

# Mount Paran Cemetery Digital History & Mapping Project

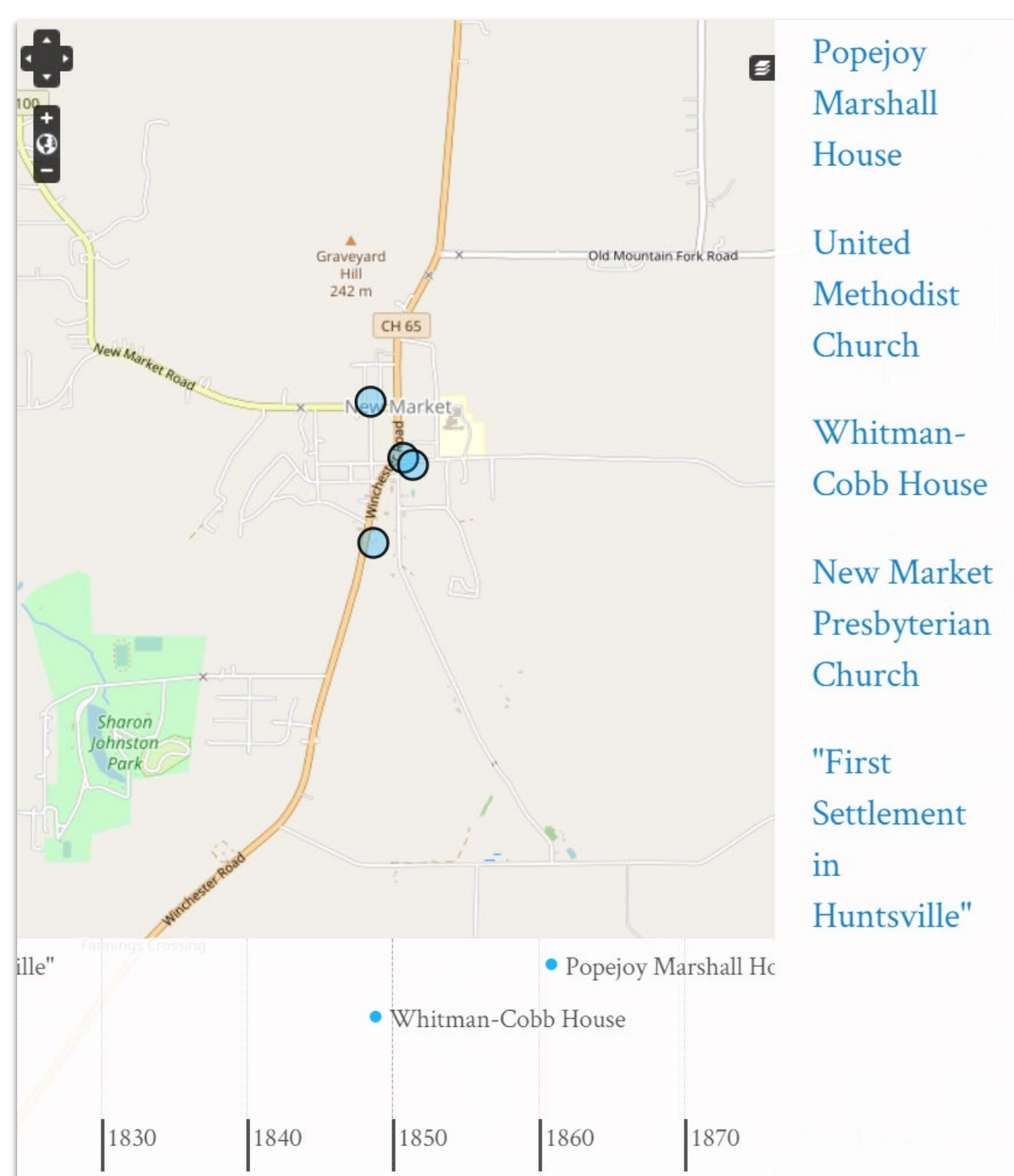
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## Overview/Introduction

This project focused on digital preservation of historic resources. The project involved the creation of a historic map of New Market, Alabama, utilizing Omeka and Neatline software, and a database of information about those buried at Mount Paran Cemetery.

## Explanation/ Conceptual Framework

1. Dr. Christine Sears and I worked together, with training from Caroline Gibbons of the UAH Archives, to familiarize with historical preservation digitization techniques.
2. Information was collected from various primary and secondary sources.
3. I created a historic map of New Market, Alabama, and organized information regarding individuals buried at Mount Paran into a Google spreadsheet.
4. With the information from both sources compiled, I created a narrative explaining the relation between New Market, Mount Paran's burials, and the greater story of North Alabama.



## Key Findings/Results

Mount Paran Cemetery exists as the eternal home to prominent early pioneers as well as African Americans who were brought to the area as slaves, or descended from slaves brought to the area, some of which lived on to see emancipation and a new chapter of Southern history. Historic cemeteries like this one serve as additional information to the greater stories of the towns in which they exist, but are a finite and fading resource.

Digital preservation and organizational projects like this are an efficient means of preserving information from these historic sources.

## Impact/Conclusions

This project achieved its goal of digitizing and thus preserving certain aspects of North Alabama's history of early pioneers. The project can be used by historians as a reference of information regarding the settling of New Market and how it developed over time. The map compiles information from primary and secondary sources from the 1800s, oral history from descendants, the National Register of Historic Places, and current historians into a comprehensive and organized format.

## References (A list of the KEY references, if applicable)

1. Criner, Jerry Dean. "The Isaac Criner Story: The Criner Home at New Market." Published 2004. Accessed 2020. RootsWeb, <http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~crinerfamily/genealogy/isaac.html>
2. "Graveyard Hill Cemetery." Updated 2020. Accessed July 2020. FindAGrave, <https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/23093/graveyard-hill-cemetery>
3. Taylor, Judge Thomas Jones. A History of Madison County and Incidentally of North Alabama. University, Alabama, Confederate Publishing Company, 1880.
4. National Register of Historic Places

## Acknowledgements

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