## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

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$\qquad$

Property Name: Monocacy Cemetery
Address: MD 28 and Hunter Road
City: $\qquad$ Zip Code:
20839
Inventory Number:
M:17-01-1
Historic district: $\qquad$ yes X no
County: Montgomery

USGS Quadrangles): Poolesville
Property Owner: Monocacy Cemetery Company Tax Account ID Number:

1100913855
Tax Map Parcel Numbers): 470

Tax Map Number: CU22

Project: MD 28 at MD 109 Repairs to Structure No. 15152 RD
Agency: State Highway Administration (SHA)
Agency Prepared By: $\qquad$
Preparer's Name: Melissa Hess
Date Prepared: 09/15/2004
Documentation is presented in: MHT State Historic Sites Inventory Form 17/1
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility recommended
$\square$
Criteria: $\mathrm{X} \mathrm{A} \quad \mathrm{B} \quad \mathrm{XC} \quad \mathrm{C}$ D Considerations: ___ $\mathrm{A} \quad \mathrm{B} \quad \mathrm{C} \quad \mathrm{X} D \quad \mathrm{E} \quad \mathrm{F} \quad \mathrm{B}$
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: Beallsville Historic District
Inventory Number: M:17-01 Eligible: X yes Listed: ___ yes

Site visit by MHT Staff
yes $\quad \mathrm{X}$ no Name: Date:

Description of Property and Justification: (Please attach map and photo)
The Monocacy Cemetery is located in the rural crossroads community of Beallsville in western Montgomery County. The site is associated with Montgomery County's early religious history, Civil War activity in the area, and the commemoration of the Civil War. The cemetery reflects a broad spectrum of American funerary customs, with a wide variety of grave styles; from the simple graves of Revolutionary War patriots to the ornate burial plots of the Victorian era to the standardized markers of the twentieth century. The overall design of the cemetery reflects a transition from a small church burial ground, to a picturesque landscape influenced by the "rural" cemetery movement, to an early twentieth-century perpetual care lawn cemetery. The thirteen acre cemetery continues to be used as an active burial ground.

A focal point of the cemetery is the Monocacy Chapel, which was built in 1915 by the E.V. White Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy to replace an earlier chapel. Built sometime between 1734 and 1747, the original chapel at the site was a chapel of ease for early Anglican parishioners. A second chapel on the site was built circa 1760. During the Civil War, Union soldiers reportedly used this chapel as a stable for their horses and destroyed it beyond repair. In 1872, the Monocacy Cemetery Society took over the operation of the cemetery.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIE

Eligibility recommended $\qquad$ Eligibility not recommended

MHT Comments:


Reviewer, National Register Program


Page 2
The cemetery's earliest graves are located in close proximity to the chapel, reflective of the early custom of burying the dead in small churchyards close to church structures. Many of the early graves are of the distinctive red Seneca sandstone found in this region of Maryland and date to the 1820 s and 1830 s. The flat, tablet-style gravemarkers with low relief carving exhibits the quality workmanship of early American craftsman.

A large stone slab memorial dedicated to Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery sits nearby the chapel. The current marker is a replacement for the original, but rests on a portion of the original stone. The stone contains the following inscription, "In Loving memory of the valor and self sacrifice of the Maryland soldiers in the Confederate Army whose names are inscribed heron," and lists 32 soldiers. The original memorial marker was erected by the Ladies of Old Medley's District, Montgomery County in 1911 and replaced by the Ladies Auxiliary of Monocacy in 1975. Both the marker and the chapel are examples of the work of women's organizations that proliferated across the country in the post-bellum period.

To the north and west of the chapel is a high concentration of mid- and late-nineteenth century graves. These graves exemplify the "rural" cemetery movement. During the Victorian era, cemetery designers incorporated picturesque landscapes and family burial plots with a wide variety of decorative and statuesque gravemarkers in a reflection of American's growing sentimental attitude towards death and increased reverence for nature. The Monocacy Cemetery reflects this movement in its overall design with sloping hills, winding paths, numerous trees, and ornamental landscaping. Large family burial plots feature vertical forms, such as columns and obelisks, as well as mausoleums. Graves featuring sentimental carved figures, such as lambs and angels, were also common in this era. Monocacy Cemetery has an excellent example of a large carved stone angel that marks the grave of Arthur Nicholson. Other features found in the cemetery include plot-defining barriers, such as short, cast iron fences, and low marble walls.

