

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Martin Cemetery

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: 10900 Interstate 30

City or town: Little Rock State: AR County: Pulaski

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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.

I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A ___ B ___ C ___ D

Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Arkansas Historic Preservation Program</u>	
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

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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 of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: cemetery

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: N/A _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Martin Cemetery, which contains approximately 1334 marked graves, is located in far southwest Little Rock, near the community known as Mabelvale in southwest Pulaski County, Arkansas. The cemetery is located adjacent to Sibley Hole Road and the northern Interstate-30 Frontage Road. It is located immediately to the northeast of the intersection of Interstate-30 and Interstate-430 in southwest Pulaski County. The northern and western edges of the cemetery are heavily wooded. The western edge of the property is separated from the access road and adjacent properties by a fence. The access roads from Sibley Hole Road and the I-30 Frontage Road, as well as the internal access paths are composed of gravel. A few large trees and shrubs offer limited shading to the cemetery. Only the historic section of the cemetery is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. This section of the cemetery, which is located at the southeast corner of the cemetery, is bounded by the cemetery property line along the south, east, and north edges and an internal access road to the west and northwest. This historic section contains the largest collection of historic graves in the cemetery and contains several burials of early regional settlers who were active in the settlement and development of southern Pulaski County.

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Narrative Description

The cemetery covers approximately 6.25 acres to the northeast of the intersection of Sibley Hole Road and the northern I-30 Frontage Road near the intersection of I-430 and I-30. A black metal sign with the text “MARTIN CEMETERY FOUNDED 1834” is located along the southern edge of the cemetery, facing Interstate-30. There are several large trees within the cemetery, including six Cherrybark Oak and Eastern Redcedar trees which are thought to have been on the site when the cemetery was first used in 1833. Several of these trees, including four Cherrybark Oaks and one Eastern Redcedar trees were recognized by the Arkansas Famous and Historic Tree Program in 2011.¹

The northern and western edges of the cemetery are heavily wooded. The western edge of the property is separated from the access road and adjacent properties by a chain-link fence. The access roads from Sibley Hole Road and the I-30 Frontage Road, as well as the internal access paths are composed of gravel. The oldest part of the cemetery is the southwest section of the cemetery, with the oldest graves located in the center of this section along a small rise in the landscape. The burials are arranged in basic rows, with gravestones facing to the east. The oldest marked burials are those of four Martin Children, all aged under six years old. These include John D. Martin (1828-1833), John D. Martin (1833-1833), Mary Martin (1833-1833), and Sarah B. Martin (1828-1833).² The cemetery includes graves that range from 1833 to the present and includes approximately 1334 burials in the entire cemetery. The historic section of the cemetery contains the majority of the historic burials. The cemetery also contains 36 known, yet unmarked, burials and 64 marked burials where the death-date is not marked or illegible. New burials are allowed in the cemetery for those with a family connection to already interred individuals. There is very limited space in the historic section available for new burials due to the existence of unmarked burials.

Date Distribution of Graves:

Burials by Decade:

1833-1839 = 5
1840-1849 = 7
1850-1859 = 17
1860-1869 = 6
1870-1879 = 14
1880-1889 = 26
1890-1899 = 28
1900-1909 = 48

¹ The Arkansas Famous and Historic Tree Program is administered as a cooperative effort between the Arkansas State Parks, Arkansas Forestry Commission, Department of Arkansas Heritage, and the Arkansas Federation of Garden Clubs and was established in 1997. <http://arhistorictrees.org>.

² John D. Martin (1828-1833) and John D. Martin (1833-1833) are two separate individuals who both died in childhood.

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1910-1919 = 79
1920-1929 = 82
1930-1939 = 86
1940-1949 = 109
1950-1959 = 137

