

# Kids Page

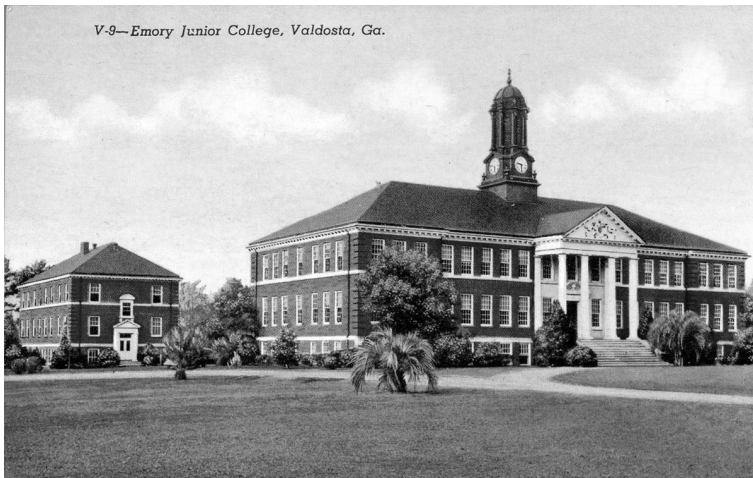
Lowndes County Historical Society  
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## A College Just for Boys

While compiling the history of Valdosta State we were intrigued by Emory Junior College. When and why was it started, who went to school there, and why did it close? When did the campus become part of Valdosta State?

Emory Junior College was a joint venture between Valdosta and Emory University—to establish an institution for young men to complement the college at Valdosta for young women. The school officially opened in September 1928 as Emory Junior College. The school was also known as Emory at Valdosta.

Fifty-seven students entered Emory Junior College the first year. Twenty of the first group graduated class in 1930. The curriculum was tough as was the discipline—they strived for a “model” student body and the school’s reputation was foremost to the administration—A favorable first year and first impression. Many students did not return after the first year.



Emory Junior College opened in Valdosta in 1928.

The Great depression, which began in 1929, further challenged the new college. Enrollment in the 1930-31 school year was only twenty-four. Despite that, the college continued to introduce new programs and even got new tennis courts, a basketball court, a volleyball court, and later in 1936, a swimming pool. The school continued despite low moral and financial difficulties.

The final blow for Emory at Valdosta was World War II. The school’s enrollment while small through the years dropped even more and only seven students from

Valdosta were enrolled—fifty-three enrolled overall. The college, despite high academic standards could not withstand the economic and political circumstances which were beyond its control. In May of 1942, Emory Junior College closed for the duration of World War II.

During the war years, Valdosta residents enrolled in Emory Junior were allowed to attend Georgia State Womans College but only for the first two years.

Plans for the Junior College were to reopen in the fall of 1945. Discussions about budget and enrollment were foremost in the administration’s mind. There was even discussion of making the school a four year junior college. The college reopened in the fall of 1946.

Many men returning from the War wanted to enter professions like medicine, law, dentistry, and theology. So many people applied to Emory in Atlanta that they had to send students to Emory at Valdosta for the first two years. This sent an abundance of students and enrollment boomed to more than 200.

Despite their efforts, new colleges were opening and it was difficult to maintain the number of students necessary to keep the school going. They even talked again about making it a four year school. Emory tried to support the Valdosta school, but ultimately decided to make their campus at Oxford the trial school for the four year plan. This decision was not popular with the Emory at Valdosta administration and they sought ways of increasing enrollment to meet the budget needs of the school, but in 1953, Emory Junior College closed its doors.

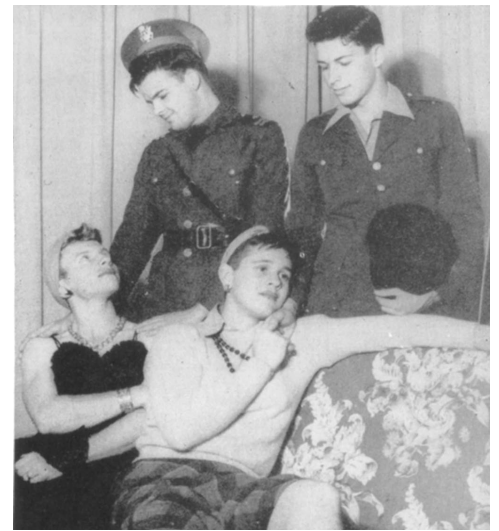
1200 students received a quality education at Emory Junior College at Valdosta. Many went on to successful professions in medicine, law, education, and theology.

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**Did you know** that boys were allowed to attend the Georgia State Womans College during World War II? Mr. Albert Pendleton was one of those boys, as were other Valdostans. Mr. Pendleton wrote about their experiences in one of his Way Back When columns. He said, "Fifteen local boys enrolled. We kept being drafted that year, but at one time there were thirteen of us. We called ourselves The Measley Thirteen." He also wrote, "The first night at the library no one of us would go in alone. Rather, we went in twos, threes or fours. After getting acquainted with the surroundings, we eagerly went alone. If a boy talked with a girl on campus for ten minutes, it counted as a date and only one date a week was allowed. Therefore all conversations were nine minutes or less."

Mr. Pendleton concluded, "It's easy to laugh about all this now. The memory really is funny. The war soon got all of us, and many's the time we wished we were right back there, dodging the girls, with nothing to eat and lined up chasing Miss Ivey, the P. E. teacher frantically across the small golf course... Tough times came about in the military service when a gruff sergeant had the opportunity to ask: "G.S.W.C.? What does that stand for?" I always hated to have to answer."



This photo is from the 1943 Womans College yearbook, The Pine Cone, showing some of the "Measley Thirteen" in a play with no women. Yep, the guys played girls!

### Emory Junior College Word Find - Are you up to the challenge?

E	M	O	R	Y	T	I	H	N	W	N	U	J	C	L	Y
A	S	P	M	E	S	A	O	E	O	E	N	L	O	C	O
V	T	F	F	N	C	T	N	N	R	S	I	D	Y	E	E
C	W	S	G	I	H	O	O	P	L	R	V	G	G	K	T
H	G	A	Y	C	O	U	R	T	D	Y	E	E	O	R	N
Y	I	I	H	I	O	C	M	H	W	A	R	H	L	E	O
T	B	R	P	D	L	C	C	I	A	C	S	V	O	L	I
I	I	W	A	E	N	A	V	Y	R	I	I	I	E	C	T
S	L	E	R	M	E	N	E	E	I	R	T	L	H	C	A
R	L	C	O	L	L	E	G	E	I	E	Y	E	T	A	U
E	S	D	O	S	N	N	O	I	S	S	E	R	P	E	D
V	T	S	E	N	R	O	L	L	M	E	N	T	Y	O	A
I	S	N	G	W	N	D	K	B	E	G	S	D	V	E	R
N	I	G	M	E	I	S	R	E	C	A	E	T	A	E	G
D	I	S	C	I	P	L	I	N	E	D	A	R	G	I	V

Find the following words. They are written forward, backward, upside-down, and diagonally.

EMORY  
WORLD WAR II  
TEACHERS

THEOLOGY  
MEDICINE  
ENROLLMENT

DEPRESSION  
SCHOOL  
G I BILL

COLLEGE  
DISCIPLINE  
UNIVERSITY

GSWC  
HONOR  
GRADUATION