

Southwest Mississippi Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 175
McComb, MS 39649



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(Photo credit: Find A Grave posted by usnnds)

Dr. James S. Douglas

Dr. Douglas has the distinction of being the first person recorded to have been buried in Hollywood Cemetery. He was born July 4, 1800 in Westmoreland, New York and died in McComb on July 28, 1878.

He was educated at Madison University and graduated at Fairfield Medical College in 1824. In 1845 he became convert to homoeopathy and after coming to Milwaukee published for about a year the "Expositor," a monthly journal in support of that system of medicine. In 1855 he was called to the chair of Materia Medica and special Pathology in the Cleveland Homeopathic Medical College, though he retained his residence in Milwaukee and practised there until his death. He was also the author of two books, one of which was on the subject of "Intermittent Fever" and the other on "Practical Homoeopathy," which are recognized as authorities by homoeopathic physicians. In 1849 he founded the Milwaukee Homoeopathic Pharmacy. The object of the pharmacy was to supply physicians with medicines, books, medical supplies, surgical appliances, medicine cases, etc.

In 1877, Mr. Douglas became an invalid, and he and his wife, Frances Mary Boardman Douglas, moved to McComb to reside with their daughter, Mrs. Charles H. Townsend.



(Photo Credit: Find A Grave posted by Larry Ray)

After his death his wife moved to Colorado City, Texas to live with another daughter and is buried in the Colorado City Cemetery.

Their daughter, Cecilia Eliza Douglas married Captain C. H. Townsend, and they were apparently living in McComb as part of the Reconstruction forces and later moved to Omaha, Nebraska.

His 1913 obituary states that 'Captain C. H. Townsend, aged 78, veteran of the Civil war and a resident of Omaha for thirty years, died Monday evening at his home on South Thirtieth avenue, following a stroke of apoplexy the week before and from which he hardly rallied. As chief clerk in the quartermaster's department here, Captain Townsend has been well known by all the army men stationed here for many years past and the news of his passing away will be learned with sincere regret by officers in all parts of the country as well as by his scores of friends outside the army. During the Civil war, Captain Townsend was aide de camp to General S. S. Prentiss and then his assistant adjutant general, a position he also held on the staffs of General Washburn and General Dana. He served through the Spanish-American war as chief clerk under General Humphrey and was considered one of the best men in the army on transportation matters.'

Remaining 2016 Meeting Dates

September 27
November 15 - Fall Potluck Dinner

July Meeting

July 23, 2016 at 11:00 AM

Cookout at
the Brock's Bogue Chitto Camp
The SWMGS will provide hamburgers and
hot dogs. Members should bring
sides and desserts.

Findmypast

President's Corner

..... Rick Penick

At the May meeting members enjoyed PAWLS Reference/genealogy librarian, Monica Wilkinson's, update on the genealogy room resources. The library has had to upgrade their security due to a book being taken out of the genealogy section through a door without a barcode scanner. Hopefully this person just 'borrowed' the book and will return it to the outside book deposit bin.

People who want to use the genealogy room now have to fill out a short form and get a Genealogy Room Access Card, plus sign in and out when you visit.

Monica brought the access card application forms with her so all members who attended the May meeting were able to complete the form and get their access card at the end of the meeting.

Findmypast, has just announced that they will be making their entire collection of military records free for eight days to commemorate the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. From 04:00 ET, 27th June until 06:59 ET, 4th July 2016, all 65 million records within Findmypast's "Military, Armed Forces and Conflict" category will be completely free to search and explore, providing family historians from around the globe the opportunity to uncover the stories of the military heroes within their own family. All 265 million UK and Irish census records will also be free to search, allowing researchers to uncover details of their military ancestor's civilian lives.

Go to: <http://www.findmypast.com/>



Holmesville Courthouse

The Pike County Board of Supervisors has again tabled the bids for Phase One of the courthouse renovation due to concerns about the cost. The Department of Archives and History grant is for \$120,750 and the county has to match 25% of it which is about \$30,000. The lowest bid was \$271,200 which is well over the grant amount plus the County's matching funds.

Phase One involves stabilizing the foundation along with some cosmetic touches. Plans are to go back to the architect to see if changes can be made to trim the costs.

July Meeting

Janice Brock has agreed to let us meet in July at their beautiful camp on the banks of the Bogue Chitto River. Jimmy McDaniel has again volunteered to be our chef and grill hamburgers and hot dogs. Members will bring the side dishes. If you need an idea on what to bring, contact Sue. We hear there's going to be some homemade ice cream for dessert!

Author and historian, Chris Watts will be the speaker and will discuss his book, "The Great Sweet Potato Raid: A Marion County Mississippi Study." He'll have some copies of his book to sell for those of you who haven't gotten their copy yet. I've read it and really enjoyed it.

See you on the 23rd--we'll send out a map to the Brock Camp closer to the meeting date.

2016-2018 Officers

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