

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Oconee Hill Cemetery

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 297 Cemetery Street

not for publication

city or town Athens

vicinity

state Georgia code GA county Clarke code 059 zip code 30605

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

[Signature] 28 MAR '13
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Dr. David C. Crass/Historic Preservation Division Director/Deputy SHPO
Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register determined eligible for the National Register

determined not eligible for the National Register removed from the National Register

other (explain): _____

[Signature] 5-22-13
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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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 in the count.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	district
<input type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	1	buildings
1	0	sites
3	0	structures
0	0	objects
8	1	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Funerary: cemetery

Funerary: cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals: Late Gothic Revival, Classical Revival
Other: Late Egyptian Revival
Other: Georgian-plan house
Other: Pratt through-truss bridge

foundation: Concrete; Brick
walls: Stone: marble; Brick

roof: Stone: marble; Asphalt
other: Metal: cast-iron; Stone: granite

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Oconee Hill Cemetery is a large, sprawling, 99-acre, municipal cemetery located to the east of the University of Georgia in Athens. The cemetery is bisected by the North Oconee River. Established in 1856, the 17-acre tract on the west side of the river includes East Hill and West Hill and the valley between them. Curvilinear roads follow the hilly topography. Family plots are especially common on the west side where they are lined with stone and cast-iron fences. The cemetery includes numerous mausoleums, including the Egyptian Revival-style Smith mausoleum. Markers include large and elaborate sculpture, such as the T.R.R. Cobb column, and much smaller, plain headstones. Some of the early monuments feature imagery associated with mourning, such as shrouded obelisks and tree stumps. Later markers, such as the Woodmen of the World monuments, were standardized designs. The Jewish section was established by the Congregation Children of Israel and includes mausoleums and markers, many with Hebrew inscriptions. Separate potter's fields for indigent white and black burials are located on the south side of West Hill. A second potter's field for white burials includes cement markers, made on-site and inscribed free-hand. The sexton's residence is a complex of buildings, including the Georgian-plan sexton's house, built in 1907, a stable, garage, grape arbor, and well house. In 1898, the cemetery trustees purchased 82 acres on the east side of the North Oconee River. The next year, an iron-and-steel Pratt through-truss bridge was constructed over the river to join the two tracts of land.

Narrative Description

Oconee Hill Cemetery is a large, 99-acre municipal cemetery located in the northeast Georgia city of Athens and adjacent to the campus of the University of Georgia. There are two parts to the cemetery, a 17-acre tract on the west side of the North Oconee River and an 82-acre tract on the east side of the river. The original 17 acres, established in 1856, includes East Hill and West Hill and the valley between them. Curvilinear roads follow the hilly topography. The highest point, West Hill, is approximately 580 feet above sea level. East Hill rises to 560 feet. The floor of the valley is approximately 500 feet above sea level. Gneiss outcrops are visible throughout the valley, and were often incorporated into retaining walls. Vegetation lines the river on the west side along the 17-acre tract, and on the east side along the 82-acre tract, which was purchased in 1898. Approximately 45 acres of the 82-acre tract are undeveloped wood lots. The sections on the east side of the river that were opened in the early 20th century are B, C, D, and F and contain more vegetation than the later sections, H, J, and old and new G.

West Side—17-acre Tract

The sexton's house and outbuilding complex are located at the northwest corner of the cemetery, near the main entrance. The main entrance to Oconee Hill leads to Cemetery Street, a short roadway that links the 17-acre tract with the University of Georgia campus (photo 1). The stone wall and entrance piers are not historic. The original entrance piers were moved to the foot of West Hill. Cemetery Street terminates at the sexton's house and the well house. Neither tract contains named roads or sign posts, however the main road through the 17-acre tract is sometimes referred to as River Road or Cemetery Road.

A **sexton's house** was provided by the cemetery trustees as early as the 1870s, but it was originally located on the south side of Cemetery Road, an area now called the North Slope. The small gable-and-wing house was substantially rebuilt in 1907 on its present site as a Georgian-plan house (photos 3-4, 6). The central-hall-plan house includes two bedrooms, a kitchen, and a bathroom. The house is supported by brick piers, which have been in-filled with concrete and clad in weatherboard. The hip roof is covered with asphalt-shingle roof and includes a dormer. Windows throughout are two-over-two-light sashes and six-over-six-light sashes. The full-width front porch (on the west façade) features decoratively sawn balusters and brackets. The main entrance is flanked by sidelights.

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The interior of the Georgian-plan house features four rooms divided by a central hall. Each room is heated by a fireplace and includes historic mantels. Some rooms have coal fireboxes. The floors are wood and the walls are covered with a variety of materials, including plaster, plastered sheetrock, and beadboard. The interior cornice moldings include historic and nonhistoric moldings. The interior also includes the recent addition of a catering kitchen and public restrooms.

The sexton's **office** is a small, one-room office building located on the north side of the sexton's house (photos 5-6). Built in 1907, the office features a double-door entrance and a full-width-front porch on its main (west) façade. Like the porch on the main house, the office includes decoratively sawn brackets. The exterior is clad in weatherboard with corner boards. Windows are six-over-six-light sashes. A brick chimney is located on the east gable end. The interior walls and ceiling are beadboard and the fireplace was converted for use as a stove.

The **well house**, which is located at the end of Cemetery Road, is built of coursed and uncoursed granite with a pyramidal roof and cupola (photo 3). Built in 1904 by James Bisson, the well house includes stone benches and a marble plaque. A bell was installed in the cupola c.1925.

A **grape arbor** was built on the west side of the main house by James Bisson in 1912. The arbor consists of six granite piers joined by granite lintels. The marble plaque reads: "This scuppernog vine taken from Frederick W. Lucas Place and planted by J. H. Bisson in the year 1912."

On the east side of the main house and office are the stable and garage. The one-story shed-roofed **stable** is constructed of cast concrete, marble, stone, and wood (photo 7, right). Between the stable and garage is a yard, which incorporates scrap granite and broken or rejected marble fragments in its walls and vertical concrete posts. The Bisson family used the posts to support wires that held fruit and vegetable vines. The initials "J.B." and the numbers "12" and "13" are visible on two of the decorated vertical supports. One support clearly shows James Bisson's carved initials "J-B". A plaque indicates that the stone wall on the east end of the complex was completed by Bisson in 1918. The one-story two-car **garage** is built on a granite foundation with board-and-batten walls and includes six-over-six sash windows (photo 7, left).

East Hill is the smaller of the two hills in the 17-acre lot and is covered with oak, pine, and cedar trees. On the north side of East Hill are located two distinct sections, the Factory Burial Ground and the Congregation Children of Israel section. The Factory Burial Ground includes marked and unmarked burials of workers of the Athens Manufacturing Company. One plot is shaded by a cedar tree and includes a cast-iron fence (photo 8).

The Congregation Children of Israel section is located in the northeast corner of the 17-acre lot. The burials, which face east, are organized in long north-to-south rows. In addition, the rows are terraced with brick and stone retaining walls (photos 9-11). The markers range from late-19th-century marble headstones and obelisks (photo 10) to 20th-century granite headstones, statuary, draped obelisks, tree stumps, ledgers, and box tombs (photos 9-10, 12, 23). Most of the markers include Hebrew inscriptions. Children's burials are indicated by figures of lambs or a sleeping child (photos 11, 12, foreground). There are two mausoleums, including the Greek-Revival style Michael mausoleum (photo 13).

East Hill is long with a northeast-to-southwest axis and it is encircled by a curvilinear road. The road, at a fork at its westernmost point, forms an acute angle. The road is below grade and stairs provide access to the burial plots (photos 14, 15). East Hill, which is overlaid with a grid of family plots, many delineated by stone curbs, includes the burials of persons important in the history of Georgia and the nation. These include the burial of Crawford W. Long, who first used ether as an anesthetic for surgery (photo 18) and the burial of T.R.R. Cobb, an officer in the Confederate army who, as a lawyer, authored the Official Code of Georgia (photos 21 and 22). The Cobb-Lumpkin column at the southwest end of the hill is surrounded by an iron fence cast by Wood & Perot of Philadelphia. Iron fences delineate numerous family plots in East Hill (photos 14, 20). Among the most distinctive is the cornstalk fence (photo 17). Although the fence is missing, the posts with their ears of corn remain. Many burials in East Hill are marked with large marble markers, such as obelisks on pedestal bases, which were popular in the 19th century (photos 14-16). The Taylor mausoleum is among the few mausoleums on East Hill (photo 19). It is a marble mausoleum in the form of a Gothic church.

