F.	7	53	Druggist and seedsman	630 23rd st.
Wilson, J. W.	6	36	Conductor	2305 2nd ave.
Wilson, L. C.	8	33	Conductor	1818 11th ave.
Wilson, C. L.	8	62	Mill operative	1818 11th ave.
Wilson, Robt.	2	66	Overseer carding	836 1st ave.
Wilson, H. H., Jr.	1	23	P. O. clerk	627 Broad st.
Wilson, R. S.	5	67	Carpenter	1937 Robinson st.
Wilson, S. P.	6	22	Conductor	1705 2nd ave.
Wise, J.	4	46	Merchant	1315 4th ave.
Wolfson, Louis H.	2	42	Merchant	830 1st ave.
Wood, T. P.	8	35	Mill operative	1017 20th st.
Wood, W. J.	5	20	Manufacturing	1500 4th ave.
Woods, J. E.	8	51	Engineer	1801 11th ave.
Woods, G. A.	7	46	Transfer agent	625 23rd st.
Woods, C. L.	7	39	City detective	655 20th st.
Woodall, H. M.	7	57	Assistant marshal	716 23rd st.
Woodall, Walter J.	5	47	Editor	1547 2nd ave.
Woodall, W. C.	5	39	Publisher	1543 2nd ave.
Woodham, W. F.	6	28	Clerk	514 20th st.
Woodruff, C. B.	5	33	Cotton mill op.	1419 Broad st.
Woodruff, H. L.	5	66	Planter	1420 2nd ave.
Woodruff, J. W.	5	37	Ice manufacturer	1414 2nd ave.
Woodruff, L. D.	8	28	Collector	1227 21st st.



Woodruff, H. E.	5	34		1420 2nd ave.
Wooldridge, C. W.	4	44	Bookkeeper	1119 4th ave.
Wooldridge, J. C.	5	40	Physician and surgeon	1600 2nd ave.
Workman, V. C.	1	21	Druggist	445 Broad st.
Worsley, Wm. deL.	5	37	Lawyer	1404 4th ave.
Worsley, G. E.	5	30	Cotton buyer	1513 4th ave.
Wragg, S. A.	4	42	Clergyman	1120 1st ave.
Wright, J. L.	7	27	Bicycle dealer	1823 Hamilton ave.
Wright, W. P.	5	46	Locomotive engineer	1527 4th ave.
Wright, T. W.	2	51	Motorman	708 2nd ave.
Wright, T. L.	7	41	C. F. D.	1655 3rd ave.
Wright, S. P.	3	41	Wood dealer	922 3rd ave.
Wright, S. D.	8	32	Locomotive engineer	1125 17th st.
Wright, W. A.	6	23	So. Express	2501 8th ave.
Wyatt, T. S.	8	25	Clerk	1547 13th ave.
Wyatt, A. Gaines	3	30	Clerk	1009 1-2 1st ave.
Wyatt, G. B.	8	56	Drayman	1547 13th ave.
Wyche, T. A.	6	64	Carpenter	1118 22nd st.
Wylie, S. J.	5	50	Physician	1430 3rd ave.
Wynn, J. E.	7	40	Butcher	2619 2nd ave.
Wynn, J. H.	4	64	Agent yeast	411 14th st.
Yarbrough, J. J.	8	43	Farmer	3000 Hamilton ave.
Yarbrough, G. I.	5	40	Merchant	1409 2nd ave.
Yarbrough, A. G.	5	33	Manager	1409 2nd ave.
Youmans, J. R.	4	42	Physician	1308 2nd ave.
Young, J. E.	6	28	Police	1712 2nd ave.
Young, C. M.	7	41	Superintendent	2907 11th ave.
Young, C. F.	1	37	Grocer	430 5th ave.
Young, C. W.	8	31	Electrician	1846 18th st.
Young, Thos. O.	7	43	Salesman	2728 Hamilton ave.
Zacharias, R. I.	3	35	Traveling salesman	938 3rd ave.

#### Colored

Carter, Willis	6	73	Shoemaker	331 25th st.
Cobb, R. H.	2	46	Dentist	814 4th ave.
Green, Moses	6	70	Minister	2111 1st ave.
Lindsey, George	8	41	Janitor	1729 5th ave.
Shepherd, Jno. T.	8	66	Painter	405 17th st.
Yarbrough, S. W.	2	61	Merchant	732 4th ave.

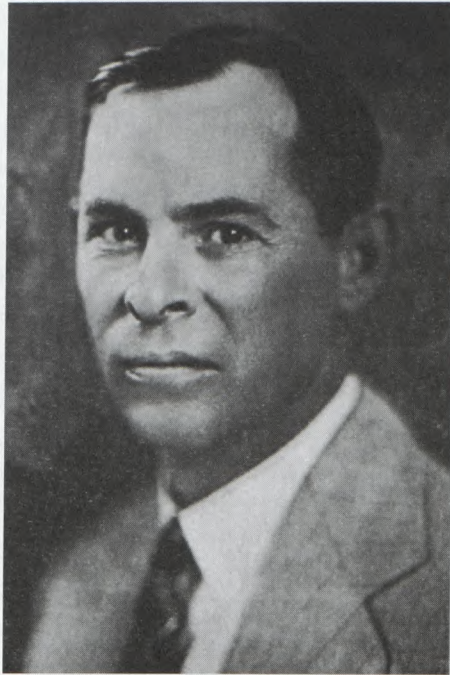


Fig. 1. William Eugene Page  
Courtesy of *The Columbus Georgia Centenary*,  
Nancy Telfair.

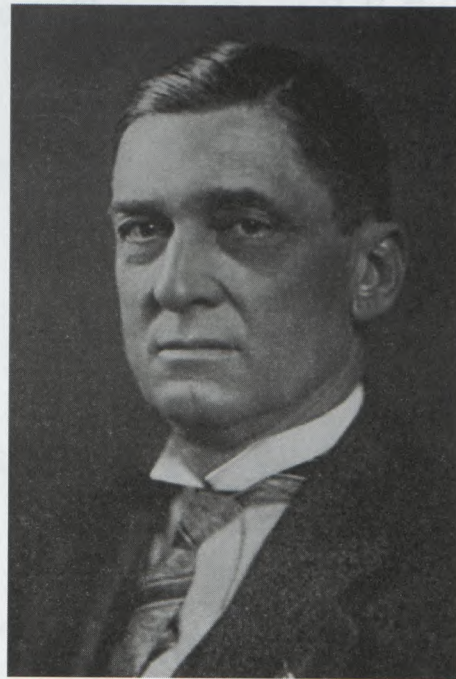


Fig. 2. Columbus Roberts  
Courtesy of *The Columbus Georgia Centenary*,  
Nancy Telfair.



Fig. 3. George Augustus Pearce  
Courtesy of *The Columbus Georgia Centenary*,  
Nancy Telfair.

