

The May Meeting Tuesday, May 27, 2014, 3:00 p. m. The Thomas E. McMillan Museum

The Program: "Re-evaluating the Creek War"

Wesley Odom of Pensacola will present a program on the Creek Indian War with emphasis on Burnt Corn, Fort Mims, and the role of Andrew Jackson.

Wesley Odom



Our speaker, pictured at the left, sent ECHS this introduction;

A native of Pensacola, Wesley Odom resides outside where one of the British fortifications, Queen Anne's Redoubt, was positioned during the 1781 Battle of Pensacola. In fact, an unexploded Spanish mortar shell was discovered in the yard in the 1980s.

When not researching Pensacola history, he operates a registered investment advisory firm, Armada Advisors. He also owns a new tour company, Go Retro, which is the only one of its type to integrate virtual technology in its delivery.

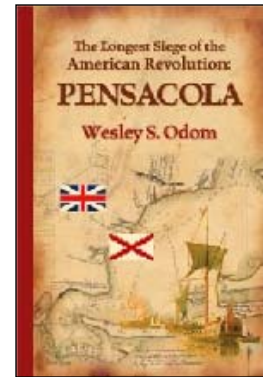
He has a B.A. from Vanderbilt University with majors in communications and history. He also is a former Naval officer.

The Longest Siege of the American Revolution:

Pensacola was his first serious published manuscript and earned two national awards.

He also authored How Firm a Foundation: The Story of Florida's First Methodist Church.

He is frequently invited to speak on different historic topics.



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The June Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2014
Interview of ex-governor John
Patterson about Phenix City

Correction for the April, 2014 ECHOES
The "River Hero Story" referred to the
Reuben Hart Home and it should be the
Dennis Hart Home.



Decoration Day: A
Southern Tradition

Volume 41, Number 5

May 2014

Thomas E. McMillan Museum Reaches 35th Anniversary

Founded in 1978/79, the Museum is often called one of the secret treasures of the area. The Museum is funded by residuals and interest from the initial deposit from 1978 and “stands alone in the region with its displays of historical, archaeological, and cultural Alabama artifacts.”

The Museum depicts life in Escambia County and has items to interest everyone.

A museum depicting the history of the county and surrounding area was a dream of ECHS and of the first president of Jefferson Davis Community College, Woodfin P. Patterson. With funds from the

McMillans, and the fund-raising actions of the Society, ECHS and President Patterson were able to achieve that dream.

By 1978, the Society could announce that \$200,800 had been raised. The major portion came from the McMillans but many individual donors had contributed.

Carolyn P. McLendon, ECHS President, had spearheaded the campaign to raise funds through publishing articles in the Society’s newsletters and quarterlies and speaking before various civic groups (“Historical Society Achieves Goal,” Brewton Standard, Thursday, October 5, 1978).

In September of 1978, the Society held its regular meeting in the new museum and presented Woodfin Patterson with an award of Merit from the Alabama Historical Association.

Also, in 1978, Mrs. John David Finlay presented to the Museum the five flags which fly in front of the



**The Fine Arts Building at JDCC
The Museum is in the center
section of this Building.
The five flags presented to the
Museum by Mrs. John David
Finlay in honor of her husband are
shown in front.**

Museum and represent the five different territories, colonies, and republics which the Brewton area has been a part of.

From an article in the Brewton Standard (“Flags are Presented to McMillan Museum,” Thursday, October 26, 1978), this explanation:

“Beginning in 1519, the area was part of Spanish Florida and under the Spanish flag until French Louisiana took control in 1699. With treaty and occupation, the British took over in

1763.

“From 1763 until 1780, this area was part of British West Florida and flew the Union Jack. Spain

again took control of West Florida in 1780, however, and remained in control until 1813.

“Old Glory was the only flag in the area until the beginning of the Civil War in 1861. During the war years, Brewton, like the other communities in the South, flew the Confederate flag.

“From 1865, the year the war ended, until the present, the American flag has flown over the Brewton area.”



