

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

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**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

NRIS Reference Number: 05000428

Date Listed: May 31, 2005

Property Name: Cumming Cemetery

County: Forsyth

State: Georgia

none  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

*for* Daniel J. Vinz  
Signature of the Keeper

May 31, 2005  
Date of Action

=====  
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section 3. Classification

The ownership of the property is hereby changed to public-local.

This change was made in consultation with and approved by the National Register staff of the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office.

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The Georgia State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

**National Register property file  
Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)**

428

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name      Cumming Cemetery  
other names/site number      N/A

## 2. Location

street & number      Bordered by State Highway 20 (East Maple Street), State Highway 9 (Atlanta Road), and Resthaven Drive  
city, town      Cumming      ( ) vicinity of  
county      Forsyth      code GA 117  
state      Georgia      code GA      zip code      30040

( ) not for publication

## 3. Classification

### Ownership of Property:

- ( ) private
- ( ) public-local
- ( ) public-state
- ( ) public-federal

### Category of Property:

- ( ) building(s)
- ( ) district
- (X) site
- ( ) structure
- ( ) object

### Number of Resources within Property:

#### Contributing

#### Noncontributing

buildings	0	0
sites	1	0
structures	0	1
objects	0	0
total	1	1

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of previous listing: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Richard Coates  
Signature of certifying official

3-30-05  
Date

*ex* W. Ray Luce  
Historic Preservation Division Director  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property ( ) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency or bureau

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register

Edson Beall 5/21/05

determined eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

determined not eligible for the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

removed from the National Register

\_\_\_\_\_

other, explain:

\_\_\_\_\_

see continuation sheet

[Signature]  
Keeper of the National Register Date

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## 6. Function or Use

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### Historic Functions:

FUNERARY/CEMETERY

### Current Functions:

FUNERARY/CEMETERY

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## 7. Description

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### Architectural Classification:

NO STYLE

### Materials:

<b>foundation</b>	N/A
<b>walls</b>	N/A
<b>roof</b>	N/A
<b>other</b>	Brick; Stone/Granite/Marble; Metal/Iron; Concrete

### Description of present and historic physical appearance:

Cumming Cemetery is located just off of the square in downtown Cumming, the seat of Forsyth County, in north central Georgia. The cemetery was established by Forsyth County in 1834, the same year the city of Cumming was chartered. The property is located on a hill, traditionally known as Moody Hill, which slopes gently from west to east. As in the rural cemetery movement, Cumming Cemetery was established around elevated view sites at the city's outskirts. Early burials in the cemetery are associated with a Baptist church and a Presbyterian church that were located adjacent to the cemetery. The Methodist church, which was located north of downtown, also used the cemetery. The Presbyterian church disbanded in 1856, and the Baptist church relocated in 1870, and the cemetery became the city cemetery.

The chronological order of burials in the cemetery has occurred from west to east with later burials filling in family plots. Graves dating after 1954 are scattered throughout the cemetery. The grave markers do not follow a pattern of regular alignment (photographs 1, 9, 12, and 13); however, the graves are oriented with the feet to the east, a reflection of the Christian belief in the resurrection, when Christ would appear in the eastern sky and those interred would rise to meet Him. Grave markers in the cemetery are varied and include simple slabs (photographs 4, and 18), headstones (photographs 13, 15, and 17), and obelisks (photographs 10, 11, 12, and 14). The influence of Christian beliefs in the Victorian era is evident on the monuments in the cemetery. As expressed by the funerary art, death was regarded as eternal rest, a passage to perfect happiness and an appropriate completion of the life cycle. Christian icons found in the cemetery include: cross and crown, gates of heaven opening, rising sun, doves, lambs (photograph 1, foreground), praying hands, open Bibles, fabric drapes (photographs 12, 13, and 14), urns (photographs 14 and 18), and others. In general, these icons depict the sorrow of the survivors and faith in an afterlife for the deceased.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 7--Description

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Monuments were crafted by employees at Georgia Marble in Tate and Marble Hill, Georgia, and Roberts Monument Company and Consumers in Ballground, Georgia. Low concrete, granite, brick, and marble copings delineate family plots (photographs 1, 2, 6, 17, 18, 20). Some graves, surrounded by coping, are covered with decorative gravel (photographs 1, 10, 17, 19, 20). Remnants of iron fences are also present in the cemetery (photograph 11).

Approximately 663 graves are identified by either headstones with inscriptions or footstones when only the surname is indicated on the headstone. Three unadorned marble benches are located in the cemetery (photograph 15, right background). Thirty-six small slabs with engraved crosses (photographs 7, background, and 8, right) were laid at unmarked graves in 1999. These represent only a small number of the unmarked gravesites in the cemetery. On Resthaven Street, a Historical Marker (photograph 5), placed by the Historical Society of Forsyth County and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, is located adjacent to the visitor's gate and steps. There are no buildings on the property.

