



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Prosperity Cemetery

Other names/site number: Prosperity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church Cemetery

Name of related multiple property listing:

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: McNeary Street

City or town: Prosperity State: S.C. County: Newberry

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___ national ___ statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

___A ___B XC ___D

<u>Elizabeth M. Johnson</u>	<u>11/22/2013</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Jon Edson H. Ball
Signature of the Keeper

1-15-14
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

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Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
<u>1</u>	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Cemetery/Funerary

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Cemetery/Funerary

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: N/A

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Prosperity Cemetery is located on McNeary Street (Highway 391), approximately ½ mile from the town of Prosperity, in Newberry County, S.C. It is bounded on one side by Rikard School Road, and private property on two other sides, with the back property line being heavy forest. The first burial on the property occurred in 1802 with the most recent burials occurring into the 1980s. A large variety of intact nineteenth century and early-twentieth century funerary art is present on the site, along with two cornerstones of the Prosperity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church that was constructed on the site in the early nineteenth century.

Narrative Description

Prosperity Cemetery, located in a rural residential area just outside of the Town of Prosperity, was established in 1802 with the burial of James Young, one of the original Irish settlers to the area.

The cemetery is approximately three acres and contains roughly 1,065 graves, some marked by their stone cutters, with the first burials occurring in 1802 and the most recent occurring in early 2013. The stones are largely either marble or granite and range from simple tympanum tablet markers to obelisks to large monuments with monumental sculpture. Funerary art includes the weeping willow (immortality), the Easter lily (resurrection), roses (love) either in bud form or

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broken, oak tree leaves (faith, endurance, strength), dove (peace), cross and crown (passion and sovereignty of the Lord), and the hand (God reaching down from Heaven).¹

Notable grave stones, both signed and unsigned are as follows:

James Young (1750-1802), a marble stone marking the grave of the man who donated the property to house both the Prosperity Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church and the cemetery. There is no art depicted on the stone, only italicized writing with the following inscription "Sacred/To the/ Memory of/James Young./September 16th 1802/in the 52nd year of his age/As a husband and a father he was/tender and affectionate/As a Christian/humble and devout./Mark the perfect man/and behold the upright,/for the end of that man is peace." There is a small break with a ornamental mark followed by "Blest are they and only they,/Who is their Lord and Saviour die/Their bodies wait redemptions day/And sleep in the peace where'er they lay."

Patrick Carmichal (1754-1802), a sloping triangular stone with a notched top and inscribed with large block capitals with the following "MENTAMEMORI/PREPARE FOR DEATH AND FOLLOW ME/HERE LIETH THE BODY/OF PATRICK CARMICHAL/WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE/THE 24 DAY OF NOVEMBER/IN THE YEAR 1802 AGED/48 YEARS ----."

Jane Boyd (1807), an arched marble stone with a carving of a willow tree and urn inset at the arch. Inscribed with "Sacred/to the memory of/Jane Boyd./A Native of Ireland;/who came to the State in 1772/the wife of Samuel Fair/after his death/she married Archibald Boyd/whom she also survived/and died November 1807." Following a small decorative line, the following "This tribute of respect/to her memory is erected/by the direction of her son/William J Fair."

Christiana Sinclair (1776-1820), a modified arched stone with flourishes carved into the top portion and is inscribed, "In Memory of/Christiana Sinclair/A Native of Edinburgh/Scotland— And wife of/James Sinclair/who departed this life on the/15th July 1820 Aged 44 years./No farther seek her merits to disclose/or draw her frailties from their/dread abode/there they alike in trembling hope/repose/the bosom of her father and God."

Hannah Cureton (1752-1821), a modified arched marble stone with a rudimentary carving of a willow and urn and inscribed in highly stylized cursive "Sacred to the Memory/of/ Hannah Cureton" and followed by plainer script "who departed this life on/the 28th day of August/1821/In the 69th year of her age."

Cebella Cureton (1792-1825), a modified arched stone with a carving a willow against a dotted background. The stone is signed by "G. Brown" surrounded by flourishes and is the most complex carved signature of the G. Brown stones in the cemetery. The inscription reads "Sacred/ to/the memory of/Cebella Cureton/who was born/April 16th 1792/and died/Dec.r 3rd 1825/aged 33 years 4/months and/13 days."

¹ "Funerary Art and Symbolism," Oakdale Cemetery, accessed March 28, 2013.
http://www.oakdalecemetery.org/funerary_art_symbolism.asp.

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Mary Hunter (1790-1830), a granite stone with a carved willow and urn in the top piece accompanied by hourglasses on each side of the "Sacred" inscription. "Sacred/to the memory of/Mrs. Mary Hunter/wife of George Hunter/who was born April 7th/A.D. 1790;/and departed this life/May 15th A.D. 1830/Removed from many a friend endearing/who my absence will deplore;/But at our Savior's bright appearing/we shall meet to part no more."

George Hunter (1780-1833), a modified arched stone with a gothic inscribed "Sacred" and is signed by G. Brown. The stylized "Sacred" seems to be a signature of this artist as it appears on all of the stones that he carved. This stone is inscribed, "Sacred/to the/memory of/George Hunter/who was born/ Sept. 30th A.D. 1780/Died Nov. 15th A.D. 1833/And man/when laid in [illegible] grave,/shall sleep in death's dark gloom,/until th' eternal morning wake/the slumbers of the tomb."