The **valley**, as it is known, is located between East Hill and West Hill and, unlike the two tree-covered hills, is mostly an open grass-covered lawn (photo 23). Burials are located at the north end of the valley, which contains several terraced family plots delineated by stone curbing (photo 24). The small marble markers are mostly headstones on bases.

West Hill is covered with trees, including oak, pine, and cedar trees. This area is approached from the north through stone entrance gates and is encircled by a paved road (photos 25-26). The hill is overlaid with a grid of family plots, many

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terraced with brick and granite and edged with granite curbing. Some of the plots are delineated by pipe fences supported by granite posts (photos 27, 32). Several cast-iron fences are located around the base of West Hill (photos 36-37). The Lucas family plot is among the few iron fences on West Hill. It comprises delicate swags formed by chains, which are supported by cast-iron posts (photo 30). The chains include cast-iron tassels and couplings, which are in the form of the all-seeing eye of God (photo 31). Monuments on West Hill include numerous obelisks, crosses, headstones, tree stumps, columns, urns, and statuary (photos 25-30). The Young Harris monument is the largest and most elaborate marker with a large granite base that supports three marble female figures (photo 32). The crest of West Hill is formed by four family plots laid out in a circle and edged in granite (photo 33). A paved road provides access to the hilltop (photos 25, 34).

The receiving vault is a stucco-covered brick structure, which was used to store bodies before burial (photo 35). Built into the east slope of West Hill, the receiving vault features a plain façade with a crenellated parapet and a heavy iron door. In the 1960s, the Garden Club of Athens planted azaleas near the entrance.

On the south side of West Hill in the 17-acre tract are located a **white pauper burial ground** (photo 38) and an **African-American pauper burial ground** (photo 39). These graves for indigent residents of Athens are located between the floodplain of the North Oconee River and the steep south slope of West Hill. These burial grounds are heavily wooded and most graves are not marked. Some graves are marked with field stones.

In 1898, the cemetery trustees purchased 82 acres on the east side of the North Oconee River. The next year, the trustees hired the George E. King Company of Des Moines, Iowa, to build an iron-and-steel Pratt through-truss bridge to join the two tracts of land (photos 40-43). The bridge is 90-feet long, 21-feet wide, and 40-feet above the river. The bridge is supported by two granite-and-brick piers (photo 41). Each truss features vertical lattice supports in compression and diagonal rods in tension. The diagonals slope down toward the center, which is a characteristic of the Pratt through-truss bridge. Diagonal bracing is also located between the top chords. Each portal strut is lined with decorative cresting and on the north side a cast-iron plaque contains the name of the manufacturer and the date of construction.

East Side—82-acre Tract

The **82-acre tract** is roughly divided in half with burials on the north side and undeveloped wood lots on the south side. Curvilinear roads follow the rolling terrain and delineate the different sections. A rock outcrop known as Dozier Rock is located in Section E (photo 46). Oak, pine, and cedar trees are located throughout the 82-acre tract (photo 49), although later sections, such as new and old G, H, and J, are open expanses of rolling hillsides (photos 55-56). Burials date from the 20th century and include few delineated family plots. Most markers are polished granite headstones, obelisks, ledgers (photo 44, 46), bedsteads, (photo 45), crosses, and statuary (photo 47). Many of the markers, such as the Woodmen of the World monuments, were standardized designs (photo 48). The Smith mausoleum is located on a knoll in Section F2 and is the only mausoleum in the 82-acre tract (photos 53-54). The granite mausoleum is distinctive because of its Egyptian Revival-style architecture, which is less common in Georgia. The tall structure features battered walls, papyrus columns, and sun-disk motifs. Burials in the 82-acre tract include members of the Bisson family (photo 44), sextons of Oconee Hill Cemetery, and Ben Epps, the first Georgian to build and fly an airplane (photo 57). This area also includes a **white pauper burial ground** with marked and unmarked burials (photo 50). The concrete headstones include the names and dates of the deceased impressed in wet concrete with stamps. Less costly markers include the names and dates of the deceased written by hand in the wet concrete (photos 51-52).

Contributing and Noncontributing Resources

Oconee Hills Cemetery is a historic district in which the overall landscape design, including the roadway and landscape features and gravemarkers, is counted as one site.

The sexton's residence, office, stable, and garage are counted as four contributing buildings.

The grape arbor and well house are counted as two contributing structures.

The Pratt through-truss bridge is counted as one contributing structure.

The tool shed on the east side of the North Oconee River is counted as one noncontributing building.

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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.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- Architecture
- Art
- Landscape Architecture
- Community Planning and Development
- Ethnic Heritage: Black
- Ethnic Heritage: Jewish
- Engineering

Period of Significance

1856-1963

Significant Dates

- 1856 – First 17 acres laid out.
- 1873 – Jewish section laid out.
- 1898 – Additional 82 acres purchased.
- 1899 – Pratt through-truss bridge built.
- 1907 – Sexton's house built.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance begins in 1856, when the city of Athens established Oconee Hill Cemetery, and ends in 1963, the end of the historic period.

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Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Oconee Hill Cemetery meets National Register Criterion Consideration D because it derives its primary significance from its distinctive funerary markers, architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, and from historic events associated with its establishment as the main municipal cemetery for the city of Athens and Clarke County in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Oconee Hill Cemetery is significant at the state level of significance under National Register Criteria A and C. In the areas of art and architecture the numerous forms of decorative burial monuments reflect funerary traditions from the mid-19th century to 1963. Architectural styles, such as Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, High Victorian Gothic, and Egyptian Revival appear in many of the mausoleums, obelisks, headstones, and other markers. The sexton's house is an excellent example of a Georgian-plan Folk Victorian-style house. The cemetery is significant in the area of landscape architecture because its plan is characteristic of garden cemeteries, which were popular in Georgia and throughout the nation by the middle of the 19th century. These cemeteries feature meandering roads that follow the cemetery's natural topography, ornamental plantings, and delineated family plots. The cemetery is significant in the area of community planning and development because it represents the city's efforts to provide a public cemetery as an alternative to the crowded Jackson Street Cemetery. The cemetery is also significant in the areas of social history and black ethnic heritage because it includes a segregated section for African-American burials. The cemetery is significant in the area of Jewish ethnic heritage because of the distinctive designs of the burial markers in the Jewish section and its historical association with the Jewish community in Athens. The cemetery is significant in the area of engineering because the iron-and-steel Pratt through-truss bridge is among the few through-truss bridges in the state.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Oconee Hill Cemetery is significant in the area of art because the numerous forms of decorative burial monuments reflect funerary traditions from the mid-19th century to 1963. Several monuments are excellent examples of funerary sculpture, including the Norma, Costa, and Harris monuments. Some of the early monuments feature imagery associated with mourning, such as shrouded obelisks and tree stumps. Later markers, such as the Woodmen of the World monuments, were standardized designs. The cemetery is also significant because of the elaborate cast-iron fences located throughout the original 17-acre cemetery. These include heavy fence posts and delicate chains.

The cemetery is significant in the area of architecture because the sexton's house, built in 1907, is an excellent example of a Georgian-plan Folk Victorian-style house. The one-story house features four rooms divided by a central hall. Each room is heated by an interior fireplace. The hip-roofed house features a full-width front porch with decoratively sawn balusters. The kitchen was located in the rear ell. The sexton's house is part of a complex that includes a small, one-room office, a stable, garage, grape arbor, and well house.

The cemetery is also significant in the area of architecture for the mausoleums, many of which were designed in distinctive architectural styles. Architectural styles, such as Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, Classical Revival, and Egyptian Revival appear in many of the mausoleums, obelisks, headstones, and other markers. These include the Greek Revival-style Michael mausoleum, Egyptian Revival-style obelisks and the Smith mausoleum, the Gothic Revival-style Taylor mausoleum, and the Classical Revival-style T.R.R. Cobb column.

