

Helm Mausoleum Repairs



Master Stonemason Michael Drummond Davidson

Master stone mason Michael Drummond Davidson from Eupora, MS, has nearly completed repairs to the Helm Family Mausoleum, the burial site for Thomas and Mary Helm and other members of their family. An unusual design for Greenwood Cemetery, the interior structure is brick and the outer panels are marble. Two of the panels had fallen off and were in several pieces. An earlier attempt to reassemble the panels did not hold together when the panels were raised, so each piece had to be placed individually and glued. The glue had to dry before another piece was placed, so multiple trips were required. A generous donation from Jerry Johnson, a direct descendant of the Helms, provided underwriting for the project.



Beginning Repair
Michael directs Herod Registre, Chad Crimm, and Reginald Vaughn as they begin to reassemble a marble panel.



Michael Davidson is a true friend to Greenwood Cemetery. He has repaired several of our oldest and most impressive monuments for minimal charge and is always generous with his advice and counsel. He is available to perform free inspections and evaluations and may be contacted at (662)552-0084.

Mount Helm Church

Thomas and Mary Helm donated the property for the church which was named in their honor. Mount Helm is still an active congregation and will celebrate its 150th anniversary this year. The church's first pastor, Rev. Marion Dunbar, is also buried in Greenwood



Rose Pruners

An enthusiastic group of gardeners met on a brisk Saturday morning to prune the roses in the cemetery. This annual pruning is the only regular care the roses receive and they reward us with months of beautiful blooms. Gardeners pictured, left to right, are Kathy King, Cecile Cole, Lyn and Tom Isonhood, Beverly Kraft, Ferrell Tadlock, Jesse Yancy, Cindy and Tim Riley, Betty Newman, Peter Miazza, Linda Robertson and Paulette French. Several gardeners left before the picture. Many thanks to all who participated and to the Old Garden Rose Society for organizing the work day.

Albert Gallatin Brown: Fourteenth Governor of Mississippi: 1844-1848

By David G. Sansing

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



Albert G. Brown
(1813-1880)
Fourteenth Governor
1844-1848
Courtesy, Mississippi Department of
Archives and History

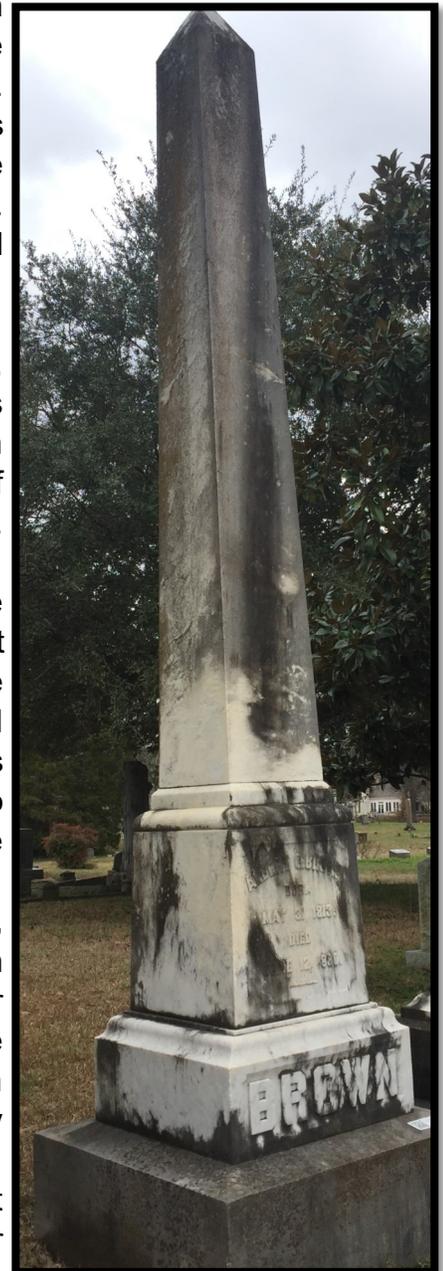
Governor Albert Gallatin Brown was Mississippi's youngest and perhaps its most popular antebellum governor. His election in 1843 ended the bitter division among the state's Democrats over the issue of whether the state should honor the bonds from two failed banks, Planters Bank and Union Bank, and reunited the party. Following his re-election in 1845 by a large majority and the completion of his second term, Governor Brown was elected to the U. S. Congress, where he served until his appointment to the U. S. Senate in 1854. Brown was born in Chester District, South Carolina, on May 31, 1813, and migrated to Copiah County in 1823. Brown attended Jefferson College and Mississippi College and then read law with Ephraim G. Peyton. After serving two terms in the state legislature, Brown was elected to the U. S. Congress when he was only twenty-four years old; five years later he was elected circuit judge as a Democrat in a predominantly Whig district. In 1843, at age thirty-one, he was elected governor.

