

**GREENVILLE COUNTY, S.C.
CEMETERY SURVEY**

Volume Three

**Nazareth Presbyterian Cemetery
Spartanburg, S.C.**

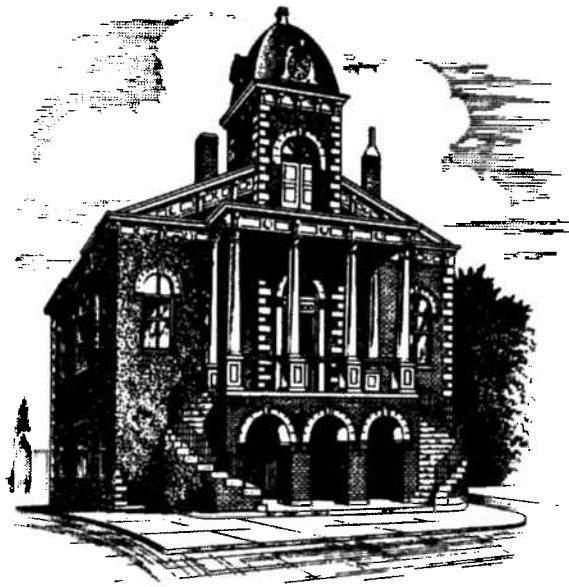
**Springwood Cemetery
Greenville, S.C.**

**Greenville Chapter
of
South Carolina Genealogical Society**

GREENVILLE COUNTY, S.C.

CEMETERY SURVEY

Volume Three



Compiled by

Greenville Chapter

of

South Carolina Genealogical Society

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Dedication



VOLUME III CEMETERY SURVEY

This third volume of our Chapter's Cemetery Records for Greenville County is gratefully dedicated to Ralph L. Bowers, Jr. Without Ralph's diligent and painstaking work, you, the reader, would not have these volumes to peruse or study. He has devoted untold hours to the location of cemeteries and the laborious organizing and recording of the many thousands of tombstones involved in a work of this kind.

Ralph is an outstanding asset to our South Carolina Genealogical Society. It is with deep appreciation for his invaluable labors that we acknowledge in this small way his enormous contribution in making all of our cemetery volumes possible.

Neill M. Perrin
President
Greenville Chapter – SCGS





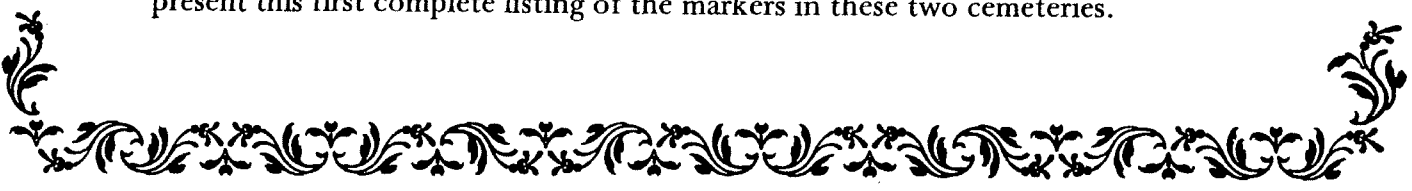
Foreword



The task of surveying and publishing inscriptions from cemeteries in Greenville County moves forward with this, our third volume. Unlike the two previous volumes, this one contains the inscriptions from only two cemeteries. First is the oldest and one of the largest municipal cemeteries in Greenville County . . . Springwood. We have received requests for information on tombstones from those buried in Springwood more frequently than from any other cemetery located in the county. The descendants of those buried there have indeed scattered throughout the fifty states and beyond. Springwood had its beginning with the burial of Chancellor Waddy Thompson's mother-in-law in 1812. Tradition says that she loved his rose garden and asked to be buried there. Others were buried there and in the 1890's it became the town burying ground. Located near the downtown area of Greenville, it contains the mortal remains of the unknown in the Potters Field section to the well known with stately mausoleums or handsome marble markers spreading across the rolling hills.

