

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NR Listed: 6/06/03

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section

other names/site number Crescent Hill Cemetery, WO0049

### 2. Location

street & number Bounded by Iris, Rose, Hough Drives and Highway 33B  not for publication

city or town Augusta  vicinity

state Arkansas code AR County Woodruff code 147 zip code 72006

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  
 nationally  statewide  locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Suzanne MacLean  
Signature of certifying official>Title

4/4/03  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official>Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register.
  - See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register.
  - See continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain: \_\_\_\_\_)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

**Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section**

Name of Property

**Woodruff County, Arkansas**

County and State

**5. Classification****Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> private                 | <input type="checkbox"/> building(s)     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local | <input type="checkbox"/> district        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-State            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal          | <input type="checkbox"/> structure       |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> object          |

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

0	0	buildings
1	0	Sites
1	0	structures
0	2	objects
2	2	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

**Number of Contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register****6. Function or Use****Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery**7. Description****Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/Awalls N/Aroof N/Aother STONE: marble, granite**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**8. Statement of Significance****Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

## Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References****Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Levels of Significance** (local, state, national)

Local

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**Areas of Significance** (Enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

ART: funerary art

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**Period of Significance**

1852-1953

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**Significant Dates**

1852 (first marked burial)

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**Significant Person** (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A

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**Cultural Affiliation** (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

N/A

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**Architect/Builder**

N/A

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**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

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**Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section**  
Name of Property

**Woodruff County, Arkansas**  
County and State

## **10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 5 acres

### **UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>15</u>	<u>648929</u>	<u>3906159</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	_____	_____	_____

3	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	_____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet

### **Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

### **Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## **11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Edited by Wendy S. Perkins, National Register Historian

organization Arkansas Historic Preservation Program date 18 February 2003

street & number 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street telephone 501-324-9874

city or town Little Rock state Arkansas zip code 72201

### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### **Continuation Sheets**

#### **Maps**

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### **Photographs**

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

#### **Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

### **Property Owner**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Augusta

street & number 118 South Second Street telephone 870-347-5656

city or town Augusta state Arkansas zip code 72006

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 7 Page 1

### **SUMMARY**

The Augusta Memorial Park is a cemetery located in the eastern section of Arkansas, along the White River. Approximately three blocks from the original city limits of Augusta in Woodruff County, the cemetery is the final resting spot of many early settlers of the area. In 1867, Thomas and Fannie Hough, founders of Augusta, sold land to the City of Augusta for the purpose of a cemetery. The land was already being used as a cemetery, based on fourteen gravestones dating back to the 1850s. There are a total of 1,432 burials in the Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section. Dating from 1852 to 1952, there are a total of 997 gravestones, making 69% of the cemetery historic. According to local legend, the cemetery may be built upon an ancient Indian burial mound. Therefore, the number of historic graves does not include the unmarked graves of Native Americans who also used this land for burials before the settlers.

### **ELABORATION**

The Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section rests upon a mound that may have been used by Native Americans as a burial site.<sup>1</sup> Thomas Hough, an early settler to the Augusta area, officially created Crescent Hill in 1852, a five acre cemetery. It was named Crescent Hill because the terrain is crescent shaped. In 1867, Thomas and Fannie Hough sold Crescent Hill to the City of Augusta. The original cemetery description is as follows: Commencing at the SE corner of NW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 25, Township 8 North, Range 4 West, thence due South 38 Links, thence East 5 Chains, and 50 Links, thence North 9 Chains, 9 Links and 28/100, thence West 5 Chains and 50 Links, thence South to the Point of Beginning.<sup>2</sup>

Later, W. E. Ferguson, a prominent politician in Augusta, sold adjoining land to the City of Augusta for the expansion of Crescent Hill. In 1905, he sold 4.75 acres. In 1924 he sold 6.0 acres. In 1969, the heirs of W. E. Ferguson sold 4.3 acres. In 1930, the City of Augusta renamed Crescent Hill to the Augusta Memorial Park. Thus, this how the original five acre Crescent Hill cemetery grew in to the now current 20.05 acres Augusta Memorial Park. However, the original five acres is the historic section of the Augusta Memorial Park being nominated.

The cemetery contains 997 marked historic burials out of a total of 1,432 marked graves. This makes the cemetery 67% historic:

1850s – 14
1860s – 44
1870s – 99
1880s – 113
1890s – 100
1900s – 141
1910s – 156
1920s – 100
1930s – 112
1940s – 93
1950-1952 - 25

According to local legend, prior to the settlement of Augusta, Native Americans may have used the site of the Augusta Memorial Park for their burials. Therefore, an unknown toll of unmarked historic graves may exist, making the historic percentage much higher.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Juanita Bull, *Our County's First Inhabitants*.

<sup>2</sup> February 26, 1867, Deed Book A, page 455.

<sup>3</sup> Augusta Memorial Park plaque.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

### Landscape Design

The historic section of the Augusta Memorial Park sits on slightly sloped land in a relatively flat part of the state, covered with cedar and evergreen trees and other plantings. The historic section of the cemetery is bounded by Iris Drive on the North, Rose Drive on the South, Hough Drive on the East and Highway 33B on the West. The western boundary of the Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section is marked with a late 1800's cast iron fence. A lighted flag pole and historical marker were placed at the entrance of the cemetery in the late 1990s. Inside, the cemetery is divided into sections by roads, paved in the late 1990s. In keeping with a Southern tradition, individual family plots, within the section, are outlined by brick or concrete low copings. Some of the plots include the family name on the entry step, like the Shoup family.