Total number of known graves (as of 2016) in entire cemetery: 1334

Number of Historic Burials: 644 total from 1833-1959

Total of known burials that are not marked: 36

Total of marked burials with unknown death dates: 64

The Martin Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in southern Pulaski County. The cemetery includes burials from various early settler families in Pulaski County, including members of the following families: Martin, Douglass, Lewis, Rowland, White, Smith, and Turley. The cemetery was originally founded as a burial ground for the Martin family on their homestead near the small community of Fourche (also spelled Forsche or Fourch). Members of the Martin family were known to be in the area as early as 1818 as surveyors of new military roads in northern and central Arkansas. The local Martin homestead was most likely purchased in 1821, when Allen Martin and his brother Jared C. Martin decided to settle on land south of the community of Little Rock.³ The earliest available land record for the site of Martin Cemetery shows that Jared C. Martin laid claim to the land in 1826 as the result of a cash payment to the federal government. Soon after the Martin family settled in the area, infant twins Mary and John D. Martin passed away on February 5, 1833, only a few days after their birth. The family buried the infants on the family homestead land in a newly established family cemetery. Sadly, over the next year, the death of three more children would follow. These children were all interred in the Martin family's cemetery. As the years passed, other related families and community members were allowed to be buried in the family cemetery. After only a few decades, the cemetery had become the main community cemetery for the area and the Martin family dedicated the surrounding land for community use as the cemetery continued to expand. In 1920, local residents realized that the cemetery was in a neglected state. In response, local community members organized the Martin Cemetery Association in order to raise funds to care for the cemetery and to take over responsibility for the maintenance and ownership of the cemetery. In 1979, Clifton Morehart was elected chairman of the Martin Cemetery Association. He quickly began fund-raising efforts to ensure the cemetery could be self-sustaining. The Martin Cemetery Association incorporated in 1983 and still continues to maintain and administer the cemetery.

Grave Markers and Monuments

All of the graves are oriented east to west, with the markers facing east. The burials are arranged in basic rows stretching from north to south. The Martin Cemetery Historic Section includes grave markers of various materials with various types of iconography. There are several large

³ The earliest Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records for the area note that the Martin family was purchasing large tracts of land from the early 1820s through 1855 in the area of the current Cemetery. <https://glorerecords.blm.gov>.

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Woodmen of the World memorials that were carved from stone to resemble a vertical tree trunk resting on several horizontal logs and include elaborate inscriptions. The following burials are marked by these large markers: George C. Jaynes (1887-1915), Nettie E. Fulmore (1886-1918), Henry S. Wilson (1884-1912), and L. O. Dilworth (1819-1913). Two small metal Woodmen of the World markers also mark the following gravesites: Napoleon B. Jaynes (1855-1921) and Virgil L. Cochrane (1861-1928). Several gravestones include various fraternal organization symbols and names, including the stone border of the Jaynes family plot, where the entrance step is flanked by stone scrollwork with the inscribed round symbol of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen – Lodge 49. Other family plots, such as the Wilson family plot, are surrounded by a detailed stone boarder with a central entrance step. Various funerary iconographies are seen throughout the cemetery, including open Bibles, clasped hands, lambs, drapery, sheaves of wheat or grain, floral motifs, and crosses.

Other marker types found throughout the cemetery include short obelisks, some topped with urns, with carved drapery, or with cross gables. Markers of this type can be found at the graves of Henry Morgan (1836-1924) and Louisa Morgan (1836-1907). Many monuments in the cemetery from the late 19th and early 20th centuries are composed of thick stones with various types of rounded tops, including floral iconography and scrollwork. A few children's graves include scroll forms and lambs as well as oak tree limbs and acorns, such as on the tombstone of Carroll Edgeworth (1887-1888). Other common forms seen throughout the cemetery are stone and concrete urns and military markers. Another unusual form seen in the cemetery is the rounded stone marker of Alur M. Wilson (1891-1913). A few stones appear to be homemade or locally made vernacular markers. These markers are composed of either thin stone with roughly incised lettering or composed of concrete and include stamped lettering. This later type can be seen in the markers of Zachary Bright (d. 1890) and the adjacent Munson family (d. 1901 & 1905). The oldest stones in the cemetery are located near the center of the historic section and are mostly within four rows. These include markers for members of the Martin and Douglass families. Many of the earliest gravesites also include surviving footstones that are marked with the initials of the interred. A few graves are still marked by large field stones.

Only two tombstones include a signature of a stone carver. The marker for John Douglas is the largest and tallest tablet style marker in the cemetery and includes a roundel with sheathes of grain topped by scrollwork and a curved top. The tombstones of Sarah B. Martin (1840-1852) and John Douglass (1782-1861) are both signed "J. Tunnah L. Rock". This is the signature of local marble and stone carver James Tunnah. James Tunnah was born in Dumferline, Fifeshire, Scotland, in 1817. He arrived in the city of Little Rock in 1849. He and his companion Joseph Clark quickly established the first marble cutting and carving company in the city. Tunnah also went on to serve as wharf master for the city of Little Rock and city collector for twelve years as well as becoming the co-owner of a commercial printing firm.⁴

⁴ "James Tunnah," *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Central Arkansas: Jefferson, Saline, Hot Spring, Pulaski, Garland, Lonoke, Perry, Faulkner, and Grant Counties*, The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889, pp 415-524.

