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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NR LISTED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

MAY 03 1996

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1. Name of Property AHPP

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historic name: Helena Confederate Cemetery

other name/site number: PH0250S

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2. Location

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street & number: Located in the southwest corner of the Maple Hill Cemetery

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Helena vicinity: N/A

state: AR county: Phillips code: AR 107 zip code: 72342

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3. Classification

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Ownership of Property: Public-local

Category of Property: Object

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
<u>102</u>	_____	objects
<u>102</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

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 A Sata _____ 3-19-96
Signature of certifying official Date

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

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5. National Park Service Certification
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I, hereby certify that this 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 Keeper Date
of Action

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6. Function or Use
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Historic: RECREATION AND CULTURE Sub: Monument/marker
FUNERARY Cemetery

Current: RECREATION AND CULTURE Sub: Monument/marker
FUNERARY Cemetery

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7. Description

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Architectural Classification:

Neoclassical

Other Description: N/A

Materials:	foundation	<u>STONE/Granite</u>	roof	<u>N/A</u>
	walls	<u>STONE/Marble</u>	other	_____

Describe present and historic physical appearance. _____ See continuation sheet.

Summary

Helena's Confederate Cemetery is a small burial plot of less than one acre located in the southwest corner of Maple Hill Cemetery on the side of Crowley's Ridge. In addition to many Confederate graves, it contains two monuments: the Cleburne Memorial and the Confederate Memorial.

Elaboration

Helena's Confederate Cemetery is a small burial plot of less than one acre located in the southwest corner of Maple Hill Cemetery on the side of Crowley's Ridge. In addition to many Confederate graves, it contains two monuments: the Cleburne Memorial and the Confederate Memorial.

The Cleburne Memorial marks the grave site of General Patrick Cleburne, one of the Confederacy's greatest divisional commanders. It is a tall marble shaft topped by an urn with flames coming from its top. The north and south sides of the shaft have inverted bouquets of flowers; the east and west sides have garlands of flowers swinging across to where they meet at the bottoms of the bouquets. The north side is embossed with a lyre and a shamrock; the east side has a sun halfway down over a waterline in a circular motif. The north side also has the Confederate seal. The concrete base is 1'5"x3'6"x3'6". The marble shaft stands 15'x2'11"x2'11".

The south side of the Cleburne Memorial, which was produced by M. Muldoon & Co. of Louisville, Kentucky, contains the inscription "MISSIONARY RIDGE / RICHMOND, KY. / *Rest thee, Cleburne! tears of sadness / Flow from hearts thou'st nobly won; / Mem'ry ne'er will cease to cherish / Deeds of glory thou hast done.*"

The east side of the Cleburne Memorial reads "FRANKLIN / RINGGOLD-GAP / M. MULDOON & CO., LOU., KY."

On the north side of the Cleburne Memorial is the inscription "CHICKAMAUGA / SHELTON HOUSE / *-a rift revealed / The horse and rider, then the scene was dim; / But on the inner works the death hail rang / In dying Cleburne's ears, a battle hymn!*"

The west side of the Cleburne Memorial contains the inscription "PATRICK

RONAYNE / CLEBURNE, / MAJOR GENERAL, C.S.A. / BORN IN COUNTY CORK, / IRELAND.
/ MARCH 17, 1828; / KILLED AT BATTLE OF FRANKLIN, TENN. / NOVEMBER 30, 1864
/ DULCE ET DECORUM EST / PRO PATRIA MORI. / SHILOH / CLEBURNE."

Organic growth, sugaring, and spalling are apparent on the Cleburne Memorial. White crusts have also affected the sculpture. The strings of the lyre and the words on the Confederate seal, both on the north side of the shaft, have been chipped.