The second cemetery completing this volume is, very fittingly, the oldest Presbyterian Church Cemetery in this area. Although Nazareth Presbyterian Church is located across the line in Spartanburg County, it is the mother church for Fairview Presbyterian Church, located in the southern part of Greenville County. In the Nazareth Church area are the early roots for many Greenville County citizens. Descendants from that early settlement in the Nazareth Church area have also spread not only over the line into Greenville County, but through the world beyond. The cemetery is well maintained and almost completely surrounded by an impressive stone wall. The oldest markers in this cemetery carry dates of death in the 1700's.

The Greenville Chapter, South Carolina Genealogical Society, is proud to present this first complete listing of the markers in these two cemeteries.



The following are abbreviations according to our standard key:

w/o	Wife of	WWII	World War Two
h/o	Husband of	Masonic	A Masonic symbol of marker
d/o	Daughter of	W.O.W.	Woodmen of the World
s/o	Son of	D.A.R.	Daughters of the American Revolution
c/o	Child of	C.S.A.	Confederate States of America
WWI	World War One		

Information found in brackets beside the date of death in some instances where only the year was given is the burial date taken from the Sexton's Records, giving a more exact date of death.

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SYNOPSIS OF SPRINGWOOD

By

Joyce Howard Ellis

Greenville County, or District, as it was formerly called, was one of the last in the State to be invaded in any great number by the white man. Pendleton and Greenville Districts were held by the Cherokee Indians twenty years after the adjoining counties, and balance of the state, had been ceded by the Indians to the Colonial Government. In 1777, more than a year after the commencement of the Revolutionary War, Pendleton and Greenville were ceded to the state. Before that time there were few permanent settlers in the area. Our early records all speak of the "Old Indian Boundary," meaning the line, as we know it, between Spartanburg and Greenville Counties. Greenville County being more westward. In many instances, the advancing tide of emigration from northern colonies brought to Greenville those who had first settled in Spartanburg and/or Union Counties and more eastern areas. It is said that the Great Cherokee Nation, who inhabited the beautiful section of this country of which Greenville County is a part, were undoubtedly the most intelligent, as well as the most high spirited and liberty loving, of all the Indian tribes found in what is the United States. They occupied then the upper or hilly portion of South Carolina extending from Broad River to the Savannah which were called Over Hill Settlements. They met the white man with kindness at first, and then divided with him their lands and provisions.

An old writer says, "In the settlement of the county, there were always three (3) distinct classes who were forerunners of the civilization that was to follow." The writer, of course, was talking about the white men that settled this area. He went on to say, "There were also adventurous spirits and hardy adventurers who would penetrate the wilds of the Indian domain, accommodating themselves to the usages of Indian life and live with them upon friendly terms. First, in the order of settlement, came the hunters

and the trappers. These men, with their improved firearms for hunting, made themselves very useful to their hosts, often living with them for years and intermarrying with their women. After the hunters, the traders followed, carrying on horseback through the paths and trails of the unbroken forests, the trinkets and commodities suited to the wants and tastes of their wilder brothers. They received in return loads of valuable furs and skins to be transported in huge quantities to the old city by the sea. After the traders were the cattlemen who, taking up their abode among the Indians, availed themselves without price to the limitless stretches of pasture lands to establish the profitable business of raising cattle for which an easy market was found.