The cemetery is significant in the area of landscape architecture because its plan is characteristic of garden cemeteries, which were popular in Georgia and throughout the nation by the middle of the 19th century. These cemeteries feature meandering streets and family plots shaded by picturesque plantings of trees and shrubs. Smaller churchyard cemeteries often could not accommodate families that wished to be buried together. Larger cemeteries, such as Oconee Hill Cemetery, were laid out with family plots, which allowed families to be buried together. Family plots, which became increasingly important in the late 19th century, are an important distinguishing feature of large municipal cemeteries. Oconee Hill is an exceptional example of a garden cemetery in Georgia in which the streets and family plots were laid out according to the dramatic topography of the East Hill and West Hill, which were extensively terraced.

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The cemetery is significant in the area of community planning and development because it represents the city's efforts to provide a public cemetery as an alternative to the crowded Jackson Street Cemetery. The cemetery includes family plots for the Athens upper- and middle-class residents, a section purchased by the Athens Manufacturing Company for the use of their workers, a section for Jewish burials that was purchased by the Congregation Children of Israel, two pauper sections for whites, and one pauper section for blacks.

The cemetery is also significant in the areas of social history and black ethnic heritage because it includes a racially segregated section for indigent African-American burials. During Jim Crow in the South, it was common for all public facilities to be racially segregated and Jim Crow laws extended to burial practices.

The cemetery is significant in the area of Jewish ethnic heritage because of the distinctive designs of the burial markers in the Jewish section and its historical association with the Jewish community in Athens. The Jewish section was purchased by the Congregation Children of Israel in 1873. Located at the north end of the cemetery at the base of the East Hill, the terraced Jewish section includes two mausoleums and numerous markers inscribed in Hebrew.

The cemetery is significant in the area of engineering because the iron-and-steel Pratt through-truss bridge, built in 1899, is among the few through-truss bridges in the state. A Pratt through-truss bridge includes steel vertical members and diagonal members that slope downward toward the center. Chords, the horizontal elements, are located above and below the road deck. The Oconee Hill Cemetery Pratt bridge is a single-span bridge and is in excellent condition. The manufacturer's nameplate is located above the north entrance. Most steel-trussed bridges on Georgia roadways have been replaced by concrete bridges.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

The following developmental history is derived from Janine Duncan, "Oconee Hill Cemetery," *Historic Property Information Form*, January 2012. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia

In 1855, as the Jackson Street Cemetery was becoming crowded, the city of Athens purchased 17 acres on a bluff above the North Oconee River to be used as a cemetery. The cemetery was laid out by University of Georgia professor James Camak,¹ who planned a grid of family plots with meandering roads that follow the topography of East Hill and West Hill and the valley between them.² The first plots were sold in 1856.³ That same year a board of trustees was established to manage the cemetery. "The wardens then transferred the cemetery and proceeds of the sale into the care of the trustees and instructed the town marshal to collect all money due from the sale of lots and give it to the board."⁴

Some of the cemetery records were destroyed in a fire in 1896 and early cemetery deeds were not recorded by the county clerk. Additionally, there is a lack of early interment records. The rates posted by the cemetery's trustees in 1857 state that the sexton charged \$5 to open and fill a new grave, and \$10 to move a grave from another cemetery to Oconee Hill.⁵ Reinterments were inconsistently recorded and it is not entirely known how many individuals were moved to Oconee Hill Cemetery.

1 Dr. Camak was a member of the University of Georgia mathematics faculty in the 1810s and 1820s, and helped survey the Tennessee-Georgia state line in 1818. Camak was editor of the *Southern Cultivator* newspaper at the time Oconee Hill was established. See also Charlotte Thomas Marshall, *Oconee Hill Cemetery of Athens, Georgia— Volume I* (Athens, GA: Athens Historical Society, 2009); *Southern Watchman*, April 28, 1859, p.3; and *Southern Banner*, September 11, 1856, p.3.

2 *Southern Banner*, September 11, 1856, p.3.

3 Athens Town Council records for 1855, Ms 2194, "Oconee Hill Papers: Reports, Horticultural Information & Miscellaneous," University of Georgia, Athens, GA; *Southern Banner*, April 5, 1855, p.3; "Marshall, 515.

4 *Ibid.*

5 *Southern Banner*, April 5, 1855, p.1.

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East Hill and West Hill were the first two sections established in 1856.⁶ The valley between the two hills opened for burials in the 1860s, while the white pauper and African-American pauper sections were established in early 1857.⁷ A resolution passed by the Athens Town Council in 1858 stated,

Persons unable or unwilling to purchase lots will be furnished a space for deceased friends free of charge, to be designated by the Trustees. Such persons will have the privilege of placing monuments or slabs over these graves, but cannot enclose them. A portion of the grounds is allotted for the burial of Negroes. Head and foot stones will be allowed – but no enclosures. Resolved that owing to the crowded and dilapidated condition of the old burying ground for blacks . . . and on account of ample provisions made for them in the grounds of Oconee Hill Cemetery that after this date there shall be no interments made in the old ground. . . .⁸

The Georgia legislature granted an incorporation charter to the cemetery in 1860, and during a later charter renewal the site's name was permanently changed from Oconee Cemetery to Oconee Hill Cemetery.⁹

In 1873, the Congregation Children of Israel established a section for Jewish burials within Oconee Hill Cemetery. The Jewish section, which is located at the north end of the cemetery, is owned and managed by the congregation. The burials, many with markers inscribed in Hebrew, are organized in long terraced rows at the foot of East Hill. The Greek Revival-style Michael mausoleum is one of two mausoleums in the Jewish section. In use before October 1873, the company sold property to the Congregation Children of Israel for their burial ground. In 1873, the Congregation purchased property from the Athens Manufacturing Company.

The Factory Burial Ground, as it is called, was established by the Athens Manufacturing Company for the benefit of its employees and their families.¹⁰ The Athens Manufacturing Company Burial Association was established in 1899 for the purpose of paying the funeral expenses for its deceased members.¹¹ The Factory Burial Ground located at the foot of East Hill, adjacent to the Jewish section. The Athens Manufacturing Company declared bankruptcy in 1904, and its property immediately north of Oconee Hill was auctioned at a receiver's sale.¹² The company later reopened in a different location, and the Factory Burial Ground was used by employees and families of its succeeding companies.

Between 1898 and 1900 newspaper articles commented on the wonderful appearance of Oconee Hill, especially during times, such as Memorial Day, when friends and family would decorate individual graves and family plots. "Large numbers were strolling through the cemetery Sunday evening. The appearance of this place has been greatly improved by the cutting down of some of the unsightly trees, and clearing the heavy overgrowth. Also the owners of many lots have employed [sexton] Mr. England to keep them in repair. . . ."¹³ In 1892, "a *Banner* reporter took occasion Tuesday to investigate the work that has been done in Oconee cemetery. . . . The underbrush has been cut off, the graves and lots put in good condition, and the view of the river made beautiful."¹⁴

6 Marshall, 467.

7 *Southern Banner*, January 8, 1857, p.3.

8 Athens Town Council meeting records dated June 5, 1858, Ms 2194, "Oconee Hill Cemetery Papers: Reports, Horticultural Information & Miscellaneous," University of Georgia, Athens, GA. African-American burial grounds currently visible in Athens were established after 1865. The location of the antebellum black burial ground is not known.

9 Marshall, 468, 515.

10 The Athens Manufacturing Company was first housed in a mill complex, which no longer extant, north of the cemetery. The remaining building associated with the company, "Athens Factory," was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

11 "When a death occurs, each of the surviving members is required to pay an assessment of twenty-five cents, within fifteen days after the same shall be ordered, the sum so raised shall be paid to the beneficiary of the deceased member." *Athens Daily Banner*, October 27, 1899, p.1.

12 "[Parcel 2:] All the property southwest of Oconee Street, in the city of Athens. Bounded on the northwest by the Belt Line railroad; northeast by Oconee street; east and southeast by the lands belonging to the estate of Robert Chappell and others; south by Oconee Cemetery; west by Cemetery street and Thomas street and containing fifty-three (53) acres more or less. On which is located that property known as Lower Factory...The Central Railroad of Georgia [runs] through the second [parcel]; and a spur leading from the Central to the Lower Factory...." *Weekly Banner*, April 1, 1904, p.8.

13 *Athens Banner*, April 12, 1892, p.3; *Athens Daily Banner*, April 1, 1898, p.4; *Athens Daily Banner*, April 22, 1900, p.15; *Athens Daily Banner*, April 24, 1900, p.15.