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The largest memorial in the cemetery is that of James Frank Hopkins (1845-1913). Hopkins was one of the original founders of the National Sigma Nu Fraternity and was known as Alpha I, the original first member of the fraternity. His large marker was erected by the national Sigma Nu Fraternity in 1920 with a massive, three part memorial; including a large central gabled tablet and two flat topped flanking stones, one for J. Frank Hopkins (1845-1913) and one for his wife Jennie B. Hopkins (1848-1905). This memorial is located at the far southeast corner of the cemetery and is surrounded on three sides by a decorative metal fence and ornamental hedges.

Integrity

The Martin Cemetery Historic Section has a high level of historic integrity. The historic section of the cemetery was selected due to the high concentration of historic burials representing the early history of the area as well as the high concentration of early grave markers. A few stones have been broken and a very few stones have been laid flat on the ground with their inscriptions visible. A couple of stones have been moved off of their original bases and reset due to damage or previous toppling. Most of the markers are in good condition and a few have been repaired due to previous damage. In the historic section, a few early burials are marked by later gravestones. There are also a limited number of replacement stones on earlier graves in the historic section of this cemetery. Overall, the cemetery has been maintained in a good condition and is up-kept by an active cemetery association. New burials are permitted in the rest of the cemetery; however, new burials are limited to those with family ties to previous burials in the cemetery. The cemetery is clearly associated with the earliest white settlers of this region during the early years of the exploration and settlement of Arkansas Territory. The setting, although now adjacent to a major interstate, is still in a largely undisturbed area, with limited development in the area. The cemetery is also surrounded on three sides by large trees and by a large wooded area to the north and west.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or 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

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Exploration/Settlement

Period of Significance

1833-1959

Significant Dates

1833

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Martin Cemetery is located in southwestern Pulaski County, to the north of the community of Mabelvale, within the city boundaries of Little Rock, Arkansas. As surveyors and early settlers, the Martin family and the Douglass family were an important part of the early settlement and development of Pulaski County and their family connections and public service helped to form the early political dynamics that would continue to affect Arkansas politics for the next century. The Martin Cemetery Historic Section is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** for its association with the history of Exploration and Settlement of central Arkansas. This site is also being nominated under **Criteria Consideration D** as a cemetery associated with the settlement of the surrounding area. The historic section of the Martin Cemetery contains the largest collection of historic graves in the cemetery and contains burials of early regional settlers who were active in the settlement and development of southern Pulaski County. This cemetery serves as one of the last known sites associated with the early settlement and development of southwestern Pulaski County and the communities of Fourche and Mabelvale. The farmsteads and other architectural remnants or landscapes associated with the earliest settlement families interred in the Martin Cemetery have been lost.

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

The area surrounding the Martin Cemetery was known during the early settlement years as the community of Fourche (also spelled Forsche or Fourch). The area was most likely named after the nearby Fourche Creek, a now urban waterway that flows through south Little Rock, Arkansas. An early post-office known as Fourche was set up in the area in 1856 and closed in 1859.⁵ Other local place names that appear in postal records and Arkansas Secretary of State reports in the late 19th century include Little Fourche with mail to Mabelvale, and Fourche Mountain. During early surveys and in early census records the land surrounding the Martin cemetery and Mabelvale was known as Fourche Township.

The nearby community of Mabelvale was formerly established with a post office in 1873.⁶ The Martin Cemetery predates this community, as the area was originally settled by farmers and investors who were drawn to the newly available lands around central Arkansas. Allen Martin,

⁵ Russell Pierce Baker, *From Memdag to Norsk: A Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices 1832-197*, Arkansas Genealogical Society, 1988.

⁶ Steven Teske, "Mabelvale (Pulaski County)," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*, Central Arkansas Library System, 23 August 2016. www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net. Accessed 1 December 2016.

