# Jeffery Cemetery

Name of Property
NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 8-86)

egister: N/A

Izard County, Arkansas

County and State

OMB No. 1024-0018

# NR LISTED NOV 05 1999

## United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM
1. Name of Property
Historic Name: <u>Jeffery Cemetery</u> Other Name/Site Number: <u>IZ0037</u>
2. Location
Street & Number: Approximately six miles from Highway 9, one mile o
Not for Publication: N/A
City/Town: Mount Olive Vicinity: X
State: AR County: Izard Code: AR065 Zip Code: 72556
3. Classification
Ownership of Property: Private
Category of Property: Site (Cemetery)
Number of Resources within Property:
Contributing Noncontributing  buildings  sites  structures  objects  Total
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National

		Si	gnature of	Keeper	Date of Action
6. Function or 1	Jse 				
Historic: Fune	rary	Sub:	Cemetery		
Current : Funerary (not in use)		Sub:	Cemetery	(not in	use)
7. Description					
Architectural C	lassification: N/A				
Materials: found Walls	dation <u>N/A</u> s <u>N/A</u>	roof $\frac{N/A}{N/A}$			

Describe present and historic physical appearance:

### Summary

he Jeffery Cemetery is the most significant remaining site associated with early Arkansas settler, Jehoiada Jeffery. Located in Izard County in north central Arkansas, the Jeffery Cemetery is sited on a small wooded knoll approximately three hundred yards from the White River. Less than one acre in size, the cemetery contains sixteen identified burials marked with carved gravestones, and approximately ten to twenty additional burials that are either unmarked or identified solely by uncarved native stone markers. All of the identified burials are members of the Jeffery family (either by birth or by marriage). The earliest burial dates from 1816; the latest from 1908. The Jeffery Cemetery is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B, Criterion Consideration C as the most significant remaining site associated with early settler, Jehoiada Jeffery.

### Elaboration

The Jeffery Cemetery is located approximately one mile north of the Mount Olive town site in Izard County. Sited on a gently rising, wooded knoll approximately three hundred yards from the bank of the White River, just below a sharply rising foothill, the irregularly shaped site is located at the north end of a river bottom field historically used for agriculture. The cemetery is situated on property that originally was part of early Arkansas settler, Jehoiada Jeffery's one hundred sixty-acre land grant, which he received as a veteran of the War of 1812. The cemetery is no onger in use, the last burial taking place in 1908.

The Jeffery Cemetery contains sixteen identified burials marked with carved gravestones. Fifteen of the stones are tablet-style white marble ranging from one to four feet in height. The tablet-style is a form that can be traced back to ancient funerary stele and is the most universal form used to mark the head of the interred. All of the tablet stones use either the simple single curved arch or the flat top. The remaining carved stone is the newest, dating from 1908. It is of gray granite cut in the block style. Most of the stones are elaborately carved and feature popular funerary imagery such as clasped hands, hands pointing to heaven, an open book (bible), drapery, an altar, a lamb lying on an altar, a banner, flowers (roses), and elaborate scroll work. Jehoiada Jeffery, from whom the cemetery derives its importance, has a relatively simple headstone featuring a hand holding a banner pointing toward heaven symbolizing triumph and directing the viewer's eye heavenward toward spiritual matters. All of the carved stones have associated footstones, some with rounded tops, others with flat tops, and all bearing the initials of the deceased. The remaining ten to twenty burials are either marked with uncarved native fieldstone or identifiable only by depressions in the ground. placement of the burials in the cemetery follows traditional customs with the feet facing east.

The cemetery has no enclosures or fencing separating it from the surrounding acreage. Natural boundaries include a deep ravine on the east and north sides of the site and a flat river bottom field on the south and west sides; the cemetery nestling on a small rise between these natural features. There are no original historic designed landscape features existing at the Jeffery Cemetery, and probably never were. However, numerous large trees, including oak, ash, and cottonwood shade the site. In spring native trillium, mayapple, and jack-in-the-pulpit cover the ground.

