Form 10-300 (July 1969)

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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AND/OR HISTORIC:	Oeille cei y		Comment of the commen	
LOCATION				
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Arkansas	u badina	CODE COUN	Pulaski	119
CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	C	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building	▼ Public	Public Acquisition:	Occupied	Yes:
	☐ Private	☐ In Process	☐ Unoccupied	Restricted
Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Conside	ered Preservation	
			in progres	s No
PRESENT USE (Check One or	More as Appropriate)			
	ndustrial 🔲	Private Residence Religious	Transportation Other (Specify) Cemetery	The second secon
☐ Entertainment ☐ M	Nuseum	Scientific		
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	☐ Alter	ed	Unaltered	DE A SILEA MIN	☐ Moved	Original Site

Mount Holly Cemetery is an area equal to four city blocks of the City of Little Rock. The cemetery fronts on Broadway Street, is bounded on the north by 11th Street, the south by 13th Street, and the west by Gaines Street. The Broadway entrance is marked by an imposing structure of stone and iron, and the four block square area is enclosed in a stone and iron fence which dates from 1881. The cemetery has a park-like appearance, generously shaded with tall and stately trees. Many of these trees are so old as to have trunk diameters in excess of 30 inches. Beebe Avenue, which extends through the cemetery from the east entrance to the rear fence on the west side, is broad and attractive. Beebe Avenue is intersected at right angles by 16 lanes running north and south. These lanes are named after trees and flowers. Family and individual grave plots front upon these lanes.

This cemetery is quaint, imposing, and inspiring. It provides examples of 126 years of funerary sculptures which range from the simple, traditional, chiseled stones of the middle 19th century to the ornate and grandiose monuments of the 1880-1890 period.

Since the cemetery stands on the four city blocks which were originally donated, and has not expanded beyond those limits, the land itself must appear much the same today as it did in 1843.

Mount Holly cemetery is still an active cemetery. Despite the fact that it has been in existence for over 126 years, there are still burial plots available and there are several burials a year.

There are no restrictive covemants applicable to the cemetery, and over the years persons of all races, creeds, and colors have been buried here.



IGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	№ 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applical	ble and Known) Febru	ary 23, 1843	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	iate)	
Abor iginal	■ Education	Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	Science	
☐ Architecture	☐ Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
☐ Commerce	Literature	itarian	
Communications	Military	☐ Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

If ever a cemetery was significant in the history of a state and a city, Mount Holly is that cemetery. While it was not the first public burying ground in the city, it was established less than seven years after Arkansas became a state. Thus, its history is very closely tied to that of the State of Arkansas and the City of Little Rock.

In 1839 the town council of the town of Little Rock began to realize the need for a larger and more adequate cemetery. Albert Pike seems to have been the instigator of the effort to establish a large cemetery. On February 23, 1843, Chester Ashley and Roswell Beebe were asked to donate the land. They gave four blocks which were to be used for burial purposes only. There is a provision in the deeds whereby the land returns to the original owners if, at any time, it is used for any purpose other than a cemetery.

The first lots were sold at a public sale in May of 1843, and were bought for \$5 each. The price was raised to \$7.50 in 1844, to \$10 in 1850, and \$50 in 1886. The first burial in Mount Holly was that of William Cummins in 1843.

By the beginning of the 20th century the older portions of the cemetery were beginning to display evidence of neglect and deterioration. In many cases there were no descendants of the early interees left to care for the burial plots. On June 9, 1914, there was a meeting of 36 women who were interested and concerned over the condition of Mount Holly. This was the nucleus of the Mount Holly Cemetery Association. The Little Rock City Council was happy to work with these civic minded women and in June of 1915 adopted an ordinance for the maintenance of Mount Holly which formally recognized the cooperative effort between this private civic organization and the city. The constitution and by-laws of the Mount Holly Cemetery Association were adopted June 21, 1915, and the association was incorporated July 20, 1915. This organization has maintained and improved this historic cemetery from that date until the present.