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in his work as a surveyor, worked with James Sevier Conway, who was an early surveyor in Arkansas Territory and eventually became Surveyor-General of the Arkansas Territory in 1832 and the first elected Governor of Arkansas in 1836. Conway was also a land developer and speculator and eventually owned large sections of land in what is now the greater Little Rock region, including land near the Martin family's holdings in southwest Pulaski County.⁷

The southwest trail ran through the area of Fourche and later Mabelvale, allowing access to the area from the northeast to the southwest. In the 1850s, railroad surveyors arrived in the area.⁸ The Civil War delayed the railroad's development southwest of Little Rock until the 1870s. Rail Service in the area started in 1873 with the construction of a depot just to the south of the Martin property.⁹ A local post office was also established in the same year and named Mabelvale, possibly after the daughter of a local businessman.¹⁰

The area continued to be a rural community southwest of Little Rock until the early 1960s when Interstate-30 was built through the area, physically dividing the landscape by cutting through the northwest corner of the Mabelvale community. Interstate-30 was developed to link Little Rock with Dallas, Texas. In 1966, an initial attempt was undertaken to annex the area in to the growing city of Little Rock.¹¹ This attempt was defeated by city voters. As the city of Little Rock continued to grow to the south and west, the area known as Mabelvale was eventually annexed into the city boundaries in May of 1973.¹² The area's identity as a rural community, separate from the city of Little Rock, was all but eliminated with the development of Interstate-30 through the middle of the community and is the reason the cut-off date for the period of significance for the cemetery being set in 1959.

Cemetery History

The Martin Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in southern Pulaski County. The cemetery includes burials from various early settler families in Pulaski County, including members of the following families: Martin, Douglass, Lewis, Rowland, White, Smith, and Turley. The cemetery was originally founded as a burial ground for the Martin family on their homestead near the small community of Fourche (Forsche or Fourch). Members of the Martin family were known to be in the area as early as 1818 as surveyors of new military roads in northern and central Arkansas. The land for the Martin homestead was most likely purchased in 1821, when Allen Martin and his brother Jared C. Martin decided to settle on land south of the community of Little Rock.¹³ The earliest available land record for the site of Martin Cemetery shows that Jared

⁷ Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records for the area, 1820-1860, <https://glorerecords.blm.gov>.

⁸ Teske, "Mabelvale (Pulaski County)," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*.

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ The earliest Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records for the area note that the Martin family was purchasing large tracts of land from the early 1820s through 1855 in the area of the current Cemetery. <https://glorerecords.blm.gov>.

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C. Martin laid claim to the land in 1826 as the result of a cash payment to the federal government. Soon after the Martin family settled in the area, infant twins Mary and John D. Martin passed away on February 5, 1833, only a few days after their birth. The family buried the infants on the family land and created a small family cemetery. Sadly, over the next year, the death of three more Martin children would follow and they were all interred in the Martin family's cemetery. As the years passed, other related families and community members were allowed to be buried in the family cemetery. After only a few decades, the cemetery had become the main community cemetery for the area and the Martin family dedicated the surrounding land for use as the cemetery expanded. In 1920, local residents realized that the cemetery was in a neglected state. In response, local community members organized the Martin Cemetery Association in order to raise funds to care for the cemetery and to take over responsibility for the maintenance and ownership of the cemetery. In 1979, Clifton Morehart was elected chairman of the Martin Cemetery Association. He quickly began fund-raising efforts to ensure the cemetery could be self-sustaining. The Martin Cemetery Association incorporated in 1983 and still continues to maintain and administer the cemetery.

The Martin and Douglass Families

John Martin, Jr., and his wife Elizabeth (Allen) Martin emigrated from Ireland to Georgia with John Martin's parents in c. 1767.¹⁴ John Martin, Jr., served in the Revolutionary War as a private in the Georgia Militia.¹⁵ After the death of his parents, John Martin, Jr., purchased land in the newly opened Louisiana Purchase territories, near present day Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in 1804.¹⁶ In 1806, the Martin family, which then included at least eight children, traveled to the new family homestead in the Louisiana Territory. The youngest son of John and Elizabeth Martin, Jared Carswell Martin, was born in 1806 in Georgia's Cherokee Territory, during the family's journey to their new home in the Louisiana Territory.¹⁷ Soon after the family arrived at their new home, John Martin, Jr., passed away in 1808.¹⁸

In the early decades of the 19th century, several of John Martin's sons moved to the newly developing Arkansas Territory to forge their own family homesteads or businesses. According to Martin family histories, Allen Martin came to the soon to be Arkansas Territory as a surveyor of some part of the Southwest Trail, also known as the Military Road, which ran from St. Genevieve, Missouri, through Little Rock, Arkansas, and then on to the southwest towards

¹⁴ "James A. Martin," *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Central Arkansas: Jefferson, Saline, Hot Spring, Pulaski, Garland, Lonoke, Perry, Faulkner, and Grant Counties*, The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889, pp 485-486. United States Census Rolls, 1840, 1850, 1860.