Following is a list of individuals known to be buried in the Jeffery Cemetery: Jehoiada Jeffery, born 8/10/1790, died 8/19/1846; Mary Weir (or Ware) Jeffery, wife of Jehoiada, born 10/25/1793, died 11/7/1874; Jane Jeffery, daughter of Jehoiada and Mary, born 2/8/1814, died 8/20/1816 (the first known burial in Izard County); Nancy Jeffery, daughter of Jehoiada and Mary, born 10/17/1819, died 10/01/1821; Peggy Jeffery, daughter of Jehoiada and Mary, born 3/25/1833, died 9/01/1834; Beniah Jeffery, son of Jehoiada and Mary, born 12/12/1830, died 1/03/1846; Augustus Curran Jeffery, son of Jehoiada and Mary, born 3/04/1824, died 2/1880; Daniel Mason Jeffery, Jr., son of Jehoiada and Mary, born 4/02/1822, died 4/01/1888; Elizabeth Harris Jeffery, wife of Augustus Curran Jeffery, born 3/20/1829, died 3/14/1868; Kate Jeffery, daughter of Augustus Curran Jeffery, born 7/07/1860, died 9/05/1876; Daniel Jeffery, brother to Jehoiada, born 1797, died 9/1862; Mary Bowcock Jeffery, wife of Daniel, born 1802, died 2/23/1863; Elizabeth Carter Jeffery, wife of Elijah, Jehoiada and Mary's son, born 8/10/1813, died 8/27/1836; Nancy Lawrence

Jeffery, wife of Daniel Mason, Sr., born 12/20/1825, died 2/26/1870; Capt., Landers Baxter, husband of Mary Lucretia Jeffery, daughter of Jehoiada and Mary, born—unknown, died 1908; James Jeffery, father of Jehoiada, born 1758, died 1843.

### 8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: Local

Applicable National Register Criteria: B

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): C

Areas of Significance: Exploration/Settlement

Period(s) of Significance: 1816-1908

Significant Dates: 1816 (first burial in county)

Significant Person(s): Jehoiada Jeffery

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above:

### Summary

The Jeffery Cemetery is the most significant remaining site associated with early Arkansas pioneer, Jehoiada Jeffery, who was the first permanent settler in present day Izard County in north central Arkansas. As such, the Jeffery Cemetery is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B, Criterion Consideration C for its association with Jehoiada Jeffery.

### Elaboration

Jehoiada Jeffery is the original and central figure in this nomination, arriving in 1815 as the first pioneer to permanently settle present day Izard County. Jehoiada was twenty-six years old when he, his wife Mary Weir (or Ware) of Virginia, his daughter, Jane and sons, Elijah and Miles arrived on the banks of the White River in the wilderness of north central Irkansas. Coming fresh from the War of 1812 where he served under Andrew

Jackson, Captain Peter Craig and Captain John Shaw; fighting in the Battle of Horseshoe Bend and New Orleans, Jehoiada received with his discharge the right to one hundred sixty acres of land west of the Mississippi.

Returning to his home in southern Illinois, Jehoiada collected his young family and trekked across the wilderness from Illinois to north central Arkansas, settling on the banks of the White River in an area known as Pine Bayou. There he built a two-story log home and cleared land for farming, creating with his farmstead the first permanent settlement between Batesville and the Missouri State line. In 1816, Jehoiada and Mary's young daughter, Jane, died at two-and-one-half years of age and was the first to be buried in what was to become the Jeffery Cemetery.

Soon after Jehoiada and his family became established in the area, other settlers began arriving, including his father James Jeffery and brothers Daniel and Jesse. As settlement in the area grew, Pine Bayou became a small, established community which soon had its name changed to Mount Olive, after the mountain rising on the eastside of the town.

The Jeffery farm became known for miles around as a haven for strangers traveling through the area. Two famous visitors known to have enjoyed the hospitality of Jehoiada and Mary Jeffery were Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, who stayed with the family during part of his journey through the Ozarks, and 3am Houston, who visited on his way through to Texas.

Jehoiada prospered over the years, becoming a wealthy, respected farmer raising cattle, hogs, wheat and corn that he shipped by flat boat to market in Memphis and New Orleans. He served as a representative to the Territorial Legislature in Little Rock from 1824-1829. During his legislative service, Jehoiada introduced bills that created Izard County and Fulton County. Following the establishment of the county seat of Izard County at Mount Olive in 1830, Jehoiada served as county judge from 1833-1838. He also served as Justice of the Peace for twenty-five years. In addition, he worked as a surveyor laying out roadways in Fulton, Izard, and Lawrence Counties; surveying the roads for the town of Batesville in Independence County and assisting in the survey and planning of the route of the old military road through Arkansas.

