

# Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory

ID: 233

Name: Glenview Cemetery

Alternate name: (Smith family cemetery)

Address: <sup>Old</sup> Avery Road (abandoned)

Town: Rockville

ADC Map Page 29 Grid A-5

### Type

Religious  
 Family Smith, Brown  
 Private  
 Other

### Association

Free black  
 Enslaved  
 Ethnic  
 Prehistoric

Setting  Rural  Urban  Suburban  Forested  Other

Condition  Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

Negative Impacts (vandalism, dumping, neglect, encroachment, etc) Not found

Approximate no. of burials unknown Date range of burials Slavery - 1920's

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

Location of former African American community - possibly former slaves of Glenview property.  
Found one half marker only on top of hill with the name Martin. Not set in ground. Thrown here?

Orange property markers tied to some trees - possibly denoting location of cemetery.

Right after (N.E.) of foot bridge  
Boy Scouts did clean-up project here in late 1990s + may have removed stones

Surveyor(s) Sandra Stevenson Survey date 4/10/04  
Photographer Anne Brickett Date 4/10/04 Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

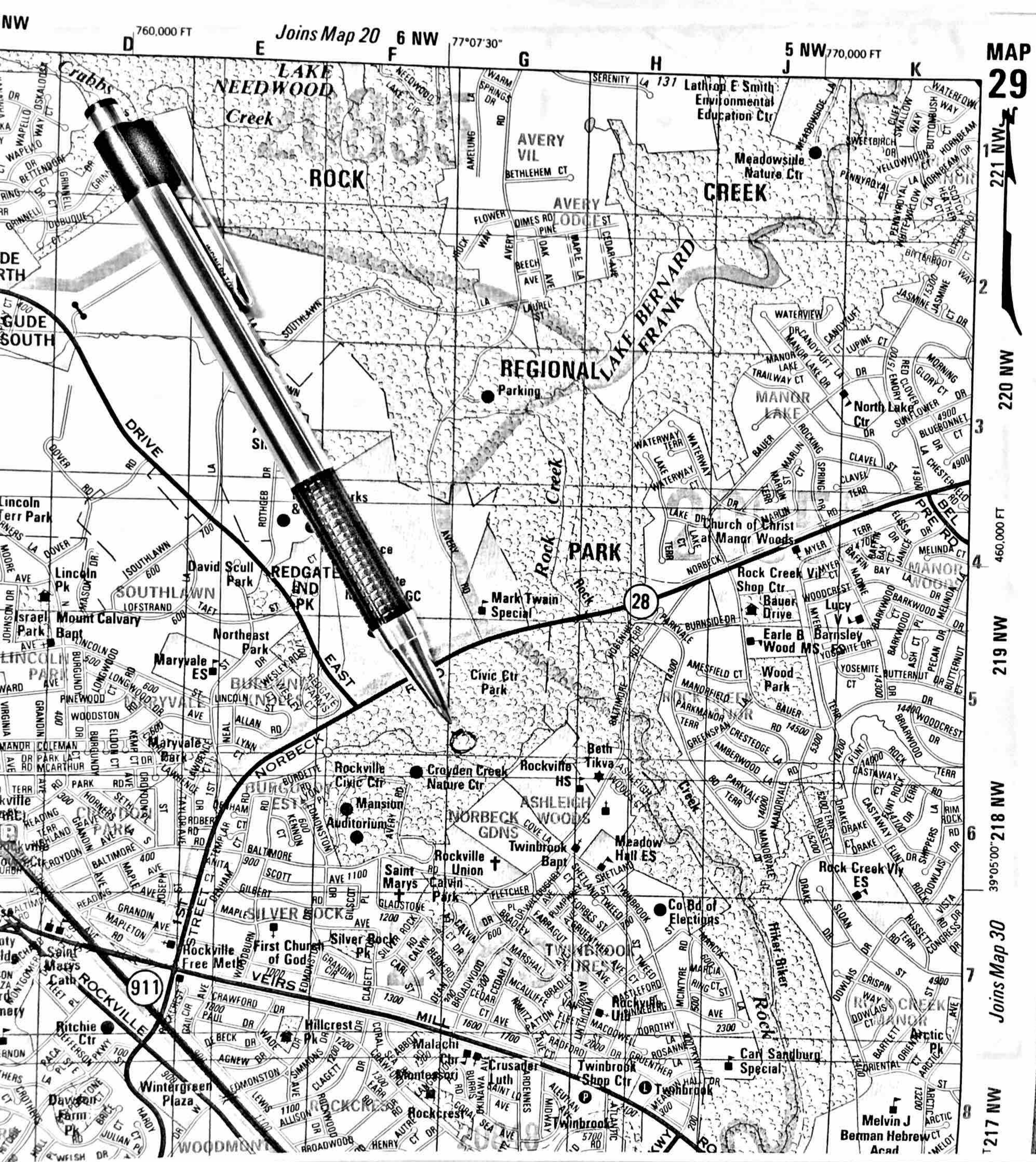
Current owner \_\_\_\_\_ / City of Rockville  
Address/Phone No. Ad. Dept of Recreation + Parks

Historic Status  Locational Atlas ID \_\_\_\_\_  National Register  
 Master Plan ID \_\_\_\_\_  Other \_\_\_\_\_

UTM \_\_\_\_\_

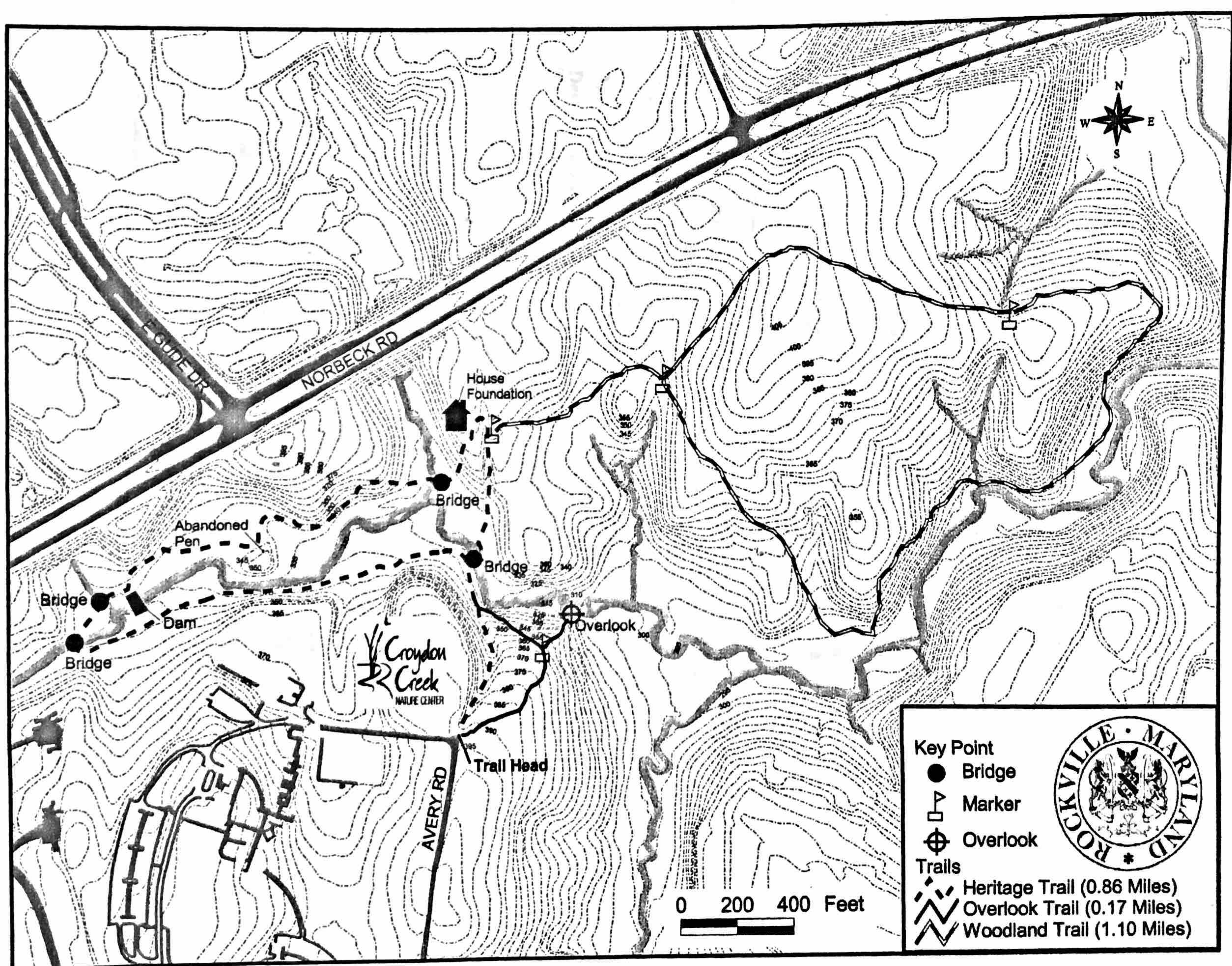
Additional sources of information: Look in aerial photos  
Rob Orndorff, City of Rockville Park + Rec. Dept. 240-314-8620  
Files of Peerless Rockville

233  
SMITH FAMILY CEMETERY  
OLD AVERY ROAD (ABANDONED)  
ROCKVILLE



MAP 29  
 221 NW  
 220 NW  
 460,000 FT  
 219 NW  
 39°05'00" 218 NW  
 Joins Map 30  
 217 NW

