

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR Listed 5-21-04

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Putman Cemetery

other names/site number Site #BE3616

2. Location

street & number 3504 Magellan Boulevard

not for publication

city or town Bentonville

vicinity

state Arkansas

code AR

county Benton

code 007

zip code 72712

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 for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Cathie Matthews

4/8/04

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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 the Keeper

Date of Action

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.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- Criteria A through G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Levels of Significance (local, state, national)

Local

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Politics/Government

Exploration/Settlement

Architecture

Period of Significance

1863-1909

Significant Dates

1863-1909

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

Cultural Affiliation (Complete if Criterion D is marked)

Architect/Builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, National Register, National Historic Landmark, Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic American Engineering Record.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State Agency, Federal Agency, Local Government, University, Other.

Name of repository:

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY

The Putman Cemetery, which contains 14 marked graves, is located at 3504 Magellan Boulevard near Bentonville in Benton County, Arkansas. The small cemetery is surrounded by a modern ornamental iron fence with a large arch bearing the name Putman. The fast-paced growth of Benton County has meant that modern development now surrounds the cemetery, which until recently sat in a rural setting.

ELABORATION

The Putman Cemetery is located in Bentonville, three miles west of downtown Rogers. Located at the busy intersection of Interstate 540 and Walton Boulevard, the cemetery is surrounded by three modern hotels, four upscale restaurants and an Automated Teller Machine. The picturesque cemetery sits as an oasis in the midst of fast-paced development, and is a rare remnant of the area's rural past. Large deciduous trees are scattered throughout the cemetery. To blend in with the surrounding area, an iron ornamental fence was built around the cemetery, with a large arch bearing the name Putman.

The Putman Cemetery has gravestones ranging from tablets to a monument type stone, and slabs cover many of the graves. All stones are sculpted with decorative script and pictures, which include weeping willow trees, roses and vines, a lamb and clasped hands holding a Bible. Verses and sayings are added to many of the stones, in script popular in the nineteenth-century. In addition, some of the stones are signed by the carvers, which include M. L. Kelly of Garfield, Arkansas, and the McWhirter Brothers.

The Putman Cemetery was mapped by Benton County Cemetery Preservation Group with the assistance of Jerry Hilliard, Archaeology Department at University of Arkansas, on July 12, 1997. The first dated burial was 1863 and the last was in 1892. Current by-laws state no further burials will be allowed in the cemetery.

This is a breakdown of burials by decade of the 14 marked graves:

1860s - 2
1870s - 4
1880s - 7
1890s - 1

In addition to the 14 marked graves, a number of unmarked graves are also present.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2

In 1884 James Pervine Putman's heirs, which included six children, their spouses and his second wife, sold his farmland. However, they retained the .225 acre of land on which the cemetery is located.

In addition to James Pervine Putman's and his wife's graves, situated behind the three graves of Jahu Putman, Rachel Bond Putman and their youngest daughter Sarah Dwyer, other stones are those of James Pervine Putman's daughter, Josephine DeHart and her baby and some members of the Puckett family, a family that James' sister, Julia, married into.

The last burial to occur in the Putman Cemetery was in 1909. The current by-laws state that no further burials will be allowed in the cemetery, therefore allowing all of the burials in the cemetery to remain historic.

Jahu Putman's great-great grandson, Thomas Jerry Putman, became the Putman Cemetery caretaker when he was named president of the Putman Cemetery Association. The Putman Cemetery Association was formed on June 23, 1997, to ensure uninterrupted maintenance and protection of ancestral burial sites and protect access to family burial sites. This was the first cemetery association in Benton County that the Benton County Cemetery Preservation group helped form.

Although Bentonville has grown tremendously in recent years, the Putman Cemetery remains as a reminder of the early history of Benton County. In addition, the cemetery is important as the final resting place of many members of the prominent Putman Family.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Putman Cemetery is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places with **local significance** under **Criterion A** for its association with early settlement in Benton County. Members of the Putman Family, including Jahu Putman who fought in the War of 1812 and his son James Pervine Putman who served in the legislature, were early settlers in the Benton County area. The cemetery represents the most significant remaining site associated with the Putman family. As a result, it is also being nominated under **Criterion B** along with **Criteria Consideration C: birthplaces or graves**. The cemetery also represents a good example of a nineteenth-century rural cemetery, and is therefore also being nominated with **local significance** under **Criterion C**. The cemetery is also being nominated under **Criteria Consideration D: cemeteries**, and under the multiple property listing "Historic and Architectural Resources of Benton County, Arkansas."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 2