In the early twentieth century, cemetery design shifted from the romantic picturesque to the more orderly designs of perpetual care lawn cemeteries. This period of cemetery design deemphasized monuments in favor of unbroken lawn scenery and regularity. Management of cemeteries shifted from plots sold to private owners to maintain according to individual taste to sponsoring institutes, such as the Monocacy Cemetery Corporation, that could extend perpetual care to every lot and grave. The result was a smoother landscaping, which was easier to maintain.

In addition to the chapel, the cemetery grounds contain a two-and-one-half story frame dwelling, which is located near the cemetery's main entrance. This late-nineteenth house is a contributing element of the cemetery. It may have at one time been the parsonage for the chapel. The house continues to serve as a caretakers' residence. It sits on a stone foundation, has a side gable roof with a cross gable that is covered with standing seam metal, one interior end brick chimney and a second cement block chimney. The house has been sided with vinyl and has vinyl shutters. The front façade features a partially engaged shed roof porch with turned wood supports. The rear elevation has an ell addition.

The cemetery's entrance is marked by two stone pillars with stone finials and a pair of decorative cast iron gates, which are a contributing element.

A concrete retaining wall, Structure No. 15152 RO, sets on the west side of MD 28 at the northeast boundary of the cemetery. The wall was built in 1921 as part of roadway improvements. The retaining wall is not associated with the graveyard's historical significance and is not a contributing feature of the cemetery.

The Monocacy Cemetery is recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The cemetery is eligible under Criterion A as an example of the evolution of local and national burial customs and changing attitudes about death. The property

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIE

## Eligibility recommended

$\qquad$ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: _ $A \quad B \quad \mathrm{~B} \quad \mathrm{D}$ Considerations: ___ $\mathrm{A} \quad \mathrm{B} \quad \mathrm{C} \quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{E} \quad \mathrm{F}$ MHT Comments:

## Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

## Date

M:17-01-1

## Monocacy Cemetery

Page 3
is also associated with the Civil War, both as a site of local activity and the later commemoration of the war by women's
organizations.
The cemetery is eligible under Criterion C for its architecture, funerary art, and landscape architecture. Monocacy Cemetery is a good representation of many stylistic types and periods of funerary art, burial customs, and cemetery design.

The Monocacy Cemetery meets the stipulations of Criteria Consideration D as it derives its significance from its age, distinctive design features, and from association with historic events.

Bibliography
Frain, Elizabeth R. Monocacy Cemetery, Beallsville, Montgomery County, Maryland. Lovettsville, Virginia: Willow Bend Books, 1997.

Potter, Elisabeth Walton and Beth M. Boland. National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places. United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1992.

Sloane, David Charles. The Last Great Necessity: Cemeteries in American History. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1991.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIE

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Criteria: _ $\mathrm{A} \quad \mathrm{B} \quad \mathrm{C} \quad \mathrm{D}$ Considerations: ___ $\mathrm{A} \quad \mathrm{B} \quad \mathrm{C} \quad \mathrm{D} \quad \mathrm{B} \quad \mathrm{F} \quad \mathrm{B}$

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1. Name: Monocacy Cemetery

Planning Area/Site Number: $17 / 1$ 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 5
4. Address: Maryland Route 28 and Hunter Road, Beallsville
5. Classification Summary

Category building
Ownership_private Title and Date: 1976 Inventory of
Public Acquisition_N/A Historical Sites
Status occupied Federal Ves: unrestricted Fed
6. Date: Cemetery-from the 1730's 7. Original Owner: Prince George's Parish
8. Apparent Condition a. excellent b. altered c. original site
9. Description: The old Chapel, said to have been of brick, was replaced in 1912 by a chapel about $30 \prime$ x $40^{\prime}$, built of stone blocks. This one bay by three bay, one-and-a-half story rectangular chapel is located on a hill, surrounded on three sides by a graveyard, and faces northeast.

Built on poured concrete foundations, the chapel is constructed of rusticated coursed ashlar blocks with quoins.

The graveyard is about 13 acres in size. The main cemetery gate, of iron, faces the junction of Hunter Road and Route 28. The Cemetery is on elevated ground rising abruptly at the entrance, leveling off and then gradually sloping to the northwestern extremity. There are various kinds of trees and shrubs, principally maples, cedars and hollies, well placed and well pruned. The grounds are maintained in good condition. There are about 3,000 graves.
10. Significance: Monocacy Cemetery is significant not only for its graves of some of the earliest colonizers of this part of Maryland, but also because the chapel built here in pre-Revolutionary times was one of two Anglican places of worship between Rock Creek Parish and Frederick until about 1800. The original chapel, around which the cemetery grew, was built during the period of colonization and was used as a house of worship until its virtual destruction during the Civil War. It was one of the early Anglican "chapels-of-ease" erected in frontier districts where full religious services were not possible. In 1734 Anglicans from "the middle part of Prince George's Parish" petitioned the Maryland Assembly for a chapel, indicating that a church may have been built here at that time. Records show that it was at least partially built by 1747 , and rebuilt around 1760. During the Civil War Federal troops destroyed the chapel and burned the pews. In 1921, however, the Col. Elijah Veirs White Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy built the present chapel on the site of the old one, in memory of the many Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery.
11. Researcher and date researched: Geraldine Berkman-7/79
12. Compiler: Margaret Coleman 13. Date Compiled: 10/79
14. Designation Approval

