

The Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia was responsible for the 8-foot granite monument honoring five Confederate generals from Washington County. The monument was made at Stone Mountain, GA.

A Memorial to the Generals from Washington County who Served in the War of 1861-1865

Unveiled Saturday, August 7, 1999 during the Virginia Highlands Festival.

The unveiling followed a local history lecture by L. C. Angle, who had recently stepped down as president of the historical society after serving in that capacity for 12 years.

The Generals honored:

General Joseph Eggleston Johnston (1807–1891) Lived in Abingdon from age four (1811) until leaving to attend West Point in 1825. As a brigadier general, he was the highest ranking officer to resign from the U. S. Army at the outbreak of the Civil War. Following the First Battle of Manassas, Johnston became one of the first full generals in the Confederate Army.

Brigadier General William E. “Grumble” Jones (1824–1864) Born in Glade Spring, Virginia and graduated from Emory & Henry College before enrolling at West Point in 1844. Jones was killed in the Battle of Piedmont and is interred in the Old Glade Presbyterian Cemetery.

Brigadier General John Smith Preston (1809–1881) Born in Abingdon and lived in the town for his first twenty-one years. From 1863, he served as the superintendent of the Bureau of Conscription in Richmond.

Brigadier General William Young Conn Humes (1830–1883) Born in Abingdon. He graduated from VMI in 1851, second in a class of 29 cadets. Following graduation, he was a teacher in Abingdon and married another Abingdon resident. He commanded a cavalry brigade in the Civil War.

Brigadier General John Buchanan Floyd (1806–1863) Moved to Abingdon in 1839; served as Virginia governor from 1849 to 1852. He was appointed Secretary of War by U. S. President James Buchanan in 1857, but was dismissed because of his southern sympathies. He then received a commission in the Confederate Army but after his defeat at Fort Donelson, Confederate President Jefferson Davis fired him. He then received a commission as a general of Virginia troops and was active in the area, but he died in 1863 and is buried in Sinking Spring Cemetery in Abingdon.

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Life Member
Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia
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