

NORMAN

CONCORDIA CEMETERY

Concordia Cemetery is located at the corner of Boyd Lane and Levee Road in Township 24N, Range 7W in Bolivar County. The cemetery contains the graves of many pioneer citizens and early county leaders. The Bolivar County Historical Society has undertaken to reclaim this historic cemetery and has requested its certification so that county aid may be enlisted.

The Concordia Cemetery was awarded a state historical marker in 1972.

Board approved issuance  
of certificate of  
historical significance  
at meeting on 10-22-76.  
Please draft letter  
for my signature.

ERH  
10-27-76

# The Bolivar County Historical Society

## 1976 OFFICERS

Thomas N. Boschert; President  
Mrs. John Pearson, Sr.; Vice-Pres.  
Mrs. J. W. Yates, Jr.; Sec.-Tres.

## 1976 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. J. E. BoBo  
Mr. Hubert Boykin  
Dr. William Cash  
Mrs. Joe Eddins  
Dr. Jack Gunn  
Mrs. J. C. Herbert  
Dr. Curt Lamar

Duncan, Mississippi  
July 30, 1976

Mr. Robert J. Bailey, Director  
Division of Historic Sites and Archaeology  
Department of Archives and History  
P.O. Box 571  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Mr. Bailey:

Attached is a resolution adopted by the membership of the Bolivar County Historical Society at its regular membership meeting in Rosedale, Mississippi on July 27, 1976. This concerns the restoration and maintenance of Concordia Cemetery, one of the oldest cemeteries in Bolivar County, located about two miles north of the Town of Gunnison, Mississippi.

On behalf of the membership of the Bolivar County Historical Society, I respectfully request your consideration for presentation to the Board of Trustees of the Department of Archives and History for the purpose of their issuance of a certificate of historical significance for Concordia Cemetery.

Also attached is information containing pertinent data regarding Concordia Cemetery.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,

*Thomas N. Boschert*  
Thomas N. Boschert  
President

The Burrus House  
Highway 448 Benoit  
Owned by Bolivar  
County Historical  
Society



**Bolivar County's  
only Antebellum Mansion**

**Listed on the  
National Register**

Concordia Cemetery Resolution

Whereas, Concordia Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in Bolivar County, and  
Whereas, the Cemetery is the burial place for many of the earliest settlers of Bolivar County, and  
Whereas, the Cemetery is listed in national publications of historical sites, and  
Whereas, the Cemetery is of great historical significance to Bolivar Countians, and  
Whereas, upon proper petition and recognition restoration is possible,  
Therefore, be it resolved by the membership of the Bolivar County Historical Society that proper petition and documentation be offered, and  
Be it further resolved that this Society endorses all legal and proper activities to restore and to preserve Concordia Cemetery

July 30, 1976  
Date

Thomas N. Boschert  
Thomas N. Boschert, President  
Bolivar County Historical  
Society

Mrs. Joe Yates, Jr.  
Mrs. Joe Yates, Jr., Secretary  
Bolivar County Historical Society

ATTACHMENT Re: Concordia Cemetery

Concordia Cemetery, one of the oldest cemeteries in Bolivar County, is located about two miles north of the Town of Gunnison, Mississippi in Township 24 N, Range 7 W, adjoining the Levee. Old Concordia Cemetery is listed in the American Guide, a Source Book and Complete Travel Guide, edited by Henry G. Alsberg and published by Hastings House, N. Y., and in a book known as a Bible of Old Cemeteries, author and publisher unknown.

The Cemetery contains the graves of many of the pioneer citizens of the northern part of Bolivar County; many among those buried there were the early leaders of the County. The oldest date of burial was John M. Fleming on August 9, 1841; the oldest date of birth was James Irvin on Nov. 7, 1788.

Today, as shown in the enclosed photographs taken on July 17, 1976, Concordia Cemetery is covered by a dense undergrowth of vines, weeds and grass. An effort was made to form a Cemetery Association in the spring of 1962, and the Cemetery was cleaned and a memorial service held there. A historical marker was later placed on State Highway One denoting the historical significance of Concordia.

It is the intention of the Bolivar County Historical Society, as is evidenced by a resolution so stating at its July 27, 1976 membership meeting in Rosedale, Mississippi, to use all means available to reclaim this historic landmark to a state of restoration and preservation.