“Then came that rough, self-asserting, aggressive element of the Anglo-Saxon race,” says Mr. Crittenden. We know that is who settled this area in the beginning, and some of us that descend from those early settlers can trace our ancestors back to England. These early settlers, when decided upon a village or settling place suited to their purposes, went to work with the assistance of the Indians and soon built for themselves and their Indian wives a dwelling house. It was usually put together in the regular Cherokee or pioneer style of notched logs with a roof of boards. Unlike most houses of the early immigrants, it was neatly plastered inside and out with white porcelain clay. This was in true Cherokee manner and greatly added to its appearance and comfort. The trader’s pack horse trains, direct from Charleston, enabled him to have chairs and neat bedsteads instead of the skins of buffaloes and bears, which the wife had been accustomed. The utensils of the housekeeping, except some of the Indian heirlooms, were similar to those of any immigrant’s cabin on the border. Mr. Logan tells in his writings that the English trader was seldom without an Indian female. Being remote from any white people, it helped preserve their friendship with the Indians. The Indians esteemed the children by white men much above those by native

husbands, and the Indian women always secured them provisions while remaining with the tribe and this caused them to learn the Indian tongue much sooner.

This writer finds this to be true in the case of Greenville County. The first recorded land transaction she has found of the present-day downtown Greenville was on the first day of December 1773. Uconnastotoh, Willinawauh, and Ewe, three principal chiefs of the Cherokee nation, as head warriors and in the name of the rest of the Cherokee Nation, and for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred pounds lawful money of the province of South Carolina paid by George Pearis, whereof is hereby acknowledged and for land in consideration of the love and affection which they bear unto the said George Pearis (he being the son of a woman of their own nation) have granted and sold unto the said George Pearis, his heirs and assigns forever, all that tract of land situated in the Cherokee District and bounded somewhat as below:

Beginning at a red oak marked RP near the South Fork of Seluda River . . . crossing the middle and north fork of Seluda and the head branches of Enoree River to a post oak marked RP . . . near an old Indian path . . . on the Indian boundary line crossing and near the middle fork of Tiger thence to a post oak on the south side of Enoree . . . thence crossing Reedy and Seluda thence to the beginning containing by estimation one hundred and fifty thousand acres. There are 5280 feet in a mile, 640 acres in a square mile, so; there would be 250 square miles in these 150,000 acres.

From George Pearis this same land was transferred to Richard Pearis on the twenty-seventh day of April, 1774. It stated George Pearis of the Cherokee District (natural son of Richard Pearis Esquire of this district and province aforesaid by a Cherokee woman). Richard paid his son five hundred pounds of currant money of South Carolina. The price had gone up in four months from 100 pounds to 500 pounds. The deed says, "The said George was an alien and in effect no other than a Cherokee Indian; but, since

that deed has been made by the chiefs aforesaid and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the said George Pearis has been duly naturalized and has become a free denison and free subject of his sacred majesty King George the Third of Great Britain.” Those men witnessing the first deed and most probably living in the area were James Hite, John Prince, James Beale, Abraham Hite, Joshua Pettie, George Salmon, John Lean, Samuel Bathlean and William Caine. Those witnesses to the second deed were John Prince, Anthony Hampton, Henry Prince, Wade Hampton, Henry Hampton, Thos. Prince.

Our documented proof is that the first permanent settlement made by a white man at the site of the present city of Greenville and Springwood Cemetery was by Richard Pearis. If he had an adult son in 1773, he had come into the Cherokee Indian area about 20 years prior to this sale. It is written in all histories of this area that Richard Pearis was a Tory and after the revolution his property, including a trading post and a grist mill at the falls, was confiscated by the state in accordance with a confiscation act passed in 1782. After the revolution, he migrated with his wife to the Bahamas, where he resided until his death in 1794.

We know from the grant to Thomas Brandon on the 21 May, 1784, that Brandon’s land was 400 acres on both sides of Reedy River including Richard Paris’ plantation lying west of Indian boundary, bounded on all sides on vacant land. When this land was sold to Lemuel J. Alston, it stated that it was a portion of the former plantation of Richard Pearis, including his mill seat upon said river. Mr. Crittenden says in 1903, “Although the land office for Greenville was opened in 1784 (first at Pendleton C.H.), or but a year after the close of the war, there is no record in the office of Mesne Conveyance of any transfer of land from Richard Paris.” Well, Mr. Crittenden did not realize that all land transactions before this time were recorded in Charleston or either he did not realize that this transaction had taken place as early as it did. Mr. Crittenden

points out that there are no shoals or mill seats above Greenville on the Reedy River. That it is indeed part of Richard Pearis' land that forms the downtown section of Greenville and the well-known Reedy River Falls. In Robert S. Mills "Statistics of South Carolina," he says, "Richard Pearis and Col. Hite came from Virginia."