¹⁵ Jared C. Martin Family Papers, 1824-1891, BC.MSS.05.01, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Arkansas Studies Institute: Little Rock, Arkansas.

¹⁶ "James A. Martin," *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Central Arkansas: Jefferson, Saline, Hot Spring, Pulaski, Garland, Lonoke, Perry, Faulkner, and Grant Counties*, The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889, pp 485-486.

¹⁷ Jared C. Martin Family Papers, 1824-1891, BC.MSS.05.01, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Arkansas Studies Institute: Little Rock, Arkansas.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

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Texas.¹⁹ This would have put him in the central Arkansas area between 1818 and the federal recognition of Arkansas Territory in 1819. After completing his surveying work, Allen returned to Missouri Territory to his mother's home near Cape Girardeau. Allen Martin and his younger brother Jared Carswell Martin soon returned to the area of Little Rock, Arkansas to join their brother James Hutchinson Martin, who had moved to the area sometime before 1820.²⁰ When James Hutchinson arrived near the area of the present day city of Little Rock, he set up an inn and river ferry business. In 1820, James Hutchinson Martin married Martha Daniels, the daughter of another early Pulaski county settler Wright Daniels who set up one of the area's first grist mills.²¹ The Martin inn and ferry was located across the river from the current historic core of downtown Little Rock.

In the early 1820s, Allen Martin returned to his mother's home in Missouri Territory one final time, in order to move her to his newly acquired property south of Little Rock near the small historic community of Fourche. Jared C. Martin was reported to have stayed in Little Rock and worked for his brother James Hutchinson, operating a ferry across the Arkansas River and delivering mail between Little Rock and Arkansas Post.²² Jared C. Martin eventually joined his brother Allen Martin in southwest Pulaski County where they farmed adjacent land holdings.²³

Allen Martin married Mahala Collins Rowland in 1839.²⁴ Tragically, Mahala passed away the next year following the birth of the couple's first child. Allen then married Mahala's sister Maria Shackelford Rowland, in 1842.²⁵ In 1857, Allen moved to Red River County, Texas, where he lived until his death in 1872.²⁶ Thomas and Elizabeth Rowland, the parents of Mahala and Maria Rowland, who married Allen Martin, were originally buried in a family cemetery in Pulaski County. In the 20th century, their graves were rediscovered when a new Dillard's Department Store warehouse was being built in the area. The graves were moved from their original location to the Martin Cemetery to be nearer to their children, who were both buried in

¹⁹ *Ibid.* Martin Family Papers, 1824-1930, UALR.MS.0051, University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) Center for Arkansas History and Culture, Arkansas Studies Institute: Little Rock, Arkansas.

²⁰ Josiah H. Shinn, *Pioneers and Makers of Arkansas*, Little Rock, 1908, Reprinted by Clearfield Company by Genealogical Publishing Company: Baltimore, MD, 1999. pp 261-262.

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² "James A. Martin," *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Central Arkansas: Jefferson, Saline, Hot Spring, Pulaski, Garland, Lonoke, Perry, Faulkner, and Grant Counties*, The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889, pp 485-486.

²³ Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records for the area, 1820-1860, <https://glorerecords.blm.gov>.

²⁴ Martin Family Papers, 1824-1930, UALR.MS.0051, University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) Center for Arkansas History and Culture, Arkansas Studies Institute: Little Rock, Arkansas.

²⁵ Find A Grave, Inc., *Find A Grave*, database (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 1 January 2017); Record, Allen B Martin (1801-1872), [Memorial No. 71661490](#), Records of the White Rock Cemetery, Red River County, Texas.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

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the Martin Cemetery.²⁷ The Rowland family included R. N. Rowland, who served as a county surveyor in Pulaski County during the early history of the County.²⁸ Members of the Douglass family were also early surveyors in the area. This could account for the close connection between the families in the early history of Arkansas Territory, when the area was just starting to develop in terms of settlement.