Landscaping in the cemetery consists of mature trees and scattered shrubs (photographs 1, 6, and 14). A large oak tree stands on the southwest side of the cemetery, while a small grouping of trees is located midway across the western boundary. Shrubs that exist are scattered primarily from the center of the cemetery to the west side near the boundary with the detention center complex. There are no roads, paths, or walkways in the cemetery. A rock retaining wall topped by an iron fence (photographs 2 and 3) was installed around the perimeter of the cemetery in 1999 for security and erosion control. Openings in this fence are located at the extreme northeast and southeast corners of the cemetery. On the south side of the cemetery a gate with steps up from the sidewalk allows visitor access (photograph 2). Other restoration efforts during 1999 included righting markers that fell due to a shift in the soil. Approximately 12 broken markers in the oldest (southwest) section of the cemetery were too damaged to stand upright. These were cleaned and set in cement at their respective graves (photograph 7). The thirty-six newly laid slabs were set at this time as well.

The cemetery boundary remains virtually unchanged from the original land lot with only a road-widening project in the 1990s removing a few feet on the north side for the installation of a turn lane on East Maple Street. Outside the fence and stone wall a sidewalk was constructed on the east and south sides of the cemetery (photograph 3). The cemetery is surrounded by nonhistoric development, including buildings related to the Forsyth County Government (photographs 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, and 14).

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**8. Statement of Significance**

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**Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:**

nationally       statewide       locally

**Applicable National Register Criteria:**

A       B       C       D

**Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):**  N/A

A       B       C       D       E       F       G

**Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):**

Art  
Landscape Architecture

**Period of Significance:**

1834-1954

**Significant Dates:**

1834-Cemetery established by Forsyth County

**Significant Person(s):**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation:**

N/A

**Architect(s)/Builder(s):**

N/A

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

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**Statement of significance (areas of significance)**

Cumming Cemetery is the city cemetery for Cumming. Located adjacent to the downtown central business district, at the time of its inception, the cemetery was on the outskirts of Cumming, which was typical of 19<sup>th</sup> century cemeteries. Due to the close proximity of several white churches and the existence of an African-American cemetery associated with a church in the Cumming area, Cumming Cemetery was used by the white citizens of the community.

Cumming Cemetery is significant in the area of landscape architecture for its typical layout. In common with the rural cemetery movement in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the cemetery was established on elevated land at the city's outskirts. However, unlike other cemeteries during this time that were organized and operated by private associations, Cumming Cemetery developed on land purchased and set aside by Forsyth County for public use. Also unlike other cemeteries during this time, Cumming Cemetery was not a designed landscape. Burials occurred randomly according to the purchase of burial plots. In death as in life, maintaining one's class was important. Size and grandeur of monuments defined permanence as a fitting memorial to the deceased. The monuments of the Willingham, Bailey, Foster, Estes, and Strickland families (photographs 10 and 11), some of Cumming's more well known families, stand out as reminders of the social and economic status of these prestigious individuals.

The cemetery is also significant in the area of art for the grave markers, including some ornamented obelisks, which reflect presiding funerary design of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The art on the monuments ties Cumming Cemetery to a broad national movement in an era known for its changing attitude toward death, burial, and the commemoration of the dead. Typical of other cemeteries of the Victorian era, Cumming Cemetery's funerary art reflects the Romantic Movement in literature and art, which revered nature and sentiment. Expressions of grief and devotion are expressed in the imagery to be found on grave markers throughout the property. The idealized symbols, or iconography, on the monuments reflect Christian beliefs in the afterlife. For the living, they provide spiritual comfort and moral reassurance. The epitaphs, which were frequently coupled with the icons, offer hope by making death a part of life and thus enabling the mourner to celebrate death as a passage to perfect happiness. Death came to be seen as an appropriate completion of the life cycle. Through the end of the historic period artisans of the Georgia Marble Company, Consumers, and Roberts Monument Company created many of the tombstones. Perhaps the most outstanding funerary artist of the 20th century in the local area was J.B. Gibbs, (deceased 2002) who was employed by Georgia Marble in Tate, Georgia, for 15 years, and he later established his own marble company at Ball Ground, Georgia. Examples of Gibbs' work may also be found in Washington, D.C. and Chicago, Illinois. For many local residents in this formerly rural county, especially in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the monuments and markers in the Cumming Cemetery would have been their only exposure to sculptured art.

**National Register Criteria**

Cumming Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

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in the area of art and under Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture as a good and intact example of a city cemetery located in a small Georgia town. The cemetery features many of the characteristics found in Victorian-era rural cemeteries including location, landscape, and funerary art.

**Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

Cumming Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion Consideration D as a cemetery that derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events. The cemetery is the resting place for many prominent Cumming citizens, including members of some of the founding families of the Cumming area. It is unique in that it was established in 1834 on land specifically set aside by Forsyth County for public use. Cumming Cemetery also features distinctive design, landscape, and funerary art characteristic of small-town cemeteries in Georgia in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Period of significance (justification)**

The period of significance for Cumming Cemetery begins in 1834, the year of the first burial in the cemetery, and ends in 1954, the end of the historic period. The cemetery was continuously used during this period and has markers, monuments, and landscaping spanning more than a century.

**Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)**

Cumming Cemetery is the contributing site on the nominated property. The stone wall-and-iron fence is the noncontributing structure on the nominated property. As stated in the nomination, there are approximately 702 objects in the cemetery, including 663 markers in family plots (some of which date from after 1954), three marble benches, and 36 small slabs with engraved crosses (placed in 1999) marking a small number of the unmarked graves.

**Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)**

**\*\*NOTE: The following history was compiled by Annette Bramblett, President, Historical Society of Forsyth County, Inc., December, 2003. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.**

In 1832, Forsyth County was carved from the original Cherokee County, along with nine other counties. Subsequently the land, consisting of 40-acre lots in the Forsyth County portion, was awarded at Milledgeville to fortunate drawers in the Cherokee Gold Lottery and Cherokee Land Lottery. Cumming was chartered by the Georgia Legislature as the seat of Forsyth County in 1834, the same year the first burial took place in what would later become Cumming Cemetery. In 1838, the remaining Cherokee Indians were removed from Georgia on the Trail of Tears. It is unknown whether any of the unmarked graves in Cumming Cemetery are those of slaves. Slave Schedules for 1840, 1850, and 1860, as compared with the list of white citizens in the town, indicate that there



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were few slaves in the City of Cumming. Cemeteries containing the graves of slaves and later "free persons of color" are scattered throughout the county at or near the locations of former plantations. A cemetery connected with the African-American Methodist church is located a short distance from Cumming Cemetery on the road later known as Tolbert Street.

The land lot on which Cumming Cemetery is situated, Land Lot #1269 in the Third District, First Section of Forsyth County, Georgia, was drawn by William Millirons, of Crawford County, in the Cherokee Gold Lottery of 1832. Millirons was sued by J. and R. Malone of Putnam County in 1834. To satisfy this lawsuit, Millirons' land lot in Forsyth County was put up for bids at a sheriff's sale on May 6, 1834 and purchased for \$1.00 by the Justices of the Inferior Court of Forsyth County to add to the City of Cumming, established on Land Lot #1270 in the same year.

Although the original town survey has been lost, the town was known to have ended at Resthaven Street, the southern boundary of the cemetery. In 1845, the Charter for the City of Cumming (originally enacted in 1834) was amended to add additional land to the town. The boundaries of the town were extended to include land within a mile radius of the courthouse.

Of the original 40 acres of Land Lot #1269, the Millirons lot, 2.81 acres were retained as public land and the remainder sold as "Town Lots." Cumming Baptist Church was established in 1835 adjacent to the 2.81 acres on the southwest side. A Presbyterian congregation purchased the town lot adjacent to the northwest corner of the cemetery property. This town lot contained one acre and was purchased between 1836 and 1856. Members of the Methodist church, located on the north side of Cumming, also utilized the public land as a burial ground as well. Early burials in Cumming Cemetery were associated with these churches. In 1856, the Presbyterian congregation disbanded, and in 1870 the Baptists relocated to the north side of town. The public land, once associated with these churches, came to be the city cemetery.

The public land evolved into a vernacular municipal cemetery. In common with the rural cemetery movement, Cumming Cemetery was established around elevated view sites at the city's outskirts. However, unlike typical 19th century cemeteries which were organized and operated by voluntary associations that sold individual plots to be marked and maintained by private owners, Cumming Cemetery developed on land set aside for public burials by the officials of Forsyth County.

Following the departure of the Baptist and Presbyterian churches, whose records are not extant, burials occurred randomly when local citizens sought to inter a family member. The practice of setting aside family plots began c.1875, with plot-defining barriers such as brick walls, coping, iron fencing and iron rails. The walls and coping have remained to the present day, but only vestiges of plot fencing and iron railings still exist.

During the historic period, employees of Georgia Marble at Tate and Marble Hill, Georgia, Roberts Monument Company, Consumers, and other marble processing businesses at Ball Ground, Georgia, crafted many of the monuments in Cumming Cemetery. Prior to 1960, four marble-finishing plants operated in Ball Ground, an important trade center and railroad shipping point for Forsyth County. A

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salesman named Bill Echols sold grave markers for several companies in the area. J.B. Gibbs (deceased 2002) was a renowned artist, with works in Washington, D.C. and Chicago, Illinois, who was employed by Georgia Marble for 15 years and subsequently operated his own monument company at Ball Ground.

The graves of a number of individuals who played key roles in the settlement period are located in Cumming Cemetery: Moses Whitsett, Hannah and William Blackstock, Robert Montgomery, Cash Willingham and Martha Willingham, William H. Ray, and Rev. John Whitaker McAfee. George W. Heard, Kirby Kemp, Fannie Harrison, Noah Strong, and Thomas Jefferson Pirkle are a few of the Cumming merchants laid to rest only blocks from their businesses around the square. And those who safeguarded the health of others, Dr. Marcus Mashburn, Sr. both Dr. John Hockenulls, Dr. Samuel S. Bailey, and Dr. Ansel Strickland, also lie in the cemetery. It may also be noted that the wealthiest Cumming citizens, the Willinghams, Estes, Baileys and Fosters, claimed the most desirable location, the highest point of the cemetery with outstanding vistas, to bury their dead and to erect their costly monuments.

