

About the Graves



1. John and Catherine Cook Emigrating from Germany prior to the Civil War, John Cook came to Apalachicola and became a successful businessman. He operated a shipping business and a store in town. He and Catherine did not have any children.

2. Charles F. Marks Marks was a seaman and ship's captain his entire life. Although born in Connecticut he enlisted in the Confederate Army. His house was burned by the Union Navy during the war and he was accused of murder for the killing of two Union sympathizers.

3. Marie Hickey Marie Murat was married to Patrick Hickey. They had a tumultuous life together. It all came to an end when Marie slashed her husband's throat at their home above a store on Market Street and then cut her own throat. Marie is buried beside her father while Patrick is buried at Magnolia Cemetery under an identical monument.

4. Charles A. Dobson Dobson was a tugboat captain during the lumber boom. He built a grand house at the corner of 7th Street and Avenue K for his mulatto girlfriend, Minnie Barfield. She operated a bordello in the house. After her death the property passed to the Catholic church and housed the nuns who operated the Holy Family School next door.

5. Lon and Philomena Allen Lon Allen was a barber in Apalachicola and boarded with the Murat family. He ended up marrying one of the daughters, Philomena.

6. William Henry Austin The seventeen year old Henry Austin was employed by the United States Coastal Survey on the schooner Silliman performing a hydrographic survey of St. George Sound. After attending church on Sunday morning six crew members, including Henry Austin, tried to return to the schooner in a small sailboat. A sudden squall capsized the vessel, drowning all six men.

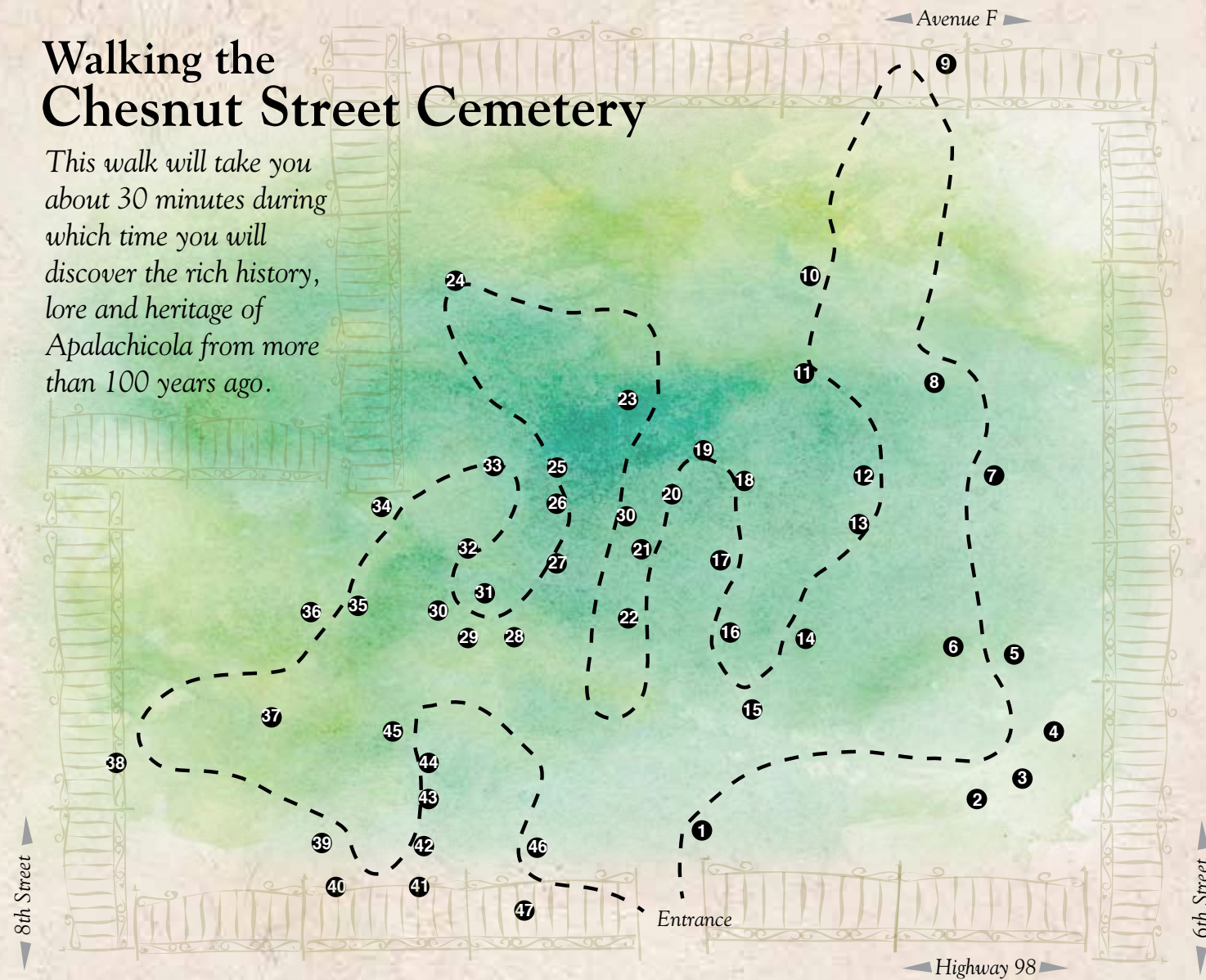
7. Marr Family Joseph and Robert Marr were brothers. Their father, William, was killed by Confederate forces during the Civil War while he and a partner were gathering cattle to supply the Union blockaders.

