### Spring 2019 Cemetery Tour Map





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#### Cultural Resources Management 04 April 2019

# SPRING CEMETERY TOUR

Cypress Slash, Trinity, Parker-Sapp, Todds, Bragg, Dreggars, and Fort Argyle Cemeteries



#### Cultural Resources Management

Fort Argy

Cypress Slash Cemetery is associated with the Cypress Slash Congregational Church which was established in 1879. This predominately African-American community was located approximately one mile east of the neighboring town of Trinity in Liberty County. The Church was organized with the assistance of



Dr. J. R. Roy, the Field Superintendent of the American Missionary Association. In April 1879, ministers, spectators, and residents met at Cypress Slash for the purpose of organizing the Cypress Slash Congregational Church. On that day, five deacons were ordained, fifteen persons baptized and twenty members of the Cypress Slash community received by confession. Soon after the ceremony, Cypress Slash Congregational Church and Cemetery were constructed close to the older Trinity Methodist Cemetery. In 1888, Cypress Slash served as a local



tax collection station and the community appears to have persisted until 1941. Like other communities in Liberty County, Cypress Slash and neighboring community of Trinity were connected to the naval stores and

Postal Map from 1910 depicting Town of Trinity.

turpentine industry. A map published in 1918 depicts the church and several structures scattered east of the town of Trinity. Cypress Slash Cemetery has 28 marked burials and 18 unmarked burials with interments ranging from 1902 to 1939.

The origins of the burial plot are unknown. However, a 1929 newspaper article refers to a gathering by the Daughters of the American Revolution to "picnic out at the cemetery at Fort Argyle." It is not certain if this newspaper article is specifically referring to a cemetery at the Fort Argyle site or simply referring to a cemetery located in the vicinity of Fort Argyle. Historically, the households and small family communities near the old Fort where known as "Fort Argyle" and may have simply referred to the area as a geographic reference point.





#### Cultural Resources Management

**Trinity** Cemetery

The Fort Argyle Cemetery was originally identified in 1995 during an archaeological excavation of Fort Argyle, an 18th century Ranger Outpost. During excavations, a single possible burial was identified (but was not excavated). No headstone was present but was only identified by the grave outline in the soil and the presence of possible grave goods which consisted of a small ceramic rabbit figurine and a small painted whelk shell found at the original ground surface of the grave. Recently, additional excavations were conducted to confirm if additional graves were present near this one potential grave. Preliminary results have indicated a low likelihood of additional burials being present. The date of the burial is unknown but it is suspected that it dates to after the use of the Fort (after 1775).



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1918 Map of Town of Trinity and Trinity Cemetery (in box).

Trinity Cemetery is linked to the community of Trinity, which was established during the late 1820s. The church property was originally purchased from William Scott on December 26, 1829 as a "lot or parcel of land containing two acres on the Canouchee [sic] Road, on which Trinity Meeting House now stands..." The Trustees of Trinity Church, John Wells, Burwell G. Whittington, Simon Fraser, William Martin, and Lewis Hines purchased the land for one dollar.

Trinity cemetery is located approximately one mile east of the church's location on the north side of Georgia Highway 144, and was reportedly established in the 1850s. The first recorded interment, however, was not until 1886. By the end of the 19th century, Trinity had grown in population and appeared as a small town on Georgia maps and postal routes from the early 20th century.

Trinity Cemetery served the congregation at Trinity Church and nearby Abraham Chapel (located west of Trinity Cemetery in the more densely populated portion of Trinity Community). By 1918, Trinity consisted of approximately twelve structures located along various roads, all of which led to Trinity Church. The community of Trinity continued to exist as a small village in the 1920s and 1930s and a 1939 Liberty County highway map showed Trinity consisting of twelve or more occupied dwellings in the immediate area. The town was evacuated following the acquisition of the property by the newly established military reservation and by July 1944, the Trinity area was being used as the staging area/firing point for .50 caliber, 37 mm, and 40 mm ranges. Trinity Cemetery contains 21 marked burials and one unmarked burial with interment dates ranging from 1886 to 1936.

### **Spring Cemetery Tour** *Parker-Sapp Cemetery*

Cultural Resources Management



Parker-Sapp Cemetery is a small family cemetery associated with lands owned by the Parker family between 1814 through 1941. The first family member believed to be associated with the property was William Parker who was a farmer with at least 300 acres of land. His son Mack (also known as McAlister or M. C.) Parker held title to the land as early as 1861 until his death in 1909. The associated farmstead, located approximately 50 yards to the south of the cemetery, was initially archaeologically recorded during the late 1990s. The homestead was presumably a single family residence consisting of a rustic log cabin or plank-walled structure. The initial residence probably had a stick and mud chimney and no glass windows. Although no direct evidence of any architectural features were encountered, artifacts indicative of a homestead were recovered and a 1912 map indicates a structure nearby.

The associated family cemetery consists of five headstones. Four of these have no inscription and one is a Confederate Memorial Marker erected for Mack M. Parker (also known as M. C. or McAlister Parker) who was a Private in the Georgia 25th Regiment and died December 10, 1909 . Interviews with residents in nearby communities suggest that in addition to the five marked burials, an additional four unmarked burials may be present. The names of the individuals believed to be buried are: Mack (M.C. or McAlister) Parker, a confederate veteran of the Civil War who died in 1909; Sarah Ann Elizabeth "Lizzie" Parker; Elijah Parker; Allen Parker; Ellie Parker; Luke Sapp; Aaron Sapp; and infant twins of Luke Sapp.