Below are listed a few of the individuals listed among the 120 tombstones in evidence at Concordia:

- \* William Carrol Boyd (Mason) Feb. 14, 1832  
Dec. 27, 1916  
member of Board of Supervisors 1891; Miss. Levee  
Commissioner
- \* Nelson Blanchard (Mason) Jan. 9, 1806  
Mar. 28, 1870  
In 1848, he helped build the first Methodist Church  
in Concordia.
- \* Martin Donelson June 26, 1847 Jan. 22, 1889  
His Father was Andrew Jackson Donelson, who owned a  
large plantation SW of the present Town of Duncan,  
Mississippi until his death in 1871. Martin Donelson  
was born at the American Embassy in Berlin, where  
his Father was the Ambassador to Prussia.
- \* Dr. O. L. Deen (Mason) Dec. 24, 1819 Aug. 18, 1858  
Early settler on Concordia Island, and helped build  
the first Methodist Church at Concordia.
- \* Aaron F. Goza July 6, 1863 Jan. 29, 1918  
Member of an early and prominent family.
- \* Wm. Y. Glenn died Nov. 9, 1872, aged 62 yrs, 1 mo, 15 da.  
The Glenn Family, having come from Kentucky, were very  
early settlers, and were said to be among the first  
public school trustees in the County.

- \* Isaac Hudson died Feb. 25, 1879, aged 69 yrs,  
10 mo., 21 da.  
Member of 2nd Board of Police 1837, Sheriff 1844,  
Representative in the Mississippi Legislature from  
1856-8, Levee Commissioner, and School Commissioner.
- \* John B. Pease M. D. July 19, 1839 Dec. 6, 1917  
Early area physician, leader, among first elected  
aldermen of Gunnison.
- \* Dr. John B. Pease Jr. (Mason) Mar. 25, 1867  
Mar. 21, 1912  
Early area leader, doctor, and historian.
- \* B. B. Wilson Oct. 1, 1820 June 3, 1875  
Owned plantation west of the present Town of Duncan,  
Mississippi; prominent pioneer settler of the area;  
One daughter married the first Mayor of the Town of  
Duncan, Mississippi and another daughter married  
Judge J. P. Young, prominent Jurist and Historian  
of Memphis, Tennessee.

Documentation for the above information was obtained from  
the HISTORY OF BOLIVAR COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI compiled by Florence  
Warfield Sillers and other; Compilation of Concordia Cemetery  
Tombstone Inscriptions by E. P. Leftwich, a resident of Gunnison,  
Mississippi.

*Thomas N. Boschert*

Thomas N. Boschert  
President  
Bolivar County Historical Society  
Post Office Box 215  
Duncan, Mississippi 38740



# Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Post Office Box 571 • Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0571 • Telephone 601-359-1424  
*Elbert R. Hilliard, Director*

October 19, 1987

Mr. Bob Kyer  
219 North Victoria  
Cleveland, MS 38732

RE: Old Concordia Cemetery, Bolivar County

Dear Mr. Kyer:

Thank you for your telephone request of Friday, October 16, 1987, about the above referenced abandoned cemetery.

I have enclosed a copy of House Bill #780, Chapter 425, Laws of Mississippi (1971) which explains the abandoned cemetery program in our state. Also enclosed is the criteria for certification which was adopted by our Board of Trustees and a form requesting abandoned cemetery certification.

To initiate the certification procedures, please provide us with the location of the cemetery on a copy of a U.S.G.S. quadrangle map, an inventory of the burials, photographs, and a completed request form. This information will facilitate the process considerably.