### Grave Markers and Monuments

The Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section features many outstanding grave markers and monuments that serve as excellent examples of funerary art. The majority of the markers face toward the closest path, be it west or east. There is a wide variety of historic large and small grave markers found in the cemetery utilizing marble, limestone, and granite. Upright headstones make up the majority of the headstones. Also, cradle markers surrounding grave sites are the theme in some family plots. Many of the marble and granite grave markers and monuments display some type of funeral imagery, including willow tree imagery, mason images, open bibles, draped obelisks, and urns.

### **The Conner Family**

Within the Conner Family plot, two large sculptures stand out. The Emerson H. Conner and Laura C. Conner sculpture monument is a rough marble stone with a broken column chiseled on the left side and a opened scroll in the middle. The broken column indicates a broken life or a life cut short. The scroll represents the law or scriptures of the bible. E.H. Conner and L.C. Conner were both well educated and a prosperous couple in Augusta.

The other monument in the Conner Family plot is the Conner Family monument. This monument commemorates the entire family. It is an upright, rectangular, marble monument flanked by ionic columns on both sides. The front of the monument is topped with a classical Greek design. Below that is a wreath, the Conner name, than an urn atop a stand. The two columns represent the family honor. The wreath symbolizes the victory of redemption. The urn, representing entombment equipment, represents classicism.

### **The Wilkerson Family**

The monument for L.B. Wilkerson is a marble structure. Two square columns rise up and join with a pointed arch, representing the victory of life. The right column is engraved with L.B. Wilkerson's birth and date dates. The arch is engraved with the words "Husband and Wife." On top of the arch is a statue of a robed male figure.

### **The Shoup Family**

The Shoup Mausoleum is a red brick, rectangular building with a concrete arched roof. The family name is located below the heavy metal door.

### **The Hamblett Family**

Every family member in the Hamblett Family plot has a marble cradle marker surrounding their grave sites. At the foot of each grave rests an urn. Each of the grave markers are topped with a rolled scroll, representing the biblical scriptures, with an image of a lily laying on top of the scroll. Lily imagery represents purity and the resurrection.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

### SIGNIFICANCE

The Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section contains 1,432 marked graves. Of these marked graves, 69%, date before 1953 and contribute to this nomination. Those buried in the historic section of the Augusta Memorial Park were the early settlers and town founders of Augusta, Woodruff County. Vandalism to the cemetery has been relatively minor and the cemetery is well maintained. The early workmanship of the cemetery is still evident in the landscape design, architecture, and monuments. The location of the Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section was once the burial location for the Chickasaw Indians. Within the nomination's boundary, only 31% of the grave markers and monuments were found to be non-contributing due to burial dates.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 1

### **SUMMARY**

Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section, located in Augusta, Woodruff County, is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the early settlement of Augusta and Woodruff County; under Criterion C for its funerary art; and under Criteria Consideration D for cemeteries.

### **ELABORATION**

#### **Town and County History**

Before white settlers came to the area in 1820, Native Americans occupied this county. The main tribe located in Woodruff County was the Quapaws. Other Native American tribes include Osage, Caddo, Chickasaw, and Cherokee. According to local legend, the Chickasaw Indians built a settlement of tepees and log huts on a high bluff overlooking the White River. The site was used by the Indians as a river crossing and also marked an important trail between the tribes. This crossing was called Chickasaw Crossing. Therefore, before the establishment of Augusta, this spot was known as Chickasaw Crossing. This prime location sits atop the highest point on the east bank of the White River from Batesville to its mouth.

Pioneers began to settle in the area around 1820. In 1846, Thomas Hough moved to Chickasaw Crossing from Maryland. Hough acquired the Chickasaw Crossing property shortly thereafter. In March 1848, Hough had the town surveyed and renamed in honor of his favorite cousin, Miss Augusta Cald of Virginia.

Woodruff County was created by vote in the State Convention of 1861, and organized in 1862. Organization of the county was not completed until 1865, after the Civil War. Woodruff County was named after William E. Woodruff, editor of the first paper, the *Arkansas Gazette*, published in Arkansas, which was started in 1819. Augusta was made the county seat of the new county.

#### **Cemetery History**

The Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section rests upon land, which had been used as a cemetery by Native American and early white settlers. Hough officially created Crescent Hill in 1852, a five-acre cemetery. In 1867, Thomas and Fannie Hough sold Crescent Hill to the City of Augusta. The original cemetery description is as follows: Commencing at the SE corner of NW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 25, Township 8 North, Range 4 West, thence due South 38 Links, thence East 5 Chains, and 50 Links, thence North 9 Chains, 9 Links and 28/100, thence West 5 Chains and 50 Links, thence South to the Point of Beginning.<sup>1</sup>

Later, W. E. Ferguson, a prominent politician in Augusta, sold adjoining land to the City of Augusta for the expansion of Crescent Hill. In 1905, he sold 4.75 acres. In 1924 he sold 6.0 acres. In 1969, the heirs of W. E. Ferguson sold 4.3 acres. In 1930, the City of Augusta renamed Crescent Hill to the Augusta Memorial Park. Thus, this how the original five-acre Crescent Hill Cemetery grew in to the now current 20.05 acre Augusta Memorial Park. However, the original five-acres is the historic section of the Augusta Memorial Park being nominated.

<sup>1</sup> February 26, 1867, Deed Book A, page 455.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 2

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### **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THOSE BURIED IN AUGUSTA MEMORIAL PARK HISTORIC SECTION**

#### **Dr. Lee E. Biles (1872-1940)**

Dr. Biles was born in Rosebud, Arkansas. He married Mary Erma Owen in 1897, and moved to Augusta shortly thereafter. He worked in a sawmill for about three years. In 1900, Lee began his medical studies at the Memphis Hospital Medical School in Memphis, Tennessee. In 1902 he began his practice at Gregory, Arkansas. Sometime after 1902 up until 1909, he attended medical lectures at the Kentucky School of Medicine in Louisville. He later completed his medical studies at Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. He moved back to Augusta in 1909, where he lived out his days.