(See Continuation Sheet)

!	MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES			
	American Guide Series, <u>Arkansas, A Guide to the State</u> , Hastings House, 1941.	New	York:	

Arkansas Gazette, February 23, 1843; March 7, 1843; December 5, 1937. 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES R CORNER LATITUDE LONGITUDE LATITUDE LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds Degrees Minutes Seconds Degrees Minutes Seconds Degrees Minutes NW 34 44 18 16 NE SF SW APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES STATE: COUNTY CODE CODE STATE: COUNTY: CODE STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE STATE: CODE COUNTY: CODE FORM PREPARED BY NAME AND TITLE: Jack E. Porter, Administrator, Historic Preservation Program Arkansas Planning Commission 12/9/69 STREET AND NUMBER: Game and Fish Building CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE Little Rock Arkansas 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION As the designated State Liaison Officer for the Na-I hereby certify that this property is included in the tional Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law National Register. 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation level of significance of this nomination is: National X State Local 1970 MAR 5 ATTEST: John M. Peterson Executive Director Arkansas Planning Commission Keeper of The National Register FEB 1 7 1970 Date

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Arkansas	
COUNTY	
Pulaski	
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(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE, CONT'D

Mount Holly Cemetery has been called the "Westminster Abbey of Arkansas." In it are buried 10 former Arkansas Governors, 3 United States Senators, 12 Arkansas Supreme Court Justices, 20 Mayors of the City of Little Rock, and 5 Confederate generals. Private individuals who contributed to the making of Arkansas and its history are also buried here. Some of them are: William E. Woodruff, founder of the Arkansas Gazette; David O. Dodd, boy martyr of the Confederacy, executed as a spy at age 17; Sandford Faulkner, who originated the "Arkansas Traveler"; Cephas Washburn, missionary to the Indians, who preached the first sermon in Little Rock, and John Gould Fletcher, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for poetry.

(See also appended list of notables buried in Mount Holly)



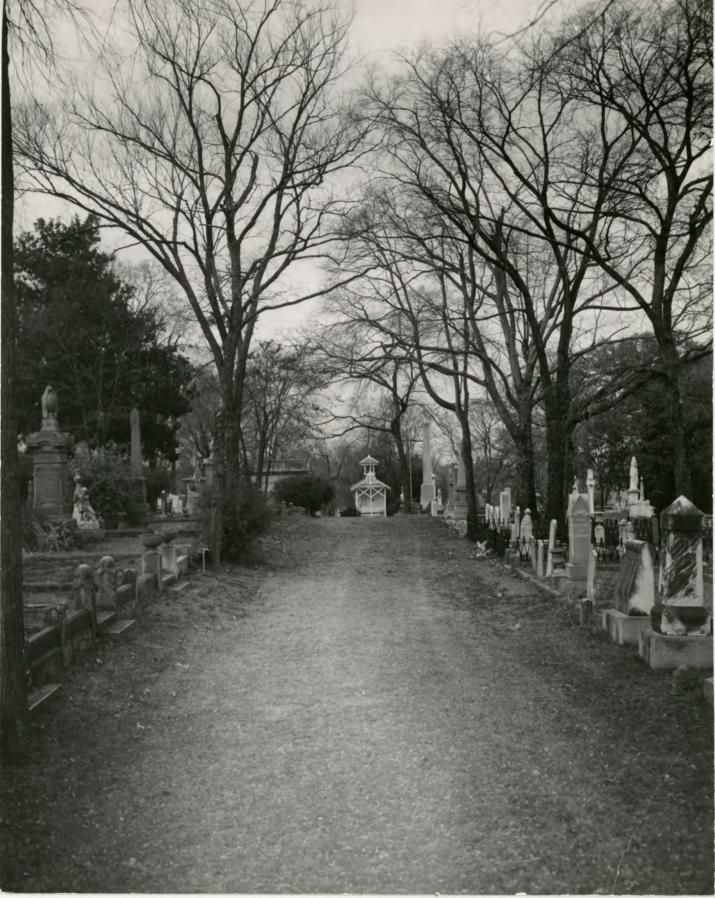


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PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

STATE		
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FOR NPS USE O	NLY	
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	NAME		
	соммом: Mount Holly Cemetery		
	AND/OR HISTORIC:		
2.	LOCATION		
	STREET AND NUMBER: 12th Street and Broadway		
	Little Rock		
	Arkansas CODE COUNTY:	ulaskin	1
3. F	PHOTO REFERENCE	7.00	
	РНОТО CREDIT: Mrs. George Rose Smith	10 Th F	
	DATE OF PHOTO: 1967	72 0 0	
	Arkansas History Commission	500 00	
4.	IDENTIFICATION		
	DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		
	Bell house in Mount Holly cemetery.	181	



token aug 1967
by Robert ME Cara
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NPS Number 70.3.03.000 # 2

Title: Tornbitone, Mount Holly

Cernetery # 2

Loc. Little Kock, ark.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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**********	DENTIFICATION				
1	DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.				
	View of ornate tombstone in Moun	t Holly	cemetery.		