Mariah Rodgers (1807-1836), an arched stone with a carved willow and urn at top and is inscribed "Sacred to the Memory of/Mariah Rodgers/Wife of John J. Rodgers/Born Jan 15 1807/Died Oct 11 1836/aged 29 years 8 months/and 26 days."

William P. Cureton (1819 -?), a rectangular stone with inset arch filled with a large willow shadowing an obelisk monument. The stone has sunk into the ground and the only inscription visible is "Sacred/to the memory of/Wm. P. Cureton/who was born/June 24th 1819/and departed this life..."

Sarah Hawkins (1812-1862), notable for being one of the five box tombs in the cemetery however, only the name and dates remain legible.

Drayton T. Cureton (1823-1864), a plain square headstone inscribed "In/Memory of Drayton T./son of/Daniel T. and Cebella/Cureton/who departed this life/Feb. 5th 1864/Aged 41 years 3 months/and 25 days" along with a small rectangular footstone with a carved Confederate flag set into a circle with a dotted background and inscribed "Drayton Cureton/Co. G 2 Reg/C.S.A."

James Cureton (1866), a rectangular stone with a carved Mason Square and Compass. Inscribed "In/Memory of/James,/son of/Daniel T. & Cebella/Cureton/Who departed this life/Jan. 29, 1866/Aged 49 years 10 months/and 28 days."

Lucinda Brown (1813-1871), another box tomb and is inscribed with "Lucinda Brown/Wife of George Brown/and daughter of Daniel T. & Cebella Cureton/Born Sept 23rd, 1813/Died May 10th 1871/A member of the A.R.P. Church." There is an additional inscription however it is illegible.

Allen J. Pugh (1876), a small modified arch stone that features a carving of a lamb. Inscribed "Allen J./son of/W.P. & G.A. Pugh/Died/Oct. 21, 1876/Aged 5 weeks." The stone is signed by "H. Miller Newberry S.C."

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Rosa Barrett Wyse (1870-1879), a basket arch stone with a carved cross and crown which symbolizes the sovereignty of God.² Inscribed with “In Memory of/Rosa Barrett/daughter of/A.L. & R.E. Wyse/Born Aug 5, 1870/Died Sept. 9, 1879/He shall gather the/lambs with His arms/and carry the, in/His bosom for of such/is the kingdom of Heaven.”

Henry Thompson Sheely (1861-1880), a modified Tudor arch stone with carved side tassels. An inset circle with a beaded surround features a carving of a bouquet of roses. Below the circle, two laurels of acanthus leaves are carved into the stone. Inscribed with “In Memory of/Henry Thompson/Son of James D & Sarah A/Sheely/Born Jan 18 1861/Died/Feb 10 1880/And though the grave his form/is keeping, He is not dead/he is but sleeping/[inscription illegible]”

Mary Ellen Bowers (1857-1880), a modified basket arch stone with carved side tassels. An inset arch with a beaded surround features a carved willow tree and below the inscription reads “In/Memory of/Mary Ellen Bowers/Wife of/J.W. Bowers/and daughter of/L.B. and E.C. Muffett,/Born/Dec 5, 1857/Died Nov 27, 1880./When the morn came dim and sad/and chill with early showers/Her quiet eyelids closed she had/another morn than ours.”

John Ethan Kinard (1879-1881), a cradle grave with an elaborate modified Tudor arch headstone. Carved into the main stone is motif of ferns, lilies, and evening primrose. Each of these flowers is indicative of certain traits such as eternal love (evening primrose), humility and sincerity (fern), and majestic beauty (calla lily).³ The headstone is inscribed with “John Ethan/Son of/J.H. & M.S. Kinard/and grandson of/J & H Dominick/Born Oct 26 1879/Died Dec 4 1881.”

Vida Gay Bedenbaugh (1875-1882), a stepped, triangular stone with a mixture of oak leaves, acorns, and ivy. The oak leaves and acorns symbolize the “Tree of Life” or in some cases victory over death. The ivy represents undying affection and eternal life.⁴ The stone is inscribed “Vida Gay/First born of/Rev. J.W. and L.C. Bedenbaugh/Born July 27, 1875,/Died Oct 9, 1882.”

Jesse Dominick (1815-1885), a flat arch headstone with a circle with a beaded surround with a dove carved into the middle. The dove symbolizes peace and purity and it carries a banner in its mouth.⁵ The stone is inscribed with “Jesse Dominick/Born Apr 25, 1815./Died July 21, 1885.”

N. Bettie Moseley (1880-1885), a cradle grave with obelisk for the headstone. A broken rose bud is carved onto the front of the obelisk and represents the short passage of time as this is the gravestone of a child. The rose also represents the verse “Gather ye rosebuds while ye may.”⁶

² “Funerary Art and Symbolism.”

³ Douglas Keister, *Stories in Stone: a Field Guide to Cemetery Symbolism and Iconography* (Layton, Utah: Gibbs Smith, 2004), 44-47.

⁴ “Symbolism Meaning: Plants,” The Art of Mourning, accessed March 30, 2013, <http://artofmourning.com/2006/01/17/symbolism-meaning-plants/>.

⁵ “Funerary Art and Symbolism.”

⁶ Keister, 43.

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The bottom is inscribed with "N. Bettie Moseley/Daughter of/H.C. & L. Carrie Moseley/Born Aug. 28, 1880/Died/Sept. 7, 1885/Aged/5 years and 10 days."

Dr. Thompson Young (1810-1894), a basket arched stone with a calla lily inset into a circle. Inscribed "Dr. Thompson Young/Born/Feb. 16, 1810./Died/May 8, 1894."