The development of the cemetery parallels an evangelical movement called the Second Great Awakening in which the Baptists enjoyed the reputation of holding exciting revival meetings. These meetings were usually held once a year after harvest time to renew religious resolves and to bring those in sin to the Lord. The religious affiliation of the cemetery, through Cumming Baptist Church, extended also to the Hightower Association, an area organization of eleven Baptist churches, including Cumming Baptist Church.

Cumming Cemetery began with features common to the rural cemetery movement in America: an open, spacious field of irregular outline, uneven spacing of trees and specimen plants, and spiritually uplifting monuments. Influenced by the Victorian era in the aesthetics of funerary art, the cemetery, however, never embraced the aspects of formal landscape design of the rural cemetery movement. Nor were there internal roadways or walking paths established. Monuments did not follow a pattern of regular alignment, yet the graves were oriented with the feet to the east, a reflection of the Christian belief in the resurrection.

Burial in the cemetery was a culminating event that followed established practices in the area. Before the days of embalming, bodies were "laid out" (washed and dressed) by neighborhood friends. On the night following a death, neighbors sat up with the body and let the family sleep. The body was buried shortly thereafter, usually the following day. Church members dug the grave, transported the body to the cemetery, and later covered the grave. When embalming came to be an accepted practice, the laying out process was still employed. The funeral directors would come to the home, embalm the body, supply the casket and provide transportation. Church members continued to dig the grave. The funeral directors carried the body from the home to the church for the funeral and then transported it to the cemetery. After the final ceremony, church members covered the grave. As the Christian burial process evolved, the funeral directors picked up the body, embalmed it, and laid it out at the funeral home, then returned it to the home. The remainder of the ritual was the same as described above. Further changes came when the funeral directors began digging the

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graves. Another change, the modern custom of leaving the body at the funeral home, was gradually accepted, with friends and neighbors continuing to sit up with the body at night.

A noteworthy feature of the cemetery is its numerous military burials. With no official military cemeteries in close proximity to Cumming, the citizens of the area buried their soldiers and former soldiers in family plots throughout the cemetery. These interments bear testimony to the participation of local citizens in most United States wars except the American Revolution. No Civil War battles were fought in or near Forsyth County, but Cumming Cemetery tombstones attest to the large number of men from the area that served the Confederacy. Individuals whose graves indicate military service include:

**Mexican War**

George W. Willingham

**Civil War**

F.M. Bailey  
Dr. Samuel S. Bailey  
Wesley C. Beall  
Hiram Parks Bell  
James C. Blackstock  
John Cain, Jr.  
Possie Barksdale Callaway  
A.G. Carpenter  
William E. Davenport  
Eli H. Davis  
John Edmondson  
Lewis Edwards  
Langston Estes  
W.D. Fleming  
Rufus E. Guthrie  
Thomas W. Guthrie  
George W. Hallman  
Newton Harris  
Alfred G. Harrison  
John F. Harrison  
John F. Hawkins  
D. John Hockenhull  
James F. Humphrey  
Almon G. Hutchins  
M.C. Jackson  
John W. James  
J.L. Johnson  
C.T. Kemp

Dr. J.R. Knox  
Andrew Chapel McAfee  
James M. McAfee  
John Harvey Mashburn  
Robert Cicero Montgomery  
Frederick Adam Moore  
Dr. F.H. Nichols  
John Nolan  
Henry L. Patterson  
Josiah B. Patterson (buried Virginia)  
Marshall A. Phillips  
Jacob L. Sims  
John Smith  
Samuel Westbrook  
Thomas Willingham

**World War I**

Warren B. Brannon  
Maynard Mashburn  
John V. Merritt  
Jim Lowe Reeves  
Claude E. Terry

**World War II**

Loy W. Bagley  
Edwin Glenn Duke  
John Andrew Hatter  
Howard W. Hutchins  
George L. Merritt, Jr.  
John Walter Meyarski  
Ralph A. Salyers  
Fred C. Wills

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

Four graves have been moved from Cumming Cemetery to Sawnee View Gardens:

		<u>Permit Issued</u>
Arizone Rose Day	d. 5-30-1985	6-25-1992
Henry Ansel Poole, III	d. 12-10-1957	6-12-1985
Jimmy Heard	d. 5-12-1947	6-12-1985
William J. Poole	d. 1959	4-27-1976

One grave has been moved to Cumming Cemetery from Coal Mountain Baptist Church Cemetery:

Little Lumpkin Smith	d. 6-25-1914	7-10-1989
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Monument data from the cemetery, coupled with records from the U.S. Census of 1850, 1860, and 1870, indicate that, demographically, citizens followed a general pattern in their migration to the Cumming area from Virginia, through the Carolinas, through the eastern counties of Georgia (which were settled earlier than the northwestern section, the former Cherokee Indian Territory) and on to points westward.

