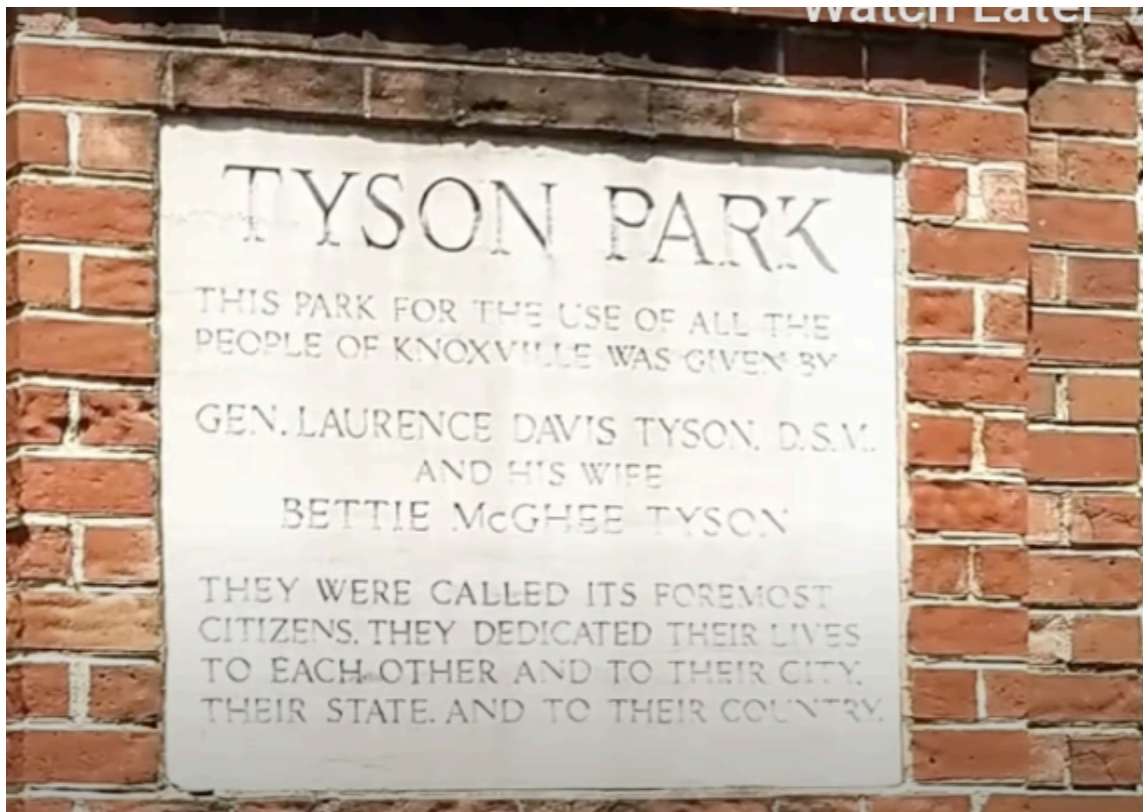


-Laurence Tyson/Park

- 2351 Kingston Pike, Knoxville. Born in Greenville, North Carolina, in Pitt County on July 4, 1861.
- Dedicated to Gen. Laurence Davis Tyson, renowned west pointer/successful businessman. Father of the famous McGhee Tyson.
- It was built in November 1929 and contains 26 acres of land with multiple baseball diamonds, a tennis court, and facilities for gathering/celebrating with family and friends.
- Park in context of https://www.knoxvilletn.gov/government/city_departments_offices/parks_and_recreation/parks/tyson_park#:~:text=The%20park%20is%20named%20in,tennis%20complex%20in%20Tyson%20Park.



- Forward/Plaque at the front of the park commemorating the individuals who sponsored it. https://www.knoxvilletn.gov/government/city_departments_offices/parks_and_recreation/parks/tyson_park
- The Knoxville Focus- <https://www.knoxfocus.com/archives/this-weeks-focus/last-years-lawrence-d-tyson/>
- Military Hall of Fame- <https://valor.militarytimes.com/recipient/recipient-18277/>
- Knoxville Library- <https://mcclungcollection.knoxlib.org/subjects/1084>



Skatepark in the middle of Tyson park.

https://www.knoxvilletn.gov/government/city_departments_offices/parks_and_recreation/parks/tyson_park



• Photo of Congressman Laurence Tyson.

