MDOT SHA Cemetery Documentation App
Protesters Demanding Cemetery Site Protection Arrested

Four arrests were made at a meeting in Kensington after attendees refused to stop protesting development at a historically black cemetery.

By Alessia Gurinberg, Patch Staff
Jan 10, 2019 11:57 am ET | Updated Jan 11, 2019 7:24 pm ET

Bethesda community rallies to save African-American burial ground

On Sunday, community members rallied at Macedonia Baptist Church on River Road in a show of support to save the site of an African-American burial ground in Bethesda, Maryland. (WTOP/Kathy Stewart) (WTOP/Kathy Stewart)

KENSINGTON, MD — Four members and supporters of the Macedonia Baptist Church were arrested at a public forum in Kensington on Wednesday after they refused to stop protesting future development at a historically black cemetery.
The Montgomery County Council voted unanimously on Tuesday to inventory and protect old cemeteries that could be affected by new development.

The legislation directs the county's Planning Board to create a list of burial sites, to be updated at least annually. It also amends county law to require applicants who want to subdivide a property to research the boundaries of burial sites on their land and, in most cases, protect them from development.

Officials said the bill could help avoid what seems to have happened in Bethesda's Westbard neighborhood in the 1960s, when the construction of a high-rise apartment building probably disturbed an African American cemetery.

A proposal to redevelop the site has drawn attention to that little-known history, prompting protests and demands from a nearby African American church to halt the development project and memorialize the cemetery.
CONTRACTORS CAUTION

WHILE WORKING IN THE VICINITY OF EXISTING CEMETERY, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL STOP WORK IMMEDIATELY SHOULD ANY REMAINS BE UNCOVERED. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL THEN CONTACT THE DISTRICT R/W ENGINEER.
Why MDOT SHA?

- No statewide database of burial grounds
- Level of documentation varies from County to County
- Some counties have extensive private databases
- State Highway has legal authority that extends throughout the state, and continuous demand for up-to-date planning information
Why GIS?

- Researching and recording cemeteries is labor-intensive.
- Modest resources available at State, County, Local level.
- Mobile devices mean most people already have powerful and compatible technology to record location and data in their pocket.
- Cemetery survey and documentation is *already ongoing* across the state by individuals and groups.
Project started in February to document 100 cemeteries across the state.

Prioritizing abandoned, undocumented, or unmaintained cemeteries.

Hammond Family Cemetery, New Market, Frederick County. March 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Located</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Property Owner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Beards/Beasley</td>
<td>Millersville, MD</td>
<td>21108</td>
<td>Located at the northbound side</td>
<td>A single marble headstone flush to ground</td>
<td>Was discovered during restoration. Removed by Project Director on site.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>STATE OF MARYLAND HAVY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Carter's U M Church</td>
<td>6715 Old Solomons Island Rd, Trappe, MD</td>
<td>20373</td>
<td>located on the southwest side of a small park.</td>
<td>N 39° 51' 36&quot;, W 76° 48' 22&quot;. Buried on N. side of church near road.</td>
<td>Buried on N. side of church near road.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>CARTERS UNITED METHOD P O BOX 85, TRACEYS LANDING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Jenkins/Uniter Family Cemetery</td>
<td>Shadyside, MD</td>
<td>26516</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 468 and unnamed road.</td>
<td>N 39° 17' 37&quot;, W 76° 51' 56&quot;.</td>
<td>Single headstone located at the northeast corner of Rt. 468 and unnamed road.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>BLUE CEMETARY, INC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Newhall Family Cemetery</td>
<td>Glen Burnie, MD</td>
<td>21405</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Single headstone located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>STATE OF MARYLAND HAVY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Phelps Burial</td>
<td>530 Deale Rd., Deale, MD</td>
<td>20751</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Single headstone located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>HARDEYS RICHARD 6390 OCEAN CITY, MD 20751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Walhains Slave</td>
<td>Davidsonville, MD</td>
<td>20902</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Single headstone located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>STATE OF MARYLAND HAVY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Elisha Family Cemetery</td>
<td>1710 NATIONAL PK, Elisha, Harford, MD</td>
<td>21150</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Single headstone located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>ALEXANDER COAL LAND CO. PO BOX 410, Fords, MD 21150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>AG</td>
<td>Hoagley Cemetery</td>
<td>35.544440, -78.619450</td>
<td>21040</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Single headstone located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>STATE OF MARYLAND HAVY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>AG</td>
<td>Hofstetl Cemetery</td>
<td>35.517857, -78.617500</td>
<td>21040</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Single headstone located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>STATE OF MARYLAND HAVY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>AG</td>
<td>Hutton</td>
<td>35.534311, -78.619450</td>
<td>21040</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Single headstone located at the northeast corner of Rt. 97, 14.14 m.</td>
<td>Tina Simmons</td>
<td>STATE OF MARYLAND HAVY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cemetery: Hobitzell Cemetery
Inventory ID
Name: Hobitzell Cemetery
Address: 12800 Naves Cross Rd NE
Cumberland, MD 21502
Approximate Area: 920 ft²
Category: Rural
Setting/location: Located in interior of interchange for I-695 and I-144, overgrown woods behind Park & Ride. No visible paths to cemetery.
Cemetery: Hobitzell Cemetery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inventory ID</th>
<th>Hobitzell Cemetery</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>12900 Naves Cross Rd NE Cumberland, MD 21502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximate Area</td>
<td>50h N/S by 100 ft E/W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting/location description</td>
<td>Rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting/location notes</td>
<td>Located in interior of interchange for I-95 and Rt 144. Overgrown woods behind a Park &amp; Ride. No visible paths to cemetery.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General condition</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General condition notes</td>
<td>Jacob Hobitzell gravestone in fair condition despite rest of cemetery being overgrown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessibility</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific accessibility notes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the cemetery active (recent burials)?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the cemetery being maintained?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If maintained, note caretaker’s name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are there visible markers?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximate number of burials/visible markers</td>
<td>2 visible markers, 3 burials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marker Start Date</td>
<td>1030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marker End Date</td>
<td>1030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrative Description</td>
<td>Landscape is very overgrown with trees and vines. One intact marker for Jacob Hobitzell, other broken marker is inscribed with &quot;JH&quot;, no other visible identifying information. Other marker appears to be unmarked fieldstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Summary</td>
<td>State of Maryland SHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Owner Name</td>
<td>138 Defense Hwy Annapolis, MD 21401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveyor Name</td>
<td>Caroline Herritt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey Date</td>
<td>2/9/2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Notes</td>
<td>No evidence of riby tombstones, may have been removed. Probably unmarked graves present, although not visible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Resources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attachments</td>
<td>No attachments found</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edited by</td>
<td>caroline.herritt on 4/10/19 at 1:55 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related documents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burial Site Photo Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Join MDOT SHA’s Cemetery Inventory initiative to begin submitting survey information regarding cemeteries across the State of Maryland.