Although Cumming Cemetery was not designed by an engineer or planner, it may be noted that its use has remained consistent since its inception in 1834. Tended by local citizens and families of the deceased for decades, the cemetery came under the care of the City of Cumming about 40 years ago. The City of Cumming and Gibbs Monument Company are responsible for the work completed in 1999, that includes the construction of a rock retaining wall, installation of a wrought-iron fence, the restoration of a number of tombstones, and the installation of crosses at some unmarked gravesites to prevent unauthorized probing.

Roads in Forsyth County played a role in burials during inclement weather. Near the mid-20th century, the only paved roads in the county were U.S. Highway 19, which ran from Atlanta through Roswell, Cumming, Dawsonville, Dahlonega and northward, and State Route 20, which bisected the county from east to west. Two individuals are buried in the cemetery, as related by their granddaughter, Carolyn Nuckolls Baker, because the hearse from Gainesville could not negotiate the muddy roads to reach Shady Grove Church, the planned burial site, in Forsyth County. The body of Laura Brown Nuckolls (d. 1947) was transported from Gainesville to Dawsonville, and south to Cumming on Highway 19 for burial in Cumming Cemetery. When her husband, Nathaniel B. Nuckolls, died in 1951, he was also buried at Cumming to prevent the couple from being separated.

The use of land surrounding the cemetery has changed over time from rural and residential to commercial, with government buildings located on the western boundary. The roads on the north, east, and west are now paved, with a heavy volume of traffic on State Route 9 (formerly U.S. Highway 19) and State Route 20. Cumming Cemetery is a tangible link with the past amid an area that is rapidly changing from rural to suburban. Cumming Cemetery's development paralleled that of the City of Cumming. Since the city records were destroyed in a fire and records of the adjacent churches are no longer extant, the cemetery as a historical record takes on greater significance.

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Section 8--Statement of Significance

The early leaders of the city and county are interred in the cemetery as well as the common townfolk. A study of the monuments of these individuals yields data in the following areas: social, economic, political, cultural, and religious. Cumming Cemetery is a significant source of historical data. For the individuals who led Cumming and Forsyth County from the end of the Cherokee era through the years of settlement and early development, their gravesites are an important record.

Listed below are Cumming/Forsyth County's political leaders and the offices in which they served:

	<b>Local</b>	
<u>Ordinaries</u>		
John W. McAfee	b. 23 Feb. 1799, d. 10 Jan. 1870	<u>Elected</u> 1851
R.L. Bagley	b. 17 May 1868, d. 7 Feb. 1940	1929-1932
T.F. Davis	b. 1874, d. 1938	1936
<u>Sheriffs</u>		
E.C. McAfee	b. 4 Aug. 1820, d. 21 Oct. 1901	1854
G.W. Hallman	b. 23 June 1818, d. 5 July 1869	1862
W.T. Merritt	b. 27 Aug. 1858, d. 11 Sept. 1935	1916
<u>Clerks of Superior Court</u>		
William H. Ray	age 47, d. 11 Nov. 1843	1836, 1838, 1840
Almon Hutchins	b. 26 Jan. 1809, d. 5 Mar. 1862	1854, 1856, 1858
William R. Otwell	b. 28 Jan. 1854, d. 18 Oct. 1912	1889, 1891, 1893
J.R. Echols	b. 1850, d. 1919	1900, 1902
H.S. Brooks	b. 9 July 1886, d. 11 Nov. 1950	1912, 1914, 1916, 1920, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1929
J.V. Merritt	b. 20 Aug. 1892, d. 8 Dec. 1864	1931, 1932, 1936, 1939-1958
<u>Tax Receiver</u>		
R.E. Guthrie	b. 14 Sept. 1841, d. 9 June 1909	1877, 1879, 1881, 1887
<u>Tax Collectors</u>		
E.S. Harris	b. 10 Oct. 1855, d. 11 Oct. 1920	1900, 1902, 1906
H.L. Hurt	b. 1877, d. 1933	1925, 1927, 1929, 1931
<u>Inferior Court Justices</u>		
W.B. Hutchins	b. 27 Aug. 1801, d. 28 June 1857	1841, 1853, 1857
Thomas Willingham	b. 4 Aug. 1820, d. 20 Feb. 1908	1858, 1865, 1866

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Clerk of Inferior Court

Almon Hutchins	b. 26 Jan. 1809, d. 5 Mar. 1865	1840, 1842, 1844, 1848, 1850, 1852
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Clerks of Court of Ordinary

William H. Ray	Age 47, d. 11 Nov., 1843	1834
John W. McAfee	b. 23 Feb. 1799, d. 10 Jan. 1870	1851

