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CALHOUN COUNTY'S ZION HILL CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added Zion Hill ("White Plains") 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 eleven cemeteries in Calhoun County listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, which features 368 cemeteries statewide.

White Plains was settled prior to 1830 and incorporated in 1860. This cemetery is associated with Zion Hill Baptist Church, but was also used by the First Baptist Church of White Plains and Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. There are over 500 marked burials and approximately 80 unmarked graves. A Revolutionary War veteran is buried here along with veterans from the Civil War, World Wars I and II, and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.

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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