

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR LISTED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

NOV 07 1996

AHPP

1. Name of Property

historic name: Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery

other name/site number: PU9990

2. Location

street & number: Southwest corner of Waterside Street and Lily Street

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Maumelle

vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Pulaski code: AR 119 zip code: 72118

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Site

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery
Name of Property

Pulaski County, AR
County and State

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4. State/Federal Agency Certification

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As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets _____ does not meet the National Register Criteria. _____ See continuation sheet.

Cathryn A. Slatu
Signature of certifying official

9-9-96
Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

=====

5. National Park Service Certification

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I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ____ entered in the National Register _____
 ____ See continuation sheet.
- ____ determined eligible for the _____
 National Register
- ____ See continuation sheet.
- ____ determined not eligible for the _____
 National Register
- ____ removed from the National Register _____
- ____ other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery
Name of Property

Pulaski County, AR
County and State

6. Function or Use

Historic: FUNERARY Sub: Cemetery

Current: FUNERARY Sub: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

N/A

Other Description: N/A

Materials:	foundation	<u>N/A</u>	roof	<u>N/A</u>
	walls	<u>N/A</u>	other	<u>N/A</u>

Describe present and historic physical appearance. _____ See continuation sheet.

Summary

The Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery is now located in a forested lot at the southwest corner of Waterside Street and Lily Street in the City of Maumelle. It contains ten historic burials directly associated with the early community of Crystal Hill.

Elaboration

The Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery is now located in a forested lot at the southwest corner of Waterside Street and Lily Street in the City of Maumelle, among the modern subdivisions that now make up this suburban community. It contains ten historic burials directly associated with the early community of Crystal Hill. The burials are largely placed in a single row, with one or two being placed to the north of this main row. While two of the burials have not been positively identified, the rest of the grave markers are slabs of stone, with simple block letter engraving and no adornment. On three of the headstones, the name and birth date are inscribed; only two gravestones reveal death dates. Andrew Scott's tombstone records both the earliest birth date ("NO

Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery
Name of Property

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807") and the earliest death date ("AU 1818"), while Jemina Scott's death date is the latest, given as 1883. On the remaining identifiable grave markers, only the names have been chiseled into the face of the rock.

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8. Statement of Significance
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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Locally.

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): D

Areas of Significance: EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period(s) of Significance: 1818-1883

Significant Dates: 1818-1883

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
___ See continuation sheet.

Summary Criterion A, local significance

The Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery -- now located in the City of Maumelle -- is eligible under Criterion A as the remaining historic resource directly associated with the early territorial-era community of Crystal Hill, Arkansas.

Elaboration

The town of Crystal Hill, Arkansas, was established as a frontier village

Settlement in 1812 when two families from northern Alabama arrived in central Arkansas and settled there. The Pyeattes and Carnahans made the long arduous journey from Alabama by boat, using the Tennessee, Ohio, Mississippi, and Arkansas Rivers as highways. The families arrived at the Arkansas Post in May of 1811, but apparently chose to continue traveling almost one hundred more miles up the Arkansas River before selecting homesteads. Continuing north a short distance after reaching a geophysical formation called Crystal Hill, the Pyeattes and Carnahans stopped and together purchased approximately 935 acres near the Arkansas River to call their new home.

Their frontier town of Crystal Hill was the first village settlement in what would later become known as Pulaski County. The inhabitants of Crystal Hill were proud of their community and, in 1819, proposed Crystal Hill as the first capitol of the newly created Arkansas Territory. Congress, however, chose the long standing site of Arkansas Post as the territorial capitol, although the seat of government was moved to the young town of Little Rock in 1821. While never the capitol, Crystal Hill did have the honor of providing the first territorial governor, landowner and resident James Miller, who resided here during his brief tenure.

The Crystal Hill community grew steadily, and on May 6, 1820, was awarded its own post office--only two months after Little Rock received one. This post office, granted only eight years after the town was founded by the Pyeattes and Carnahans, was either the third or fourth post office in the Arkansas Territory.

With the arrival of these two families also came the presence of the Presbyterian Church to central Arkansas. The Pyeattes and Carnahans were members of an evangelical branch of the Presbyterian Church of America called the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which had grown out of the Tennessee- and Kentucky-based Great Revival of 1800. In November of 1812, shortly after his arrival in the Crystal Hill area, John Carnahan traveled to Kentucky to attend a meeting of the presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. At this meeting, Carnahan was received as a candidate for the ministry and commanded to gather congregations, thereby forming "a circuit on the Arkansas, in the bounds of those settlements in which he lives."

