

Hattiesburg Area Historical Society

HAHS MUSEUM
Hattiesburg Cultural Center
723 Main Street
Mailing: P.O. Box 1573
Hattiesburg, MS 39403-1573
Web Site: www.hahsmuseum.org
E-mail:
hahsmuseum@megagate.com

IN HONOR AND MEMORY

If you have ever passed through downtown Hattiesburg you have seen it. It has stood beside the 1908 neo-classical revival style Forrest County Court House for the last 105 years. Like thousands of others in both the South and the North, the monument recognizes the men and women who lived and died during the War Between the States.

As observances of the sesquicentennial of that awful turmoil have been held across the United States, the media has given much attention to the events that led to the conflict and the struggle (especially in the South) to rebuild a life and a country after the battles ended. In April 2015 the History Channel documentary, *Blood and Glory: the Civil War in Color*, used recently colorized photos to depict the carnage that took the lives of over 620,000 soldiers. It went on to explain that most Confederate soldiers did not own slaves but were fighting to save their homes from invasion by the Union troops. This was the case in the Hattiesburg area. When the smoke cleared 2% of the population, including about 130,000 non-combatants, had died.

Even before the fighting was over tributes to the dead were being held in many places. Columbus, MS claims to have held the first Decoration Day on April 25, 1866, when a group of women placed flowers on the graves of both Confederate and Union soldiers who had died at Shiloh. By 1868 the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans, established Decoration Day as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the war dead with flowers. (Only after World War I would the day be expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars. In 1971, it became known as Memorial Day and was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress.)

The monument erected in Hattiesburg by the United Daughters of the Confederacy is similar to others that are often referred to as "Silent Sentinels." The northern states began placing them shortly after the war's end, but the devastated southern economy would delay most monuments here until the 20th Century. Many of the statues were mass-produced in Northern factories. A single soldier with musket at parade rest became most popular.

But the Hattiesburg monument is not a typical one. It was not one of those cookiecutter productions nor does the soldier on top stand alone. He is accompanied by another soldier and a woman almost 30 feet below. All of them were made by local sculptor Frank H. Hartman, who owned Dixie Marble Works. The HAHS helped to document this monument in 1993 for the Save Outdoor Sculpture! Project, a joint project of the National Museum of American



Art, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Institute for Conservation of Cultural Property.

As we recently observed another Memorial Day and experienced the tragic deaths of two HPD police officers who tried to protect us, it is important to honor the memory of those who not only wore the gray but also those who have worn the blue, and those who have worn the red, white, and blue.

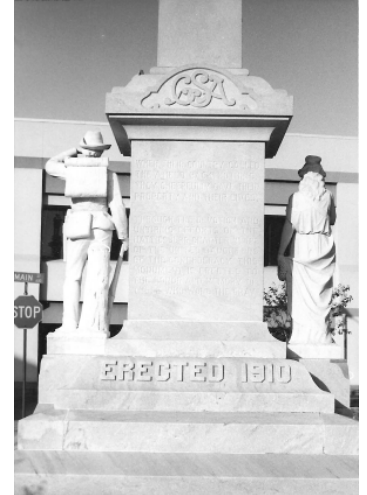


The Confederate soldier on the top of the monument rests with his bayonet-fixed rifle as he looks toward the northeast. This photo was taken from a second floor window of the old Sears building.

Photographs

Front Page: at top circa 1910 Forrest County Courthouse postcard; bottom from left: 1993 photographs of full monument, barefoot woman in Greek dress with wreath, Confederate flag with circle of 13 stars capped with leaf motif, and Confederate soldier with backpack and rifle.

Second Page: At right back of monument engraved with the words in the box below. A close-up of the bottom soldier shows the damage to his face. More damage has occurred since these photos were taken in 1993.



“WHEN THEIR COUNTRY CALLED
THEY HELD BACK NOTHING
THEY CHEERFULLY GAVE THEIR
PROPERTY AND THEIR LIVES.”

“THRU THE DEVOTION AND
UNTIRING EFFORTS OF THE
HATTIESBURG CHAPTER NO. 422
OF THE UNITED DAUGHTERS
OF THE CONFEDERACY, THIS
MONUMENT IS ERECTED TO
THE HONOR AND MEMORY OF
THOSE WHO WORE THE GRAY.”

ERECTED 1910



INTERESTING FACTS

Information from Mayor Moran Pope, Jr.

1. In 1906, the first brick streets were laid in Hattiesburg.
2. Early Hattiesburg downtown movie theatres were the Buck, Lomo, Royal, and Rose.
3. State Teacher's College sports teams were called "Yellowjackets."
4. In 1913, the city speed limit was 12 miles per hour.
5. The Jackie Dole Sherrill Community Center was built to serve as the USO during World War II.
6. Andrew Carnegie sent money to help build the Hattiesburg Public Library on Main Street.
7. Bancorp South Bank on Pine and Hardy Streets occupies the former site of the Temple B'Nai Israel.
8. The first four-way stop sign in Hattiesburg was placed on Sixth Avenue and Adeline Street in 1955.
9. Before the current four lanes were built, the route of Highway US 49 ran through downtown Hattiesburg on Main and Bay Streets.
10. The Long Leaf Trace Biking and Walking Trail was built on the Mississippi Central Railroad bed.