<https://bioguide.congress.gov/search/bio/t000456>



Portrait, as it is visible in the Library of Congress.

<https://www.loc.gov/>

Cadets			
NAME	DISTRICT	FILE-NUMBER	REMARKS
Freeman, Saml B. Winston, Bertie Co	1	157-79 1883 J.J. Weeks	March 1, 79
Hughes, James B. New Bern, Craven Co	2	321-80 1884 W.H. Kitchen	May 27, 80
Faison, Samson E. Faisons Depot, Duplin Co	3	410-78 1883 A.H. Waddell Def't turned back June 79, S.O. 165-79.	May 18, 78
Wilder, Wm H. Raleigh, Wake Co.	4	451-81 1885 W.R. Fox	May 24, 81
McIver, Geo. W. Goldsboro, Guilford Co	5	607-76 1882 A. McSeals Def't turned back June 79, S.O. 165-79.	Aug 14, 76
Shipp, William E. Charlotte, Mecklenburg Co.	6	256-79 1883 W.L. Stule	Apr. 14, 79
Tyson, Laurence D. Salisbury, Rowan Co.	7	376-79 1883 R. F. Amfield	May 27, 79
	8		

Cadet Records/ West point/ 1883/ Tyson.

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1299/records/15644?tid=&pid=&queryId=3b76467c-f6fa-4ed4-afef-e155bddbf970&_phsrc=YXE148&_phstart=succesSource

Tyson Lawrence D
Co. F & 8, 6 U. S. Volunteer Infantry.
(Spanish War.)

Colonel | *Colonel*

See also

GENERAL INDEX CARD.

This card must not be taken from the files.

(282)

Spanish American War Volunteer index, 1898, Lawrence Tyson.

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/2400/records/9945?tid=&pid=&queryId=87dea8f1-255d-4df9-8479-b84a16aa8aeb&_phsrc=YXE152&_phstart=succesSource.

AUTHORITY: Troop Movement Order No. 11, Hdqrs. A.E.C.,
A.E.C. 62, A.E.C.F., Feb. 28, 1919

HEADQUARTERS PORT OF EMBARKATION ST. NAZAIRE, FRANCE
(Name of Port.)

Sheet 1

Class 1

PASSENGER LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THIS FORM

Separate lists of TWELVE COPIES EACH will be filled out by each company or detachment commander as follows:

1st Class: Officers arranged according to rank, Army Field Clerks, Field Clerks Q. M. C., Nurses and Civilian Employees. Names to be numbered consecutively, beginning with No. 1.

2d Class: Non-commissioned Officers down to and including Color Sergeant (see A. R., Par. 9).

3d Class: All Enlisted men below Color Sergeant (Par. 9, A. R.), arranged according to usual formation of the Company, that is, BY SQUADS.

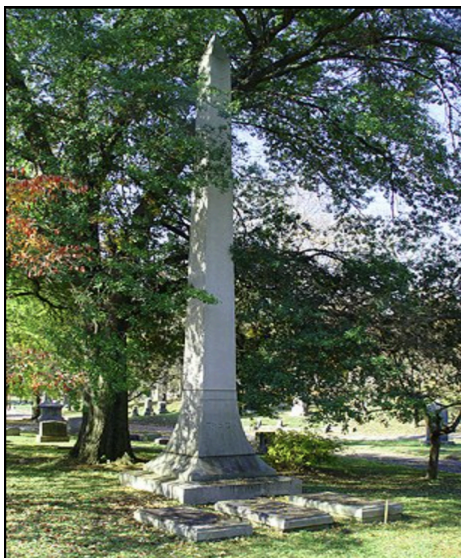
To be filled in by	Give full name of organization, including company and regimental designation	Item Number	Phase
	HEADQUARTERS 59TH INFANTRY BRIGADE		

To be filled in by	Name of transport or Commercial Steamer	Date of Sailing	Port
Embarkation Personnel Adjutant	U.S.S. MERCURY	MCH 14 1919	ST NA ZAIRE FRANCE

