



Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. – Metro Atlanta Chapter

Austin Gilmore, United States Colored Troops (USCT)

Celebration of the discovery of a U.S. Colored Troops (Civil War) soldier's grave in a Marietta, GA cemetery

Austin Gilmore was buried in 1864 in a grave simply marked “unknown”. He enlisted on December 23, 1863, at Pulaski, TN. During Sherman's march through Georgia, Austin was assigned to the 111th Illinois, a white unit. During the June 27, 1864 Battle of Kennesaw, he acted as a stretcher bearer and heroically rescued wounded soldiers in the middle of combat fire. Austin died on July 1, 1864, at a Union Army Hospital in Rome, GA.

Austin Gilmore's identity was discovered by Brad Quinlin (standing far right in photo holding clipboard). Brad is a noted historian whose work has been featured on the TV program “Who Do You Think You Are?”. Brad is on an unwavering journey to discover the identity of all 238 unknown USCT soldiers buried in the Marietta National Cemetery.



In a spring 2012 ceremony at the Marietta National Cemetery (GA), Austin Gilmore’s name was called out for the first time in over 140 years.

AAHGS Metro Atlanta Chapter members in attendance at the ceremony were: Madelyn Nix, Stanley R. Thomas, Emma Davis-Hamilton, Sandra Scott, Melvin Collier, Bobbi Patterson, Haleemah Collins, Craig Epps, Jay Nelson, and Darius Broden.

On behalf of the chapter, then-Vice President Emma Davis-Hamilton accepted a 150th Civil War Commemorative Coin presented by Ted Golab, Department Commander (SC & GA) of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War. The coin has been entrusted to the AAHGS Metro Atlanta Chapter to be passed to a descendant of Austin Gilmore. If no descendant is discovered, the coin will be returned to Austin Gilmore's grave site in the year 2065 at the 200th year commemoration of the Civil War.

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