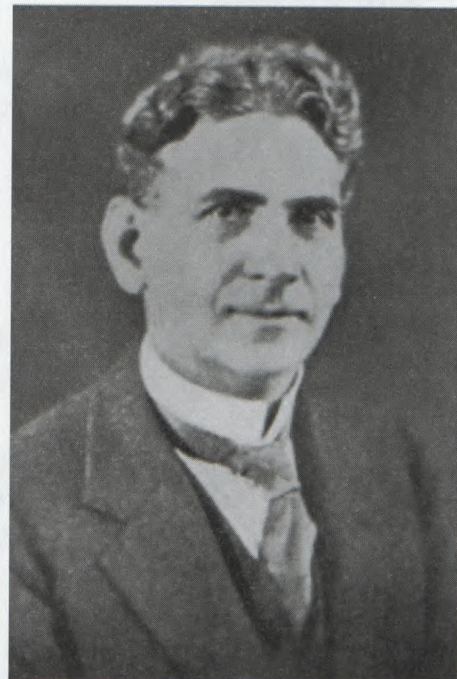


Fig. 4. Henry Clifford Smith  
Courtesy of *The Columbus Georgia Centenary*,  
Nancy Telfair.

**"Talbot County"**  
from  
**Georgia Historical and Industrial**  
by the  
Department of Agriculture

Transcribed by Sean Norman

*Georgia Historical and Industrial* was published in Atlanta, Georgia in 1901 by the Franklin Printing and Publishing Company. This excerpt provides detailed information about agricultural and industrial production, services, demographics and tax and property statistics. The Talbot County section presents primarily the agricultural output with a brief description of the county seat, Talbotton. The Muscogee county section was printed in Volume 18, Number 2 of *Muscogiana*. Entry from the annul for other counties may appear in forthcoming issues. The original is located in the Columbus State University Archives.

Talbot County

*Talbot County* was laid out in 1827 and named for Hon. Matthew Talbot, who represented Oglethrope county in the legislature for many years, and being president of the Senate at the time of the death of Governor Rabun on October 25, 1819, succeeded him in the gubernatorial chair until the election of John Clark, in November, 1819.

Talbot county is bounded on the north by Meriwether, on the northeast by Upson, on the east by Taylor, on the south by Marion and Muscogee, and on the west by Harris and Muscogee.

The Flint river flows along its northeastern boundary. Other streams are Patisliga, Hachasofkee and Lazer creeks. The Oak Mountains are in the northern section of the county.

The soil belongs to the metamorphic formation in the northern part, and to the cretaceous in the southern section. The face of the country is broken. There are brown and mulatto lands with red clay subsoil, hardwood growth and freestone water throughout the first division; gray, sandy or gravelly soil, with long-leaf pine and limestone water throughout the second division.

Counting all lands, the average production is as follows: corn, 11,000 bushels; oats, 9 bushels; rye 7 bushels: barely, 10 bushels; wheat, 7 bushels; Irish potatoes, 75 bushels; sweet potatoes, 100 bushels; field-peas, 10 bushels; ground-peas, 15 bushels; seed cotton, 500 pounds; corn fodder, 250 pounds; crab-grass hay, 2,200 pounds; sorghum syrup, 50 gallons; sugar-cane syrup, 200 gallons. But with careful

cultivation these same lands produce 20 bushels each of corn and oats; 15 bushels of field-peas and 25 of ground-peas, and 600 pounds of seed cotton.

After supplying the home demand for vegetables, berries, fruits and melons, there is enough surplus to make the truck sales amount to \$4,500. There are in Talbot county 39,246 peach-trees, 5,896 apple-trees, 2,640 plum trees, 1,452 pear-trees and 450 cherry-trees.

According to the United States census of 1890 Talbot county had 453 sheep with a wool-clip of 1,232 pounds, 5,414 cattle, of which 204 were oxen and 1,946 milch-cows, 596 horses, 1,684 mules, 4 donkeys and 8,138 swine. Among the farm products were 60,373 domestic fowls, 86,016 dozens of eggs, 370,462 gallons of milk, 88,012 pounds of butter and 23,151 pounds of honey.

According to the United States census of 1900 there were ginned in Talbot county 8,893 bales of upland cotton of the crop of 1899-1900.

On tributaries of the Chattahoochee 90 horse-powers are utilized by 4 grist-mills, while on the tributaries of the Flint river 9 mills utilized 169 horse-powers.

All the manufactories of the county number 14 and have an output worth \$32,474.

The largest town is Talbotton, with a population of 1,131 in its corporate limits, and 1,963 in the entire district, which includes it. This town is the county seat, and is located on Lazer creek. It has a high situation with invigorating air and good, cool water. Talbotton has a bank with a capital of \$28,000; a court-house worth \$20,000; 2 good schools, the Colinsworth Institute and Le Vert College; good church buildings of the Methodists, Baptists and Presbyterians, and a Masonic hall. It is connected by a branch railroad with the Southwestern branch of the Central of Georgia Railroad. It handles 6,000 bales of cotton annually. The county has 54 schools belonging to the public school system of Georgia, and is well provided with houses of worship, belonging to the leading Christian denominations.

Geneva, on the Central of Georgia Railway, has three sawmills and does a good mercantile business.

The area of Talbot county is 407 square miles, or 260,480 acres. Population in 1900, 12,197, a loss of 1,061 since 1890; school fund, \$10,042.17.

By the Comptroller-General's report for 1900 there are: acres of improved land, 229,990; of wild land, 5,859; average value per acre of improved land, \$2.69; of wild land, \$0.78; city property, \$106,520; shares in bank, \$17,065; money, etc., \$53,721; merchandise, \$40,760; stocks and bonds, \$75; cotton manufactories, \$11,000; value of

household furniture, \$51,166; farm and other animals, \$93,338; plantation and mechanical tools, \$24,343; watches, jewelry, etc., \$3,002; value of all other property, \$18,284; real estate, \$729,194; personal estate, \$314,269. Aggregate value of whole property, \$1,043,463.

Property returned by colored taxpayers: number of acres, 8,441; value, \$19,980; city property, \$6,305; merchandise, \$175; household furniture, \$9,925; watches, etc., \$133; farm and other animals, \$18,204; plantation and mechanical tools, \$3,402; value of all other property, \$2,023. Aggregate value of whole property, \$60,147.

Tax returns for 1901 show an increase of \$53,533 in the value of all property since the returns in 1900.

Of the 54 schools 25 are for white pupils and 27 for colored, and the average attendance is 737 white pupils and 1,467 colored.

Population of Talbot county by sex and color, according to the census of 1900: white males, 1,765; white females, 1,893; total white, 3,658; colored males, 4,152; colored females, 4,378; total colored, 8,539.

Domestic animals in barns and inclosures, not on farms or ranges, June 1, 1900: 38 calves, 5 steers, 78 dairy cows, 51 horses, 15 mules, 176 swine, 5 goats.