## 1 NAME

historic Monocacy Cemetery
AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET \& NUMBER
Maryland Route 28 and Hunter Road

| CITY, TOWN |  | CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| STATE | Beallsville | 8 |  |
|  | Maryland |  | COUNTY |

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
_DISTRICT
X_bUILDING(S)
_STRUCTURE
—_SITE
_OBJECT

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

## STATUS

X occupied
_ UNOCCUPIED
-WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
_Yes: RESTRICTED
X. Yes: unRESTRICTED -NO

## PRESENT USE

_AGRICULTURE -MUSEUM
_COMMERCIAL __PARK
_EDUCATIONAL _PRIVATE RESIDENCE
-ENTERTAINMENT -RELIGIOUS
_GOVERNMENT - SCIENTIFIC
_INDUSTRIAL —TRANSPORTATION
-MILITARY XOTHERBurials,NAMEMonocacy Cemetery CompanyTelephone \#: 349-3372
street \& number c/o Charles W. Elgin, Sec.-Tres. 17909 Elgin RoadPoolesville _- vicinitr of
5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites


CONDITION
Xexcellent _GOOD -FAIR

## CHECK ONE

_ unaltered Xaltered

## CHECK ONE

X originalsite
-MOVED DATE

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old Chapel, said to have been of brick, was replaced in 1912 by a chapel about $30^{\prime} \mathrm{x} 40^{\prime}$, built of stone blocks. This one bay by three bay, one and a half story rectangular chapel is located on a hill, surrounded on three sides by a graveyard, and faces northeast.

Built on poured concrete foundations, this chapel is constructed of rusticated coursed ashlar blocks with quoins. The northeast (front) entrance is a double wooden door. Two poured concrete steps lead up to the entrance which is overhung by a gabled hood with slate covering and supported by brackets. On the southwest elevation there is a single five paneled wooden door with a stone sill and lintel. The two-over-one double-hung windows are surmounted by a pediment of colored glass. The gable roof has slate covering. There is one interior stove chimney.

The graveyard is about 13 acres in size. The main cemetery gate, of iron, faces the junction of Hunter Road and Route 28. The Cemetery is on elevated ground rising abruptly at the entrance, leveling off and then gradually sloping to the northwestern extremity. There are various kinds of trees and shrubs, principally maples, cedars and hollies, well placed and well pruned. The grounds are maintained in good condition. There are about 3,000 graves

The area immediately behind and to the north of the Chapel contai the oldest graves -- a few from the 1790 's, most from the early l9th century. Many of the early l9th century stones are of Seneca sandstone. Among those buried here are the Poole family and numerous Dades, including the Reverend Townshend Dade. Some of the stones bear epitaphs. Beside the drive is a tablet replacing an original tablet erected by the Ladies of Old Medley's District, in 1911, in memory of the Confederate soldiers from Maryland buried in the Cemetery. The present memorial was placed there by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Monocacy Cemetery in 1975.

There are many stones brought from other graveyards, usually old family burying grounds. Next to the drive, not far from the Chapel, is a group of stones from "Mother's Delight", the original Dawson property. The names of Allnutt, Darby and Dawson are found on many of these stones.

The oldest burials originally in the graveyard have been said to have been made in the $1730^{\prime}$ s or $1740^{\prime}$ s. There are no markers from this early period. Many graves were unmarked from the first. That there have been periods during which the upkeep of the burying ground was inadequate, and that the Cemetery and Chapel were vandalized during the Civil War, are among the possible factors accounting for the absence of earlier stones.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

14:17-1-1

PERIOD

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-AGRICULTURE
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_COMMERCE
_COMMUNICATIONS

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- COMMUNITY PLANNING
_CONSERVATION
_ECONOMICS
-EDUCATION
-ENGINEERING
X_exploration/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
_INVENTION
- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- Law
- literature

X MILITARY
_MUSIC

- PHILOSOPHY
_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

> XRELIGION _SCIENCE _SCULPTURE
> _SOCIALHUMANITARIAN _THEATER
> _TRANSPORTATION _OTHER (SPECIFY)

## SPECIFIC DATES 18th century; 1912

BULLDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Monocacy Cemetery is significant not only for its graves of some of the earliest colonizers of this part of Maryland, but also because the chapel built here in pre-Revolutionary times was one of two Anglican places of worship between Rock Creek Parish and Frederick until about 1800. The original chapel, around which the cemetery grew, was built during the period of colonization and was used as a house of worship until its virtual destruction during the Civil War. It was one of the early Anglican "chapels-of-ease" erected in frontier districts where full religious services were not possible.

