Philip Lee Secrist was an Associate Professor of History at Kennesaw State University (he retired in 2003). He earned a doctorate in history and social science at the University of Georgia in 1972. Secrist is the author of two books about the Civil War: The Battle of Resaca, Ga. (1998), and Sherman's 1864 Trail of Battle to Atlanta (2006). His military experience includes the United States Marine Corps in World War II, and the Army infantry during the Korean War. He retired with the rank of captain in 1965. Past president of the Atlanta Civil War Round Table, he served ten years on the Georgia Civil War Commission. Dr. Secrist was elected Chairman of the Cobb County Board of Commissioners in 1988, serving a four-year term in public office.