14 *Athens Weekly Banner*, May 3, 1892, 5.

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In the 1890s, the cemetery had lot owners who had not paid their bills and the cemetery needed more land.¹⁵ The trustees eventually purchased an additional 81.8 acres on the east side of the North Oconee River in 1898.¹⁶ The original 17-acre tract remained the preferred location among lot buyers. River Road lots, south of the Jewish section, were available between 1907 and 1909, and North Slope lots, south of the sexton's house, were available between 1910 and 1913.

The white and black pauper burial grounds are located on the south side of West Hill, south of the road that encircles the base of the hill. These sections did not appear on cemetery maps and were only discovered in 2009. Most burials in these pauper cemeteries are not marked, though some are marked with field stones. Many of the burials are indicated by sunken graves. The last known interment took place in the white pauper burial ground in 1911, the year the white pauper section opened on the east side of the river.

The black pauper's burial ground was established in 1857. A newspaper article states that the "Colored Burial Ground" was established in that year; however, a newspaper article published in the *Southern Watchman* on February 23, 1882 quotes the cemetery's superintendent, Robert Chappell, as saying that the area's black population did not use Oconee Hill because they had three graveyards of their own near Athens.¹⁷ The African-American population of Athens established cemeteries for their use and burial societies after the Civil War. Gospel Pilgrim Cemetery, which was listed in the National Register in 2006, is one example of an African-American cemetery in Athens. The popularity of burial societies in Athens indicates that a majority of post-bellum African-Americans opted to bury loved ones in a society-sponsored cemetery rather than in Oconee Hill. Therefore the number of burials in the "Colored Burial Ground" is believed to be small with the last recorded interment taking place in 1928. Additionally, the black pauper's burial ground lost land on the west side to the construction of the Covington and Macon Railroad Company between 1889 and 1891,¹⁸ and by the construction of a sewer line by the city of Athens in 1899.¹⁹ The Central of Georgia Railroad further chipped away at the cemetery's western boundary by expanding its right-of-way in 1904.²⁰

In the late 1890s John W. Barnett, then Athens' city engineer, was contacted by the cemetery trustees to build a bridge to connect the original 17-acre tract with the newly-acquired land on the east side of the North Oconee River. Barnett's bridge design was rejected, but he may have created the construction specifications for the completed bridge and acted as advisor to the bridge companies, which were bidding for the project.²¹ Barnett's plan for the brick piers dated November 14, 1898 was likely approved by the trustees and constructed.²² Eventually, the George E. King Company of Des Moines, Iowa was awarded the bridge contract, and construction began in March 1899. According to the *Weekly Banner*:

The work of constructing the large brick pier on this side of the river for the new cemetery bridge has been finished. This pier is twenty-four feet high. Work on the other side of the river is now being rushed along. It will be eight feet high. The approaches to the new bridge will be constructed at once. Then the work will come to a standstill, and it will be impossible to put the steel portion of the bridge in position before the middle of July, on account of the terrible demand for work of this kind. The new bridge over the Oconee River that is to connect Oconee Hill Cemetery with the large tract of land on the other side of the river recently purchased for cemetery purposesThe contract with the Des Moines, Iowa, company calls for the completion of the bridge by July 18th and it is believed that by that time the work will be finished. The steel work that is to make up the span across the river has arrived and a considerable portion has already been put in position. The wooden framework has been finished and on that

15 *Weekly Banner*, February 2, 1897, p.2; *Athens Daily Banner*, November 4, 1897, p.2.

16 Deed book QQ, page 548, Thomas Bailey to the Trustees of Oconee Hill Cemetery, recorded October 13, 1898, Athens-Clarke County Clerk's Office, Athens, GA.

17 Marshall, p. 468.

18 *Banner-Watchman*, May 19, 1889, p.1; *Athens Daily Banner*, January 2, 1890, p.4; *Banner-Watchman*, June 30, 1891, p.6; *Banner-Watchman*, October 27, 1891, p.3 3: "Oconee Hill Cemetery of Athens, p.469.

19 Ms 1633, oversized folder 1 (Water), "City Records for Athens, Georgia," University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

20 *Weekly Banner*, April 15, 1904, p.7.

21 Ms 1633, "Barnett's "Piling & Excavation Plan," 1899, oversized folder 1 (Streets), "City Records for Athens, Georgia," University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

22 Ibid.

Oconee Hill Cemetery

Name of Property

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framework the steel portion of the bridge is being constructed. This new bridge is being constructed in a most substantial way and it will cost, when completed, about \$2,600.²³

George E. King was the nephew of Zenas King, founder of King Bridge Company in 1858. Based in Cleveland, Ohio, the company had established a western field office in Des Moines, Iowa by the 1880s. George King worked in the Des Moines field office where he learned the bridge-building trade.²⁴ In 1889 George King, with George Wheelock, set up a bridge-building company based in Des Moines. Both the King Bridge Company and the George E. King Company continued to build bridges in the South and West. In 1900 the George E. King Company was purchased by the Chicago Bridge & Iron Company²⁵. The Oconee Hill Cemetery bridge may be one of the few George E. King bridges remaining in the southern United States.

In the early 1900s, aesthetic changes were made to the cemetery's main entrance. Granite gate posts and a cast-iron fence were installed along the North Slope ridge in 1900.²⁶ A granite water trough was installed at the base of West Hill in 1904.²⁷ The granite well house was constructed in 1904. In December 1906 a newspaper article described the move of Bisson & Son's granite business from in front of the cemetery and improvements to the sexton's house:

. . . Mr. Bisson is operating a large granite plant near the entrance of the cemetery which has an undesirable appearance for those visiting the cemetery and causes the entrance at times to become more or less congested; then again the home in which the sexton lives in is in a dilapidated condition and is located on the edge of the cemetery proper and obstructs the view of a degree for those entering the cemetery. The plan is to move the granite plant from its present location to a point just beyond and across the railroad tracks; this would make a splendid location, conveniently situated for the business and would be very satisfactory to the owner, Mr. Bisson. The lot on which it is located is now to be used for a home for the sexton and the old house across the street will be torn down and the lot beautified, cut up into lots and sold to parties desiring to buy burial lots. The amount received from the sale would more than pay the outlay as planned by the trustees and it is thought that the proposition will be carried out early next year.²⁸

The Civic Club of Athens requested that a lot be given in exchange for the property near the entrance to the cemetery, which was used by the Bisson granite works. In addition, the sexton's house was relocated to the north end of the cemetery. The small sexton's house was rebuilt as a large Georgian-plan house in 1907 and it was connected to the city sewer system.²⁹ The section created by the removal of the sexton's house is known as the North Slope.³⁰

In the 1910s, the concept of perpetual care and site management was formalized in state legislation to amend the cemetery's 1860 articles of incorporation ". . . to authorize and empower the Trustees of Oconee Hill Cemetery to receive and hold in trust such property or money as may be conveyed to them to be used in the preservation and care of Oconee Hill Cemetery and lots of private owners therein. . . ." ³¹ Introduced into the Georgia Legislature in May 1915, it was ratified in March 1917.³² In 1914, a report on the cemetery's vegetation and maintenance was published by the Athens newspaper.³³ Presented to the trustees by Dr. T. H. McHatton of the State College of Agriculture, the report indicated that the trustees had contacted McHatton regarding appropriate site plantings. Expanding on the request, McHatton addressed both the "old cemetery" (the 17-acre tract) and the "new cemetery" (the 82-acre tract). Assisted by the senior horticulture class, McHatton recommended the following improvements for the original 17 acres:

23 *Weekly Banner*, June 30, 1899, p.4.

24 See www.kingbridge.co.com, "King Bridge Company Museum".

25 See www.referenceforbusiness.com/history2/15/Chicago-Bridge-Iron-Company-N-V.html, "Chicago Bridge & Iron Company N.V. – Company Profile, Information, Business Description, History," p.25.

26 Ms 2194, "Oconee Hill Papers: Reports, Horticultural Information & Miscellaneous," University of Georgia, Athens, GA.

27 *Ibid*; See *Weekly Banner*, April 29, 1904, p.2.

28 *Weekly Banner*, December 21, 1906, p.1.

29 *Ibid*.

30 *Weekly Banner*, August 6, 1907, p.6.