#### **Captain John Bland (1835-1864)**

CPT Bland served in CPT Richard Hooker's Cavalry Company, "Mounted Volunteers," enlisting at Jacksonport, Arkansas, on November 5, 1861. He was elected second lieutenant of this company. Although the company was discharged December 28, 1861, CPT Hooker reorganized it, and John Bland was retained as lieutenant. When the company was divided in June of 1862 and reorganized as part of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Arkansas Infantry Regiment, John Bland was elected Captain of Company D, 32<sup>nd</sup> Arkansas Infantry Regiment. On 4 July 1863, CPT Bland was wounded in the left arm severely at the Battle of Helena. On September 18, 1863, he was wounded while on a recruiting service in Northeast Arkansas, to gather absentees. On April 1, 1864, he was killed in the battle of Fitzhugh Woods in Woodruff County, Arkansas. He had been engaged to Lucy Bufford.

#### **Thomas Edward Bonner (1857-1934)**

As a young man, Bonner kept books for Alexander Miller's saw mill and farming operations at Devview, Arkansas. He used to say that he learned business principles from Mr. Miller. Where Miller said "yes" to people, Bonner learned to say "no." In 1890, Bonner had a store in McCrory, Arkansas, and was the postmaster. He moved to Augusta sometime before 1904. He was an early stockholder in the E. H. Conner Mercantile Company, and became president of the company in 1916. Bonner was also a very successful banker in Augusta. He was one of the founders of the Woodruff County Bank, which opened on December 31, 1914. He was held in high esteem by all that knew him. He was a wealthy man and acquired considerable land during his lifetime.

#### **James H. Campbell (1841-1898)**

Campbell moved to Augusta in 1861 from Mecklenburg County, Kentucky. He returned to his native state of Kentucky, to enlist in Company A, First Kentucky Cavalry. He was wounded in the right shoulder by a gunshot at a railroad fight under GEN Benjamin Buford Forrest. After the war, he returned to Kentucky and stayed there until 1870. He then moved back to Augusta to go into business with his brother, William Campbell. Their company, W.P. Campbell & Bros., specialized in general merchandise and cotton buying. Campbell was a member and served as recorder of the Knights of Honor. Campbell also served as Mayor of Augusta for several years.

#### **Bolivar B. Conner (1829-1892)**

In 1851, B.B. Conner moved from Giles County, Tennessee, in a covered wagon, to settle just east of Augusta. In 1854, he married Eliza L. Hall, whose family also came from Tennessee in 1853. By 1890, he had acquired 1,000 acres of land and cleared 600 acres. During Reconstruction, the State Militia was under the command of Brig. General Daniel P. Upham, appointed by Governor Powell Clayton. In November, 1865, Brig. General Upham arrested fifteen citizens who had been engaged in Ku Klux Klan activities. These men were confined to a brick building. Brig. General Upham threatened to burn the building and prisoners if any attempt was made to free them. B.B. Conner was one of the prisoners. Due to B.B. Conner's pneumonia, he was released during the night to walk four miles to his home in winter weather. He survived the cold trip home and illness to live almost another 30 years.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

### Emerson H. Conner (1859-1904)

E.H. Conner is the son of Bolivar B. Conner. E.H. Conner organized the E.H. Conner Mercantile Company and later established a branch at Gregory, Arkansas. He was president of the Woodruff County Bank, and organized the Augusta Furniture Company and the Cotton Seed Oil and Gin Company. He and his brother, John L. Conner, operated a ferry at the foot of Locust Street. During the winter they would ferry their livestock across the river, and during the summer, they ferried people across the river to the sand bar for recreation. In 1884, E.H. Conner and J.P. House started a general merchandise company called, House & Conner. In 1901, E.H. Conner was appointed Commissioner of Public Buildings for Woodruff County. He proposed the plans for the Charles L. Thompson designed courthouse and jail to the County Court. The Woodruff County Courthouse (NR 12/22/82) was built shortly afterward. E.H. Conner also had C.W. Clark erect an iron fence around the courthouse and a clock chamber in the tower of the courthouse. The clock included a 1,000 pound, first-class bell. All of these items were approved by Judge T.E. Stanley.

### Laura Cornelius Conner (1864-1952)

L.C. Conner was the wife of E.H. Conner. L.C. Conner attended teaching school in Kentucky. She returned to Augusta in 1884. She taught in Augusta's first public school. It consisted of four large rooms, two above and two below. She was made a lifetime member of the Augusta School Board. She also taught Sunday School in the Methodist Church for thirty years. Sometime between 1910 and 1912, she donated land for a new public school building. In addition to her education interests, L.C. Conner was the first woman to serve on the Arkansas Penitentiary Commission. While on the commission, she proposed better treatment of the prisoners. The proposal was defeated by a vote of five to one. She resigned in protest of the defeated proposal. It was widely publicized and made Arkansans conscious of the problem.

### CPT Leonard J. Crocker (1839-1917)

CPT Crocker moved to Gregory, Arkansas, in 1867. He immediately purchased land from William Gregory. By 1870, CPT Crocker was the largest landowner in Point Township with 2,215 acres. Prior to his death, CPT Crocker confessed to his best friend, W. E. Ferguson, that he, Crocker, had assumed the name Quantrell and operated under the name in Missouri. He requested that information be kept secret until after his death. Quantrell and his men used Guerrilla type warfare against Union troops during the Civil War. However, no proof exists to back this claim. CPT Crocker married Gabrellia (Miss Gaby) Younger.