The construction date of the first chapel is not known. It is ossible that it was built not long after March 22, 1734 , 1 when the Maryland Assembly received a petition from the inhabitants of "the middle part of Prince Georges Parish" for a chapel-of-ease. In 1740, ${ }^{2}$ a road was petitioned for from the mouth of Monocacy to the Beallsville area, indicating a degree of settlement. In 1747,3 the chapel had evidently been partially completed, as vestrymen and church wardens in "Back Parts of Prince Georges County" petitioned that a tax be levied for building a church and two chapels-of-ease, one, standing between Monocacy and Seneca Creek, already begun. Around 1760, 4 the inhabitants petitioned the Assembly for sufficient money to rebuild the parish church and two chapels of-ease, one of which, "The Chapel below Monocacy, a crazy wooden building, hath (upon a view by skilful Persons) been judged not worth the Repairing." Request was made for these buildings to be rebuilt, assessments to be made in 1761, 1762, and 1763.

The name of the parish changed, as population grew and new divisions were made, from St. John's to Prince Georges (1726), All Saints (1742), Eden (1770) and St. Peter's (post-Revolution).

After the Revolution the chapel was known as St. Peter's. Five-eights of an acre was added to the already-existing one-acre lot, in 1794, by Walter White. 5 In June, 1830,6 John Adlum conveyed $103 / 4$ acres to the parish, enlarging the surrounding grounds. In 1847 a church was built at nearby Poolesville, and designated as the parish church. Some services continued to be held in the old chapel until the Civil War.

Federal troops occupying Beallsville during the Civil War used the chapel for stabling their horses, the vestry room was destroyed and the ricks used for makeshift chimneys, weatherboarding and pews were burned. he chapel was damaged beyond repair. After the war it was decided to establish a public cemetery on the premises. The property was turned over in 1872 to the Monocacy Cemetery Society of Montgomery County. 7 In 1921, the Colonel Elijah Veirs White Chapter of the United Daughters of the

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES 

(See Attachment Sheet A)

## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Cemetery is bounded by Maryland Route 28 on the northeast, Hunter Road on the southeast, the property of C.N. and M.C. Staub on the southwest, and the property of M.M. and B.G. Clark et al on the west and northwest.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE COUNTY |
| :--- | :--- |
| STATE COUNTY |

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

name / title
Geraldine Berkman

| organization | date |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sugarloaf Regional Trails | August 7, 1979 |
| STREET \& NUMBER 87 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { TELEPHONE } \\ & 926-4510 \end{aligned}$ |
| CITY OR TOWN Dickerson | Maryland 20753 |

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA , 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 267-1438

## Monocacy Cemetery

Confederacy built the present chapel on the site of the old one, in memory of the many Confederate soldiers buried in the cemetery. For years, a service was held on June 3, the Confederate Memorial Day. The chapel is used for burials at the present time, and the cemetery is said to be the largest in upper Montgomery County.

## FOOTNOTES:

1. Maryland Archives, V/39, p. 165.
2. Tracey, Grace Louise, Notes from the Records of 01d Monocacy, p. 215.
3. Maryland Archives, V/44, p. 643.
4. Ibid., V/56, p. 502.
5. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., E/721 (October 20, 1794).
6. Ibid., BS 4/24 (June 5, 1830).
7. Ibid., EBP 9/358 (March 16, 1872).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Casanges, Alexander. "From Dawsonville to Sugar Loaf Mountain." Montgomery County Story, August 1958, V.4, \#4.

Elgin, Charles W., Interview, July 17, 1979.
History of the Monocacy Cemetery and the E.V. White Chapter of the UDAC. January, 1923. "Excerpts from the Record Book of Mrs. Mary Poole Hays Jones, Historian, E.V. White Chapter, UDAC. Montgomery County, Md.



NAME MONOCACY CEMETERY - SANDSTONE MARKER LOCATION RA. $28 \times$ HUWTER Rd. BEALLSVILLE, MOL FACADE

PHOTO TAKEN 7/25/73