No.	NAME AND SERIAL NUMBER Example: HENDERSON, HARRIS F. 1,234,567	Rank & Arm or Staff Example: Capt QMC	Organ-ization	NOTIFY IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (Give name in full, for example: Mrs. Mary A. Smith)	Relation-ship	ADDRESS (Number, Street, City and State.) Do not abbreviate.
Leave double space between entries. All typewriting must be in CAPITAL LETTERS.						
1	TYSON, LAWRENCE D.	BRIGADIER GENERAL	HEADQUARTERS 59TH INFANTRY BRIGADE	MRS. BETTINA TYSON	WIFE	639 TEMPLE AVENUE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE.
2	WYRICK, THOMAS J.	MAJOR, A.E.C.	"	MRS. WILLIE MABEL WYRICK	WIFE	FOUNTAIN CITY, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE.
<i>Attached by Par 1 5052 Hq 30th Div Feb 21/19</i>						
2 5	RYE, PAUL A.	1ST LT A.E.C. INFANTRY	"	MRS. MARGARET RYE	WIFE	2004 WEST END AVENUE, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.
4	GIBSON, RICHARD K., JR.	1ST LT A.E.C. INFANTRY	"	MR. RICHARD K. GIBSON, SR.	FATHER	608 WEST HILL AVENUE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE.
<i>att to 117th Drfy by 507 Par 1 Hq 59th Drfy Brig Feb 28/19 and att to Hq 59th Drfy Brig by Par 2 same order</i>						
3 5	FRASER, MURRAY B.	1ST LT INFANTRY	"	MRS. CAROLINE M. FRASER	WIFE	811 NORTH STREET, LAFAYETTE, INDIANA.
<u>ATTACHED OFFICERS</u>						
6	GILMORE, RICHARD E.	2ND LT A.E.C.	"	EMIL E. GILMORE	FATHER	McCOOL THURGOOD, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.
<i>Dr to Vet Corps Hqs and Army by Par 6 5052 Hq 30th Div Feb 21/19</i>						
4	WYRICK, THOMAS J.	1ST COL. A.E.C.	"	MRS. WILLIE MABEL WYRICK	WIFE	FOUNTAIN CITY, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE.
5	GIBSON, RICHARD K., JR. (CLASS "D")	1ST LT INF	"	RICHARD K. GIBSON SR.	FATHER	608 WEST HILL AVENUE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE.

Passenger list of the U.S.S. Mercury which set sail in 1919, he is a General on this log.

https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/61174/records/9229762?tid=&pid=&queryId=67963adc-3e41-4698-a338-123dd26d2bff&_phsrc=YXE156&_phstart=successSource



Grave of Lawrence Davis Tyson, Old Gray Cemetery, Knoxville. [Find-A-Grave](#)

To Place Tennessee Monuments



—Photo by Wide World Photos
Left to right: Mrs. and General Lawrence D. Tyson, Mrs. Kenneth I. Gilpin and Mrs. Charles McGhee Tyson, who sailed this week aboard the Berengaria. General Tyson will place the monuments on the battlefields of France in memory of the Tennessee troops. During the World War he was in command of the 59th Infantry Brigade.
Mrs. Charles McGhee Tyson is the widow of General Tyson's son, an aviator who lost his life during the war.

An article in The Tennessean detailing a trip Lawrence was taking to France to place a monument dedicated to troops who died from Tennessee, including his son.

<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/50075/records/4312609600>

SKETCHES OF PITT COUNTY



TYSON, GENERAL LAWRENCE DAVIS, was born on the old Tyson homestead on the north side of Contentnea Creek, about ten miles west of Greenville and three miles east of Farmville, July 4th, 1861. His father, Richard Lawrence Tyson, a planter and merchant, and his grandfather, Sherrod Tyson, also a large planter and extensive land-owner, were born on the same farm. His father was a Confederate soldier, enlisting April 4th, 1862, in Company K, Seventeenth North Carolina Regiment. He was a non-commissioned officer; 3d Sergeant of his company. His great-grandfather was a soldier of the Revolution. His father died at Raleigh, N. C.,

Richard L. Tyson

June 30th, 1879. His mother, Mrs. Margaret Louise Tyson, born September 20th, 1840, is a daughter of the late Moses and Martha (Briley) Turnage. Her father was a large planter and in the war of 1812-15, was a Corporal in Captain Samuel Vines' Company. Her grandfather, Benjamin Briley, was a private in the same Company.