Jehoiada and his wife, Mary, ultimately had twelve children, some dying in youth, and others living long, respected lives. One son, Augustus Curran Jeffery (A. C. Jeffery Farmstead, NR listed 8/11/94) followed in his father's footsteps and served as County Judge for four years and County Clerk for two. Jehoiada's father, James, also served as Judge and a pillar of the county. His brother, Daniel, served as county sheriff in 1836 and a member of the state legislature in 1846.

Jehoiada Jeffery died at his home in Mount Olive, Arkansas on August 19, 1846, at fifty-six years of age, and was laid to rest in the Jeffery

emetery alongside his father, one son, three daughters, and one daughter-in-law. He was a respected farmer, politician, pioneer, and individual. Because of his importance to the settlement, creation, and development of Izard County, the Jeffery Cemetery—the most significant remaining site associated with Jehoiada Jeffery—is being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion B, Criterion Consideration C.

### 9. Major Bibliographical References

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### Bibliography

Dixon, A. C. "A Brief Sketch of the Dixon Family", Izard County: unpublished monograph, about 1928.

Dixon, Owen. <u>Jeffery Genealogy</u>. Grants Pass, Oregon: Published by the author, 1935.

Hanks, Dale. A Genealogical Record of the Descendants of James Jeffery: England, 1700-America, 1976. Richmond Virginia: Jeffery Historical Society, 1976.

ngenthron, Elmo. <u>Indians of the Ozark Plateau</u>. Point Lookout, Missouri: he School of the Ozarks Press, 5<sup>th</sup> printing, 1981.

Jeffery, A. C. <u>Historical and Biographical Sketches of the Early Settlement of the Valley of White River Together with a History of Izard County.</u> Richmond, Virginia: Jeffery Historical Society, 1973. (Printed by the Guard-Record Co., Batesville, Arkansas.)

Shannon, Karr. A History of Izard County. Little Rock, Arkansas: Democrat Printing and Lithographing Co., 1947.

Territorial Papers of the United States, vol. XIX; Arkansas Territory, 1819-1825, P. 166.

Proceeding of Circuit Court, Independence County, 1815-1825.

Circuit Court records, Lawrence County, 1815-1825.

Deed records, Lawrence County, 1815-1825, PP. 210-211.

County Archives of Arkansas, No. 33, Izard County Historical Records Survey Division of Community Service Program, WPA, 1942, PP. 69-71.

Goodspeed, <u>Biographical</u> and <u>Historical Memoirs of Northeast Arkansas</u>, andependence County, P 682.

Grave markers, Jeffery Cemetery, Mount Olive vic., Arkansas.

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:

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one (1) acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

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Verbal Boundary Description: A tract of land being part of Fractional Section 20 in Township 16 North, Range 10 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> Principal Meridian in Izard County, Arkansas more particularly described as follows: Commencing at an iron pin found at the Southwest Corner of NW1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 29, Township 16 North, Range 6 West; thence run North, a distance of 1542.89 feet; thence run East, a distance of 144.64 feet to a point on the East Line of an existing road easement; thence run South 68 degrees 45 minutes 37 seconds East, a distance of 258.96 feet; thence run North 59 degrees 06 minutes 04 seconds East, a distance of 120.81 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence run North 30 degrees 53 minutes 56 seconds West, a distance of 68.03 feet; thence run North 77 degrees 27 minutes 18 seconds East, a distance of 44.48 feet; thence run South 39 degrees 22 minutes 05 seconds East, a distance of 44.48 feet to a 14 inch hickory tree; thence run South 68 degrees 21 minutes 25 seconds East, a distance of 39.08 feet to a 14 inch hickory tree; thence run South 43 degrees 24

inutes 33 seconds East, a distance of 27.34 feet; thence run South 44 degrees 33 minutes 51 seconds West, a distance of 81.06 feet; thence run North 30 degrees 53 minutes 56 seconds West, a distance of 68.03 feet to the Point of Beginning. Containing 0.16 Acre, more or less. TOGETHER WITH a twenty (20) foot wide easement for ingress and egress centered along the following described line: Commencing at said Southwest Corner of said NW1/4, NW1/4 of Section 29; thence run North a distance of 1542.89 feet; thence run East, a distance of 144.64 feet to the Point of Beginning of said Centerline on the East Line of an existing road easement; thence run South 68 degrees 45 minutes 37 seconds East along said Centerline, a distance of 258.96 feet; thence run North 59 degrees 06 minutes 04 seconds East along said Centerline, a distance of 120.81 feet to the End of said Centerline.

