

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Friends of Coleman-Leigh-Warren Cemetery
Augusta-Richmond County, GA
<http://www.colemanleighwarren.org>

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For immediate release

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Dead Augustans coming back to life

Augustans who reside in the Coleman-Leigh-Warren cemetery are coming back to life. On Monday, Aug. 22, 10:30 a.m., find out plans to transform 1.10 acres of a lost and forgotten gem of Augusta history lying in rubble from years of vandalism, into a beautiful green space for the Augusta-Richmond County community.

The hidden-from-view cemetery, tucked in between the Washington Road Fire Department and National Hills subdivision, holds an Augusta city councilman (1802), Georgia state senator from Richmond County (1811-1813), mayor of Augusta (1815-1817), Richmond County commissioners from the late 1700s and early 1800s, Richmond County judges, and the builder and owner for 40 years of the Summerville mansion known today as the Appleby house. Residents of the small cemetery were also owners of other properties well known in Augusta today, including Meadow Gardens, the Augusta National Golf Club property, Granite Mill and more. The influence of the Lindsay Coleman, Walter Leigh and Benjamin H. Warren families figured prominently in Augusta through institutions including the canal, banking, railroad and manufacturing industries, state and local government, civic organizations, churches and more. Brad Cunningham, spokesperson for Friends of Coleman-Leigh-Warren Cemetery, along with Augusta State University archaeologist, Dr. Chris Murphy and Derek Vanover from Augusta-Richmond County Public Works, will be on hand at the Coleman-Leigh-Warren cemetery, site of the Revolutionary War period village of Bedford, later known as the Bedford Plantation.

Directions to the site from downtown Augusta: Take Washington Road toward National Hills Shopping Center, go past Eisenhower, Magnolia and Azalea Drives on the right. After Azalea

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Drive, go past the Masters Christian Ministry Center and an office park. Turn right onto an unmarked drive immediately preceding the self-serve gas station. This drive, originally the exclusive access road to the cemetery is now the access road for the Washington Road Fire Department. Go behind the fire department building and you will find the Coleman-Leigh-Warren cemetery.

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