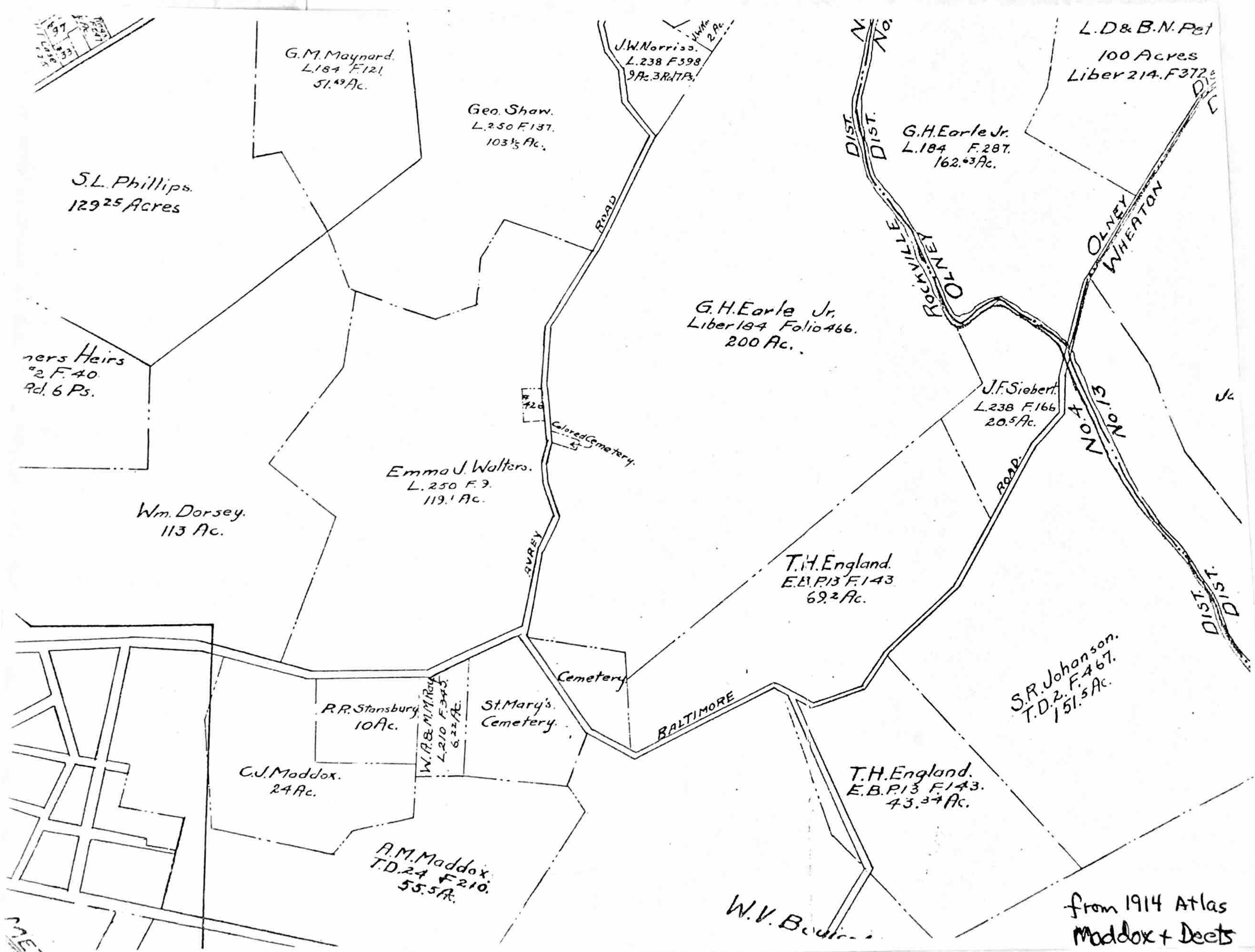
233  
 SMITH FAMILY CEMETERY  
 OLD AVERY ROAD (ABANDONED)  
 ROCKVILLE



233 SMITH FAMILY CEMETERY  
 OLD AVERY ROAD (ABANDONED)  
 ROCKVILLE



- Key Point**
- Bridge
  - ◻ Marker
  - ⊕ Overlook
- Trails**
- ▬ Heritage Trail (0.86 Miles)
  - ▬ Overlook Trail (0.17 Miles)
  - ▬ Woodland Trail (1.10 Miles)



1897  
1898  
1899

G.M. Maynard.  
L. 184 F. 121.  
51.69 Ac.

Geo. Shaw.  
L. 250 F. 137.  
103 1/2 Ac.

J.W. Norris.  
L. 238 F. 398  
9 Ac. 3 R. 17 P.

S.L. Phillips.  
129 25 Acres

G.H. Earle Jr.  
L. 184 F. 287.  
162.03 Ac.

L.D. & B.N. Pet  
100 Acres  
Liber 214. F. 372

Heirs  
#2 F. 40  
Ad. 6 Ps.

G.H. Earle Jr.  
Liber 184 Folio 466.  
200 Ac.

Emma J. Walters.  
L. 250 F. 9.  
119.1 Ac.

Wm. Dorsey.  
113 Ac.

J.F. Siebert.  
L. 238 F. 166  
20.5 Ac.

T.H. England.  
E.B. P. 13 F. 143  
69.2 Ac.

R.R. Stansbury.  
10 Ac.

St. Mary's  
Cemetery.

C.J. Maddox.  
24 Ac.

W.R. & M. Rice.  
L. 210 F. 345  
6.22 Ac.

A.M. Maddox.  
T.D. 24 F. 210.  
55.5 Ac.

T.H. England.  
E.B. P. 13 F. 143.  
43.34 Ac.

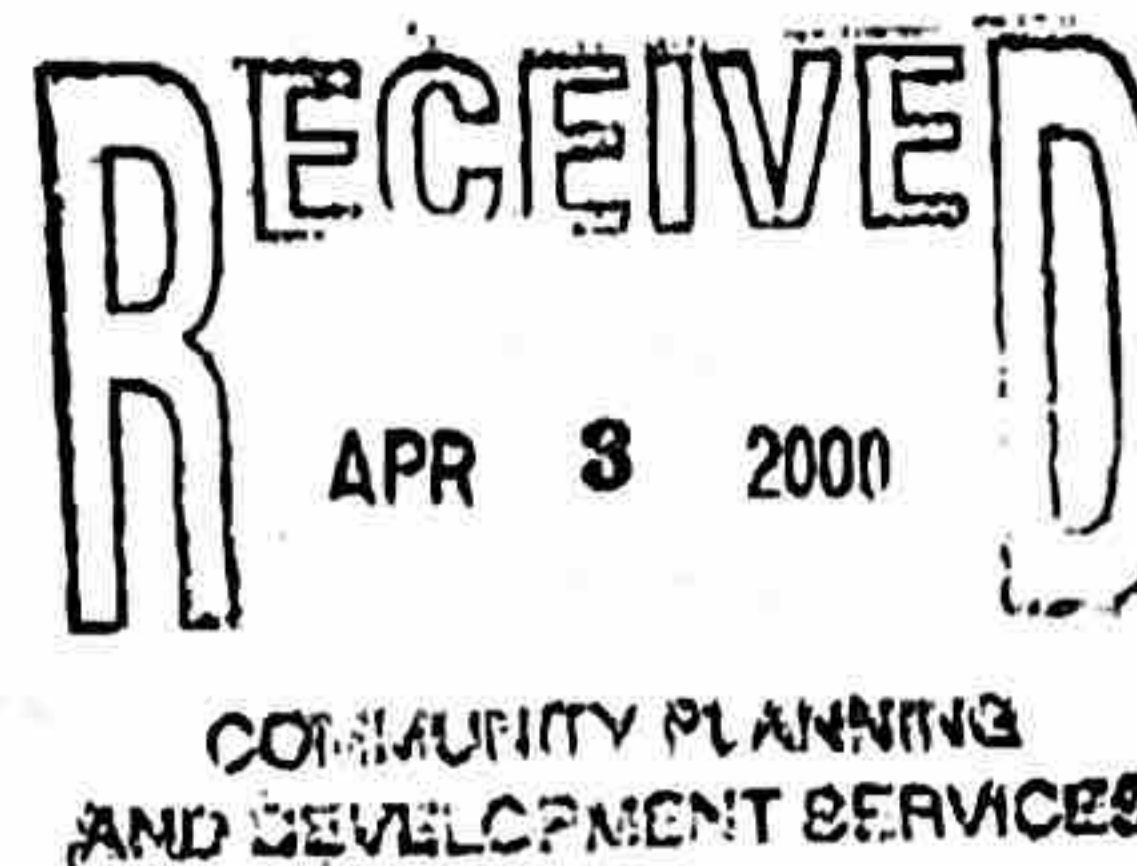
S.R. Johanson.  
T.D. 2 F. 467.  
151.5 Ac.

W.V. Beards

from 1914 Atlas  
Maddox + Deets

233  
SMITH FAMILY CEMETERY  
OLD AVEEY ROAD (ABANDONED)  
ROCKVILLE

314 Lincoln Avenue  
 Rockville, Maryland 20850  
 March 30, 2000



Mr. Burt Hall, Director of Recreation and Parks  
 City of Rockville  
 111 Maryland Avenue  
 Rockville, Maryland 20850

brockett@hotmail.com

Dear Mr. Hall:

Sondra Stevenson of the above address has been researching the genealogy of the Smith family. In her work, she found that her great-great-great grandfather, Benjamin Smith, was deeded an acre of land by Catharine Bowie, owner of the Glenview Farm, in 1884. In trying to locate this land, Sondra discovered that there was a colored graveyard in the same area, which is commonly referred to as the Shapiro tract—in the woods behind the Glenview Mansion. The city of Rockville now owns this land. Sondra's great-grandfather, Raymond Smith, identified this graveyard as the burial place of Benjamin and at least two other members of his family. Finding the graveyard has become an important goal.

Sondra and her friend, Carol King Cummings, who grew up in Rockville and has great interest in its history, have spoken with a number of similarly interested people. Carol is working on an article about the cemetery for possible publication in the *Montgomery Journal*. Both Bob VanZant and Rob Orndorff, Recreation and Parks employees, have tried to pinpoint the graveyard, but have found no physical evidence of its existence. However, from existing survey maps, there is consensus on the general location of the old graveyard. Two eyewitness, who can remember the graveyard, are Sondra's Aunt Bea Brown and Bob Maddox, an early surveyor. If their reports of the graveyard's location are correct, it unfortunately became a dumping site and is currently covered with a large amount of debris, including discarded construction materials.

We would like to propose a civic project to clean up and restore the old colored cemetery. This suggestion coincides perfectly with the *Glenview Mansion Historic Master Plan*, described in the April 4 *Rockville Reports*. Also, with the building of a new Nature Center near the site, it seems appropriate to include the surrounding woods in this effort. There is a strong possibility that this cemetery would replace the Haiti cemetery as the oldest burial place for coloreds in Rockville.

233  
 SMITH FAMILY CEMETERY  
 OLD AVEPY ROAD (ABANDONED)  
 ROCKVILLE

The first step is to locate the cemetery's boundaries exactly by survey. Existing survey maps appear to make this possible. Rough estimates of the cost of having the survey done are \$1500 to \$3000. We are requesting that the Department of Recreation and Parks consider funding the survey. Please respond to the above address or else contact Sondra at 301 424-2979 or Carol at 301 977-0122.

We look forward to hearing from you and thank you in advance for your consideration of this exciting project.

Sincerely yours,

Sondra Stevenson

Carol King Cummings

301-443-0440

- cc: Ms. Beatice Brown
- ✓ Ms. Judy Christensen, Historic District Commission
- Mr. Lou Dronenburg, Superintendent, Civic Center Mansion
- Mr. John Hartranft, Peerless Rockville
- Mr. Robert Maddox
- Ms. Eileen McGuckian, Director, Peerless Rockville
- Mr. Rob Orndorff, City Horticulturist
- Rockville Arts Place
- Mr. Robert VanZant, Recreation and Parks

Stevenson Family

Rockville Cemetery is broken

- 1 volunteer 12/04  
only mow grass

- Will city take cemetery?

- Will it be on low-moderate increases

233 SMITH FAMILY CEMETERY  
OLD AVEPY ROAD (ABANDONED)  
ROCKVILLE

For the Jane C. Sween Library's records:

Wed., February 22, 2017.

This folder contains my notes on my research of the Avery Road Colored Cemetery. I have assembled this collection from information from Peerless Rockville, the Jane C. Sween Library at Montgomery County Historical Society, and through the family of Benjamin Franklin Smith.

It is my fondest wish to have information about the Benjamin Smith House remains and the Smith Family Cemetery (Avery Road Colored Cemetery) posted in Glenview Mansion, with interpretative signage at the house remains site describing the house, its inhabitants, and the cemetery.

Please contact me if you are interested in this research:

Hannelore B. Quigley

2268 Glenmore Terrace  
Rockville, MD 20850

hannehotmailat@hotmail.com

House remains photos taken by Hannelore Quigley 5 May, 2016.  
I have more from that day.

Photo of Benjamin Franklin Smith is courtesy of Bev Canaday and the Smith family.