### Dr. Felix Delancy Dale (1847-1903)

Dr. Dale was born in Jefferson County, Kentucky. He attended St. Mary's College at Lebanon, Kentucky. In 1869, he graduated from the University of Louisiana in medicine. That same year, he moved to Augusta, Arkansas, and began his practice. In 1872, he married Ida Mablet, a native of Augusta. Throughout his adult life, he remained active in local politics and associations. He served as town councilman for two years. In 1890, he was the president of the Woodruff County Medical Association. He was also a member of the Railway Medical Association of Surgeons of the United States, and the Masonic Order, Knights of Honor, Knights & Ladies of Honor, and a Knight of Templar. Dr. Dale also assisted in the compilation of information for the "History of Woodruff County" in *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Eastern Arkansas*.

### Hon. James B. Dent (1831-1906)

J.B. Dent was a native of Magnolia County, West Virginia. He attended two years at Judson College, Illinois. He then lived in Chicago for two years, working as a salesman. He later moved to Galena, Missouri, for two more years. He then spent time in Cairo, Illinois. On July 3, 1861, J.B. Dent enlisted in Co. A, 1<sup>st</sup> Illinois Cavalry, and was commissioned a second lieutenant. In April 1865, he joined the 14<sup>th</sup> Illinois Cavalry as a major. In July 1865, he was mustered out of service. He was in the battles of Lexington, Buffington's Island, Knoxville, and Cumberland Gap. He was captured three times during his service. In the Fall of 1865, he settled in Woodruff County. He quickly became a large landowner. He served as county assessor in 1874, and the position of county and probate judge from 1882-1888. In 1888, he was elected as a Democrat State senator. He served as a delegate to the National Democrat Convention in St. Louis, which nominated Cleveland for President. He also defended Gov. Baxter, during the Brooks-Baxter War, as a lieutenant from Augusta. As a Mason, he attained the degree of Knight Templar.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number    8    Page    4

### **CPT Strother E. Dent (1843-1922)**

S.E. Dent was the younger brother of J.B. Dent. He was born in Putman County, Illinois. He also enlisted on July 3, 1861, with the 1<sup>st</sup> Illinois Cavalry as a corporal. He was promoted to Regimental Quarter Master Sergeant. After the regiment was mustered out a year later, he served with the 6<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry. By the Battle of Nashville, S.E. Dent had achieved the rank of captain of Company F, 6<sup>th</sup> Regiment. After the war, he went back to his home in Illinois. In 1867, S.E. Dent moved to Woodruff County and purchased farm land. He married Ella K. Darling in 1873. In 1885, he began a mercantile business in Riverside. That same year he married for a second time to Blanche Bancroft. S.E. Dent was a member of the Masonic order, Knights of Honor, Knights & Ladies of Honor, and a Knight of Templar. He was active in politics, although he never ran for an office. He did however organize the first Democrat Club of Woodruff County during the presidential campaign of 1888.

### **Rolfe Eldridge (1842-1891)**

Eldridge was born in Shelby County, Tennessee. His family moved to Woodruff County in 1850. In February 1862, he enlisted in the Confederate Army, under CPT Hooker's Calvary and later the 32<sup>nd</sup> Arkansas Infantry Regiment. He participated in the battles of Prairie Grove, Helena, and Pleasant Hill. After the war, he returned to his family farm to grow cotton and corn. In 1869, he married Ella Watson. She passed away in 1880. Eldridge then married Mollie Dawson in 1887. Eldridge was a successful farmer, with four cotton-gins. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Masonic lodge of Knights of Honor. He was also the president of the Augusta and South Eastern Railway Company, with a company office at Lone Grove (later Gregory).

### **John Dupree Eldridge (1876-1953)**

In 1891, J. D. Eldridge inherited the land of his father, Rolfe Eldridge. Around 1923, J.D. Eldridge and family moved to Little Rock. In Little Rock, he served as secretary and manager of the Arkansas Cotton Growers Association. A few years later, they moved back to Gregory, Woodruff County. J.D. Eldridge practiced law and was a member of the state legislature. In 1937 he was named "Master Farmer" of Arkansas by the Commercial-Appeal. He was president of the Southern Cattlemen's Association and, at the time of his death, he was president of the Cache River Production Association. The farm lands in Gregory are still owned and operated by Eldridge family members.

### **W.E. Ferguson (1851-1933)**

W.E. Ferguson was born in Coahoma County, Mississippi. The Ferguson Family moved to Augusta in 1861. In 1866, he entered the Emory and Henry College of Emory, Washington County, Virginia, remaining there for two years. He returned to Augusta, acting as deputy sheriff for two years. In 1870, he moved to Evansville, Indiana, to attend the commercial school there. He remained for one term. In 1873, he entered the Lebanon Law School in Tennessee. He graduated the following year, and was admitted to the bar in Augusta. He practiced law for one year, before turning to the family's farming business. In 1876, he moved to Dardanelle and worked as a law clerk for two years. He returned to Augusta and clerked for L. Rosen until 1880. In 1880, he was elected county assessor. In 1882, he was elected sheriff and collector, serving until 1886. In 1886, he was elected county and circuit clerk and re-elected in 1888. In 1884, he married Mary E. Douglass. W.E. Ferguson was a member of the Masonic fraternity, a Chapter Mason, a Knight of Honor, and a Knight of Pythias.

