



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Magnolia Cemetery  
other names/site number City Cemetery

2. Location

street & number 416 Magnolia Ave not for publication   
city or town Greenwood vicinity   
state South Carolina code SC county Greenwood code 047 zip code 29646

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility 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  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. (  See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Mary W. Edmonds 4/27/04  
Signature of certifying official Date

Mary W. Edmonds, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, S.C. Dept. of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.  
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register Edson H. Beall 4/27/04  
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Magnolia Cemetery  
Name of Property

Greenwood County, South Carolina  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

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

| Contributing | Noncontributing |            |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| _____        | _____           | buildings  |
| 1            | _____           | sites      |
| 2            | _____           | structures |
| _____        | _____           | objects    |
| 3            | 0               | Total      |

Name of related multiple property listing  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)  
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed  
in the National Register  
0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Funerary

Subcategory: Cemetery

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Category: Funerary

Subcategory: Cemetery

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A  
walls N/A  
roof N/A  
other \_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- a owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- b removed from its original location.
- c a birthplace or a grave.
- d a cemetery.
- e a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- f a commemorative property.
- g less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History  
Community Planning & Development  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1871-1950  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Dates**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Architect/Builder**

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Statement of Significance**

Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- 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
- Name of repository:  
Abbeville-Greenwood Regional Library

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreage of Property** Approximately 4 acres

### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

| Zone | Easting | Northing      | Zone           | Easting | Northing |               |                |
|------|---------|---------------|----------------|---------|----------|---------------|----------------|
| 1    | 17      | <u>393613</u> | <u>3783837</u> | 3       | 17       | <u>393648</u> | <u>3783626</u> |
| 2    | 17      | <u>393732</u> | <u>3783695</u> | 4       | 17       | <u>393528</u> | <u>3783780</u> |

     See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Heather Lewis (with assistance from National Register staff, South Carolina SHPO)  
 organization \_\_\_\_\_ date 1 October 2003  
 street & number 123 Countryside Drive telephone (843) 903-3991  
 city or town Myrtle Beach state SC zip code 29579

## Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

#### Photographs

Representative **black and white** photographs of the property.

#### Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

## Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Steve Rhodes, Magnolia Cemetery Association  
 street & number 108 Sagewood telephone (864) 229-1200  
 city or town Greenwood state SC zip code 29646

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.). **Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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Magnolia Cemetery  
Name of Property  
Greenwood County, South Carolina  
County and State

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Magnolia Cemetery, sometimes known as the City Cemetery, was established in 1871 and is a mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth century cemetery in Greenwood, South Carolina.

The cemetery, located on Magnolia Avenue in a residential neighborhood of Greenwood, sits on a four-acre tract also bounded by James Street on the northeast, Baptist Avenue on the southeast, and Byrd Street on the southwest. Within the tract, a driveway encircles the cemetery and divides it into three sections. The driveways crossing the cemetery run on the diagonal and conform to the east-west orientation of the grave markers. The graveyard is laid out in a regular grid plan and contains approximately 1,600 to 1,800 graves. Grave markers are primarily granite or marble tablets, obelisks, square, stepped monuments capped with urns, and several Confederate grave markers, some of which still feature cast iron Maltese crosses. Most family lots are delineated with stone coping, while only a few have decorative iron fence enclosures with entry gates. Burials date from 1872 to the present. In some cases, vandals have broken, toppled, or otherwise damaged stones. Several early graves are sunken. Burials still take place here occasionally.

This cemetery contains little discernable landscaping other than six coniferous trees along the James Street boundary and two mature Tuscan cedars near the graveyard's center. Two notable features are a 1922 Gothic-influenced, rock-faced granite shelter near the center of the cemetery and the 1941 open brick wall with concrete bevel-capped brick posts surrounding the cemetery. Both of these structures contribute to the historic and architectural significance of the property.

The granite shelter, an open arcaded pavilion, contains three pointed arches on either side and one pointed arch on either end. Featuring a decorative metal shingle-clad lateral gable roof, parapet walls with cast stone coping and double-shouldered buttresses at each corner on the sides and ends, the shelter is accessed by concrete steps through the center arch along the main driveway. A dedicatory stone is set within the pediment above the entry, while a cornerstone is visible at the northwest corner. The structure contains a concrete slab floor and a wooden interior ceiling.

The Magnolia Cemetery Association, chartered in 1923, maintains the cemetery.

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Magnolia Cemetery, established in 1871 with its first burial the following year, is significant as the second cemetery in Greenwood and for its association with many prominent citizens of the town from the late nineteenth century to the late twentieth century. It is also an excellent example of a late-nineteenth through mid-twentieth century cemetery reflecting typical burial customs and gravestone art during the period.

The Old Greenwood Cemetery, established ca. 1860 as the cemetery for Main Street Methodist Church and later an early city cemetery, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

In 1871 J.D. Creswell, a member of Rock Presbyterian Church, proposed the establishment of a cemetery in Greenwood, and several leading citizens founded the Greenwood Cemetery Company to purchase a city lot for that purpose. The first officers of the company were Dr. Ephraim R. Calhoun, president; A.M. Aiken, vice president; and Creswell A.C. Waller, secretary-treasurer.