Bicycle Used to Deliver Groceries in Brewton

The Museum was formally opened in May of 1979. The Museum Directors, Curators, and Coordinators who have worked with and developed exhibits as items have been added to the collection include: Roger Anderson, the first Museum Director; John Powell, History Instructor and Museum Curator who excavated battle sites in Escambia and surrounding counties, including those in the Tensaw, and prepared many of the exhibits; Carolyn Madden,

(Continued on page 3)

Thomas E. McMillan Museum Reaches 35th Anniversary

(Continued from page 2)

Museum Coordinator who presided over the Museum when it was reopened after a period without a coordinator; and Jerry Simmons, Museum Coordinator since 2005, who developed the Museum Brochure and many exhibits.

The Fine Arts Building and Museum also includes the Alabama Room, which contains the genealogy and history collection of ECHS, as well as meeting rooms for the Society.

Exhibits in the Museum (below):

Fossils and Indian, American, Military and Historic Artifacts Interpreting the Cultural Heritage of Southwest Alabama and Northwest Florida



Hand-Held Stone Hoes

These tools for digging are shown in a case of items found in the Escambia County area which date from 100 B. C. to 1,000 A. D.



Camp Pollard Exhibit on Left and Jacksonian Exhibit on the Right

The case on the left displays artifacts from the Confederate Camp located near the community of Pollard in Escambia County.

The case on the right shows items from the period 1815-1821 found from military campgrounds and battlefields associated with Andrew Jackson.



New Addition to the Museum At Left , Two Volunteers with the Church of Latter Day Saints (who are helping with family research at the Alabama Room on Thursday afternoons), dress a Mannequin with a Volunteer Red Cross Uniform.. The uniform dates from the 1930's to 1950's period.



Antique Coffee Grinder

Dr. E. O. Wilson in Alabama for a Conference

Dr. E. O. Wilson was in Alabama in April as the University of Alabama sponsored a Biodiversity Symposium on April 22-24, 2014.

Dr. Wilson is an honorary curator in entomology and university research professor emeritus at Harvard University. He graduated from the University of Alabama in 1949 and 1950. April 21--15 was declared E. O. Wilson Week at the University of Alabama. The symposium brought together the leading experts in the field to inspire the next generation.

On Earth Day, April 23, as part of the symposium, the Citizens of Alabama paid tribute to Dr. Wilson. More than 20 Alabama biodiversity and conservation organizations participated in the tribute. Three of the speakers during the tribute time were from neighboring Covington County and included Mark Bailey, a Naturalist and Author -and Jimmy and Sierra Stiles, Ecologists. Jimmy and



Dr. Wilson at the Conference, holding a copy of Tom McMillan's book on Escambia County.

Sierra have presented a program to the Escambia County Historical Society in the past.

There was a display at the University of Alabama Gallery at the Tuscaloosa Cultural Arts Center of Dr. Wilson's awards which he has donated to the University of Alabama. The display of a portion of some 246 international awards, prizes and tributes is titled: "The World Speaks: Tributes to Dr.

Edward O. Wilson: A Lifetime of Honors." The awards range from The Crafoord Prize given by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, an honor equal to the Nobel Prize, two Pulitzer Prizes, the U.S. National Medal of Science and more than 100 international awards. Dr. Wilson went on to Mobile county after the symposium where filming is taking place for a documentary on his life to be on PBS in two years.

Robinsonville

Bennie (Ben) S. Kearley of Seattle, Washington sent us this guide to and history of Robinsonville. This is my first time to visit your Escambia Co. website. Although I have done quite a bit of genealogical work pertaining to my family in Robinsonville, AL, I would like to contribute some historical information which you may not be aware of and hopefully, it will be of interest to your subscribers and readers. Please understand that the dates I show may not be totally accurate. Hopefully, some of the senior residents of Escambia Co. can contribute additional details.

My Grandfather, Jacob Steven Kearley, and Grandmother Geneva Caroline Rikard Kearley, moved the family and business from Buena Vista, Monroe Co, AL to Robinsonville around 1904. He

was the owner of a "combination" sawmill, cotton gin and grist mill.

I have a letter from his friend J. R. Maxwell, who was already established in Robinsonville, which encouraged him to move to Robinsonville, as soon as possible. In the letter, he offered to let the family live with him until a home could be built. He also stated that he would give my Grandfather a piece of land, near a stream of water, where he could set up his business. He indicated that Robinsonville contained lots of timber and available land which could be purchased for a home site.