The Confederate Memorial, located in the center of a circular dive in the middle of the cemetery, faces east and depicts a uniformed, mustachioed Confederate soldier standing atop a tall granite shaft. A cape is draped over his shoulders, and his hair sweeps back along his head below his cap. His hands, proper right above proper left, rest on the butt of his inverted rifle, the barrel of which rests on the ground before him. His proper right knee is slightly bent and an inverted cannon barrel sits behind his proper left leg. A cartridge box stamped CSA stands just below his proper right elbow. The tall granite shaft is embossed with battle names and memorial declarations. The east side of the shaft features one furled and two waving Confederate flags. Each side has an inverted cannon barrel topped by a pyramid of 14 cannonballs, with five on the bottom and two at the top of each pile. Each side of the shaft also features a stylized CSA logo. The base, made of granite, stands 30'x9'x9'. The sculpture, made of Italian marble, is 7'x3'4"x3'4". It was made by an unidentified firm in Louisville, Kentucky.

On the east face of the base of the Confederate Memorial is the inscription "SHILOH / CHICKAMAUGA / OUR CONFEDERATE DEAD. / THIS MONUMENT REPRESENTS / AND EMBODIES HERO-WORSHIP / AT THE SHRINE OF PATRIOTISM AND / SACRIFICE; DEVOTION OF THE MEM- / ORY OF THE LOST CAUSE, AND HONOR / TO THE SOLDIERS, KNOWN AND UN- / KNOWN, WHO REST IN ITS SHADOW. / CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL."

The north side of the base of the Confederate Memorial contains the inscription "ATLANTA / PERRYVILLE."

The west side of the Confederate Memorial's base reads "HELENA / WILDERNESS / UNKNOWN DEAD. / THE / NAMELESS DEAD - FAMELESS DEAD - / YET THEY MADE THE FAME OF OTHERS. / THIS LOFTY SHAFT IS WITNESS MUTE / OF THE LOVE WE BEAR BEYOND COMPUTE / FOR OUR SOUTHLAND'S PATRIOT BROTHERS. DEO VINDICE."

The south side of the base contains the inscription "BELMONT / MURFREESBORO."

Black crusts, sugaring, and carved graffiti on the north face have damaged the base of the Confederate Memorial. The cannonballs are damaged on the north and south sides of the shaft. The sculpture has also been the victim of vandalism, as well as sugaring and black crusts. The nose of the figure is damaged and his hat bill is missing.

In addition to the two larger memorials, there are 100 other marked graves within the Helena Confederate Cemetery. Of those, 15 are marked "Confederate Dead," 17 mark graves of members of Parsons' Missouri Brigade, 23 mark graves of Confederates killed in the July 4, 1863, battle of Helena, and six mark graves of members of Dobbins' regiment.

Members of Parson's Brigade identified on headstones are Henry Bounstill, Smith, R.H. Crews, Wm. Head, D.E. Williams, W.C. Kerr, Wm. Tolbert, John W. Hayes, A. Lane, Fred Underwood, L.E. Lambert, J.R. McCulloch, John A. Stone, J.V. Higgins, Ed Littrell, Fleming Fine, and John Brown.

Members of Dobbins' Regiment identified on headstones are Agnew, J.W. Moore, Jones, another Jones from Bateman's Company, Lt. Sewell, and John F. Walker.

Other marked graves include the following inscriptions:

- * A.S. Bibb/Born in Alabama in 1829/ led company of Alabama volunteers/ promoted in 1862 to colonel on Forrest's staff
- * C.C. Barker, Confederate Dead
- * Major Joe Martin, Hart's Regiment, McRea's Brigade, July 6, 1863, wounded at Battle of Helena, Died at Col. Jarman's July 6, 1864.
- * Capt. John C. Clark, born in Kentucky January 27, 1825, died July 7, 1863 of wounds received in Battle of Helena, Ark., on July 4.
- * Confederate Dead, Hindman's Legion
- * A.P. Lambert, Yell Rifles, Co. A, Cleburne's First Arkansas Regiment
- * Richard J. Lanford, 13th Arkansas, Lanford Co.
- * Major Sam Corley, Killed at Battle of Little Rock, 1863
- * Major Smith, QM, Shelby's Brigade
- * James Hooker, 19th Louisiana Regiment
- * S.H. Dooling, Killed 1873
- * Pernellon, killed at Helena
- * John Sullivan, died 1863
- * James Casteel, McGee's Regiment, Jones Co.
- * B.W. Killed at Helena
- * W.T. Killed at Helena
- * Lieut. Bagwell, McGee's Regiment, Ward's Co., Killed 1863
- * D.G. Killed at Helena
- * John S. Cleaveland, 2d Texas Cavalry, Killed 1863
- * D.T. Tackett, Harris Regiment

The majority of the headstones are low, rounded marble slabs.

