



**ALABAMA
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**
The State Historic Preservation Office

468 S. Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900
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ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER

WHAT IS THE ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER?

It is the state's official list of historic cemeteries in Alabama. The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) considers historic cemeteries particularly worthy of preservation and appreciation, and therefore deserving of this special recognition. The Alabama Historical Commission will keep all submitted documentation in its permanent records and will make the information available to researchers.

HOW WILL THIS DESIGNATION AFFECT THE PROPERTY OWNER?

This designation serves to increase awareness of the site in hopes that it will be preserved. The designation neither restricts the current or future property owner, nor does it require that a landowner maintain the cemetery. However, state law protects all cemeteries from willful destruction, regardless of age or historic designation. State law also provides a legal process for all cemetery relocations.

IS THERE MONEY AVAILABLE FOR WORK IN HISTORIC CEMETERIES?

The AHC is not aware of any funding available for cemetery preservation or maintenance.

ARE HISTORICAL MARKERS AVAILABLE FOR CEMETERIES LISTED ON THE CEMETERY REGISTER?

Historic designation is a prerequisite to purchasing an Alabama Historical Cemetery Marker or Plaque that features the state cemetery seal. A separate application process is required for a marker or plaque.

HOW CAN I NOMINATE A CEMETERY TO THE CEMETERY REGISTER?

To receive this designation, applicants must complete a series of forms that documents the cemetery's age, location, condition, type, and historical background. Good quality photographs (non-Polaroid) of representative grave markers and overall views of the cemetery are also required. The AHC prefers high resolution digital photos submitted on a CD or DVD, but we will accept printed photos (at least 3" x 5"). **Do not staple or tape photographs.** Polaroid pictures will not be accepted. All documentation and photographs will become the property of the Alabama Historical Commission and will not be returned.

For more information, please contact:

Alabama Historical Commission
Attn: Hannah Garmon
468 S. Perry Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900
334.230.2644; Fax: 334.262.1084
Hannah.Garmon@ahc.alabama.gov





Alabama Historic Cemetery Register Application

Complete all sections; enter N/A if a section does not apply
SECTION I: NAME / LOCATION INFORMATION

Historic Name: _____
 Common Name: _____
 Preferred Name for Cemetery Certificate: Historic Common
 Address: _____
 County: _____ Within city limits
 Township: _____ Range: _____ Section: _____ Quadrangle Sheet (USGS): _____
 GPS Coordinates: Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____
 Tax Map (if available): _____
 Historic Atlas of Alabama: Volume 2, Cemetery Locations by County Number (available from AHC): _____
 Deed Reference (If known, provide deed information (volume, page, signing date) as to the ownership of the land from which the cemetery was set aside.) _____

SECTION 2: CEMETERY FEATURES

<p>1. Dates of burials: Oldest: _____ Most recent: _____</p> <p>2. Number of graves: _____ Marked: _____ Unmarked: _____</p> <p>3. Threats to cemetery: _____</p> <p>4. Does a burial listing exist? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (location: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown</p> <p>5. Cemetery Access: <input type="checkbox"/> Public access <input type="checkbox"/> Private property</p> <p>6. Primary Access: <input type="checkbox"/> Walk <input type="checkbox"/> Drive Distance from nearest road: _____</p> <p>7. Is the cemetery still active? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>8. Cemetery Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Community <input type="checkbox"/> Family <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Park <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal <input type="checkbox"/> Church <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p>9. Condition (all that apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Maintained <input type="checkbox"/> Not maintained <input type="checkbox"/> Partially maintained <input type="checkbox"/> Neglected / Overgrown <input type="checkbox"/> Trash/Dumping Ground <input type="checkbox"/> Evidence of vandalism <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p> <p>10. Size: <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 acre <input type="checkbox"/> 1 to 10 acres <input type="checkbox"/> 10 to 50 acres <input type="checkbox"/> More than 50 acres</p>
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For Official Use Only
 AHC Cemetery Number: _____
 # in county: _____
 #in state: _____
 _____ **Not for Publication**

11. Setting:

- Rural
- Small town
- Urban
- Suburban

12. Perimeter:

- Fence (type: _____)
- Wall
- Vegetation
- Road(s)
- Vacant Land
- Buildings
- Other: _____

13. Evidence of Segregation or Grouping by:

- Race/Ethnicity
- Religion
- Family
- Military
- Occupation
- Fraternal organization
- None
- Other: _____

14. Orientation of Graves:

- East-West
- North-South
- Toward central monument
- Toward a river
- Toward road
- Other: _____

15. Marker Types (check all that apply):

- above-ground tomb
- box tomb
- column
- comb grave
- coping / curbing / cradles
- foot stone
- headstone
- ledger stone
- obelisk
- rock cairn
- statuary
- tablet stone
- Other: _____

16. Veterans Gravestones:

- American Revolutionary War
- War of 1812
- Civil War (Union)
- Civil War (Confederate);
- Spanish American War
- World War I
- World War II
- Korean War
- Vietnam War
- Operation Desert Storm
- Operation Enduring Freedom
- Operation Iraqi Freedom

17. Marker Designs (check all that apply):

- All-seeing Eye
- Anchor
- Angel
- Bible
- Cross
- Draped Urn
- Flower Motifs
- Hand reaching down
- Hand with finger point up
- Heart
- Lamb
- Masonic
- Menorah
- Sleeping Child
- Star/ Star of David
- Weeping Willow
- Other: _____

18. Grave Articles:

- bedsteads
- bottles
- ceramic objects
- clocks
- dolls/toys
- flowers/plastic flowers
- flower pots/vases
- jars
- lamps
- light bulbs
- marbles
- medicine bottles
- pinwheels
- milk jugs/plastic bottles
- plates
- sea shells
- none
- Other: _____

19. Landscape Features:

- casual and unplanned
- designed plantings
- designed drives and walks
- designed fencing and walls
- informal/ picturesque
- terracing / contouring
- Other: _____

20. Ornamental Plantings/Historic Vegetation:

21. Additional Information:

SECTION 3: HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The cemetery derives its importance from: (check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Important Person(s) buried on site | <input type="checkbox"/> Stone Carver | <input type="checkbox"/> Monument Manufacturer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Designer/Architect | <input type="checkbox"/> Military Significance | <input type="checkbox"/> Unique Burial Practices |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unique Grave Markers | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Event | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Broad Pattern in History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Church | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Community | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Family |

In a narrative statement, provide a brief history of the cemetery. Include any biographical/genealogical information about persons buried there or any relevant history on a church, community, etc. nearby. Attach additional sheets/documentation if necessary, but still provide at least a narrative paragraph summary below. Burial listings will be accepted as supplemental information, but not as a substitute for the historical narrative.

Bibliographical Sources:

SECTION 4: APPLICANT / OWNER INFORMATION

Owner of Property (if known)

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____

Person Applying for Historic Register Designation

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____

NOTICE: Notification will be sent to the local governing body (city council or county commission) and county historical/genealogical societies.

*If you **DO NOT** want the AHC to send this notification, please sign below:*

Signature _____

SECTION 5: REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Images of the cemetery are critical to the review process. Submit current, good quality digital images on a CD/DVD. Good quality 4" x 6" photos will be accepted, but do NOT staple or tape photographs. All images will become the property of the AHC and will not be returned.
- 2) Attach a portion of a county map, USGS map, or other map that clearly shows the precise location of the cemetery.

Return this completed form and all attachments to:

Alabama Historical Commission
Attn: Hannah Garmon
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