Ong 67 Robert M2 Cara MLR Times

NPS Number 70.3.03.000\$

Title: Morument, Mount

Holly Cemetery #3

Loc. Little Roch, ark.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock	- May so the
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE	
PHOTO CREDIT: Mrs. George Rose Smith	(6) (8)
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Arkansas History Commission	1
4. IDENTIFICATION	
View of one of the larger monuments in to the left will give some idea of the age cemetery.	n Mount Holly. The tree e of the trees in the



Ong 67, By Robert Mil Cord NUR Times

NPS Number . 70.3.03.000\$

Title: Bell House, Mount

Holly Cernetery # 4

Loc. Little Hock, ark.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

FOR NPS USE ON	LY	-
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3. PHOTO REFERENCE	V077
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DATE OF PHOTO: 1967	
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DESCRIBE VIEW DIRECTION ETC	

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> Looking from the south to the north at the bell house in the center of the cemetery.

Form 10-301 (July 1969)

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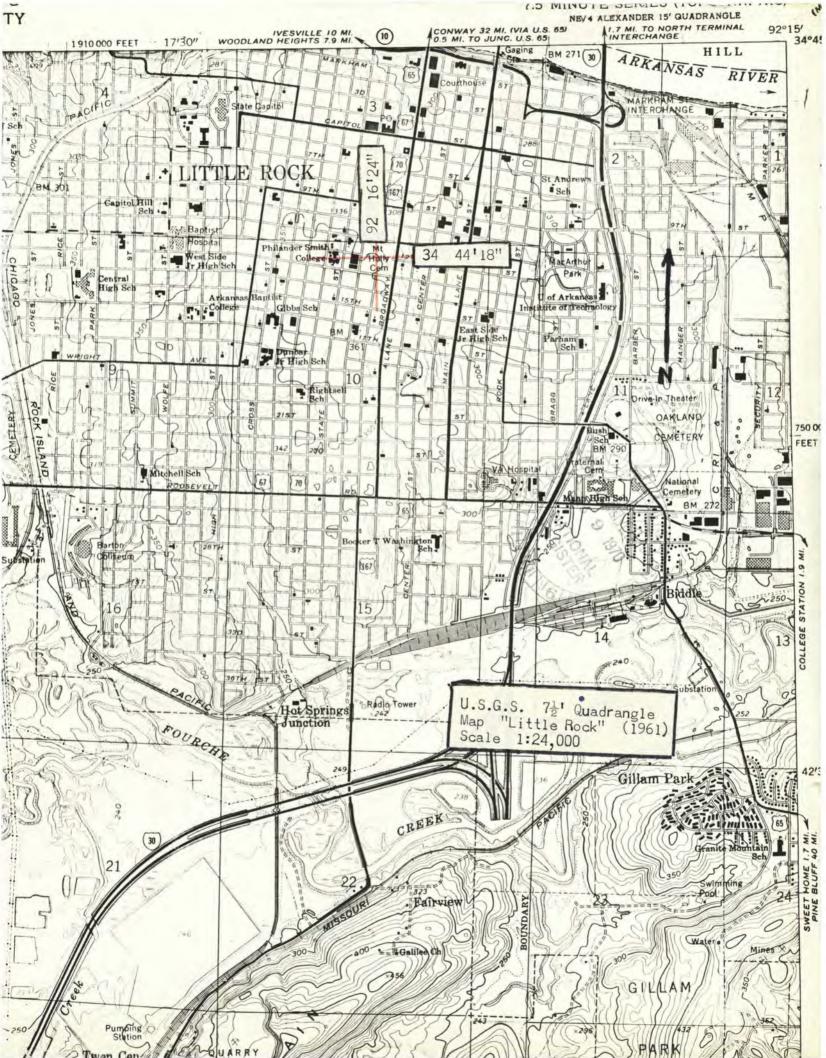
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: 12th Street and Broadway CITY OR TOWN: Little Rock STATE: Arkansas 3. MAP REFERENCE SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7½! Quadrangle, "Little Rock" SCALE: 1:24,000 DATE: 1961 4. REQUIREMENTS TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS 1. Property broundaries where required. 2. North arrow.		AND/OR H	Mount Holly Cemetery					
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We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nowinsted by the efficur appointed by the Covernor for the implementation of the lational distoric Properation Propes in Artenses and have been entered into the "Retional Register of Rictoric Maces." Senator F. V. Pubright and Depresentative Wilher D. Mills have also bero provided with this improvation. A leaflet explaining the Entireet Resister is emclosed.