Dr. Amos A. Kibler (1834-1894), a pedestal headstone topped with an urn. Carved into the front is a hand, holding a wreath of roses, and finger pointing down, which represents God coming down from Heaven.⁷ Below the carving the stone is inscribed with "Dr. Amos A./Kibler/Born June 7 1834/Died June 12 1894."

Harriet Adella Hunter (1863-1895), a basket arch stone with a calla lily with wilted leaves and an Easter lily inset in a circle with a beaded surround. The Easter lily represents purity and innocence.⁸ Inscribed with "Harriet Adella,/Daughter of/Thomas T.C. & Juriah F. Hunter/Born/April 26, 1863/Died/May 28 1895."

Harriet Christena Cook (1835-1896), a short pedestal stone with an urn at top. The main body of the stone is carved with a evening primrose at top and to the sides a vine of evening primroses. The face of the stone is inscribed with "Harriet Christena/Cook/Born/Nove 1 1835/Died/Feb 23 1896."

Minnie Moseley Zimmerman (1875-1896), a pedestal monument topped with a statue of a young woman in repose, clutching a wreath of roses. The statue is like two different monuments (Theus⁹ and Holhenstein¹⁰ plots) in the Bonaventure Cemetery in Savannah, GA, yet the stone is not signed by an artist. This may indicate that the statue was mass produced. Below the statue, on the front of the pedestal is carved "Mother and Babe". On the main face of the stone the following inscription appears "Minnie Moseley/Beloved wife of/R.D. Zimmerman/Born Feb'y 13, 1875/Died Nov. 16, 1896/"In the midst of life we are in death."/""Her sun went down while it was yet day."

Catherine Griffith Moore (1816-1897), a modified basket arch stone with a rose inset in a circle with a hammered finish background. The stone has a carved vine of evening primrose on the bottom and other decorative touches along the edges. Inscribed with "In Memory of our beloved/mother/Catherine Griffith/Wife of Robert T. Moore./Daughter of/David & Mary Griffith./Born/Dec. 5, 1816/Died/May 1, 1897./Aged/80y's 4m's 26d's."

David DeWalt (1876-1898), an obelisk monument on a raised pedestal. The face of obelisk features the Mason Square and Compass in the midst of a wreath of roses. The bottom face of the

⁷ "Funerary Art and Symbolism."

⁸ Keister, 44.

⁹ "Thomas Theus' Dying Request." Southern Graves blog, accessed April 1, 2013.
<http://blog.southerngraves.net/2013/03/thomas-theus-dying-request.html>

¹⁰ "A Bon Adventure!," *Asylum Eclectica* blog, accessed February 10, 2013.
<http://asylumelectica.com/asylum/sightseer/us/ga/savannah/bona/bona3.jpg>

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pedestal is inscribed "David/Son of/G.G. & E.J. DeWalt/Born/March 12, 1876,/Died/Aug 5, 1898."

George A. Cook (1854-1899), a Doric column set on top of a pedestal. The inscription on the pedestal face reads "George A. Cook/Born/Feb 2 1854/Died/Jan 14 1899/Aged/44 yrs. 11 mos & 12 dys./God's finger touched/him and he slept."

George Young Hunter (1899-1900), an angel child statue standing on a rock labeled "Heaven" on top of pedestal base. The face of the pedestal is inscribed with "George Young/son of/ G.Y. & Carrie Hunter/Born Sept 2 1899./Died Nov 4 1900./We loved him but angels loved him best."

Nannie E. Morris (1868-1902), a large pedestal stone topped with an urn draped with a shroud and a vine of morning glories which represent the resurrection.¹¹ Below the urn, the top of the square pedestal is draped with a fringed and cloth with tasseled ends. Below the cloth is a carved rose. An arched face is inscribed with "Nannie E. Morris/wife of/M.C. Morris/Born Oct 20, 1868/Died Jan 11,1902/"Dear wife, no more your/voice we hear/your smile we greet no/more,/The form which was to/us so dear/to Heaven the angels/bore." The monument is a part of the Morris family plot with is surrounded by a granite and decorative cast iron fence.

Henry M. Dominick (1828-1904), a tympanium stone with a handshake inset into an oval. The handshake (each with a different cuff) represents matrimony.¹² Inscribed with "Henry M Dominick/Born/Sept 5 1828/Died/Jan 20 1904".

Rachel Jane Cook (1841-1913), a modified obelisk monument set on top of a pedestal. It decorated at top by a vine of ivy. The main body of monument is decorated with rope and acanthus leaves, which represent the final triumph of eternal life.¹³

Amanda M. Young (1847-1914), a pedestal stone with a sloping top inscribed with "Amanda M. Young/Born Sept. 23, 1847/Died Apr. 9, 1914." On the face of the pedestal, the following is inscribed "She hath faded/away to shine/brightly in/Heaven". A combination of Art Nouveau style acanthus leaves and evening primrose decorate the stone.

Josephine Quattlebaum (1861-1919), a tall pedestal stone with a sloping top featuring an open Bible. The face of the stone is decorate with a dove amidst bouquets of evening primrose and ropes. The stone is inscribed with "Josephine/Quattlebaum/Dec. 21, 1861/Feb. 10, 1919/"Twas hard to give/thee up./But they will O God/be done./O will be sweet to meet/on that blest shore/All sorrows passed and/pain forever o'er."

Kiester Hair (1890-1919), a short, flat, square stone with decorative flourishes carved to the left of the stone. In the center is a pair of crossed rifles set into a circle with USA carved into it. The

¹¹ Keister, 50.