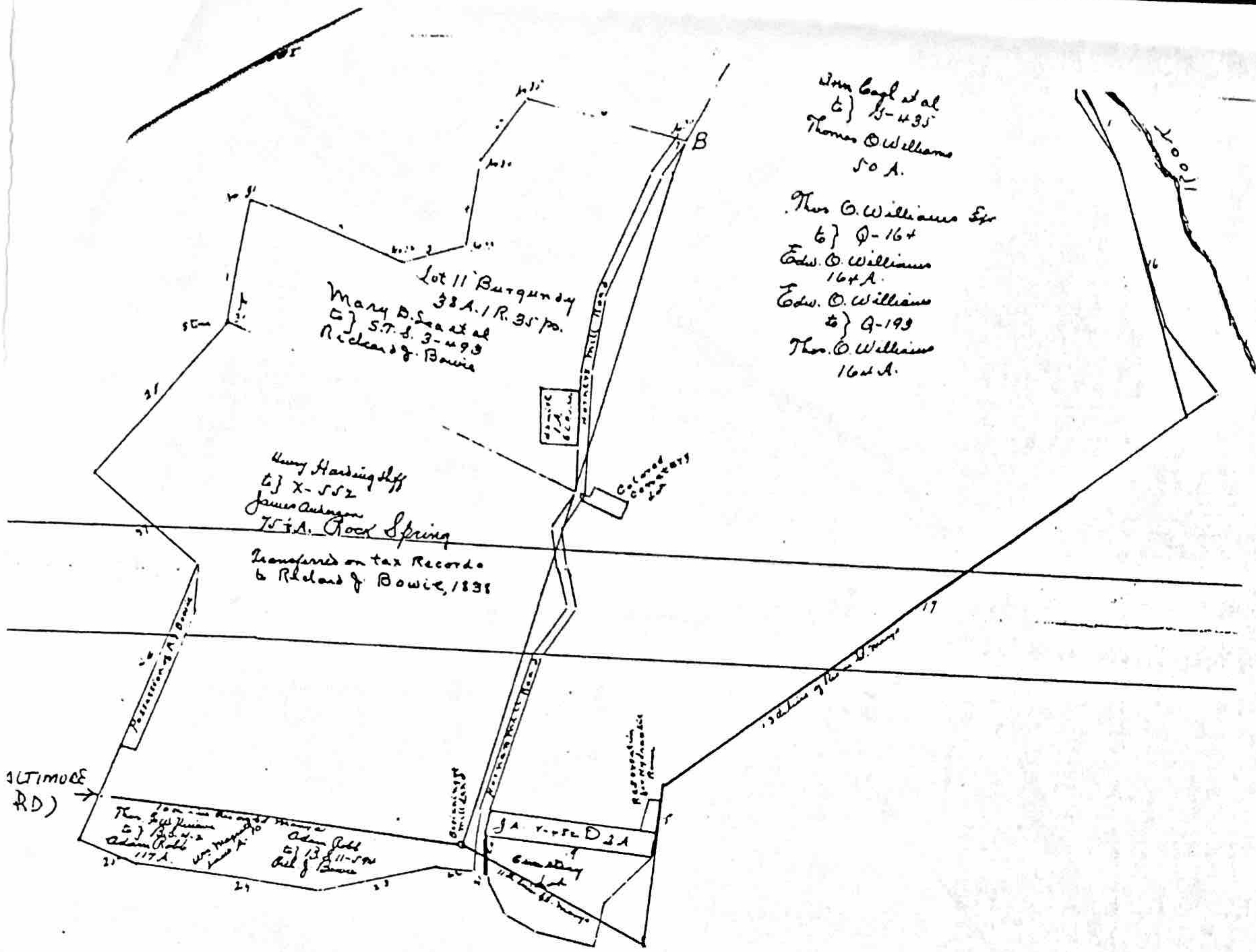
Our Story by Beverly Canaday p. 16-25 courtesy of the Smith family.  
More of that manuscript is available at Peerless Rockville.

"Oral History by Raymond P. Smith" available at Peerless Rockville.

Best Regards

Hannelore Quigley

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road Colored Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
233+



John C. Williams et al  
 to } 15-1835  
 Thomas O. Williams  
 50 A.  
  
 Thos. O. Williams Ex  
 to } 9-164  
 Edw. O. Williams  
 164 A.  
 Edw. O. Williams  
 to } 9-199  
 Thos. O. Williams  
 164 A.

Lot 11 Burgundy  
 38 A. 1 R. 35 po.  
 Mary D. Seacal et al  
 to } S.T.S. 3-1899  
 Richard & Bowie

Henry Harding Jeff  
 to } X-552  
 James Anderson  
 75 A. Rock Spring  
 Transferred on tax Records  
 to Richard & Bowie, 1838

ALTIMORE  
 RD)  
 Thos. O. Williams  
 to } 13-11-59  
 Adam Bell  
 to } 13-11-59  
 Del. of Bowie  
 117 A.

Scale 30 ps to one inch.

Plot of parts of Rock Spring, Burgundy and Mill Land. Copied from plat made by George M. Anderson County Surveyor June 1857.

- A shows the present beginning
- B. shows the beginning of the from Mary D. Seacal et al
- C. shows the beginning of Mill Land from Meredith H. Williams at the beginning of Rock Spring purchased from Dr. James Anderson
- D. shows the lot conveyed by Catherine L. Bowie to Rockville Cemetery Association Aug. 5th, 1890 contra record of said. Robert R. Peter

ROCK SPRING  
 BURGUNDY  
 MILL LAND

PLAT 21d

COLLECTION MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
 HISTORICAL  
 SOCIETY

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
 Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road Chapel Cemetery  
 Benjamin Smith House Remains  
 233+





Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924) 233 +  
Smith family cemetery / Avery Road Colored Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith house remains

Photo courtesy of Beverly Conroy. Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924) buried in Smith family cemetery (Avery Road Colored Cemetery). Bev's G.G. Grandfather.

# Glenview Mansion

AT ROCKVILLE CIVIC CENTER PARK

## History

**Glenview Mansion** today is listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its 1926 architecture and formal gardens, but has a rich history going back to 1838 when the core of the current house was built. The home and property have served as one of the largest farms in the region under the Bowie family 1836-1917; a country estate for the wealthy Dr. and Mrs. Lyon 1917 – 1953; and as a public destination since 1957 for the City of Rockville. Glenview Mansion is now used for private rentals as well as a variety of public programs.

### Early Settlement

The region which became Montgomery County was first settled by Europeans in the early 18th century. Before Rockville was formed, large tracts of land were sold to wealthy plantation and merchant families. Many of these tracts were not farmed or built on until years after they were first sold.

The land where Glenview Mansion now stands was once divided into several smaller tracts of land that were surveyed in the 18th century, including "Mill Land" and "Hobson's Choice."

Tobacco was a profitable crop in the region during the early 18th century and it was probably grown on the few small farmsteads which were likely to have existed on these tracts. Within a couple of generations, tobacco had robbed the soil of its fertility and the land was left fallow or planted with grains such as wheat, barley and corn. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, some of the most successful businesses near today's Rockville were grain mills such as Muncaster Mill and Veirs' Mill.

### 1836-1917

In 1836, Judge Richard Johns Bowie, an attorney from a wealthy Georgetown family, purchased three tracts of land to form a property that he called "Glen View." Judge Bowie was well-known as an attorney who served as State's Attorney for Montgomery County, a U.S. Congressman and Chief Judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals.



Bowie's 1836-38 house, which forms the core of the present Glenview Mansion, was a four-bay stone building. Because no illustration of the house during this period is known to exist, an exact description of the architecture is not available. It is likely that the house had relatively simple decorative features with a front portico, perhaps in a Greek Revival style. The grounds probably included a barn, summer kitchen, smoke house, privy and sheds as did most Maryland farms. Large estates like "Glen View" also included slave quarters.

After the Civil War, Judge Bowie deeded a small piece of ground in the northeastern corner of the park, referred to as the Smith property, to one of his former slaves. Today, the foundation and a hand-dug stone well survive. In the woods across Avery Road to the east of this property are the remnants of a family burial plot. On a 1917 city map, it is labeled "colored cemetery." Parts of gravestones have been found on the site.

Rockvillemd.gov

Berghman Smith (ca. 1819-1921)  
Smith family cemetery / Avery Road colored cemetery  
Berghman Smith house remains  
233+

History of Glenview, with Judge Bowie's portrait.

In 1880, Judge Bowie donated five acres of his land for the Rockville Cemetery. An additional two acres were donated by Judge Bowie's widow, Catherine in 1889. Many prominent local citizens are buried in Rockville Cemetery, including Judge Bowie and his wife. Author F. Scott Fitzgerald and his wife Zelda were originally buried here, but were moved in 1981 to St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church Cemetery in downtown Rockville.

The earliest known photograph of Glenview, which was taken at the time of Catherine Bowie's death in 1891, was published in 1904 in the Baltimore Sun. It featured a steeply pitched roof, a prominent cross-gable, a second-story porch and had many gothic details, reflecting the architectural style between 1850 and 1870.

In the early 20th century, the mall (front lawn) had several features that have since been removed, among them a formal rose garden, which was located on the west side of the mall. A barn located on the north side of house was later removed to allow for the building of the mansion's east wing.

From 1904-1917, Glenview was owned by Charles J. Fox, Franklin Fox and Emma J. Walters. During this period, the owners made further changes to the mansion by adding a simple frame addition to the east side of the house where the porch had been, three front dormer windows and a front portico with an enclosed second-story porch.

### 1917-53

In 1917, Mrs. Irene Smith purchased Glenview and in 1923 married James Alexander Lyon, a prominent Washington DC cardiac surgeon. The intended use of the property was as a summer home. It was common at that time for wealthy families to purchase second homes for entertaining.



The Lyon family undertook a major expansion and stylistic transformation of the mansion, and implemented significant changes to the property's landscape. The existing house was redesigned in a neo-classical style popular at the time as a result of high-profile restorations such as Williamsburg, VA.