8. Rose, a faithful servant This tombstone memorializes Rose, a faithful servant, but there is nothing to further identify her. The closest tombstone belongs to Patsy who died in 1849, the wife of Edward Porter.



Walking the Chesnut Street Cemetery

This walk will take you about 30 minutes during which time you will discover the rich history, lore and heritage of Apalachicola from more than 100 years ago.



9. Adolph and Mary Menke Adolph was an emigrant from Germany while Mary was born and raised in Apalachicola. They were married and had two children, but Adolph died as a young man.

10. Catherine Spano She was married to Salvadore Spano, a Greek immigrant who was a seafood dealer. This unique memorial to Mrs. Spano on the gate to her plot was created by her nephew, Salvadore Spano, Jr., who was a blacksmith.

11. H.F. Quant An immigrant from England and a printer by trade. Only 40 years old at the time of his death, he left a wife and child. His daughter is buried beside him with a matching tombstone, his adorned with a weeping willow and hers with a broken rose bud.

12. Dr. A. W Chapman An internationally renowned botanist, Dr. Chapman was a medical doctor, Union sympathizer during the Civil War, customs collector and county judge. The local school was named for him.

13. Capt. Charles M. Harris Credited by one source as the moving force in establishing the lumber industry in Franklin County after the Civil War. He was born in 1821 in South Carolina and died in 1875 in Franklin County.

14. Henry F. Gordon He was a riverboat pilot on the Apalachicola, Chattahoochee and Flint Rivers and a charter member of Apalachicola's Woodmen of the World Camp. He was buried in the family plot, but no other graves there are marked.

15. Leander Miller Crawford The captain of the steamboat John C. Calhoun, he was scalded when the boiler exploded at Bristol and died the next day. The Apalachicola Steamboat



Company, owners of the boat, erected this marble obelisk in his memory.

16. John Gibbs Ruan Born in Pennsylvania, John G. Ruan joined with his cousins, Richard G. and William G. Porter, in the cotton brokerage firm of Wm. G. Porter & Co. in Apalachicola. The firm prospered, shipping cotton to the North and Europe and importing staples and luxuries. During the Civil War he remained in Apalachicola to look after the firm's interests. When two Union sympathizers disappeared he was taken hostage by the U.S. Navy to guarantee their safe return. Upon his release he was arrested by the

Confederate Army for traveling between the lines.

17. Lt. Sanders Myers He served as a lieutenant in the Confederate Army, was captured at Missionary Ridge and was one of the "Immortal 600", Southern officers held as human shields by the Union Army under Confederate fire at Charleston.