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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,B

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): C,F

Areas of Significance: SOCIAL HISTORY
MILITARY

Period(s) of Significance: 1869-92 _____

Significant Dates: 1869-92 _____

Significant Person(s): Cleburne, General Patrick

Cultural Affiliation: N/A _____

Architect/Builder: Archias, Leon
Muldoon, M., and Co.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.
____ See continuation sheet.

Summary

Criteria A and B, statewide significance
Criteria Considerations C and F

The Helena Confederate Cemetery is associated with the historic context "Something So Dim It Must Be Holy": Civil War Commemorative Sculpture in Arkansas, 1886-1934 as a commemorative monument financed and erected through the efforts of a southern memorial organization in Arkansas. As such, it is eligible under Criterion A for its associations with the efforts of the Phillips County Memorial Association to reflect members' perception of the noble character and valor of their veterans and their cause. Thus, it also meets the eligibility requirements of Criteria Consideration F: Commemorative Properties.

The Helena Confederate Cemetery is also significant under Criterion B with statewide significance as the final resting place of, and only surviving historic resource in Arkansas associated with, General Patrick Cleburne. Since Cleburne's grave and the associated monument are the only remaining historic resources in the state associated with Cleburne, a person of outstanding significance in Helena, Arkansas, and, indeed, United States history, they meet the guidelines of Criteria Consideration C: Birthplaces or Graves.

Elaboration

The Confederate Memorial Cemetery was created by the Phillips County Memorial Association in 1869. It was designed by Leon Archias, who, according to the Helena Weekly Clarion, was "famous for his taste." About 73 named and 29 unnamed gravestones lay within its grounds. Over half the bodies there are casualties of the July 4, 1863, Battle of Helena who were originally buried in other local graves but were reinterred when the new cemetery opened in 1869. It is believed that most of the identified graves belong to local men who died of wounds at Allen J. Polk's temporary hospital on Little Rock Road. Some of the most noteworthy names in the cemetery, including General Patrick R. Cleburne and Major Samuel Corley, came from more distant locales, however. Cleburne was brought to Helena in 1870 from St. John's Cemetery in Ashwood, Tennessee, where he was buried after his death at the Battle of Franklin on November 30, 1864. Corley was moved to the Confederate Memorial Cemetery from a private graveyard in Little Rock, also in 1870. Later, many veterans who survived the war chose to be buried there. This cemetery contains only Confederates: an 1867 mass exodus of 2,500 to 3,000 Union bodies to the National Cemeteries in Memphis and Louisville removed all Federal remains from the area.

The Phillips County Memorial Association managed to raise the money for the monuments against great financial odds. A campaign of several years that brought donations from all over the United States was needed to achieve their goals. The Cleburne Memorial was unveiled in 1891 in honor of the general known as "the Stonewall Jackson of the West" who died leading a charge on foot at the Battle of Franklin. On Decoration Day, 1892, the Confederate Memorial was dedicated in what Historic Helena-West Helena calls "one of the most largely attended events ever to be held in this county, as visitors, bands, and military units came from far and near to honor their relatives and old friends." Loyd and Flora Turner describe its purpose in Phillips County, Arkansas Cemeteries Vol. II, writing that "this monument represents and embodies hero worship at the shrine of patriotism and sacrifice, devotion of the memory of the lost cause, and honor to the soldiers, known and unknown,

who rest in it's [sic] shadow."

Patrick Ronayne Cleburne was born March 17, 1828, at Desertmore in County Cork, Ireland. He entered Trinity College in Dublin, intent on following his father into a medical career, but left after failing an examination. He then joined the Forty-first Regiment of the British Army, reaching the rank of corporal in three years before his parents found him and bought his discharge from the service. At age 21, Cleburne moved to America with his brother and sister in 1849, settling first in Cleveland before moving in 1850 to Helena. He soon purchased a partnership in a local drug store and later became a prominent lawyer, as well.