¹² "Funerary Art and Symbolism."

¹³ Keister, 41.

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inscription reads "Kiester Hair/Co. B, 56 Pioneer Inf./May 11, 1890./July 7, 1919./His toils are past his work is done/he fought the right, the victory won."

George Waters Morris (1852-1926), a square column with an arched top. Inscribed into the arch is a gothic building surrounded by clouds and the inscription "In my father's house are many mansions". Inscribed on the face of the column is "George/Waters/Morris/Oct. 12./1852/Oct 9, 1926".

Della H. Shealy (1852-1929), a rectangular marker with rounded edges and a peaked triangular top that mimics a roof. The top is also draped with a shroud. Carved into the stone is an elaborate scene depicting a cross in the midst of iron gates with sunlight pouring down. According to the website *The Art of Mourning*, the gates represent Heavenly passage while the sun light symbolizes renewed life.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Art

Period of Significance

ca. 1802 – ca. 1929

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Significant Dates

1802; 1843; 1889

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Prosperity Cemetery, in Prosperity, Newberry County, South Carolina, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion C in the Area of Significance of Art as an excellent example of nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century gravestone art in a small town or rural cemetery of the South Carolina piedmont.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Art

Prosperity Cemetery is an outstanding example of a backcountry cemetery, containing a concentration of markers "signed" by local merchants, marble yard owners, and stonecutters. In fact, unlike the White brothers of Charleston (William T., Robert D., and Edwin R. White), who provided so many examples of notable gravestone art throughout the state throughout the nineteenth century, in cities such as Columbia, Spartanburg, Greenville, and Beaufort,

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Prosperity's grave art is almost exclusively local. The cemetery contains approximately one dozen "signed" markers. J.R. Leavell, L.M. Spears, and H. Miller all hailed from the nearby city of Newberry in Newberry County, South Carolina. J.R. Leavell and L.M. Spears were particularly well known locally, not only as a merchant and a stone cutter respectively, but also as outstanding community members and veterans of the Civil War.

J.R. Leavell was Captain John Roland Leavell, who operated a mercantile store in Newberry along with a marble business. Captain Leavell's family was one of the original founding families in Newberry County; he was born in 1820 on his family's property near Bush River Church and was educated in Charleston before returning to Newberry to marry and open a mercantile. He managed a government shoe manufacturing concern during the Civil War and eventually served as tax collector and jury commissioner.¹⁴ His home Oak Grove was located in Newberry on the present site of the opera house.¹⁵

Another well known Newberry stonecutter was L.M. Spears, who not only owned a marble business, but also served as an undertaker. Leland McNary Spears (sometimes spelled *Speers*) was born and raised in Newberry County. He moved to the City of Newberry when he was fifteen and engaged himself as a marble and stonecutter. In 1861, he enlisted in the Confederate army as a private in Company B, 3rd South Carolina Infantry, and rose through the ranks to obtain the position of sergeant. He served until October 1864 before being invalided out of the army; he was wounded many times and participated in many pivotal battles including Fredericksburg, Chickamauga, and the Wilderness.¹⁶ Spears began to expand his marble business by buying the mortuary and marble stand owned by R.C. Williams, located near Fallaw House in Newberry.¹⁷ According the Newberry Observer index put together by Edith Greisser, there were numerous mentions of gravestones by L.M. Spears being erected in cemeteries throughout Abbeville and Laurens Counties.

The other identified stonecutter featured in the cemetery was one by the name of H. Miller who signed his stone "H. Miller of Newberry, S.C." After searching newspaper extracts, the only listing found was for "Miller & Hoof, who opened a marble yard in 1884."¹⁸ It can be reasonably supposed that Miller was operating as a stone cutter before launching his joint venture with Hoof.

There are two other names associated with stones in the cemetery. G. Brown appears on multiple gravestones and appears to have been based out of Columbia, though a search through city directories turned up nothing. His work can be seen on some of the earliest and most unadorned stones in the cemetery dating to the 1820s. His signature style seemed to be simple tablet stones with italicized inscriptions and a highly decorative "Sacred" etched into the top of the stone. His

¹⁴ *Newberry Observer* (Newberry, S.C.), February 15, 1900.

¹⁵ *Newberry Observer* (Newberry, S.C.), November 11, 2001.

¹⁶ Gen. Clement A. Evans, *Confederate Military History Extended Edition* (Wilmington, NC: Broadfoot Publishing), 1897, 586.

¹⁷ *Newberry Observer* (Newberry, S.C.), September 7, 1898.

¹⁸ *Newberry Herald* (Newberry, S.C.), October 23, 1884.

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markers are signed "G. Brown" in this cemetery though some of his work can be seen as far away as Mecklenburg County, North Carolina where he signed his work "G. Brown Columbia".¹⁹

Childs Chester also signed one stone that appears in the cemetery. His stones feature high style Victorian motifs and date to the middle of the nineteenth century. Though exhaustive research was performed, a stonecutter by this name was not uncovered. While there was a family in the Newberry and Columbia area by the name of "Childs" there were no mentions of a family by the name of "Chester" in the area.

One of the important aspects of the Prosperity Cemetery is that it catalogs the changes in gravestone art through the nineteenth and into the early twentieth century. A great change can be detected by following the progression of these stones. The earliest ones, carved in the early nineteenth century are plain and unadorned. They feature simple flourishes and stylized scripts. Placating verses drawn from the Bible about the joys of the afterlife or expounding on the deceased's Christian qualities are prominently featured. Much of the stones are taken up with these inscriptions. As time progresses, the design and motifs of the stones become more elaborate. A willow tree seems to be the most popular motif of the eighteen-teens and eighteenth-twenties. Some extensive scripts can be found on these stones from this period as well.