## The Battle of Columbus and Historical Memory

By

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The Civil War continues to fascinate Americans, particularly those in the South. More books and articles are published about it in the United States than about any other historical topic. Many Civil War buffs, however, tend to oversimplify the issues and events of the war. Popular historical memory over the years has glorified a united Confederate resistance and vilified marauding Yankee invaders. The Battle of Columbus in April 1865 presents a good case study for how and why memory has perpetuated the glory of the "Lost Cause." The reasons the War continues to enthrall Southerners are complex, but a major purpose of Southern commemoration of the War has been to provide a psychological defense to combat deeply ingrained feelings of loss and inferiority.

Southern historical memory tends to present the Confederate effort as a unified defense of the homeland. In fact, the South was deeply divided over the war from the beginning. Columbus provides a good example. After the election of Lincoln in November 1860 and South Carolina's secession in December, the Georgia General Assembly decided to hold a referendum for voters to choose delegates to a convention where they would debate whether Georgia should secede. Though 67% of Muscogee County voters supported sending pro-secession delegates to the convention,<sup>1</sup> many leading citizens opposed secession. Hines Holt, a wealthy planter living in the Wynn House on Wynnton Road, served on a legislative committee from the General Assembly drafted to urge Georgians not to vote for secessionist delegates to the upcoming convention. The committee argued that immediate secession would create "nothing but divisions among our people, confusion among the slaveholding States, strife around our firesides, and ultimate defeat to every movement for the effective redress of our grievances."<sup>2</sup> "Old money" planters tended to see more risks to their fortunes in leaving the union than staying in it. Most, like Holt, came around to support the Confederacy once Georgia seceded. Columbus opinion about the war was never monolithic or unanimous. The newspapers illustrated the divisions. The *Times* supported the

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<sup>1</sup> John Lupold, *Columbus, Georgia, 1828-1978* (Columbus: Columbus Sesquicentennial, Inc., 1978), 29.

<sup>2</sup> *Thomaston Upson Pilot*, December 22, 1860, quoted in David Williams, *Rich Man's Fight: Class, Caste, and Confederate Defeat in the Lower Chattahoochee Valley* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1999), 49-50.

Confederacy, the two editors of the *Daily Sun* were divided over secession but the paper eventually supported the war, while the *Enquirer* opposed it.<sup>3</sup>

Unionist sentiment remained strong in Columbus during the war, although held by a minority. The richest Unionist was John Winter, a New York native who arrived in the city in 1842. He owned Palace (grist) Mills and Rock Island Paper Mills and land holdings valued at \$143,000 in 1850. He had served two terms as a popular mayor. Early in the war Winter sent a letter to Andrew Johnson listing 57 Columbus men as staunch Unionists. Like Winter, they tended to be Northern-born. Many were small craftsmen who resented the skilled slaves making the same goods produced and sold by free men such as themselves.<sup>4</sup> Randolph Mott was another prominent Unionist, Virginia-born and a close associate of Winter. Local lore says he flew the American flag on the cupola of his house on the river all through the war, though Union General James Wilson who took the city in 1865 and established his headquarters in Mott's house wrote that the flag was displayed inside "the dome" of the house. Though a Unionist, Mott never interfered with the war effort. His son served as Gen. Henry Benning's adjutant and his grist mills supplied Confederate troops, as well as civilians.<sup>5</sup>

Early in the summer of 1861 Columbus's self-appointed "Vigilance Committee" began conducting "loyalty hearings." Northern-born citizens were particularly suspect. Upon return from a visit to Northern relatives, the committee forced them to submit to an interview and obtain a clearance before they could return home. Facing this pressure, Winter returned to New York where he died in 1871. His will specified he be buried in Columbus' Linwood Cemetery.<sup>6</sup>

By 1861 Columbus was the third largest city in Georgia and a leading commercial center. It quickly became a major supplier for the Confederacy, its output second only to Richmond.<sup>7</sup> The largest of the city's four textile mills was native New Yorker William H. Young's Eagle Mill. By 1862, it ran two twelve-hour shifts and weekly produced 2000-8000 yards of cotton duck for tents, 2000 yards of gray woolen "cassimere" for uniforms, and thousands of yards of other cotton materials and thread. William R. Brown's Columbus Iron Works was one of largest south of Richmond. Its

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<sup>3</sup> Williams, 46, 50; Lupold, 29.

<sup>4</sup> Williams, 138; LeRoy P. Graf and Ralph W. Haskins, editors, "The Letters of a Georgia Unionist: John G. Winter and the Restoration of the Union," *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 46, no. 1 (1962), 49-51.

<sup>5</sup> James Harrison Wilson, *Under the Old Flag*, 2 vols, (New York: D Appleton & Co., 1912) 2: 267; Lupold, 30.

<sup>6</sup> Diffie Standard, *Columbus, Georgia, in the Confederacy* (New York: The William-Frederick Press, 1954), 25; Lupold, 30.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

output was so important that the Confederate government leased the works in September 1862. It became the C. S. Naval Iron Works.<sup>8</sup>

Men with no previous industrial experience began manufacturing items for the war effort. Former storekeepers produced tents, military uniforms, buttons, caps and shoes, gun carriages, saddles and harnesses, cavalry belts, and even drums and fifes. Eldridge S. Greenwood and William C. Gray set up a factory that produced thousands of the .58 caliber "Mississippi" rifle. Louis and Elias Haiman, Prussian immigrants and hardware store owners, established a sword and bayonet factory, eventually becoming the largest manufacturer of edged weapons in the Confederacy.<sup>9</sup>

Established in 1861 on the Chattahoochee in Columbus, the Confederate Navy Yard's mission was to construct small oceangoing gunboats, initially intended to break the Union blockade. The Navy Yard produced two boats: the *Chattahoochee* and the *Muscogee* (also known as the *Jackson*). After its launch in early 1864, the *Chattahoochee's* inexperienced crew exploded its boilers before reaching the Gulf. It was in the Navy Yard awaiting repairs, along with the nearly completed *Muscogee*, in April 1865.<sup>10</sup>

Its industrial production eventually made Columbus a Union target. Its geographic isolation spared Columbus from Sherman's march but in April 1865 Union General James Wilson's cavalry force of about 4000 men bore down on the city. In what one historian called a "blitzkrieg," Wilson had swept through Selma and Montgomery. Because telegraph lines had been destroyed, no one knew Lee had surrendered to Grant at Appomattox on April 9. After three years of sporadic work, Columbus's defenses were only partially completed, a two-mile line of trenches and gun emplacements along a ridge above the Chattahoochee on the Alabama side. Most of the city's fighting men were away on other fronts. In the midst of frantic preparations upon hearing of Wilson's approach, Columbus mayor F.G. Wilkins forbade any able-bodied man to leave the city.<sup>11</sup> All men capable of bearing arms had to report to the Confederate commander, Col. Leon von Zinken. Mainly the very young and old manned the defenses—troops essentially untrained and totally inexperienced. A sprinkling of veterans recovering from wounds left Columbus hospitals and stiffened the lines, along with a few state militia guarding Columbus. Von Zinken was so desperate for defenders that on April 8 he had telegraphed Richmond asking

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<sup>8</sup> Stewart C. Edwards, "'To Do the Manufacturing for the South': Private Industry in Confederate Columbus." *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 85, no. 4 (2001), 544; Lupold, 31, 34.

