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DALE COUNTY'S LONGSTREET CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added Longstreet Cemetery 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 2 cemeteries in Dale County listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, which features 345 cemeteries statewide.

Longstreet Cemetery is comprised of six separate cemeteries moved to this location in 1942 during the construction of Fort Rucker. Cemeteries moved here include Ebenezer Baptist Church Cemetery, Haw Ridge Methodist Church Cemetery, Zion Methodist Church Cemetery, Mt. Liberty Baptist Church Cemetery, and 2 private cemeteries. The property where the church and cemeteries are now located was the former location of Longstreet School. In 1942, this land was sold to Ebenezer Baptist Church and the six cemeteries were moved here. Longstreet Community Cemetery Trust Fund was established in 1981 to provide for the perpetual maintenance and upkeep of the combined cemeteries situated at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

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.

*To protect, preserve, and interpret Alabama's historic places is the mission of the **Alabama Historical Commission**, the **State Historic Preservation Office**.*

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