But as the mid-nineteenth century begins to come about, the art work begins to take center stage. Botanical motifs become popular. Often oak leaves and acorns, roses or wreaths of roses, dogwoods, evening primrose, and acanthus leaves all feature prominently on stones from this era. Inscriptions can still be found though verses are often more succinct than earlier stones. Some small scale obelisks, a continuation of the classical themes seen in the early nineteenth century are present in the cemetery. Angels carved like children were also popular as were crib style markers that mimicked the design of bed with their side rails and foot boards.

The last quarter of the nineteenth century dawns, stones become even more elaborate. Statuary becomes popular as seen on the grave of Minnie Moseley Zimmerman. Greek or classical themes are still popular as large scale Doric and Corinthian columns are used for markers, as are obelisks. Regular tablet stones are often inscribed with multiple symbols; flowers are still in vogue but cross and crowns and doves symbolizing the resurrection become popular as well. As the twentieth century comes to pass, a continuation of these themes can be seen. Fewer stones are monumental past the first decade of the twentieth century, and art work takes center stage once more. Multiple themes are eschewed for elaborate tableaux featuring earthly depictions of the gates of Heaven. Several stones appear with these scenes at Prosperity Cemetery. While the period of significance for this cemetery ends in 1929, there are stones dating to modern times. An observer can see that with the end of the nineteen twenties, stones become simple once more. Art work is generally minimal or not featured at all; just simple engravings with the name of the deceased along with their birth and death dates and in some cases, a simple verse. This marks the beginning of modern gravestone art.

¹⁹ "Known Cemeteries and Burial Grounds of Mecklenburg County, NC," Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, accessed January 13, 2013. <http://www.cmstory.org/cemetery/stonecutters.asp>.

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Developmental History

Prosperity Cemetery had its beginnings as a burial ground for members of the Prosperity Associate Reformed Presbyterian [A.R.P.] Church. A.R.P. churches in the colonies were the result of decades of persecution by the British monarchy and infighting within the Presbyterian Church in Scotland.²⁰ By the 1740s, Associate Presbyterian beliefs had spread to Northern Ireland and later to the American colonies as these dissenters emigrated. By the 1770s, the Reformed and Associate Presbyterians reunited to create the first Associate Reformed synod in Philadelphia.²¹

Around the same time, the first of the A.R.P. Church organizers for Prosperity set sail from County Antrim, Northern Ireland. Five ships were chartered by Reverend Martin, a Presbyterian minister in Larne, Northern Ireland, one of which was the “James and Mary”, which arrived in Charleston in 1772. Aboard this ship was James Abram Young and his family, who eventually settled in the Newberry District. Family records indicate that he enlisted with the 6th South Carolina regiment upon its formation in 1776 and was later wounded which forced him to return to his farmstead.²²

The Young family, along with many other Scotch-Irish dissenters, originally attended the Cannon’s Creek A.R.P. Church in the upper part of the county. Organized in 1772, it is one of two of the oldest A.R.P. congregations in Newberry County.²³ The church grew in numbers until another congregation was needed in the southern part of the county. In response, James Young donated land that was a part of 150 acres purchased by him from Mary Catherena Lang, her husband Michael Cromer, and her son George Lever in 1785.²⁴ In 1802, the community known as Frog Level [later Prosperity] had its own A.R.P. church. The original building was located on the grounds of this cemetery. The church was organized with James Young as an elder, along with Samuel McQueens and Robert Drennan. The Reverend James Rogers acted as the congregation’s minister until 1816.²⁵

In September 1802, the first burial occurred when James Young died at the age of 52. The second burial occurred in November, when Patrick Carmichal, one of the original Scots-Irish settlers died at the age of 48. His unique triangular sloping stone is engraved with “Mentamemori.” The next burial occurred in 1807 when Jane Fair Boyd was buried, a gap of five years. Even more interesting is that there was not another burial on site until the early 1820s.

²⁰ Associate Reformed Church Synod, *The Centennial History of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church: 1803-1903* (Charleston, SC: Walker, Evans, and Cogswell, 1905), 1.

²¹ Ibid, 2.

²² “James Abram Young,” Geni, accessed January 10, 2013, <http://www.geni.com/people/James-Young/6000000005047557902>.

²³ George Leland Summer, *Newberry County, South Carolina: Historical and Genealogical Annals* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1950), 111.

²⁴ “George Henry Lever Family,” My South Carolina Families, accessed April 1, 2013, http://www.screunion.com/the_levers.htm.

²⁵ Associate Reformed Church Synod, 556.

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It can be supposed that burials were occurring at the earlier congregation of Cannon's Creek, which has a fine collection of early nineteenth century markers²⁶ or markers from this period have since deteriorated or been lost.

