

**Greenwood Cemetery Association**  
PO Box 55783  
Jackson, MS 39296-5783

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**Fence Funding Approaches Goal!**

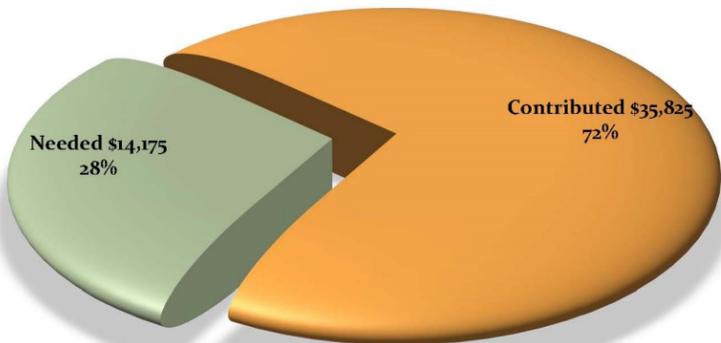


Over seventy per cent of the funds needed to replace the Lamar Street fence have been contributed or pledged. Generous contributors have joined the effort to bring the current total to **\$35,825**. Are you a FENCE FRIEND? A donation of \$250 will purchase one section of the new 1665 foot historically correct iron fence and will add your name to the permanent plaque acknowledging participants in the campaign.

As we approach the 2017 bicentennial of the State of Mississippi, we anticipate a marked increase in history tourism. The installation of a new fence on Lamar Street will increase the beauty and security of this, the oldest Historic Landmark in the capitol city, and will showcase our appreciation for those whose vision and hard work created this City and State.

The new fence will be located slightly closer to Lamar Street along the line of a much earlier fence. This will accommodate vehicular traffic on the road inside the fence and will eliminate the awkward protrusion of this ancient grave. Removal of the old fence will also eliminate the trees which threaten the grave.

**Greenwood Lamar Street Fence Replacement**



**Mission Statement**

The Greenwood Cemetery Association is an all-volunteer 501(C)(3) organization whose purpose is to preserve, restore, beautify, and culturally and historically interpret Greenwood Cemetery which is owned by the City of Jackson. The work is supported solely by contributions.

Annual dues are \$25 and gifts of any amount are greatly appreciated. Memorial and honor gifts are acknowledged promptly as per the donor's instructions. Donations may be mailed to Greenwood Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 55783, Jackson, MS 39296-5783 or through PayPal on the website [www.greenwoodcemeteryjackson.org](http://www.greenwoodcemeteryjackson.org).

Thank you for your support!

*This is the first in a series of articles about the seven Mississippi governors who are buried in Greenwood Cemetery. We are grateful to Mississippi History Now for granting permission to reprint.*

**George Poindexter, Second Governor of Mississippi: 1820-1822**  
*By David G. Sansing*

A contemporary historian wrote that the history of George Poindexter's public career is "the history of the Territory and the State of Mississippi, so closely and prominently was he connected with everything that occurred."

Poindexter, who was born in Louisa County, Virginia, in 1779, practiced law in Richmond before migrating to Natchez in 1802. From his successful law practice in Natchez he launched a long and distinguished political career during which he served as delegate to the territorial assembly, attorney general of the Mississippi Territory, territorial judge, territorial representative to the United States Congress, United States congressman, governor, and United States senator. Poindexter was elected president pro tempore of the U. S. Senate in 1834.



(credit: Mississippi Department of Archives and History)

At the 1817 Constitutional Convention, Poindexter was chairman of the committee that drafted the constitution and is generally recognized as the "Father of Mississippi's First Constitution." He later compiled the *Poindexter Code*, the state's first legal compendium. In 1819, while serving in the U. S. Congress, Poindexter was elected as Mississippi's second governor.

During Poindexter's administration, the judicial system was restructured and a court of chancery was created, the militia was reorganized, enlarged, and strengthened, public assistance for indigent school children was established through the Literary Fund, the second Choctaw land cession was finalized in 1820 under the Treaty of Doak's Stand, and it was established that the capital of the growing state should be moved from Natchez to a location nearer its geographic center.

Approximately two weeks after he was inaugurated, Governor Poindexter signed a bill emancipating William Johnson, the famous Barber of Natchez. Johnson eventually became Mississippi's most famous and prosperous free black and often loaned money to his white friends, including George Poindexter.

In 1822, rather than seek re-election as governor, Poindexter ran for the U.S. Congress but was defeated. After that temporary setback, he practiced law in Jackson until his appointment to the U. S. Senate in 1830. During the great tariff controversy in 1832-1833, Poindexter sided with John C. Calhoun in opposition to President Andrew Jackson. In the other great national controversy of that period, the rechartering of the national bank, Poindexter supported the rechartering of the bank, a position that again placed him in opposition to President Jackson. He had very low regard for President Jackson and is credited by some as being the first to use the term "Kitchen Cabinet" in reference to Jackson's intimate circle of advisors.

Poindexter's opposition to Jackson, who was immensely popular in Mississippi, caused his defeat for reappointment to the U. S. Senate in 1835. He left the state an embittered and defeated man. After moving to Lexington, Kentucky, for a short time, Poindexter returned to Jackson in 1841 and resumed his law practice which he maintained until his death in 1855. J. F. H. Claiborne, Mississippi's premier historian of the 19th century, considered Poindexter "the ablest man who ever lived in the state."

*David Sansing, Ph.D., is history professor emeritus, University of Mississippi.*

Posted December 2003

*Reprinted with permission by Mississippi History Now, the online publication of the Mississippi Historical Society.*

### Thank You Scouts

Greenwood Cemetery has benefitted greatly from the efforts of Boy Scouts. In July, Parkman Speights was joined by fellow scouts, friends and family to clean monuments within a designated area. In addition to the cleaning, they weeded and trimmed and made a significant improvement to the space.



*If you belong to a group or organization that would like a program about, or tour of, the cemetery, please contact Cecile Wardlaw at 601-540-6558 to arrange a date. There is no charge but donations are encouraged.*

A contribution to Greenwood Cemetery Association is the perfect way to honor or memorialize a friend or family member. Use the donation form to let us know your intention. An acknowledgment will be sent to the person you indicate.

Dues and donations to the General Fund are used to purchase supplies for cleaning and maintenance, and to pay for professional services and for the printing and mailing of the newsletter. Donations of \$50 or more are acknowledged by mail, but contributions in any amount are very much appreciated!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to General Fund or Fence Fund

Is your gift in honor or memory of a person or event? If yes:

Name of honoree \_\_\_\_\_

Notification to be sent to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



### New Monument for Old Graves

About a year ago, I observed someone pruning a shrub in the cemetery. I approached and introduced myself. Barbara Scott told me that she came from Texas every couple of years to trim the bush which is next to her grandmother's monument. She said that according to the family Bible at least five other family members were buried in the lot with her grandmother.

I encouraged her to send us the list of those buried so we could add their names to our records. Linda Robertson confirmed through death certificates and other records that Barbara's relatives were, in fact, buried at Greenwood. Earl Fleming probed the area and confirmed the presence of burials. With her information confirmed, Barbara ordered a monument listing all her relatives. On a hot day in August, we were

thrilled to attend the installation of the monument along with Barbara and her sister-in-law.

If you have names of family members who are buried at Greenwood but don't have a monument, please send us the information so they can be added to our records and listed on FindAGrave.