### **Rufus King Fitzhugh, Jr. (1852-1914)**

R.K. Fitzhugh, Jr. was born in Greene County, Virginia. In 1859, Fitzhugh's father moved to Augusta, and purchased land. The rest of the Fitzhugh family moved to Augusta in 1866. R. K. Fitzhugh, Jr. graduated from the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Auburn, Alabama, in 1874. He returned home and operated the family farm and gin. In 1878, he was elected county surveyor for three terms. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 5

### Laura "Lollie" Davis Fitzhugh (1873-1948)

Lollie Fitzhugh received her education from Ward-Belmont in Nashville, Tennessee, and from French Universities. She married R.K. Fitzhugh, Jr., in 1905. After his death in 1914, she was elected president of Fitzhugh-Snapp Mercantile and Fitzhugh Gin Company. She then received a law degree from Chicago University, becoming one of the first women lawyers in Arkansas. She was a founder and president of one of the first Equal Suffrage Clubs in the state. She was a loyal Democrat and organized Roosevelt-Garner clubs in 1932, which collected money to help the party pay off its national deficit. She was one of the organizers of the Arkansas Democratic Women's Club and served as its president for two years. She was appointed vice-chairman of the Democratic State Committee, the first woman to hold this post.

### Dr. B.A. Fletcher (1862-1917)

B.A. Fletcher was born in Fayette County, Mississippi. In 1871, his family moved to Lonoke County, Arkansas. B.A. Fletcher graduated from Bellevue Medical College of New York City in 1884. He married Mary A. Baker that same year. After the death of his brother, J.J. Fletcher, in 1885, B.A. Fletcher moved to Augusta to settle his brother's estate. He remained in Augusta and opened his own practice. He served as the director of the County Medical Association and the secretary of the Woodruff County Board of Medical Examiners.

### J.T. Hamblett (1825-1896)

J.T. Hamblett was born in Dinwiddie County, Virginia. From 1843 to 1848, he clerked at a store in Memphis, Tennessee. In 1848, he moved to Augusta and set up his own mercantile business. In 1850, he married Cordelia P. Penn. Sometime after the war, J.T. Hamblett and J.P. Penn formed a mercantile business called Hamblett & Penn. In addition to his business, J.T. Hamblett also owned a considerable amount of land. For over forty years, he was a member of the Masonic fraternity.

### George J. Hatch (1813-1885)

About 1827, G.J. Hatch, his father, Redding Stokes, and his brother, Samuel Taylor, were the first settlers on Taylor's Bay, just three miles north of the future site of Augusta. G.J. Hatch operated a ferry four miles above Augusta to cross the White River. He later settled in the town of Augusta.

### J.P. House (1850-1917)

J.P. House was born in Hardeman County, Tennessee. The House family moved to White County in 1858. J.P. House studied law and admitted to the bar in White County. He practiced in White and Woodruff Counties for four years. In 1877, he established the Vidette and published it for two years. From 1879 to 1884, he kept books for Hamblett & Penn. In 1880, J.P. House married L. Pursell. In 1884, he and E.H. Conner went into business together. Their general merchandise firm was called, House & Conner. J.P. House was a member of the Masonic fraternity, Knights & Ladies of Honor, and Knights of Pythias. He was also a Knight Templar and Knight of Honor.

### Rev. Ed T. Jones (1830-1888)

In 1854, Rev. E.T. Jones was admitted into the traveling connection of the Arkansas Conference of the Methodist church. He faithfully served circuits, stations and districts until his health failed. Sometime during 1869, he was granted a superannuated relation. He served the Augusta Methodist church as minister or supply five different times: 1859 as a minister, and 1860, 1869, 1873, and 1883 as supply. He also served as county judge from 1864-1865, 1866-1868, and 1876-1882.

### Judge Isaac M. McCurdy (1815-1885)

Judge I.M. McCurdy served as the first county judge of Woodruff County from 1862-1864. Judge McCurdy was one of the fifteen men arrested, in November 1865, by Brig. General Upham on suspension of engaging in Ku Klux Klan activities. Mrs. McCurdy was the only person allowed to send food and drink to those imprisoned.

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number     8     Page     6

### **James P. Penn (1833-1894)**

J.P. Penn was born in Maury County, Tennessee. In 1849, he moved to Augusta with his sole possession; a trunk with all his clothes. For a number of years, he worked for a farmer. In 1852, he began clerking for Hamblett & Penn. Two years later, he clerked for Pursell & Bro. The firm was sold, and J.P. Penn continued with its successor one year. Eventually, J.P. Penn and his brother, Thomas H., bought the firm and it continued under the name of T. H. Penn & Bro. until the Civil War broke out. In 1861, J.P. Penn enlisted and served until the war ended. After the war, he clerked for a year at T.H. Penn & Bro. J.P. Penn then partnered with John T. Hamlett for a mercantile business, Hamblett & Penn. He remained in this firm until 1882, when he sold out and engaged in the real estate business. He became one of the largest real estate holders in the county. J.P. Penn was one of the fifteen men arrested, in November 1865, by Brig. General Upham on suspension of engaging in Ku Klux Klan activities. J.P. Penn was married twice, first to Lucy Bland and then to Martha H. Hall.

### **COL Leander "Lee" Ramsaur (1829-1881)**

COL Ramsaur moved to Augusta in 1860. The records are not clear, but it is speculated that he joined the 1<sup>st</sup> Arkansas Mounted Rifles, also known as the "Augusta Guards," later that same year, when the cavalry company of the Arkansas State Militia was organized, from Jackson and White Counties, at Augusta. In May of 1861, he was elected first lieutenant. Shortly later, he was elected captain of Company D. On May 1, 1862, he was elected captain of the Cavalry Regiment, and then promoted to Lieutenant Colonel on September 20, 1863. He became a full colonel in 1864. After the war, COL Ramsaur returned to Augusta. He became a prominent lawyer and ruling elder of the Augusta Presbyterian Church. He also served as county judge from 1874 to 1876.

