



STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
725 MONROE STREET  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130  
PHONE: 261-3184



ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE  
Nomination Form

COUNTY Calhoun

NAME: Present Union Grove Cemetery Historic Bunkum Hill

LOCATION: Street and Number Greenbrier Road

Town (Give directions if rural) Anniston

\*A MAP WITH THE LANDMARK MARKED MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM\*

CATEGORY: Building ( ) Structure ( ) Object ( ) Site  District ( )

USE: Present Cemetery Historic \_\_\_\_\_

OWNERSHIP: Public  Private ( )

Owner's Name (Public Land) Kathy Beason

Mailing Address 96 Rhodes Road

Oxford, Alabama 36203

INTEGRITY: Original Site  Moved ( ) When? \_\_\_\_\_

From where? \_\_\_\_\_ (Give details in significance.)

CONDITIONS: Excellent ( ) Good ( ) Fair  Ruins ( )

THREATS: No ( ) Yes  By What? Vandalism and neglect

RESTORATION WORK: Being considered ( ) Underway  Completed ( ) Not planned ( )

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open land ( ) Woodland ( ) Scattered buildings ( )  
High building density ( ) Commercial  Industrial   
Residential  Rural ( )

Acreage 1.5

For all categories other than a district and object give a site plan with a North arrow. Show related buildings.

For a district give a verbal boundary description and attach a sketch map of the district.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Why is this landmark significant?  associated with events, persons, or movements  
Local  State ( ) National ( )  
( ) a good example of a type or style of structure  
( ) other

Explain: *People of local historical Events are buried here.*  
(Briefly state why the above is true)

Date of Construction or Period of major importance. *1865*

Architect or Builder (Give name and biographies, if known)

Give a complete but concise history of the Landmark. Include information on important people and events associated with the landmark. (USE ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

*separate paper*

State sources of information, giving full bibliographical data:

DESCRIPTION: PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE LANDMARK MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM.

Complete as directed below for each category.

BUILDING:

Number of stories \_\_\_\_\_ Foundation \_\_\_\_\_ Basement \_\_\_\_\_

Wall Material: (Note changes from one floor or wing to another)  
(clapboard, brick, stone, wood shingle, board and batten, stucco over wood or brick, metal, logs)

Structural System: (If known)

Wood frame ( ) Load-bearing masonry ( ) Iron or Steel ( )



DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Roof Type: (Gable, Gambrel, Mansard, Flat, Hipped, Combination)

Roof Covering: (Wood shingle, Asphalt, Tile, Metal, Slate)

Roof Trim: (Cornices, bargeboard, brackets, etc.)

Porches: Front (type and description) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Rear (type and description) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Side (type and description) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Doors: Main entrance (location, description)

Other entrances (location, description)

Windows: Types and number of each floor of facade

Types and number per floor for sides and rear

Interior: Describe mantels, stairways, wainscoting, plasterwork and any unusual features.

Other: Use this space to describe any additions, alterations, outbuildings or other features of the structure and its surroundings.

On an additional sheet make a sketch of the floor plan of the building, showing dimensions if possible.

THIS IS NOT REQUIRED!

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

- STRUCTURE: On a separate sheet of paper give a complete as possible verbal description of the structure. (See examples)
- OBJECT: On a separate sheet of paper give a complete as possible verbal description of the object. (See examples)
- SITE: On a separate sheet of paper give the present description of the site and how the site is believed to have looked during its period of importance.
- DISTRICT: On a separate sheet of paper give a general description of the district. Also needed is a numbered list of the structures in the district corresponding to the sketch map. This listing should include a name for the structure, a date of construction, a brief description, a statement of why the structure is significant, if it is.

\*A MAP WITH THE LANDMARK MARKED AND PHOTOGRAPHS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM\*

Map: A U.S. Geological Survey Map is preferred, but if you are unable to obtain one a county highway map may be used.

USE ONLY PENCIL TO MARK ON MAPS AND PHOTOGRAPHS.

Photographs: Black and white, glossy finish, 5 x 7, or 8 x 10, is preferred.