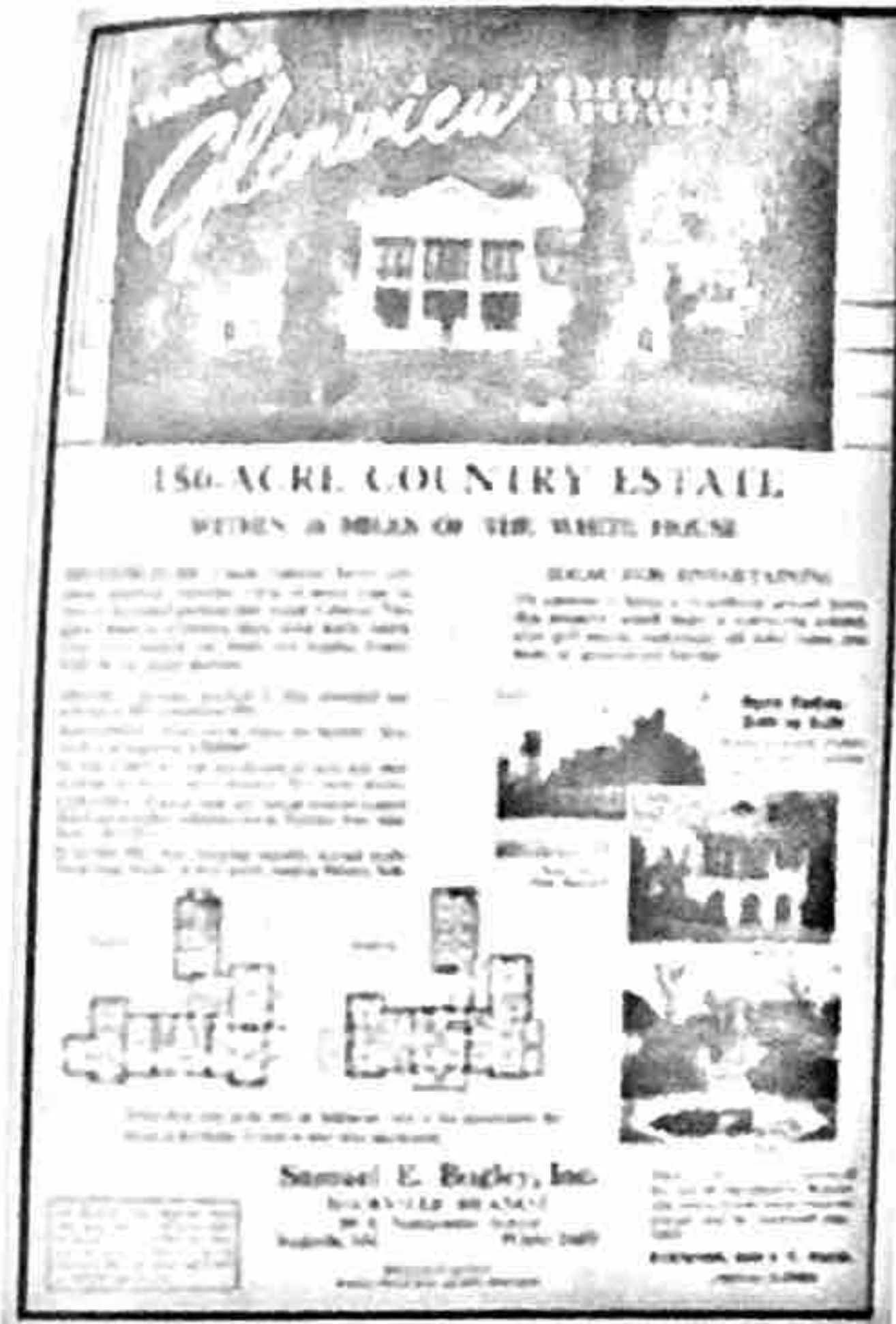
A west wing which included a conservatory was added and the east wing was reclad to match the new construction. A large wing was also added to the north side of the house with servants' quarters located on the second floor and a covered "arcade" entrance with French doors and fanlights.

Inside the Glenview Mansion, the entire first-floor space of the 1836-38 Bowie house was combined into a grand entry hall with a large staircase and a palladian window above the landing. Several doors from the Bowie house appear to have been reinstalled in the renovated house and the marble mantelpiece appears to date from that period.

On the property, the Lyons added a formal garden, a pond, deer enclosure, wooden gazebo, a curved stone wall with a decorative iron gate for the drive and a full-size Cottage playhouse for their daughter. Behind the playhouse, a bowling green was added. A large number of outbuildings were also constructed on the property, including a garage, a dairy, several barns and a gatekeeper's residence. A large two and one-half story building was erected on the site of the present mansion's parking lot.

The mansion was put up for sale by the Lyon family in 1953, after the death of Irene Lyon in 1950. The Montgomery County Historical Society bought the property, planning to open a community museum. The Society realized after a few years that Glenview was too costly to maintain and sold the property to the City of Rockville in 1957.

1957 to present  
 The City purchased Glenview Mansion and surrounding 28 acres for \$125,000 to become a civic center – a controversial decision based on a referendum that passed by only 40 votes. It immediately became a popular place for community meetings and events. With plans to utilize the property for historical, cultural and recreational activities, the City named it "Rockville Civic Center Park." Because of the location of the mansion, it was referred to as the "Civic Center Mansion." In deference to the mansion's history, the City restored the name "Glenview Mansion" to the house in 1993.



During the early years of ownership, the City removed many of the Lyons' outbuildings including a barn, garage and greenhouse as they were in poor condition. The 1938 cottage playhouse and 1926 formal gardens remain as originally built. In time, the City purchased additional land to expand the park to its present 153 acres. The property includes a forest preserve comprised of one hundred acres.

In 1960 the City added the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and Social Hall to the Rockville Civic Center Park. In 2002, the Croydon Creek Nature Center was built in the park. Other park features include parking areas, tennis courts, a playground, storage and recreational facilities, as well as nature trails.

In 2007 Glenview Mansion was added to the National Register of Historic Places for the significance of the 1926 architecture and the adjoining formal gardens. In 2011, the City of Rockville designated Glenview Mansion and 64.28 acres of the surrounding land as a historic district.

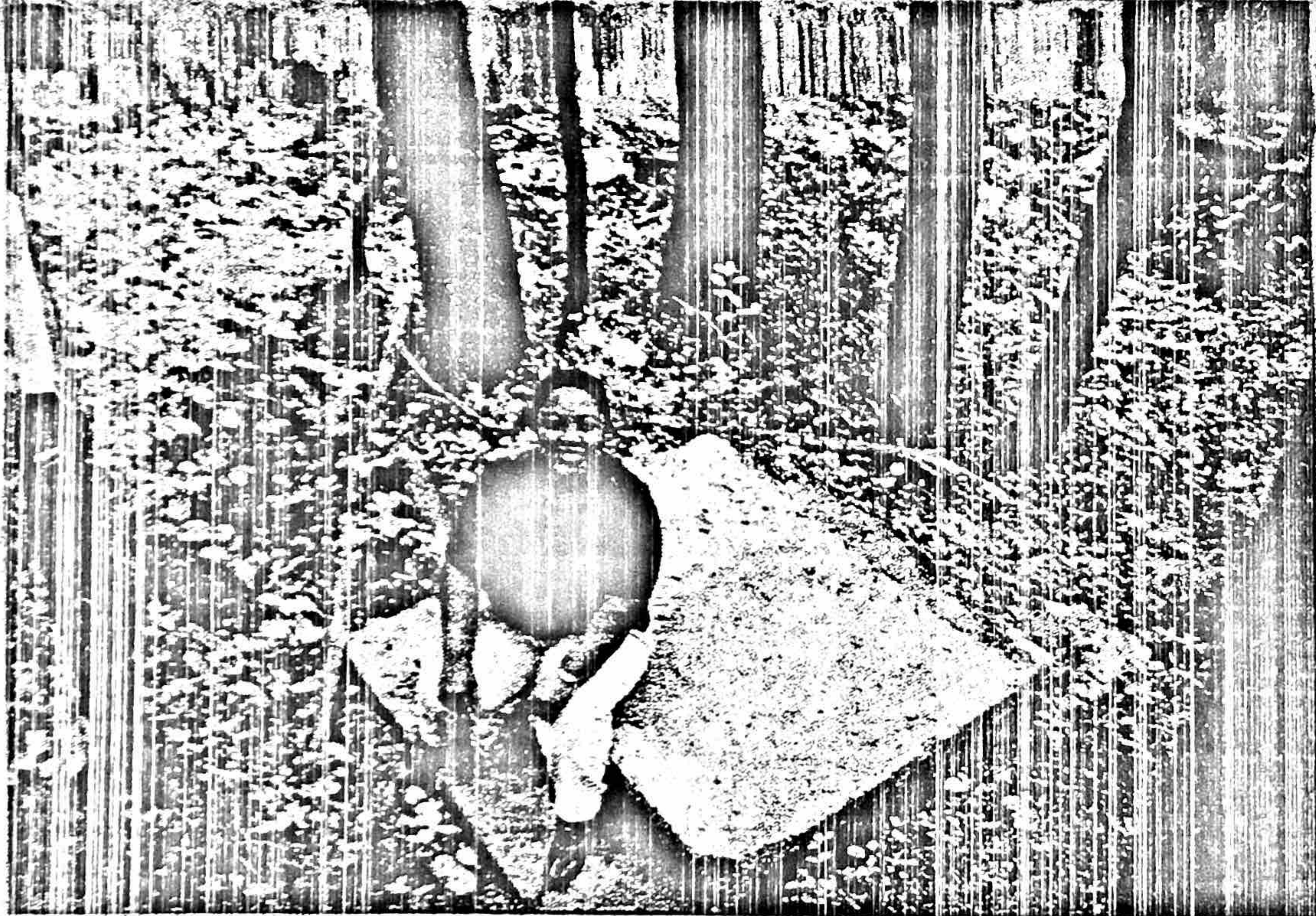
The City has established policies, standards and oversight to ensure the historic integrity, aesthetic appeal, economic viability and varied usage of Glenview Mansion continues into the future.

Glenview Mansion is a public destination featuring: monthly art exhibits in the second floor galleries rooms; Sunday afternoon concerts once a month; Holiday Open Houses during December; and special programs such as the annual Bridal Expo.

Glenview Mansion may be rented for private events. Guests today experience the elegance and grandeur as it was built in 1926. Weddings, social celebrations, business meetings and conferences are all welcome.

Discover Rockville's hidden treasure, Rockville Civic Center Park and all its venues - Glenview Mansion, Cottage, F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Social Hall and Croydon Creek Nature Center - it's where events, arts and entertainment, history and nature come together.

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1819-1924)  
 Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (Bored Cemetery)  
 Benjamin Smith House Remains  
 233+



Katherine Fry/Journal

Sondra Stevenson, a lifelong Rockville resident, sits on the stoop of what was once her maternal great-great-grandfather James Franklin Smith's two-story house. Through his papers she has rediscovered a "colored cemetery" where her ancestors were buried.

## A woman's plot to unearth her history

### Rockville resident believes she found old family cemetery site

CYDNEY E. JUNIUS  
*staff writer*

When Rockville native Sondra Stevenson and her co-worker traded their heels for more rugged footwear one afternoon in March, they weren't going on any walk. Stevenson was in search of her roots and went to find what old family lore, maps and maps said was a "colored cemetery" in the backwoods of the Rockville Civic Center. After a recent return trip to the site, Stevenson found three trees tied with fluorescent ribbons vaguely the boundaries of the cemetery she believes contains the remains of her great-great-grandfather's relatives. The ribbons — placed

there by now-retired public works administrator Bob VanZant — signify the county's acknowledgment of the cemetery and its attempt to section off the land for preservation.

And it's another lead on Stevenson's search for her family history.

"It seems the city of Rockville has always had an interest in finding the cemetery," Stevenson said, referring to notes and documents that have surfaced during her exploration. "I wanted to go over there because people said there were headstones there."

What once was a solemn green hillside dotted with handmade wooden grave markers — as Stevenson's aunt, Bea Brown, remembers —

is now a lot overgrown with foliage and littered with rusted bed frames, glass and cement pipes used for dumping sewage. Although the wooden markers have deteriorated and the "few rough stones" noted in county records are not distinct amid the grassy land, city maps dating back to 1889 show a rectangular block where the cemetery sits.

Stevenson's journey began when she attempted to trace her bloodline last summer, starting with a family document compiled by her grandfather outlining marriages, births, deaths and land the family owned. Mentioned

Please see ROOTS, A10

MAY 26, 2000  
 MONTGOMERY COUNTY JOURNAL

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1819-1924)  
 Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road Colored Cemetery  
 Benjamin Smith House Remains  
 233+



Katherine Frey/Journal

Three trees tied with fluorescent ribbons on the grounds of Rockville Civic Center mark the boundaries of a cemetery Sondra Stevenson believes contains the remains of her slavery-era ancestors.

## Woman roots out history

### ROOTS from A1

in the papers is "an acre of land which was located on Avery Road" sold to Stevenson's maternal great-great-great grandfather, Benjamin Franklin Smith, an ex-slave born in 1849 who "worked on the [Glenview] farm where the Rockville Civic Center is now located" along with the Glenview Mansion.