<sup>9</sup> Edwards, 544-547, 549-559; Lupold. 31-33.

<sup>10</sup> Williams, 63; Lynn Willoughby, *Flowing through Time: A History of the Lower Chattahoochee River* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1999), 95, 98.

<sup>11</sup> James Pickett Jones, *Yankee Blitzkrieg: Wilson's Raid through Alabama and Georgia* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2000); Standard, 59.



permission to enlist slaves and free blacks, but got no answer. About 2000 men awaited the attack.<sup>12</sup>

At 2:00 on Easter Sunday, April 16, 1865, the Federals surprised slaves digging entrenchments on Crawford Road in west Girard, now Phenix City. The slaves ran and the Yankees prepared for an attack. At 8 pm the dismounted Federals launched a rare night attack on the semi-circle of Confederate defenses from just south of the current 14<sup>th</sup> St. bridge north to the Summerville Road area. After an hour of what historian Duffie Standard characterized as "confused firing in the dark," the 10<sup>th</sup> Missouri poured through the line, "passing within 10 steps of Confederate General Howell Cobb" who either didn't see them or thought they were Confederates.<sup>13</sup> The Yankees rushed for the covered wooden bridge across the Chattahoochee illuminated only by the flash of rifle fire and cannon and by buildings in Girard the Confederates had set afire to light the battlefield. Local residents remembered the spectacle appeared as "a sheet of flame on the Chattahoochee."<sup>14</sup> Standard says "there was no spirit of confidence in the [Confederate] line." Rumors spread among the defenders of the Yankees' superior numbers and that they already held the bridge, the only avenue of escape. The Confederates also ran, mingling with the Yankees, and they all entered a "melee at the bridge." The Confederate defenders waiting on the Georgia side could not fire for fear of hitting their own men. The *Enquirer* later described the scene: "Horsemen and footmen, artillery wagons and ambulances were crowded and jammed together in the narrow avenue, which was 'dark as Egypt,' . . . for that bridge had no gas fixtures and was never lighted. How it was that many were not crushed to death in the tumultuous transit of the Chattahoochee seems incomprehensible."<sup>15</sup> Confederate General Howell Cobb and von Zinken fled, and panic gripped Columbus. One man reported, "At one place the women and children were running through the streets like people deranged, and the men, with mules and wagons, driving in every direction." The Yankees quickly ended the fighting, and Wilson crossed the Chattahoochee shortly after 11:00. The Yankees took about 1000 prisoners. Casualties were light, though an accurate count is impossible. The Federals reported about five dead and 20 wounded and only nine Confederate dead were listed.<sup>16</sup>

The next day, Wilson ordered destruction of all property "that could be made useful for further continuance of the Rebellion." The targets of the Federals were factories and materials that could support the war effort. They burned the bridges

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<sup>12</sup> *Official Records of the Rebellion, Series 1, vol. 49, part 2 (Mobile Bay Campaign)*, p. 1193. E-History, Ohio State University, <http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/sources/recordview.cfm?content=/104/1193> (accessed October 17, 2007).

<sup>13</sup> Standard, 60; Lupold, 41.

<sup>14</sup> Etta Blanchard Worsley, *Columbus on the Chattahoochee* (Columbus: Columbus Office Supply, 1951), 294.

<sup>15</sup> Standard, 60-61; *Columbus Enquirer*, June 27, 1865.

<sup>16</sup> Kate Cumming, *Kate: The Journal of a Confederate Nurse*, ed. Richard B. Harwell (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1959), 272; Jones, 138, 140; Lupold, 43.

across the river, all the textile mills, Haiman's sword factory, the Rock Island Paper mill, the Naval Yard, the Confederate Naval Iron Works, the Confederate arsenal and all the cotton warehouses (except R.L. Mott's) with approximately 100,000 bales of cotton valued at \$62.5 million.<sup>17</sup> Wilson in his memoir claimed he "was anxious that the burning warehouses should not set fire to private property and saw that every precaution was taken to keep the fire under control." The Federals also lit the gunboat *Jackson* and set it adrift. The Confederates had already burned the *Chattahoochee* to keep it out of enemy hands. The Federal army destroyed 15 locomotives and over a hundred rail cars. They destroyed the presses of the *Daily Sun* and the *Columbus Times* but not those of the Unionist *Enquirer*. At Wilson's order, they spared the three grist mills since they had little military significance and were an essential source of food.<sup>18</sup>

The soldiers opened the stores along Broadway, and citizens of Columbus apparently recognized the opportunity to join in the plunder. A Yankee soldier noted in his diary that "the poor citizens were helping themselves freely to everything in the stores." The train of free blacks and escaped slaves that followed Wilson's army joined in looting, helping to clean out all the stores on Broad Street in a single morning.<sup>19</sup> An Ohio soldier's account of the pillage described participation by a cross-section of Columbus society: "It is a strange scene, and it is interesting to watch the free play of human nature. Soldiers are going for the substantials, women for apparel, and the niggers for anything red. There is evident demoralization among the females. They frantically join and jostle in the chaos, and seem crazy for plunder. There are well-dressed ladies in the throng."<sup>20</sup>

Over the years, the destruction by the Yankees has been exaggerated. A United Daughters of the Confederacy book published in 1898 declared that they city was "sacked and burned" after the battle. Nancy Telfair's 1928 history of Columbus, filled with faithful darkies and evil Yankees, asserted, "The Yankees even took the dresses of the young ladies. . . and tied them together to feed the horses in."<sup>21</sup> Even today, this myth of total destruction and degradation lives on. A pamphlet in the Wynn House on Wynnton Road claims that Hines Holt, originally opposed to secession, saved his house "from the Union Army captain sent to burn the homes in this area." A 2007 Columbus

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<sup>17</sup> Wilson, 2: 266; Lupold, 43; Williams, 181.

<sup>18</sup> Wilson, 2: 267; Williams, 181; Standard, 61; Jones, 141; Lupold, 43.

<sup>19</sup> Charles F. Hinrichs Diary, April 17, 1865, Charles F. Hinricks Papers in Western Historical Manuscripts Collection, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri; quoted in Jones, 141; Standard, 61.

<sup>20</sup> Charles D. Mitchell, "Field Notes on the Selma Campaign," in *Sketches of War History, 1861-1865, Papers Prepared for the Commandery of the State of Ohio, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, 1903-1908*, Theodore F. Allen et al., eds (Cincinnati, 1908), Vol. 6, 192, quoted in Jones, 142.

<sup>21</sup> *A History of the Origin of Memorial Day as Adopted by the Ladies' Memorial Association of Columbus, Georgia* (Columbus: Thomas Gilbert, 1898), 6. Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Georgia; Nancy Telfair, *A History of Columbus, Georgia, 1828-1928* (Columbus: Historical Publishing Company, 1929), 141.

