

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NR LISTED

DEC 6 1996

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
REGISTRATION FORM

AHPP

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1. Name of Property

=====

historic name: Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery

other name/site number: CW0407

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2. Location

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street & number: Southwest of intersection of McKibben and 10th Streets

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Van Buren vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Crawford code: AR 033 zip code: 72956

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Site

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>          </u>	buildings
<u>1</u>	<u>          </u>	sites
<u>442</u>	<u>          </u>	structures
<u>444</u>	<u>1</u>	objects
	<u>1</u>	Total

Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery

Name of Property

Crawford County, AR

County and State

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

Name of related multiple property listing: "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934

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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 J. State \_\_\_\_\_ Date 10-11-96  
Signature of certifying official

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery  
Name of Property

Crawford County, AR  
County and State

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

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**6. Function or Use**

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Historic: FUNERARY Sub: Cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Current: FUNERARY Sub: Cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Description**

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Architectural Classification:

Neoclassical  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation Marble roof N/A  
walls Marble other N/A

Describe present and historic physical appearance.  See continuation sheet.

**Summary**

The Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery at Van Buren in Crawford County is located just south of McKibben Street and west of its junction with 10th Street. The site, measuring roughly 158' by 111', contains approximately 442 grave markers.

**Elaboration**

The Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery at Van Buren in Crawford County is located just south of McKibben Street and west of its junction with 10th Street. The site, measuring roughly 158' by 111', contains approximately 442 grave markers.

The southwest corner of the lot is bounded by a low concrete retaining wall.

At the front and center of the plot, from west to east, stand an unmarked stone block, a flagpole, and a granite marker reading: ERECTED IN MEMORY OF/OUR CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS/FROM ARK., TEX., LA., MO., AND/INDIAN TERRITORY/WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE /BATTLES OF OAK HILL, ELK HORN,/AND PRAIRIE GROVE./ERECTED BY/MARY LEE CHAPTER U.D.C./OF VAN BUREN, ARKANSAS.

The lot is well maintained and in good condition.

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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: Statewide.

Applicable National Register Criteria:   A  

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):   C,F  

Areas of Significance:   SOCIAL HISTORY    
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery  
Name of Property

Crawford County, AR  
County and State

Period(s) of Significance: c. 1862 - c. 1908

Significant Dates: c. 1862 - c. 1908

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, statewide significance  
Criteria Considerations C and F

The Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery at Van Buren in Crawford County is associated with the historic context "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934 as a commemorative cemetery supplied by a local government and associated with the efforts of ancestral organizations in Arkansas. As such, it is eligible under Criterion A with statewide significance for its associations with the efforts of the City of Van Buren and the Mary Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to reflect members' perception of the noble character and valor of their veterans and their cause. Thus, it also meets the eligibility requirements of Criterion Considerations C (Cemeteries) and F (Commemorative Properties).

**Elaboration**

The 10 acres on which Fairview Cemetery are located were donated to the city in 1846 by John Drennen, one of the city's co-founders. After the outbreak of Civil War in 1861, the City of Van Buren donated a plot in which to bury Confederate soldiers who died in Van Buren or whose remains were brought there from regional battlefields.

Sexton records show that some 100 Confederate soldiers were buried in the Confederate Section during the Civil War. Others were reburied their following the war after being removed from their battlefield graves. There are some 442 simple marble grave markers in the lot, ordered by the Mary Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy from the U.S. government. Most are simply marked "UNKNOWN CONFEDERATE SOLDIER." The dead were believed to be from Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Missouri and the Indian Territory.

A monument with a marble Confederate soldier (Van Buren Confederate Monument, NR 4/26/96) was erected in the cemetery by the Mary Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1899 in honor of the southern dead. It was moved to a more visible location on the Crawford County Courthouse grounds in 1906 at the request of the Sons of the Confederacy.

A granite monument was erected by the Mary Lee UDC chapter. While its date is unknown, the 1908 Publications of the Arkansas Historical Association states that "the Daughters of the Confederacy are arranging to put curbing around the plot of ground and place a slab with proper inscriptions where the monument first stood."

The Confederate Lot, Fairview Cemetery, is the property most closely associated with the efforts of the City of Van Buren and the Mary Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to honor Confederate war dead. As such, it deserves recognition on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery at Van Buren in Crawford County is associated with the historic context "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934 as a commemorative cemetery supplied by a local government and associated with the efforts of ancestral organizations in Arkansas. As such, it is eligible under Criterion A with statewide significance for its associations with the early efforts of the City of Van Buren and the Mary Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to reflect members' perception of the noble character and valor of their veterans and their cause. Thus, it also meets the eligibility requirements of Criterion Considerations C (Cemeteries) and F (Commemorative Properties).

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**  
=====

Information supplied by Mrs. Doris West of Van Buren.

Scott, Mrs. Fannie Dunham, "Van Buren" in "Confederate Cemeteries in Arkansas," Publications of the Arkansas Historical Association, Vol. II, p. 305, Fayetteville, AR 1908.

Eno, Clara B. History of Crawford County, Arkansas, Van Buren, AR: Press Argus, 1949, pp. 23-25.

