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 merchant 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 sixteen year old Henry Austin was employed by the United States Coastal Survey on schooner Slidell 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 on Sunday morning six crew members, including Henry Austin, tried to return to the schooner in a small sailboat. A sudden squall

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 blockers.

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.

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. Caldwell, he was scolded when the boiler exploded at Bristol and died the next day. The Apalachicola Steamboat

About the Graves

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.
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 son, 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 arm was wrapped around his neck.

28. John Jenkins He took the first steamboat, the Fanny, up the Apalachicola River in 1882. He was an early settler of Apalachicola.

29. Orman Family Stephen Ewing Rice, the patriarch of the family, came south from New York and bought land, establishing a railroad business in Pensacola.

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

31. Joseph Lawrence During the Civil War he was the captain of Company I, 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry until his horse fell on him, causing him to drown also. He was a soldier during the Battle of Mosel 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.

32. Orman Family The Orman family came from New England. The patriarch of the family, Thomas Orman, came south from New York in 1838. He took the first steamboat, the Fanny, up the Apalachicola River and served as Franklin County’s Treasurer in 1872.

33. George and William Sinclair The eldest child of George and William Sinclair was born in Italy and immigrated to the United States with his brother. He owned a fleet of sponge boats and operated a boat yard.

34. John Partridge He operated the Apalachicola Exchange Hotel, which was located at the corner of Water Street and Avenue D.

35. Peter Wise He was appointed as U.S. Steamboat Inspector.

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 as Franklin County’s Treasurer in 1872.

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

38. George T. Hinsey 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 his brother.

39. Joseph Buzzett Born in New Orleans, Joseph Buzzett was a merchant and built a mercantile business as an infant where he was raised by his aunt and uncle, Victoría 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 Mosel 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 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 his brother.

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 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 his brother.

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 Mary was a slave of Henry F. Simmons, he thought so highly of her that he marked her grave with a stone monument.

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 stubs from the 1830s to elaborate marble monuments. A few graves are marked with simple modern 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.

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