While in Helena, Cleburne became fast friends with Thomas C. Hindman, another Helena resident who would rise to division command in the Confederate army. Their friendship almost proved fatal to Cleburne on May 24, 1856, when Hindman and Cleburne became involved in a street fight with a political foe of Hindman's. A bullet tore through Cleburne's lung and stomach before lodging near his spine, leaving him near death for 10 days. He survived his wounds and remained close with Hindman for the rest of his life.

After Arkansas seceded from the Union in 1860, Cleburne helped organize and became captain of the "Yell Rifles," a company that became part of the First Arkansas Regiment, later designated the Fifteenth Arkansas. In 1861, Cleburne was promoted to colonel and replaced General T.H. Bradley in command of Arkansas state forces in eastern Arkansas. He retained that rank when the Arkansas army transferred to Confederate service and crossed the Mississippi River in late 1861. Cleburne was commissioned a brigadier general in March 1862, attaining the rank of major general in December of that year.

Cleburne served with distinction in many battles of the Army of Tennessee, including Shiloh, Richmond, Kentucky, Perryville, Murfreesboro, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, and Ringgold Gap.

In December, 1863, Cleburne outlined his views on the Confederacy's critical manpower shortage and advocated emancipating slaves who would serve in the southern army, thus supplementing troop strength, altering foreign sympathies and depriving the North of a cause for which to fight. The resulting controversy ended Cleburne's chances for promotion. He was killed in battle, leading his troops at Franklin, Tennessee, on November 30, 1864. Ironically, desperate Confederate leaders reluctantly agreed with Cleburne's earlier assessment and began utilizing black troops in the waning months of the war.

Though four Helena properties associated with the Battle of Helena are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (Batter A Site, 8-18-92; Battery B Site, 8-18-92; Battery C, 12-01-78; Battery D, 09-17-74), the Helena Confederate Cemetery is the historic resource most closely associated with the Phillips County Southern Memorial Association and its post-war efforts to honor the southern casualties of that and other battles and thus is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and Criteria Consideration F. As the last historic resource in Helena, and, in fact, the state of Arkansas, associated with General Patrick Ronayne Cleburne, who made his fortune in Helena before becoming one of the South's greatest divisional commanders and dying in battle, it is eligible for listing under Criterion B and Criteria Consideration C with statewide significance.

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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"Historic Helena-West Helena, Arkansas," Phillips County Historical Society, 1973, p. 30.

Helena Weekly Clarion, May 17, 1869, p. 3.

Maple Hill Cemetery History, document on file with Arkansas Historic Preservation Program.

deMan, George E.N., ed., "Helena: The Ridge, The River, The Romance, Little Rock: Pioneer Press, 1978, p. 27, p. 78.

Turner, Loyd L. and Flora M., "Phillips County Cemeteries, Vol. II," 1991, p. 157.

Linder, Ethel, "Patrick Cleburne, Hero from Helena," Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Vol. 4, pp. 307-14.

Fessler, Paul R., "The Case of the Missing Promotion: Historians and the Military Career of Major General Patrick Ronayne Cleburne, C.S.A.," Arkansas Historical Quarterly, Summer, 1994, Vol. LIII, Number 2, pp. 211-231.

Dougan, Michael B., "Arkansas Odyssey," Little Rock: Rose Publishing Co., 1994, pp. 215-216

Neal, Diane, and Thomas W. Kremm, The Lion of the South: General Thomas Landman, Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1993, p. 38.

___ 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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--- Acreage of Property: Less than one

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing		
	A	<u>15</u>	<u>720910</u>	<u>3824650</u>	B	<u>15</u>	_____	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

A two-hundred foot square the diagonal axes of which intersect at the Confederate Memorial itself and the sides of which run parallel to the sides of the Confederate Memorial.

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, Special Projects Coordinator/AHPP Staff
Organization: Arkansas Historic Preservation Program Date: 03/13/96
Street & Number: 323 Center Street, Suite 1500 Telephone: (501) 324-9880
City or Town: Little Rock State: AR Zip: 72201



HELENA
 CONFEDERATE
 CEMETERY
 HELENA, 32' 30"
 PHILLIPS C.
 AR
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