Museum exhibit on Robert Hardaway's role in the Civil War asserted that Columbus was "completely destroyed" after the battle. The historical reality was quite different. Throughout the campaign, Wilson had issued strict orders read daily to his men that forbade burning, pillaging, and destroying private property. Some looting occurred, but had there been wholesale burning of the city, Columbus wouldn't have so many antebellum houses left today (the Wynn House, St. Elmo, the Cedars, the Woolfolk House, the Lion House, the Walker-Peters-Langdon House, the Rankin House, the Elms, Dinglewood, and many others). A Confederate nurse in Columbus at the time of the battle recalled that the Yankees did little damage to nonmilitary private property.<sup>22</sup> Several private dwellings did burn, including shanties along today's Dillingham Street and the Albright house at 9<sup>th</sup> Street and Front Avenue that could have accidentally caught fire along with the Iron Works. The Confederates under Nathan Bedford Forrest's command who entered Columbus after the Union troops marched to Macon burned Unionist R.L. Mott's cotton warehouse that Wilson had spared. The other two private dwellings burned belonged to men included on Winter's list of Unionists.<sup>23</sup> It seems unlikely the Yankees would have singled out homes of Union sympathizers to burn. Perhaps the mob got carried away after the battle and took revenge on those considered traitors to the cause.

Myth-making about the battle and the Civil War began immediately after the war's end. In 1866, Virginia journalist Edward A. Pollard published *The Lost Cause* which defended the constitutionality of secession. That title evolved into a set of beliefs commonly held by white Southerners. The Lost Cause was the way in which white Southerners coped with crushing defeat, how they understood the war and its significance, and how they passed that understanding to succeeding generations. Columbus made a major contribution to the Lost Cause with the creation of Confederate Memorial Day, the "Sabbath of the South." In the spring of 1866, at the suggestion of Lizzie Rutherford, Columbus' Ladies Memorial Association formed to honor the Confederate dead and agreed to decorate their graves each year on April 26, the day in 1865 when General Joseph Johnston surrendered to William Tecumseh Sherman. A letter from the secretary of the Association was published in newspapers across the South, urging other states to join this commemoration, and Confederate Memorial Day was born. Southern states soon made it a state holiday. Georgia observed it by closing state offices until 1984.<sup>24</sup> Southern whites honored the Confederate dead because they believed they had fought for a just cause: states' rights, not slavery. So while the Lost Cause began as a way to memorialize fallen soldiers, it quickly developed a political agenda. For example, the Southern Historical

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<sup>22</sup> Jones, 57; Cumming, 279.

<sup>23</sup> Wilson, 2:267; A. O. Blackmar, Sr., list of destroyed property published in the *Columbus Enquirer*, April 17, 1908.

<sup>24</sup> "Confederate Memorial Day." Georgia.Gov, [http://www.georgia.gov/00/article/0,2086,4802\\_64437763\\_67467812,00.html](http://www.georgia.gov/00/article/0,2086,4802_64437763_67467812,00.html) (accessed November 4, 2007).

Society founded in 1869 used its *Southern Historical Society Papers* to justify the Confederate effort, to "vindicate the truth of history."<sup>25</sup>

Memorial Day was a huge celebration in Columbus for more than a hundred years. A description in 1898 said that stores closed during the morning church services. An afternoon parade down Broadway preceded speeches at the Springer Opera House. Those exercises ended in the late afternoon, followed by a procession to Linwood Cemetery "where thousands of people were in waiting." Ladies covered the soldiers' graves in flowers, and local Confederate militia fired salutes. Religious imagery was commonly used, in this example comparing the Ladies Memorial Association to the mother of Jesus: "When the smoke of war cleared away, where do we find these devoted women? Where were Mary Magdalene and the other Mary after the crucifixion? At the sepulcher with sweet spices. So these women come to soldiers' graves with choice plants and bright flowers."<sup>26</sup>

Monuments to the Lost Cause became a common way to honor the Confederacy. The Columbus Ladies Memorial Association erected a granite shaft and urn on Broadway in 1879. The north side depicts the Seal of the Confederate States of America. The inscriptions on the south side include: "To Honor the Confed. Soldiers who died; To repel Unconstitutional invasion; To Protect the rights reserved to the people; And to perpetuate forever the sovereignty of the states." The west side explicitly evokes the Lost Cause: "Gather the Sacred dust of warriors tried and true, Who bore the flag of our Nations Trust And fell in the cause tho [sic] lost still just and died for me and you."

By the end of the 1800s the Lost Cause became more institutionalized across the South. The United Daughters of the Confederacy formed in 1894 and grew quickly, with 412 chapters and 17,000 members by 1900. The Lizzie Rutherford chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy was chartered in Columbus in 1896, with General Henry Benning's daughter Anna Caroline as the first president and 45 women from the finest families as members.<sup>27</sup> The UDC fought to preserve the memory of the Lost Cause as a golden age of social order and Christian morality. It promoted pro-Southern textbooks to counter the perceived Yankee conspiracy to mis-educate children. Slavery was part of this good orderly society; it had elevated blacks by Christianizing and civilizing them. The UDC Catechism for Children in 1912 included these questions and answers for Children of the Confederacy to memorize:

Q. How were the slaves treated?

A. With great kindness and care in nearly all cases. . . .

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<sup>25</sup> David W. Blight, *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001), 261-262.

<sup>26</sup> *A History of the Origin of Memorial Day*, 6-7.

<sup>27</sup> Blight, 272-273; *A History of the Origin of Memorial Day*, 9-12.

Q. What was the feeling of the slaves toward their masters?

A. They were faithful and devoted and were always ready and willing to serve them. . . . They were always true and loyal.<sup>28</sup>

The UDC powerfully reinforced the prevailing notions of white supremacy with images of faithful slaves who allowed the South to "preserve in its purity our Anglo-Saxon population."<sup>29</sup>

The Columbus Historical Society was founded in 1915 to join the UDC as a keeper of the flame of the Lost Cause. At the inaugural meeting of the Historical Society, Charles Jewett Swift read a paper declaring "on Sunday night, 16th of April, 1865, the life of the Confederacy went out, and took its place in History, . . . and that at the same hour . . . its smoke of battle faded into 'the infinite azure of the past. . . .'" The Society's main fight over the next two decades was to commemorate the battle of Columbus as the "last battle of the Civil War." Its official letterhead stated that the society was organized on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1915, on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the "Last Battle of the War Between the States."<sup>30</sup> It was in the 1930s that Society secretary Alva C. Smith most aggressively pressured the federal government to recognize the Battle of Columbus. He pleaded with the Army War College, the War Department, the Department of the Interior, and Georgia's Senators and Congressmen to fund a monument marking Columbus as the last battle. After many ups and downs, in 1938 the two sides reached a compromise with a granite marker placed at the foot of the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge memorializing the fighting men on both sides, but not referring to Columbus as the last battle.<sup>31</sup> Undeterred, the Historical Society continued its agitation and paid for a historical marker from the Georgia Historical Society in 1953 placed on what is now Veterans Parkway that reads "THE LAST IMPORTANT LAND BATTLE OF THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES WAS FOUGHT HERE ON APRIL 16, 1865. . . ."