On that acre, which Smith bought for \$1, stood the family's two-story house, where the foundation remains today. And down Avery Road — which is now no more than a dirt path after that section was closed in the 1960s to make way for state Route 28 — is the "colored cemetery" where Stevenson believes Smith and his descendants rest.

"It really seemed like so much [information] was coming from family. I didn't expect to get stumped with the cemetery," Stevenson, a 36-year-old federal employee, said about her first trip to the sites. But, she said, "I enjoy coming here because it really gives you a sense of identity."

Smith's land, formerly owned by Judge Richard Johns Bowie, was detailed in 1884 deeds Stevenson obtained from the Montgomery County Land Records Office. And although the family did not own the cemetery land, Stevenson, after finding county records, believes Smith, his first wife Jane, Jane's mother, members of the Browning family and other blacks are buried there. Stevenson also said the cemetery may be the oldest reserved for "coloreds" in the county because Jane died in 1885, rivaling the Haiti graveyard on Martins Lane in Rockville that dates back to 1889.

Stevenson's goal now is to have the cemetery land cleared and to erect a wooden split-rail fence "to preserve it and maintain it."

Rob Orndorff, a horticulturalist for the county, said there are no laws requiring Rockville to maintain cemeteries, but that he and other county officials are acting on a "volunteer basis" to help Stevenson find the exact cemetery boundaries. Orndorff said if any action were taken to preserve the site, the work would have to be performed by volunteers. Any more work, such as conducting excavation to detect bones underground, "would cost a great deal and would be up to the family's discretion."

Eileen McGuckian, director of the historical society Peerless Rockville, has helped Stevenson unearth her history and said the preservation of the cemetery would be beneficial to the history of Rockville.

"Cemeteries give you an idea of where the people lived, worked and died," said McGuckian, who is writing a book on the city's history.

Stevenson said she wants the county to acknowledge that the cemetery is there and raise a plaque with the names of the people she can prove are interred there. Stevenson won't have to fight for the preservation of the lot on which Smith's house stood — it's already been fenced and included in the Woodland Trail, a self-guided path frequented by hikers.

The city also will begin construction this summer on a nature center, which will stand just down the path from the cemetery. Stevenson said the city should give equal attention to its rich history.

"I don't think the cemetery should be forgotten," Stevenson said. "It gives you a sense of where you came from."

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
 Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (closed) Cemetery  
 Benjamin Smith House Remains  
 233+

XX

## CHAPTER 2: BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SMITH (CA 1849 - 1924)

Glenview Plantation, owned by Judge Richard Johns Bowie, is the earliest location we have found for Benjamin Franklin Smith. Judge Bowie, was an attorney from a wealthy Georgetown family. His father, Colonel Washington Bowie, was well connected, being the namesake and godson of George Washington. *"Col. Bowie was described by the Annapolis Gazette in 1810 as 'one of the wealthiest and most public spirited citizens of Georgetown.' But this merchant prince lost five of his ships and cargoes during the War of 1812, resulting in financial ruin. Col. Bowie retired to his country estate 'Oatlands' when Richard was 14."*<sup>1</sup> Oatlands was a 2000 acre plantation located two miles south of Olney.



(Figure 1)

Glenview Plantation Today

Richard completed his education at Brookeville Academy and Georgetown Law School. He was subsequently admitted to the Maryland Bar in 1828. Shortly afterwards he purchased three tracts of land to form a property that he called 'Glen View'. Five years later, he married Catherine L. Williams of Hagerstown, Maryland. According to the 1860 Agricultural Census of Montgomery County, Glenview plantation contained 508 acres of land, 368 of which were developed. The house was built between 1836 and 1838 and was described as a "four-bay stone building. . . . The grounds probably included a barn, summer kitchen, smokehouse, privy and sheds . . . . Large estates like Glenview also included slave quarters."<sup>2</sup> This land produced 750 bushels of corn, 200 bushels of wheat, 120 bushels of potatoes, 12 tons of hay, 30 bushels of rye, and 125 pounds of butter. His livestock included cows, horses, oxen, sheep, swine, and assets valued at \$1200<sup>3</sup> In 1850, Judge Bowie's "inventory" also included 11 slaves who lived in two slave houses. By 1860 he had increased the number of slaves to 21 but he had not increased the number of slave houses. This increase in slaves paralleled the increase in his real estate and personal property from \$3800 in 1850 to \$26,000 in 1860.



(Figure 2)

Judge Richard Johns Bowie

From his estate at Glenview, Richard Bowie launched his career in local and national politics. In 1832 he was the prosecuting attorney for Montgomery County and by 1835 he was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates. In 1848, he began two terms in the House of Representatives. He declined a third term so he could run for Governor of Maryland, but his campaign was unsuccessful. In 1861 he was elected Chief Judge of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit and he was subsequently appointed to the Court of Appeals in 1863. Politically, he started as a Whig, but in the heated pre-Civil War years he became a Unionist who opposed the Civil War and the secession of Maryland from the Union. He didn't oppose slavery but

<sup>1</sup> Unnamed Peerless Historical Society papers; Survey No. M:26/17; Glenview/Civic Center; Attachment 8.1

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.rockvillemd.gov/tours/glenview/history/bowie.html>

<sup>3</sup> Richard Johns Bowie, source unknown beyond Peerless Historical Society

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (Bowie) Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
233+

he did oppose secession. During the Civil War, Confederates under General J.E.B. Stuart's command captured him during a raid of Rockville, and held him for ransom before releasing him in Brookeville.<sup>4</sup> At the end of the Civil War, "he and his followers would become the Republican Party in Montgomery [County]."<sup>5</sup> In 1880 Judge Bowie donated five acres of his land for the creation of Rockville Cemetery. His wife, Catherine, donated an additional two acres in 1889. Judge Bowie died at Glenview on March 12, 1881 from stomach inflammation. His wife died in 1891. Both are buried in Rockville Cemetery.

Glen View Plantation still stands today and is known as the Rockville Civic Center. It is the center of many community activities, and is reported to be haunted.

This is the world where **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SMITH** lived as one of Judge Bowie's slaves. The earliest record of Benjamin Franklin Smith is the 1850 U.S Federal Census – Slave Schedule dated June 1850. Benjamin is listed on that schedule as a "two year old male mulatto."<sup>6</sup> This date coincides with his birth

SCHEDULE 2.—Slave Inhabitants in the *1st* District in the County of *Montgomery* State of *Md.*, enumerated by me, on the *1st* day of *June*, 1850. *Geo. D. Harris* Ass't Marshal.

1	2	DESCRIPTION				6	7	8	1	2	DESCRIPTION				6	7	8
		3	4	5	3						4	5					
NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS.	Number of Slaves.	Age	Sex	Color	Free time from the State.	Number represented.	Deaf & dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS.	Number of Slaves.	Age	Sex	Color	Free time from the State.	Number represented.	Deaf & dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.		
<i>Thomas D. Conkle</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>				<i>Samuel C. Davis</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					
<i>William V. Bowie</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>				<i>John S. England</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>				<i>William V. Bowie</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>				<i>George W. Proddick</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>				<i>John S. England</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					
	<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>B</i>					<i>1</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>B</i>					

(Figure 3)

1850 Federal Census – Slave Schedule

<sup>4</sup> Unnamed Peerless Historical papers, Opt. cit

<sup>5</sup> "Richard Johns Bowie", Opt. cit

<sup>6</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Slave Schedule

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery/Avery Road (Road Closed Cemetery)  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
233+



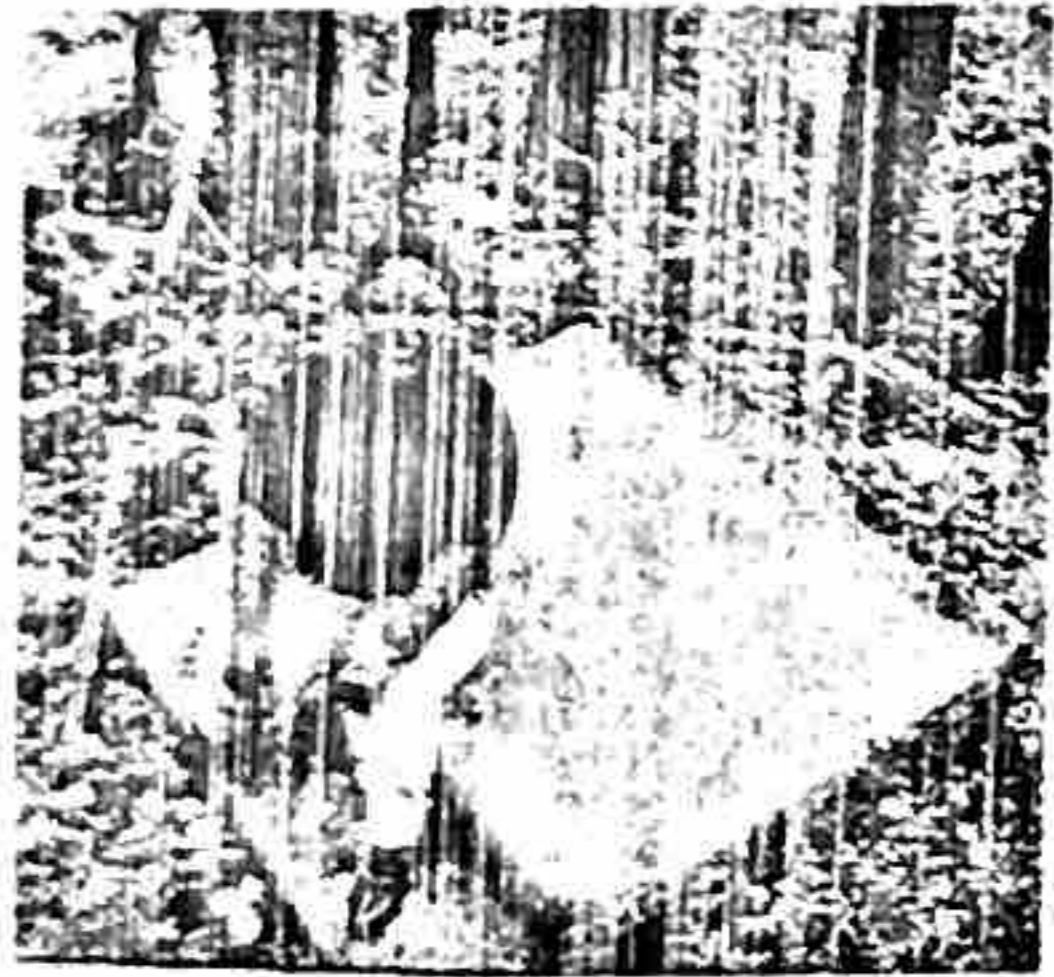
date of February 1849 recorded among family records. Among those rumored to have been Benjamin's father are Judge Bowie, a maternal uncle whose last name was Smith, and a member of the Bouic family. There is an abundance of speculation but nothing definitive has—or probably will—be found. Likewise, there is no information about his mother. Was she a slave at Glenview? At Oatland? At another local plantation? A picture of Judge Bowie that hangs above the fireplace in the parlour at the Rockville Civic Center (formerly Glenview Plantation) bears a striking resemblance to Benjamin's descendants. One of Benjamin's grandsons, Raymond Smith, described Benjamin as a light complexioned man who was very stout, weighing 230 – 240 pounds. He was bald-headed with a mustache and beard that was about four inches long.



