

# **CEMETERY RECORDS OF RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA**

## **VOLUME III**

### **HISTORIC COLUMBIA**

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**FOREWORD**

The City of Columbia was established on March 22, 1786, by an act of the South Carolina General Assembly. The act appointed commissioners and authorized the purchase of land “*for the purpose of building a Town, and for removing the Seat of Government thereto*”. The tract of land, 2 miles square, was located on “Taylor’s Hill”, on the east bank of the Congaree River. A surveyor, John Gabriel Guignard, was appointed who divided the tract into a grid of ten streets to the mile, making a total of 400 blocks (some of which were under water), and all streets were given names. The new city was bounded on the North by Upper Street (now known as Elmwood); on the South by Lower Street (now known as Heyward); on the East by Harden Street and on the West by the Congaree River.

The Columbia Chapter of the SCGS compiled this record of all known cemeteries located within the original boundaries of the city of Columbia. The members realized a need to preserve the records for future reference and this volume is the culmination of many years of their work. Presented here are records of the fourteen cemeteries including some that no longer exist. Each existing cemetery has been recorded and updated in the latter part of 2001 or early 2002. Additional information for some has been obtained from other public records and are noted where they are used.

Care has been taken to make sure that each transcribed record is an accurate copy of the information on the marker including spelling and dates. However, allowance for human error must be made in instances where the markers have eroded over time and are so faded and indistinct. The survey teams have found the cemeteries in various conditions. Many of them are well cared for while others are all but lost. The records of burials are not always available to family researchers so they must rely on what information they find on the grave markers. Many times, this information leads researchers to other records, which can be used to verify their findings.

In this volume the cemeteries are listed in alphabetical order. Entries for each cemetery are arranged in placement groupings within the cemetery unless otherwise noted. The comments column contains other information found on the markers including military service records, family relationships, special designations and joint marker indications. Abbreviations used throughout are listed in Appendix A. Cemetery location information can be found in Appendix B. Also included is an index of all the graves that gives last name, first name and page number. Names listed in the comments column are not indexed.

While the main objective of this publication is the preservation of cemetery records, we hope it will be helpful for people researching Richland County history and that it will create an interest in family history that will inspire the present generation to begin to recording their family data while parents and grandparents can still help. Additional volumes are planned for other parts of Richland County.

The Columbia Chapter gratefully acknowledges the work of its members, past and present, who have made this publication possible. Over the twenty-year span of this work, many members have contributed in one form or another so that it is not possible to recognize all of them here. The Society would like to thank the co-chairmen for the Cemetery Committee, Charlton Bowers and Mark J. Lynn, and its members for their recent work on this volume; and Wade Osburn for his cover picture of the gravestone of Capt. Swanson Lunsford, the only known burial on the grounds of the SC State Capitol.

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