### **John W. Revel (1832-1903)**

J.W. Revel was born in Northampton County, North Carolina. In 1861, he enlisted in Company A, 18<sup>th</sup> Mississippi Cavalry. He was captured by Union troops and sent to Alton as a prisoner of war for twenty months. In December 1865, after his discharge, J.W. Revel settled in Woodruff County. He rented land for three years until 1869, when he purchased the property. He was married three times. He married Abbie Brown in 1868. In 1873, he married Katie Didlake, his second wife. In 1882, he married his third wife, Mary L. Miller.

### **Thomas Booker Roddy (1821-1888)**

T.B. Roddy was one of the earliest settlers in the Augusta area. He was born in Spartanburg District, South Carolina. He was orphaned at a young age when both of his parents died on the same day due to disease. He moved to his uncle's home in Tennessee. In 1833, the Roddy family moved to then Jackson County, future Woodruff County, about four miles east of Augusta. T.B. Roddy and his wife, Elizabeth R. Erwin, were farmers. In October 1865, T.B. Roddy sat on the first circuit court as a grand jurymen.

### **Edmond "Ed" R. Roddy (1849-1921)**

E.R. Roddy was born in Woodruff County. He was the son of T.B. Roddy. E.R. Roddy attended school in the log school-house. He spent the year of 1868 at the Gulf of Mexico, due to a slight misunderstanding between himself and Powell Clayton's militia. He returned to the family farm until 1874. He worked for W. P. Campbell, the circuit court clerk and later clerk of the State Supreme Court. E.R. Roddy married Beatrice Skinner in February 1877. He served as sheriff from 1878 to 1880, and 1886 to 1890. He was a member of the Knights of Honor.

### **Laura Shell (1856-1943)**

Laura Shell was born in a log cabin east of Augusta. She attended school in Augusta. Throughout L. Shell's life, she worked to keep Crescent Hill, later known as Augusta Memorial Park, clean. She and other women collected contributions for that task. When the cemetery was renamed Augusta Memorial Park, one of the avenues was named Shell Drive, honoring L. Shell's work.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 7

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### **Penelopy Simmons (1826-1852)**

Not much is known about P. Simmons. She operated a hotel in Augusta. Her grave marker is the earliest known marker in Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section.

### **L.D. Snapp (1842-1939)**

L.D. Snapp was born in Taney County, Missouri. In 1861, he enlisted in Company E, 3<sup>rd</sup> Missouri Cavalry, serving until 1865 as a lieutenant. In the fall of 1866, he moved to Augusta. In 1869, he married Mary H. Luckenbill. L.D. Snapp became one of the largest land owners in the county. He owned thirty-five tenement houses, a large cotton gin, and a mercantile business. A post-office was named after him in Woodruff County.

### **Hon. T.E. Stanley (1844-1904)**

T.E. Stanley was born in Lawrence County, Alabama. At the age of 16, he left La Grange Military Academy to enlist in the 16<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry. He was wounded three times; one gunshot through his left hand, another through his hip, and his right foot was almost crushed to pieces. He served until 1865, reaching the rank of lieutenant. After the war, he attended law school at the Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tennessee. In 1872, T.E. Stanley moved to Augusta and began a law practice. In 1873, he married Laura McCurdy. In 1876, he was elected to the legislature, serving three consecutive terms. He was a delegate to the Cincinnati Convention, which nominated Hancock and English. He also organized and was president of the first bank in Augusta.

### **Dr. J.E. Woods (1843-1893)**

Dr. J.E. Woods was born in Livingston County, Kentucky. In 1861, he studied medicine at Marion, Kentucky. In 1863, he attended the University of Louisville Medical College. He then graduated from Long Island College in Brooklyn, New York, in 1864. In 1865, Dr. Woods moved to Augusta and began his medical practice. He served as president of the Woodruff County Medical Society and as a delegate to the National American Medical Convention from Arkansas. He was a member Woodruff County Examining Physicians' Board, and also an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Honor.

### **Statement of Significance**

Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section is the final resting place for the earliest settlers of Augusta and Woodruff County, and is significant to the history of the town and county. Those buried at Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section included entrepreneurs, farmers, Civil War and prison camp survivors, teachers and ministers. Their combined experience helped create a viable and sustainable community. The Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its association with the early settlement of Augusta and Woodruff County; under Criterion C for its funerary art; and under Criteria Consideration D for cemeteries.

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 9 Page 1

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Augusta Memorial Park Historic Section  
Name of Property

Woodruff County, Arkansas  
County and State

**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**

## **National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet**

Section number 10 Page 1

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### **VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Commencing at the SE corner of NW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 25, Township 8 North, Range 4 West, thence due South 38 Links, thence East 5 Chains, and 50 Links, thence North 9 Chains, 9 Links and 28/100, thence West 5 Chains and 50 Links, thence South to the Point of Beginning.

### **VERBAL BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

The selected boundary includes all the property historically associated with the historic section of the Augusta Memorial Park.

