



MONTGOMERY COUNTY CEMETERY INVENTORY REVISITED

BURIAL SITE INFORMATION

Name: Ebenezer Church Cemetery	Inventory ID: 221
Alternate name: Ashton Methodist Episcopal Church Cemetery, Bowen Family Cemetery	
Address: Between 205 & 233 Ashton Road, Ashton, MD 20861	
Website:	
GPS coordinates: Latitude: 39.152253	Longitude: -77.005208
FindaGrave: https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2232921	

BURIAL SITE TYPE

Category: **Religious** Community Family **African American** Other:

BURIAL SITE EVALUATION

Setting/location description: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban <input type="checkbox"/> Wooded <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
General condition (See conditions sheet): <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input type="checkbox"/> None		
Is there a formal entrance? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Accessibility: <input type="checkbox"/> Inaccessible <input type="checkbox"/> By foot <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By car	
Is cemetery active (recent burials)? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Is there a cemetery sign: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
Is cemetery being maintained? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Minimal <input type="checkbox"/> No (If yes, note caretaker's name below)		
Are there visible markers? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Approximate number of burials/visible markers: 24	Date ranges: 1893–2017

Description: (markers, materials, arrangement, landscaping/vegetation, fence, paths and roads, etc.)

- **Open lawn cemetery on slight embankment from Ashton Road (Rt. 108)**
- **Oldest grave markers in northeast quadrant facing south. Others in field facing east.**
- **Surrounded on east, south, and west by mature trees.**
- **Former concrete steps up to field mentioned in 2004 inventory have been removed.**

BURIAL SITE CONTACT

Name: Ebenezer Church (defunct)		
Relationship to burial site:		Advocacy contact:
Address:		Phone:
City: Ashton	State: MD	ZIP Code: 20861

BURIAL SITE SURVEYOR

Name: Meredith Gorres, Anastasia Poulos	Survey Date: 5/12/2018	Time spent: 5 min
Address:		Phone:
Email:		
Photographer: Meredith Gorres, Anastasia Poulos		

COMMENTS

Suggestions for follow-up:

- **Continuous grass mowing is necessary.**
- **Couple of leaning grave markers should be reset**

Safety issues, invasive vegetation removal, fence removal/restoration, signage, trash, erosion, vandalism:

N/A

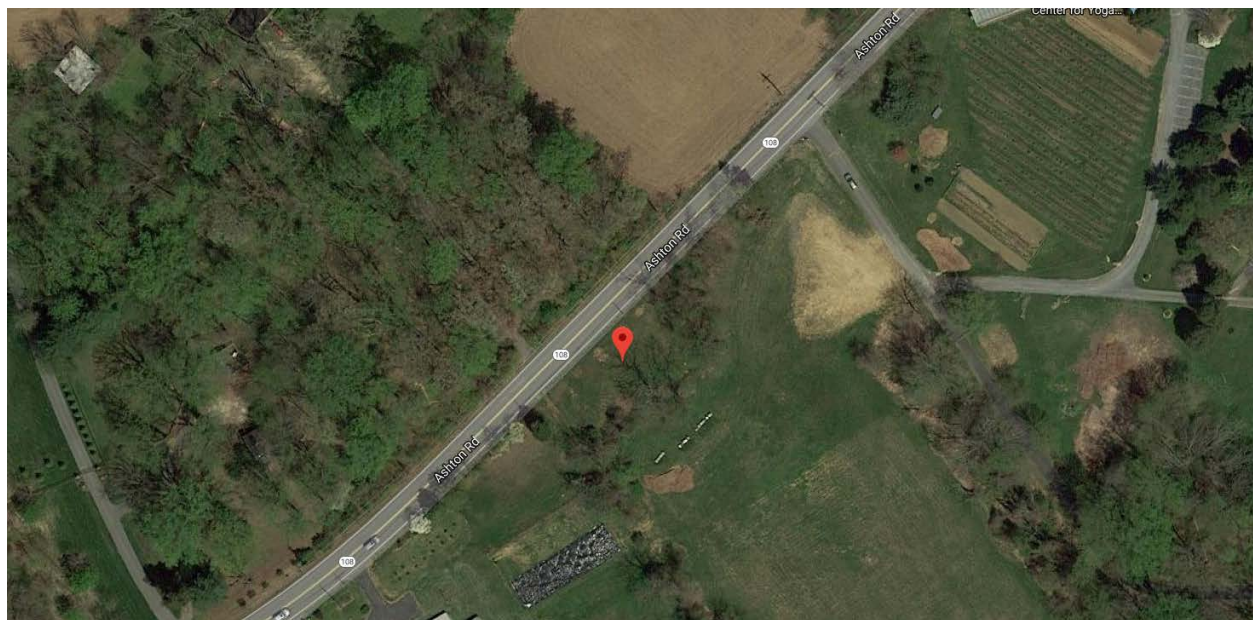
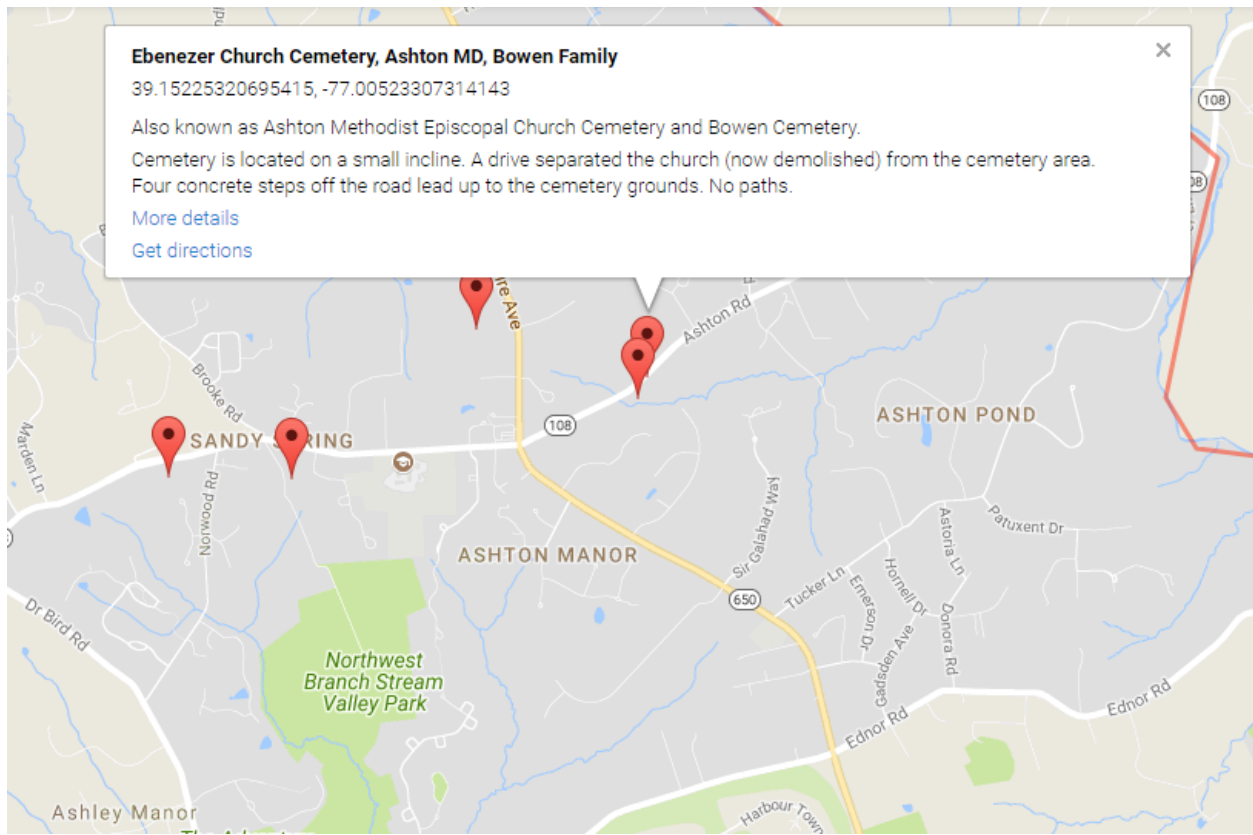
Anything of significance about this cemetery?

N/A

SOURCES

Cite sources used and resources available:

- <https://mht.maryland.gov/secure/medusa/PDF/Montgomery/M:%2028-6.pdf>



William Bowen (1801-1878) was probably Syrus Bowen's son. The census of 1860 lists his trade as a "post and railer" or fence builder. He must have been skilled because he earned enough to purchase land from Caleb Bentley in 1838 and from Charles G. Porter in 1851. This gave him a total of 10 acres, all part of the tract, "Addition to Charley Forest." William Bowen was also listed as a Methodist Minister. He served on the first Board of Trustees of the Sharp Street church in Sandy Spring and willed 1 ¼ acres of his land to establish Ebenezer A.M.E. Church on Route 108 in Ashton. There is no doubt that the Bowen family were outstanding leaders of the African American community. Their economic status and the location of their land would put them in a position to assist fugitive slaves. (Source: http://www.ooocities.org/dreis1_2001/SSPaper.PDF)

Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory Photograph Log

Cemetery Name: Ebenezer Church Cemetery		Inventory ID: 221
Photographer: Meredith Gorres, Anastasia Poulos		Date: 5/12/2018
Time	Photo No.	Description and direction you are facing
11:25 am	1	Cemetery from Ashton Road (Rt. 108), facing southeast
	2	Center of cemetery, facing northeast
	3	Panoramic from west to north to east
11:30 am	4	Panoramic from east to south to west



1. Cemetery from Ashton Road (Rt. 108), facing southeast



2. Center of cemetery, facing northeast



3. Panoramic from west to north to east



4. Panoramic from east to south to west