(Figure 4)  
Benjamin Franklin Smith

How and when Benjamin acquired his freedom is unknown at this point. Was he freed by manumission or by the Maryland Constitution of 1864? Although the Emancipation Proclamation did not apply to Maryland, did Judge Bowie honor the spirit of the document and free his slaves? We know that Judge Bowie did not seek compensation for his slaves in 1868 when the registry of ownership of any slaves in 1864 was created.<sup>7</sup>

By 1870, Benjamin resided in the home of Ann Smith. It's not clear if he was there as a boarder, or as a suitor for Ann's daughter, Jane. Jane gave birth to their first child, Maggie, in 1870. Benjamin and Jane married April 1, 1875. By 1880, they had produced five additional children: Grant (November 16, 1872); Morris (1875); Simon (1877); Clarence (unknown); and Elizabeth (1879). Their household also included Jane's mother, Ann.



(Figure 5)

Sondra Stevenson, great-great-great granddaughter of Benjamin Smith sits on stoop of his two-story house.

During this period, Benjamin continued to work as a farm hand. His grandson, Raymond, recounted that "my grandfather was an ex-slave [who] worked on the farm where the Rockville Civic Center is now located, and worked a yoke of Oxen to till the soil and other farm work where needed."<sup>8</sup> Although he continued to work for other farmers in the area for wages, Benjamin became a landowner. "After the Civil War, Judge Bowie deeded a small piece of ground in the northeastern corner of the park, referred to as

the Smith property, to one of his former slaves. Today, the foundation and a hand-dug stone well survive. In the woods across Avery Road to the east of this property are the remnants of a family burial plot. On a 1917 city map, it is labeled "colored

<sup>7</sup> The Record of Slaves was created by the Maryland Legislature in 1867 and 1868 to compile records to establish slave ownership and the value of slave property. Former slave owners provided descriptive information on each slave for whom they claimed ownership in 1864.

<sup>8</sup> Smith, Raymond, A Wonderful Life, July 31, 1979

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1819-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery/Avery Road Colored Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
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cemetery. "Parts of gravestones have been found on the site."<sup>9</sup> Judge Bowie bequeathed the one acre of land and the house in which Benjamin resided to him as part of the Judge's will. The deed was recorded in September, 1884 by Catherine Bowie, the judge's widow.

Historians at the Peerless Rockville Historical Society speculate that this grant of acreage reflects the high regard that the Bowie's had for Benjamin. No other slave was given land, despite their years of loyal service. Why was Benjamin held in such high regard? Could this lend additional support to the argument that Benjamin was the son of Judge Bowie or of a close relative? Unfortunately, we would need DNA testing to confirm this. Judge Bowie and his wife, Margaret, did not have any biological children. Instead they adopted several of their nieces and willed their property to them. Benjamin was the only other person to receive a bequeath of land.

Benjamin and Ann were among the organizers of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, later known as Clinton AME Zion Church, in Rockville. His grandson, Raymond, states that Benjamin served on the Trustees Board for many years until his health began to fail him. As a trustee, he was one of the borrowers of the \$500 construction loan for the church in 1891. His name and mark appear on the loan papers that were secured by the home of his brother-in-law, Dennis Smith.

Early in 1885, Jane died of unknown causes. She was buried in the Colored Cemetery on Avery Road.

On February 13, 1883, Benjamin married Mary Elizabeth (Betty/Bettie) Lucas and began a second family that included ten surviving children. Census records for the period 1900 – 1920 show the following offspring: James (December 1883); Beverley (April 1885); Josephine (March 1886); Sarah (September 1886); John E. (February 1890); Isaiah (February 1892); Charles (March 1894); Milton (September 1896); Maurice (January 1899); Theodore (1901); Elizabeth (1908); Helen (1909), Dorothy (unknown); and Emma (unknown). In his oral account, Raymond also mentioned a son named Brunson but that name does not appear in any census records. Bettie gave birth to eighteen children, 13 of whom survived. Between the first and second families, Benjamin was the father of 24 children, eight of whom did not survive infancy. We currently have identified 19 of these children.

Benjamin and Bettie valued education and saw that most of their children attended elementary school in Rockville nine months each year. By 1900 most of Benjamin's first family was grown and no longer in his household. Grant, his second oldest child, had married Clarisey Harris in 1894 and lived next door with his wife and five children. Joseph<sup>10</sup> and James<sup>11</sup> were both married by 1910 but they continued to reside with their parents.

<sup>9</sup> <http://rockvillemd.gov/tours/glenview/history/bowie.html> opt.cit

<sup>10</sup> The 1910 census lists a Joseph H, son, age 25, and married but he does not appear in the 1900 census. Josephine, who appears in 1900 as 12 years of age does not appear in 1910. She also does not appear in 1920. Is this a case of careless record-keeping by the census taker? Is Josephine married or residing in the home of her employer since she would have been aged 22? The census also makes no mention of Joseph's wife being in the household. Is she residing in the home of her employer?

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1819-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery/Avery Road Colored Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
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Between 1910 and 1920, Benjamin, Bettie, Theodore, Elizabeth, and Helen moved from their home on Avery Road to live with their son, Charles who had rented a house near the center of Rockville. During "his last few years of life, he [Benjamin] lived in the City of Rockville near the upper end of the Mall (Commons), Park Road. At that time the street name was Middle Lane."<sup>12</sup> Although Benjamin's home was not preserved and little beyond the foundation and front steps remain, the lot has been preserved. The lot is fenced and included in the Woodland Trail that the city of Rockville created.

Benjamin died in 1924 of causes not known at this time. "He was laid to rest in a burial plot on Avery Road, where his wife Ann<sup>13</sup> and son, Maurice, also rested along with several infants by his second marriage.<sup>14</sup> "Limited pictures of Benjamin existed; they were held by his daughter, Dorothy Smith Dodson; his granddaughter, Marjorie Smith Welsh; and his grandson, Raymond Smith. Raymond hung the framed picture on the wall next to the front door in his living room. Beverley Canaday, one of Raymond's granddaughters, vividly remembers seeing the picture for the first time and asking, "Who's that white man?" Raymond's response was a smile with twinkling eyes as he said, "That's my grandfather, Benjamin." After Raymond's death in 1980, Benjamin's picture passed through several hands and cannot be located.

### *Connections*

**Jane Brown Smith** was Benjamin Smith's first wife. Additional information about Jane is located in Chapter 1 of the Smith Book.

**Mary Elizabeth (Bettie) Lucas Smith** was Benjamin Smith's second wife. Bettie, as she was known, was born in Virginia on April 16, 1851. Her parents were John and Jane Lucas. Both parents were also born in Virginia according to Bettie's death certificate. In 1928, several years after Benjamin's death, Bettie moved to 1528 6<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., probably to live with her daughter, Dorothy. She resided here for 15 years until she was admitted to Freedmen's Hospital on July 26, 1943. After a stay of 17 days, Betty died on August 7, 1943 at 7:50 PM. The cause of death was exhaustion, due to hypertension and heart disease. She was 86 years of age. Betty was buried at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in Washington, D.C. Records show that her funeral costs of \$384 were paid by her children, a payment of \$34 from most.

**Ulysses Grant Smith** eldest son of Benjamin and Jane Smith. Additional information about Grant is located in Chapter 3 of the Smith Book.

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<sup>11</sup> The 1910 census also shows that James is married but there is no mention of his wife as part of the household. It is possible that she also resided with her employer and was listed as part of the employer's household. Since James and Joseph worked odd jobs as wage earners, possibly on neighboring farms, they resided with their parents.

<sup>12</sup> Smith, Raymond, A Wonderful Life, Opt cit

<sup>13</sup> Ibid; Jane was Benjamin's wife. Ann was his mother-in-law.

<sup>14</sup> Smith, Raymond, A Wonderful Life, Opt cit

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (Wooded Cemetery)  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
233 +

**Simon Smith** was one of Benjamin's longest surviving children. Simon, son from Benjamin's first family, remained a lifelong resident of Rockville and became an influential member of the African American community and the Rockville community as a whole. He attended local schools in Rockville for nine years. In August 1898 he married Evelyn Johnson<sup>15</sup>; this marriage linked two prominent Rockville families, the Smiths and the Johnsons, and produced four children: Worthington, Charles Woodruff (Woody), Evelyn Marjorie (Margie), and Ethel. Simon worked as a laborer at a bank in Takoma Park and Evelyn worked as a housekeeper and cook for white families in Rockville.



(Figure 6)  
Simon O. Smith

Simon and Eve (pronounced *Ev-ie*), as she was known, initially rented a home before acquiring two properties in the Haiti section. They

purchased half of LOT 5 on Martin's Lane from Blanche Mead Rogers of Brooklyn, New York. Mrs. Rogers had acquired the property from the estate of her mother, Catherine Martin. This property had been part of the Samuel Martin farm. In 1915, Simon and Evelyn contracted with her brother-in-law, Leonard Gray, to build a home for them on the 13 Martin's Lane lot. They later expanded the house in the 1930s to include a kitchen, back porch, and front steps. "They kept chickens and pigs, and always had a large garden. . . . Mr. Smith had kennels in the back yard, where he boarded other people's dogs as well as kept his own." <sup>16</sup> The dogs of J. Edgar Hoover will be among those of others kept there. "Mrs. Smith was known for her immaculate housekeeping, and her lawn was the showcase of Martin's Lane."<sup>17</sup> Those who lived nearby always share how she swept the front steps and sidewalk daily.



(Figure 7)  
Evelyn Johnson Smith,  
wife of Simon Smith

Benjamin's great- great grand children vividly recall "Uncle Simon and Aunt Eve," especially on Sunday mornings during services at Clinton Church. Uncle Simon and Aunt Eve were in their 70s and they really knew how to make a grand entrance. They always arrived late, not tardy, and slowly sashayed up the center aisle to their preferred pew near the front. As they sashayed, Aunt Eve, clad in her fur stoal, always left a trail of heavy *Evening in Paris* perfume. Uncle Simon followed with his hat in his hand. Woe to anyone who made the mistake of sitting in "their" seats. Aunt Eve would patiently stand by the pew and stare until the miscreants vacated the seat. Meanwhile services continued as this drama unfolded. At some point during the sermon, Aunt Eve would become filled with the spirit and get happy. Boy, for someone who moved so slowly, she could really jump! Children always looked forward to their arrival for it guaranteed a few moments of diversion and amusement during services that seemed to last

<sup>15</sup> Evelyn's sister, Molly, married John Henry Baker. Molly and John's daughter, Minnie, married Raymond Smith, Simon's nephew. Hence, Simon's nephew married Eve's niece.

<sup>16</sup> Peerless Rockville, opt cit

<sup>17</sup> Ibid

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1819-1924)  
 Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (Board Cemetery)  
 Benjamin Smith House Remains  
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forever. Children who lived on Martin's lane remember Evelyn fondly, commenting on her regular invitations to join her for milk and cookies. One of the children, Rev. Jane Wood, recalls how much she enjoyed the cookies, even though the other children always felt the cookies were stale.

Simon died in 1965 at age 88; Aunt Eve died in 1970 at age 92. After her death, their daughter Margie (Evelyn Marjorie Smith Welsh) lived in the home until she died April 6, 1982. Simon and Evelyn's son, Charles ("Woody") subsequently inherited the home along with Barbara Rollins, their niece. They sold the property in 1984.

Clarence Smith moved to Clark, Pennsylvania where he married Anna Williams in 1913. They had one son, Clarence, Jr.

Edward Smith lived at 32 Sussex Avenue, East Orange, New Jersey.

