

LEST WE FORGET

Oak Cemetery is recognized as a National Historic Landmark based on over 152 years of documented history. The oldest monument in the cemetery, marking the grave of Captain Gooken, is dated 1842, the same year Fort Smith was incorporated.

The cemetery continues to capture the colorful history of past generations. It is the resting place of at least twenty-eight outlaws hanged by Judge Issac C. Parker and several more that were sentenced to hang but died in jail. Also interred are over a hundred Marshals, Deputies and Court appointed officials, some of whom lost their lives while serving the cause of justice. Also buried here is the Founder of Fort Smith, an Arkansas Governor, fifteen Fort Smith Mayors, and a hundred twenty-two confederate soldiers.

The thirty-acre facility is under the perpetual care of the City of Fort Smith's Parks and Recreation Department.



OAK CEMETERY

www.fortsmithparks.com

Mailing Address:
3301 South M Street
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72903

Cemetery Address:
1401 South Greenwood
Fort Smith, Arkansas 72901

Information Line:
479.784.2375

Fax:
479.784.2480



OAK CEMETERY

The Resting Place Of
Fort Smith History



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FACILITIES

The **Sexton House** provides office space and a storage area to preserve burial records. The **museum** within the Sexton House displays pictures, historical artifacts and documents. A multi-media center is also available for visitors to view interesting videos. The **pavilion** stands tall beside the museum.

Graveside services are required to be held at the beautifully landscaped pavilion.

Further improvements include landscaping, fountains, benches, gazebos and a columbarium area.

Burial Plots: Oak Cemetery is on the National Register of Historic Places and is one of the oldest burial sites in the State of Arkansas. By selecting Oak Cemetery as the resting place for you and your family, you will be in historic company.

For information on purchasing your plot call the city clerk at 784-2208.



CEMETERY GROUNDS



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Oak Cemetery Commission: A panel of interested citizens appointed by the city directors to plan, steer and implement improvements. Residents apply for open positions on the commission. Each commissioner serves a three-year term.

Friends of Oak Cemetery: A body of volunteers contributing time and resources. Volunteers assist cemetery visitors, provide museum tours and update records in the Sexton House. Volunteers also may donate time in the presentation of special events such as **"Tales of the Crypt,"** an annual event held each Memorial Day at the cemetery.

Friends also donate historical documents, pictures or artifacts that are relevant to their family members buried at Oak Cemetery. Many of these items are preserved at the Sexton House Museum.

Often, family members of the interred contribute funds to Oak Cemetery. Donations may be earmarked for specific purposes approved and outlined in the cemetery's master plan. The Parks & Recreation Director can provide a list of areas where donations are needed. Call 784-1006.

