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Rose Hill Cemetery dates back to 1870s

Submitted by Wendy Richter
For the Siftings

Historic Rose Hill Cemetery on Main Street in Arkadelphia has served the city as a principal burial place for decades. In that capacity, it is now the final resting place for some of Clark County's most well-known citizens. Its historical significance has been recognized nationally, being added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1999.

Rose Hill dates back to the 1870s, but it was not Arkadelphia's first cemetery. Land for the burial ground was donated by the Maddox family in

1866, and originally named "Maddox Cemetery." The town's oldest cemetery, Blakely Graveyard, was located on South Third Street, and was closed. Graves were relocated to the new Maddox Cemetery. By 1880, the name changed to "Rose Hill Cemetery."

Rose Hill Cemetery is a large site and contains many beautiful, decorative markers, among hardwood and cedar trees. Well over one-half of the cemetery's burials took place more than 50 years ago.

Among those interred in the cemetery is Arkansas's Civil War (Confederate) Governor, Harris Flanagin. Other notables

include Farrar Newberry, local historian and national president of Woodmen of the World; Flave Carpenter, for whom Carpenter Dam is named; Panama Canal engineer William Lee Gerig; and local educator and local history leader, Amy Jean Greene.

For additional information about Clark County cemeteries, visit or contact the Clark County Historical Museum at the train depot (www.clarkcounty-history.org or 230-1670) or the Clark County Historical Association's Archives at the Ouachita Baptist University Library (www.obu.edu/archives or 245-5332).



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