Following the revolution, the land which had been confiscated from the Tories was redistributed through grants from South Carolina. The very first grant in this area being on 21 May, 1784, to James Hamilton, "Lying above the old Indian boundary on Reedy River known by the name of Pearis' Shoals" . . . "The said survey being made between the hours of nine and twelve o'clock in the forenoon after opening the location office and previous to any other survey made thereupon," less than a month after the first survey and on June 8, 1784, there was surveyed for John Timmons 473 acres in the 96 District west of the old Indian boundary on both sides of Richland Creek of Reedy River near Richard Parris' old plantation bounding on the S.E. on land laid out for Thomas Brandon. It is upon this land that the present-day Springwood Cemetery lies. In 1796 John Timmons sold to Nathaniel Stokes for 30 pounds sterling money 313 acres in Greenville County. In 1801 Nathaniel Stokes for \$160.00 sold to Alexander Waddill whereon he was then living, it being a part of a tract of 473 acres originally granted to John Timmons, on September 28, 1804; Alexander Waddill sold a parcel of land (74 acres) to Richard Lewis Wilkinson for \$295.00 which he had bought of Nathaniel Stokes, being in part, a tract of 473 acres originally granted to John Timmons. Richard L. Wilkinson transferred land to Jonathan West and on March 17, 1807, Jonathan West sold 60 acres to Waddy Thompson for \$300.00 "near Greenville Courthouse on waters of Reedy River being part of a tract of 400 acres of land granted to John Timmons." Conveyed from Timmons to Stokes, Stokes to Waddill, Waddill to Wilkinson, Wilkinson to me." On December 15, 1814, Waddy Thompson sold three acres of land to David Henning for \$100.00 and in this deed

is the first mention of the spring. "Sold unto the said David Henning 3 acres of land, beginning at a Black Gum on the N. bank of a small branch near the Spartanburg road . . . to a small ash near the junction of the Spring Branch." Waddy Thompson kept this property for ten years. In the meantime, he bought for \$50.00 a square acre of land in front of the dwelling house from Vardry McBee on September 21, 1816. On October 9, 1817, Waddy Thompson for \$2,500.00 sold to Francis H. McLeod of Chatham County, Georgia . . . all that tract being adjacent to the village, containing 60 acres (except about 2 acres which he the said Waddy Thompson conveyed to David Henning adjoining the tanyard).

In 1833, F.H. MacLoud conveyed a tract of land, probably the Old Village graveyard, to the Commission of Streets and Markets (a body whose duties were assumed by the duly elected mayor and aldermen) for \$1.00 for the "sole and exclusive use of a cemetery or graveyard, to be appropriated entirely as a repository for white persons."

The cemetery was to be used "to the exclusion of slaves and persons of color," it was to be "neatly fenced" in and a gate was to be erected at the entrance, and if any of these conditions were ever violated, the land was to revert to the original owners.

On August 7, 1872, a deed was given to the City of Greenville by Thomas Steen. Mr. Steen was a lawyer and sold this cemetery — Elford Cemetery — to settle the estate of C.J. Elford. Mr. Elford is buried in the old section of the cemetery.

It is not known when the name of this cemetery was changed, but it appears reasonable to presume that it is called "Springwood," because there is a magnificent spring at the lower end of the cemetery.

Subsequent tracts of land were acquired in 1871, 1872, and 1875; and in 1876, when 11 acres bounded on the north by McBee's Tanyard in what is now McPherson Park and

including 11 acres was bought for \$650.00. In 1880, 30/100ths of an acre was deeded to the city by S.M. Gower for \$30.00.

