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## **MADISON COUNTY'S JOHN C. GRAYSON FAMILY CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER**

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added the John C. Grayson Family 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 ten cemeteries in Madison County listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, which features 368 cemeteries statewide.

The John C. Grayson Cemetery was established in 1806. There are 19 marked graves and approximately 38 unmarked burials. John C. Grayson was born in 1770 in Montgomery County, Virginia. He was one of the first settlers of the Big Cove area of Madison County and was the first person to be granted land there. He served as the Justice of the Peace and also fought in the Creek Indian War. John Grayson died on July 29, 1826 and is buried here among many of his descendants.

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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