This all came to pass and he raised a family of 6 boys and 1 girl who were all born in Monroe Co., AL. His business was set up just down the hill from

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Robinsonville

(Continued from page 4)

the home place, which he and his sons built with lumber from the saw mill.

I don't know when the Robinsonville Baptist church was built, but my elderly 3rd cousin, Helen Kearley once told me that she was the teacher in a small, one room, school house which was across the road from the church. Apparently, the school burned down. At some point in time, Mr. J. R. Maxwell donated land for an elementary school near his home. It was named Maxwell Elementary School. The first and second grade was in one room, the third and fourth grade was in another room and the fifth and sixth grade in yet, another room. I was born in our family home in Robinsonville, AL on Nov. 4, 1933 and attended Maxwell school for the first and second grade before transferring to the Atmore Public School. I am guessing that Maxwell School was closed around the mid 1940's and later demolished. The original home of J. R. Maxwell is still standing to the west of the school's former location.

Another historical area in the Robinsonville community pertains to the Wallace family. I will do my best to describe where their property was located. Leaving Atmore and heading north on Robinsonville Road for about 3 miles (maybe less) you reach Pouncy Road which runs north and south (left and right) at that intersection. About 100 or so yards before reaching that intersection, on the left side of the curve is where my Mother and Dad's house was located. As far as I know, it is still there.

Upon reaching Pouncy Road, turn left (north) and go to the cross road. Upon reaching the cross road intersection, take a left on the road which goes West all the way to AL hwy 29 (the highway from Atmore toward Monroe Co). After you have taken a left at the cross road, you will travel west for about 1/8 to 1/4 mile, at which time the road you are on will bear



slightly to the right and slightly downhill. At this point, you will see a small house on the right side of the road with a lane (or narrow dirt road) go-

ing in a northerly direction.

As soon as you see the road that you are on, beginning to turn right, stop prior to the turn and park on the road shoulder or out of the way of traffic. The area to your left may be overgrown with bushes, etc. but, walk through them and you will reach a small family cemetery which only contains (maybe) 4 or 5 graves. The cemetery originally was completely surrounded by an elaborate wrought iron fence and gate. I understand that the fence has almost rusted away. The graves all have headstones and one of them is William (I believe) Wallace who was a Confederate soldier who died sometime after the Civil War. If you continue to walk beyond the cemetery (in a southerly direction) you will see a huge mound of large size concrete which has been pushed up into a large pile. All of this concrete was originally, the foundation for a cotton gin which operated there (date unknown). Beyond this huge pile and still walking (heading) south is where the Wallace family home would have stood. I assume that the gin would have been named the Wallace Cotton Gin.

If you can visualize this, My Dad's house and acreage is only a short distance (as the crow flies) and south east from the Wallace property. I was recently going through some old paperwork from my Dad and Mom's estate. There I found the deed showing that my Dad's 32 acres were purchased from O. S. Wallace and his wife, Elizabeth in 1913. From all of the things I mentioned, I would assume that the Wallace family was rather well off.

Thank you for taking time to read all of this. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Snapshots of April 2014 ECHS Meeting



Shown Left to Right are Guest Speaker for the April Program, Chris Griffin, Tom McMillan, past President of ECHS and Jason Daniel, Community and Public Relations Director for the McMillan Hospital, enjoying a visit after the program .

Tom McMillan and Jacque Stone, ECHS Secretary, enjoy a chat with and “welcome back” to Jo and Robin Brewton (seated).



Left to Right, Don Sales shows ECHS President Sally Finlay and Tom McMillan something interesting. In the background is Charles Ware, aviation historian and pilot.

Snapshots of April 2014 ECHS Meeting



At Left, Darryl Searcy (on the left) chats with Chris Griffin .

At Right, Representative Alan Baker visits with Sammie McGlotheran (in front) and Beverly Stark (in back).



At Left, Sally Finlay is pictured in front of the stained glass panels saved from an earlier Escambia County Court House. The panels frame a doorway in the Elvira McMillan Room in the Museum.

At Right, the Refreshment Table .