In 1929, the Court of Common Pleas allowed the condemnation of 4.25 acres situated on the northern side of Elford Street for \$24,280.00 for the land and \$6,450.00 for the buildings. The suit was brought against Samuel Preston Gantt, whose antecedent, Henry Gantt had conveyed one of the first tracts of land for the 1871 expansion.

In 1943, the city acquired from the city schools the 1.07 acres where the old Allen school had stood for more than 40 years, until it was torn down in 1941.

The Village Burying Ground, which became Greenville's property in 1833 for the sum of \$1.00, grew as the city's need grew, until in 1943 Springwood embraced its present 30 acres.

It is unlikely that the present limits will be extended. About the only way it could, would be to include the part of the city park with the spring, where upon now stands the home of the Greenville Council of Garden Clubs (Kilgore-Lewis home). This land was once a part of the cemetery property. Other boundaries are Main, Elford and Church Streets.

The grave of Mrs. Elizabeth Williams, who died in 1822, is the oldest in the cemetery. It is a bricked-up grave standing about two feet above ground, situated not far from the Main Street entrance, down the right hand main drive near the first drive to the left.

Elizabeth Blackburn Williams was the daughter of Thomas Blackburn, an Englishman. In 1755 there was an earthquake in Lisbon, Portugal, where Mr. Blackburn was a wholesale merchant and lost all of his property. Later he emigrated to America, settling in

Virginia. His daughter accompanied him. She married Col. James Williams, a distinguished Revolutionary War soldier of Virginia, who left Virginia and settled in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Later he moved to Washington, Georgia, and became a member of the Georgia bar.

A daughter, Eliza Blackburn Williams, married Waddy Thompson in Washington, Georgia, April 16, 1793. Soon after their marriage, they moved to Pickensville below Easley and lived there until 1800, when they moved to Greenville.

Mrs. Williams moved to Greenville with the couple. Her dying request was that she be buried under this tree, so her's was the first grave in Springwood.

Chancellor Waddy Thompson, Eliza Blackburn, and her mother, Elizabeth Blackburn Williams, are buried in the same plot.

In the "old" part of the cemetery, also near the entrance, are the graves of about 40 Confederate soldiers, a bronze tablet marking their burial section and C.S.A. (Confederate States of America) crosses are on their individual graves.

In another section, almost opposite the Greenville Curb Market, are the graves of 18 soldiers who died in the influenza epidemic at Camp Sevier here during World War I.

Soldiers of every war this country has ever fought are buried in Springwood, it is safe to say. There are many graves of World War II men whose bodies were brought back.

In the late 70's or 80's, George Morris, born in England, was sexton at Springwood, and he was succeeded by Charles Riser, who was followed by John Garraux, and he was followed by his son, Thomas Garraux. At the present time, the management and maintenance is under the Greenville Parks and Recreation Department.

Not for several years now has a new lot been available in Springwood Cemetery, Greenville's burying place since the early 1800's. Every lot is now claimed and owned by many Greenvillians whose families for generations have been buried on the rolling hills of Springwood.

While all the city owned plots are sold, occasionally a family may decide for some reason to sell its plot or part of it, and they do it just as they would sell a tract of land anywhere, for a price and by a deed.

A six grave lot that cost \$56.00 in 1898, brought a maximum of \$200.00 just before the cemetery was all sold out, and today it would be more valuable if sold privately.

White and gray markers, monoliths and other type stones mark an estimated 2,200 family plots. Thousands of persons, no one knows just how many, are buried there.

Mrs. Katherine Brewer Hester and Mr. Ralph Bowers spent the long hot summer of 1978 surveying and copying every marked grave in Springwood Cemetery and from their survey it is estimated there are approximately 7,700 marked graves.

The Sexton's Records that began in 1893, have been abstracted but are very incomplete and approximately 2,600 additional burials have no headstones.