James B. Smith lived at 1101 47 Street, N.E. Washington, DC.

Josephine Smith Cooper lived at 22 O Street, N.W. Washington, DC.

Milton Smith moved to 381 Morton Street, Passaic, New Jersey.

Dorothy Smith Dodson moved to Washington, D.C.

Beverley Smith became the namesake for one of his great-nieces, Beverley Hawkins Canaday. His daughter, Ruby, was the mother of three sons, one of whom was named Stanley. Stan had blue eyes and was considered "white" by people who did not know his heritage. Stan was the father of three daughters who lived in Maryland: Gayle Smith Lacy, Holly Smith Simpson, and Terry Lynn Lofty.

Emma Smith Tanner

Sarah Smith Stewart lived at 158 Stuben Street, East Orange, New Jersey.

Worthington Smith, son of Simon and Eve Smith had an FBI file that contained over 700 pages. Interesting information from the file will be included at a later date. Worthington's jobs gave him close contacts with the Washington powerful. He was butler for U.S. Attorney General James Mitchell during the 1920s<sup>18</sup> and later he became the chauffeur and personal assistant of J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Later in his career with Director Hoover Worthington was promoted to "limited special agent" by Hoover. Family whispers suggest that Simon played a significant role in securing employment for Worthington, since Worthington was often cast as a ne'er do well. The



(Figure 9)  
Worthington Smith



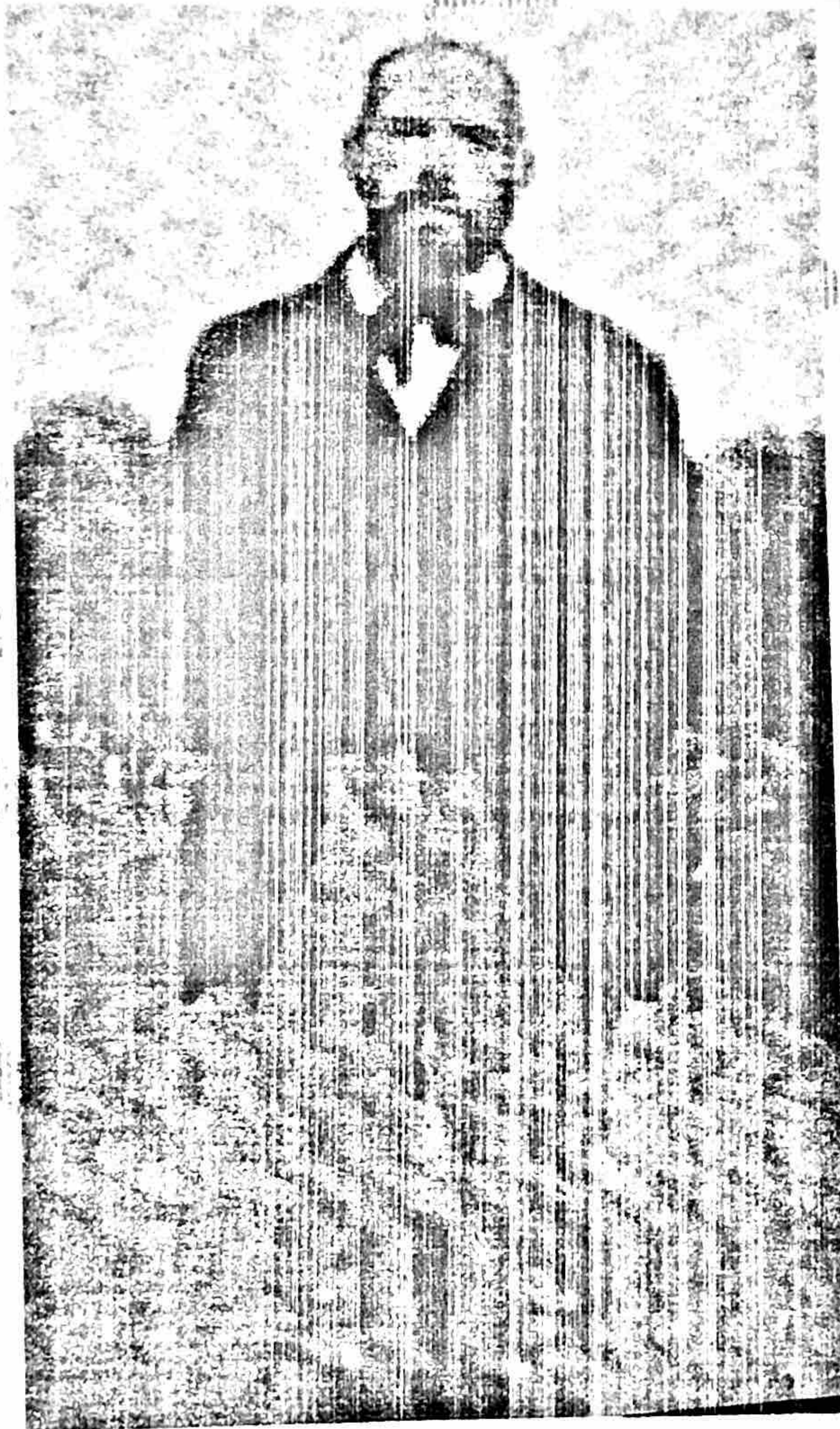
(Figure 8)  
Stan Smith,  
Son of Beverley Smith

<sup>18</sup> Worthington's first wife, Marie, was the cook for Attorney General Mitchell.

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery/Avery Road Colored Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
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whispers hint that Simon "knew or had something" on Hoover, or that he used his powerful connections through his role in the local Republican Party to secure such a plum assignment for his son. Worthington will remain at the FBI with Hoover until his death. Hoover attended his funeral services at Clinton AME Zion Church, the family church.

*Photo Gallery*



(Figure 10)  
Benjamin Franklin Smith

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (Bored Cemetery)  
Benjamin Smith House Remains



(Figure 11)  
Bessie Smith Sedgwick



(Figure 12)  
Bessie Smith Sedgwick  
Daughter of Benjamin and Jane Smith



(Figure 13)  
Charles Woodruff Smith

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road Board Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith House Remains 233+

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### From Here:

1. Check death records for Benjamin and Ann to look for causes and exact dates.
2. At what point did Benjamin become free? Was he freed by Maryland's emancipation in 1864?
3. Check census records for 1880 to determine if Benjamin was living in his house (which may be why he is listed as head of household); (since this census is before Judge Bowie died).
4. Get a copy of Judge Bowie's will.
5. Are "James" and Brunson" the same person?
6. Who is Joseph Smith, age 2[21] in 1910 census?
7. What happens to Josephine? She disappears from census? Working in another home???
8. Who moved into the Avery Road property after Benjamin moved out? Did Benjamin sell the property?
9. Was Bettie living with Dorothy when she died?

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1921)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (Bowie) Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
233 +



Transcript of oral  
history by  
Raymond P. Smith

## Part I

Let me give you a little history about my Grandparents. Grandfather's name was Benjiman Franklin Smith, and his wife, Ann Smith. To this marriage six (6) children were born namely, Maggie, Grant (my Father), Bessie, Simon, Maurice and Clarence. My Grandfather was an ex-slave and worked on the farm where The Rockville Civic Center is now located, and worked a yoke of Oxen to till the soil and other farm work where needed. The owner of the farm gave my Grandfather a house and about an acre of land which was located on Avery Road. That portion of Avery Road from Red Gate Golf Course to the Union Cemetery is Closed to the public.

SOLD 1884

Grandfather was a light complexioned man and very stout weighing about 230/240 pounds. Bald headed with mustache and beard about 4 inches long. Grandfather and his wife, Ann, were among the organizers of Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church of Rockville, MD. He served on the Trustees Board for many years until his health begin to fail him. The Lord had called Grandmother Ann to come with him before I came into begin. Grandfather's second marriage was to a lady named Betty, I did not know her maiden name. To this marriage the following children were born Brunson, Josephine, Beverley, Sarah, Charlie, Milton, Emma, Theodore, Elizabeth and Dorothy. He was the Father of twenty-four (24) children in all (Several died in Infancy).

Grandfather always worked by the day or week for various farmers. His last few years of life he lived in the City of Rockville near the upper end of the Mall (Commons), Park Road. At that time the street name was Middle Lane. Grandfather answered to the roll call in 1924 when the good master said to him, "Your work on earth is finished, Come and go with me". He was laid to rest in a burial plot on Avery Road, where his wife Ann and son, Maurice also rested along with several Infants by his second marriage. There are two (2) remaining children, Milton Smith of Passaic, New Jersey, and Dorothy Dotson of Washington, D.C.. Dorothy and my cousin Marjorie Welch each have a picture of Grandfather and I also have a picture of him.

## Part II

My Mother's parents were Dan and Martha Harris. I can remember Grandfather as being a tall brown skin man and stout smoking a pipe. I did not know from whence he came. Grandmother came to Rockville, MD from a place called Point of Rocks, MD, which is West of Frederick, MD. She was part Indian with reddish brown skin, mixed gray hair weighing about 150/-60 pounds and about 5 feet tall smoking a gray clay pipe using Strawberry plug tobacco. Grandmother was the mother of twenty-two (22) children with many of them passing at a very early age. There were only six (6) who grew to women and manhood, their names were as follows Fannie, Mollie, Martha, Clarisey (my Mother), Charlie and Joseph. They were reared on Lyndames Farm, Route 28 from Baltimore Road down to the entrance of First Street is a part of that Farm. Grandmother in her later years lived here in Lincoln Park on the street which is now Lincoln Avenue. In the house where Mrs. Louise Johnson lives, when she left Lincoln Park she spent the rest of her life with her son-in-law Grant and daughter Clarisey Smith on Avery Road next to Mark Twain School.

Grandmother and I were very fond of each other, I remember this as though it was yesterday. My Father (Grant) worked on Shaw's Farm in front of where we live, this particular morning my Father was going to Rockville with the team and Grandmother asked him to bring her a plug of Strawberry tobacco and I would come up to the barn and get it for her which I did and on my way back home I took a small piece and did I get sick. No more tobacco.

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (Board Cemetery)  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
233+

### Part III

Mother's Sisters and Brothers. Aunt Fannie left home and married a Mr. McGraw and was not heard from for about twenty-five (25) years, and yet she was only 80 or 90 miles away living in Havre De Grace, MD. She visited us many times afterward before answering the roll call. She had one (1) daughter, Martha.

Aunt Mollie cooked for The William Dorsey Family. Their farm was located in the area of Route 28 and Baltimore Road and Horners Lane. Aunt Mollie stayed with The Dorseys as long as she was able to work. Her last few years were spent in Washinton, D. C. with sister Martha and daughter. Oh, Yes, Aunt Mollie married a Mr. Keys. I never knew him, to this marriage one (1) son, Roger, was born. He grew to be a man but died at a young age. Aunt Martha married a Mr. King which I don't remember ever seeing. To this marriage one (1) daughter, Margaret, was born. Aunt Martha lived in Phila., PA for many years and often visited her sisters and brother here in summer. Her last years were spent living in Washington, D.C.. I don't know the whereabouts of her daughter, Margaret or if she is alive.

Uncle Charlie married a lady, Miss Maltida Prather, of Gaithersburg, MD. To this marriage seven (7) or eight (8) children were born, Uncle Charlie and his family lived on a farm in the Gaithersburg, MD area for many years, then he moved to Bethesda, MD, and worked at Miller's Coal Yard for several years before retiring and moving to Washington, D.C. where he passed away. He has two (2) Daughters living today. Bernice H. Martin of 808 Madison Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.. I am not sure where the other Daughter lives. Uncle Joseph lived in Phila., PA. He also passed away as a young man.