Jared C. Martin lived at his homestead south of the city of Little Rock for the rest of his life. In 1827, he married Mary Douglass, daughter of early area settler John Douglass.²⁹ John Douglass arrived in Arkansas in c. 1811 with a group of men, possibly early surveyors, and travelled around much of central Arkansas.³⁰ In 1817, after service in the War of 1812, John Douglass and several other men from Sumner County, Tennessee, decided to move their families to central Arkansas to set up new family plantations. By 1820, the Douglass family had settled on land south of Little Rock in the area now known as Mabelvale and near to the land that the Martin family would purchase in the early 1820s.³¹ John Douglass, his first wife Sarah Kellum Douglass, second wife Marian Douglass, and several of his children, including Mary (Douglass) Martin, wife of Jared Carswell Martin, are all marked by stones in the Martin Cemetery historic section.³²

Jared C. and Mary Martin would have 11 children together, including twins John D. and Mary Martin (both 1833-1833) and John D. Martin (1828-1833), who were some of the earliest known burials in the Martin Cemetery. Jared C. Martin would eventually serve as a county representative in the state legislature and served as the State Treasurer of Arkansas for a short time.³³ Jared C. also served on the nominating committee for new state officials once Arkansas became a state.³⁴ Jared C. Martin passed away in 1857 and was buried on his own property in the Martin Cemetery, near the graves of his infant children. His son James A. Martin, who married Huldah Tracy Toncray, would also live on the family homestead, where he operated the family farm. James would also serve as a surveyor for the federal government, surveying areas

²⁷ Find A Grave, Inc., *Find A Grave*, database (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 1 January 2017); Record, Thomas Rowland (1793-1854), [Memorial No. 31827044](#), Records of the Martin Cemetery, Little Rock, Arkansas.

²⁸ "County Officials," Arkansas County Records, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas. <http://ahc-counties.aristotle.net/default.aspx>.

²⁹ "Douglass Family History," Jared C. Martin Family Papers, 1824-1891, BC.MSS.05.01, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Arkansas Studies Institute: Little Rock, Arkansas.

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ *Ibid.* Bureau of Land Management, General Land Office Records for the area, 1820-1860, <https://glorerecords.blm.gov>.

³² According to Mr. Clifton A. Morehart, chairman of the Martin Cemetery board, a number of the Douglass family came to Arkansas from Tennessee and were buried in the Douglass Cemetery closer to the Arkansas River. During the Civil War The Union Army was advancing upon Little Rock and Mary Douglass Martin was afraid the graves would be desecrated so she had all the Douglass grave stones removed and replaced in the Martin Cemetery and left the bodies at the Douglass Cemetery. Morehart, Clifton A., personal story, December 2015.

³³ Jared C. Martin Family Papers, 1824-1891, BC.MSS.05.01, Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Arkansas Studies Institute: Little Rock, Arkansas.

³⁴ D. A. Stokes, Jr., "The First State Elections," *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, volume 10: p 133.

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of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Louisiana and the Indian Territory.³⁵ He also worked as a surveyor for various area railroads, including the Cairo & Fulton Railroad. James A. Martin would also follow in his father's footsteps and serve as the State Treasurer of Arkansas. He was also an early member of the Arkansas Society of Surveyors and Engineers.³⁶

At least four generations of the Martin Family are buried in the Martin Cemetery. Descendants of the Martin family, including the children of Jared C. Martin, continued to live and farm in the area through the end of the 19th century and into early 20th century. The homestead of J. Martin (Jared C. Martin or his son James Martin) which was referred to in later years as the Martin family homestead may have been located just to the east of what is now the Mabelvale Pike, to the south of its intersection with Rick Smith Lane. What appears to be an old farmstead, with a central house and various outbuildings can be found in the same location as early 20th century maps which label the area as the "J. Martin" house or homestead. This collection of buildings was evident on area maps until 2010, when a nearby large housing complex was built and the area cleared.

Henry Morehart

Henry Morehart was a leader of a third-party agrarian political rebellion in Pulaski County, Arkansas, during the late 19th century. He also served as an agrarian party legislator in the Arkansas House of Representatives in 1889.³⁷ Throughout his career he was met with fierce opposition from the Arkansas Democratic Party and conservative elites. Morehart was born in Ohio in 1841, the second of twelve children.³⁸ After being raised on the family farm, he volunteered for the Union Army during the Civil War. He returned to Ohio in 1866 and married Catharine Solt, with whom he had nine children.³⁹ In 1881, the Morehart family moved to Arkansas to a homestead near the Mabelvale community in southwest Pulaski County.