31 *Weekly Banner*, May 14, 1915, p.8.

32 *Weekly Banner*, March 22, 1917, p. 5.

33 *Athens Banner*, October 31, 1914, p.5.

Oconee Hill Cemetery
Name of Property

Clarke County, Georgia
County and State

1. The removal of all fences would be advisable.
2. Ivy and Virginia creeper should be planted at the base of all retaining walls.
3. All lots should be planted in grass.
4. All small and little-used walks and drives should be planted to grass to facilitate their up-keep.
5. Where possible, rhododendrons and azaleas should be planted along the river banks.
6. Clean river banks of undergrowth, leaving honeysuckle.
7. Plant a clump of coniferous evergreens on east side of present entrance.
8. Plant a row of Lombardy poplars from west side of gate to the Central of Georgia Railroad.
9. Keep up present hedge of privet on east side of gate and continue same to Hebrew Cemetery or fill out with Sweet flowering honeysuckle.
10. Open up vistas from center of West Hill.
11. Clean up below the Howell Cobb lot and remove mass of brush near bridge.
12. Fill road opposite gate and replace same with a small walk.
13. Clean out and put into shape the road that runs along the river.
14. Pass a ruling preventing the setting or removing of any plant without the written permission of the manager of the cemetery. This ruling should include grass.
15. Get permission to remove all plants on private lots and likewise permission to plant on private lots.

The recommendations for the 82-acre tract were:

1. Section A: reserve for a chapel (with planting recommendations).
2. Section B: judicious thinning of existing pines on south side, and reserve certain lots for specific plantings.
3. Section C: specific planting recommendations; clean underbrush and plant along river as advised for Old Cemetery; open roads per map; reserve specific lots near river for plantings as they are too rocky for burials.
4. Section D: reserve certain lots for plantings; reserve rocky lots and poor lots for plantings; judicious thinning of trees.
5. Section E: this section has been tentatively reserved for the moving of the dead from the old cemetery near the university.

In addition, the report recommended that "some effort should also be made towards establishing a permanent fund for the up-keep of the property."³⁴

In 1890s and early 1900s the management structure of the cemetery began to change. Newspaper articles began to demand that the city of Athens take control of Oconee Hill from the trustees, an unusual step because the trustees included some of the most powerful men in Athens. Among other improvements, a 1904 article demanded that the sexton be made a city employee with a regular salary [rather than being paid per each burial], and "all of the fees for the care of private lots should go into the city treasury."³⁵ In March 1906 the mayor and city council appropriated \$300 to the trustees for necessary cemetery maintenance labor.³⁶

The trustees of Oconee Hill Cemetery had difficulty maintaining reliable sextons at the end of the 19th century. The *Weekly Banner* reported on October 2, 1896 that "the trustees of Oconee Hill Cemetery held a meeting yesterday afternoon. . . [it] had been called on account of several complaints that had been made against sexton W. A. England... [he] was not prompt in his work. . . . he did not dig the graves in time for the interments to take place. . . and on

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ *Athens Banner*, February 11, 1904, p. 26. See *Athens Daily Banner*, June 9, 10, 1898, p.1.

³⁶ *Athens Banner*, March 16, 1906, p.1.

Oconee Hill Cemetery
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that account the bodies had to be placed in the vault, much to the disappointment of the bereaved relatives. Two or three occasions were cited where that had occurred." On January 8, 1897, the *Weekly Banner* reported that the newly-elected sexton, J. C. Mygatt, resigned shortly after his election in December.

Peter Bisson immigrated to the United States from the British Channel Island of Guernsey in April 1871.³⁷ A veteran of the stone trade, he purchased a granite quarry near Webbsboro in Elbert County, Georgia, and established Peter Bisson & Sons Classic City Granite Works west of the cemetery's entrance c.1890. Two generations of his family eventually lived in the sexton's house. Peter's oldest son, James H. Bisson, served as sexton from 1897 to 1927. James Bisson carved and installed markers, monuments, the stone water trough, the original entrance gate piers, the well house, stone hitching posts, the arbor, stable, and outbuildings. James' younger brother, Bert Guernsey Bisson (Bert Sr.), served as sexton from 1927 to 1960. Bert's eldest son, Bert Jr., succeeded his father as sexton and served from 1960 to 1983.³⁸ The Bisson family served as sextons at Oconee Hill Cemetery for nearly a century.³⁹

Bert Sr.'s family also worked in the cemetery. His wife, Mae, managed the finances, and all of the children sold lots at various times. Bert Sr. is responsible for the concrete markers in the pauper section in the 82-acre tract, and this tradition was continued by his eldest son, Bert Jr. Also, if an individual was buried without a family member or minister present, Bert Sr. would read a Bible verse and Mae would place flowers at the grave. Roses were grown in the area where the flagpole plaza is currently located. Daffodils appear every spring along the hillside across the street.

Since the Bissons managed the cemetery, sextons have not lived on the cemetery grounds. The house was used for storage and fell into disrepair. A fundraising campaign was undertaken in the late 1990s and early 2000s, and the house renovated for public use. The current sexton directs a small landscaping crew and performs routine maintenance and assists with grave preparation.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Duncan, Janine. "Oconee Hill Cemetery." *Historic Property Information Form*, January 2012. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

37 October 2, 1896, p.1. Microfilm roll M277_80, "Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Boston, Massachusetts, 1820-1891.

38 Thomas L. Watson, "A preliminary report on a part of the granites and gneisses of Georgia," (Atlanta, GA: Franklin Printing & Publishing, 1902), pp.218-219.

39 Marshall, pp.462-464, 471.

39 In addition to installing every marker, memorial, and statue in Oconee Hill between 1897 and 1963, granite from the Bisson's quarry was used to construct Athens City Hall (1902). Peter and James Bisson are credited with carving many of the early markers, especially those installed between 1898 and 1927.

Oconee Hill Cemetery
Name of Property

Clarke County, Georgia
County and State

N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 99 acres
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A 17 280680 3759005
Zone Easting Northing

E _____
Zone Easting Northing

B 17 281180 3759100
Zone Easting Northing

F _____
Zone Easting Northing

C 17 281760 3758440
Zone Easting Northing

G _____
Zone Easting Northing

D 17 281160 3758150
Zone Easting Northing

H _____
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The National Register boundary is indicated by a heavy black line on the attached map, which is drawn to scale.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the entire, intact historic Oconee Hill Cemetery.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Steven Moffson, Architectural Historian

organization Historic Preservation Division, GA Dept. of Natural Resources date February 28, 2013

street & number 254 Washington Street, Ground Level telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta State GA zip code 30034

e-mail steven.moffson@dnr.state.ga.us

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Oconee Hill Cemetery
Name of Property

Clarke County, Georgia
County and State

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Oconee Hill Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Athens

County: Clarke State: Georgia

Photographer: Charlie Miller

Date Photographed: July 2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 58. Main entrance, photographer facing southeast.
- 2 of 58. Sexton's residence and outbuildings, photographer facing east.
- 3 of 58. Sexton's residence and well house (foreground), photographer facing northeast.
- 4 of 58. Sexton's residence and office (left), photographer facing northeast.
- 5 of 58. Sexton's office, photographer facing southeast.
- 6 of 58. Rear view of sexton's residence (left) and office (right), photographer facing west.
- 7 of 58. Rear view of garage (left) and stable (right), photographer facing west.
- 8 of 58. Factory Burial Ground, photographer facing south.
- 9 of 58. Congregation Children of Israel section, photographer facing west.
- 10 of 58. Congregation Children of Israel section, photographer facing west.
- 11 of 58. Congregation Children of Israel section, photographer facing west.
- 12 of 58. Congregation Children of Israel section, photographer facing northwest.
- 13 of 58. Congregation Children of Israel section, Michael,mausoleum, photographer facing west.
- 14 of 58. East Hill, photographer facing northwest.
- 15 of 58. East Hill, photographer facing southeast.
- 16 of 58. East Hill, photographer facing northwest.