In 1843, a new church building was erected on or near the site of the old.²⁷ Two of the four cornerstones can still be found near the center of the cemetery. The church continued in that location until 1889, when a new, larger church was erected half a mile north in the center of what was now the Town of Prosperity. The pastor at the time, Dr. J. Boyd gave the lot for the church and used his own home next to the church as his parsonage.²⁸ In 1891, a new pastor was installed, thus a need for a parsonage arose. Elvira Kibler donated property for the endeavor and the building was constructed using the materials of the old church located in the cemetery, which had been dismantled.²⁹ Sadly, the parsonage burned down in 1908.³⁰

Many members of the A.R.P. church in the nineteenth century were buried in cemetery; these families included the Moseleys, the Kiblers, the Browns, the Dominicks, and the Hunters. Though an exact date is unknown, it can be reasonably supposed that in the absence of a public burial ground, non A.R.P. church members were buried in the cemetery starting after the church's removal from the property in the late 1880s. The cemetery did not become officially public until 1963 when the current owner, the Prosperity Cemetery Association, was formed and took over management.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Associate Reformed Church Synod. *The Centennial History of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church: 1803-1903*. Charleston, S.C.: Walker, Evans, and Cogswell, 1905.

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Keister, Douglas. *Stories in Stone: a Field Guide to Cemetery Symbolism and Iconography*. Layton, Utah: Gibbs Smith, 2004.

²⁶ Summer, 111.

²⁷ Ibid, 113

²⁸ Associate Reformed Church Synod, 557.

²⁹ Michael Bedenbaugh. Interview by author. Phone conversation. Greenville, SC, April 1, 2013.

³⁰ Summer, 113.

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<http://blog.southerngraves.net/2013/03/thomas-theus-dying-request.html>

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: S.C. Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

Prosperity Cemetery
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Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 3

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 34.19834 | Longitude: -81.529986 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary of the nominated property is known as the heavy black line marked "Prosperity Cemetery," Parcel 464-2-6-1 on the accompanying Newberry County GIS Map, drawn at a scale of 1" = 400'.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary is restricted to the historic cemetery.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Caroline Wilson
organization: Upstate Preservation Consultants
street & number: 100B North Avenue
city or town: Greer state: S.C. zip code: 29650
e-mail upstatepreservation@gmail.com
telephone: 864-266-8350
date: November 22, 2013

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Owner Information

Prosperity Cemetery Association
1234 Pugh Road
Prosperity, SC 29127-9413
803-364-3439

Prosperity Cemetery
Name of Property

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Photographs

Name of Property: Prosperity Cemetery
McNeary Street

City or Vicinity: Prosperity
County: Newberry
State: South Carolina

Photographer and
Dates of Photographs: Caroline Wilson, 3 March 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 41: Grave of James Young, 1802
- 2 of 41: Grave of Patrick Carmichal, 1802
- 3 of 41: Grave of Jane Boyd, 1807
- 4 of 41: Grave of Christiana Sinclair, 1820
- 5 of 41: Grace of Hannah Cureton, 1821
- 6 of 41: Grave of Cebella Cureton, 1825
- 7 of 41: Grave of Mary Hunter, 1830
- 8 of 41: Grave of George Hunter, 1833
- 9 of 41: Grave of Mariah Rogers, 1836
- 10 of 41: Grave of William P. Cureton
- 11 of 41: Grave of Sarah Hawkins, 1862
- 12 of 41: Grave of Drayton T. Cureton, 1864
- 13 of 41: Grave of James Cureton, 1866
- 14 of 41: Grave of Lucinda Brown, 1871
- 15 of 41: Grave of Allen J. Pugh, 1876
- 16 of 41: Grave of Rosa Barrett Wyse, 1879
- 17 of 41: Grave of Henry Thompson Shealy, 1880
- 18 of 41: Grave of Mary Ellen Bowers, 1880
- 19 of 41: Grave of John Ethan Kinard, 1881
- 20 of 41: Grave of Vida Gay Bedenbaugh, 1882
- 21 of 41: Grave of Jesse Dominick, 1885
- 22 of 41: Grave of N. Bettie Mosely, 1885
- 23 of 41: Grave of Dr. Thompson Young, 1894
- 24 of 41: Grave of Dr. Amos Kibler, 1894
- 25 of 41: Grave of Harriet Adella Hunter, 1895
- 26 of 41: Grave of Harriet Christena Cook, 1896
- 27 of 41: Grave of Minnie Mosely Zimmerman and Babe, 1896
- 28 of 41: Grave of Catherine Griffith Moore, 1897
- 29 of 41: Grave of David De Walt, 1898 (right stone)
- 30 of 41: Grave of George A. Cook, 1900

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- 31 of 41: Grave of George Young Hunter, 1900
- 32 of 41: Grave of Nannie E. Morris, 1902
- 33 of 41: Plot of the Morris Family including the grave of Nannie E. Morris
- 34 of 41: Grave of Henry M. Dominick, 1904
- 35 of 41: Grave of Rachel Jane Cook, 1913
- 36 of 41: Grave of Amanda M. Young, 1914
- 37 of 41: Grave of Josephine Quattlebaum, 1919
- 38 of 41: Grave of Kiester Hair, 1919
- 39 of 41: Grave of George Waters Morris, 1926
- 40 of 41: Grave of Della M. Shealy, 1929
- 41 of 41: One of two remaining cornerstones of the original Prosperity A.R.P. Church

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Newberry County GIS

Prosperity Cemetery (Prosperity, Newberry County, SC)
McNeary Street at intersection with Rikard School Road



THIS MAP IS PREPARED FOR THE INVENTORY OF REAL PROPERTY FOUND WITHIN THIS JURISDICTION, AND IS COMPILED FROM RECORDED DEEDS, PLATS, AND OTHER PUBLIC RECORDS AND DATA. USERS OF THIS MAP ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT THE AFOREMENTIONED PUBLIC PRIMARY INFORMATION SOURCES SHOULD BE CONSULTED FOR VERIFICATION OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS MAP. THE COUNTY AND MAPPING COMPANY ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS MAP.

