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Charlotte has produced a prodigious tome, a veritable “who’s who” of the cemetery. . . . The book begins invitingly enough with photographs by Kenneth I. Storey, depicting stones, monuments and mausoleums, and then plunges into the deeps with a plot-by-plot census on the town side of the Oconee River, including the Colored Burying Ground, the burial ground set aside for employees and families of Athens Manufacturing Company, the Congregation Children of Israel Cemetery and the Pauper Burying Ground. Volumes two and three will catalogue the transriparian cemetery environs. . . .

The stats alone – the wife of, daughter of, grandson of with dates of birth, marriage and death – provide the record, but Charlotte and her enablers have enriched us far beyond the bare bones of the story. This book is fleshed out wherever possible with obituary references that bring the dead to life and make this a history not just of a cemetery but of a town. . . .

Oconee Hill Cemetery of Athens, Georgia, Volume 1 is much more than a catalogue and more than a history: this book is a family bible for the city, whose past citizens are hereby rescued from anonymity and restored to permanence through these annals.

Pete McComms
Flagpole

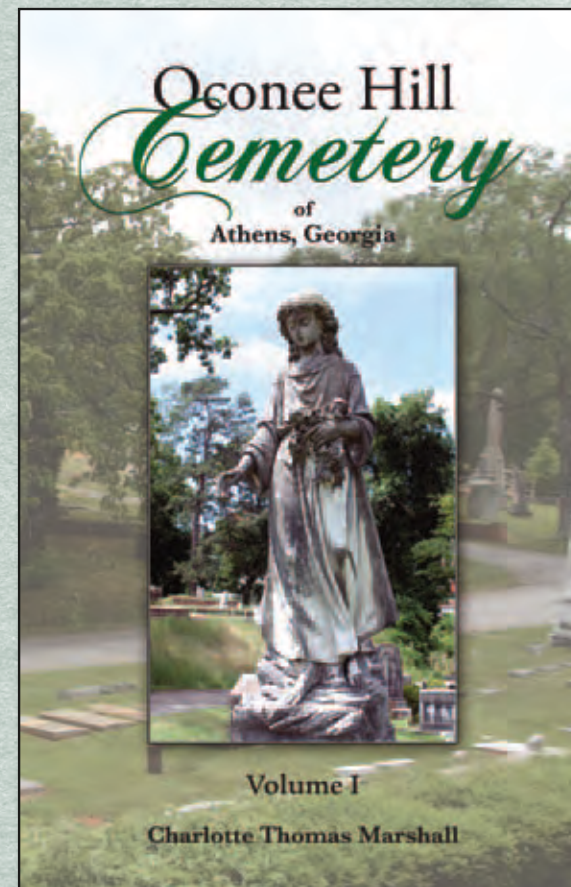
It may be hard for some people to think of a cemetery book as interesting reading, but the latest work by Charlotte Thomas Marshall, “Oconee Hill Cemetery of Athens, Georgia, Volume I,” is just that.

The 620-page book is a treasure trove of documented stories about the “residents” of this historical place. The author, long known for her delightful cemetery tours, has written down all the facts and stories about the people for whom it is their last resting place. . . .

Marshall records in detail each lot, the marker type if one, citations and abstracts of the obituaries for most of the deceased, as well as references to all people known on each lot. Some get one line; others, extensive writings.

Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr.
Atlanta Journal-Constitution

The
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Oconee Hill Cemetery of Athens, Georgia Volume I

by Charlotte Thomas Marshall
xxvi, 620 pp., hard cover, dust wrapper,
illustrations, bibliography, index, 2009.
Reprinted 2010. \$55.00

Athens Historical Society is pleased to announce that a reprinting of the first volume of the annotated edition of Oconee Hill Cemetery interments will soon be available. Please return the order form promptly to insure that you will receive your copy as soon as the books arrive from the printer. Volume I is a greatly expanded version of its 1971 publication and covers the same sections of the cemetery as that book. Volumes II and III are already in progress and will cover all of the sections which have opened on the other side of the North Oconee River since January 1900.

Oconee Hill Cemetery records became a project of the Society in 1963, resulting in the publication of tombstone inscriptions for the old part of the cemetery in 1971. One of the purposes of that book was to compile a list which would partially replace the first forty years of cemetery records which were lost to fire in 1896. The present book, which contains information about 3,900 burials, is an update and vast expansion of that work, including maker's marks from monuments, data from the sexton's Record of Interments (beginning in 1897), abstracts of obituaries, and biographical data from other sources. There are notations linking families from lot to lot and section to section. Similar information about people buried in unmarked graves is included.

Each section of the oldest part of this Victorian natural landscape cemetery, established by the City of Athens in 1856, is detailed in the order the sections opened: West Hill, East Hill, Paupers Burying Ground, Colored Burying Ground, Valley, River Road and North Slope. And full information about the two contiguous cemeteries, Factory

Burial Ground and Congregation Children of Israel Cemetery, follows.

The appendices include lists of trustees and sextons, a chronology of the cemetery's history, newspaper abstracts, and an article about the cemetery in the 1997 *Athens Historian*. More than 9,300 names are included in the index.

The illustrations range from 1856 newspaper ads for caskets and an 1859 deed signed by Thomas R. R. Cobb to maps, aerial views, vintage photographs and documents from the Bisson Family Collection, and numerous images of monuments and cemetery scenes photographed between 1980 and 2009 by Kenneth Storey, Lori Clifton Conway, Mark Costantino, Harry Yates, Colleen Kelly and Kenneth Kay.

The book is the work of Charlotte Thomas Marshall, one of many Athenians who collect and preserve local history and joyously share it with all who are interested. This volume is the repository of much of the knowledge that she has acquired in nearly 40 years of researching 19th-century Athens.

In 1971 she edited the Society's first book about Oconee Hill Cemetery. After researching the origins of First Baptist Church in connection with its sesquicentennial, she wrote *Glimpses Into the Antebellum History of the First Baptist Church, Athens, Georgia* in 1981. *Historic Houses of Athens* followed in 1987. With her husband she edited Susan Frances Barrow Tate's *Remembering Athens* for the Society in 1996. She was a contributor to Gary L. Doster's *A Post Card History of Athens, Georgia* in 2002. And in 2007 she assisted Ruth Roberson Hughes in preparing *The History and People of St. Luke A. M. E. Church*. In 2008 the Georgia Genealogical Society recognized her for outstanding contributions to the field of genealogy.

Charlotte was the first woman to serve as a trustee of Oconee Hill Cemetery. She and her husband, George, are former presidents of the Athens Historical Society and both are charter members of Friends of Oconee Hill Cemetery.

Other Publications of Athens Historical Society Currently Available

Marshall, Marion West and Mary Bondurant Warren, eds. *Papers of the Athens Historical Society, Vol. I.* 88 pp., paperback, illustrations. 1964. Reprinted 2008. **\$10.00**

Cooper, Patricia Irvin, ed. *Papers of the Athens Historical Society, Vol. II.* 147 pp., paperback, illustrations, index. 1979. **\$10.00**

Weeks, Eve B., ed. *Athens-Clarke County, Georgia Cemeteries.* 391 pp., hardbound, illustrations, index. 1999. **\$30.00**

[Note: This book does not include Oconee Hill Cemetery, Gospel Pilgrim, and 20th-century cemeteries such as Eastlawn and Evergreen. These cemeteries will be the subjects of forthcoming books.]

And our bestseller —

Doster, Gary L. *A Post Card History of Athens, Georgia.* xii, 164 pp., hard cover, dust wrapper, bibliography, index. 2002. **\$30.00**

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