Oconee Hill Cemetery
Name of Property

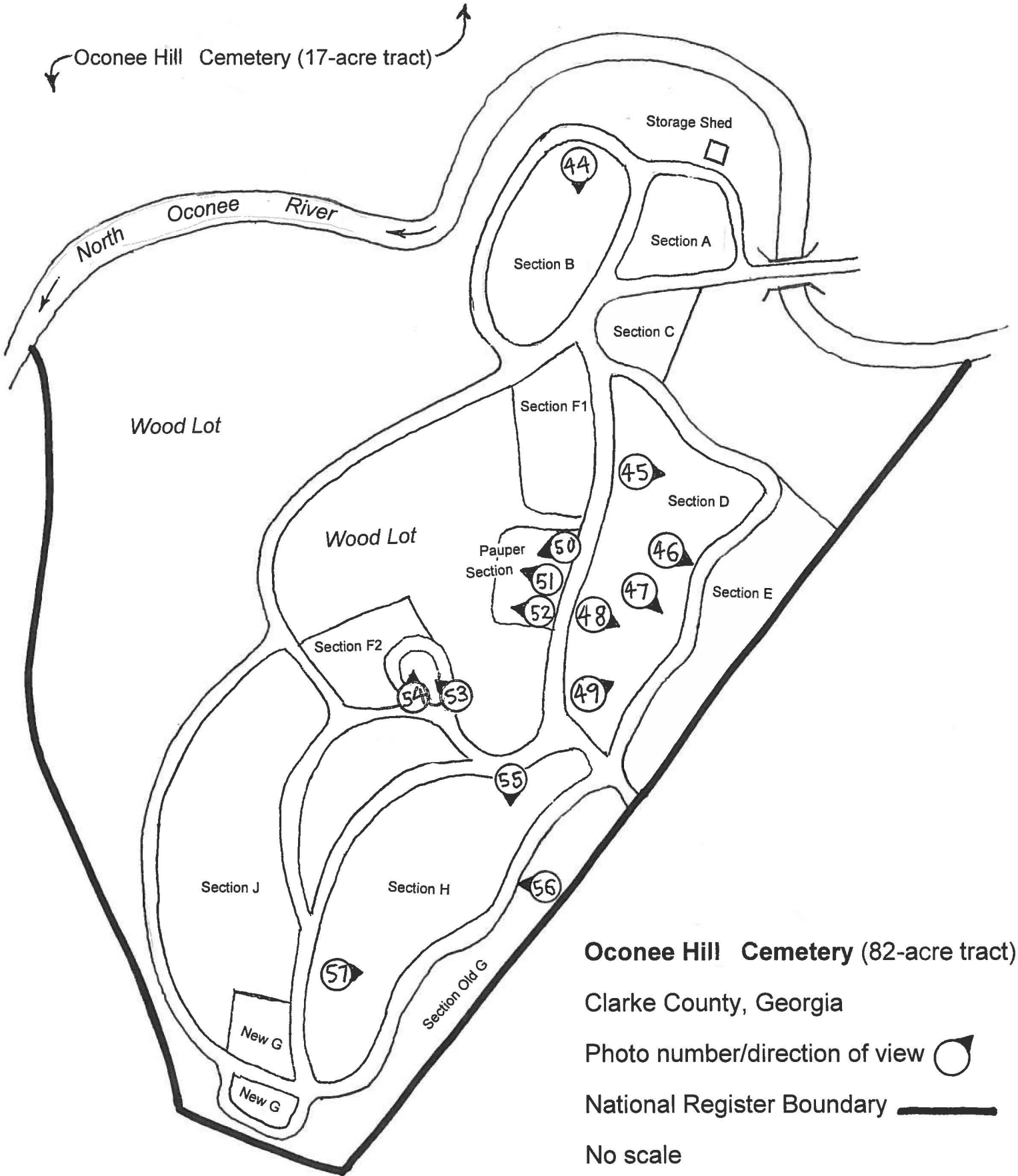
Clarke County, Georgia
County and State

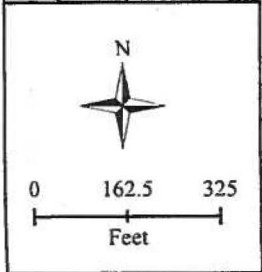
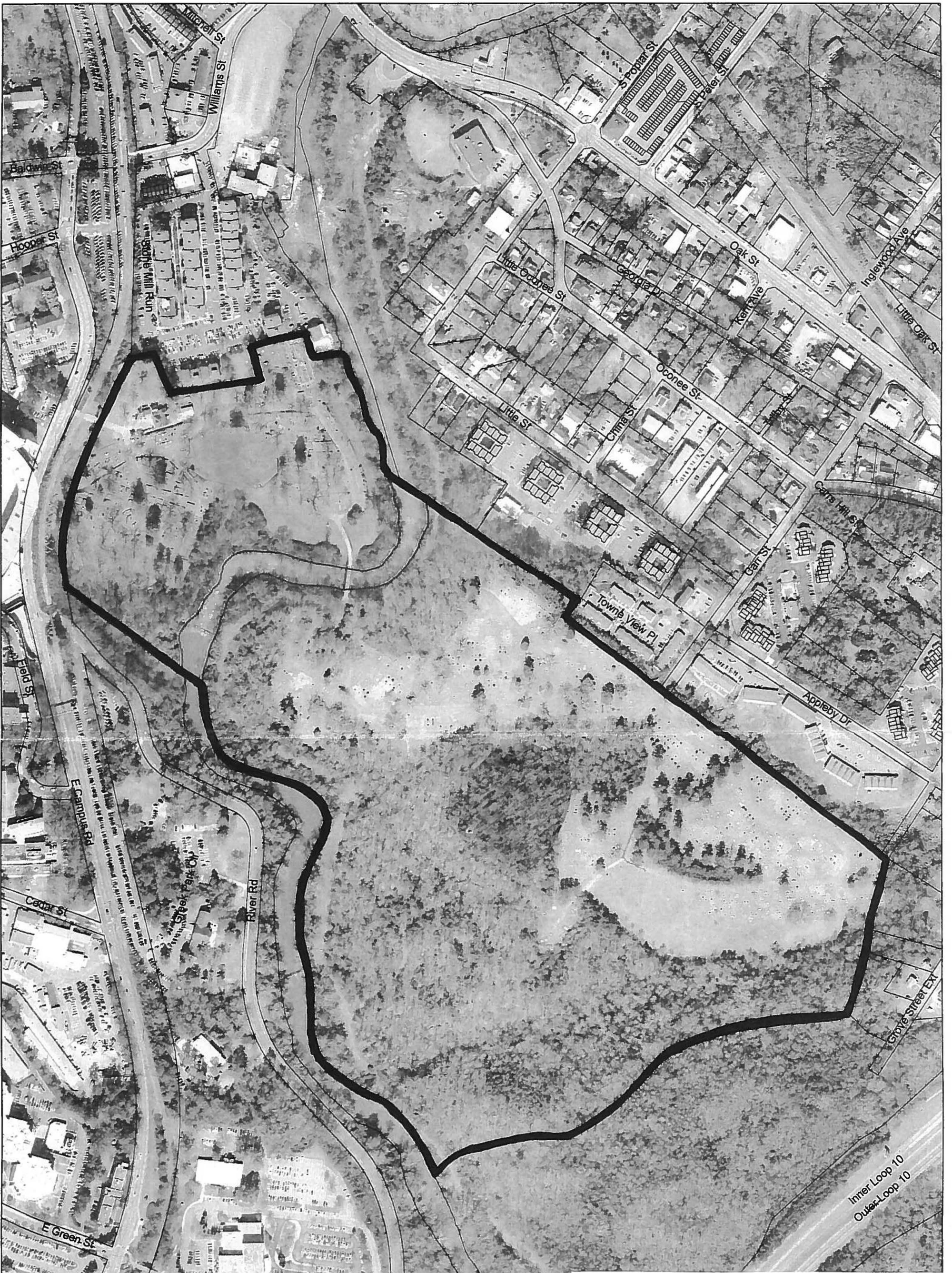
- 17 of 58. East Hill, detail of cast-iron corncob fence post, photographer facing northeast.
- 18 of 58. East Hill, Crawford Long marker, photographer southeast.
- 19 of 58. East Hill, Taylor mausoleum, photographer facing northwest.
- 20 of 58. East Hill, photographer facing north.
- 21 of 58. East Hill, T.R.R. Cobb monument, photographer facing north.
- 22 of 58. East Hill, T.R.R. Cobb monument, photographer facing east.
- 23 of 58. East Hill with view to West Hill, photographer facing west.
- 24 of 58. The valley, photographer facing northwest.
- 25 of 58. West Hill, entrance, photographer facing south.
- 26 of 58. West Hill, photographer facing south.
- 27 of 58. West Hill, photographer facing south.
- 28 of 59. West Hill with view of East Hill, photographer facing east.
- 29 of 58. West Hill, photographer facing southeast.
- 30 of 58. West Hill, Lucas family plot, cast-iron fence, photographer facing east.
- 31 of 58. West Hill, Lucas family plot, detail of cast-iron fence, photographer facing east.
- 32 of 58. West Hill, Young Harris monument, photographer facing south.
- 33 of 59. West Hill with view of circular retaining wall and burial markers at top of hill, photographer facing south.
- 34 of 58. West Hill with view sexton's house, photographer facing north.
- 35 of 58. West Hill, burial vault, photographer facing northwest.
- 36 of 58. West Hill, cast-iron fence, photographer facing southeast.
- 37 of 58. West Hill, cast-iron fence, photographer facing northeast.
- 38 of 58. White pauper burial ground, photographer facing southeast.
- 39 of 58. African-American burial ground, photographer facing northeast.
- 40 of 58. Pratt through-truss bridge, photographer facing southwest.
- 41 of 58. Pratt through-truss bridge, photographer facing southeast.
- 42 of 58. Pratt through-truss bridge, photographer facing south.
- 43 of 58. Pratt through-truss bridge, photographer facing south.
- 44 of 58. Section B with Bisson marker, photographer facing east.