4) Form: Declaration of Surviving Soldier for Pension Act of February 14, 1871, Jahu Putman. (Copy in Jerry Putman's possession)

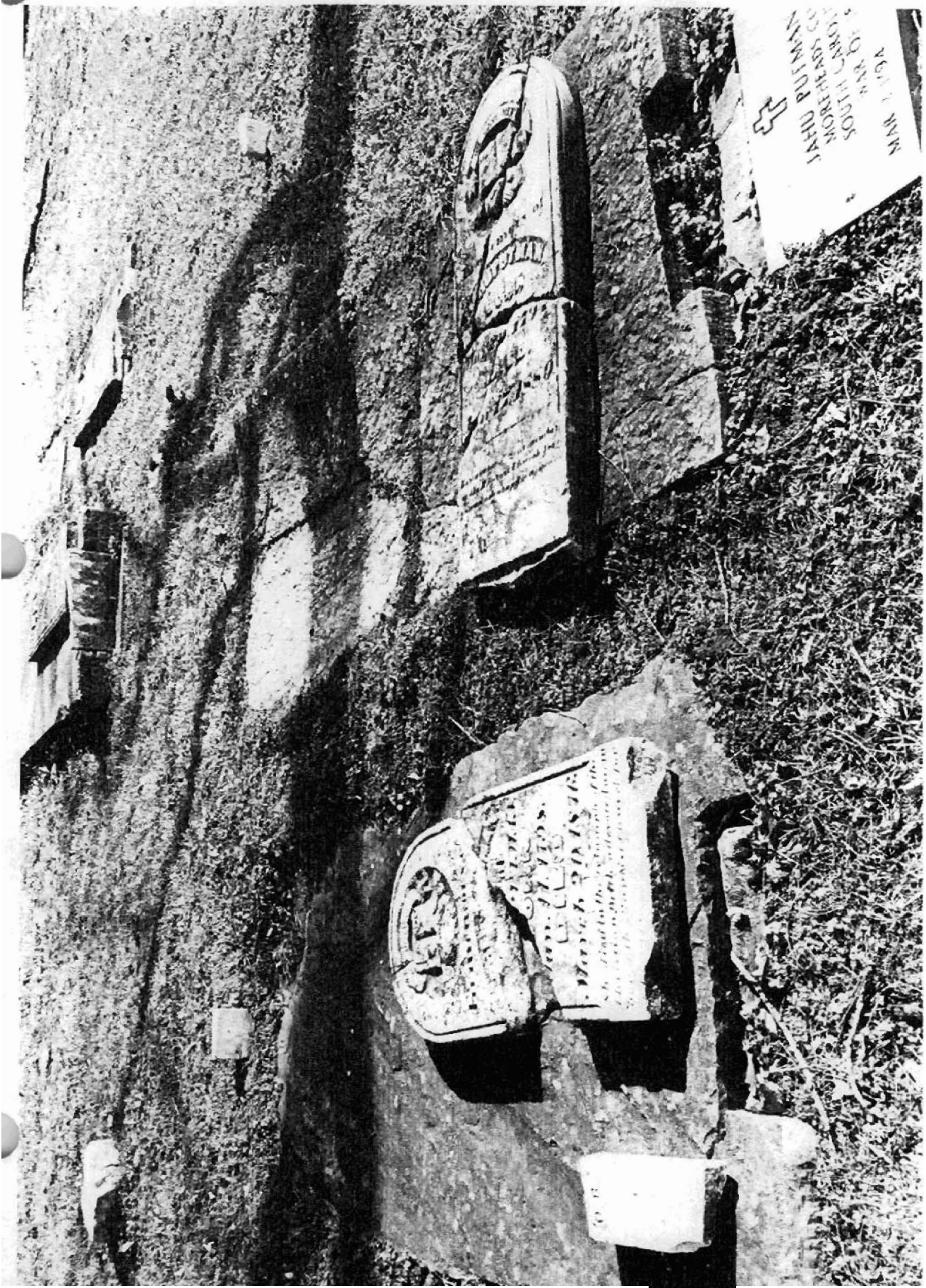
5) Marie Putman's interview with Grace Cole 2 February 1998.

Grace's grandmother, Elvira Sophroni "Frone," born July 2, 1856, was James Pervine and Marinda Patterson Putman's daughter and Jahu's granddaughter. She told of living in a large house down the hill from the Putman Cemetery.

