

The Calling Card



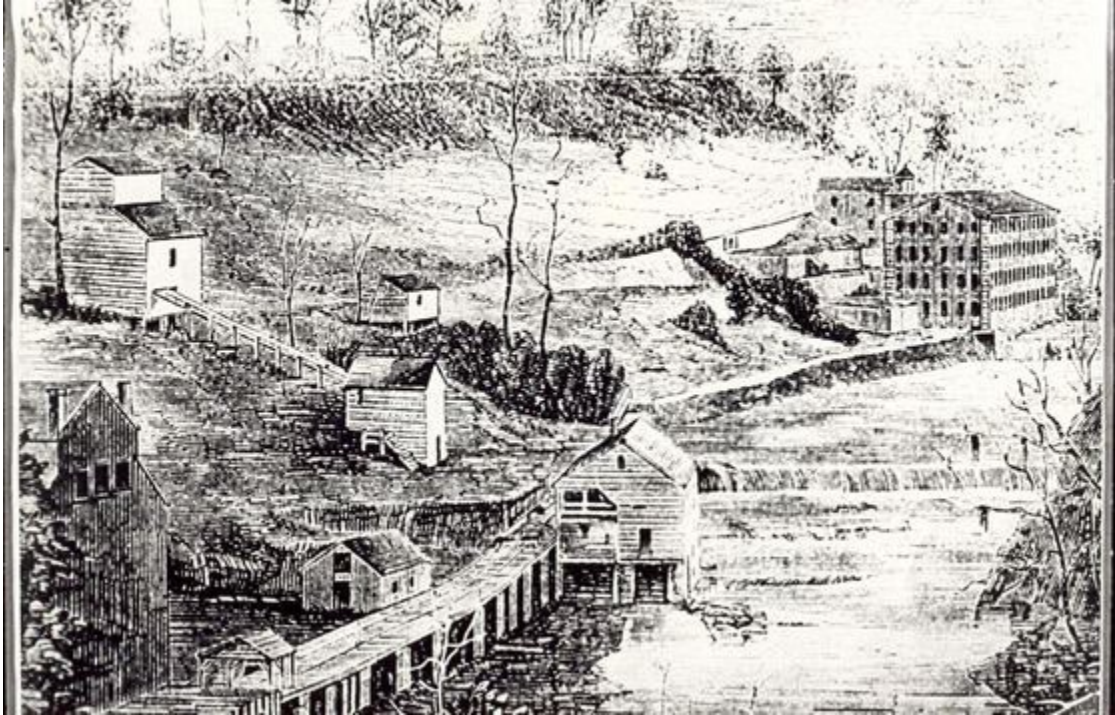
**The monthly e-newsletter of the
Society for Women and the Civil War**

<http://www.swcw.org>

**The 2024 Conference on
Women and the Civil War**

Save the Date!

The 24th Conference on Women and the Civil War
will be held July 26 - 28, 2024 in Atlanta, Georgia



