

Founding Families of Tucker, GA Self-Guided Cemetery Tour



The Founding Families of Tucker Tour

Did you know some of Tucker's founding families were an integral part of the Battle of Atlanta during the Civil War? Thousands of Sherman's troops and cavalry stayed in Tucker at Greenville Henderson's Mill and marched down the same streets we drive today.

Learn about the brave pioneers who established Tucker in the early 1800s. They settled their families here, built our roads, churches, schools, and buried their relatives in small grave plots all over Tucker.



This guide will take you from one corner of Tucker to another; some large church cemeteries with many founding families in well-marked graves, to other more tucked away private family gravesites.

Tucker's rich history is worth exploring.

Enjoy the tour!



Please show your respect for those who have gone before us by walking carefully to not disturb the properties, grave sites or markers. Thank you!

1. The Old Fellowship Cemetery

Established in 1829, The Old Fellowship Cemetery is one of the most incredible historic cemeteries in the region. An absolute must see! Four Revolutionary War veterans are buried here, along with Singleton, Goza, and Thomas Founding Family members.

Location: At the end of cul de sac behind 4120 Wildflower Lane, off Brockett Rd. Or access the cemetery via the American Legion parking lot off Pine Valley Rd. Walk up the short path through the woods to the cemetery.

2. Dabney-Shumate Cemetery

The Dabney-Shumate Cemetery, circa 1831, hosts two of Tucker's Founding Families. The information marker and front entrance arch wooden sign were both made in 2006 as an Eagle Scout project. Tucker Civic Association plans to restore the weather-damaged information plaque.

Location: 1722 Cooledge Road, across the street from Mary Anna Drive. Park on the circle driveway at the vacant blue daycare facility next door.

3. Rehoboth Cemetery

Look around for all the black iron Confederate States of America C.S.A. markers to search out historic gravesites. The first left off Cemetery Ave at Marker 4-A you'll see Johns Family burial sites on both sides of the dirt road. Rehoboth also hosts Founding Families, Henderson, Chewning, Cash, Brownlee, Gresham, and Britt, just to name a few.

Location: Rehoboth Cemetery is across the street from the John B. Johns historic Homestead and Rehoboth Baptist Church, 2997 Lawrenceville Hwy. Turn down Cemetery Ave off Lawrenceville Hwy.

While there, be sure to visit Johns Homestead Park. It is a 50-acre green space with hiking trails leading down to and circling around Twin Brothers Lakes. Park at Rehoboth Baptist Church and walk the ½ block up Lawrenceville Hwy to explore the 1828 Farmstead and park.

4. Marion Henderson Family Gravesite

Marion Henderson and Mary Johns had eight children, many of who stayed to settle Tucker. Four Henderson family members are among those buried here, including Rutha Johns. Rutha was the daughter-in-law of John B. Johns, another Founding Father of Tucker; Mary Johns was her daughter.

Location: On the Shefa Wellness Center property, 2060 Northlake Parkway. Park in the Shefa parking lot, "Henderson Family Cemetery" is at the front entrance of the building within a rock wall.

5. Henderson Family Cemetery

William Griffin Henderson, born 1822, was the fourth son of Greenville and Nancy Henderson. He married Fannie Morris and had they eight children. After she died he married Sarah Richardson and they had four more children. A survey of this cemetery conducted in 1986 found eight inscribed markers at the time, for members of his immediate family.

Location: In the Best Buy parking lot at LaVista Road and Parklake Drive under the large billboard.

6. Livsey Memorial Cemetery

Robert Livsey and his wife Caroline, both born in 1833, donated the land for this cemetery. Also buried here are their son James, and his wife, Louisa Chewning. Louisa was the cousin of Alf Chewning, Tucker's first postmaster. There are also twenty-three head and foot markers for the "Unknown Confederate Soldiers. Here sleep, unknown but to God, approximately twenty-two Confederate soldiers; Robert Toombs Livsey gave one acre of land for this cemetery, providing a burial ground for the Civil War soldiers of 1864."

Location: 3447 LaVista Road. Look for the stone wall and red "Livsey Memorial Cemetery" sign.

7. Midway Baptist Cemetery

Midway hosts the Gresham and Pylant Founding Families. The Pylant family lived in the Browning District on the old Camp Gordon-Montreal Road, now Briarlake. Lonnie Pylant married Missouri Cash, the only two families that lived on this road.

Location: The Midway Baptist Church (2254 Henderson Mill Rd) is in the middle of the Briarcliff Rd, Henderson Mill Rd, and Fielding Dr. triangle across the street from Northlake Mall.

8. Greenville Henderson Family Plot

Greenville is considered by many to be Tucker's Founding Father. He worked as a miller, farmed large apple and peach orchards, and distilled whiskey and brandy. His gristmill was located near the intersection of Midvale and Henderson Mill Rd. This small family gravesite is a tucked away gem in the back of the Glen Rose subdivision. Greenville's grave is the unmarked stone slab with the lower right corner cracked from weather and age.

Location: Between house # 2706 and # 2707 Glenrose Hill, at the very end of the cul de sac. There is a public access walkway between the two homes leading to the historic family plot. Glenrose Hill is off Glenrose Drive, off Henderson Mill Road.

9. Gresham and Weed Cemetery

Gresham and Weed hosts a number of Tucker Founding Families including the Baxter, Mitchell, Britt, and Nash families. There are a few newly established gravesites as Tucker Founding Family members continue to be buried here.

Location: Gresham and Weed Cemetery is at 3700 Chamblee Tucker Road, across the street from the Embury Hills Public Library. There is a large stone marker out front. There is a one-lane, easy access circle driveway with a few places at the top of the hill to pull over to get out and explore the grounds.

10. Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Cemetery

The gravesites closest to Chamblee-Tucker Road have some of the oldest plots, including gated areas and stone-walled tombstones. Members of the Cofer family are buried here.

Location: 4278 Chamblee-Tucker Road, after the Chamblee-Tucker turn towards Evans Rd. The church and cemetery are only a few hundred yards past the CVS on the right behind the Pizza Hut.

Rufus Henderson Family Cemetery (not on tour)

Also of note, but not on the tour is the Rufus Henderson Family Cemetery. It hosts 31 graves, with no grave markers present. Members of the Baxter, Evans, and Henderson founding families were buried at this site. Greenville Henderson's son Rufus (born 1823) and his wife Lucinda (born 1824) are two of the oldest graves.

Location: Evans Ridge Trail in the Evansdale neighborhood of Tucker. This family cemetery is on private property and is inaccessible at this time.

Two informative books to reference while touring these cemeteries are "A History of Tucker - 1821-1942" by Elias W. (Tim) Timmons and "Cemetery Records of Tucker, Georgia and Environs" by Ted O. Brooke. Thank you Mr. Timmons and Mr. Brooke for your helpful research.

