

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

Montgomery County Burial Sites Inventory

Historic Preservation ID:
HP-090

Name:
Grace Episcopal Church Cemetery

Description:

Nineteenth-century church graveyard. The Grace Episcopal Church Cemetery is also known as the Woodside Cemetery.

Community:

Religious:

Family:

African American:

Other Site Type:

Number of Burials:

310

Visible Markers:

Formal Entrance:

Cemetery Sign:

Active:

Earliest Year:

1846

Latest Year:

2015

Is the Site Extant?:

Yes

Is the Location Sensitive?:

Sensitive Contact:

Sensitive Reason:

Location Confidence:

Known

Location Confirmed:

Yes

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

2006 Survey Summary:

https://mcatlas.org/filetransfer/HistoricPreservation/MCCI_Summaries_2004/MCCI_Summary_ID_090.pdf

Montgomery Preservation, Inc.:

https://mcatlas.org/filetransfer/HistoricPreservation/Cemeteries/090_Grace_E_Silver-Spring/090_Grace_E_Silver-Spring_2018/090_Grace_E_Silver-Spring_2018_Survey.pdf

FindaGrave.com:

<https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/81017>

Maryland Tombstone Transcription Project:

Other Website:

<https://mht.maryland.gov/secure/Medusa/PDF/Montgomery/M;%2036-4-1.pdf>

Master Plan Historic Resource No.:
36/004-000A

Historic Resource:
Locational Atlas Historic Districts

Confirmed by Planning Board:
Yes

Confirmation Date:
05/16/2019

Site Survey Date:
05/07/2018

Revision Date:

Site Surveyor Name:

Lori Banks

Data Originator:

Montgomery Preservation, Inc.

Notes:

The church was established in 1855, and the first building erected in 1857. The earliest death date is 1846, but that grave and marker are likely later.

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

Public Display Scale:
1: 0

Is there a Restriction on Sharing Information?:

GIS Source Date:
10/15/2018

GIS Source Datum:

Boundary Type:
Point

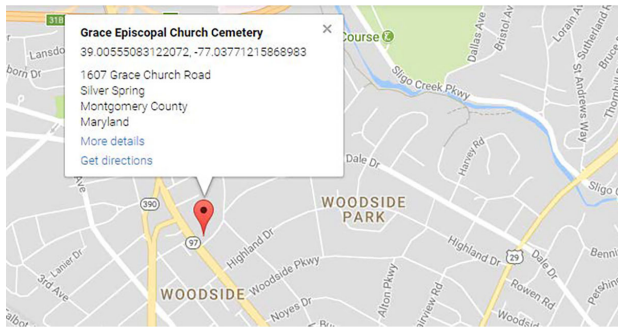
Horizontal Accuracy:

GIS Data Source:
MCCIR 2018

Additional Information:

In June of 2020, the obelisk marking the graves of 17 Confederate soldiers killed during the battle of Fort Stevens was toppled and graffitied. This occurred at the time of widespread demonstrations expressing outrage over the murder of George Floyd, and continued violence against people of color. The graves had been moved from their original location near the 1864 battlefield to the church graveyard in 1876 by then rector, and former Confederate Army chaplain, Rev. James Avirett. The graves were moved again in 1896 when the Georgia Avenue Street car was constructed, and a new marker was erected with "Confederate" in large block letters facing Georgia Ave. Many Confederate monuments were erected in the Jim Crow era to perpetuate the myth of the Southern Lost Cause, and to intimidate people of color. Silver Spring was segregated at this time. The church has replaced the toppled obelisk marker with a simpler, low-lying marker. Only one of the names of the soldiers is known: James B. Bland of Highland County, Virginia. Bland had served with the 62nd Virginia Mounted Infantry. The others are unknown, three officers and four enlisted men. Most were thought at the time they were first exhumed to have been very young, possibly teenaged.

Images:

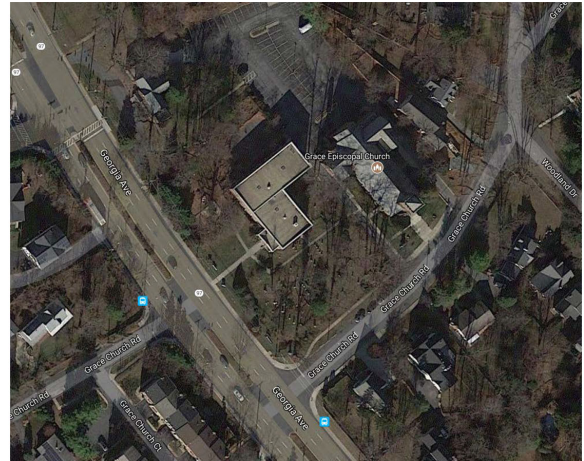


HP-090-001

Location Map

Date 05/07/2018

Photographer Lori Banks



HP-090-002

Aerial Map

Date 05/07/2018

Photographer Lori Banks



HP-090-003

Corner of Georgia Avenue and Grace Church Road, facing north

Date 05/07/2018

Photographer Lori Banks



HP-090-004

Pathway in center of cemetery toward Georgia Ave., facing south-west

Date 05/07/2018

Photographer Lori Banks



HP-090-005

Pathway in center of cemetery toward Georgia Ave., facing south-west 2

Date 05/07/2018

Photographer Lori Banks



HP-090-006

Church annex building, facing north

Date 05/07/2018

Photographer Lori Banks



HP-090-007

Cemetery toward church, facing east

Date 05/07/2018

Photographer Lori Banks



HP-090-008

Cemetery toward Grace Church Road, facing south

Date 05/07/2018

Photographer Lori Banks



HP-090-009
Cemetery facing north

Date 01/02/2019
Photographer Brian Crane



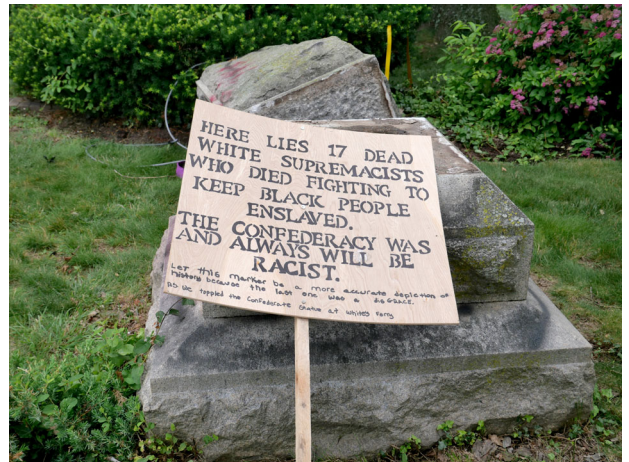
HP-090-010
1896 Confederate grave obelisk

Date 01/02/2019
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-090-011
Toppled and graffitied monument

Date 06/18/2020
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-090-012
Sign left with toppled monument

Date 06/18/2020
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-090-013

Printed copies of Grace Church response to the Confederate monument June 2020

Date 06/18/2020
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-090-014

Replacement for the Confederate obelisk

Date 08/31/2022
Photographer Brian Crane



HP-090-015

Black Lives Matter sign erected by Grace Church facing Georgia Avenue near the Confederate graves

Date 08/31/2022
Photographer Brian Crane

MARKER ID

GIVEN NAME

FAMILY NAME

DEATH YEAR