Roswell, Georgia Mill Complex

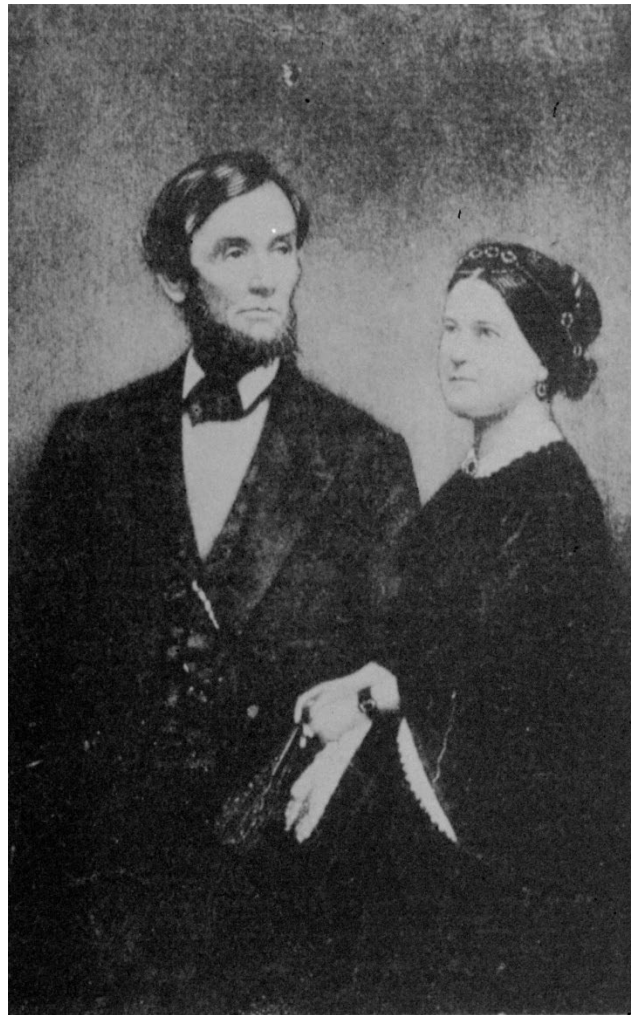
News of Note

Website of Note.

For those of us interested in the history of women in the military, check out the U.S. Army's *Women in the Military* website: [Women in the Army | The United States Army](#). From the Revolutionary War to today, this website offers a deep and researched look into the roles and achievements of Army women.

Online Learning.

Delve into the lives of Mary Todd Lincoln and Varina Davis on November 16 with a free online lecture by Kelly Hancock of the American Civil War Museum. Details and registration here: [First Ladies of the Civil War \(roundtable.org\)](http://roundtable.org)





Research Resource

10 Million Names

[10 Million Names. Recover. Restore. Remember.](#)

10 Million Names is a collaborative project dedicated to recovering the names of the estimated 10 million men, women, and children of African descent who were enslaved in pre- and post-colonial America (specifically, the territory that would become the United States) between the 1600s and 1865.

The project seeks to amplify the voices of people who have been telling their family stories for centuries; connect researchers and data partners with people seeking answers to family history questions; and expand access to data, resources, and information about enslaved African Americans.



10 Million Names is a portal to access online databases as well as learn about manuscript collections across the country relating to enslaved laborers, African American institutions, soldiers, emancipation, and all aspects of African American family history and culture.

10 Million Names also actively seeks the participation of individuals and organizations in expanding the research base and contributing to the mission. The work of genealogists and family historians are crucial to the project. To contribute, follow this link: [Share Your Family History Documents - Jira Service Management \(atlassian.net\)](#)



The Society for Women and the Civil War is dedicated to recognizing the efforts of women who lived through or participated in the American Civil War, and those who research, reenact or otherwise honor these women of the past.

Join our efforts and become a member.

[Join the Society - Society for Women and the Civil War \(swcw.org\)](http://swcw.org)

Membership year runs from January - December.
(Membership renewals made from October - December are credited to the following membership year.)

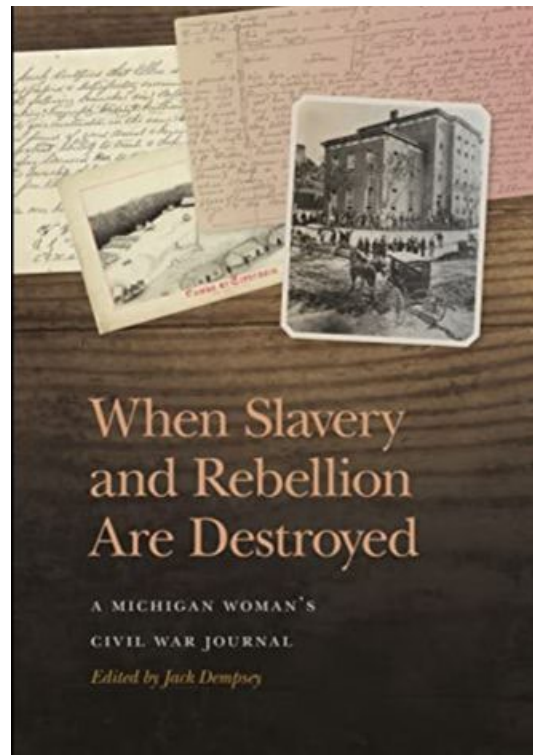
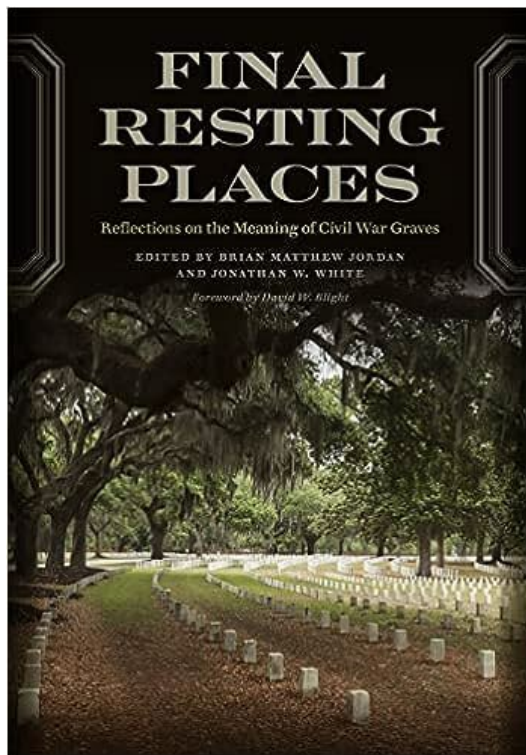
Society Notices