It is through the dedication, efforts, and devotion to this task that Katherine and Ralph give us, in this book, over 10,000 burials in Springwood, with documented dates of the citizens of Greenville.

It is truly a marvelous job they have accomplished and we, who are genealogists and have families buried in Springwood, are interested in local history, and we are truly indebted to them. Words cannot express our sincere appreciation to them for this wonderful book. It is truly a monumental task and a preserved history of the citizens who have helped make Greenville great.

WADDY THOMPSON SPRING

This Spring has been long known as "Springwood Cemetery Spring" or "Thank God for Water Spring." Waddy Thompson, Sr., the chancellor. For several years his home was at Grove Creek, about ten miles from Greenville. In 1825 he moved to Greenville, and built a substantial home at the head of Main Street. This stood about where the first Piedmont Bank & Trust building now is. This house was later known as the Coxe Mansion, and from 1913 to 1929 it was occupied by the Poinsett Club. Waddy Thompson, Sr., owned a large tract of land reaching from his home on Main Street to Richland Creek and beyond. This included the present Springwood Cemetery, which Thompson sold to F.H. McCloud, who disposed of it to the city of Greenville. Waddy Thompson had a large garden adjoining his home, in which his mother-in-law, Mrs. Elizabeth Blackburn Williams, took a great interest. She requested that if she should die, that they would bury her there. This they did and she became the first person to be buried in Springwood Cemetery.

Contributed by: Henry B. McKoy

Greenville, S.C.

**SPRINGWOOD CEMETERY MONUMENTS
&
MEMORIALS

In 1812, Mrs. James Williams, born Elizabeth Blackburn, widow of a Revolutionary officer of Ga. and mother-in-law of Chan. Waddy Thompson, was buried here. Hers was the first grave in this cemetery – once the Chancellor's Garden.

Marker on Front Gate

Plaque erected by Nathanael Greene Chapter, D.A.R.

CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

Erected in honor and memory of the Confederate dead of the County and City of Greenville by the Ladies Memorial Association, September 1892. All lost, but by the graves where martyred heroes rest he wins the most who honor saves, success is not the test. The world shall yet decide in truth's clear far off light, that the soldiers who wore the grey and died with Lee – were in the right . . .

Come from the four winds, O breath, and breath upon these slain,
that they may live.

Resting at last in that glorious land, where the white flag of
peace is never furled. Nor shall your glory be forgot while fame
her record keeps, or honor points the hallowed spot where valor
proudly sleeps. Nor wreck, nor chance, nor winter's blight nor time's
remorseless doom. Can dim one ray of holy light that gilds your
glorious tomb.

In memory of 81st Wildcat Division which trained at Camp Sevier.

April to July, 1918

Maj. General Chas. J. Bailey, commanding

Erected October 13, 1956.

Kershaw Brigade

Erected by:

The City of Greenville, South Carolina

In commemoration of the "Project Southland" Monument erected on the Gettysburg Battlefield honoring the Kershaw Brigade of South Carolina.

A Greenville pharmacist, Albert M. Goldstine, Director of Project Southland, in cooperation with the Gettysburg Battlefield Preservation Association, was given the honor and privilege to supervise the erection and unveiling of the "P.S." Monument by the U.S. Department of Interior (Park Service).

Awards to Project Southland Director:

**November 21, 1970 Mayor of Greenville Plaque
April 28, 1971 Mayor of Abbeville Plaque**

The Order of the Palmetto

Gettysburg Monument

Erected July 23, 1970

Unveiled November 21, 1970

Greenville Monument

Erected January 1973

Unveiled July 2, 1973

This tree is dedicated by Greenville Chapter, Order of Demolay as a living memorial to our brothers who gave their lives in World War II . . .