SUSAN AHO
WIFE OF
J. CRUCKETT
BORN July 6, 1850
DIED Feb. 6, 1881
M. C. KEENE
MADEIRA, O.

WIFE OF
J. CRUCKETT
BORN July 6, 1850
DIED Feb. 6, 1881
M. C. KEENE
MADEIRA, O.



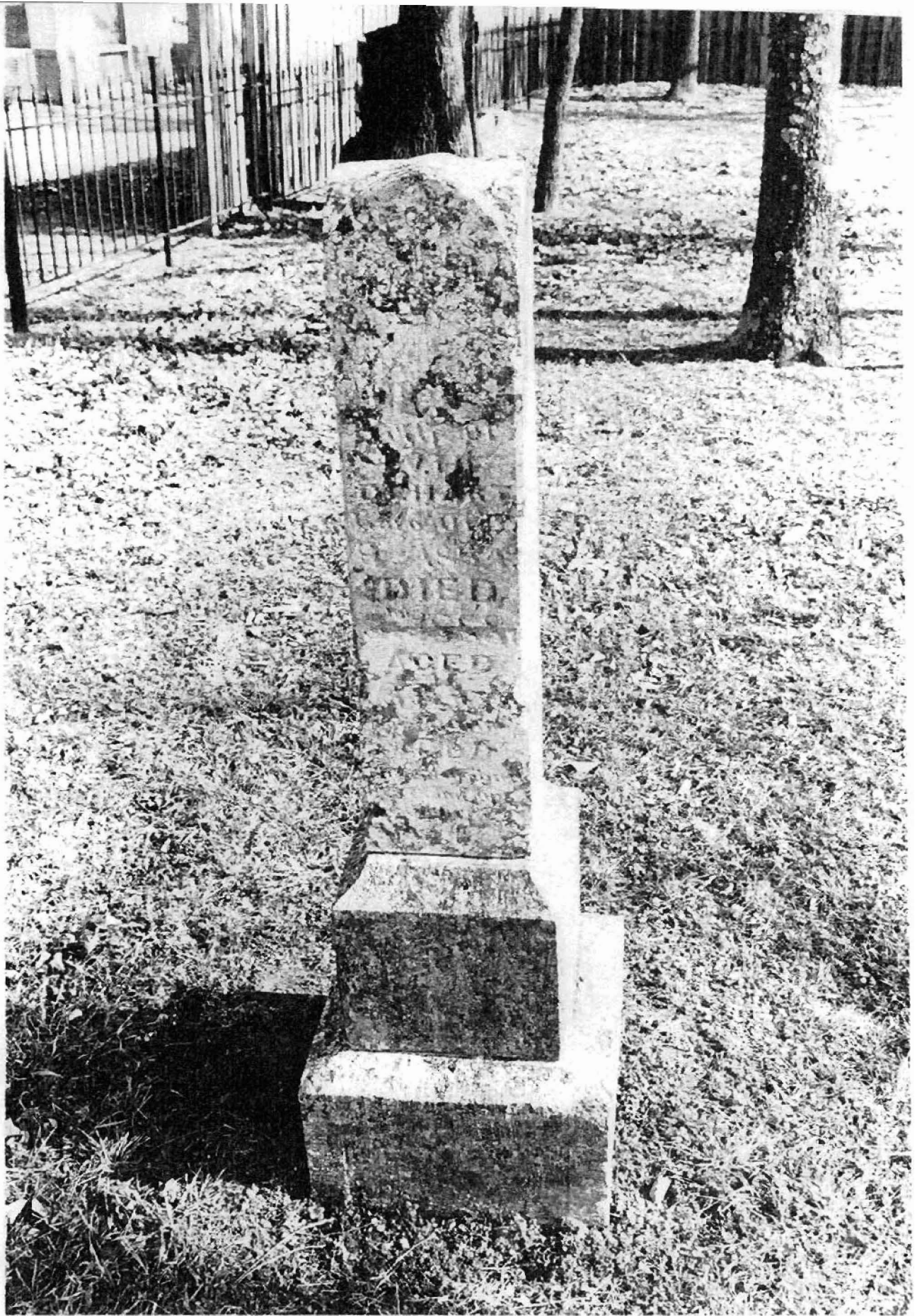


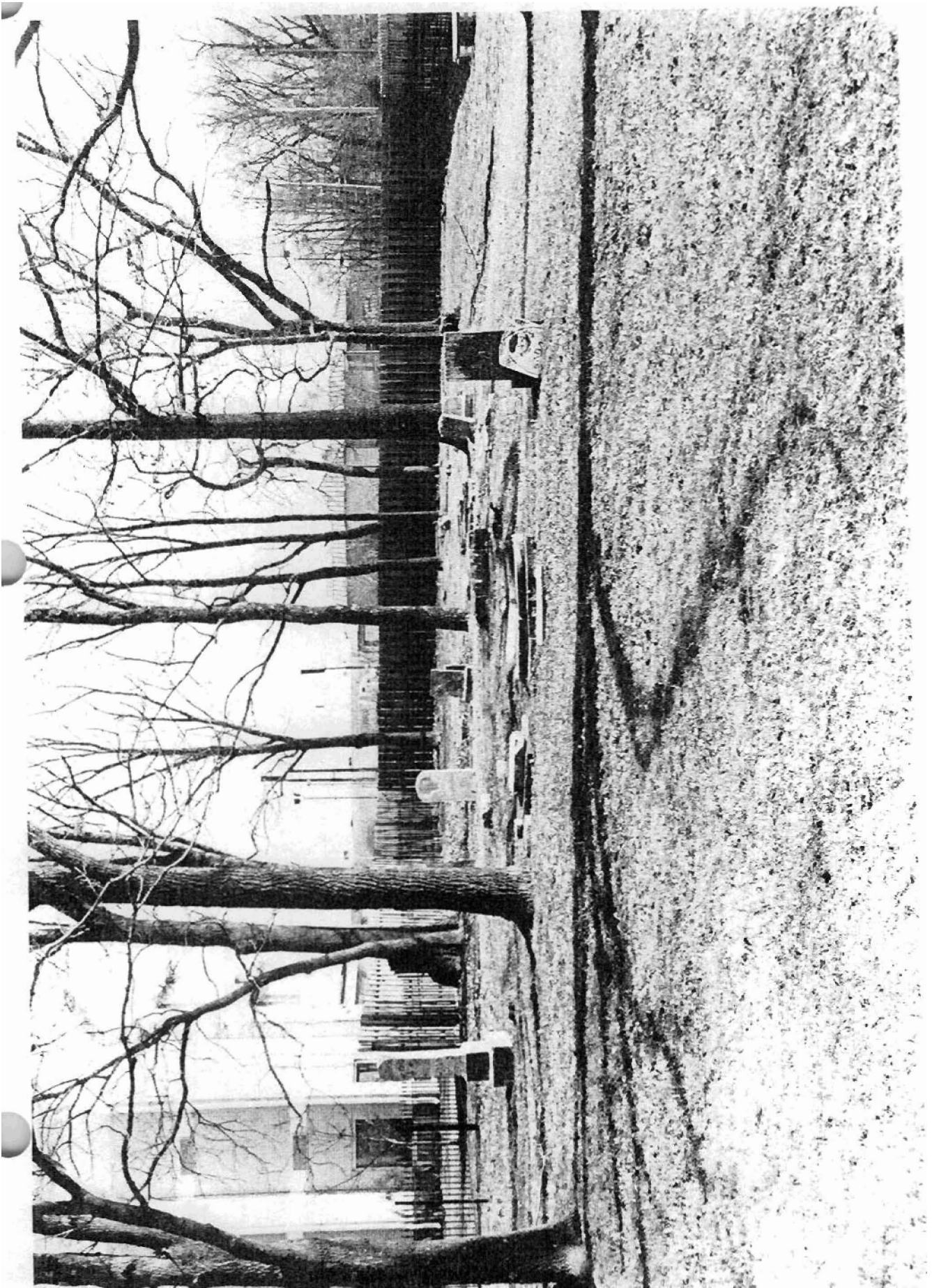
MAY 1962
MAY 1962
SOUTH CAROLINA
NORTH CAROLINA
JAHU PUMMA

IN THE
MONTH OF
MAY
A.D. 1962
BY
JAHU PUMMA

IN THE
MONTH OF
MAY
A.D. 1962
BY
JAHU PUMMA

1962







STATE OF ARKANSAS
GEOLOGICAL COMMISSION
LITTLE ROCK

Putman Family Cemetery
Bentonville, Benton Co., AR
UTM Reference: 15/393377/402777

BENTONVILLE S
ARKANSAS
7.5 MINUTE SER

