



## MONTGOMERY COUNTY CEMETERY INVENTORY REVISITED

### BURIAL SITE INFORMATION

Name: <b>Thomas Offutt Family Cemetery [LOST]</b>	Inventory ID: <b>222</b>
Alternate name: Offutt-McDonald Family Cemetery	
Address: <b>9802 Potomac Manors Drive, Potomac</b>	
Website:	
GPS coordinates: Latitude: <b>39.022847</b>	Longitude: <b>-77.218300</b>
FindaGrave:	

### BURIAL SITE TYPE

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

### BURIAL SITE EVALUATION

Setting/location description: <input type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Suburban</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Wooded <input type="checkbox"/> Other:		
General condition (See conditions sheet): <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>None</b>		
Is there a formal entrance? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Accessibility: <input type="checkbox"/> Inaccessible <input type="checkbox"/> By foot <input type="checkbox"/> By car	
Is cemetery active (recent burials)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Is there a cemetery sign: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Is cemetery being maintained? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Minimal <input type="checkbox"/> No (If yes, note caretaker's name below)		
Are there visible markers? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Approximate number of burials/visible markers:	Date ranges:
Description: (markers, materials, arrangement, landscaping/vegetation, fence, paths and roads, etc.)		
• <b>MHT mentions Thomas Offutt's tombstone recently found in the back yard (May 1980), now missing.</b>		
• <b>Assumed burial site is now located on subdivided neighbor's property behind property fence.</b>		
• <b>Access at end of cul-du-sac, heading north along tree-lined paved pathway.</b>		

### BURIAL SITE CONTACT

Name: <b>Ira and Linda Goldstein</b>		
Relationship to burial site: <b>Owner</b>	Advocacy contact:	
Address:		Phone:
City:	State:	ZIP Code:

### BURIAL SITE SURVEYOR

Name: <b>Eileen McGuckian</b>	Survey Date: <b>9/22/2018</b>	Time spent: <b>15 min</b>
Address:		Phone:
Email:		
Photographer: <b>Glenn Wallace <a href="mailto:mococems@gmail.com">mococems@gmail.com</a></b>		

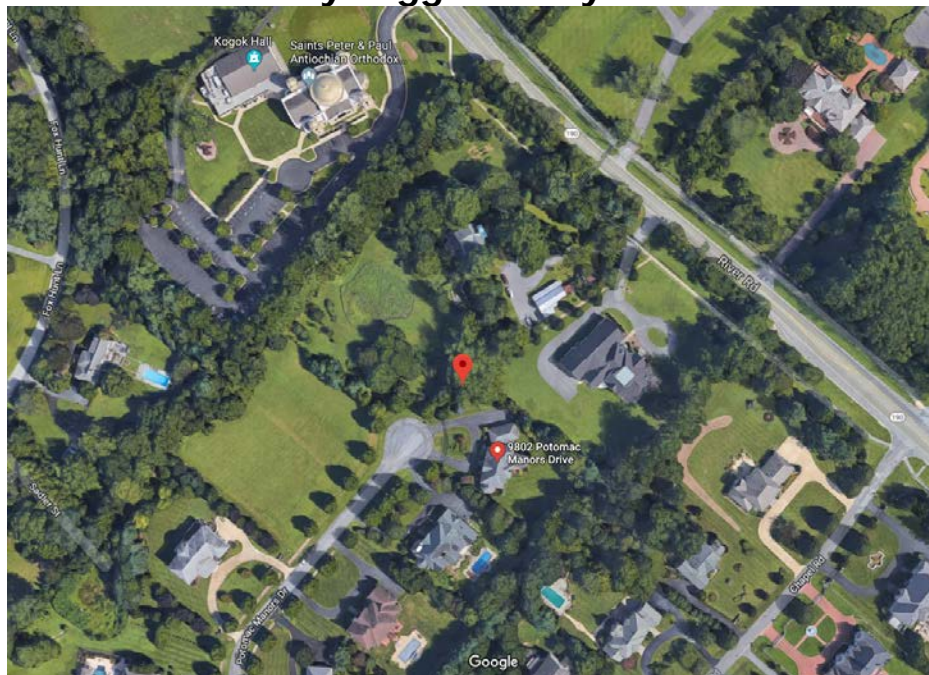
### COMMENTS

Suggestions for follow-up:
• <b>Probe ground in suggested area for the grave marker that might have been buried.</b>
Safety issues, invasive vegetation removal, fence removal/restoration, signage, trash, erosion, vandalism:
• <b>Area is within a privately gated residential property. Permission must be granted before accessing.</b>
Anything of significance about this cemetery?
• <b>Thomas Levi Offutt's original house burned in 1873. John McDonald replaced it with present house.</b>
• <b>Mollie (Holland) McDonald, second wife of John, is allegedly buried there as well.</b>

### SOURCES

Cite sources used and resources available:
• <b>Places from the Past by Clare Cavicchi, page 220.</b>
• <b><a href="https://mht.maryland.gov/secure/medusa/PDF/Montgomery/M:%2029-7.pdf">https://mht.maryland.gov/secure/medusa/PDF/Montgomery/M:%2029-7.pdf</a></b>