Books of Note: Recent Publications by the University of Georgia Press

Final Resting Places: Reflections on the Meaning of Civil War Graves, edited by Brian Jordan and **Jonathan White**, brings together some of the most important and innovative scholars of the Civil War era to reflect on what death and memorialization meant to the Civil War generation—and how those meanings still influence Americans today. In each essay, a noted historian explores a different type of gravesite, and each burial place tells a unique story

of how someone lived and died; how they were mourned and remembered. SWCW member **Michelle Krowl** and SWCW Board Member **DeAnne Blanton** are two of the contributors to this work. Jonathan, Michelle, and DeAnne are also past *Conference on Women and the Civil War* speakers.

When Slavery and Rebellion are Destroyed: A Michigan Woman's Civil War Journal, edited by SWCW Member **Jack Dempsey**, is a groundbreaking contribution to the study of the Civil War, which has been previously missing the voices of rural midwestern women. This extensive collection of intimate letters between Ellen Preston Woodworth and her husband, Samuel, will appeal to all readers interested in homefront challenges, military family struggles, and gender roles.



Women of the Month

Mill Workers of Roswell, Georgia, CSA



Synthia Stewart

The Roswell Mill refers to a cluster of hydropower textile mills in Roswell, Georgia. The mills produced finished textiles from the raw materials grown on nearby plantations. At its height, Roswell was the largest cotton mill in north Georgia. The first mill was founded in 1836. By the beginning of the Civil War, the complex had grown to six structures.



Mary Eldredge

During the Civil War, the mills produced cotton and woolen articles for the Confederate Army -- uniforms, rope, canvas, and tent cloths. In 1864, the mills employed approximately 400 workers, most of whom were women and children. Only a handful of men -- too old, young, or infirm for military service -- worked at the mills.

Because the mills were integral to the Confederate war effort, they were an obvious target of Federal forces moving on Atlanta. Even though the mill owners fled in advance of the Union Army, the workers kept the mills in operation until captured on July 5, 1864. Brig. Gen. Kenner Garrard's Cavalry destroyed all the buildings.



Martha Eldredge

Upon receiving news from Garrard about the destruction of the mills, Maj. Gen. William Sherman expressed his approval, and then ordered the arrest of everyone employed at the mills on grounds of treason. "I repeat my orders that you arrest all people, male and female, connected with those factories, no matter what the clamor, and let them foot it, under guard, to Marietta, whence I will send them by cars, to the North. . . . Let them take along their children and clothing, providing they have a means of hauling or you can spare them."

After a brief imprisonment in Marietta, the mill workers were loaded onto railroad

cars and sent to Kentucky and Indiana. In these locations, they were left to fend for themselves and support their children with whatever menial work they could find. It is believed that most of the deported women never made it back to Georgia.



Elizabeth Tucker

The treatment of the mill workers was met with outrage in both the southern and northern presses, but was then largely forgotten in the post-war years except in the area around Roswell. In 2000, a monument was erected to remember them.



To learn more about the Roswell mill workers, read *The Women Will Howl: The Union Capture of Roswell and New Manchester, Georgia, and the Forced Relocation of Mill Workers*, by Mary Deborah Petite, and check out her

website: [Roswell Women](#). Petite was a speaker at the *4th Conference on Women and the Civil War*.

-- DeAnne Blanton

Submissions Requested

The Calling Card accepts notices of the achievements of our members; activities of the Civil War & Women's History communities; educational and archival resources; and essays for our Woman of the Month column.

Send your submissions to swcw1865@gmail.com with *Calling Card* in the subject field.
(Submissions may be edited for brevity or clarity.)

The Calling Card is distributed on the 15th of each month, and our deadline for same-month submissions is the 10th.

Editor: DeAnne Blanton, SWCW Board Member and President Emerita



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