

# Birmingham-Bush Cemetery

Faulkner County, Arkansas



Census and History by Sondra Johnson

Copyright 2012 by Sondra Johnson.

All rights reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system.

## Disclaimer

While every effort has been made to produce as accurate and reliable information as possible, the certainty of errors is inherent in human nature. A number of resources have been used to construct the contents, some of which may also contain errors or misleading information. The author, therefore, advises that the information contained in this document should not be used to supplant or otherwise take the place of independently documenting and verifying any information contained herein.

## Dedication and Acknowledgements

This census is dedicated to my sweet, dear mother, Veradean McCord, my wise and understanding sister, Charlotte Moudy, and Suzee Cia, my tried-and true, faithful friend, who have continually supported my efforts to complete this long and difficult project.

It is also dedicated to the memory of so many loved ones that have gone before us, whose lives changed our history and our perspectives of life.

To my Lord and Savior, whom I thank for guiding me and watching over me as I walked the hallowed grounds and for giving me courage, strength, and determination.

Throughout the years that it took to complete the Faulkner County Cemetery Census, I was helped along the way by many people. To name them all, would be difficult due to the passage of time and I would run the risk of omitting some. However, I would like to especially thank the following: Veradean (Johnson) McCord, Charlotte (Johnson) Moudy, Stephanie (Moudy) Weatherington, Glenna (Blair) Shumate, Suzee (White) Cia, Joe Melton, Connie (Hall) Weir, Lynita Langley-Ware, Desmond (Walls) Allen, Euna and Steve Beavers, Charles Parsons, and Vivian Hogue. I'm also grateful for and indebted to Terri Buster and Charlie Ward, who have made it possible for me to accomplish my dream.



— Faulkner County, Arkansas, Cemetery Census by Sondra Johnson —

---

For more information on the cemeteries of Faulkner County, Arkansas, contact Sondra Johnson at [littlefishes@windstream.net](mailto:littlefishes@windstream.net) or the Faulkner County Museum at [fcm@conwaycorp.com](mailto:fcm@conwaycorp.com)

---

# Birmingham-Bush Cemetery

**GPS Coordinates: 35 02.819 92 09.333**  
**Township 5 North, Range 11 West, Section 23**  
**Political Township: Cypress**

## Location and Description

This small cemetery contains seven marked graves. It is located on Lewisburg Road, south of Vilonia and is enclosed by a chain-link fence. A large monument in the middle of the cemetery was placed by Mrs. W. Fay "Ollie" Wright as a "Memorial to All Buried Here." The monument was entitled "Jane Catherine Cemetery."

## History

According to an 1873 land ownership map of Cypress Township in Faulkner County, the southwest quadrant of Section 23 that the Birmingham-Bush Cemetery is located in was owned by John Russell Birmingham. The map also shows a stream named "Birmingham Branch" and a geographical feature known as "Birmingham Gap."

**Jane Catherine Wilson** married John Russell Birmingham, who was born December 8, 1838, in McNairy County, Tennessee. They had two known children: Rebecca Jane and Magnolia. Magnolia was born in 1870. Jane was living with her husband and daughter, Rebecca Jane, in the 1880 Faulkner County census in Cypress Township. Magnolia was not enumerated in the 1880 census, and probably died sometime before 1880. There is a monument in Birmingham-Bush Cemetery which has no name or dates, but was inscribed: "Daughter of J. R. and J. C. Birmingham." In the 1900 census, she was living with her husband and two boarders. She died two years after the census and was buried in Birmingham-Bush Cemetery.

Rebecca (Rebecka) Jane Birmingham (1866-1911), daughter of John Russell and Jane Catherine (Wilson) Birmingham, married Joseph Arnold Bush (1864-1909) in 1885. They were buried at Mt. Olive Cemetery, a larger cemetery a short distance away to the west. Her father, John Russell Birmingham, died a few years later (1913) and was also buried at Mt. Olive. Her ancestry has been traced back to 1660 with the birth of Richard Birmingham.

**Richard Birmingham's son, John, was born in** 1684 and died on May 14, 1747, in Queen Anne's County, Maryland. He married Elizabeth Brown (1688-1736) and they had six daughters and one son: Elizabeth (1710-1748), Charles (1712-1820), Sarah (1714-1735), Margaret (1719-1784), Rachel (1723—), Mary (1735—), and Anna (1738—). Charles Birmingham married Elizabeth Downer (1718-1790) in Queen Anne's County, and they had four sons: Joshua, Caleb, Charles, and John.

**Caleb Birmingham** was born in 1750 in Queen Anne's County, Maryland, and died in Kelly's Creek, Lincoln County, Tennessee, in 1834. He and his wife, Rachel, were the parents of seven children: Charles, Hardy, John, James, William Wilson, Nancy, and Deborah. William

Wilson was born in 1785 in Maryland and died in 1848 in Lincoln County, Tennessee. His wife's is unknown, but they had a large family: William Wilson, Jr., James Malacia, Curtis Carter, John C. Greenberry, Sarah Cora, Caleb Wesley, Charles Caswell, William Robert, and Amanda Jane.

**Curtis Carter Birmingham** was born on December 12, 1819. His monument in Mt. Olive Cemetery in Faulkner County, Arkansas, states that he was "born in Lincoln County, Tennessee." He married Jane Marioum Southerland (1819-1886) on October 18, 1836, in Limestone, Washington County, Tennessee. Their children were: John Russell, Calvin Curtis, Ellen Louisa, Milton Valentine, Sarah Ann, Alle Berry, Warren C., and Miriam Melissa. Jane was buried in Cato Cemetery, which is located on the Pulaski County-Faulkner County line.