Coroners

Aulston B. Welborn	b. 31 Aug. 1811, d. 30 Oct. 1896	1833
Wesley C. Beal	b. 17 July 1836, d. 23 Dec. 1876	1866, 1868, 1971
W.T. Merritt	b. 27 Aug. 1858, d. 11 Sept. 1935	1915
Henry Pruitt	b. 1875, d. 1949	1931, 1939, 1942, 1942, 1943, 1945-194[9]

Forsyth County School Commissioners and Superintendents

H.L. Patterson	b. 28 Nov. 1844, d. 3 June 1925	<u>Served</u> 1892-1901
A.C. Kennemore	b. 2 Apr. 1882, d. 20 June 1968	1916-1924

Mayors of Cumming

Henry L. Patterson	b. 28 Nov. 1844, d. 3 June 1925	1920-1921
Dr. Marcus Mashburn, Sr.	b. 1890, d. 1978	1917, 1961-1966

**State**

Georgia Secession Convention

Hiram Parks Bell	b. 19 Jan. 1827, d. 16 Aug. 1907	1861
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Representatives in the Georgia General Assembly

E.C. McAfee	b. 4 Aug. 1820, d. 21 Oct. 1901	1857-1858
Thomas Willingham	b. 4 Aug. 1820, d. 20 Feb. 1908	1877
Perry D. Brown	b. 17 Oct. 1849, d. 25 Nov., 1921	1890-1891, 1911-1912
Hiram Parks Bell	b. 19 Jan. 1827, d. 16 Aug. 1907	1898-1899
John L. Johnson	b. 14 July 1846, d. 1 Sept. 1932	1923-1924
Nathaniel B. Nuckolls	b. 16 Aug. 1867, d. 12 Oct. 1951	1927-1928
W.H. Warren	b. 16 June 1886, d. 29 Aug. 1962	1939-1940
Marcus Mashburn, Sr.	b. 1890, d. 1978	1949-1950

Senators in the Georgia General Assembly

Almon G. Hutchins	b. 26 Jan. 1809, d. 5 Mar. 1862	1859-1860
Hiram Parks Bell	b. 19 Jan. 1827, d. 16 Aug. 1907	1861 (resigned 1862-war)
Elijah C. McAfee	b. 4 Aug. 1820, d. 21 Oct. 1901	1875-76, 1877
Hiram Parks Bell	b. 19 Jan. 1827, d. 16 Aug. 1907	1900-1901
Dr. Marcus Mashburn, Sr.	b. 1890, d. 1978	1929-1931, 1951-1952

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section 8--Statement of Significance

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**Regional**

Second Confederate Congress

Hiram Parks Bell                                      b. 19 Jan. 1827, d. 16 Aug. 1907                                      May 2, 1864 to March 18, 1865

**National**

United States House of Representatives

Hiram Parks Bell                                      b. 19 Jan. 1827, d. 16 Aug. 1907                                      1877 (45th Congress)

The cemetery is the burial site for Col. Hiram Parks Bell (1827-1907), an individual whose achievements are recognized at the local, state, regional, and national levels. Bell's home where he resided for most of his adult life was destroyed by fire, and the house where he spent his remaining years was later owned by the Kemp family and is known in the community as the Kemp House. Bell's grave in Cumming Cemetery is the only remaining site associated with Hiram Parks Bell. During his lifetime, he was a noted attorney in the Blue Ridge Circuit; a Civil War soldier; a delegate to the Georgia Secession Convention, which voted for Georgia to secede from the Union on January 19, 1861; a member of the Confederate Congress; a member of the Georgia Legislature; a member of the U.S. House of Representatives; a leader in the Masonic fraternity; a Methodist; and an author, penning Of Men and Things shortly before his death in 1907.

The pastors of note buried in the cemetery are:

Rev. J.J. Bannister	Born 12-23-1854	Died 4-2-1925
Rev. A.G. Carpenter	Born 8-1-1837	Died 9-31-1871
Rev. Robert Anderson Edmondson	Born 7-21-1875	Died 4-19-1960
Rev. J.H. Mashburn	Born 12-24-1833	Died 5-8-1927
Rev. John Whitaker McAfee	Born 2-23-1799	Died 1-10-1870
Rev. W.H. Warren, Sr.	Born 6-16-1886	Died 8-29-1962

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## 9. Major Bibliographic References

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**Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) N/A**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued  
date issued:
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other, Specify Repository:

**Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A**

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## 10. Geographical Data

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**Acreage of Property**      2.81 acres

### **UTM References**

A)    Zone 16      Easting 763720      Northing 3788400

### **Verbal Boundary Description**

The proposed boundary of the nominated property is indicated on the attached map by a heavy black line.