The group purchased a lot on the corner of Byrd and Tanyard Streets for their cemetery, but it was rejected as a suitable site since some citizens believed it was too close to the courthouse square. This lot—an agricultural field that had been cultivated in cotton and which was on what was then the outskirts of the town—was purchased from J.T. Parks. The first burial at Magnolia Cemetery, not far from the present entrance, was that of John Robert Whitlock (1854-1872), son of W.H. and S.A. Whitlock, who died of an accidental gunshot wound at the age of fourteen.<sup>1</sup>

The cemetery was most often called “City Cemetery” until about 1920, when the name “Magnolia Cemetery” began to be associated with it; the Magnolia Cemetery Association was chartered in 1923.

Among the prominent persons buried in Magnolia Cemetery are:

**D. Wyatt Aiken** (1828-1887), Confederate colonel who commanded the 7<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Infantry until disabled by wounds in 1862, state representative 1862-66, agricultural reformer and leader of the Grange movement in South Carolina, publisher of the magazine *Rural Carolinian*, secretary and treasurer of the Agricultural and Mechanical Society of South Carolina 1869, member of the executive committee of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry 1873-1885, and United States congressman 1876-1886;<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> “Magnolia Cemetery Started In 1871; Stockholders Bought Cotton Patch,” *The Index-Journal* (Greenwood, S.C.), Centennial Edition, 14 September 1957.

<sup>2</sup> Ann Herd Bowen, *Greenwood County: A History* (Kingsport, Tenn.: Arcata Graphics Company, 1992), pp. 307-09; *Biographical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774-1989: Bicentennial Edition* (Washington, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1989), p. 515.

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**Andrew Alexander Blyth** (1808-1892), a native of Scotland who emigrated to America by 1829 and to Greenwood County by 1846, a craftsman making cabinets, wagons, buggies, and coffins;<sup>3</sup>

**William V. Blyth** (1854-1929), son of Andrew A. Blyth, who founded the business that became Blyth Funeral Home in 1884, the first undertaker in South Carolina to do embalming, and the first to use a motor vehicle instead of a horse-drawn carriage for a hearse;<sup>4</sup>

**John I. Chipley** (1873-1944), who first sold bicycles and motorcycles, then was Greenwood's first automobile salesman, selling Fords for many years at the "John I. Chipley Auto Exchange" and owning several successful automobile dealerships in the state and in North Carolina as well;<sup>5</sup>

**Thomas White Cothran** (1874-1923), native of Greenwood, engineer, and architect, who served as an assistant engineer or engineer for construction with several railroads, most notably the Seaboard Air Line Railway and the Norfolk Southern Railway, and who designed many buildings in Greenwood from 1908 to 1923, including Greenwood City Hall (1908-09), buildings at the Connie Maxwell Orphanage (1909), Greenwood Episcopal Church (1911), additions to buildings at Lander College (1911 and 1920), and the James C. Self House, built in 1917-18 and listed in the National Register in 1987;<sup>6</sup>

**William L. Durst** (1843-1902), Confederate veteran, merchant, business entrepreneur, and first president of Greenwood Cotton Mill from its founding in 1890 until his death;<sup>7</sup>

**John K. Durst** (1851-1927), younger brother of William L. Durst, founder and first president of the Bank of Greenwood, serving from 1888 until his death, president of Greenwood Cotton Mill 1902-1906, Greenwood city councilman 1899-1905, state representative 1915-16, state senator 1917-18, and Greenwood County clerk of court 1917-18;<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Bowen, p. 49; Margaret L. Watson, comp., *Greenwood County Sketches: Old Roads and Early Families*, [reprinting articles by Harry Legare Watson, "On Old Roads," from the *Index-Journal*, 1950] (Greenwood: The Attic Press, 1970), pp. 159-160.

<sup>4</sup> Bowen, pp. 49, 310; Watson, p. 160.

<sup>5</sup> Bowen, pp. 46-47.

<sup>6</sup> Bowen, pp. 182, 258-259; Yates Snowden, ed., *History of South Carolina* (Chicago and New York: The Lewis Company, 1920), Volume V (Biographical), pp. 81-82; John E. Wells and Robert E. Dalton, *The South Carolina Architects 1885-1935: A Biographical Dictionary* (Richmond: New South Architectural Press, 1992), pp. 106-07.

<sup>7</sup> Bowen, pp. 46, 168-172.

<sup>8</sup> Bowen, pp. 46, 51, 168; N. Louise Bailey, Mary L. Morgan, and Carolyn R. Taylor, *Biographical Directory of the South Carolina Senate 1776-1985*, (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1986), Volume I, p. 445.

