



P. O. Box 300900 ♦ Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-3184 ♦ preserveala.org

September 3, 2009

Contact: Lee Anne Wofford, (334) 230-2659

JEFFERSON COUNTY'S MT. HEBRON CEMETERY ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added Mt. Hebron Cemetery in Leeds 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 twenty cemeteries in Jefferson County listed on the Alabama Historic Cemetery Register, which features 308 cemeteries statewide.

Mt. Hebron Cemetery contains over 800 burials. The oldest known burial is that of Hempsey Herring who died in 1848. Many veterans are buried here including those who fought in the Civil War, World Wars I and II, Korea and Vietnam. Alfred Lee McLaughlin, a Medal of Honor recipient, is also buried here. The Mt. Hebron Cemetery Association continues to care for the cemetery and depends on donations for cemetery upkeep and maintenance.

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.

###