### **Boundary Justification**

The proposed boundary of the nominated property includes the intact portion of land historically associated with its use as a cemetery and includes all monuments within the boundary.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**State Historic Preservation Office**

**name/title** Holly L. Anderson, National Register Historian  
**organization** Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**mailing address** 47 Trinity Avenue, S.W., Suite 414-H  
**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30334  
**telephone** (404) 656-2840 **date** March 23, 2005  
**e-mail** holly\_anderson@dnr.state.ga.us

**Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable)** ( ) not applicable

**name/title** Annette Bramblett  
**organization** Historical Society of Forsyth County  
**mailing address** 2960 Dishroom Road  
**city or town** Cumming **state** Georgia **zip code** 30028  
**telephone** (770)887-8464  
**e-mail**

- ( ) property owner
- (X) consultant
- ( ) regional development center preservation planner
- ( ) other:

**Property Owner or Contact Information**

**name (property owner or contact person)** Gerald Black, Administrator  
**organization (if applicable)** City of Cumming  
**mailing address** 100 Main Street  
**city or town** Cumming **state** Georgia **zip code** 30040  
**e-mail (optional)**

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

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**Name of Property:** Cumming Cemetery  
**City or Vicinity:** Cumming  
**County:** Forsyth  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** July, 2004

**Description of Photograph(s):**

Number of photographs: 20

1. Photographer facing southwest.
2. Photographer facing west.
3. Photographer facing northwest.
4. Photographer facing southwest.
5. Photographer facing southwest.
6. Photographer facing west.
7. Photographer facing northwest.
8. Photographer facing northwest.
9. Photographer facing southwest.
10. Photographer facing northwest.
11. Photographer facing west.
12. Photographer facing west.
13. Photographer facing northwest.
14. Photographer facing northwest.
15. Photographer facing southwest.

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

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16. Photographer facing southwest.

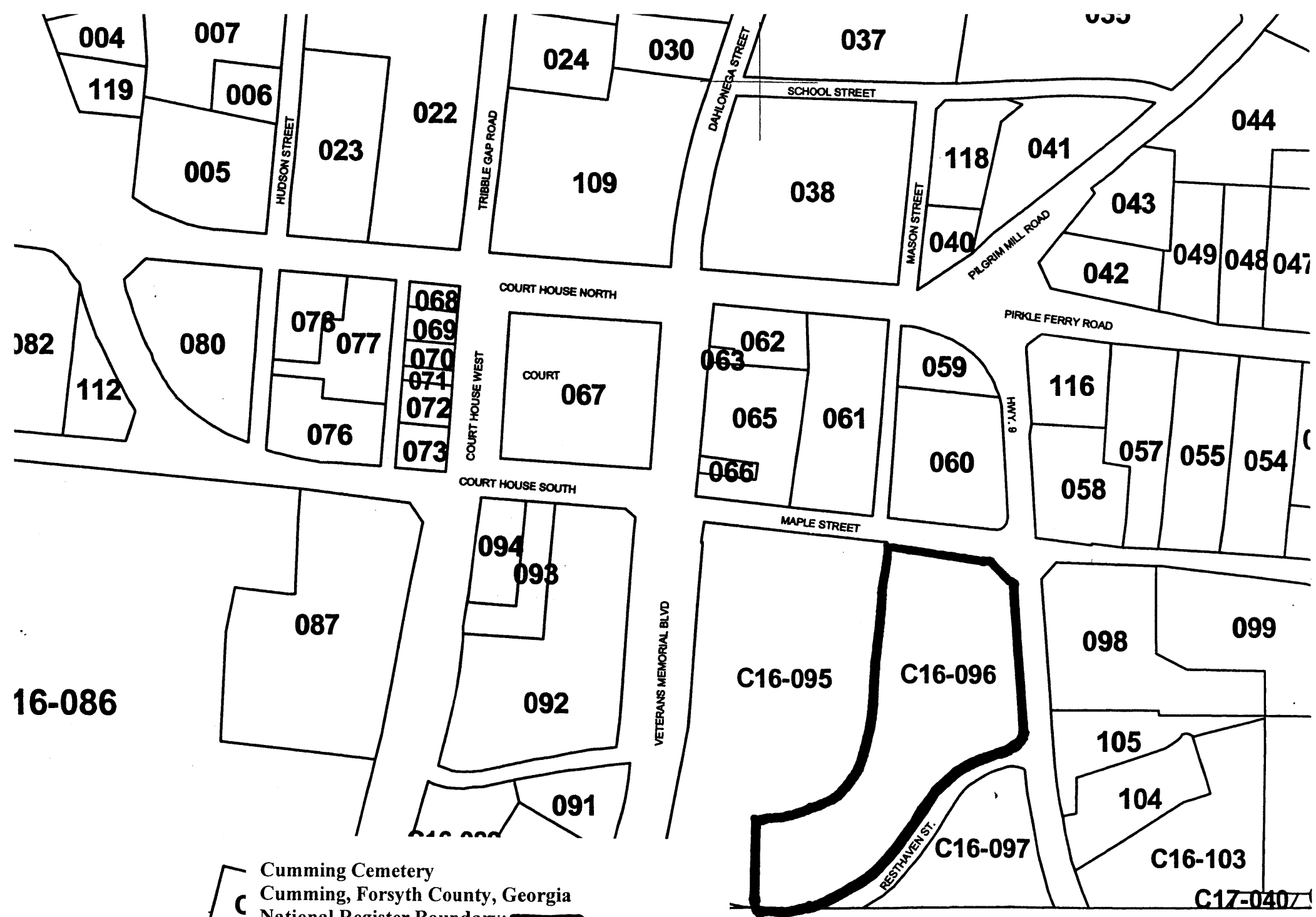
17. Photographer facing southwest.