This battle over the "Last Battle" goes on. A couple of years ago an article in *Civil War Times* made the claim for Columbus. It was titled "The Last Battle. Really. Period." A forthcoming book from Alabama Press by Charles Misulia also characterizes

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<sup>28</sup> Blight, pp. 273-274, 278.; "U.D.C. Catechism for Children, 1912," in *Major Problems in the History of the American South*, Vol. 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., ed. Paul D. Escott, David R. Goldfield, Sally G. McMillen, and Elizabeth Hayes Turner (NY: Houghton-Mifflin, 1999), 193.

<sup>29</sup> Blight, 286.

<sup>30</sup> Charles Jewett Swift, *The Last Battle of the Civil War* (Columbus: Gilbert Printing Co., 1915), 21. Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Georgia; By-Laws and Minutes of the Historical Society of Columbus, 1915, Smith papers, Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Georgia.

<sup>31</sup> Chronology of Events Pertaining to the Erection of a Monument to the Battle of Columbus, Smith papers, Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Georgia.

Columbus as the last battle. Georgia Public Television aired a half-hour documentary in summer 2007 on the battle supporting the claim.<sup>32</sup>

Other claims abound for the site of the last battle of the Civil War, however. The Battle of Fort Blakeley on April 9, 1865 took place just after Lee's surrender at Appomattox. A major battle involving 20,000 soldiers, *Harper's Weekly* reported on May 17, 1865, "Probably the last charge of this war, it was as gallant as any on record." Another claim is for the Battle of Palmito Ranch near Brownsville, Texas on May 12-13, 1865. It involved about 500 Union troops and an unknown number of Confederates and resulted in 118 federal casualties and a couple of dozen Confederates wounded. The National Park Service calls it "the last battle in the Civil War."<sup>33</sup> Jefferson Davis, former President of the Confederacy and a pretty reliable source on these matters, agreed in *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government*, writing: "This was, I believe, the last armed conflict of the war . . . ."<sup>34</sup>

A critical document that the sources which characterize Columbus as the last battle have overlooked is the 45-page rebuttal the Department of the Interior sent to the Columbus Historical Society in the 1930s in response to their claim. First of all, the report said what happened at Columbus was not even a "battle." The traditional definition of battle used by the editors of the *Official Records of the War of the Rebellion* was a general engagement between two armies. If smaller portions of the armies clashed, it was an "engagement" or "action." Based on this definition, the federal government claimed the event at Columbus could only be called an "action."<sup>35</sup> Second, the report listed 31 military encounters subsequent to Columbus and concluded, "The skirmish at [Palmito] Ranch . . . is doubtless the last armed encounter in which organized military forces of the Confederate States participated. . . . In all probability the Stars and Bars made its last appearance at [Palmito] Ranch." The Department of the Interior concluded, "It is felt that to signify concurrence in the statement that the battle of Columbus was the last one of the Civil War, would not only be taking a position inviting much controversy, but one very difficult, if not impossible, to maintain by actual evidence."<sup>36</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> Daniel Bellware, "The Last Battle. Really. Period." *Civil War Times*, April 2003; Charles Misulia, *The Last Ditch: The Final Battle of the Civil War* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, forthcoming); "The Last Ditch: The Final Battle of the Civil War," [http://www.thelastditchfilm.com/index\\_files/Page629](http://www.thelastditchfilm.com/index_files/Page629) (accessed October 22, 2007).

<sup>33</sup> "Scene of Last Major Battle of The Civil War: Siege of Fort Blakeley, Alabama," Historic Blakeley State Park, <http://new.siteone.com/sites/blakeleypark.com/civilwar.asp>; (accessed October 27, 2008); "Palmito Ranch," CWSAC Battle Summaries, National Park Service, <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/abpp/battles/tx005.htm> (accessed November 4, 2007).

<sup>34</sup> Jefferson Davis, *The Rise and Fall of the Confederate Government* 2 vols. (New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1881), 2: 698-699.

<sup>35</sup> "Columbus: Was It the Last Battle of the Civil War?" Report of the Research Staff, Historical Division, National Park Service, Smith papers, Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Georgia.

<sup>36</sup> *Ibid.*, Appendix; Arno B. Cammerer, letter to Bryant Castellow. Alva C. Smith Collection, MC 34, Box 39, Folder 12, Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Georgia.

In 1961, Columbus joined the nation in commemorating the centennial of the Civil War with three months of special exhibits at the Columbus Museum and a couple of "Centennial Fashion Shows" on Channel 9's Rozell Show, building up to the big events surrounding Confederate Memorial Day. The afternoon of April 26 included a concert by the Fort Benning Infantry Band, a Centennial and Memorial Day Gala Parade on Broadway, and a Confederate Taps Service at Linwood Cemetery with the deputy commanding general at Ft. Benning as speaker, and the firing of the Red Jacket cannon by the Columbus Guards. The culminating event was the opening night performance of the pageant "The Gallant City," featuring a cast of 400 local actors. In its two-night run, it played to 7000 spectators and turned away 2000. Columbus was quite moderate in its centennial activities, compared to other Southern observances. Columnist Tom Sellers noted, "Unlike a number of other Southern cities, Columbus has not tried to cash in on tragedy. The Historical Society, sponsor of most of the centennial events, has tried valiantly to keep tawdry commercialism out of its projects." The co-author and narrator of the pageant was a Fort Benning sergeant from Massachusetts. The local newspaper asserted, "Columbus in particular is an example of the meeting of North and South in bonds of everlasting friendship. Fort Benning, with its large percentage of 'friendly Yankees' has made this city a model for all Southern communities, because it can truly be said that Columbus is largely free of sectional ill-feeling and racial strife,"<sup>37</sup> a whopper of a claim in the 1960s South.

Columbus still commemorates the Civil War. The Cannon Brewpub downtown and Jordan High School's mascot take their names from the Red Jacket, the famous local cannon used in the War. Of 93 historical markers in Muscogee County, at least 37 are either about the Civil War or refer to it.<sup>38</sup> The Columbus Museum includes the War in its permanent history exhibit. Linwood Cemetery made the War the focus of its 2007 Fall Ramble. The Port Columbus Civil War Naval Museum averages 30,000 visitors a year. In 2004 and 2005, the museum hosted re-enactments of the Battle of Columbus that attracted hundreds of participants and spectators.<sup>39</sup>

So why do Columbusites still care about the War? Port Columbus Education Director Matt Young says that the war was a—if not the—defining moment in U.S. history, where the country came together as a Union (like it or not).<sup>40</sup> But most Americans are notoriously ahistorical. Most don't know or care about history. The war evokes some deeper symbolic meaning, especially for Southerners. Former *Ledger-Enquirer* editor Mike Burbach left Columbus a few years ago and now lives in Minnesota. Not long ago he ran into a man from Birmingham who had lived in

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<sup>37</sup> "The Gallant City" [flyer]. Vertical file "Civil War," Columbus State University Archives, Columbus, Georgia; Tom Sellers, "Fire Dies but 'City' Lives On." *Columbus Ledger*, April 28, 1961, p. 13; "Columbus Example of North-South Bonds." *Columbus Enquirer*, April 27, 1961, p.12.