His father was very desirous that his son should have the best educational advantages, but the impossibility of securing good teachers so soon after the civil war, led him to move to Greenville about 1873, where there were some better schools. Afterwards his father moved to the western part of the state and in the Summer of 1879 Lawrence secured an appointment as Cadet to the United States Military Academy, at West Point, New York, having won the appointment in competition with eleven others. He became a Cadet at the Academy July 1st, 1879, and four years later, June 1st, 1883, was graduated and appointed a Second Lieutenant in the 9th United States Infantry and sent west. He was in the frontier service in Kansas, Wyoming, Arizona and New Mexico and was in two active campaigns against hostile Indians before being transferred to New York in 1887. He was again transferred, to Arizona in 1889.

In 1890 he was appointed Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the University of Tennessee, at Knoxville. While discharging this

Book- Sketches of Pitt County, a brief history of the county, 1704-1910. A history of the Tyson military history.

<https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/10975124/person/186708705/media/cece0bc2-7fa7-4142-aa56-c7af042d5d0b?queryId=b2b3006f-1a22-4b4f-a434-20df9f522d65&searchContextTreeId=&searchContextPersonId=&phsrc=YXE163&phstart=successSource>



Officers of the Sixth Regiment, Tennessee National Guard. Lawrence is the left-most man on the second row from the bottom up, sporting a mustache.

https://www.ancestry.com/mediaui-viewer/collection/1030/tree/197357121/person/172608160769/media/d21cf4e6-d8c9-4b87-b6cb-048e5ec5a4f5?queryId=5537ea2e-762d-4928-ab46-05d9d426a08c&searchContextTreeId=&searchContextPersonId=&_phsrc=YXE165&_phstart=successSource



Major General George W. Read, commanding U.S. II Corps, Major General Edward M. Lewis, commanding the 30th Division, and Brigadier General Lawrence Tyson, spectators at II Corps Field Meet boxing matches. Corbie, Somme, France, November 4, 1918.

[Alamy](#)

Short Bio

Lawrence Davis Tyson (1861–1929), father of McGhee Tyson, was an American military officer, politician, and businessman from North Carolina who rose to prominence in Tennessee. A West Point graduate, he served in the Spanish–American War and later as a brigadier general in World War I, commanding the 59th Brigade of the 30th Infantry Division in France. His unit was instrumental in breaching the Hindenburg Line, a decisive Allied victory, and he received the U.S. Distinguished Service Medal, along with Britain’s Companion of the Order of the Bath and Distinguished Service Order. After the war, Tyson became a successful textile manufacturer in Knoxville and entered politics, winning election as a Democratic U.S. senator in 1925. He is remembered as a decorated soldier-statesman whose leadership shaped both America’s military success abroad and Tennessee’s civic and economic growth.

Long Bio

Lawrence Davis Tyson (1861–1929) was an American military officer, businessman, and politician whose career bridged war, industry, and public service. Born in Greenville, North Carolina, he graduated from West Point in 1883 and began a steady rise through the Army. He first gained field command during the Spanish–American War, leading the 6th U.S. Volunteer Infantry in Puerto Rico. His most notable service came in World War I, when he was promoted to brigadier general and placed in command of the 59th Brigade of the 30th Infantry Division in France. Under his leadership, the brigade played a crucial role in breaching the heavily fortified Hindenburg Line in September 1918, a breakthrough that helped hasten the war’s end. For his leadership, Tyson received the **Distinguished Service Medal** from the United States, while Britain honored him with the **Companion of the Order of the Bath** and the **Distinguished Service Order**.

After the war, Tyson retired from active duty and settled in Knoxville, Tennessee, where he built a thriving textile business that contributed to the region’s economic growth. Beyond industry, he was active in civic life and became a prominent figure in Tennessee politics. A loyal Democrat, he served in the Tennessee House of Representatives, rising to the position of Speaker, before winning election to the U.S. Senate in 1925. During his time in Washington, he championed veterans’ causes, supported national defense measures, and advocated for economic development in his home state. Tyson remained in office until his death in 1929. Remembered as both a decorated general and a statesman, he left a lasting legacy of military distinction, civic leadership, and service to Tennessee and the nation.