### Part IIII

You have heard about Smiths and Harriss. Now hear about the Johnsons and Bakers. Mr. Henson and Mrs. Willie Johnson were the Grandparents of my first wife (Minnie). Uncle Hence as he was call by many, was of Brown complexion, with mixed gray hair and loved to smoke his pipe. Uncle Hence had a team of two (2) horses with which he use to plow gardens for various persons and also did various jobs of hauling for persons in and around Rockville. Miss Willie as she was called also by many was light complexion small in size and round shouldered. She did laundry in her home for a number of white families of Rockville. She was a member of Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church of Rockville, MD, and was very active in social functions of the Church. Uncle Hence and his family lived left off of Montgomery Avenue. About 1500 feet, the lane between Chestnut Lodge property and Dr. Buckinghams. To this marriage there eight (8) children, six (6) daughters and two (2) sons. Namely Sarah, Mollie, Olby, Annie, Arthur, Elsie, Daisy and Edith. Miss. Sarah married Mr. Leonard Gray of Arlington, VA. Miss Mollie married Mr. John Baker of Rockville, MD. And to this marriage eight (8) children were born, namely Raymond, Carlton, Minnie (my first wife) Helen, Herman, Elsie, Lillian and Edna. Minnie was the first one of the Baker children to marry. Minnie and I were married December 06, 1919 in Washington, D.C. by Rev. Charles B. Ashton the pastor of Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church at that time. To this marriage one (1) daughter, Mabel, was born June 30, 1920. Raymond married a lady, Grace Newman, of Redland, MD. To this marriage four (4) children were born namely Raymond Jr., Muriel, Helen, and Rudolph. Carlton married a lady, Mary Toy, of Rockville, MD. This marriage was one (1) son, Carlton Jr., who passed away in his early twenties. Helen married a man, Augustus Bell, of Washington, D.C.. Elsie married a man, Richard Davis, of Rockville, MD. Lillian married a man, Samuel Hart of Sandy Spring, MD. Edna married a man, Raymond Yates, of Leonardtown, MD. All of the children have passed except Lillian and Edna.

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road (Dorset Cemetery)  
Benjamin Smith House Remains  
233+

Edna and her husband live on Stonestone Avenue, here and her sister Lillian lives with them. Miss. Mollie Baker passed February 20, 1930, and Mr. John Baker passed September 03, 1931. Uncle Hence and Miss Willie Johnson were the Great-Greatparents of my daughter (Mabel) and she was the first granddaughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Baker. Mabel's mother, Minnie passed after two (2) or three (3) years of failing health of high blood pressure. On May 08, 1936 at 3:00 P.M.. The master said to Minnie "your suffering is over, Come and go with me where there will be no suffering no pain, but there shall be peace and happiness throughout eternity". Mabel was 16 years old June 30, 1936. Mabel was attending school in Washington, D.C. and staying with my sister (Marie), who lived in Washington, D.C.. A friend of my mother's, Mrs. Julia Adams, came and kept house for me during the school session. Mabel kept house the summer months until Irene and I were married October 07, 1937. Mabel married a man, Raymond James Hawkins, of Rockville, MD March 05, 1941. To this marriage four (4) children were born namely Germaine Lillian, Geraldine Lillian, February 07, 1942 (They are twins), Raymond James born June 20, 1944, and Beverley Ann born September 16, 1947.

Germaine married Gillette M. Lee of Gaithersburg, MD on September 19, 1959 to this marriage seven (7) children were born LaVerne, Gillette Jr., Hazel, Patrick, Gavin, Edmonia and Orlanda. In May, 1968 Gillette passed, and Germaine remarried September 23, 1974 to Mr. Floyd McRae of Washington, D.C.. Geraldine married James W. Stevenson of Gaithersburg, MD April 16, 1960. To this marriage four (4) children were born Selena, Kindra, James Jr., and Sondra. Raymond married LaRue Stevenson of Emory Grove, MD May 06, 1972. To this marriage two (2) children were born Jamie and Keisha. Beverley married Kirk Canaday of Denver, Colorado March 28, 1970. To this marriage two (2) children were born, Rahsaan and Autumn. Raymond J. Hawkins, Sr. passed November 07, 1948 when his children were very small, Beverley was about 14 months old. Mabel and children came and lived with Irene and me for several years, then Mabel decided to go back to her home on Elizabeth Avenue, Rockville, MD. After several months or so Beverley came back to live with Irene and me. And remained with us although Irene passed September 06, 1967. Beverley continued to live with me and graduated from Albright College in Reading, PA in June 1969, and was employed as a History Teacher in September 1969 at Montgomery Village Jr. High School. By the Montgomery County School Board.

Dear Lord I thank you for the many opportunities and privileges that thou has allowed me to enjoy over my life span, with my family, love ones and Lord I thank you for the friendly vistor Mrs. Dern who kept pressing and encouraging me to write a little history about my Grandparents and the Grandparents of my wife (Minnie) and as you can see I included others of our familys also. And when I shall have heard the words of well done thou good and faithful servant enter thou into the room which was prepared many years ago for me by Jesus the son of the Heavenly Father, and to be with those love ones who won the race before me.

In Jesus Name. Amen

Written July 31st 1979  
By Raymond P. Smith

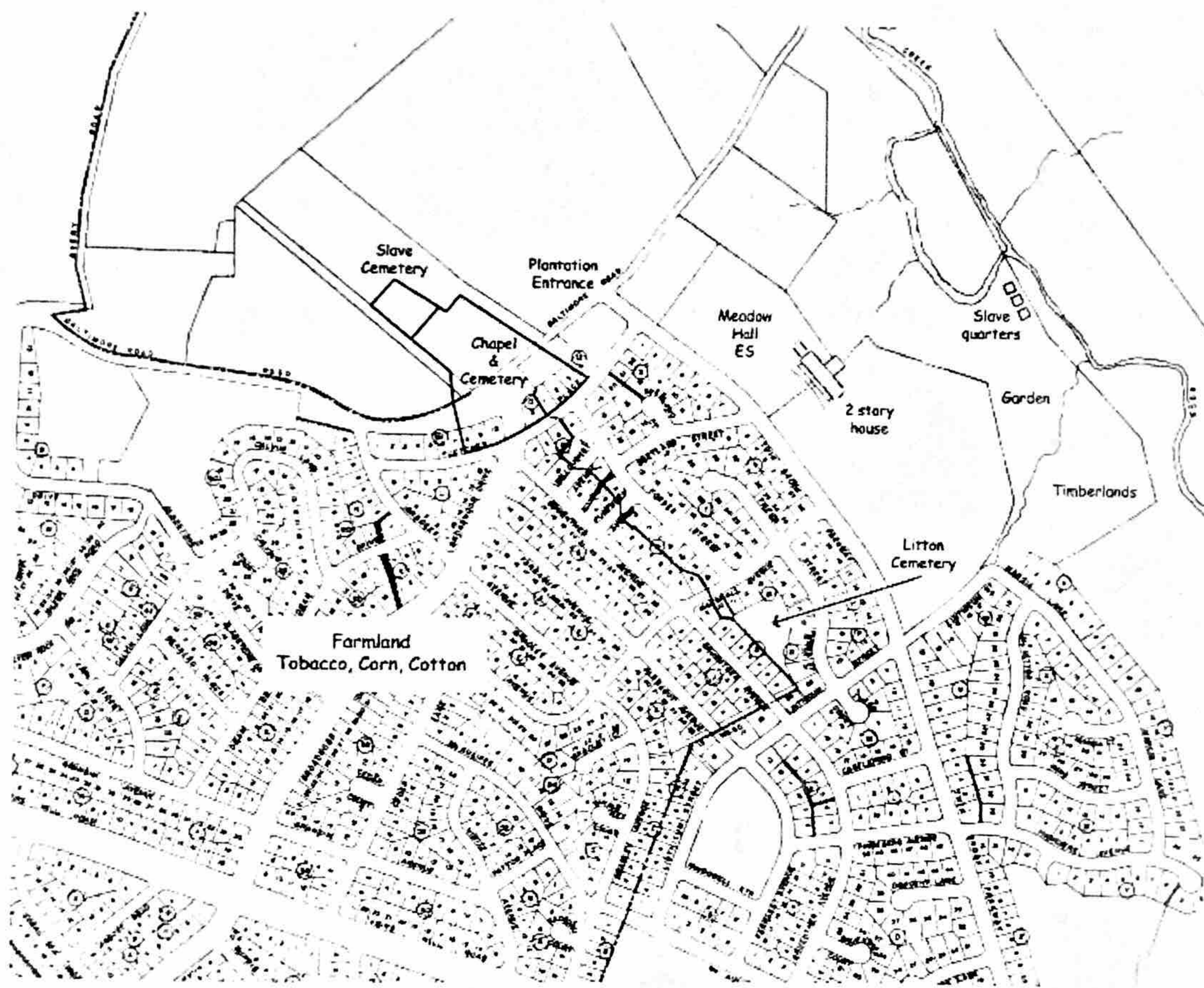
Raymond Smith, grandson of  
Benjamin Franklin Smith.

SMITH, RAYMOND PETTY. Sudden-ly on Thursday, May 15, 1980, RAYMOND P. SMITH of Rockville, Md., father of Mabel L. Hawkins; grand-father of Germaine McRae, Geraldine Stevenson, Raymond Hawkins, Jr. and Beverley Canaday. He is also survived by fifteen great-grandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren; one sister, Lillian B. Brown; two brothers, Albert C. and Warner Smith; a devoted friend, Estelle Luckert; one granddaughter-in-law, three grandsons-in-law, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. From 6 to 9 p.m., Monday, May 19 remains will rest at Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church, 814 Westmore ave., Rockville, Md. and from 9:30 a.m. until funeral time at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 20. The Rev. B. Pagan officiating. Interment Lincoln Park Cemetery. No viewing after services. No flowers will be accepted. Please make donations to the Expansion Fund of Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church. Arrangements by SNOWDEN FUNERAL HOME.

SMITH, RAYMOND P. Officers and members of Pythias Lodge Number 74, F.M.A.M.-P.M.A. are requested to assemble on May 19 at 7 p.m. at Clinton A.M.E. Zion Church, 814 Westmore ave., Lincoln Park, Rockville, Md. Rev. Brownell Pagan, Pastor for the purpose of performing the last Masonic Rites for our late brother, RAYMOND P. SMITH (PAST MASTER) and 50 yr. member, who passed Thursday, May 15, 1980. Lodge of Sorrow Services at Pythias Lodge Number 74 at 7 p.m. JAMES E. RIDGLEY, W.M. NICHOLAS P. BRAME, Secy.

Benjamin Smith (ca. 1849-1924)  
Smith Family Cemetery / Avery Road Board Cemetery  
Benjamin Smith House Remains 233+

The following map is based on one drawn by a descendant in the 1950s. It has been superimposed on a map of the area from the 1960s. Placement of colonial features is as close as I can figure based on the data I have. The location of the house is guesswork. The little information I have regarding the house states that it had a "Viewing Room" out the back. My thinking is that the best view would be down the hill to the creek, leaving the flatter land in front as formal lawn and farming area. - DS



Benjamin Smith (ca. 1819-1924)  
 Smith family cemetery / Avery Road (Bored Cemetery)  
 Benjamin Smith house remains  
 233 +