Governor Brown was a strong advocate of public education and tried, unsuccessfully, to establish a statewide system of free schools. He was more successful, however, in his effort to establish a state university. In 1844 Governor Brown signed the charter establishing the University of Mississippi at Oxford. The university opened in 1848.

After he was elected to the United States Senate, Brown became one of the most ardent defenders of states' rights and was one of the South's first advocates of secession. After Mississippi seceded and joined the Confederate States of America, Brown resigned his U.S. Senate seat and organized a military company known as Brown's Rifles. Brown was stationed briefly in Virginia before his election as one of Mississippi's two members in the Confederate Senate where he served until the end of the Civil War.

After the fall of Vicksburg on July 4, 1863, Brown and other leaders, realizing that the South would not win the Civil War, advocated an immediate settlement and a negotiated peace treaty. Neither Mississippi nor the Confederate States of America would accept that suggestion, and the war continued for two more years. After the war was finally over, Brown advised the people of Mississippi to accept the consequences of military defeat and the emancipation of the state's former slaves.

Governor Brown retired from public life after the Civil War and spent his last years practicing law. He died at his home in Terry, Mississippi, near Jackson, on June 12, 1880.



Monument for Gov. Albert G. Brown

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



Millsaps Students Perform Ground Penetrating Radar

Students laid out a grid and examined a section of the front of the cemetery to search for unmarked graves. Preliminary evidence indicated historic burials. We are looking forward to receiving a comprehensive report on the project. Special thanks to Mark Teague, owner of Teacogeo for his support of the project.

Memorial Gifts

Greenwood Cemetary lost a faithful supporter in the death of Ed French, husband of Board Secretary Paullette French. We are grateful for the donations made in memory of Ed from the following:

Fred and Phyllis Blackwell
Tom and Sheila Broocks
Rodney and Sheila Hunt
Dr. Thomas L. Jones
Bill and Kay Lee

Peter Miazza
J.D. and Marsha Tabb
The Jim Towery Family
Melanie and Charles Turner



Vandalism

Greenwood has, unfortunately, again been the target of vandalism in late November or early December. Most of the damage was to vases and urns which were overturned and knocked off their bases. Damage was minimal and repairs will be made as soon as we can schedule a work day with Earl Fleming. A neighbor on Davis Street said she saw headlights in the cemetery at night but did not report it to the police. Previous requests for policing at night have not been granted.

Greenwood Cemetery Association

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Annual Meeting Scheduled

Greenwood Cemetery Association will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 6th at 2:00 at the Foundry at Galloway Methodist Church. All are welcome to attend. Business to be conducted will include election of officers and directors, a review of the activities of the past year, a financial report and a discussion of priorities for the coming year. Voting members are those who have contributed in the past year. Dues may be paid at the meeting. Refreshments will be served and cemetery tours will be available following the meeting. The Foundry is located at the corner of Congress and Mississippi Streets, across the street from the New Capitol. The Mississippi Girl Choir concert will be in the Galloway sanctuary at 3:00, so cemetery meeting attendees are encouraged to park on Mississippi Street or in the parking lot at the corner of Mississippi and West Streets.

Greenwood Cemetery Association

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. You may contribute through PayPal on the website www.greenwoodcemeteryjackson.org.

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

Address _____ Name of honoree _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Notice to be sent to _____

Email _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Thank you for your support!