FORM PREPARED BY

Name Kathy Benson / Tim Haynes Date 6-30-89  
Address 96 Rhodes Rd. Telephone 835-1089  
Town Oxford AL 36203  
Organization Anniston Jaycees

For Alabama Historical Commission use only

STAFF COMMENTS:

MAP REFERENCE: MAP \_\_\_\_\_

U. T. M. Reference      Zone      Easting      Northing

Thematic Category \_\_\_\_\_

Added to ALABAMA REGISTER \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER Potential



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
725 Monroe Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
For additional information  
contact:  
Mary Mason Shell  
(205)261-3184

Union Grove Cemetery in Anniston's Golden Springs area, dating from the late 19th century, was added to the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage on July 18, 1989. The cemetery and surrounding site is significant for its association with the northern Congregational missionary effort to assist Appalachian region people of the south after the Civil War.

Land for a cemetery, church and school was deeded to the Congregational school trustees in 1890. A building was constructed to be used as a Congregational church and school. This building burned twice, in 1903 and 1923, and was eventually rebuilt at a different location. The cemetery remains as a reminder of the Congregational church's efforts in the community. The people of the area were of average or low income and 82 of the graves do not have stones and are marked with brick and concrete block.

The Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage is a prestigious statewide listing of buildings, structures, objects, and districts that possess architectural or historical associations.

Alabama  
Historical Commission

607 7th Avenue, NE  
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265  
June 19, 1989

JUN 21 1989

RECEIVED

Mr. Robert Gamble  
Alabama Historical Commission  
725 Monroe Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-5101

Dear Bob,

We are writing to you concerning this new matter because, having been in correspondence with you lately, you could tell us whom to write, if necessary.

A Mrs. Kathy Beason called the other day to ask if a cemetery could be designated an historic landmark. It is in the Golden Springs area of Anniston,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres, dates from the early 1800s and a church/school was also there before burning. The cemetery was originally known as Bunkum (sp.) Hill, but is now called Union Grove. Protection is needed from teenage vandalism and a real estate firm.

Mrs. Beason went to the Anniston City Council to request financial help in cleaning the cemetery and restoring broken and knocked-over monuments. They did not grant her the help she requested, but George Monk, the City Attorney, who lives in Golden Springs, called her and offered his help. He helped her set up a trust fund for any monies raised. The Anniston Jaycees helped clear the dense underbrush and pull the monuments back into place. Enough money was raised to clean the headstones so they could be read. Concrete "bombs", as Mrs. Beason's grandmother calls them, border the property lines.

Mr. Golden, for whom Golden Springs is named, was a deacon in the church and a trustee of the school. Mrs. Beason's great-grandparents are buried there along with other early settlers. She has in her possession the property deeds even though she said the property is now designated as public land.

The realtors who want the property have built houses up to the property lines on three sides. Mrs. Beason told Ruth Mary of their offer to fence the cemetery for her, going about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch outside the concrete "bombs" onto their property. Upon hearing this, Ruth Mary urged her to inform George Monk of their offer and to have the property surveyed.

Ruth Mary referred her to Jan Ernest, at the Alabama Room in the Anniston Public Library, Dr. Grace Gate; the Anniston historian, and the AlaBenton Society (a genealogical organization which specializes in old cemeteries) for research information which may be needed.

Any information or advice from the AHC would be greatly appreciated. Mrs. Beason's telephone number is 1-835-1089. We do not have her address. She has taken on this project in order to protect an historical place in Calhoun County as well as to preserve her ancestor's gravesites. She feels that authentic designation from the Commission would end the harassment and protect the cemetery. Would there have to be a sponsoring organization in order to erect an historic marker?

Thank you <sup>for</sup> any help, Bob, and especially thanks for the letter about Jacksonville's St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Work has begun apparently and we hope for the best. The Snow-Felgar House is taking shape beautifully and the Joneses are extremely pleased with Garron Smith's work. Carson Jones showed Ben through the house last week. Nothing positive seems to be happening with the Ide House.

Sincerely yours,

*Ben and Ruth Mary*  
Ben and Ruth Mary Kirkland



Union Grove Cemetery  
History of the Landmark

Joel E. Massey and his wife deeded the land to the public witnessed by J.H. Golden for which the Golden Spring community is named after. The land was used for a church, school and cemetery. The church/school was built in the 1860's and burned in 1903. The church/school was rebuilt the same year and remained there until 1923 when it burned again. The church/school was rebuilt in the spring of 1923 in a different location leaving only the cemetery at Union Grove. The original owners of the land are among those buried in the cemetery. Hopefully the cemetery can be preserved for the families of the people buried there and for the history of Union Grove.