Boundary Justification: This boundary contains all the property historically associated with the Jeffery Cemetery that retains its historic integrity.

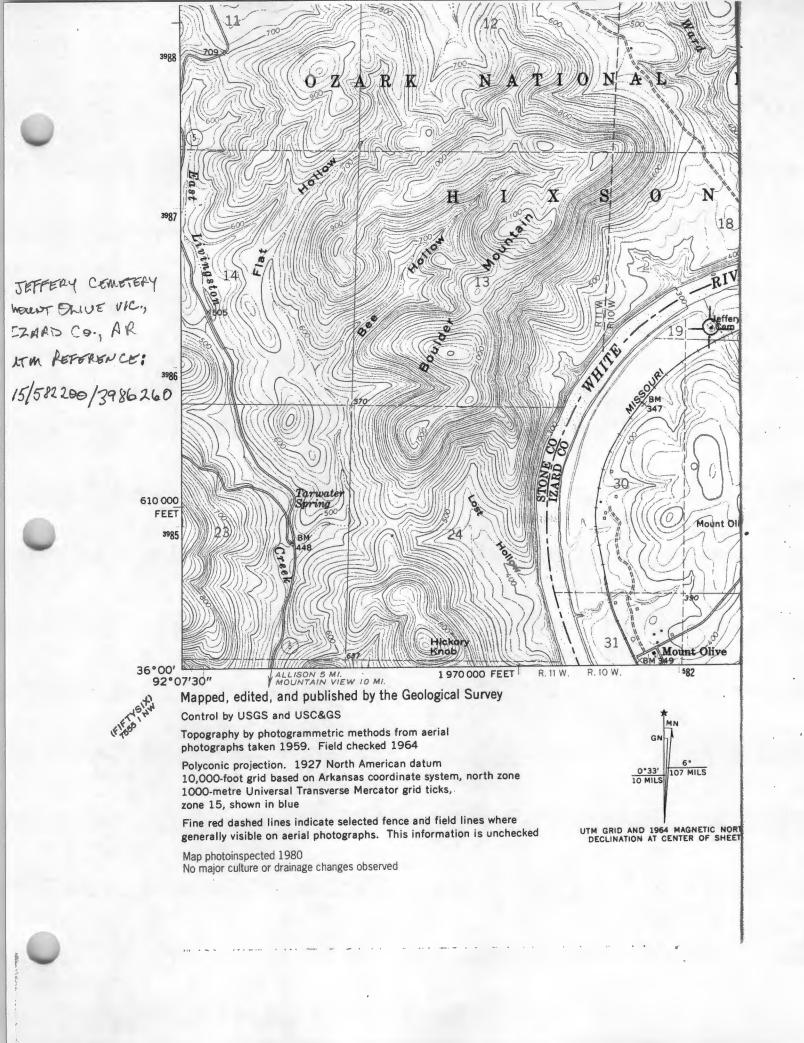
