

Civil War Mini-Themed Tour

St. Augustine
National Cemetery

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

National Cemetery
Administration



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Department
of History





- Meet at the Flagpole
- Discuss what a National Cemetery is and why they are important
- Go over respectful behavior expectations
- Pass out map & show pathway for tour
- Build background on the Civil War with lessons appropriate to grade level and standards.

Tour Stops

1-Martin Davis Hardin
(B, 427)

2-Thomas Maurice (B,
419)

3-Francis McNally (B,
396)

4-John Alexander
Whitehurst (A, 248)

5-William Hewlin (A, 185)

6-Cato Bailey (A, 192)

7-Adam Floyd (A, 191)

8-Unknown Soldiers



Civil War - Historical Background

Key events contributing to the underlying divisiveness consuming the nation at this time:

- The 1850s were a decade of growing agitation and political polarization around the issue of the expansion of slavery
- The free state and slave state balance in the Senate critical
- Key events:
 - Compromise of 1850
 - 1854 Kansas Nebraska Act
 - 1856 Bleeding Kansas Conflict
 - 1857 Dred Scott Decision
 - 1859 John Brown, Harpers Ferry Armory
 - 1860 election of Abraham Lincoln
- Secession of the southern states began after Lincoln was elected, but before he even took office
- April 1861 firing at Fort Sumter is the “official” start of the Civil War.



Stop #1- B 427
Martin Davis Hardin

Stop #1- Martin Davis Hardin

- Born 1837 Illinois and died after a brief illness in 1923, while at his St. Augustine home. He is buried in Plot B 427.
- Hardin graduated West Point in 1859, joined the Army in 1861 and was eventually promoted to Brigadier General, during the Civil War.
- He was known as a friend to Abraham Lincoln.
- He served at the battle of Yorktown, Seven Days Battle, Mine Run and Gettysburg.
- The end of 1863 he lost his arm to Guerillas, but returned to active duty in the Spring of 1864. He was wounded again at North Anna, distinguished himself at Bethesda Church and helped defend Washington all before July 1864.
- Retired from Active duty in 1890 and went to law school. He resided in Chicago, until his death.
- Married Amelia in 1892.

Stop #2- Thomas Davies Maurice B 419



Stop #2- Thomas Davies Maurice

- Born c. 1836-1885
- Born in New York City
- Major in the 1st Missouri Volunteer Light Artillery later officer in the 2nd Regiment, U S Artillery.
- Rank of Captain
- Admitted to St Francis Barracks hospital with consumption (Tuberculosis) on Nov. 6, 1882.
- Died of consumption (TB) on March 18, 1885.
- Buried in St. Augustine because he served at this post B 419.
- Because he was an officer in the regular Army, headstone is not like the others, also has more information on it.

Stop #3- Francis McNally B 396



Stop #3- Francis McNally

- Born 1835 Ireland-1913 St. Augustine Plot B 396.
- Arrested in Ireland for assault.
- Immigrated to the United States.
- Enlisted in the Army in 1862 in Bridgeport. Connecticut as a Private in Company H, 17th Connecticut Infantry .
- Wounded POW in Gettysburg.
- Married to Anne and had two children Catherine and William.
- Unique Headstone-Does not look like the others.
- Lived in St. Augustine post war and worked as a library custodian.

Stop #4- John Alexander Whitehurst A 248



Stop #4- John Alexander Whitehurst

- Born 1816 Georgia-Died 1862 Pinellas County from a gunshot Wound.
- Original Burial Egmont Key, but moved to St. Augustine Plot A, 248.
- Southern Union Sympathizer who was killed by Confederate sympathizers, so he was given a burial spot in National Cemetery.
- Married to Elizabeth and had six children; Georgian, Susan, Christopher, Winfield, Harney and Frances.

African American Soldiers and the Civil War

- A Federal Law dating from 1792 barred Negroes from bearing arms for the US Army.
- July 17, 1862- Congress passed the Second Confiscation and Militia Act, freeing slaves who had masters in the Confederate Army.
- After the Emancipation Proclamation was issued, black recruitment was pursued.
- Military Necessity and high white casualties led to black enlistment.
- Black leaders like Frederick Douglass encouraged African Americans to enlist.
- In May 1863 the Government established the Bureau of Colored Troops to manage the growing numbers, creating United States Colored Troop Units (USCT).

THE NEXT FEW SLIDES HIGHLIGHT MEN WHO ARE ALL IN THE 33 USCT.

1. One of the first Regiments recruited as the first South Carolina Colored.
2. Well documented in books, including only memoir by African American woman Susie King Taylor.

Stop #5- William Hewlin A 185



Stop #5- William Hewlin

- Born c. 1833 St. Augustine– Died c. 1890 (no official record of death) and Buried at Plot A 185 at St. Augustine National Cemetery.
- Because he was enslaved and “not free”, he ran away to South Carolina and worked as a laborer, before enlisting in the military.
- After the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect in January, 1863, he enlisted in South Carolina as a Private in the United States Colored Infantry (USCI), Company B, 33rd Infantry Regiment, where he served for 3 years. (taking a short furlough to be married).
- Married Victoria Hewlin in February 1864 and subsequently had 4 children George, John, Cato, and Julia.
- Hewlin initially received less pay than white serviceman, until congress passed a law for equal pay.
- His regiment participated in the capture of the Battery Gregg on James Island and the Union garrison of Savannah and Charleston.

Stop # 6 - Cato Bailey A 192



Stop # 6 - Cato Bailey

- Born C.1830 St. Augustine-1901 St. Augustine Plot A 192.
- Slave who escaped prior to joining the military.
- Served in the Thirty-third US Colored Troops of the US Army during the Civil War.
- Served in the military from 1863-66.
- Military duties included “duty cook” .
- After the War he was a laborer in St. Augustine.
- Married in 1868 and had a daughter.
- Little information known on Post War life.
- Military Service provided him with a headstone and a cemetery plot, which was unusual for a Black laborer.

Stop # 7 - Adam Floyd A 191



Stop # 7 - Adam Floyd

- Born C. 1816 in St. Augustine (according to 1880 census).
- Died June 27, 1900 (according to pension record).
- Buried in St. Augustine in Plot A, 191.
- His headstone is INCORRECT, not New York
- Formerly enslaved, before joining the military.
- Corporal who was part of the Company I, 33rd USCT, infantry.
- Wife had to fight for years to receive his pension, could be due to their African American race.

United States Colored Troops

- As time went on many Americans forgot about the USCT and this may explain the mistakes.
- Ultimately, about 200,000 African Americans served in the Army and Navy in about 150 regiments.
- Served in all theaters of War across the continent.
- Key to victory-including near Appomattox Court House, where they trapped Robert E. Lee to end the war.

Stop # 8- Unknown Soldiers



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- Many Civil War soldiers of both races rest remain unknown.
- Some of these unknown rest in cemeteries with headstones that say unknown.
- The government tried but failed to identify all the hundreds of thousands who died. The good news is we are starting to identify many of those in St. Augustine.
- Those identified here are in the 7th New Hampshire Infantry -this unit composed of white soldiers fought with African American soldiers.
- Black and white soldiers, were comrades and are still honored in this cemetery for their service and sacrifice to the nation.

Wrapping Up the Field Trip



Penny-You visited the grave

Nickel-You went to basic Training with the Veteran

Dime-You served together

Quarter-You were there when they died

- Return to the Flagpole
- Discuss with students the tradition of leaving coins on Veterans' graves
- Pass out pennies and allow students time to put a coin on a grave