The Survey’s mission is to study Arkansas’ past, to preserve and manage information about archeological sites, and to share what we learn with the people of Arkansas. Contact your nearest Research Station for more information.

The Survey encourages interested individuals and groups to list local historic cemeteries in the state site files. This will help with research and preservation. Site forms are available on our website:

www.uark.edu/campus-resources/archinfo/forms.html

Contact the nearest Survey Research Station or the Coordinating Office in Fayetteville for advice on filling out and submitting the forms.

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State Archeologist

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A Division of the University of Arkansas System

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www.uark.edu/campus-resources/archinfo/
There are hundreds of books about cemeteries from all perspectives: art, aesthetics, religion, history, cultural heritage, mortuary practices, and more. These are just a few relevant titles.


Two Historic Cemeteries in Crawford County, Arkansas, edited by Robert C. Mainfort, Jr. and James M. Davidson. 2006. Arkansas Archeological Survey Research Series 62. $30.00. Send requests to archpubs@uark.edu or call 479-575-3556.


Note: Book prices do not include shipping or sales tax

1. The Association for Gravestone Studies is the oldest and largest organization devoted to the study and care of cemeteries. They publish many small booklets about cemetery care and recording, and their annual conference features workshops on cemetery conservation, plus presentations, discussions, and tours. www.gravestonestudies.org

2. National Center for Preservation Technology and Training. This branch of the National Park Service offers training seminars and workshops in cemetery monument conservation. www.ncppt.nps.gov


4. Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, www.aahgs.org. The Arkansas Chapter is AAHGS-ARK, P.O. Box 4294, Little Rock, AR 72214-4294, email: ttenplewis@aol.com


6. Arkansas Humanities Council. Grants are made for some cemetery preservation projects. Contact council staffmembers Lavonia Wilson or Lasandra Williams at lavatarwilson@sbcglobal.net or lwilliamshce@sbcglobal.net. Phone: 501-320-5761. Address: 407 President Clinton Ave., Suite 201, Little Rock, AR 72201.

Of the many “how-to” and reference books available, these are especially useful for Arkansas.


This manual is posted on the AHPP website, where it can be downloaded and printed free of charge: www.arkansaspreservation.org/publications/

Also available through a link on the State Archeologist’s Page at the Arkansas Archeological Survey website: www.uark.edu/campus-resources/archinfo/statearch.html


Available new or used at www.amazon.com for about $12.00–$15.00.

This is a wide-ranging guide to finding, recording, studying, and caring for graveyards. It also introduces the reader to funeral and burial customs, art and aesthetic values in cemetery monuments, and many other topics.

3. Consult Arkansas Links: A Comprehensive Guide to Genealogical Research in the Natural State, by Rhonda S. Norris. 1999. $42.95 (paper). Available at reference libraries. To purchase, contact Arkansas Genealogical Research, P.O. Box 1889, Russellville, AR 72801. This is a county-by-county guide to various resources that would be helpful in tracing the history of local cemeteries.

Nominations to the National Register of Historic Places require a thorough process of research and supporting documentation.

Call Ralph Wilcox, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Little Rock, AR, at 501-324-9880 for more information.

Where to begin? If you are looking for information about a particular cemetery in your local area and need help getting started:

1. Contact the Arkansas History Commission, 1 Capitol Mall, Little Rock, AR 72201; 501-682-6900; www.ark-ives.com

2. Go to your local or county library, historical society, genealogical society, or cemetery preservation society. (Libraries and historical museums can usually put you in touch with these groups.)

3. Contact council staffmembers Lavonia Wilson or Lasandra Williams at lavatarwilson@sbcglobal.net or lwilliamshce@sbcglobal.net. Phone: 501-320-5761. Address: 407 President Clinton Ave., Suite 201, Little Rock, AR 72201.