Oconee Hill Cemetery
Name of Property

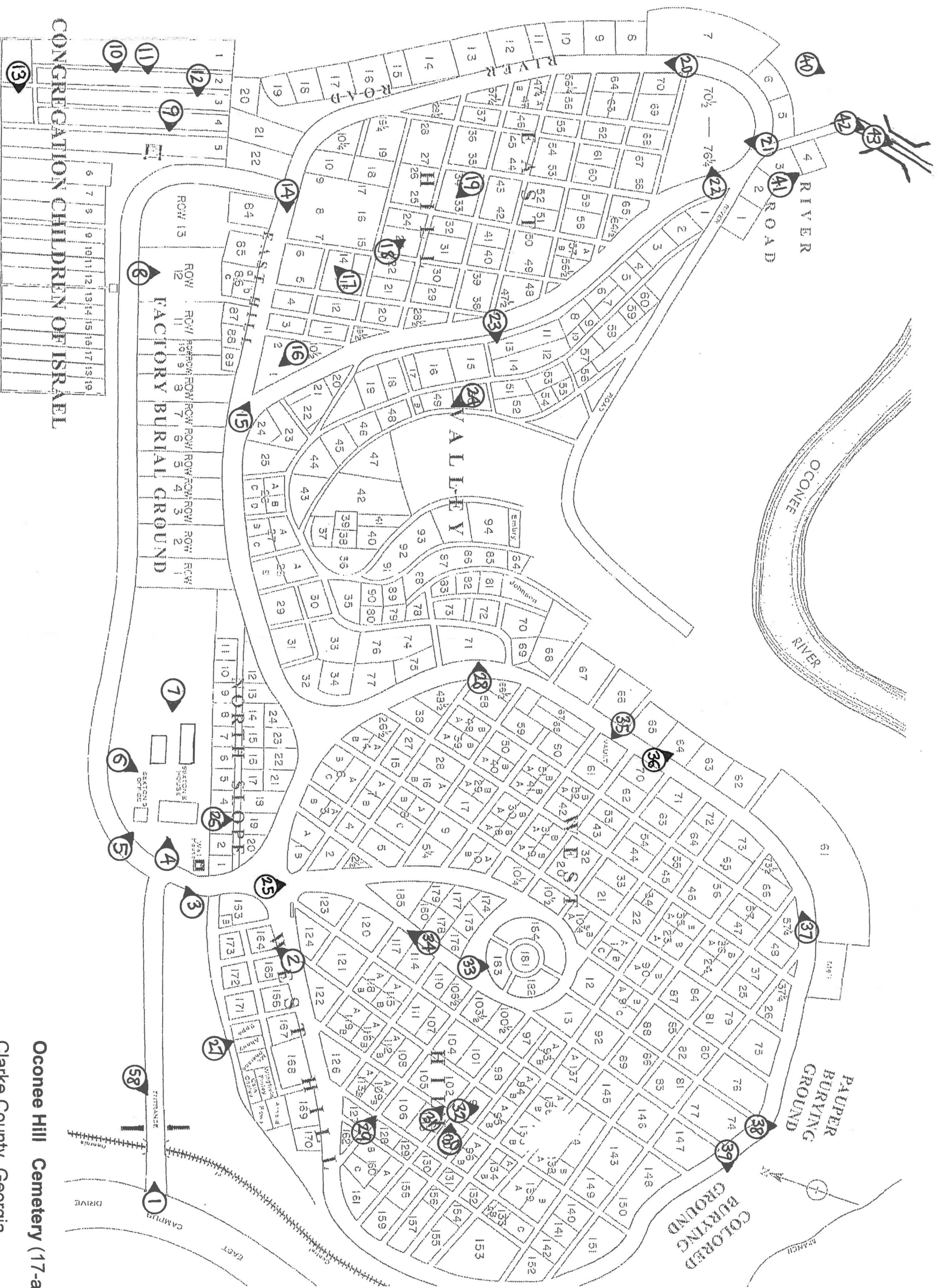
Clarke County, Georgia
County and State

- 45 of 58. Section D, markers, photographer facing northwest.
- 46 of 58. Section D with rock outcropping in background, photographer facing northeast.
- 47 of 58. Section D with Costa monument, photographer facing northeast.
- 48 of 58. Section D with Woodmen of the World marker, photographer facing northeast.
- 49 of 58. Section D, photographer facing north.
- 50 of 58. White pauper section, photographer facing south.
- 51 of 58. White pauper section with William Boone marker photographer facing southwest.
- 52 of 58. White pauper section, with Mrs. F. C. Elder marker, photographer facing southwest.
- 53 of 58. Section F2 with Smith mausoleum, photographer facing northwest.
- 54 of 58. Section F2 with Smith mausoleum, photographer facing north.
- 55 of 58. Section H, photographer facing northeast.
- 56 of 58. Section G (foreground) and Section H, photographer facing south.
- 57 of 58. Section H, Epps marker, photographer facing north.
- 58 of 58. Cemetery entrance gates and Sanford Stadium at the University of Georgia, photographer facing west.





Oconee Hill Cemetery
Clarke County, Georgia
National Register Boundary Map
National Register Boundary 
Scale: 1 inch = 325 feet



Oconee Hill Cemetery (17-acre tract)

Clarke County, Georgia

Photo number/direction of view

No scale



Athens
East
Quadrangle

Oconee Hill
Cemetery,
Clarke Co,
GA.