\_\_\_ 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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Acreege of Property: Less than one

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	15	<u>377520</u>	<u>3922680</u>	B	<u>15</u>	_____
C	15	_____	_____	D	<u>15</u>	_____

\_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Confederate Section, Fairview Cemetery

Name of Property

Crawford County, AR

County and State

Verbal Boundary Description: \_\_\_ See continuation sheet.

Beginning at a point on the southern edge of McKibben located approximately 200 feet east of its intersection with the western edge of 10th Street, proceed southerly 111 feet, thence westerly 158 feet, thence northerly 111 feet, thence easterly 158 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: Mark Christ, Communications/Development Director

Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 10/08/96

Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880

City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201





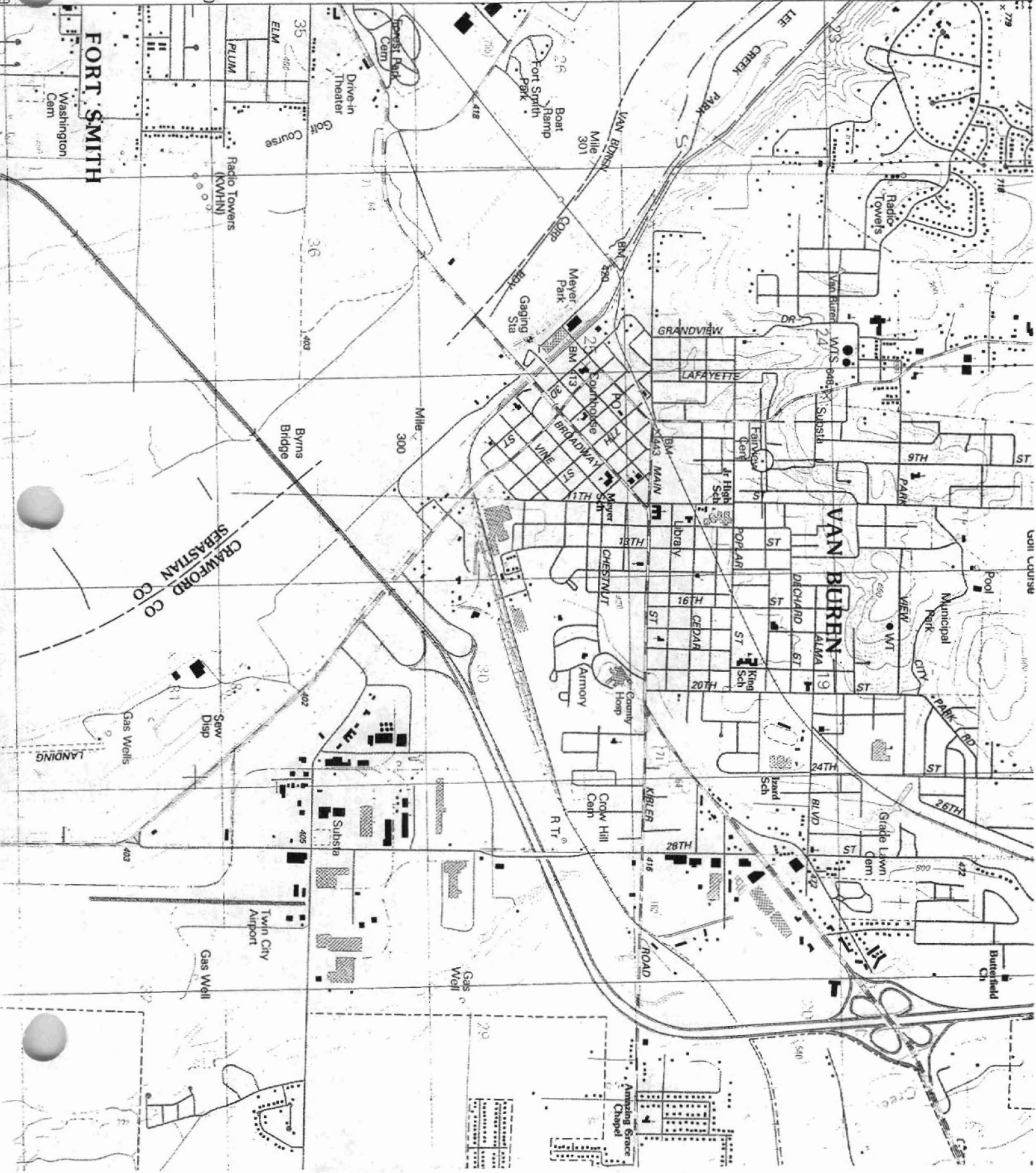
COFFEY BROS  
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A.H.  
15/377420/  
3922685

7154 IV NW  
(FORT SMITH)

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FORT SMITH 3.9 MI.

3920  
25'

3919



**FORT SMITH**

**VAN BUREN**

CRAWFORD CO  
SEBASTIAN CO

Washington  
Cem

Radio Towers  
(KVHN)

Drive-In  
Theater

Byrns  
Bridge

Gas Wells

Gas Well

Twin City  
Airport

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Amazing Grace  
Chapel

Butterfield  
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Grade Lawn  
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Crow Hill  
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