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The ECHS *Journal* Section

Memorial Day History

From Memorial Day History
<http://www.usmemorialday.org/backgrnd.html>

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day.

There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War: a hymn published in 1867, "Kneel Where Our Loves are Sleeping" by Nella L. Sweet carried the dedication "To The Ladies of the South who are Decorating the Graves of the Confederate Dead" (Source: Duke University's Historic American Sheet Music 1850-1920).

While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings; each of those towns and every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860's tapped into the general human need to honor our dead, each contributed honorably to the growing movement that culminated in Gen Logan giving his official proclamation in 1868.

It is not important who was the very first, what is important is that Memorial Day was established.



Antique Decoration Day Greeting Card

Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his [General Order No. 11](#), and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring

just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363) to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays), though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19 in Texas, April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10 in South Carolina; and June 3 (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Field." Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies

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Memorial Day History

(Continued from page 9)

That blood of heroes never dies

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need.

Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael and when she returned to France, made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women.

This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help.

Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "[Buddy](#)" [Poppy program](#) was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

Traditional observance of Memorial day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten the meaning and traditions of Memorial Day. At many cemeteries, the graves of the fallen are increasingly ignored, neglected. Most people no longer remember the proper flag etiquette for the day. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for



**Decoration Day,
Memorial Day Card
Artist is Ellen
Clapsaddle**

honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country.

There are a few notable exceptions. Since the late 50's on the Thursday before Memorial Day, the 1,200 soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry place small American flags at each of the more than 260,000 gravestones at Arlington National Cemetery. They then patrol 24 hours a day during the weekend to ensure that each flag remains standing.

In 1951, the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of St. Louis began placing flags on the 150,000 graves at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery as an annual Good Turn, a practice that continues to this day. More recently, beginning in 1998, on the Saturday before the observed day for Memorial Day, the Boys Scouts and

Girl Scouts place a candle at each of approximately 15,300 grave sites of soldiers buried at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park on Marye's Heights (the Luminaries Program). And in 2004, Washington D.C. held its first Memorial Day parade in over 60 years.

To help re-educate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed on Dec 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans "To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a Moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to "Taps."

The Moment of Remembrance is a step in the right direction to returning the meaning back to the day. What is needed is a full return to the original day of observance. Set aside one day out of the year for the nation to get together to remember, reflect and honor those who have given their all in service to their country.

The ECHS *Journal* Section

Confederate Memorial Day

The following article by Cameron Freeman Napier, (Ramer, Alabama) is from The Encyclopedia of Alabama (<http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/face/Article.jsp?id=h-1663>)

Confederate Memorial Day became an annual state holiday in Alabama in 1901. It was originally celebrated on April 26, the date in 1865 when Gen. Joseph E. Johnston surrendered at Durham Station,

North Carolina, and ended major hostilities in the Civil War. The state later changed its observance to the fourth Monday in April to give state employees a long weekend. In 1998, Governor Forrest "Fob" James proclaimed the entire month of April to be Confederate History Month.

After the Civil War, the laying of flowers on the graves of fallen soldiers was a very common expression of remembrance in both the South and the North. One of the earliest documented occurrences of grave decoration took place on April 26, 1865, when Sue Adams of Jackson, Mississippi, placed flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers in that city. A year later, a group of women in Selma in Dallas County, commemorated the Battle of Selma with grave decorations on April 2, and Columbus, Georgia, women memorialized the anniversary of Gen. Robert E. Lee's surrender on April 9. A letter to the editor of the Colum-



Confederate Memorial Day in Montgomery, 1886
A Confederate Memorial Day ceremony on the grounds of the Alabama state capitol in Montgomery in 1886.
Former President of the Confederate States of America Jefferson Davis was the speaker at the event
Picture courtesy of Air University Office of History

bus newspaper subsequently proposed that April 26 be designated "the South's All Souls Day."

Inspired by the Columbus letter, Mary Anne Phelan of Montgomery became a leading proponent of the women's effort to memorialize Confederate troops in Alabama. She and her husband, Judge John Dennis Phelan, were the parents of 12 children.