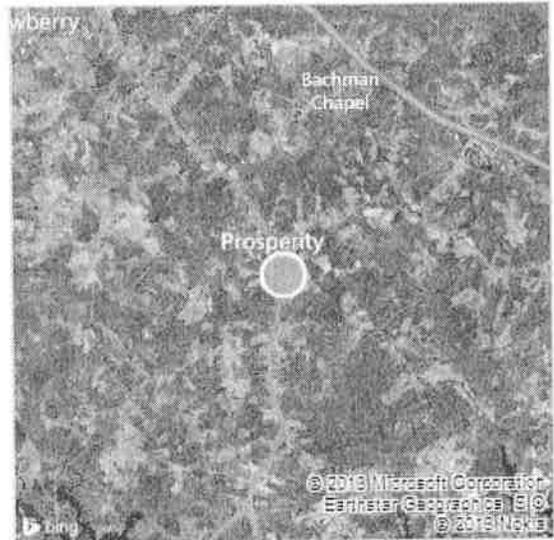
*** THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED AS A PLAT ***

bing Maps

Prosperity Cemetery, SC

Prosperity Cemetery, Prosperity
Newberry County, SC
34.19834, -81.529986

On the go? Use m.bing.com to find maps, directions, businesses, and more



Bird's eye view maps can't be printed, so another map view has been substituted.

SACRIFICE

to the
memory of

JAMES YOUNG.

who departed this life
September 16th 1802
in the 52nd year of his age
As a Husband and Father he was

tender and affectionate,

As a Christian

humble and devout.

Mark the perfect man,
and behold the upright,
for the end of that man is peace.

— — —
Blest are they and only they,
Who in the Lord their Saviour die,
Their bodies wait redemption day,
And sleep in peace wherever they lay.

VEN ANNO
PREPARE FOR
DEATH AND
FOLLOW ME
HEARLYETH THE BODY
OF PATRICK CARMICAL
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE
THE 24 DAY OF NOVEMBER
IN THE YEAR 1802 AGED
48 YEARS WHAT I SAY
YOU IS AINTOAN



SACRED

To the memory of
JANE BOYD,
a Native of Ireland;
who came to this State in 1772
the wife of Samuel Fair,
after his death,
she married Archibald Boyd
whom she also survived,
and died November 1807.

This tablet of respect
to her memory is erected
by the direction of her son
WILLIAM FAIR.

The Memory of

CHRISTIANA SINCLAIR

A Native of Edinburgh
Scotland — And Wife of

JAMES SINCLAIR

who departed this life on the
15th July 1820 Aged 41 years

No farther seek her merits to disclose
Or draw her frailties from their
Dread abode,

They all alike in trembling hope
Repose

The honours of her father and her God



Sacred to the Memory
of
MR. HEINRICH CURETON
who departed this life on
the 28th day of August
1821
In the 69th year of her age.



SACRED

the memory of
CEBELLA CURETON

who was born
April 16th 1792,
and died
Dec^r 3rd 1825,
aged 33 years 1
month and
13 days.

C. BROWN

Sacred

to the memory of
Mrs. MARY HUNTER,
wife of George Hunter,
who was born April 7th
A. D. 1790;
and departed this life
May 15th A. D. 1830.

Removed from many a friend and dear one
Who my absence will deplore,
But at our Saviour's bright appearing
We shall meet to part no more.

Sacred
to the
memory of
GEORGE HUNTER,
who was born
Sept. 50th A.D. 1780
Died Nov. 15th A.D. 1855.

And man,
When laid in lonely grave,
Shall sleep in death's dark gloom,
Until the eternal morning wake
The slumbers of the tomb.

E. Brown



SAUBERT

In the memory of
MRS. MARY SAUBERT
Wife of John A. Saubert

Born Jan. 11th 1807

Died Oct. 11th 1876

aged 69 years

and 26 months



I AM A MEMBER OF THE
 ORDER OF THE
 PATRIOTIC ORDER OF THE
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 NO. 240 1519
 and departed this life

GEORGE W. STELL
 SEP. 11, 1856



DRAYTON CURETON
No. 127 1891

IV
MOTHER
DRAYTON T.
WIFE OF
DANIEL T. & Cabella
CURETON
1870
Feb. 11th. 1864
Died at home 3 and 1/2
1891



IN

MEMORY OF

JAMES,

SON OF

DANIEL T. & CEBELLA

GURETON.

JAN 29, 1868.

AGED 10 MONTHS

MARGARET BROWN

WIFE OF

GEORGE BROWN

Sept. 24th 1848

May 10th 1878

Member of the ...

"Love continually increased it led to the peace of God"



ALLEN J.
Son of
W.P. & G.T. PUGH.
DIED
Oct. 21, 1876.
Aged 5 weeks.

H. MILLER
NEWBERRY, S.C.



In Memory of
ROSA BARRETT

Daughter of
A. L. & R. E. Wyse,
Born Aug. 7, 1870.
Died Sept. 9, 1879.

—
We shall gather the
lambs with His arms
and carry them in
His bosom, for "Of such
is the kingdom of heaven"



IN
MEMORY OF
HENRY THOMPSON

Son of James D. & Sarah A.

SHEEK

Born Jan. 15, 1861.

DIED

Feb. 10, 1880.

And though the years be gone in succession,
He is not dead, he is but sleeping.

To wake in his sweet sleep.

One certain morning he'll be as sweetly
One day a radiant angel shining

To praise the great Almighty.