# 11. Form Prepared By

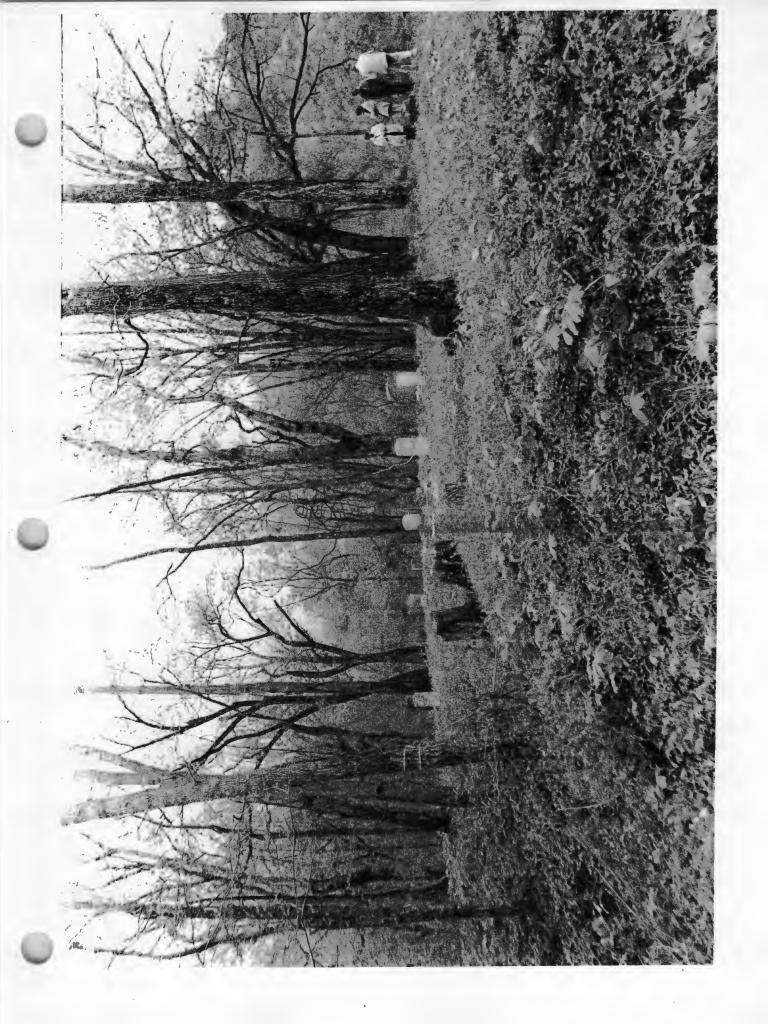
Name/Title: Randy Jeffery, National Register/Survey Coordinator

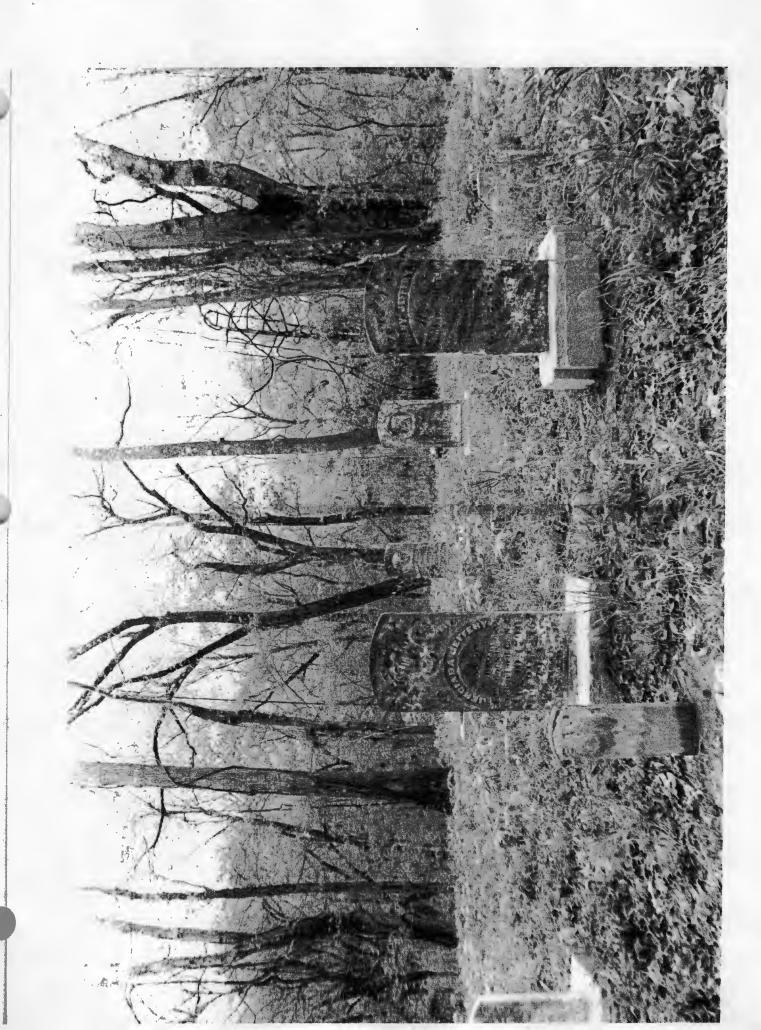
organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: July 28, 1999

