

FLEMING TOWN HISTORIAN ANNUAL REPORT

1. I attended meetings of the historical societies and town historians.
2. Worked with the Tubman Home and the DC African-American Museum provided both places with original photos of the Tubman original home and former brick house along with census records listing the occupants.
3. Received and answered ten inquiries related to town history.
4. Researched a possible Underground Railroad site in the hamlet.
5. Spent most of my time creating my items for "the wall."
 - A. List of the Revolutionary soldiers who called Fleming Home.
 - B. List of the Gold Star Patriots of all our wars including; 1812, Civil War Mexican, Spanish-American, World War 1 and 2, Korea, Viet Nam etc.

Everything was going along smoothly until I hit the Civil War list which numbered over 200. I went to the 1865 census and soon realized that many of the soldiers that were listed from Fleming never lived here.

I looked at the newspapers of the time. Most of these deaths were in the 111th—this is the group that trained at the foot of the lake. From the newspapers I learned that there was a recruiting office in Fleming and money was being offered to those who enlisted. Evidently, recruits came from all over to collect the \$400 and enlist. The 111th proudly marched to Auburn and boarded the train. Their first location was at Harper's Ferry. They set up their encampment with canon overlooking the site below where they had their tents. In the middle of the night, Reb General Stonewall Jackson had his men go to the top and seize the cannons. When the bugle was sounded in the morning and the men went out to raise the flag cannon poured down on them and they surrendered without firing a shot. The whole bunch from the Owasco Lake encampment were sent to a prisoner of war camp where they stayed enduring outrageous conditions until a prisoner swap was made. Their next assignment was Gettysburg—in a grain field in front of the apple orchard in line with Pickett's Charge. Very heavy loses indeed.

So, please save my wall for this exhibit—which will include all gold star heroes through Viet Nam.


Sheila Tucker

P.S. I will not be able to attend your meeting. My Vet brother who lives alone in SC has been hospitalized with brain cancer and I shall be going there to take care of him once he is out of the hospital. My granddaughter will be staying at my house to make sure the heating system goes back on after an electrical outage .