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**Samuel C. Hodges** (1874-1957), pharmacist, partner in Lee and Hodges Drug Store 1899-1904, founder and owner of Hodges Drug Store 1904-1957, president of the South Carolina Pharmaceutical Association, Greenwood city councilman for ten years, and state senator 1929-1932;<sup>9</sup>

**David Augustus Parker Jordan** (d. 1901), merchant and entrepreneur who founded Grendal Mill, Greenwood's second textile mill, in 1896, and served as its first president until his death;<sup>10</sup>

**Robert F. McCaslan** (1836-1907), Confederate veteran as a captain of Company C, 19<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Infantry, militia colonel after the Civil War, delegate to the 1895 South Carolina Constitutional Convention, sheriff of Greenwood County 1897-1907, and intendent (or mayor) of Greenwood;<sup>11</sup>

**Creswell Archimedes Calhoun Waller** (1838-1920), Confederate veteran as a lieutenant in Company H, 64<sup>th</sup> Georgia Infantry and captain of Company G of the same regiment, merchant, realtor, intendent (or mayor) of Greenwood 1872-75 and 1884-88, state representative 1888-89, state senator 1898-1900 and 1909-1912;<sup>12</sup> and

**John O. Willson** (1845-1923), Confederate veteran, Methodist minister, and educator, the second president of Lander College (formerly Williamston Female College)—succeeding his father-in-law, Samuel Lander (1833-1904), for whom the college was renamed—from 1904 until his death.<sup>13</sup>

Magnolia Cemetery's one architectural element, a Gothic revival, rock-faced granite shelter constructed in memory of **Nellie Screws** (1870-1917), a native of Alabama and educator who was one of three teachers who were the first to teach in the new Greenwood Graded School when it opened in 1891; she taught first grade there until her death. Though Greenwood citizens lobbied her family to allow Miss Screws to be buried in Greenwood, the Screws family insisted that she be buried in a family plot in Alabama. Citizens then organized the Nellie Screws Memorial Association and began raising money for a memorial to her in Greenwood.

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<sup>9</sup> Bowen, pp. 31-34; David Duncan Wallace, *History of South Carolina* (New York: American Historical Society, 1934), Volume IV (Biographical), p. 793; Bailey, et al, *Biographical Directory of the South Carolina Senate 1776-1985*, Volume II, pp. 731-32.

<sup>10</sup> Bowen, pp. 76, 92, 354; *The Index-Journal* (Greenwood, S.C.), 23 August 1906.

<sup>11</sup> Bowen, pp. 85-91, 239; N. Louise Bailey, et al, *Biographical Directory of the South Carolina Senate 1776-1985*, Volume III, pp. 1668-1670.

<sup>12</sup> Bowen, pp. 255, 263, 264, 266.



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The rock-faced granite shelter at the center of the cemetery was dedicated in 1922, five years after her death.<sup>14</sup> A tablet bears the following inscription:

NELLIE SCREWS  
1870-1917.  
FOR TWENTY FIVE YEARS A TEACHER  
OF LITTLE CHILDREN IN THE  
GREENWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Magnolia Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A as the second cemetery in the town and for its association with prominent people of nineteenth and twentieth century Greenwood. It is also eligible under Criterion Consideration D because it derives its significance from its association with the early growth and development of Greenwood and from graves of persons important in the community.

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<sup>14</sup> Bowen, pp. 149-151.

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Bibliography

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- Bowen, Ann Herd. *Greenwood County: A History*. Kingsport, Tenn.: Arcata Graphics Company, 1992.
- Historical Directory of the United States Congress, 1774-1989: Bicentennial Edition*. Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1989.
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- Snowden, Yates, editor. *History of South Carolina*. Chicago and New York: The Lewis Company, 1920. Volume V: Biographical.
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Verbal Boundary Description

The Magnolia Cemetery is bounded by Magnolia Avenue on the north, Baptist Avenue on the south, Byrd Street on the west, and James Street on the east.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property encompasses the historic boundaries of the cemetery as established in 1871.

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The following information is the same for each of the photographs:

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Name of Property:               | Magnolia Cemetery                                       |
| Location of Property:           | 416 Magnolia Ave  |
| Name of Photographer:           | Sue Lawrence  |
| Date of Photographs:            | August 2003   |
| Location of Original Negatives: | S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C. |

1. Overview of cemetery, looking south
2. Overview of cemetery, looking west to east
3. Overview of cemetery, looking east (back part)
4. Overview of cemetery, looking west
5. Nellie Screws Memorial (1922), with inscription
6. Northwestern side view of Nellie Screws Memorial (1922)
7. East (front) view of Nellie Screws Memorial (1922)
8. East side view of Nellie Screws Memorial (1922)
9. West (back) view of Nellie Screws Memorial (1922)
10. View of cemetery, looking west
11. View of cemetery, looking east
12. Grave of Josie Simmons (d. 1894)
13. Durst Family Plot, including graves of John K. Durst (d. 1927), at left,  
and William L. Durst (d. 1902), at right
14. Grave of Robert F. McCaslan, Jr. (d. 1963)
15. Grave of David Augustus Parker Jordan (d. 1901)
16. McKellar Family Plot, including grave of Nora V. McKellar (d. 1901) at right
17. Grave of Edna Casey (d. 1913), at left
18. Typical nineteenth century gravestone and plot surrounded by iron fence
19. Grave of an unknown Confederate soldier