



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Sheila Bashiri
Preservation Planner
Community Planning & Development Services
City of Rockville
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, MD 20850

April 20, 2022

Dear Ms Bashiri:

We are sending you this letter because recent historical research and a field visit indicates that the Avery Road Cemetery site within Rockville Civic Center Park was slightly mis-mapped in the original Montgomery County Burial Sites Inventory. Deed research suggested a location 100-200 feet south of the mapped location, and a field visit confirmed the presence of cemetery related features. At the May 26 annual update of the Burial Sites Inventory before the Montgomery County Planning Board, we will be updating this record to reflect the slightly different location, and the fact that visible evidence of the cemetery remains. I am happy to share any other details we have about our research on this cemetery. I have attached a revised inventory form that includes photographs from the field visit.

If you have questions about the inventory, please contact me by phone or via the email listed below. Additional information concerning the burial sites inventory program can be found at <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/historic/montgomery-county-burial-sites-inventory/>. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-563-3402 or brian.crane@montgomeryplanning.org. We appreciate your support and cooperation as we work to help preserve these fragile resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

Brian D. Crane, PhD
Archaeology Planner Coordinator
Historic Preservation

Encl.



Montgomery County Planning Department
The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Montgomery County Burial Sites Inventory

Historic Preservation ID:

HP-233

Name:

Avery Road Cemetery - Smith Family Cemetery

Description:

Community:

Religious:

Family:

African American:

Other Site Type:

Number of Burials:

unknown

Visible Markers:

Formal Entrance:

Cemetery Sign:

Active:

Earliest Year:

Latest Year:

Is the Site Extant?:

Moved

Is the Location Sensitive?:

Sensitive Contact:

Sensitive Reason:

Location Confidence:

Known

Location Confirmed:

Yes

Volunteer Forms and External Web Links (Montgomery Planning is not responsible for content. Links provided for informational purposes only)

2006 Survey Summary:

https://mcatlas.org/filetransfer/HistoricPreservation/MCCI_Summaries_2004/MCCI_Summary_ID_233.pdf

Montgomery Preservation, Inc.:

https://mcatlas.org/filetransfer/HistoricPreservation/Cemeteries/233_Avery-Road_Smith_Rockville/233_Avery-Road_Smith_Rockville_2018/233_Avery-Road_Smith_Rockville_2018_Survey.pdf

FindaGrave.com:

<https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2672463>

Maryland Tombstone Transcription Project:

Other Website:

Master Plan Historic Resource No.:

Historic Resource:

Confirmed by Planning Board:

Confirmation Date:

Site Survey Date:

Revision Date:

No

03/25/2018

03/30/2022

Site Surveyor Name:

Julianne Mangin (2018) Brian Crane (2022)

Data Originator:

Montgomery Preservation, Inc.

Notes:

Deed research shows that the location recorded in 2018 is slightly off. Fieldwork in 2022 confirmed this and found physical evidence of the cemetery, including at least one headstone base, foundation remains, and multiple large depressions that may be where graves were exhumed and not refilled. Area of possible graveyard may extend across the hill/stream terrace beyond boundary suggested by deeds.

Technical information about the locational information shown in the online map.

Public Display Scale:

Is there a Restriction on Sharing Information?:

1: 0

GIS Source Date:

GIS Source Datum:

Boundary Type:

03/30/2022

Horizontal Accuracy:

GIS Data Source:

GPS M-NCPPC 2022

Additional Information:

Cemetery boundaries are referenced in a neighboring 1906 deed: "then to exclude the colored Grave Yard, South seventy three degrees, nine minutes East, eleven and fifteen hundredths perches; thence North sixteen degrees and fifty one minutes East, three and sixty three hundredths perches; ; thence North seventy three degrees, nine minutes West, eleven and seventy eight hundredths perches to the center line of the aforesaid road" (Liber 184 Folio 466-468).

The cemetery is labeled as a "Colored Cemetery" in the 1917 Deets and Maddox "A Real Estate Atlas of the Part of Montgomery County Adjacent to the District of Columbia" Plate 5.

<https://jscholarship.library.jhu.edu/bitstream/handle/1774.2/35333/Plate%2005.JPG?sequence=55&isAllowed=y>

Images:



HP-233-01

Looking north across bridge towards rise containing cemetery

Date 03/30/2022
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-233-02

Approach to cemetery from trail looking east

Date 03/30/2022
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-233-03

A shallow depression, possible foundation looking south

Date 03/30/2022
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-233-04

A shallow depression lined with stones near top of hill facing south

Date 03/30/2022
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-233-05

A shallow depression facing north

Date 03/30/2022
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-233-06

Gravestone base near possible foundation remains

Date 03/30/2022
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-233-07

Mortared bricks

Date 03/30/2022
Photographer Brian Crane

MARKER ID

GIVEN NAME

FAMILY NAME

DEATH YEAR