



State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
Tennessee State Library and Archives

Mount Olivet Cemetery (Nashville, Tenn.)  
Interment Books, 1855-1952  
and Plat Book, ca. 1855-ca. 1972

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COLLECTION SUMMARY

**Creator:**

Mount Olivet Cemetery (Nashville, Tenn.)

**Inclusive Dates:**

1855-ca. 1972

**Scope & Content:**

Includes 3 volumes housed at the cemetery offices and used daily to assist clients. These volumes supplement other records of Mount Olivet Cemetery held by TSLA. The two interment books (1855-1911 and 1912-1952) serve as master indexes to burials, listing names by first letter of surname and then chronologically by year buried. Numerous prominent Nashville people and families are included. The plat book is undated but appears to cover lots and sections used up to the early 1970s.

**Physical Description/Extent:**

3 volumes

**Accession/Record Group Number:**

Mf. 2026

**Language:**

English

**Permanent Location:**

Mf. 2026 (available on microfilm only)

**Repository:**

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0312

**Administrative/Biographical History**

Mount Olivet is a 250-acre cemetery located at 1101 Lebanon Road in Nashville, Tennessee, and has been in continuous operation since its establishment in 1856 (according to records, burials began in 1855). It serves as the final resting place for many of Middle Tennessee's political and business leaders, including several former governors of Tennessee, U.S. Senators, and U.S. Congressional Representatives.

After the American Civil War, a number of Nashville women formed an association to raise funds to purchase a separate plot of land at the cemetery for the interment of Confederate dead. "Confederate Circle" was used for the burial of soldiers who had died on nearby battlefields and as a memorial to their sacrifice. Women organized such memorial associations and raised money for interment of Confederate soldiers in major cities across the South and areas where there were a significant number of graves required. The Mount Olivet association arranged for the burials of about 1,500 soldiers at Confederate Circle. Confederate veterans were also eligible for interment there.

For many years, interments at Mount Olivet were limited to white Protestants. Although this policy was officially abolished decades ago, tradition has continued the practice. In the 1990s, a funeral home was added to the grounds of Mount Olivet.

Immediately adjacent to the west, Calvary Cemetery has long served as the preferred burial place of Middle Tennessee Catholics. The two facilities are separated only by grass; one can walk from one cemetery to the other, although each has a separate entrance. Cars cannot pass between the two.

**Organization/Arrangement of Materials**

Interment books arranged by letter of alphabet, then chronologically by year; plat book arranged by section.

## Conditions of Access and Use

### Restrictions on Access:

None

### Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

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## Index Terms

### Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

Mount Olivet Cemetery (Nashville, Tenn.) -- Records and correspondence

### Subjects:

Burial records -- Tennessee -- Nashville  
Cemeteries -- Tennessee -- Nashville

### Geographic Names:

Nashville (Tenn.) -- History -- Sources

### Document Types:

Burial records  
Plat books

## Acquisition and Appraisal

### Provenance and Acquisition:

Loaned for microfilming by Mount Olivet Cemetery, 1101 Lebanon Road, Nashville, TN 37210.

## Processing and Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation:

Mount Olivet Cemetery (Nashville, Tenn.) Interment Books, 1855-1952, and Plat Book, 1855-ca. 1972, Tennessee State Library & Archives

**Processing Information:**

Prepared for microfilming by Cathi Carmack, Archival Technical Services  
Section, June 2012.

**Existence and Location of Originals:**

Owned by Stewart Enterprises, Inc., owner/operator of Mount Olivet  
Funeral Home and Cemetery, 1101 Lebanon Rd., Nashville, TN 37210.

**Electronic Location and Access:**

<http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/mf2026.pdf>

## DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

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### CONTAINER LIST

<b>Contents/Item Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Volume</b>
Interment Index Book	1855-1911	1
Interment Index Book	1912-1952	2
Plat Book	1855-ca. 1972	3