<sup>38</sup> Historic Markers of Muscogee County, Historic Columbus Foundation, <http://www.historiccolumbus.com/Markers.htm> (accessed November 4, 2007).

<sup>39</sup> Matt Young, interview by author, November 5, 2007.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.

Minnesota for 25 years. They got to talking about the South, and the man said in all those 25 years, the topic of the Civil War had come up twice. Twice a week is more like it down here. Why?

One reason might be that the war happened here. Southerners have a powerful sense of place. To stand on the site where a battle happened makes it come alive. Southerners care about family history and lineage, so they tend to know about and take pride in ancestors who wore the gray. But there is a darker side to Southern obsession with the war. The discussion above of how Southerners have commemorated the war pointed to efforts to mythologize an ugly past, a culture based on human slavery. Lost Cause apologists argue in vain that the war was about states rights, not slavery. The "right" states wanted, according to the 1912 UDC catechism, was "to hold slaves as property."<sup>41</sup> It's no coincidence that the Veterans Parkway historical marker for the "Last Important Land Battle" was erected in 1953 or that the Confederate flag was added to Georgia's state flag in 1956 or that Southern states resurrected Lost Cause rhetoric in the 1960s, all in the midst of the civil rights movement.

But the main reason over the years for this focus on the War derives from a deep sense of inferiority. In the 1850s, Georgia's economy boomed—it was the "Empire State of the South." The War destroyed its economy and way of life. Southerners were a defeated people who suffered through an almost unrelieved depression for seventy years after the War. In 1933, Franklin Roosevelt referred to the South as "the nation's number 1 economic problem."<sup>42</sup> Then, after its economy improved with World War II and its aftermath, Southerners were once again scorned and in the national spotlight for insisting on preserving an indefensible racial caste system. The South is still the region with the deepest poverty, the worst schools, the highest infant mortality rate. Maybe looking back to a romanticized glorious past provides a psychological boost.

As William Faulkner famously said, "The past is never dead. It's not even past." The commemorations of the Battle of Columbus and of the Civil War have fixed them in historical memory. Southerners may not acknowledge all of the facts of the Battle and the War but the mythology of moonlight and magnolias keeps them alive and maybe makes Southerners feel better about themselves.

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<sup>41</sup> "U.D.C. Catechism for Children, 1912," 193.

<sup>42</sup> Franklin D. Roosevelt, "Message to the Conference on Economic Conditions of the South," July 4, 1938. The American Presidency Project, University of California-Santa Barbara, <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=15670> (accessed October 24, 2007).



## Learning About the Past: The National Civil War Naval Museum

The Civil War is arguably the most written about subject in American history. Literally hundreds of books appear in print each year bringing to light relatively obscure personalities or that attempt to explain the war in a different way. The vast majority of this work focuses on the armies as they march across the landscape and do battle with one another. Obscured by this literature, and as a result the popular imagination, is the role of the navies of the opposing sides. The National Civil War Naval Museum (or Port Columbus) takes up the challenge of telling the story of the sailors and marines who fought, endured watch duty, and died during this conflict.

"Why is the Naval Museum so far inland?" is the question that is asked almost by every visitor. The answer lies in discovering the role that Columbus played during the Civil War. Columbus was the second most important industrial site for the Confederacy behind Richmond, Virginia. The list of materials that were produced here is extensive. In late 1862, the Confederate Navy took over the city's ironworks and began to produce a number of steam engines for use in steam ships and a quantity of other items. The focus on Columbus was due to the fact that it was miles away from the coast. As the Union's "Anaconda Plan" began to slowly squeeze the South, sites like Columbus became increasingly important.

In order to help protect Columbus and the Chattahoochee-Flint-Apalachicola River system, after the Confederate Navy took control of the ironworks, they began building an ironclad at a shipyard right next to the ironworks. Originally called the *Muscogee*, the vessel was to have an internal paddlewheel protected by an armored casemate. However, when they attempted to launch the vessel in early 1864, it was discovered that the paddlewheel could not move the ship. A major overhaul took place. The vessel was lengthened to 220 feet; the paddlewheel was removed and replaced by two propellers. Nearing completion in December 1864, the vessel was launched on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The local newspaper reported that "she floated like a duck on a pond." During the vessel's redesign, it was renamed the CSS *Jackson* after the capital of Mississippi.

Most of the iron plating for the *Jackson* was rolled at the Atlanta rolling mill of Schofield and Markham. After Atlanta fell to Union forces, the Confederate Navy scrambled to find the material to finish the vessel. The *Jackson* was armed with six of the most advanced rifled naval guns produced by either side: the Brooke Rifle. These weapons could fire their projectiles to a range of five miles. There were four 7" rifles, two fore and two aft, and two 6.4" rifles fitted broadside. These guns were cast at the Selma Naval Works. Two of the 7 inchers were raised in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and were moved about until in the 1950s they found a home in front of Jordan High School. Today they sit on the grounds of the museum. One of the guns is mounted on a reproduction shift-and-pivot carriage (the only one in existence) and is

actively fired by the museum staff for special occasions. Weighing in at 15,000 pounds, this is the largest piece of Civil War ordnance still being fired.

As the war was coming to an end, the Confederate Navy continued to rush to finish the ironclad. But, on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1865, Union troops under General James Wilson attacked the defenses around what was then called Girard, Alabama. After one of the few nighttime battles during the war, the cavalry crossed over into Columbus. The next day, these men began to burn everything of military value. The Navy yard was secured and the *Jackson* was prepared for destruction by soaking the wood decks inside the casemate and below decks with flammables. Without ever firing a shot, the *Jackson* was set on fire and allowed to float downstream. The vessel burned for two weeks until it caught on a sandbar about 30 miles from the shipyard and burned out. For many years after the Civil War, the *Jackson's* remains were known as "Shipwreck Island" by riverboat captains and fishermen.

During the centennial of the Civil War in the 1960s, there was enough local interest in raising the remains of the *Jackson*. With the combined efforts of local workers, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the financial backing of James W. Woodruff, Jr., the *Jackson* was brought back upriver near where Golden Park is and the Confederate Naval Museum was founded. In the early 1970s a concrete overhang shed was built over the remains of the vessel. With preservation in mind, the decision was made in the late 1990s to expand the scope of the museum to tell the story of the role of both navies. In 2001 a new facility opened to the public at its new location, with a much expanded structure of 40,000 square feet. Now inside, the vessel is better conserved and interpreted. Metal "ghosting" is hung from the ceiling to give the visitor a better idea of how she appeared.

Outside of the importance locally of this artifact, the remains of the *Jackson* are one of only three Civil War ironclads that are available to be viewed and studied. The other two are the USS *Cairo*, the first ship to be sunk by torpedo (mine) and is at the Vicksburg National Military Park, and the CSS *Neuse* at Kinston, North Carolina. This vessel also represents the coming together of several technological advances in the mid-nineteenth century: the steam engine, large rifled naval ordnance, and ironclad armor. The *Jackson* uniquely helps tell the story of the navies and the role that Columbus played during the Civil War.