Street & Number: 1500 Tower Bldg., 323 Center St. Telephone: (501) 324-9880

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

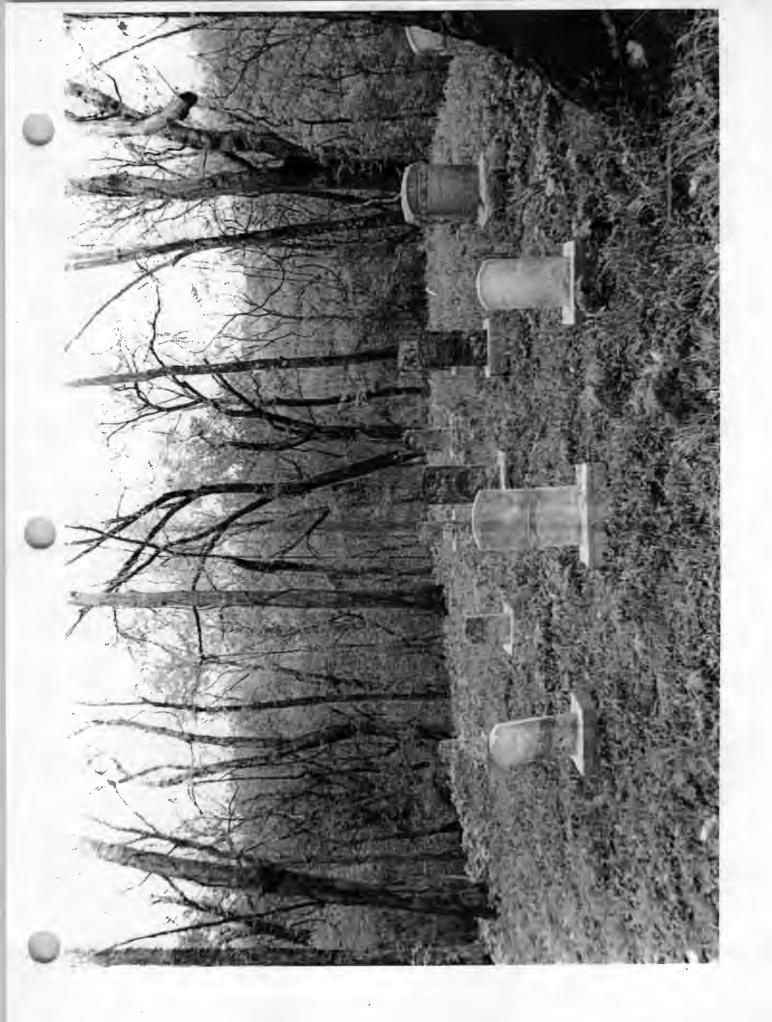




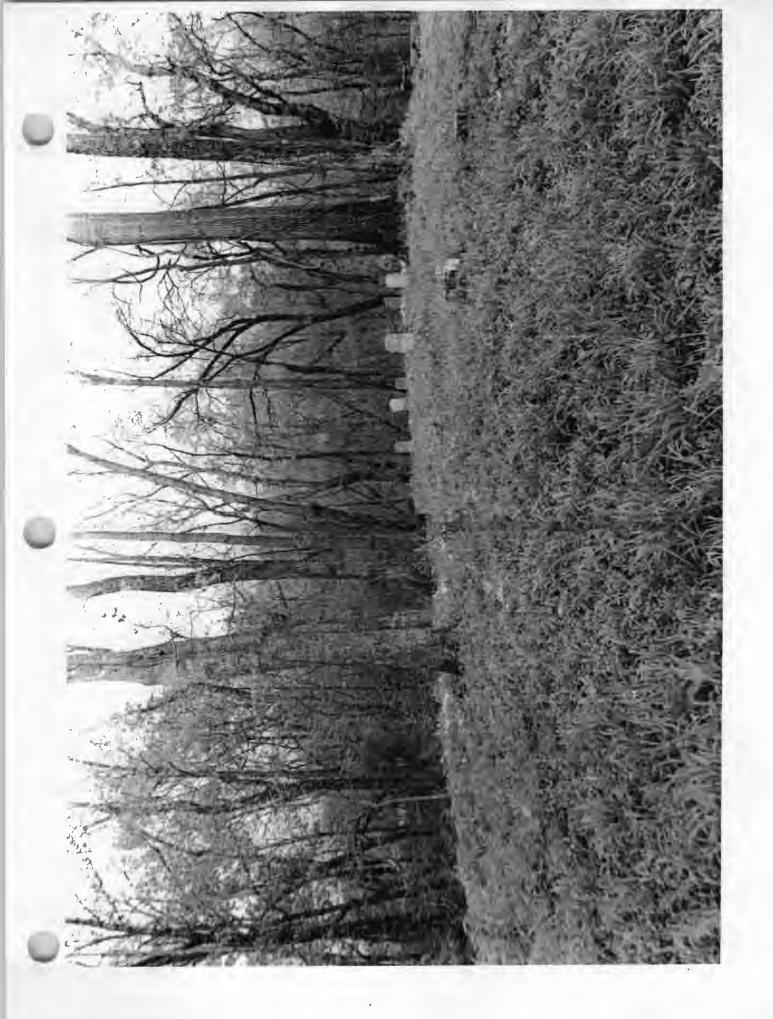


