

Today in Columbus History: On Saturday, June 2, 1832, an administrator's notice regarding the estate of Sowell Woolfolk appeared in the *Columbus Enquirer*. Gen. Woolfolk was dead. A few months earlier, on January 22, he'd been killed in a duel at Ft. Mitchell by Maj. Joseph T. Camp. Their argument went back to a disagreement they'd had years before when they both served in the Georgia legislature. Woolfolk was shot through the chest and died immediately; Camp was shot in the abdomen but recovered. Gen. Woolfolk had a big funeral with lots of attendees; he was buried in the City Cemetery [Linwood]. Curiously, he is in an unmarked grave. Joseph Camp ended up in another duel a year later – again in Ft. Mitchell. He was fatally shot by one John Milton. Camp is buried in Linwood – with a nice monument. Milton was acquitted and left town for Florida, where he later served as governor 1861 – 1865. He was found in his office April 1, 1865, with a bullet to the head, an apparent suicide.

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*Our snippets of Columbus history are usually based on a few days-worth of searching through the most popular sources for Muscogee County history. Meant to inspire readers to explore more about Columbus history, they are not exhaustive dissertations on the topic and may contain mistakes. If you have corrections or additional information, feel free to share them with the group.*

Clipping from Georgia Historic Newspapers (GALILEO).

<https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu>

**Georgia—Muscogee County.**  
**W**HEREAS James Wadsworth applies to me for letters of administration on the estate of Sowell Woolfolk, late of said county deceased—  
This is therefore to cite and admonish all and singular the kindred and creditors of said deceased, to be and appear at my office within the time prescribed by law, to shew cause, if any they have, why said letters should not be granted.  
Given under my hand at office, this 16th May, 1832. **JOHN TOWNSEND, c. c. o.**  
May 19—1



The Joseph T. Camp monument in Linwood Cemetery. For details of the Camp-Milton Duel, see Virginia Causey's article in *Muscogiana*: "The Milton-Camp Murder: Honor and Violence in Old Columbus," *Muscogiana* 25, 2(2014): pp. 1-6.

<https://csuepress.columbusstate.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi...>

The inscription on the west side of the Camp obelisk reads as follows:

Sacred to  
The Memory of  
Joseph Thomas Camp  
This monument  
Has been erected by his  
afflicted friends in honor  
of his manly virtues, and  
as a testimonial of their  
grief at his untimely  
Death  
He was born in Nottaway  
County, State of Virginia  
On the 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 1800,  
and departed this life at Columbus  
On the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 1833.  
Aged 33 years



John Milton as Governor of Florida  
Credit: State Archives of Florida, *Florida Memory*,  
accessed July 8, 2015, [http://floridamemory.com/  
items/show/136921](http://floridamemory.com/items/show/136921).