The rest of the museum encourages the visitor to explore the world of more than 60,000 sailors and marines of both sides that shaped the conduct of the Civil War. Three large murals in the center gallery reveal the rich variety of ships used during the conflict, which not only include ironclads, but the first submarine to successfully sink an enemy vessel and the first aircraft carrier that launched hot-air balloons for observation. Portions of two ships are recreated so that the visitor can see the outside as well as the inside of these vessels. The first is the USS *Hartford*, which was the flagship of Admiral David Farragut and from the rigging supposedly ordered "Damn the

torpedoes! Full speed ahead!" at the Battle of Mobile Bay. The second is the ironclad CSS *Albemarle*, which was built in North Carolina and became one of the Confederacy's most successful of these vessels. Inside the *Albemarle*, the visitor gets to experience battle aboard the vessel with an eight minute experience narrated from the point of view of a powder monkey (boy) who served aboard the ironclad.

In 2005 the museum was proud to reveal the expansion of the largest collection of flags connected to the navies in existence. Gustavus Fox, the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for the United States, donated several flags to the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1869. The Society wanted to move them out of storage and the U.S. Navy transferred them to the museum. Some of these flew over forts, like Forts Henry, Jackson, Caswell, and Walker. Others were ship flags like a small boat flag and admiral's flag captured from the CSS *Tennessee* at Mobile Bay. The largest is the flag from the ironclad CSS *Atlanta*, which measures 16 feet by 24 feet.

The current project that the museum is involved in is the construction of the Civil War vessel *Water Witch*. Used by the U.S. Navy, the *Water Witch* saw service in the Gulf of Mexico and the East Coast as a blockader and supply ship. In June of 1864, lying inside the coastal islands of Georgia, the Confederate Navy launched a nighttime raid on the ship and captured her. The first man killed in the assault was Moses Dallas, an African American who worked as a pilot in Georgia's coastal waters. After the capture, the vessel's flag simply changed and it operated on the Vernon River as the CSS *Water Witch*. The Confederates scuttled her as General William T. Sherman's forces approached Savannah in December 1864.

The *Water Witch* is a hybrid vessel quite common during the time period. She is both rigged for sail and has a steam engine. Two large paddlewheels on each side of the ship propel the vessel through the water. Because of the type of vessel and the stories involved, this ship stood out above the consideration of others to become the visible symbol of the museum.

Visit [www.portcolumbus.org](http://www.portcolumbus.org) or call 706-327-9798 to find out more information or come visit us at 1002 Victory Drive. The museum is open to the public everyday, except for Christmas, from 9 am to 5 pm and holds special events about once a month. There is an admission fee of \$6.50 for adults, \$5.50 for seniors and active duty military, the student fee is \$5.00 and children 6 and under obtain entrance free of charge. Look for the 90 foot masts of the *Water Witch*.

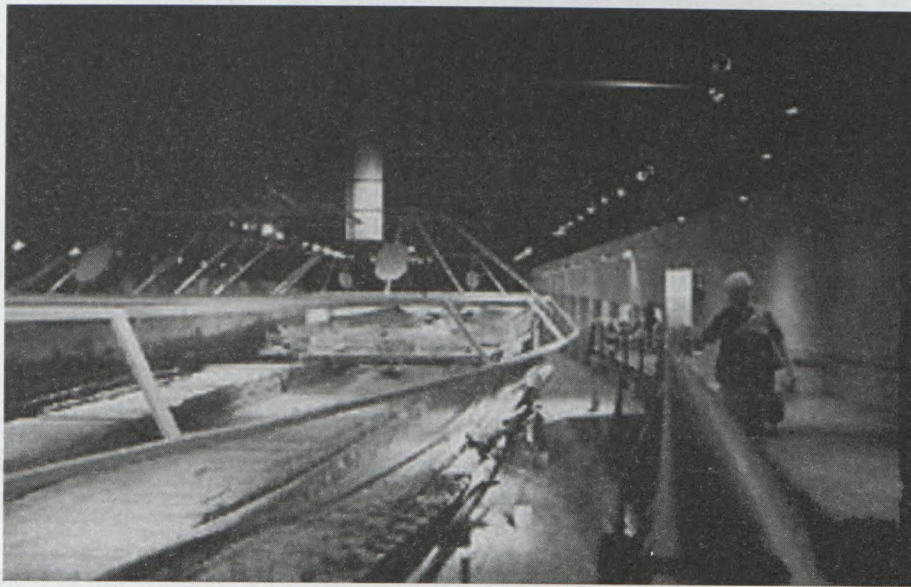


Fig. 1. *CSS Jackson*.  
Courtesy of the National Civil War Naval Museum.

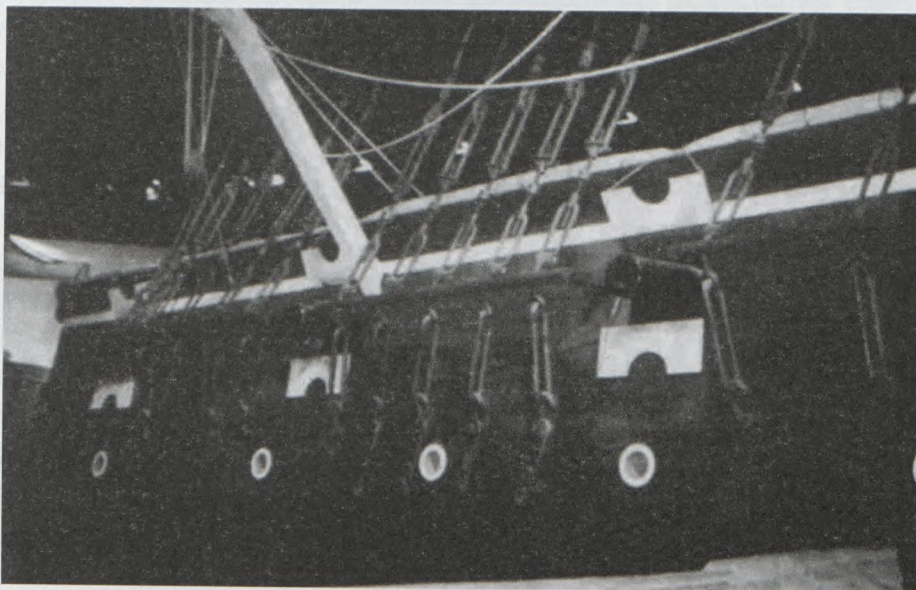


Fig. 1. *CSS Jackson*.  
Courtesy of the National Civil War Naval Museum.



Fig. 3. Flag and Bell from the *Water Witch*.  
Courtesy of the National Civil War Naval Museum.



Fig. 4. Cannon demonstration.  
Courtesy of the National Civil War Naval Museum.

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