Rebecca Jane and Joseph Arnold Bush lost two infants within a year of each other: an infant son (1887) and a daughter, Leslie R. Bush (1888). They are both buried at Birmingham-Bush Cemetery. Rebecca and Joseph had eight children after the deaths of the infants: Grace (1889), Dewit Talmadge (1893), Mamie, Joe, Ollie, Lillian, Kelly A., and Pannie Jane, who died in 1918 and was also buried at Mt. Olive Cemetery

### Census Data

The inscription on the seven markers contained in this cemetery are as follows:

- 1) **Infant Birmingham** — "Dau of J. R. & J. C. Birmingham" (no dates)
  - 2) **Jane Catherine (Wilson) Birmingham** — "Born in North Carolina Oct. 25, 1829; Died in Faulkner Co., Ark., Dec. 29, 1902"
  - 3) **Infant Bush** — "Son of J. A. & Rebecka Bush" — b & d 5 Mar 1887
  - 4) **Leslie R. Bush** — "Dau of J. A. & Rebecka Bush" — b. 10 Jun 1888 d. 11 Aug 1888
  - 5) **Infant Wright** — "Dau of Albert & Jane Wright" (no dates)
  - 6) **(Jane) Wright** — "Mother of Albert Wright" (no dates)
  - 7) **Albert Wright** — No dates; md. Matilda Seago 10 Aug 1913 in Faulkner Co.
- In addition to the seven markers, there is a memorial monument inscribed:

Jane Catherine Cemetery  
Memorial By  
Mrs. W. Fay "Ollie" Wright  
To All Buried Here"

This cemetery was surveyed on March 17, 2005.



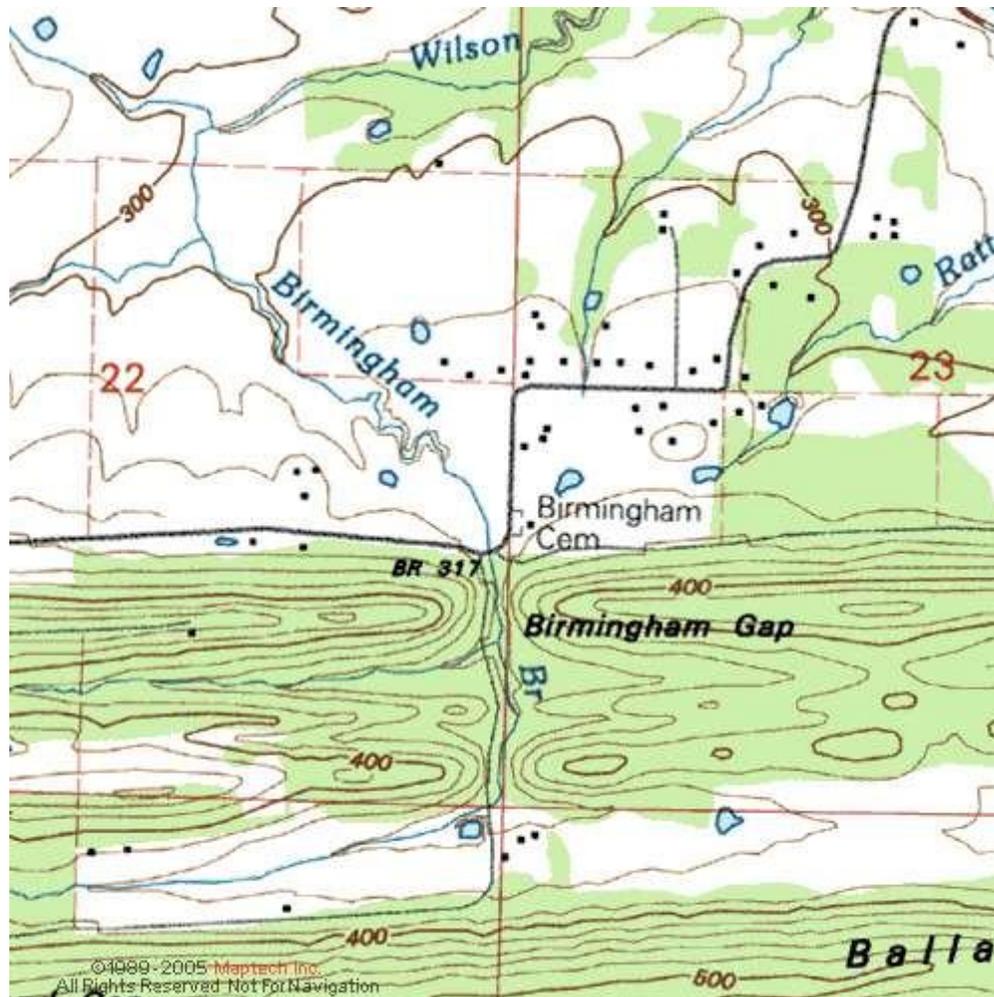
## RESOURCES

Faulkner County Census of Cemeteries as of December 31, 1987. Faulkner County Historical Society

Shubert, Dwight. Faulkner County Marriage Index, 1873-1925, Vol. 1, 1996.

Shubert, Dwight. Faulkner County Marriage Index, 1926-1967, Vol. 2, 1997.





**Driving Directions:** From Vilonia, drive south on Highway 107 to Lewisburg Road. Turn left (east) on Lewisburg Road and drive about 2 miles to a sharp curve in the road at the junction of Fiddler and Lewisburg. The cemetery is on the right side of the road.