Six of their seven sons fought in the war. Two were wounded, and two died. Phelan convinced the Ladies Society for the Burial of Deceased

Alabama Soldiers, founded days earlier on April 16, to change its name to the Ladies Memorial Association and to conduct a Confederate Memorial Day service at Oakwood Cemetery in Montgomery on April 26. The ritual they established in 1866 has been repeated every year since without interruption.

By 1869, the association had raised enough money to build an obelisk at Oakwood and a pavilion in which to hold its annual ceremonies. The local chapter of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Admiral Semmes Chapter No. 5 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy decorates the graves in Auburn's Pine Hill Cemetery every year, and Confederate Memorial Park in Chilton County also holds a ceremony every year. The Ladies Memorial Association was also instrumental in raising the funds for the Confederate Monument on the grounds of the state capitol.

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The ECHS *Journal* Section

Confederate Memorial Day

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During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Confederate Memorial Day was also a bank and school holiday. Girls would assemble at dawn to make daisy chains and march in procession to Oakwood Cemetery with members of the Ladies Memorial Association, veterans, dignitaries, and others to honor the 724 Confederate soldiers who are buried there. The ceremony featured songs, speeches, and prayers, and participants placed flowers, wreaths, and flags on the graves of veterans.



**Confederate Memorial Day
Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham is the site of
an annual Confederate Memorial Day ceremony.
Picture courtesy of the [Birmingham News](#)**

Memorial organizations suspended activities during World War II, and after the war many never returned to their previous levels of membership and activity. Despite its waning popularity, Confederate Memorial Day celebrations are still held in numerous towns across the state.

Ladies Memorial Association

Cameron Freeman Napier is the author of this article on the Ladies Memorial Association as well as the one on "Confederate Memorial Day." The article is from [The Encyclopedia of Alabama](http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/face/Article.jsp?id=h-2123) (<http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/face/Article.jsp?id=h-2123>).

The Ladies Memorial Association was an important organization after the Civil War and into the twentieth century. The organization oversaw burial of the dead, monument construction, and advocacy for the creation of Confederate Memorial Day. It also purportedly helped Jefferson Davis and his family after the war, conducted Confederate Memorial Day every year since 1866, and helped build and preserve the Confederate Monument on Capitol Hill

in Montgomery

Southern benevolent associations in general were formed by the wives, widows, sisters, and mothers of Confederate soldiers. Assuming "men's work" while those men were away, the women volunteered in aid societies, hospital associations, sewing groups, and other forms of benevolent aid. The Ladies Memorial Association in Alabama had its beginnings after the war, when Montgomery women gathered to assist the Historical and Monumental Association of Alabama, chaired by Governor Thomas Hill Watts. That men's group was founded on November 23, 1865, to build a monument on Capitol Hill. The members, however, were diverted from their task by the public outcry surrounding horrific conditions at

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The ECHS *Journal* Section

Ladies Memorial Association

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cemeteries, where rains washed out shallow graves that vandals then plundered. The men, stymied by the enormity of their task, sought the assistance of Judge John Dennis Phelan, a prominent judge and driving spirit in the organization's founding, who in turn asked his wife, Mary Anne Harris Phelan, for help. Inspired by women's aid groups in Jackson, Selma, and Columbus, Mary Phelan had been trying to organize Alabama's first Memorial Day in Montgomery, and turned her attention to the cemeteries.

To assist with reburials, Phelan arranged a meeting in Montgomery at the Court Street Methodist Church (current site of the Federal Court House) to raise money. The meeting was presided over by Sophie Gilmer Bibb, wife of prominent judge Benajah S. Bibb and much admired for her work in hospitals during the war. The April 16, 1866, gathering founded the Ladies Society for the Burial of Deceased Alabama Soldiers, which shortly changed its name to the Ladies Memorial Association.

The association conducted its first memorial ceremony at Oakwood Cemetery in Montgomery County, decorating the graves of both southern and northern soldiers on April 26, 1866, the first anniversary



Ladies Memorial Association in Talladega Organizations such as the Ladies' Memorial Associations arose in the Reconstruction Era and aimed to recognize and honor the sacrifices made by those who served in the Confederate military.

Picture courtesy of the Alabama Department of Archives and History.

sary of Confederate general Joseph E. Johnston's surrender at Durham Station, North Carolina. On May 1, 1866, the association raised \$1,000, which provided for 200 burials.

