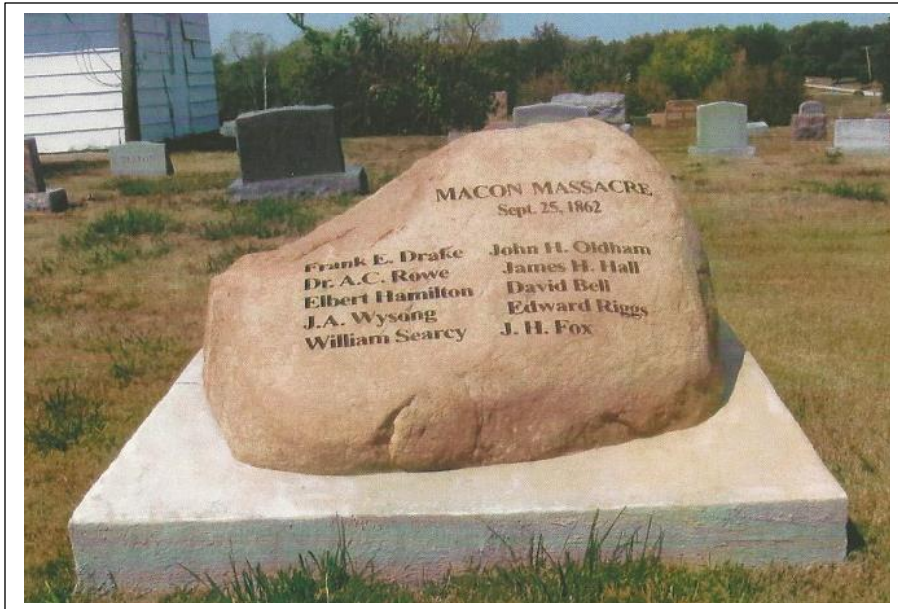# Macon Massacre

In September 1862 twelve men were brought to the Macon City prison, all of whom had taken the oath but had been caught fighting against the Union again. One of the prisoners escaped and the other eleven were taken to the southwest lookout point and by order of General Lewis Merrill were to be executed. Sixty-six soldiers were assigned-- six per man--to shoot the rebels. On Merrill's order to "Fire," ten were killed but one survived. Merrill assigned six men again and said, "Finish the deed," and he rode off on his horse. Meanwhile, a woman had thrown her body over the injured man on the ground. All six soldiers fired in the air. The injured man was quickly carried away. It is not known if he lived or died. The execution became known as the Macon Massacre.

The Massacre Rock marks the historical site where the Macon Massacre occurred

in September 1862 during the Civil War. It is located southwest of town in what is now Woodlawn Cemetery. In September 1862, ten Confederate soldiers were sentenced to death in Macon City. According to Official records, "… having once been pardoned for the crime of taking up arms against their Government, and having taken a solemn oath not again to take up arms against the United States, have been taken in arms, in violation of said oath and their solemn parole, and are therefore ordered to be shot to death on Friday, the 26th of September, between the hours of 10 o'clock a. m. and 3 o'clock p.m." The Confederate soldiers were executed by a firing squad from the 23rd Missouri infantry. All town folk who were suspected of being sympathetic to the Southern cause were rounded up and forced to watch the bloody display. The Massacre occurred in what is now Woodlawn Cemetery, in the southwest portion of Macon off of Coates Street.