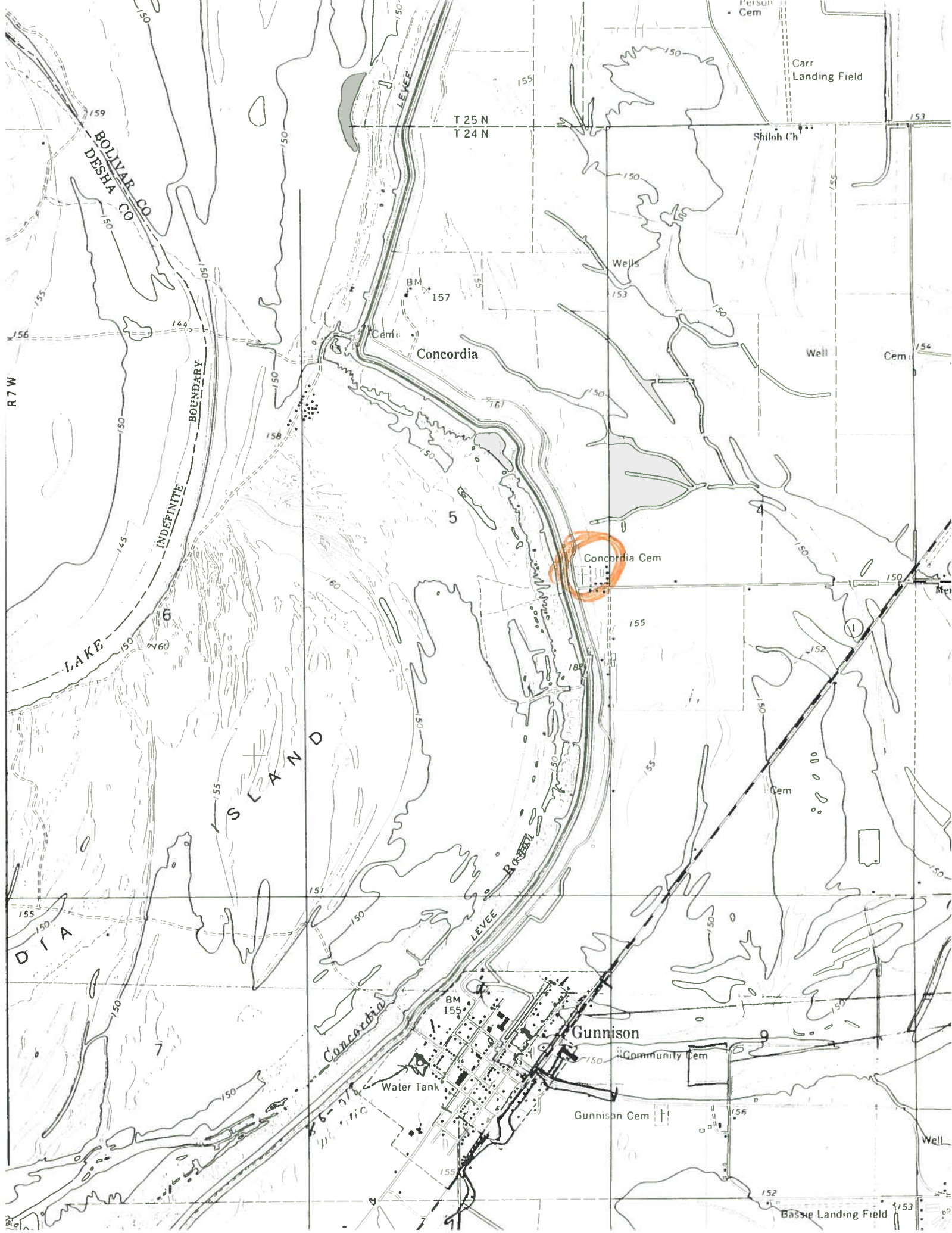
Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Beard  
Review and Compliance Assistant  
Division of Historic Preservation

MFB/gp

Enclosures



BOLIVAR CO  
DESHA CO

R 7 W

T 25 N  
T 24 N

INDEFINITE  
BOUNDARY

Concordia

Concordia Cem

Carr  
Landing Field

Shiloh Ch

Wells

Well

Cem

LAKE

S  
L  
A  
N  
D

Gunnison

Community Cem

Gunnison Cem

Bassie Landing Field

Water Tank

BM  
155

BM  
157

157

Cem

5

6

7

187

155

153

155

150

150

150

150

150

150

150

150

150

152

Person  
• Cem

153

154

150

150

156

153

# The Bolivar County Historical Society

## 1976 OFFICERS

Thomas N. Boschert; President  
Mrs. John Pearson, Sr.; Vice-Pres.  
Mrs. J. W. Yates, Jr.; Sec.-Tres.

## 1976 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. J. E. BoBo  
Mr. Hubert Boykin  
Dr. William Cash  
Mrs. Joe Eddins  
Dr. Jack Gunn  
Mrs. J. C. Herbert  
Dr. Curt Lamar

Duncan, Mississippi  
September 1, 1976

Mr. Robert J. Bailey, Director  
Division of Historic Sites and Archaeology  
Department of Archives and History  
P.O. Box 571  
Jackson, Mississippi 39205

Dear Mr. Bailey:

Attached is a listing of gravestone inscriptions of Concordia Cemetery that you requested that I send you.

Also I want to give you the address of our County Administrator with whom I have discussed our procedure in obtaining the Certificate of Historical Significance: Mr. Jimmy Heidel, P.O. Box 698, County Administrator, Cleveland, Ms. 38732.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Truly yours,

*Thomas N. Boschert*

Thomas N. Boschert

The Burrus House  
Highway 448 Benoit  
Owned by Bolivar  
County Historical  
Society



**Bolivar County's  
only Antebellum Mansion**

**Listed on the  
National Register**