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## **TWO CHILTON COUNTY CEMETERIES ADDED TO ALABAMA HISTORIC CEMETERY REGISTER**

The Alabama Historical Commission (AHC) recently added Atchison Cemetery near Isabella and Moore Cemetery in Pletcher 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 nineteen cemeteries in Chilton County listed in the register, which features 252 cemeteries statewide.

Atchison Cemetery contains at least twenty-five burials of descendants of James Atchison (1770-1843). A native of Edgefield County, South Carolina, Atchison purchased a 160-acre Federal land grant in May 1831, on which he established this family cemetery. While the earliest marked burials date to the 1850s, there are numerous older unmarked burials.

Moore Cemetery dates back to 1839 with the burial of Obadiah Moore, a Revolutionary War Veteran. Drafted into service twice, Moore fought against the British in the siege of Charleston. Also buried here is Reuben Powell who was named in the Act of Establishment passed by the Alabama legislature on December 30, 1868, that created Baker County (now Chilton County). The last burial here was Hansford D. Chitty who died in 1911. Chitty was a private in the 59<sup>th</sup> Alabama Infantry, CSA.

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, Alabama’s state agency for historic preservation.*

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