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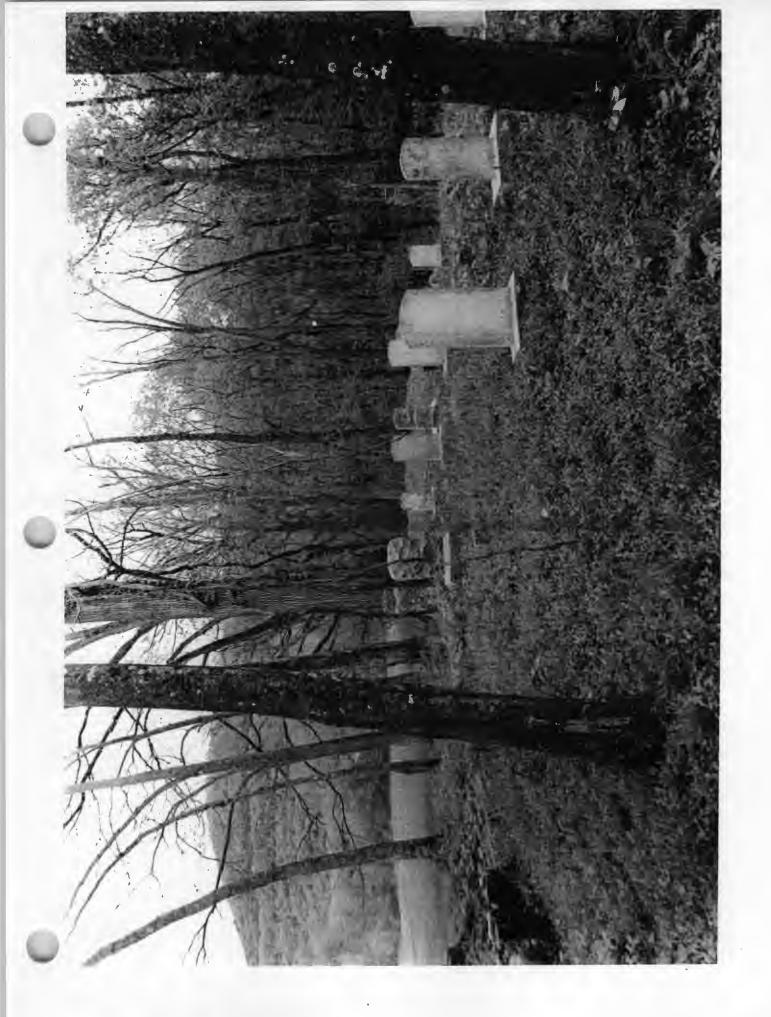
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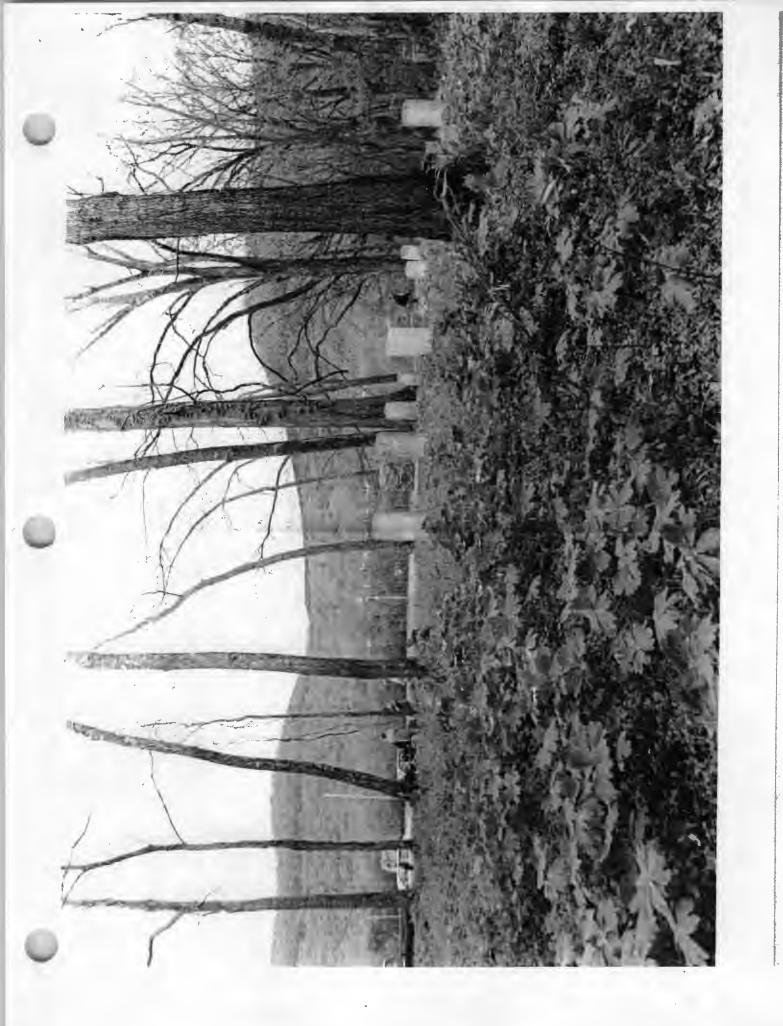


