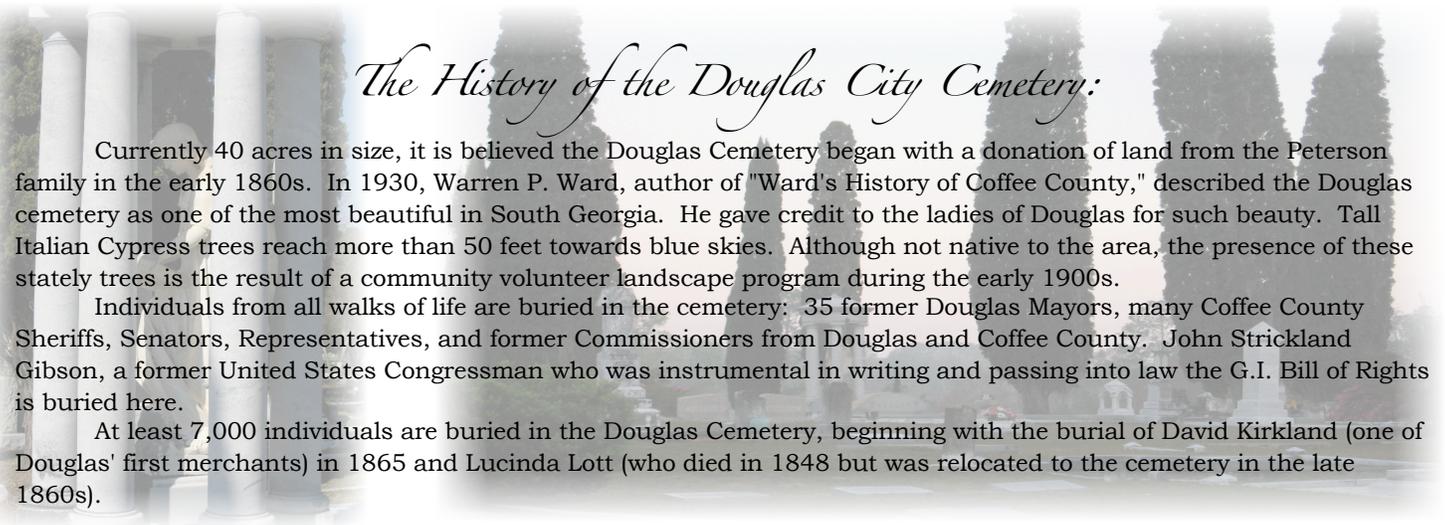




City of Douglas Cemetery

143 years of history



The History of the Douglas City Cemetery:

Currently 40 acres in size, it is believed the Douglas Cemetery began with a donation of land from the Peterson family in the early 1860s. In 1930, Warren P. Ward, author of "Ward's History of Coffee County," described the Douglas cemetery as one of the most beautiful in South Georgia. He gave credit to the ladies of Douglas for such beauty. Tall Italian Cypress trees reach more than 50 feet towards blue skies. Although not native to the area, the presence of these stately trees is the result of a community volunteer landscape program during the early 1900s.

Individuals from all walks of life are buried in the cemetery: 35 former Douglas Mayors, many Coffee County Sheriffs, Senators, Representatives, and former Commissioners from Douglas and Coffee County. John Strickland Gibson, a former United States Congressman who was instrumental in writing and passing into law the G.I. Bill of Rights is buried here.

At least 7,000 individuals are buried in the Douglas Cemetery, beginning with the burial of David Kirkland (one of Douglas' first merchants) in 1865 and Lucinda Lott (who died in 1848 but was relocated to the cemetery in the late 1860s).

A Message from the Coordinator

"The City of Douglas has committed to insure our cemetery's future and also to preserve its past. When you care for a cemetery on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis, it's easy to forget that the cemetery landscape is actually quite complex, representing a blend of sacred space, an art garden or outdoor museum, an archive of irreplaceable historical information, and a scenic landscape. Cemeteries are important social, historical, architectural and archaeological artifacts and activities must respect each of these functions equally. The City of Douglas' goal is for our cemetery to be a source of pride for all our citizens and a visual and spiritual enjoyment to its visitors."

For more information, contact Henry Milhollin, Director of Cemetery Operations, at (912) 389-3405 or hmilhollin@cityofdouglas.com.

Be sure to drop by the grave of David Kirkland, the first individual to be buried in the cemetery. Kirkland was killed by being thrown from his horse.