Similar commemorations took place in other southern states and preceded by two years a national tribute to northern soldiers. Union major general John A. Logan, Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, declared May 30, 1868, Decoration Day, the anniversary of the discharge of the last Union Army volunteer soldier. Most southern states however, refused to acknowledge the holiday. In the twentieth century, Decoration Day became Memorial Day, a day to honor all American war dead.

In the years following the Civil War, ladies

memorial associations proliferated throughout the South. Generally, members took to the gruesome task of disinterring bodies, many buried hastily in mass graves after battle, and giving each set of remains a proper burial. The associations then raised money to erect monuments to honor the dead.

In Alabama, the association built monuments in Camden, Gainesville, and Florence. The Ladies Memorial Association again assisted the men's Historical and Monumental Association, helping to

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Ladies Memorial Association

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fund the Monument to Confederate Soldiers and Sailors of Alabama on Capitol Hill in Montgomery. The men's association had largely lain dormant for 20 years, but in 1886 brought 78-year-old President Jefferson Davis to Montgomery to lay the cornerstone of the Confederate Monument in elaborate ceremonies on April 28 and 29. It was the only cornerstone laid by Davis. The men's association, however,

had difficulty raising the \$46,000 to finish the monument and once more turned to the Ladies Memorial Association for help, again led by Sophie Bibb.

Overall, the Ladies Memorial Association raised \$10,000 for the monument, whereas the men's organization raised \$6,755, politicians \$5,000, and two grants from the legislature added \$20,000. It would be another 12 years of tedious work between the Ladies Memorial Association and Alexander Doyle, the designer, before the monument was completed. Doyle, an Ohio sculptor, was known for his work in New York, Maryland, and New Orleans, whereas Fred Barnicoat of Quincy, Massachusetts, carved the granite figures that were installed by a local company, and F. L. Fossick in Russellville, Franklin County, quarried the limestone for the base and steps. Limestone for the column was brought from Indiana by Doyle, and the Henry Bon-



The Alabama Confederate Monument
The Alabama Confederate Monument, located on the grounds of the state capitol in downtown Montgomery, is a memorial to Confederate soldiers who fell during the Civil War. The monument was completed through the efforts of the Ladies Memorial Association with support from the State of Alabama.

Photograph by Justine Dubois

nard foundry in New York cast the bronze figure atop the shaft and the band at its base. The elegant monument was dedicated on December 7, 1898.

The Ladies Memorial Association, along with other Confederate heritage organizations, conducted a Centennial

re-enactment of the laying of the cornerstone in 1986, at which Bertram Hayes-Davis of Colorado Springs, Colorado, the great-grandson of Jefferson Davis, laid a

wreath at the cornerstone. The four flags around the monument were dedicated on April 25, 1994. A centennial

re-enactment of the dedication was performed in 1998, again led by the Ladies Memorial Association and other heritage organizations.

The association later solicited contributions for the monument's restoration during the 1998 centennial re-enactment of the dedication and deposited the funds with the Alabama Historical Commission, which oversaw the restoration. From preliminary assessments in 1999 to completion in 2004, the meticulous restoration took five years at a cost of \$231,600. To celebrate the restoration, the Alabama Historical Commission and the Alabama Tourism Department led ceremonies in the Capitol Auditorium. Once again Bertram Hayes-Davis

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Ladies Memorial Association

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traveled to Alabama, joining Alabama Governor Bob Riley in laying a wreath at the base of the monument on Confederate Memorial Day April 26, 2004.

The Monument to Confederate Soldiers and Sailors rises 85 feet, with the three National Flags and one of

many military banners, to memorialize the nearly 16,000 Alabamians who died for and 81,000 who served the Confederacy. In addition, the monument is a teaching tool for all who read the legends at the base of each flag pole. It is a memorial to the men who died and served their country, but it is also a memorial to the women who built it and preserved it.



At left, a
Decoration Day
Card.
At Right,
Historic Marker
in Columbus ,
Mississippi.



Decoration Day in Steuben, Indiana



Memorial Day Card

ECHOES
THE NEWSLETTER FOR
THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY
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