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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 MONEY AVAILABLE FOR WORK IN HISTORIC CEMETERIES?

When available, the AHC does provide funding for historic sites that are open to the public and provide educational programming. Visit <https://ahc.alabama.gov/Resources/grants.aspx> for more information.

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

Historical markers and plaques are available for purchase. The AHC has an application process. Visit <https://ahc.alabama.gov/historicalmarkerprogram.aspx> for more information.

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. Current, good-quality photographs of representative grave markers and overall views of the cemetery are also required. The AHC prefers high resolution digital photos submitted by email, on a thumbdrive, or on a CD/DVD. We will accept good-quality 4" x 6" printed photos, but a thumbdrive or CD/DVD of the images must accompany the prints. **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
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