**This site is only suggested by current owner.**



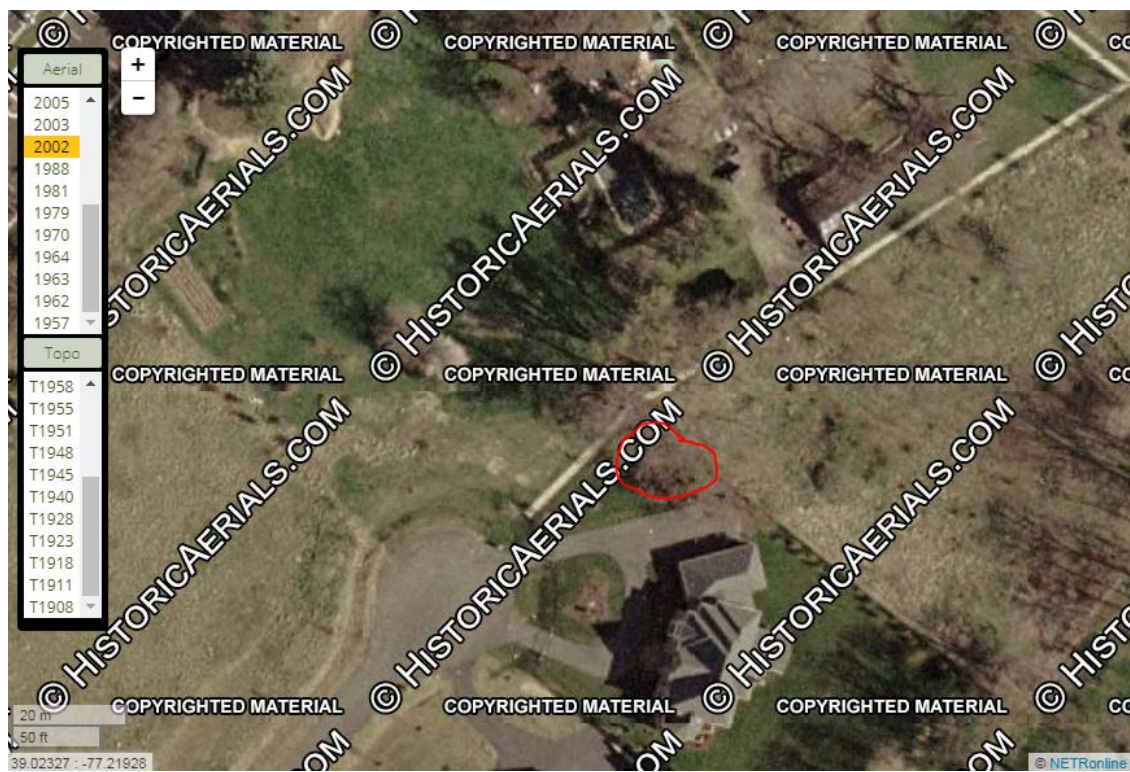
**1991– Facing south from the house**

The original house on this property was built in the early 1800s by Thomas Levi Offutt. After it was destroyed by fire in 1873, John McDonald replaced it with the present house. Captain McDonald was a Union veteran who retired to the farm in 1870 he became a prominent politician and community activist; he was elected to the MD House of Delegates in 1882 and as State Comptroller in 1891, then became the first Republican Congressman from the Sixth District in 1896. He petitioned for a post office, changing the name of the community from Offutt's Crossroads to Potomac. Captain McDonald's second wife, Catharine, is believed to be buried in the back yard, and perhaps Thomas Levi Offutt before her. The McDonald family owned the property until 1941, and the farm acreage was subdivided for new residential lots in the early 2000s.

Behind the house is a post and beam barn (c.1890-1910). In the same vicinity of the cemetery and the barn when the Conways purchased the property was a small two-room building which was moved from a WWII training center out to Potomac; it is gone now.



1957 Aerial



2002 Aerial

Cemetery Name: Thomas Offutt Family Cemetery <b>[LOST]</b>		Inventory ID: 222
Photographer: Glenn Wallace		Date: 10/13/2018
Time	Photo No.	Description and direction you are facing
8:00 am	1	Approach to sidewalk at 9802 Potomac Manor Dr., facing northeast
	2	Approach to presumed cemetery at right, behind fence, facing northeast
	3	Reverse approach from River Road, panoramic facing southwest
	4	Huge maple tree marks the cemetery area, facing southwest
8:05 am	5	Cemetery over the fence at 9802 Potomac Manor Dr., facing southeast



**1. Approach to sidewalk at 9802 Potomac Manor Dr., facing northeast**



**2. Approach to presumed cemetery at right, behind fence, facing northeast**



**3. Reverse approach from River Road, panoramic facing southwest**



**4. Huge maple tree marks the cemetery area, facing southwest**



**5. Cemetery over the fence at 9802 Potomac Manor Dr., facing southeast**