# AUGUSTA MEMORIAL PARK

Magnolia and North Fifth Streets

Mailing Address: P O Box 533

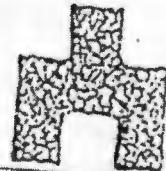
Augusta, Arkansas 72006-533

SHELL

HWY. 64

OAK

N 5TH



JOHN B. BEARD  
ARMORY

ELM

HWY 33 CITY

CAN



POINT OF  
BEGINNING  
SE CORNER

TRACT A  
AUGUSTA  
MEMORIAL  
PARK  
CEM

TRACT B

TRACT C

TRACT D

TRACT E

TRACT F

N 6TH

TH

7

TH

8

TH

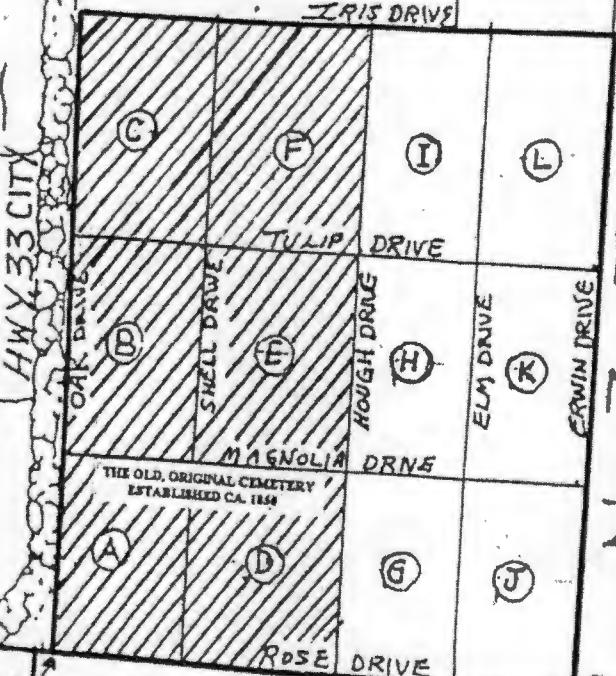
9

N

N 7TH

N 8TH

SI



Original cemetery property for which we are applying for listing in the National Register of Historic Places: Commencing at the SE corner of NW quarter of the SE quarter of Section 25, Township 8 North, Range 4 West, thence due South 38 Links, thence East 5 Chains, and 50 Links, thence N 9 Chains, 9 Links and 28/100, thence West 5 Chains and 50 Links, thence South to the Point of Beginning, consisting of five (5) acres.