Sincercly fours.

Extent Allen Connolly Chief, Office of Archeology and idetectic dressaration

inclounted

Entered in the National Register

Dr. John M. Peterson, Executive Director, Arkansas Planning Commission, Little Nock, Arkensas 72201

Puplicate letters sent to: : Thon. F. W. Fulbright United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Hon. Wilbur D. Mills House of Representatives Vachington, D. C.

ce: Regional Director, Southcast Region

1134-III

Properties added to the Betianni Segister of Sistories! Places

Americans.

The Tevern-Arkenses Territorial Restoration - Little Hock, Arkenses Mount Bolly Cemetery - Little Hock, Arkenses

MOUNT HOLLY CEMETERY

The Westminster Abbey of Arkansas



22-George IZARD (Territorial) also Maj. Gen. War of 1812 24-William S. FULTON (Territorial) also U.S. Senator 11-Thomas J. CHURCHILL 31-Elias N. CONWAY 33-Henry M. RECTOR, also State Supreme Court Justice 55-William R. MILLER 60-James P. EAGLE 61-Jeff DAVIS, also U.S. Senator 63-Simon P. HUGHES, also State Supreme Court Justice 4-Augustus H. GARLAND, also U.S. Senator and Attorney General of the United States

ARKANSAS SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

26-Thomas JOHNSON, Chief Justice
21-George C. WATKINS, Chief Justice
21-George C. WATKINS, Chief Justice
22-Sterling R. COCKRILL, Chief Justice
33-William Wallace WILSHIRE, Chief Justice
12-Benjamin JOHNSON, Associate Justice
(Territorial)
31-William CONWAY, Associate Justice
41-John J. CLENDENIN, Associate Justice
73-William Wright SMITH, Associate Justice
31-Wilson E. HEMINGWAY, Associate Justice

47-Daniel RINGO, First Chief Justice

59-B. B. BATTLE. Associate Justice

UNITED STATES SENATORS

12-Ambrose H. SEVIER, also Minister to Mexico 12-Robert W. JOHNSON 22-Chester ASHLEY, one of donors of Mt. Holly

CONFEDERATE GENERALS

11-Maj. Gen. Thomas J. CHURCHILL 54-Maj. Gen. James Fleming FAGAN 84-Brig. Gen. Allison NELSON 77-Brig. Gen. Albert RUST, grave not located 21-Brig. Gen. John Edward MURRAY, who was killed at Battle of Atlanta before his nomination was confirmed

COUNTIES NAMED FOR MEN BURIED IN MT. HOLLY

4-GARLAND, Augustus H. 12-SEVIER, Ambrose H. 22-IZARD, George 22-ASHLEY, Chester 24-FULTOD, William Savin 25-WOODRUFF, William E. 36-FAULKNER, Sandford C. 27-NEWTON, Thomas W.

OF MASONIC INTEREST

40-Masonic Plot 38-Family lot of Albert Pike 32-Fay Hempstead, Poet Laureate of Freemasonry 37-Samuel Calhoun Roane, organizer of first Masonic Lodge in Ark. Territory in 1819, also designed the Seal of Arkansas Territory

OF GENERAL INTEREST

30-George G. WORTHEN, early banker

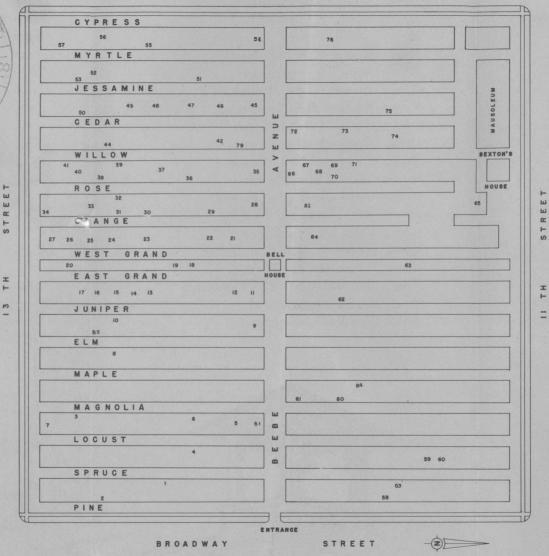
72-W. B. WORTHEN, early banker

47-Frederick W. TRAPNALL, attorney and Whig leader; built Trapnall Hall(present Junior League Hdq.)

