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CALHOUN COUNTY'S CROOK CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER

The Alabama Historical Commission recently added Crook Cemetery, located in Ohatchee, to the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register.

“The cemetery register is a prestigious listing of historic cemeteries in Alabama,” said Lee Anne Wofford, cemetery program coordinator. “The AHC considers the notable historic cemeteries in this register to be particularly worthy of preservation and appreciation, and therefore deserving of this special recognition.”

There are now four cemeteries in Calhoun County on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, which features 268 cemeteries statewide.

In the 1830s, the Crook Family gave one acre of land to establish a family cemetery. The first burial was that of Samuel M. Crook, a four month old infant who died November 10, 1837. He was the son of John Martin Crook and Margaret Crook who are buried near his grave along with two other infants of the family. Later, the McCullars family donated additional land to expand the cemetery for community use. There are at least 250 marked and 27 unmarked graves. Today, the cemetery is maintained through the Crook Cemetery, Inc.

The Alabama Historical Commission administers the Alabama Historic Cemetery Program that gives aid to the general public, government officials, civic groups, and others in identifying, documenting, registering, and conserving Alabama's historic cemeteries.

The Alabama Historic Cemetery Register officially recognizes and honors family and community cemeteries that were established at least 40 years ago.

Listing in the state cemetery register is an honorary designation imposing no restrictions on property owners. State law protects all cemeteries from willful desecration and destruction.

*The mission of the **Alabama Historical Commission** is to protect, preserve, and interpret Alabama's historic places. It is the state's historic preservation agency and serves as the State Historic Preservation Office.*

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