

Joseph Caldwell Monument ^[1]

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Joseph Caldwell Monument. Photo courtesy Kami LaBerge.

^[2]

Joseph Caldwell Monument
UNC, Chapel Hill

View complete article and references at Commemorative Landscapes of North Carolina at:

<https://docsouth.unc.edu/commland/monument/201> ^[3]

Description: This monument consists of a marble obelisk with a shield carved with oak leaves, an open Bible, a train wheel, and engineer's transit. The obelisk rests on top of the grave of former UNC President Joseph Caldwell and his wife, Helen. This is the second monument placed here for Caldwell. The original obelisk, made of sandstone, was moved to the Old Chapel Hill Cemetery.

Inscription:

North Face: In grateful acknowledgment / of their obligations to / the first President of this University / Joseph Caldwell D.D. / The President of the United States / The Governor of North Carolina / and other Alumni / have raised this monument / A.D. 1847

[Image](#) ^[4]

East Face: Near him repose the remains of / his beloved wife / HELEN CALDWELL. / And her son / William Hopper D.D. LL.D. / Professor University of North Carolina 1817-1837 / Born 1782-Died 1876

[Image](#) ^[5]

South Face: He was an early / conspicuous and devoted advocate of the cause of Common Schools and / Internal improvements in North Carolina

[Image](#) ^[6]

South Face (bottom):Struthers & Co., Phila.

West Face: Born at Lamington, New Jersey / April the 21st 1773. / Professor of Mathematics in this University-1796. / Died at Chapel Hill, / January 27th 1835.

[Image](#) ^[7]

Dedication date: June 2, 1858

Creator: Struther & Co., Unspecified

Materials & Techniques: Marble

Sponsor: University of North Carolina Alumni

Subject notes: Joseph Caldwell taught at UNC in 1796 and later served as president from 1804 to 1812 and again from 1816 to 1835. The symbols on the stone represent Dr. Caldwell's services to the state. The railroad wheel refers to his advocacy of rail transportation in the state; the transit records refer to his work in locating the southern boundary of the state; and the Bible alludes to his years as an ordained Presbyterian minister.

Landscape: The monument is located on McCorkle Place just north of the Davie Poplar. It is a short distance away from Chapel Hill's Confederate soldier monument, better known as Silent Sam.

City: Chapel Hill

County: Orange

Subjects: Historic Educational Figures

Latitude: 35.91329

Longitude: -79.0522

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Origin - location:

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