**William R. Chapman
Paul Browning
Kingsley R. Pease
Furman F. Keys**

**Garland McGregor, Jr.
Robert H. Cobb
William A. League
Daniel H. Proctor**

**William C. Holcombe
Ray M. Skelton
Sam A. Turrentine**

December 5, 1947

"In Memory of Mamie Sherwell Barr"

Kershaw Brigade

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William C. Holcombe
Ray M. Skelton
Sam A. Turrentine

December 5, 1947

"In Memory of Mamie Sherwell Barr"

Confederate Armory 1861 - 1864

Erected on land donated to the state by Vardry McBee for the manufacture of arms for the South Carolina Troops in the Confederate service. George W. Morse, superintendent of the works, invented and manufactured a breech-loading carbine pronounced by General Wade Hampton the best that he had seen.

Erected by the Greenville Chapter – United Daughters of the Confederacy . . .

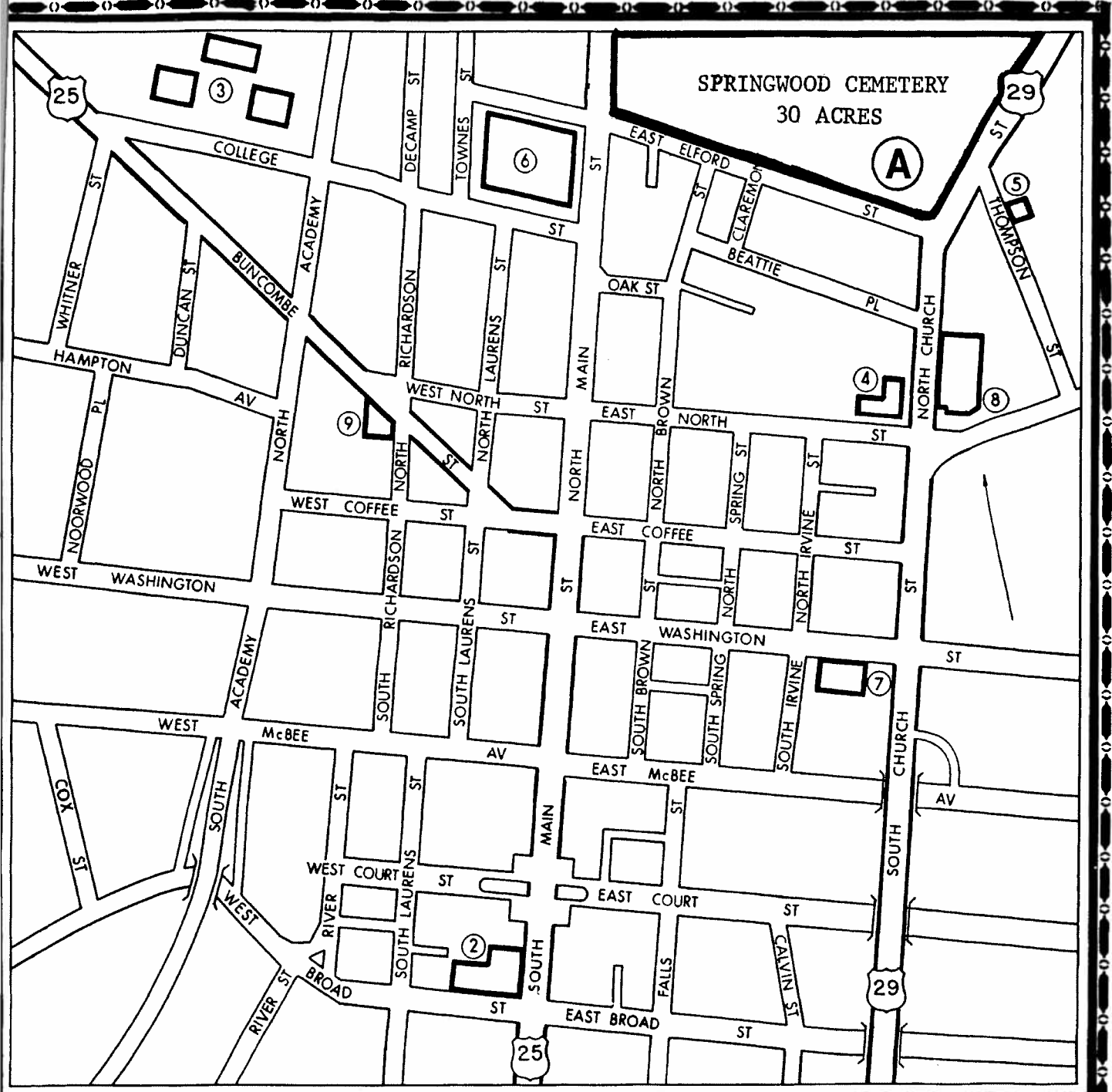
December 1937

South Carolina Ordinance of Secession

Dedicated in reverence and admiration for their courage and integrity, to the five signers of the Ordinance of Greenville County, December 20, 1860 . . .

William Hans Campbell	1823	1901
Perry Emory Duncan	1800	1867
William King Easley	1825	1871
James Clement Furman	1809	1891
James Perry Harrison	1813	1871

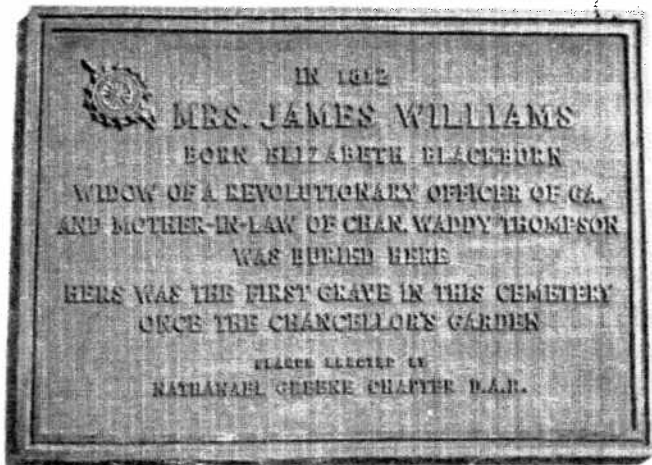
Erected by: Greenville County Confederate Centennial Commission . . . 1961



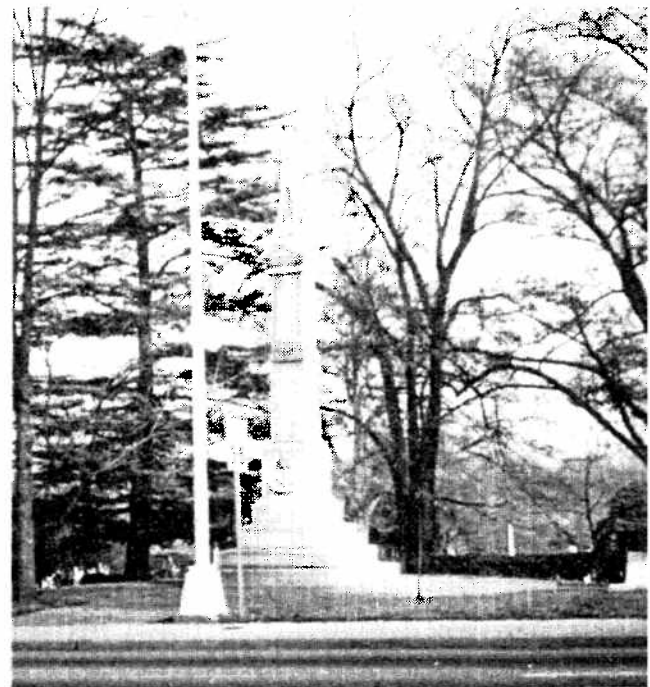
Downtown Greenville



Main entrance to Springwood



Oldest grave in Springwood



Confederate marker at Front Gate