18. Coombs Family James N. Coombs first came to the Gulf coast with the Union Army during the Civil War. He returned afterwards and entered the lumber business, becoming Franklin County's most prominent lumber baron. He built a large home at the corner of Sixth Street and Ave. E.

19. Porter Family Richard G. Porter moved to Apalachicola in 1833 and entered the cotton trade with his brother, William G. Porter. The business prospered and the Porter family became one of the town's most prominent families.

20. Chimney No one knows the significance of this brick structure. It has stood in the cemetery as long as anyone can remember, but there are no identifying marks on it. It is possible it was erected as a family memorial. For years it served as a rite of passage for Apalachicola children. Before you could be accepted to play with the local children you had to climb to the top.

21. Capt. Alton Pierce Born in Michigan, he migrated to New Orleans and served in the Confederate Navy during the Civil War. He was a steamboat engineer and became the government steamboat inspector for the district in 1886, a job he held until his death.

22. Cornelius and Elizabeth Grady Born in Ireland, this couple raised a family of two boys and two girls. The boys, Henry and John, owned and operated J. E. Grady and Company on Water Street, a firm that served as a ship chandlery, dry goods and hardware.

23. Charles H. Lind A seafood dealer and businessman, he loaned money to the local Presbyterian Church in 1909 to build a sanctuary. When the congregation did not repay the loan he foreclosed on the church. There is a stained glass window in the Episcopal Church in his memory.

24. Charles A. Glazier 40 years old, Mr. Glazier was a member of the city council when he was killed in an explosion at the Apalachicola Ice Company.

25. Joseph Lawrence Mr. Lawrence served in the 2nd Florida Cavalry before being transferred to the 5th Florida Cavalry. He was the last Civil War veteran in Franklin County, dying on November 8, 1933.

26. Ruge Family Herman Ruge, the patriarch of the family, was born in Germany. He came to Apalachicola and established a mercantile business, which thrived. His two sons, George and John Ruge, established the first successful oyster cannery in Apalachicola.

27. Louisa Bruni and Frank Messina Although Louisa was a year older, Frank Messina was her uncle, the youngest brother of Louisa's mother. They were playing on the dock when Louisa fell into the river. Frank jumped in to save her, but her struggles caused him to drown also. When their bodies were found her arms were wrapped around his neck.

28. John Jenkins He took the first steamboat, the Fanny, up the Apalachicola and Chattahoochee Rivers to Columbus, Georgia in 1829, beginning the trade that made Apalachicola the third leading cotton port on the Gulf of Mexico.

29. Genaro Zingarelli The patriarch of the Zingarelli family was born in Bari, Italy and immigrated to the United States with his brother. He owned a fleet of sponge boats and operated a boat yard.

30. John Partridge Operated the Apalachicola Exchange Hotel, which was located at the corner of Water Street and Avenue D.

31. Peter Wise During the Civil War he was the captain of Company I, 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry until his horse fell on him, goring him on the saddle pommel. He came to Apalachicola in the 1870s and was initially engaged in the lumber business. Later he was appointed as U. S. Steamboat Inspector.

32. Orman Family Thomas Orman came south from New York State to make his fortune, which he did as a cotton merchant in Apalachicola. His only child, William T. Orman, served in the First Florida Infantry throughout the Civil War and in the legislature afterwards. The family home overlooking the Apalachicola River is now a state park.

33. George and William Sinclair George and William Sinclair were half-brothers, immigrants from Hanover and merchants in Apalachicola. George was declared bankrupt in 1868, but he served as Franklin County's Treasurer in 1872.

34. Alfred Henry Le Fevre Born in Pennsylvania, Mr. LeFevre served in the 9th Michigan Infantry during the last year of the Civil War. He came south after the war following the sawmills.

35. Clarence Joseph Messina When young Clarence Messina did not return home on the evening of December 21, 1901, a large search party turned out to look for him. His cap and body were found floating in the Apalachicola River; he had evidently fallen in the river while playing on the dock and drowned.