GIFTS TO THE SOCIETY

Dec. 1, 2014 – May 31, 2015

- Four 5x7 photos early Coca Cola. Hugh M. Howell
- Framed picture of Laurel & Hattiesburg Motorcycle Club 1939- The Redskins. Paul Marsh
- Scrub top- First Graduating Class OMS at William Cary University (2014) College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Allen Martin.
- Books: "Gordon's Creek Anthologies" Vol. I & II. Ursula Jones
- Coca Cola Bottle – 100th Anniversary edition. Gerald Buchanan
- Books: "A Girl from Brooklyn Called Barbara" and "The Charity Girls of SMCH, Laurel, MS. Mary Lois Burkett.
- Patch – Blue & White, Forrest General Nursing RN. Tom Phillips III
- Small 113 Year Old Child's Rocker given to Faye Myrick when a baby. Lula Mae Myrick
- Silver Candlestick with Zeus Crest; Zeus LVIII Matchbook; Zeus Throw Mini Champagne Glass. Ursula Jones
- Piece of the Berlin Wall. Martha Douglas Estate
- Stain Glass Panel from Light Shade in Tatum House. Martha Douglas Estate

Recent Monetary Contributions

Dec. 1, 2014 – May 31, 2015

LIFE MEMBERS

Edward R. Currie
Miles Douglas Harper, Jr.
Moran M. Pope, Jr.
John E. Ross

MEMORIALS

A J Jones
David Harvey
Dr. John Green
Mac Johnson
Davie Griffin
Rick Lambert

HONORARIUMS

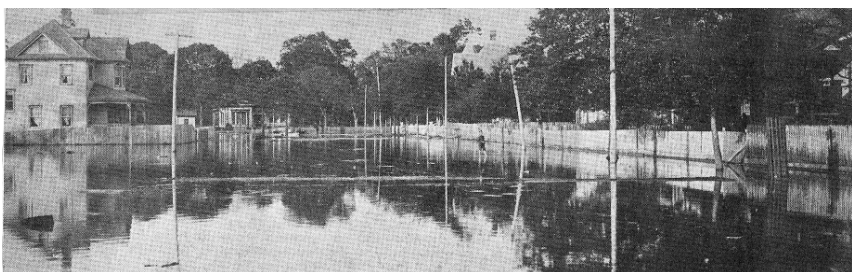
Ab & Connie Jones
Lynn & Joe Meador
Ursula Ruth Jones
Lake Douglas

ENDOWMENT

Mrs. Aubrey K. Lucas

DONORS

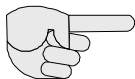
Hugh M. Howell
Ursula Ruth Jones
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Cecil Chambliss
Ab & Connie Jones
Rosemary T. Meador
Lake & Debbie Douglas
Bettie S. Ross
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Lynn Thorsen
Dr. Darlene Wheeler
R. H. Clark, Jr.
MSSCDXVII
Twentieth Star Chapter NSDAR
Norvell Robertson Chapter NSDAR
Gale Saenz
Jamie R. Martin



HATTIESBURG FLOOD OF 1904

Short Bay Street under water in 1904 shows the homes of from left: O. J. Bowen, Abner Polk, and Captain Dunn. This is one of the photos in the HAHS collection. If you have other interesting photos with names and information please share. The HAHS would like to have them in our collection.

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HAHS JUNE MEETING



The HAHS will meet **June 25, 2015**, at 5 p.m. at the HAHS Museum in the Cultural Center, 723 Main Street. The purpose of this meeting is to review recent changes in the HAHS Constitution and Bylaws. Copies will be available for members who wish them. Recent Museum acquisitions will be shared and volunteer opportunities will be made available.

At the last annual meeting, the HAHS **Constitution and Bylaws** were **updated**. Due to raising cost of postage and printing **annual dues** have been increased. You can see the small increase on the membership form below. The annual meeting has been moved to June of each year in hopes of better weather and daylight in that month.

Please be sure to check your mailing label to see year paid. If you do not have a 2015 or and "L" (for Life member) your dues are due. The HAHS year runs from January through December. If you have an **e-mail address** that you would like to share with the HAHS please be sure and contact us. We do not share or sell address or e-mails with anyone.

MUSEUM HOURS
Mon., Tues., Thurs.
2:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Or by Appointment
Call 601-582-5460

Located in the
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Center
723 Main Street
Downtown
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OFFICERS

President
Paula Harvey

Vice President
Ursula Jones

Secretary
Laurie Crowson

Treasurer
Barbara Curry

Historian/Parliamentarian
Tom Phillips III

THANK YOU FOR BEING A MEMBER OF HAHS. WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT. The HAHS welcomes contributions of all items related to the area's history. We have a great demand for photographs identifying older homes and businesses. We are looking for City Directories from the 1920's and 1930's. Please check with us before you throw it out!!

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE HATTIESBURG AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2015 HAHS DUES

Check # _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail Address: _____

HAHS does not sell or share membership lists with anyone.

Individual \$15 _____ Couple/Organization \$20 _____
Student \$5 _____ Life Membership- People over 50 \$100 each _____
People under 50 \$200 each _____

BOOK ORDER

The History of Forrest County, MS ___ Copies @ \$20 each \$ _____
If mailed, shipping and handling \$5.00 \$ _____
Total: \$ _____

(Please make checks payable to HAHS and send to
P. O. Box 1573, Hattiesburg, MS 39403-1573