50-Dr. Lorenzo GIBSON, member of legislature

GAINES

STREET



MAYORS OF LITTLE ROCK

14-Dr. Matthew CUNNINGHAM, First Mayor
24-David FULTON
43-James PITCHER
7-Dr. John J. MCALMONT
9-John G. FLETCHER
16-John E. KNIGHT
22-William E. ASHLEY
23-Roswell BEEBE, one of donors of Mt. Holly
34-Dr. R. L. DODGE
42-John WASSELL, finishing contractor for old
Statehouse

46-Gordon PEAY
48-Lambert J. REARDON
49-Thomas D. MERRICK
51-Jesse BROWN
78-Eli COLEY
79-Andrew J. HUTT
86-S. H. WEBB
82-J. G. BOTSFORD
85-J. A. WOODSON
64-Charles BERTRAND

- 76-Col. James MITCHELL, CSA. Editor of both Gazette
- 56-Samuel ADAMS, President of the Senate; acting
- 75-Group of stones moved from old cemetery at 5th and Gaines
- 25-William E. WOODRUFF, founder of the <u>Arkansas</u> Gazette
- I-Dr. Isaac FOLSOM, founder of first City
- 8-David O. DODD, Boy Martyr of Confederacy, executed at age 17 as spy
- 36-Sandford FAULKNER, who originated "The Arkansas Traveler"
- 71-Edward Payson WASHBURN, who painted "The Arkansas Traveler"
- 71-Cephus WASHBURN, Missionary to Indians, who preached the first sermon in Little Rock-1820
- 70-Charles Fenton Mercer NOLAND, who carried Statehood Constitution to Washington for ratification, in 1836; "Pete Whetstone"
- 39-Quatie, Indian wife of Cherokee Chief, John Ross: died 1839
- 80-Edward N. WEIGEL, who discovered bauxite in Arkansas, 1887
- 14-Eliza Bertrand CUNNINGHAM, first white woman resident, and her son
- 14-Chester CUNNINGHAM, the first white child born in Little Rock
- 21-Isaac WATKINS, in whose home the first Baptist Church was organized, 1824
- 26-John H. CREASE, founder of Christ Episcopal Church
- 57-State Plot for Members of Legislature who died during session
- 5-Maj. J. L. PALMER, founder of first Temperance Society in Arkansas
- 9-John Gould FLETCHER, winner of Pulitzer Prize for poetry
- 18-Rev. Thomas R. WELCH, founder first Presbyterian Church in Arkansas
- 2-Dr. Weldon Edwards WRIGHT, financed Brooks Baxter War
- 6-Brig. Gen. James Ancil SHIPTON, USA, organized anti-aircraft and trench mortar schools
- 3-George R. MANN, architect State Capitol Building
- 10-Absolom FOWLER, attorney
- 27-Thomas W. NEWTON, U.S. House of Representatives, only Whig ever elected from Arkansas
- 12-Richard Henry JOHNSON, editor Ark. True Democrat
- 12-Robert Ward JOHNSON, U.S. House of Representatives, CSA Senate
- 17-Rev. Joshua Fry GREEN, Presbyterian leader
- 21-Maria WATKINS, second white woman resident of Little Rock
- 28-Samuel M. WEAVER, Secretary of State of Ark.
- 28-Lt. Omer WEAVER, first Little Rock man killed in Civil War, August 10, 1861-Battle of Oak Hill

Mount Holly Cemetery is owned by the City of Little Rock, the four-square block area having been donated for that purpose in 1843 by Chester Ashley and Roswell Beebe.

The oldest birthdate is of Peter LeFevre, born in Canada in 1750, died in 1820. The first interment is of William Cummins in April, 1843.

In many instances there are now no living direct descendants of persons buried here: therefore the care of a number of graves has become the responsibility of the general public. The City levies a small tax on each lot, and these funds, along with the dues of members of the Mount Holly Cemetery Association and memorials, are used to maintain the cemetery. The affairs of Mt. Holly are administered by a group of ladies, organized for that purpose in 1915, who work voluntarily to maintain this historic shrine. Interest on "Perpetual Care" funds, which are in a trusteeship set up by the Assoclation, is used to maintain the lots of those who have bought perpetual care.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MOUNT HOLLY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

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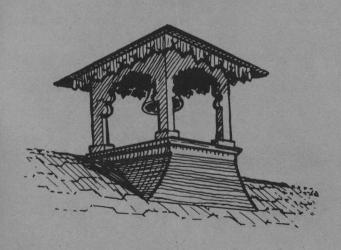
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BELL HOUSE TOWER