His most important political contribution to state politics occurred during the campaign of the office of Pulaski County state representative in 1888 and during his subsequent tenure as representative during the 27th session of the Arkansas General Assembly in 1889. In 1888, Morehart was nominated as a Union Labor Party candidate for state representative. The Union Labor Party was one of various third-party agrarian movements that were popular in rural Arkansas due to the depressed nature of the southern agricultural economy and the related fall in cotton prices and farming incomes.⁴⁰ The threat of a large scale political upheaval led local Democratic Party members to panic. After the end of voting on local and state races in Pulaski

³⁵ "James A. Martin," *The Goodspeed Biographical and Historical Memoirs of Central Arkansas: Jefferson, Saline, Hot Spring, Pulaski, Garland, Lonoke, Perry, Faulkner, and Grant Counties*, The Goodspeed Publishing Company, 1889, pp 485-486.

³⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁷ John Williams Graves, "Henry Morehart (1841-1911)," *Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture*, Central Arkansas Library System, 24 September 2014. www.encyclopdiaofarkansas.net. Accessed 1 December 2016.

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

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County, thieves entered the courthouse in Little Rock where they opened a safe and stole several ballot boxes from what were known to be heavily third-party voting precincts.⁴¹ This incident was thoroughly highlighted in the local press and was taken up by the statewide newspapers as a despicable politically motivated attack on the democratic process. Due to the overwhelmingly negative reaction of the public, state lawmakers were forced to act and on February 18, 1889, the local Pulaski County representatives were forced to resign from the state legislature. Their seats were then taken by Morehart and his fellow contestants from the agrarian third-parties.⁴²

Importantly, the most influential bill of the 27th session and then again in the 28th session of the Arkansas Legislature in 1891 was a centralized election bill that established a state board of election commissioners that gave the Democratic Party total control over the election process throughout Arkansas.⁴³ The bill also discouraged voting by poor and illiterate voters, both white and African American. This is generally regarded as a response to the power of the agrarian political parties and the perceived threat to the locally prominent Democratic Party legislators in the state.⁴⁴ After completing his term in the legislature in 1889, Morehart did not seek re-election and appears to have withdrawn from state-wide political service. He and his family remained active in local community life in Mabelvale, where he sometimes served as a judge of election. He also was instrumental in establishing the Good Hope School, located about five miles from his residence near Mabelvale.⁴⁵ Morehart continued to live at his homestead on Sardis Road until his death on January 14, 1911. He is buried in the Martin Cemetery Historic Section.

James Frank Hopkins

To the far right of the main gate of the Martin Cemetery is a separate enclosure bordered by an ornamental wrought iron fence with spearhead finials. The large triple monument marks the grave of James Frank Hopkins and his wife Jennie Hopkins. James Frank Hopkins attended the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, Virginia, after serving in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.⁴⁶ During his first year, Hopkins was surprised by and unwilling to accept the amount of hazing that was inherent as a social norm at the Institute.⁴⁷ He banded together with two other cadets, Greenfield Quarles and James McIlvaine Riley, and they pledged to form a brotherhood, which they called the Legion of Honor, in order to oppose hazing at the Institute and encourage the principle of Honor in all relationships.⁴⁸ This brotherhood was announced on January 1, 1869, to the other students at the Virginia Military Institute. The Sigma Nu fraternity was created as the college Greek-letter organization for the Legion of Honor members. This first chapter had 51 members by the end of the first year. Soon, the Sigma Nu fraternity grew to other

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*

⁴⁶ "About Us: History." *Sigma Nu Fraternity: Excelling with Honor*.

<http://www.sigmanu.org/about-us/history>. Accessed 8 August 2016.

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*

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campuses, first at the University of Virginia and then to other campuses across the country. In later years, Hopkins was given the title of Alpha I, for his role as the leader of the original three founding fraternal brothers of the Legion of Honor as well as his work in designing the first Sigma Nu badge and the first Sigma Nu ritual.⁴⁹

James Frank Hopkins returned to Arkansas after his graduation from the Virginia Military Institute. He worked as a civil engineer, Pulaski County Surveyor, Justice of the Peace and Director of Schools.⁵⁰ During this time, he lived to the southwest of Little Rock, in the community of Mabelvale. He died on December 15, 1913, and was laid to rest in Martin Cemetery. In 1920, a large memorial was dedicated at the gravesite by his original fraternal brother Greenfield Quarles and a delegation representing the national Sigma Nu chapters.