GHT



IN
Memory of
MARY ELLEN BOWERS,
Wife of
J. W. Bowers,
and daughter of
L. B. & E. C. Maffett,
BORN
Dec. 5, 1857.
Died Nov. 27, 1880.

*When the morn came dim and sad
And chill with early showers,
Her quiet English Gales, she said
Another morn than ours.*



JOHN ETHAN
Son of
J. H. & M. S. KIVARD,
and Grand son of
J. & H. DOMINICK.
Born Oct. 26, 1879.
Died Dec. 1, 1951

VIDA GAY

First born of
REV. W. L. G. BENDENBAUGH

Born July 27, 1875
Died Oct. 9, 1882



JESSE DOMINICK
BORN APR 25 1815.
DIED JULY 21 1885.

J. MIDDLETON KIBLER
1836 - 1879
AND CHILDREN BY HIS WIFE
ROSA RINGGEL KIBLER
LUDWIG KIBLER
JANU. 1860 - DEC. 23, 1890
EMERY
STILL BORN 1863

N. BETTIE MOSELEY
Daughter of
H. C. & LEAH MURPHY
Born Aug. 28, 1880
Died
Sept. 7, 1887

RITGE



DR. THOMPSON YOUNG.

BORN

Feb. 16. 1810.

DIED

May 8. 1894.



DR. AMOS A.
KIBLER.
BORN JUNE 7, 1854.
DIED JUNE 12, 1894.

KIBLER



HARRIET ADELLA.
Daughter of
THOMAS T. C. & JURIAH F. HUNTER
BORN
April 26, 1863.
DIED
July 14, 1885.



HARRIET CHRISTENA
COOK,
BORN
Nov. 1, 1835,
DIED
Feb. 23, 1896.



MINNIE KIMBLE

Born Feby 13 1875
Died Nov 16 1896

*In the month of February in the month
December of the next year to be*

ZIMMERMAN



In memory of our beloved
mother

CATHERINE GRIFFITH

Wife of

ROBERT T. MOORE,

Daughter of

DAVID & MARY GRIFFITH,

BORN

Dec. 5, 1816.

DIED

May 1, 1897.

AGED

80y's - 4m's - 26d's.





GEORGE C. DE WALT
 BORN
 MARCH 21, 1915
 DIED JULY 25, 1990

WITHOUT HIS NAME SPREAD EARTH
 THROUGH LONG SUFFERING YEARS
 RECALMED WITH ALL OUR HEARTS
 CH. 1975
 OUR PRAYERS AND OUR TEARS

DE WALT



DAVID
 SON OF
 GIBB E. J. DE WALT
 BORN
 MARCH 12, 1875.
 DIED
 AUG. 5, 1898.

WAS NOT BORN TO SEE HIS SON
 TO HAVE HIM WITH US HERE
 HE ONLY KNOWS THAT GOD HAS BEEN
 SOME DAY IT WILL BE CLEAR.

DEWALT



GEORGE A. COOK
BORN
FEB. 2, 1853
DIED
JAN. 15, 1934
AGE 81
WAS A MEMBER OF THE
METHODIST CHURCH
AND A MEMBER OF THE
SOCIETY OF THE
SACRAMENT



GEORGE YOUNG

Son of

MR & MRS GARRIE HUNTER

Born Sept. 2, 1897

Died Nov. 3, 1900

Rest in Peace

HUNTER

COOK

COOK

WANNIE E. MORRIS

Wife of
W. G. MORRIS.
Born Oct. 20, 1868.
Died Jan. 11, 1902.

Dear wife no more your
voice we hear
Your smile we see no
more
The form which was to
us so dear
To Heaven the angels
here

DOMINICK

MORRIS



MEMORY OF
HIS WIFE
REBECCA
LAW PROCTOR
JULY 23 1835
JAN. 18 1881

ENTER

TAYLOR



HENRY M. DOMINICK

BORN

SEPT. 5, 1828,

DIED

JAN. 20, 1904.

RACHEL
JANE.
DEC. 20, 1841
JULY 6, 1913

COOK

DOMINICK

ESTABLISHED
1850
THE
WILLIAM
S. COOK
GRAVE
1850

BERNARDINE M. YOUNG
BORN SEP. 23, 1847
DIED APR. 9, 1914

She hath faded
away to shine
brightly in
heaven.

YOUNG



JOSEPHINE
 QUATTLEBAUM
 DEC 21 1861
 FEB 10 1919

’Twas hard to give
 Thee up,
 But Thy will, O God,
 be done.
 O’hall be sweet to meet
 on that blest shore,
 All sorrows passed and
 pain forever o’er.

QUATTLEBAUM

GUSTAV FRANCES
 FEBRUARY
 1871
 QUATTLEBAUM
 FEBRUARY
 1871



KIESTER HAIR
Co. B, 56 PIONEER INF
MAY 11, 1890
JULY 7, 1919.

*His toils are past his work is done
He fought the fight, the victor is won*





IN MY FATHERS HOUSE
ARE MANY MANSIONS

**GEORGE
WATERS
MORRIS**
OCT. 12,
1852
OCT. 9,
1926

MORRIS

ASA F. LANGFORD, M.D.
DEC. 9, 1828 - DEC. 20, 1904

SUSAN F. LANGFORD,
DEC. 1, 1834 - SEPT. 4, 1899

Secondly, surviving

DELLA H. SHEALY
WIFE OF
DRAYTON I. SHEALY
BORN
NOV. 23, 1852
DIED
SEPT. 3, 1929

*She died, as she lived a
Christian*

SHEALY