Request Technical Assistance

MDOT Website
Twitter: @MDSHA
Facebook: @MDOTSHA
Email: Office of Communications
3) There are multiple options to sign up for the Cemetery Inventory App: use your Facebook, Google, Github, or Apple account, or create a new ArcGIS Hub Community Account.
Join MDOT SHA’s Cemetery Inventory initiative to begin submitting survey information regarding cemeteries across the State of Maryland
Thank you for participating in our MDOT SHA Cemetery Inventory

To begin completing a cemetery inventory survey, please click on the link below "Take Cemetery Inventory Survey". Additionally, please note the interactive map displayed below, highlighting the cemeteries inventoried to date.

MDOT SHA Cemetery Inventory Survey
MDOT SHA Cemetery Inventory

Take Cemetery Inventory Survey
BURIAL SITE EVALUATION

Setting/location description *
- Rural
- Urban
- Suburban

Setting/location notes *
At the intersection of Fayette and Tilghman Streets, behind the old Allegany High School

General condition *
Select Excellent if cemetery is mowed, formal landscaping, no damaged markers. Select Good if cemetery is mowed, some landscaping, few damaged markers. Select Fair if cemetery is mowed, no formal landscaping, some damaged markers. Select Poor if majority of markers damaged, no formal landscaping, somewhat overgrown. Select Not Maintained if cemetery is completely overgrown, may only have 1 or 2 visible or legible markers, no evidence of clearing or maintenance.
- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Not Maintained

General condition notes *
Cemetery is being mowed and does have formal landscaping, but there are many damaged markers

Accessibility *

“markers”
marker site
marker so
Accessibility *
- Car
- Foot
- Inaccessible
- Other

Is the cemetery active (recent burials)? *
- Yes
- No

Is the cemetery being maintained? *
- Yes
- Minimal
- No

Are there visible markers? *
- Yes
- No

Approximate number of burials/visible markers *

e.g. 10 burials, 3 visible markers
Are there visible markers? *
- Yes
- No

Approximate number of burials/visible markers *
E.g. 10 burials, 3 visible markers
7495 visible markers, 8000 burials

Markers Start Date
- 1800

Markers End Date
- 2019

Narrative Description *
E.g. markers, materials, arrangement, landscaping/vegetation, fence, paths and roads, etc.
Markers are arranged in rows with family mausoleums interspersed throughout the cemetery. Trees and bushes are planted throughout.

Historical Summary
Provide a short historical background summary based on office research and existing info...
Historical Summary
Land was given to Emmanuel Episcopal in the 1840s because the cemetery at old Fort Cumberland had to be reinterred.

Burial Site Contact
Land Owner Name
Vestry of Emmanuel Episcopal Parish

Land Owner Contact Information
301-722-5480

Burial Site Surveyor
Surveyor Name
Caroline Herritt

Survey Date
Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Comments
Additional Notes
“Herritt”
Herritt’s
Thank You!

If you have any questions, please contact me (Alexander Keim) at:

AKeim.consultant@mdot.maryland.gov