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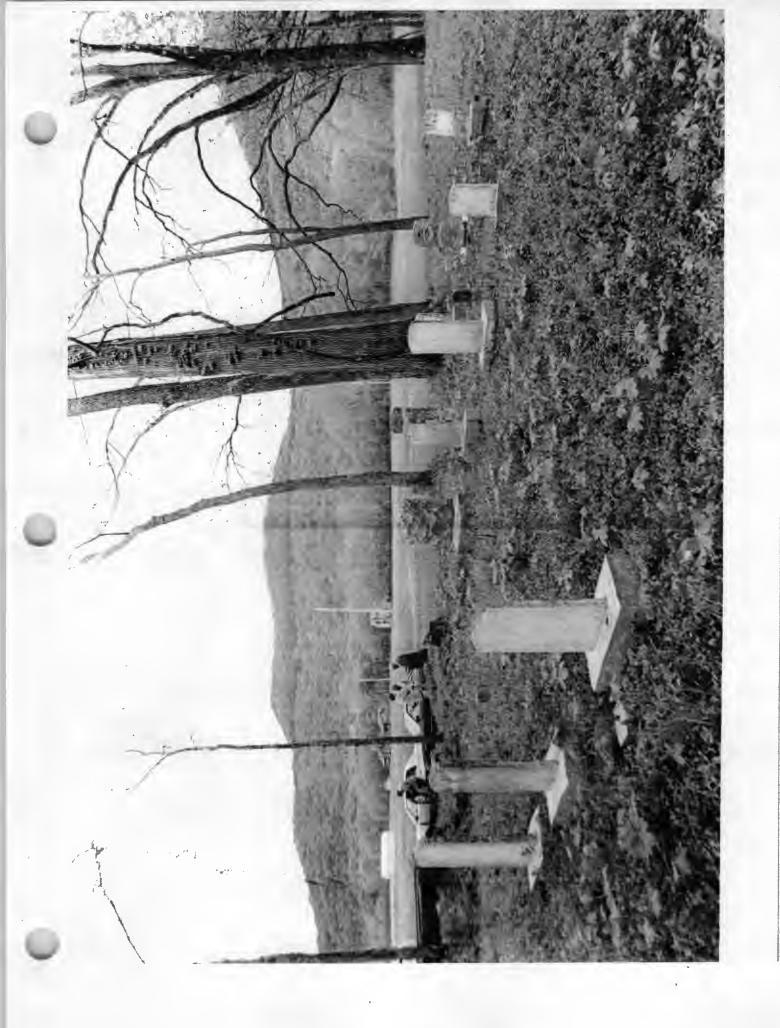


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