Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

Alabama	
Chilton	
FOR NPS USE ON	NLY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

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	AND/OR HISTORIC:	Service dubt.	MADE 6	glaward.	18 (5110-0 1 115)		IIIA I
2.	LOCATION						
	STREET AND NUMBER:						
	THE STATE OF THE S	TOWN.					-
	Mour	tain Creek					
	STATE	To Day 19 1	CODE	COUNTY:	o Claybeig	Living 1	CODE
	Alab	ama	01	Chilt	on		021
}.	CLASSIFICATION						
	CATEGORY OWNERSHIP			M. Value	STATUS	ACCESS TO THE P	
	☐ District ☐ Building Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object				Yes: ☐ Restrict ☑ Unrest		
	PRESENT USE (Check One or	More as Appropriate)				-	-
	□ Agricultural □ Government □ Park □ Transportation □ Comments □ Commercial □ Industrial □ Private Residence ☑ Other (Specify) □ Educational ☑ Military □ Religious □ Cemetery □ Entertainment □ Museum □ Scientific						nts
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CONDITION X Excellent		☐ Good	- Fair	(Check One) Deteriorated	Ruins	☐ Unexposed
CONDITION	THAT CAR	(Check O	lne)		(Che	eck One)
	☐ Alter	ed	☑ Unaltered	DT HILL BALL TO	Moved	(X) Original Site

The Confederate Memorial Cemetery at Mountain Creek is on wooded, rolling hills. Two large granite boulders mark the approaches to the area.

There are two actual cemeteries, several hundred yards apart, each is enclosed with a chain link fence. There also are a pavilion or auditorium, a granite obelisk in memory of Jefferson Manly Falkner, and a map of the site set in a frame. Cemetery #2 is the larger and the gate posts are columns of cut stone. There are three flagpoles in the center of the cemetery and these are used in Memorial Day ceremonies. Cemetery #1 is down the road, off to the right. It has no special gate or markers, and the headstones face away from the road.

All the graves in both cemeteries are in orderly rows and most are marked with plain, rectangular marble headstones. The grass is kept trimmed and neat. Trees which would have disturbed graves if they had continued to grow, have been cut down. Some of the markers are replacements, although most are original. The graves are in order by date of death and burial, moving from left to right and the front to back. However, both cemeteries were used simultaneously as the burial dates overlap.

The dates range from the early 1900's, shortly after the Soldiers' Home was started, to 1933. The earliest grave in the larger cemetery is that of Jefferson Manly Falkner, who died on May 18, 1906. His tomb is also the one exception to the general simplicity and uniformity. His tombstone is much larger and more ornate and is at the front of the graveyard on the left.

Most of the stones have a number or some indication of grave registration, the name of the veteran, his company, date of death, and age. There are some women buried there, the wives and widows of veterans, and their graves have similar information.

The cemeteries are all that remain of what was once a small community. The Old Soldiers' Home had small cottages, a hospital, an auditorium or meeting house, and a dairy among other structures; the cemetery has always been there. It was needed almost from the inception of the Home.

When the last of the veterans and their wives were buried, the place became run down (it had been gradually closing down as fewer and fewer people remained). The buildings eventually came down. Then in 1966, the UDC and the State of Alabama renovated the area, cleaning and straightening. The fences were put up, the pavilion and

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Alabama	
COUNTY	
Chilton	
FOR NPS USE ON	Υ
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries) Description continued: 2 and obelisk erected. The map, which is engraved in stone, is based on information from G.C. Kicker, the Adjutant at the Home.	DATI
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and obelisk erected. The map, which is engraved in stone, is based on information from G.C. Kicker, the Adjutant	

PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 15th Century	☐ 16th Century ☐ 17th Century	☐ 18th Century ☐ 19th Century	20th Century
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applical	ole and Known) 1902-	1933	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	☐ Science	
☐ Architecture	☐ Landscape	☐ Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	☐ Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	[3] Military	☐ Theater	
Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Confederate Memorial Cemetery is important to the people of the State of Alabama, as a part of their history, as well as an example of cooperation between independent organizations and the government. The Cemetery was and is a joint project of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the State of Alabama.

Early in 1902 Jefferson Manly Falkner offered the State forty acres of land at Mountain Creek, in Chilton County, to establish a home for Confederate veterans. The offer was accepted. The UDC voted to adopt the Home as Division work and money was pledged, which was to be used to help purchase food and clothing. Heretofore efforts to establish such a place were hindered by the lack of finances and the disapproval of many veterans. They felt that pride would keep men from taking charity.

In 1905 a separate committee of the UDC, the Mountain Creek Home Committee, was formed and funds from the UDC were disbursed through this committee. Before its formation, funds had been paid directly to Mr. Falkner. The Statetook care of all general expenses for the Home, but the care of the sick and the providing of extras became the province of the UDC.

In 1906 the Legislature was requested to provide funds for a trained nurse, and this they did. In 1911 an additional ward for the hospital was built and many repairs made to the old ward. The UDC furnished beds, mattresses, supplies and linens.

In 1912 at the annual Memorial Day ceremonies it was noted that many of the graves were marked only with wooden headstones, and that these were rotting. Therefore, at the next convention meeting money was appropriated for 86 marble headstones, and thereafter all graves were marked with similar monuments.

In 1916 Dr. J.D. Eiland and his wife came to the home. Dr. Eiland became the 'commandant' of the home, as well as its physican, and his wife took on nursing duties.

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(Number all entries)

Statement of significance: 2

Through the years, until the mid 1930's, the UDC and the State worked hand in hand to provide and care for the veterans', their wives and widows. Again, in 1966 when renovation and restoration was undertaken, the UDC and the State worked together on the project.

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