Statement of Significance

As surveyors and early settlers, the Martin and the Douglass families were an important part of the early settlement and development of Pulaski County and their family connections and public service helped to form the early political dynamics that would continue to affect Arkansas politics for the next century. The Martin Cemetery Historic Section is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under **Criterion A** for its association with the history of Exploration and Settlement of central Arkansas. This site is also being nominated under **Criteria Consideration D** as a cemetery associated with the settlement of the surrounding area. This cemetery is a rare surviving link with the historic community that existed in the area before the establishment of any major transportation link other than the Southwest Trail. The associated farmsteads and other architectural remnants or landscapes associated with the earliest settlement families interred in the Martin Cemetery have been lost.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*

⁵⁰ Find A Grave, Inc., *Find A Grave*, database (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 1 January 2017); Record, James Frank Hopkins (1845-1913), [Memorial No. 19644466](#), Records of the Martin Cemetery, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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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): PU10092

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property roughly 2 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

A. Zone: 15 S	Easting: 555112.00	Northing: 3836065.00
B. Zone: 15 S	Easting: 555169.00	Northing: 3836063.00
C. Zone: 15 S	Easting: 555169.76	Northing: 3836051.98
D. Zone: 15 S	Easting: 555226.16	Northing: 3836050.95
E. Zone: 15 S	Easting: 555227.69	Northing: 3835987.32
F. Zone: 15 S	Easting: 555169.61	Northing: 3835987.01
G. Zone: 15 S	Easting: 555110.04	Northing: 3835982.49

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

Starting at a point (A) with UTM coordinates Zone 15, Easting 555112.00, Northing 3836065.00 and then East to a point (B) with coordinates Zone 15, Easting 555169.00, Northing 3836063.00 and then South to a point (C) with coordinates Zone 15, Easting 555169.76, Northing 3836051.98 and then East to a point (D) with coordinates Zone 15, Easting 555226.16, Northing 3836050.95 and then South to a point (E) with coordinates Zone 15, Easting 555227.69, Northing 3835987.32 and then West to a point (F) with coordinates Zone 15, Easting 555169.61, Northing 3835987.01 and then West to a point (G) with coordinates Zone 15, Easting 555110.04, Northing 3835982.49.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with the oldest section of this cemetery.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Kathleen Fowler, Senior Librarian
organization: Arkansas State Library, Little Rock, AR

name/title: Callie Williams, National Register Historian (Edited By)
organization: Department of Arkansas Heritage, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program
street & number: 1100 North Street
city or town: Little Rock state: Arkansas zip code: 72201
e-mail callie.williams@arkansas.gov
telephone: 501.324.9789
date: January 12, 2017

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Martin Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Little Rock

County: Pulaski State: Arkansas

Photographer: Callie Williams

Date Photographed: September 13, 2016

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, camera facing northwest from with the historic section.
- 2 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, camera facing southwest from with the historic section.
- 3 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, camera facing northwest from with the historic section.
- 4 of 21: Detail of gravestone of George C. Jaynes (1887-1915), Woodmen of the World monument, camera facing west.
- 5 of 21: Detail of vernacular/amateur gravestone, name lost, date possibly 1841, camera facing west.
- 6 of 21: Detail of gravestone of Nettie E. Fulmore (1886-1918), Woodmen of the World monument, camera facing west.

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- 7 of 21: Detail of gravestone of Louisa Morgan (1836-1907), Woodmen of the World monument, camera facing west.
- 8 of 21: Detail of gravestone of Alur M. Wilson (1891-1913), Woodmen of the World monument, camera facing west.
- 9 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, camera facing northwest from with the historic section.
- 10 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, camera facing west from with the historic section.
- 11 of 21: Detail of gravestone of Mary A. (1871-1949) and Virgil L. Cochrane (1861-1928), metal Woodmen of the World grave marker, camera facing southwest/down.
- 12 of 21: Detail of gravestone of Sarah B. Martin (1840-1852) camera facing west/down.
- 13 of 21: Detail of gravestone of Sarah B. Martin (1840-1852), "J. Tunnah L. Rock" makers mark, camera facing west/down.
- 14 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, several Douglass and Martin graves visible, oldest section of cemetery, camera facing west from with the historic section.
- 15 of 21: Detail of gravestone of John Douglas (1782-1861), largest tablet style marker in cemetery, camera facing southwest.
- 16 of 21: Detail of gravestone of Carroll Edgeworth (1887-1888) camera facing southwest.
- 17 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, gravesite of Jared Carswell Martin (1850-1918) visible, camera facing southwest from with the historic section.
- 18 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, camera facing northwest from with the historic section.
- 19 of 21: Overall view of Martin Cemetery, Woodmen of the World marker of L. O. Dilworth (1879-1919) visible, camera facing southwest from with the historic section.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.