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Dreggars Cemetery

Dreggars Family Cemetery, like Bragg Cemetery, is linked with the turpentine community of Roding and its associated infrastructure. There are six marked graves with interment dates ranging from 1897 to 1915. There are no known unmarked graves within Dreggars Cemetery. The property upon which Dreggars Family Cemetery is located was owned by Ola B. Gill at the time of government acquisition in 1941.



1915 map above depicts Roding and Trinity (in boxes).



Bragg Baptist Church and cemetery were located in the former community of Roding. Nearby landmarks included Bragg's Bridge, Bragg's Landing, Ellis Landing, and Hines Landing. It is estimated that the community of Roding began by the late 1860s and by 1906 it had a population of 61 and contained several stores with a "good local trade." In 1893, Roding acquired a post office with William Bragg, John Campbell, and William G. Gill



serving successively as postmasters through 1904. There were two turpentine distilleries within the Roding area by the 1890's (the Gill Distillery and the Ellis Distillery) which had been in operation since at least 1880. Bragg Baptist Church had formed by the late 1890's and began to serve the community of Roding. Roding continued on as a small town based on turpentine trade until the construction of Camp Stewart in 1941. There are 190 marked burials and 14 unmarked burials in Bragg Cemetery with interments dating from 1897 to 1975.



### Cultural Resources Management

Parker-Sapp Cemetery



Historical sources indicate that the 25th Georgia Infantry Regiment, in which Mack Parker served, was comprised of eight companies from the eastern and coastal counties of Georgia. The Regiment was organized in September 1861 and initially assigned to the Department of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida and served in the coastal region until the summer of 1863 when it was ordered to Mississippi. At this time, it served primarily with the Army of Tennessee and fought in the Atlanta Campaign. The Regiment was greatly reduced when it surrendered on April 26, 1865. Mack Parker only served with the 25th Regiment (initially Company E, then redesignated Company H) through July 19, 1862 when he was discharged due to his disabilities.

#### Cultural Resources Management

# **Spring Cemetery Tour** *Todds Cemetery*

# Todds Cemetery

Todds Cemetery (also known as Mrs. L.D. Todd Cemetery or Hines Cemetery), potentially dates from the late 1700s to late 1930s. Three of the six marked graves predate the Civil War and include Lewis Hines (1795-1840), Eliza Mann (1788-1820), and Thomas Mann (1781-1836). Two additional burials from the colonial period, Captain Luke Mann (1736 – 1800) and his wife (d.1788), are believed to be also buried here.



The cemetery was originally referred to as "the Old Belmont Plantation" during the property's acquisition in 1941. It is reportedly the family burial ground for members of the Mann Family, including at least one family member who served in the American Revolution. In 1941, the title abstract for the property's acquisition by the U.S. Government stated that the property was "known as part of the old cemetery and burying grounds at Belmont…beginning at a sweet gum tree…and north of grave of Thomas Mann…this is old burying ground on said Belmont Plantation on which said Thomas Mann and Captain Luke Mann (b. 1736) are buried and said land to be used exclusively as a cemetery and burying ground. Marked at the corners by sweet gums, a black gum, and a large oak tree all marked XIII, the said four corner trees being assigned and conveyed as corner trees and not to be cut or removed by either party."

Belmont Plantation began as a tract of 250 acres granted by colonial authorities to John Rouviere [Bouvier], a relative of Simon Bouvier. The land, which adjoined the Village of Highgate, passed to Thomas Netherclift, along with 200 adjacent acres, a 177 acre tract and several lots in Highgate. In the 1770s, Netherclift deeded this 950 or so acres to William Hazel Gibbs of Charleston and Edward Tenwich, of South Carolina, trustees for Charlotte Tenwick Pierce. This assembled property became Belmont plantation. Luke Mann asked for land in 1769 for a cow pen on the "north Fork" on the Canoochee and later for land on the "south branch" bordering Dicks and Robinson. A Whigg during the Revolutionary War serving under Gen. Nathaniel Greene, Captain Luke Mann had one of the original land grants in the Taylor's Creek area in 1769. His Ogeechee River plantation was a commissary point for troops in 1778. After the war, in 1791, he sold some of Taylor's Creek area land to Ebenezer Hills. Captain Mann, according to the 1941 land acquisition records, was buried in the "burying grounds" that later became Todd's Cemetery. In addition, Captain Mann's wife (d. 1788) is reportedly buried next to her husband.

Captain Mann's son was Thomas Mann and his granddaughter was Anna Maria (Mann) Hines. She and her husband, Lewis Hines, were rice and tobacco planters in Bryan County. Lewis was a member of the legislature (d. 1840). He and his widow Anna Maria (Mann) Hines were interred at



the cemetery at Belmont Plantation. The plantation was extant in 1829 and was listed as the place of birth for Thomas Alfred Hines (born June 24th, 1829).

In 1888 the property was part of the L. Durham estate which was sold to J.O. Cook. The "Durham lands" were then resold to D.W. Waller in 1903 who in turn sold this property to Sallie Shipman in 1906. Upon her death the following year, the property was divided among her seven children. Two of these children, Robert Shipman and Rowene Shipman, sold their interests to their brother W.C. Shipman by 1916. In 1936, W.C. Shipman deeded 0.18 acre of land known as Todds Cemetery to Mrs. Georgia Augusta Hines Todd.



Census records revealed that the land surrounding the cemetery was owned by W. Clifton Shipman, an African-American Baptist minister who lived on the land and used it as a general farm. The land acquisition file also stated that W.C. Shipman worked timber, tilled the soil, and sold timber from his property.

There are six marked burials and at least one unmarked burial within Todds Cemetery with interment dates ranging from 1866 to 1937, with the potential for much older burials being present.