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Maple Hill Restoration

by Brenda Webb, Perky Taylor, and Margaret Belle Crow
Photographs by Margaret Belle Crow

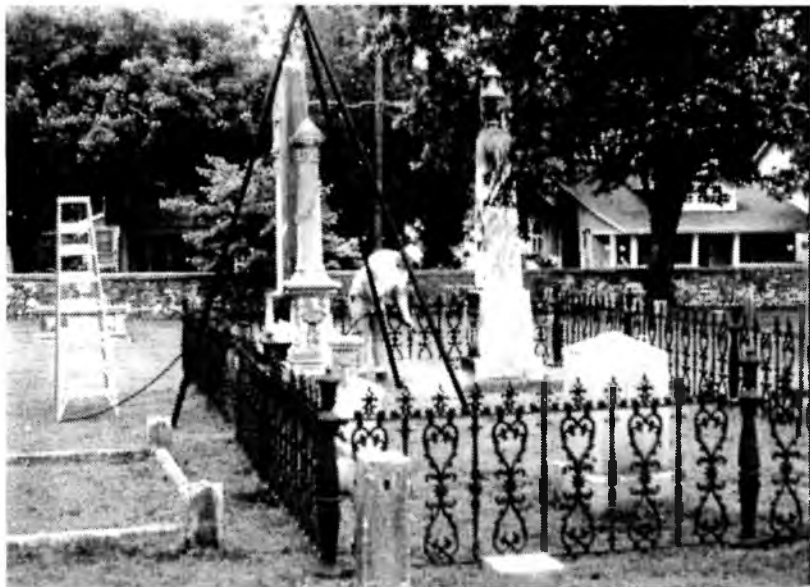
The Huntsville Pilgrimage Association, in conjunction with the City of Huntsville, has undertaken a major restoration project at Maple Hill Cemetery. During the past three years, the combined effort has resulted in the repair and cleaning of more than 104 monuments and stones. This work has been accomplished by two dedicated craftsmen, Ray McDaniel and Skip Stinson.

The monuments chosen by the Pilgrimage Cemetery Committee and Maple Hill Cemetery manager Brenda Webb for repair and restoration were selected from a detailed inventory of those judged to be most dangerous to Cemetery visitors, as well as those that had been vandalized or had deteriorated from age and pollution.

Maple Hill Cemetery is looking better, but this is just a beginning of the restoration of this beautiful landmark, which is a valuable record of Huntsville and its development. Each year, more than two thousand Huntsville third-graders come to Maple Hill to study Huntsville's history. A major goal of the Huntsville Pilgrimage Association is to make Maple Hill Cemetery a safe environment for students to learn about and respect our shared past.

*Marker, Dr. Thomas Fearn plot,
Maple Hill Cemetery, before repair
and restoration. Age, weather and
pollution resulted in the deterioration
of this marker.*





Marker, Dr. Thomas Fearn plot, Maple Hill Cemetery, during restoration. Skip Stinson, masonry contractor by profession, artisan by interest, uses his self-designed tripod with chain hoist for dismantling, repairing and reassembling monuments.

Marker, Coleman family plot, Maple Hill Cemetery before restoration. During the past three years, Skip Stinson has repaired more than seven crosses, several of which had been vandalized.



Marker, Daniel Coleman grave, Maple Hill Cemetery after restoration.



Ray McDaniel shown with a Before marker.



Markers in the Joseph Martin plot, Maple Hill Cemetery, after restoration



Mary Chambers Bibb, wife of William Bibb, portrayed by Marianne Anderson. Courtesy Cynthia Massey Parsons.