

Ordinance # 3-1-2000

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IN AND FOR THE CITY OF ASH FLAT, ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED:

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE PROTECTION OF PREMISES CONSIDERED "SACRED GROUNDS" (CEMETERIES) AND ESTABLISHING MINIMUM FINES FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO VIOLATE SUCH ORDINANCE FOR ALL PROPERTIES SPECIFIED AND DESCRIBED AS CEMETERIES WITHIN THE CITY OF ASH FLAT, ARKANSAS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASH FLAT, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1- It shall be unlawful for any person within the corporate limits of the City of Ash Flat, Arkansas to desecrate, or vandalize any of the City properties designated for such purposes as cemeteries, namely the following locations:

Ash Flat (Town) Cemetery (also referred to as "Town Cemetery" or "Haskins Cemetery"), Old Baptist Cemetery (also referred to as "Hickory Grove Cemetery" or "Oak Grove Cemetery"), McConnell Cemetery (also referred to as "Garner Cemetery"), Denton Cemetery, Moses Roberts Cemetery, Henry L. Roberts Cemetery, and Wiles Cemetery.

These designated areas shall not suffer, nor permit, any of the following conditions.

A. Breaking, knocking over, relocation, or irreversibly marking of any monument (grave stone) erected within the cemetery. A relocation of a set monument would have to have proper and prior authorization by cemetery committee.

B. Unauthorized removal of dirt or physical remains from a grave site.

C. Rubbish, trash, brush, or any other objectionable, unsightly or unsanitary matter of what ever nature to accumulate or be dumped upon any tract or parcel of land that is located within the designated lands considered cemetery sites.

D. The desecration, defacement, or relocation of any signs (rock, wood or iron) being used for cemetery purposes.

E. Unauthorized removal of any tree, shrub, flowering bush, or large field stones from cemetery premises.

F. Unauthorized placement of signs, markers, stones, or roads within parcels of land designated and being used for purposes as City cemeteries.

G. Unauthorized opening of a grave site and burial of bodily remains.

SECTION II- PENALTY: Any person who shall violate a provision of this Ordinance, or fail to comply therewith, shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor and fined as provided by Arkansas State laws protecting cemeteries and churches. Upon conviction of any such violation, such person shall be punished by a fine, not to exceed \$1,000.00 for each offense.

SECTION III- Violations of the provisions of this Ordinance may be prosecuted by the issuance of a criminal information or by the issuance of a citation by the Ash Flat Police Department as required by the law.

SECTION IV- All Ordinances or part of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION V- The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be separable and if any provision shall for any reason be held illegal or invalid, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remainder of the ordinance.

PASSED and APPROVED this 13th day of March 2000.

Approved by: Gay P. Martin
Mayor

ATTEST:

Charlette Dodwin
Recorder