AUGUSTA MEMORIAL PARK HISTORIC SECTION

WOODRUFF COUNTY, ARKANSAS

Wendy Perkins

1 FEBRUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM  
CONNER FAMILY MONUMENT - looking West  
#1



AVONISTA MEMORIAL PARK HISTORIC SECTION

WOODRUFF COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WENDY PERKINS

4 FEBRUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

L.B. WILKERSON MONUMENT - LOOKING EAST

#2



AUGUSTA MEMORIAL PARK HISTORIC SECTION  
WOODRUFF COUNTY, ARKANSAS

Wendy Perkins

4 FEBRUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM  
HAMBLETT FAMILY PLOT - LOOKING SOUTHWEST

#3

**ELIZABETH SIMMONS**

*Decd.*  
**AUG. 21. 1852**

*Age*  
**26 YEARS.**

AUGUSTA MEMORIAL PARK HISTORIC SECTION  
WOODRUFF COUNTY, ARKANSAS

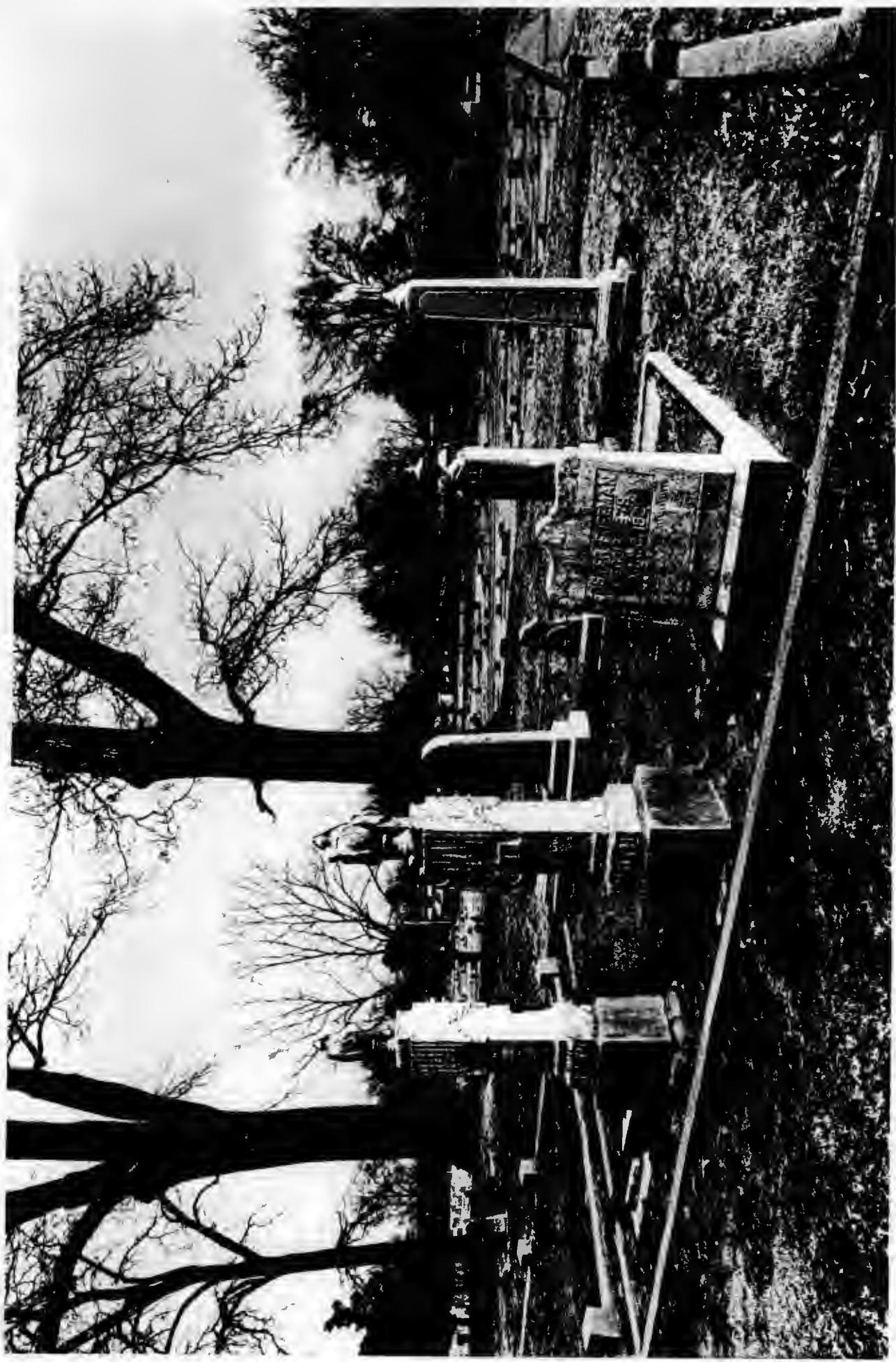
WENDY PERKINS

4 FEBRUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

SIMMONS HEADSTONE MARKER STONE LOOKING EAST

#11



ADMONTA MEMORIAL PARK HISTORY COLLECTION

WOODRUFF COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WENDY PERKINS

4 FEBRUARY 2003

ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM  
SMITH FAMILY PLOT - LOOKING EAST

#5

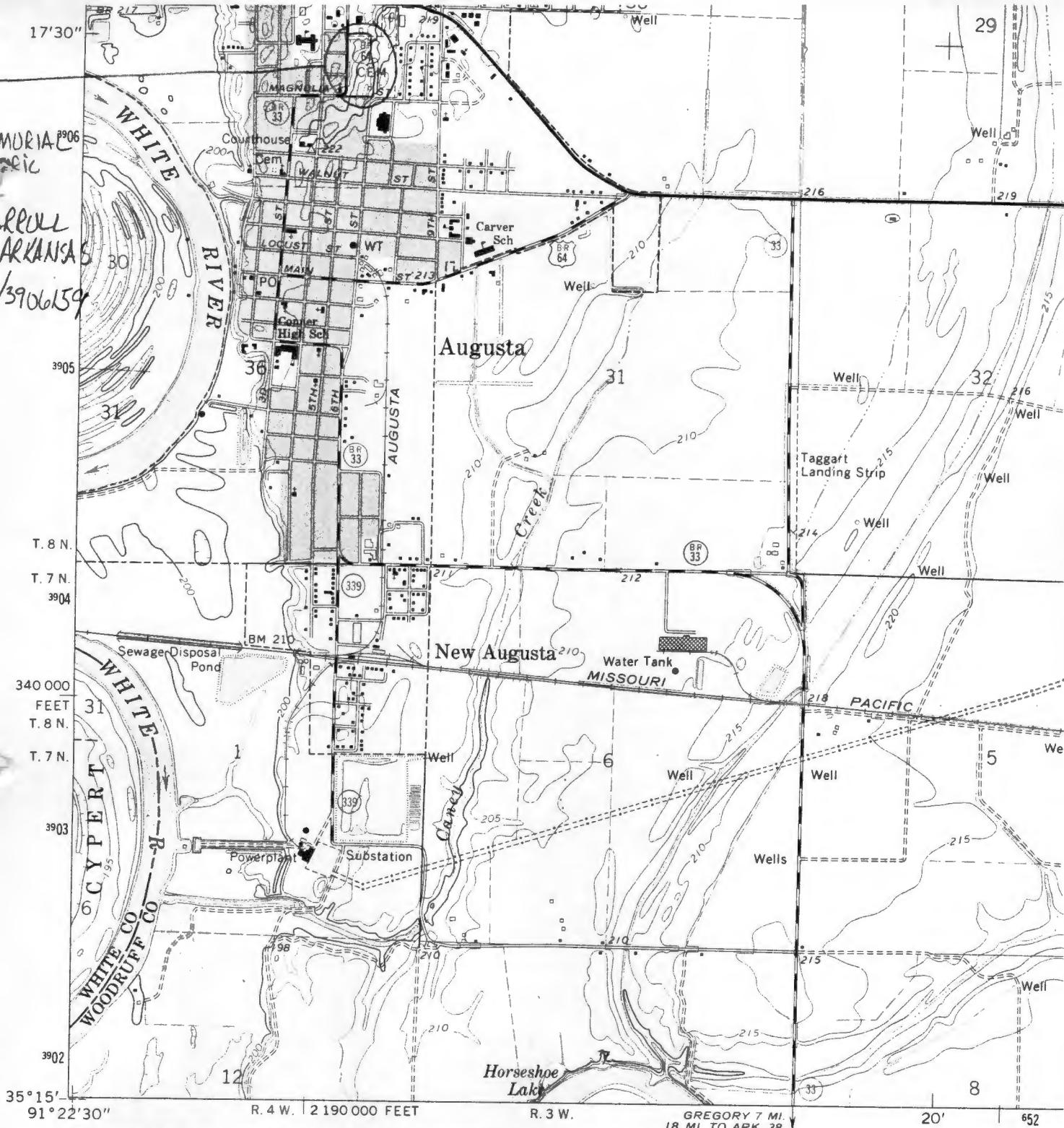
17'30'

29

1STA MEMORIA E<sup>9</sup>06  
RK ~~EFC~~

ISTA, CARROLL  
INTV, ARKANSAS

48929/3906159



Produced by the United States Geological Survey

Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1966-67. Field checked 1968

Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Arkansas coordinate system, north zone (Lambert conformal conic)

System, North Zone (Lambert Conformal Conic)  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 15, shown in blue  
1927 North American Datum (NAD 27)

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks. The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute intersections are given in USGS Bulletin 1875.

Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked Photoinspected from 1990 source; no major culture or drainage changes observed. Boundaries revised and names verified 1993

**UTM GRID AND 1993 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET**

**FOR SALE**

1