18. Photographer facing southwest.

19. Photographer facing southwest.

20. Photographer facing southwest.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)



Cumming Cemetery  
 Cumming, Forsyth County, Georgia  
 National Register Boundary: **—————**

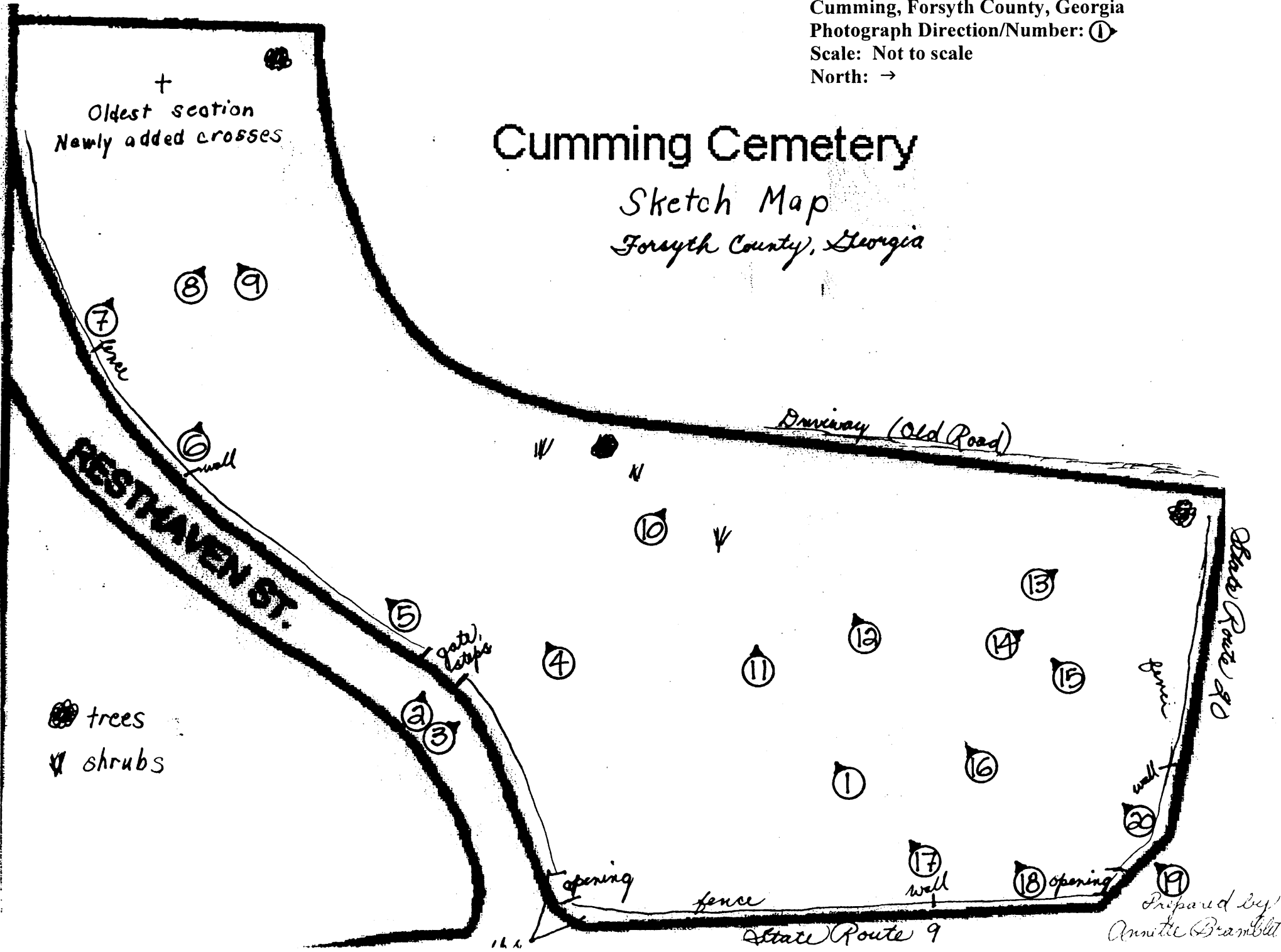
Scale: 1" = 200'

North: ↑

Cumming Cemetery  
Cumming, Forsyth County, Georgia  
Photograph Direction/Number: ①  
Scale: Not to scale  
North: →

# Cumming Cemetery

Sketch Map  
Forsyth County, Georgia



+  
Oldest section  
Newly added crosses

● trees  
v shrubs

Prepared by  
Annette Bramblett