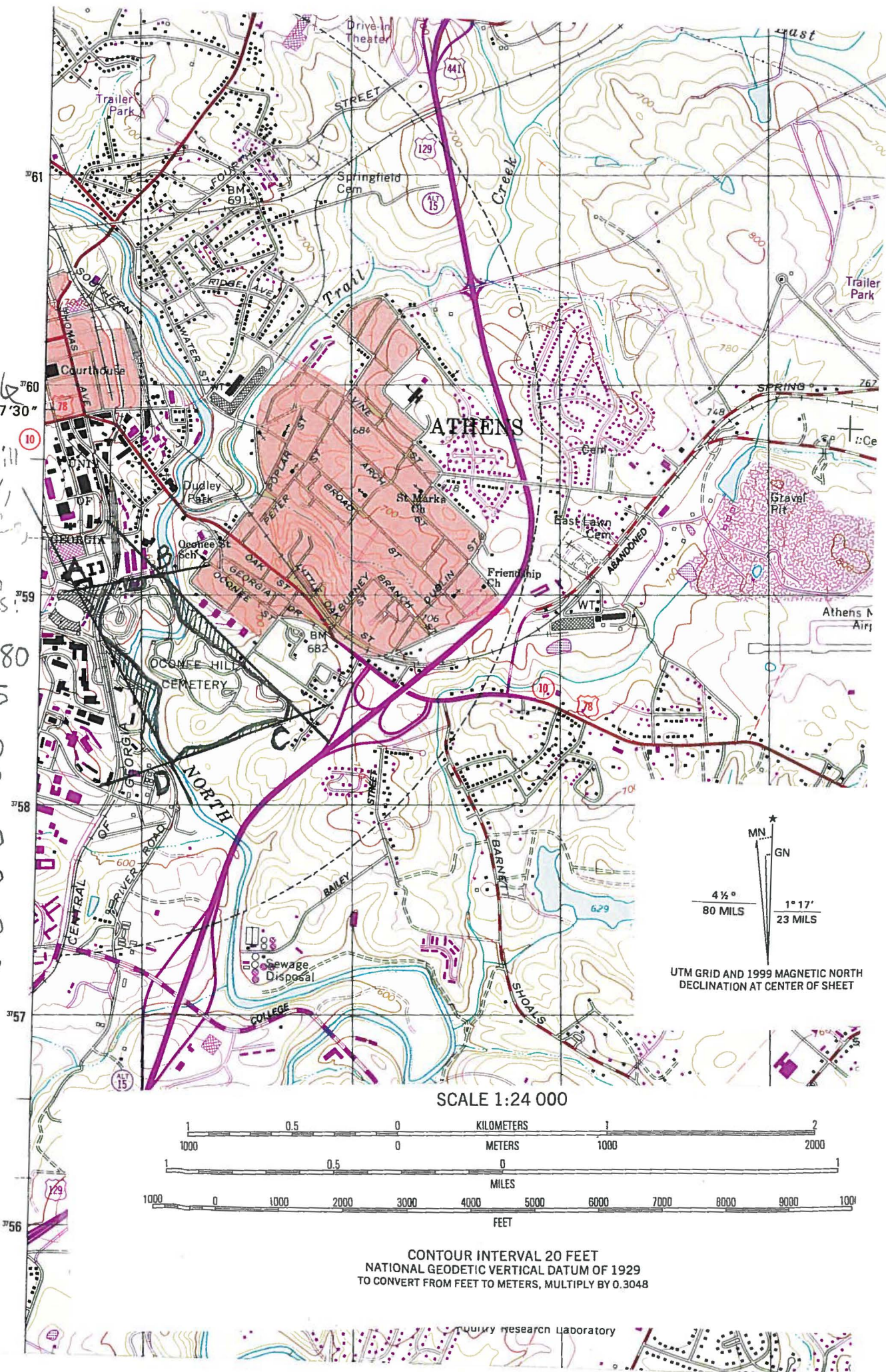
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B) 17/281180
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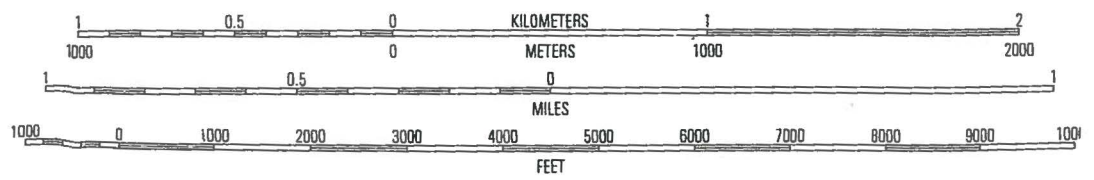
C) 17/281760
3758440

D) 17/281160
3758150

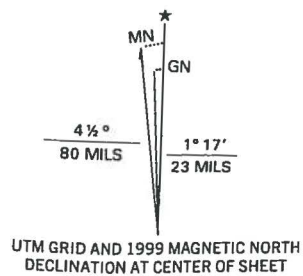


61
60
57'30"
59
58
57
56

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
TO CONVERT FROM FEET TO METERS, MULTIPLY BY 0.3048



Quarry research Laboratory



OCONEE HILL
CEMETERY
1856

Lots
Available
706-543-6262





GATES
CLOSE AT
6:00PM













NORMA MARKS
DIED



MORRIS

HEBREW INSCRIPTIONS



HELEN J.
APR. 10.
OCT. 4.



IRA EDWIN ROBINSON
אִירָא אֶדְוִין רוֹבִינְסוֹן
DEC. 12, 1927
FEB. 7, 1998
DEDICATED TEACHER
AND
LOVING FATHER

LINK



BAPTIZED
DIED

*Here our little daughter
Mary Ann died
young before*

MORD MARKS
MARCH 9, 1868
JULY 27, 1942

SAN MARKS
OCT. 2, 1870
JUNE 9, 1939

WILLIAM
JUNE 11, 1871
JULY 25, 1938

MAJES

WILLIAM
JUNE 11, 1871
JULY 25, 1938

WILLIAM
JUNE 11, 1871
JULY 25, 1938

WILLIAM
JUNE 11, 1871
JULY 25, 1938



MICHAEL

NEWBURY









CRAWFORD WILLIAMSON

LONG

NOV. 1, 1815

JUNE 15, 1878





























YOUNG L. HARRIS
BORN ... DIED ... YEARS
THE ...

HARRIS

WILLIAM HARRIS



















1898
GEORGE E. KING
BRIDGE COMPANY
DES MOINES IOWA

ATHENS-CLARKE
HERITAGE
FOUNDATION
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
AWARD
2012
OUTSTANDING
REHABILITATION

A
C
H
F



1899
GEORGE E. KING
BRIDGE COMPANY
DES MOINES IOWA

ATHENS-CLARKE
HERITAGE
FOUNDATION
HISTORIC
PRESERVATION
AWARD
2012
OUTSTANDING
REHABILITATION

A
C
H
F





BISSON

WILLIAM BISSON
SEP 24 1882
MARGARET BISSON
MAY 11 1878

AT REST

HENRY THOMAS
GULP
BORN
JULY 19, 1880
DIED
SEPT. 9, 1904

AT REST

JAMES BENNY
SON OF
J.B. & REBECCA
TURNER
BORN
SEPT. 10, 1889
DIED
MAY 14, 1906
*Rest in the morning of the day
in youth and here received*

AT REST

REBECCA ANN
TURNER
BORN
NOV. 8, 1853
DIED
AUG. 18, 1893

MATTHEW
GARRISON
BORN
JUNE 8, 1852
DIED
DEC. 8, 1920
JAMES D.
GARRISON
BORN
NOV. 7, 1846
DIED
MAY 30, 1911
GARRISON





HARRISON

E HARRISON

COSTA

ELEONORA COSTA
NOV. 1. 1884
SEP. 22. 1960

MICHAEL
MAY 10. 1880
OCT. 10. 1960

MARGARET
MAY 10. 1880
OCT. 10. 1960

MICHAEL
MAY 10. 1880
OCT. 10. 1960



WOODMEN OF THE WORLD
MEMORIAL

SYON B
JOSSEY
BORN
OCT 25 1868
DIED
MAR 31 1916





HEAPY COLLINS
BORN 1810
DIED 1880
WIFE

MARIE
JORDAN
1800

1810

W. L. BOONE
OCTO 1934

MRS. F. C.
ELDER
JAN 18 1860
MAY 18 1910



SMITH









E P P S

GEORGIA'S PIONEER
OF AVIATION

HE INSPIRED GENERATIONS TO FLY,
AND TOGETHER THEY TAUGHT THEIR
CHILDREN TO SOAR

BEN T.
EPPS

FEB. 20. 1888
OCT. 16. 1937

OMIE WILLIAMS
EPPS

FEB. 17. 1894
JUNE 18. 1965

WED DEC. 7. 1913



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Oconee Hill Cemetery

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: GEORGIA, Clarke

DATE RECEIVED: 4/05/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/26/13
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/13/13 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/22/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 13000291

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5.9.2.13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER



March 29, 2013

J. Paul Loether
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W. 8th floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the **Oconee Hill Cemetery, Clarke County, Georgia** to the National Register of Historic Places.

- Disk of National Register of Historic Places nomination form and maps as a pdf
- Disk with digital photo images
- Physical signature page
- Original USGS topographic map(s)
- Sketch map(s)/attachment(s)
- Correspondence
- Other:

COMMENTS:

- Please insure that this nomination is reviewed
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- The enclosed owner objection(s) do do not constitute a majority of property owners.
- Special considerations:

Sincerely,

Lynn Speno
National Register Specialist

Enclosures