

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF COLUMBUS, MUSCOGEE COUNTY, GEORGIA
 GEORGIA ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM

NO. WRM 2

I. IDENTIFICATION	PROPERTY NAME: Linwood Cemetery STREET ADDRESS: Linwood Boulevard PRESENT OWNER: Columbus Consolidated Government CITY: Columbus CURRENT USE: City cemetery U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: Columbus, GA-AL V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER: 17/10/6	HISTORIC NAME: "The Old (City) Cemetery" CITY: Columbus COUNTY: Muscogee MAILING ADDRESS: P. O. Box 1340 STATE: Georgia ZIP CODE: 31901 ACREAGE: approx. 28.66 acres U.T.M. REFERENCE: A-16/689220/3595075 B-16/689720/3595075 C-16/689775/3594950 D-16/689420/3594760
II. DESCRIPTION	ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION: The cemetery exhibits a variety of styles in the "Homes for the Dead". The plan of the cemetery is a main corridor running east-west-w/ perpendicular cross lanes to provide access to each family plot. The majority of the head stones are on the west end of the graves. Examples of simple carved tombstones, elaborate Victorian Gothic and Egyptian Revival markers can be seen. The family plots are marked with brick walls, granite, cast iron and wrought iron rails. Most plots are labeled w/a white carved stone recessed in the entry, irregular plantings of cedar and oak trees are observed, the bounds of the cemetery are 4 streets. Its sharp rise at the east entrance crest quickly and then gently slopes to the western boundary.	
III. HISTORY	ORIGINAL OWNER: City of Columbus ARCHITECT/BUILDER: The cemetery was included in Edward Lloyd Thomas' original plan of Columbus in 1828. DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1828	ORIGINAL USE: Cemetery HISTORIC ACREAGE: DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS: HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT): (SEE FOLLOWING PAGE)
IV. SIGNIFICANCE	N.R. AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Sculpture; Art, Local History LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL): <u>Sculpture; Art: "Linwood,"</u> Columbus' oldest city cemetery, remains a beautiful site, with exceptionally significant examples of elaborate (and, also, quite simple) tombstones. Some of the more impressive monuments rise high over the cemetery and, oftentimes, are topped with stirring marble figures and/or symbols. <u>Local History: "Linwood" is significant</u> as it is Columbus' oldest public cemetery (being in the original 1828 plan of the city). It serves as the resting place for over 200 Confederate Soldiers (from every state in the Confederacy) and numerous prominent citizens (among whom is originator of the world-renowned "Coca-Cola" formula, Dr. John Pemberton).	
V. SOURCES	FORM PREPARED BY: a) Nancy Alexander Roger Harris b) Janice P. Biggers ADDRESS: a) P. O. Box 1908, Cols, GA 31994 b) 700 Broadway, Cols, GA 31901	ORGANIZATION: a) Lower Chattahoochee APDC b) Historic Columbus Foundation TELEPHONE NUMBER: a) (404)324-4221 b) (404)322-0756
	SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Martin, John H. <u>Columbus, Georgia, 1827-1865</u> . 1874;rpt. Easley, South Carolina: Georgia Genealogical Reprints, 1972, page 13.	

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PHOTOGRAPHER: F. Clason Kyle

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USE SPACE BELOW FOR CONTINUATION FROM FRONT, SKETCH PLANS OR MAPS, ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, ETC.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Woodall, W.C. "How Now Popular Name, 'Linwood,' Came into Being."
The Columbus Ledger, 24 Jan. 1971

"Famous Men Sleep Quietly At Linwood." The Columbus Ledger, 18 Oct. 1953.

Georgia Historical Markers. Ed. Carroll Proctor Scruggs. Valdosta,
Georgia: Bay Tree Grove, 1973, page 373.

Letter from Edward Swift (regarding Linwood Cemetery) in files of
Historic Columbus Foundation

Byrne, Mary Margaret. "Linwood Revisited..." The Columbus Ledger, 16
March 1977.

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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT) OF LINWOOD CEMETERY:

According to Columbus historian John H. Martin's Columbus, Georgia. 1827-1865, which was printed in 1874, the first person buried in this cemetery was the son of the city's original surveyor. While Edward Lloyd Thomas was at work laying out the city of Columbus in 1828, his son became very ill and died in March of that year. Tradition has it that Thomas' burial of his son in 1828 represented the establishment of the cemetery which would later be named "Linwood".

However, the late William Clyde Woodall, a highly revered authority on Columbus' past, knew of marked graves which pre-dated that of Thomas' son, and, as a result, Woodall felt that these older graves (some of which were unmarked) were possibly those of "early traders, river people, and Indians." Thus, it is speculated that the burial ground known today as "Linwood" is actually older than the city itself.

Until 1894, this city cemetery was known only as "The Old (City) Cemetery." Woodall felt that, in all likelihood, the name "Linwood" was derived from the literary work of a Columbus author of the 1840's and 50's. Caroline Lee Hentz, the writer who is given credit for the cemetery's name, wrote and published, in 1856, a book entitled Ernest Linwood. In November of 1894, the city council officially named the cemetery "Linwood," probably as a result of Hentz's work's popularity in the area.

This cemetery has served (and still serves) as a resting place for a majority of Columbus' most prominent citizens. Among those buried at "Linwood" are Dr. John Pemberton, the originator of the formula of world famous "Coca-Cola"; Gen. Henry Lewis Benning, for whom the largest infantry school in the world--Fort Benning---is named; the Reverend Thomas Goulding, the first native born Presbyterian minister in Georgia (and a former pastor of Columbus' First Presbyterian Church); Leslie DeVotie; founder of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity; Ulysses Lewis, first mayor of Columbus and brother-in-law of America's first president, George Washington; and many other extremely influential individuals who were well known on the local, state, and national level. Also buried at "Linwood" are more than 200 soldiers, from every state in the Confederacy, who died in or near Columbus during the Civil War.