Returning to Crystal Hill either in late 1812 or early 1813, John Carnahan appears to have carried out his orders promptly. Gathering the Pyeatte and Carnahan families at the home of Jacob Pyeatte, the new minister preached not only his first sermon, but the first one believed to be given by a Protestant clergyman on Arkansas soil. In 1821, near the home of James Pyeatte, the Carnahan patriarch conducted a "camp meeting," which is also supposed to have been the first one of its kind held in Arkansas Territory.

The property proposed for listing in the National Register is presently located on the corner of Waterside Street and Lily Street in the city of Maumelle, and contains the family cemetery of James and Katherine Pyeatte. There are ten graves, and while there is evidence of vandalism of one grave, the damage does not appear to have been enough to affect the overall integrity of the site. It remains today as evidence of Crystal Hill's

Founding families and the significant role they played in settling the frontier of the Arkansas Territory by providing leadership and stability for families in central Arkansas.

The Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery is the only extant historic resource directly associated with the Crystal Hill Settlement and, although a cemetery, is thus eligible under Criterion A with local significance.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Books

Arkansas and Its People: A History 1541-1930, ed. David Thomas (New York: The American Historical Society, Inc., 1930).

Arkansas Land Patents: Granted Through 30 June, 1908 (Conway, AR: Arkansas Research, 1991).

Arkansas Newspaper Abstracts, ed. James L. Morgan (Newport, AR: Morgan Books, 1981).

Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Central Arkansas (Chicago: Goodspeed Pub. Co., 1889).

Campbell, Thomas H., *Arkansas Cumberland Presbyterians 1812-1984: A People of Faith* (Memphis: Arkansas Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 1985).

Henderson, Shannon J., *Arkansas Gazette Index, 1919-1929* (Russellville, AR: Arkansas Tech Library, 1977).

Marriage Records of Pulaski County, ed. James L. Morgan (Newport, AR: Morgan Books, 1982).

From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Inventory of Arkansas Post Offices, 1832-1971 (Hot Springs, AR: Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988).

Shinn, Josiah, *Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas* (Genealogical and Historical and Pub. Co., 1906).

Articles

Dean, Jerry, "Maumelle Area Has Its Share of History and Legends, Explorer Says," *Arkansas Gazette*, February 4, 1984.

Eno, Clara B., "Territorial Governors of Arkansas," *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, Vol. IV, No. 4, Winter, 1945.

Fletcher, Mary, "Early Days in Little Rock up to 1825," *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, Vol. I, No. 1, March, 1942.

Jodges, Dr. and Mrs. T. L. "Jean Lafitte and Major L. LaFour in Arkansas Territory, *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, Vol. VII, No. 4, Winter, 1948.

Lemke, W. J., ed., "The Pyeatts and the Carnahans of Old Cane Hill," *Washington County (AR) Historical Society Bulletin*, No. 8, 1954.

Lemke, W. J., ed. "The Pyeatt Genealogy," *Washington County (AR) Historical Society Bulletin*, No. 14, 1955.

Maxwell, Nancy, "Born to Lead: Jacob Pyeatte and the Journey to Arkansas," *Pulaski County (AR) Historical Review*, Winter, 1988.

McLeod, W. E., "Early Baptist Movements in Northeast Arkansas," *The Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, Vol. I, No. 1, March, 1942.

___ See continuation sheet.

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:

- X State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	<u>15</u>	<u>553070</u>	<u>3856580</u>	B	<u>15</u>	_____
C	<u>15</u>	_____	_____	D	<u>15</u>	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Part of the Northwest Quarter of Section 32, Township 3 North, Range 13 West,

Pyeatte-Mason Cemetery
Name of Property

Pulaski County, AR
County and State

Pulaski County, Arkansas, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the center of said Section 32, (Arkansas State Plane Coordinates of North 188,638.254, East 1,877,831.662); thence North 280.87 feet; thence West 635.64 feet to the point of beginning; thence North 74 degrees 50 minutes 06 seconds West 128.27 feet; thence North 11 degrees 14 minutes 27 seconds East 199.35 feet; thence South 76 degrees 59 minutes 03 seconds East 144.83 feet; thence South 15 degrees 57 minutes 18 seconds West 204.33 feet to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

This boundary includes all the property historically associated with this resource.