36. Robert Knickmeyer Born in Hanover, Germany, Mr. Knickmeyer immigrated to America in 1848. He enlisted in the 4th Florida Infantry at Apalachicola in 1861. After the war he served a term as sheriff of Franklin County and commanded the state militia company based in Apalachicola, the Franklin Guards.

37. Aunt Bella A slave of Henry F. Simmons, he thought so highly of her he marked her grave with a stone monument.

38. George T. Hinsey Born in South Carolina, he was a carpenter and moved around frequently. His son, who was the County Tax Collector, erected this monument for his father.

39. Joseph Buzzett Born in New Orleans, Joseph Buzzett was brought to Apalachicola as an infant where he was raised by his aunt and uncle, Victoria and Dominick Catanetti. His son was a druggist and founded Buzzett's Drug Store, an anchor of the downtown business district for many years in the 20th century.

40. William Augustus and Martha Sarah Christian Farley William Augustus Farley never lived in Apalachicola. In 1860 he was a mechanic living in Marianna, and participated in the Battle of Marianna in 1864. He drowned when the vessel he was on wrecked trying to enter St. Andrews Bay during a storm. His body was never recovered.

41. Dominick Catanetti Born in Rovigno, a city on the northern Adriatic Sea, part of the Austrian-Hungarian empire, he immigrated to the United States in 1841. During the Civil War he enlisted in the Confederate Navy and served on the C.S.S. Spray, which operated out of the St. Marks River. After the war he was a bar pilot in Apalachicola Bay.

42. John Elton Living with the Anson Hancock family in 1850. In 1860 he was married with a son working as a clerk.

43. St. Clair Hartman He was born in Virginia, served in the Civil War, and worked in a variety of professions: farmer, textile agent, fertilizer manufacturer and traveling salesman. His daughter married John Grady.

44. Joseph Daly, Katie Daly Buried under the unadorned wooden cross is Joseph Daly. Born in Canada, he came to Apalachicola in 1882 with the lumber business. He organized a stevedore company and was a harbor pilot. At one time he owned Dog Island in partnership with James N. Coombs. He died on April 27, 1915. His daughter Katie is buried beside him.

45. H.F. Simmons He worked as a surveyor and had two sons who served in the Confederate Army. One was killed at the Battle of Natural Bridge. The other survived the war and went into the railroad business in Pensacola.

46. Rice Family Stephen Ewing Rice, the patriarch of the family, was born in Alabama, but moved to Texas with his family as a small child. He operated a seafood business in Apalachicola.

47. William and Mary Fuller This black couple operated the Fuller Hotel, first renting the establishment from the Hancock family, and later purchasing the property.

Scan the code to learn more about the Chestnut Cemetery and find more historic graves online through a virtual tour!



Tour more historic graves in the Chestnut Cemetery online at Apalachicolahistoricalsociety.org

About the Cemetery

The Chestnut Street Cemetery is the oldest burying ground in Apalachicola and is the burial site of many individuals connected with the history and development of the town and



area. Approximately 560 marked graves are located in the cemetery, but there are many more grave sites that are unmarked.



A variety of tombstones decorate the cemetery, from simple vertical slabs from the 1830s to elaborate marble monuments. A few graves are marked with simple wooden crosses or a blanket of shells with no names.



Beginning in 1912, the local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) marked the graves of all the Civil War veterans in the cemetery. There are at least 79 Confederate veterans and 7 Union veterans buried in the cemetery.

Each Spring and Fall, the Apalachicola Historical Society Hosts a Ghost Tour in which local history enthusiasts take on the persona of the cemetery's more notable inhabitants to tell of life in Apalachicola more than 100 years ago.

Want to be more involved? You can donate directly to the Apalachicola Area Historical Society. Send your tax deductible donation to AAHS, P.O. Box 75, Apalachicola, FL 32329. You may also join the Society and help be a part of local preservation efforts. Nominal annual dues entitle you to receive monthly newsletters, attend history lectures and events. Learn more at apalachicolahistoricalsociety.org.

VISITFLORIDA.COM

This project received financial assistance from VISIT FLORIDA



Chestnut Street Cemetery Walking Tour Apalachicola, Florida