

In December of 1900, the city of Little Rock once more asserted itself as owner of the cemetery when city authorities proposed that the city collector should act as secretary of the board. His duties included the collection of the assessments on the lots, for which he was allowed \$10 per month.

The Mount Holly Cemetery Association had its beginning on June 9, 1814, when 36 women met at the home of Mrs. A. H. Scott to form an organization devoted to the care and beautification of the cemetery. Officers elected were: Mrs. L. P. Gibson, honorary president; Mrs. Loughborough, first vice president, Mrs. A. E. Shields, second vice president; Miss Rose Miller, secretary; and Miss Bessie Cantrell, treasurer. The Executive Board consisted of Mrs. H. M. Bennett, Mrs. George Worthen, Mrs. W. E. Green, Mrs. George Stratman, Mrs. A. H. Scott, Mrs. B. S. Johnson, Mrs. George Thornburgh, Mrs. Moorhead Wright, Miss Louisa Gibson and Mrs. Clara Hotze. The Executive Board assumed the duties of the old Board of Commissioners, but the old board continued in an advisory capacity for a time. The cemetery was turned over to the association in November of 1914. On July 20, 1915, the Mount Holly Cemetery Association was incorporated. It is to this association that we owe the present beautiful condition of the cemetery.

In 1916 the twelve lots that had been sold for exclusively Jewish burials were returned to the association, and were re-sold after graves in those lots had been moved to Oakland's Jewish cemetery.

Plans for the large community mausoleum were begun in February, 1916, when E. I. Derinick of Bentonville appeared before the association and obtained an option on lots in the extreme northwest corner of the cemetery. Work on the mausoleum progressed very slowly, and it was not until July of 1917 that the plans, by architect Charles Thompson, were accepted. The mausoleum was completed in 1919. The following entry is on page 337 of the book of deeds in the city collector's office: "February 2, 1919. Southwestern Mausoleum Co. - "1,200. Lots 1115 to 1130 inclusive, being 16 fine lots between Myrtle and Cedar avenues and including the intervening Jessamine Avenue, being the location of the mausoleum building."

Electricity was installed at Mount Holly in 1930, and in 1933 the stone and iron entrance gates were erected by the association. Two years later, metal markers were placed to mark the avenues in the cemetery.

The Mount Holly Cemetery Association still bears the burden of the maintenance of the cemetery. The association conducts an annual tour which brings in contributions for the upkeep of the cemetery, to supplement its inadequate funds. On three occasions, the state legislature has refused to pass bills providing at least partial maintenance by the State of Arkansas. These bills were defeated in 1925, 1927, and 1929.

Mount Holly cemetery has been aptly called "The Westminster Abbey of Arkansas" and almost daily its potentialities as a tourist attraction are proven.