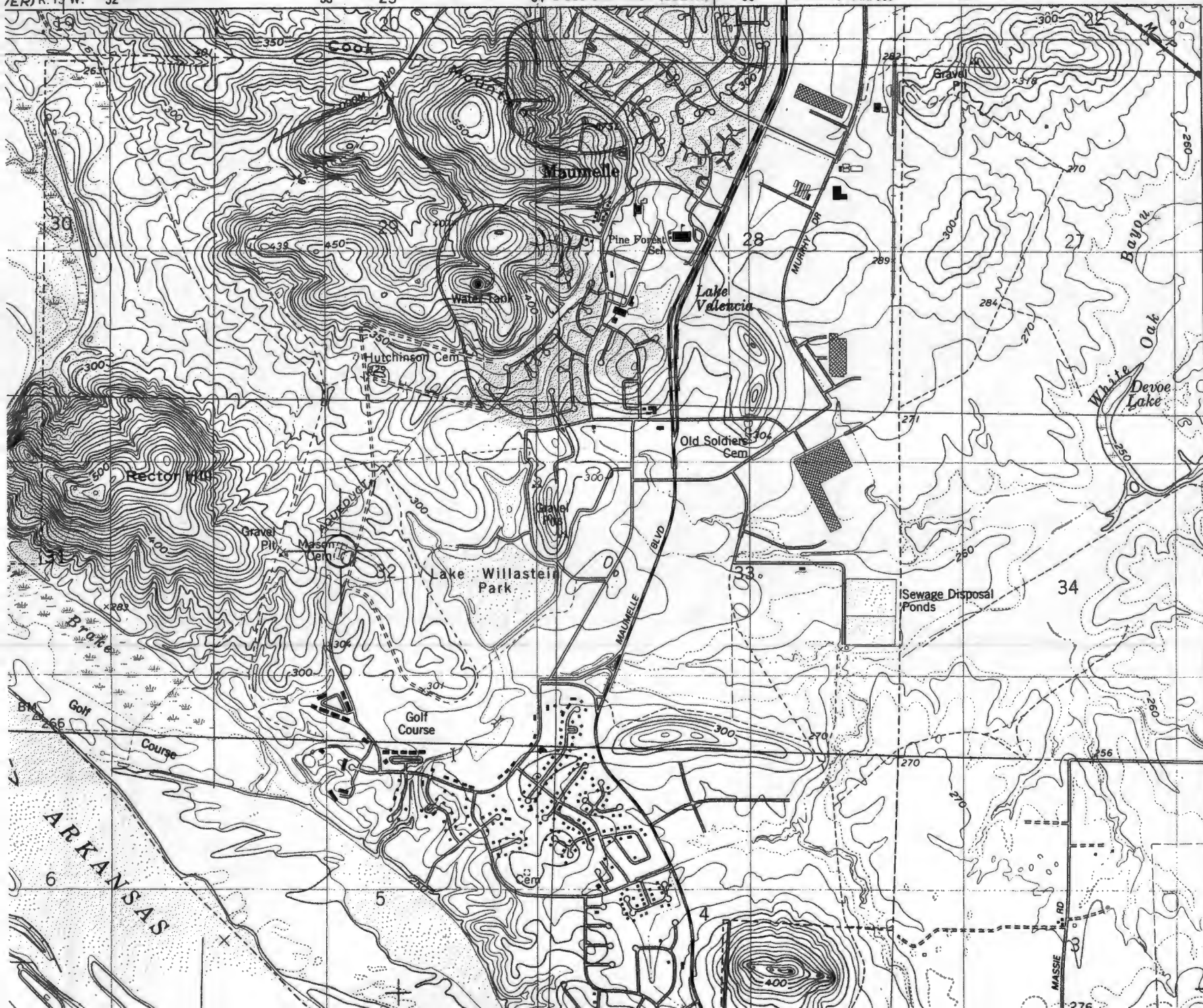
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11. Form Prepared By
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Name/Title: Kim Solomon, AHPP Intern/AHPP Staff
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 09/06/96
Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880
City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201



ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

1W (ER) R. 13 W. 52 53 25' 54 1 880 000 FEET (SOUTH) 55 0.7 MI TO ARK. 365 56 92° 22' 30" 34° 52' 30"



800 000 FEET
(SOUTH)

PLATE-MASON
CEMETERY
MAUMELLE,
PULASKI Co.,
AR
15/553070/
3856580

T. 3 N.
T. 2 N.

55
50'

ARKANSAS
6