Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory

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PAUL COMMUNITY CHURCH CEMETERY AT SUGARLAND Directions: Route 190 West, River Road, right on Partnership Road, left on Sugarland Lane, cemetery on right. [A.D.C. Map: Montgomery, page 20, grid coordinates E-11.] Condition of cemetery: Well kept. Active cemetery. Earliest known death: 1905. Most recent death: Present. Veterans interred: WWI and WWII vets. Date transcribed: 1982. Location of transcribed records: Montgomery County Historical Society Library, 42 West Middle Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Comments: Over 91 marked graves, African-American congregation.

A Dedication Ceremony

St. Paul's Community Church

Dec. 7, 1996

"Reaping the sweet harvest from the seeds sown by our foreparents."



The Historic St. Paul's Community Church 1871 - 1996

is the heart of the Sugarland Forest Community established by freed slaves after emancipation. Patriarchs William Taylor, Patrick Hebron Jr. and John H. Diggs, as trustees, purchased this parcel of land from George W. Dawson. a former white slave owner, on October 6, 1871 for the sum of \$25.00. The deed specified the land be used for religious worship, a school and burial site for people of African descent.

The original church, The Sugarland Forest Methodist Episcopal, was rebuilt as a community hall in 1930. Other earlier names were Curtisville M.E. (1880) and Taylor's Chapel (1890).

This edifice, built in 1893 by W. Scott Beall. stands as a testimony and tribute to our heritage and the founding families of this community, through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Blessings and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever ever, Amen. Rev. 7:12

Placed by the descendants of the Sugarland Forest Community

St. Paul Community Church

14730 Sugarland Rd., Poolesville. Md. 20837

Master of CeremonyRev. John Powell
Assistant Pastor,
St. Paul CommunityChurch

Selections..... Lay Minister Gayle Hebron

History...... Gwen Reese,
St. Paul Community Church

> Nina Clarke, Historian

Commissioner Gregg Clemmer, Historic Preservation Commission Montgomery County. Md.

Jerry Klobukowski, Poolesville Town Commission

Caroline Taylor Goldman, Executive Director, F.A.R.M. For A Rural Montgomery

Presentation......State Senator Jean Roesser

Selection......Rev. Melvin Martin,
St. Paul Community Church

Dedication Prayer......Pastor Robert Brodie,
St. Paul Community Church

Unveiling of the Plaque by Descendants of the Three Founding Fathers:

William Taylor: great, great grandson, James M. Etheridge III
Patrick Hebron: Jr.: great, great, great grandson, E-5 Kevin Richards
John Diggs: great, great grandson, Steve Murray

Documented Surnames of Founding Families Located in the Sugarland Forest Community in the early 1870's to 1880's:

Adams	Gibbs	Nicholson
Bailey	Green	Nickles
Barnes	Gwinn	Owens
Beander	Hackett	Parker
Beckwith	Hall	Plummer
Bell-Beall	Hallman	Prather
Branison	Harper	Proctor
Brooks	Hawkins	Read
Brown	Hebron	Richardson
Butler	Higgins	Robinson
Clark	Jackson	Russell
Castelle	Jenkins	Spriggs
Coates	Johnson	Smith
Cooper	Lee	Summerville
Curtis	Luckett	Taylor
Davis	Lyles	Thomas
Diggs	Lynch	Thompson
Diggins	Nokes	Thornton
Dorsey	Mason	Turner
Duffin	McDonald	Twiman
Dyson	Murray	Warfield
Garner	Newman	Warren
Garnett	Nichols	Washington
		Williams

These surnames were taken from a St. Paul Church ledger dated 1884 with the exception of surnames Russell and Garner. These names were discovered during oral taped interviews.

140 14730 SUGARLAND ROAD

Acknowledgements

St. Paul Community Church would like to express their gratitude to:

- The Historic Preservation Commission of Montgomery County, Md. for a grant of \$550.00,
- Rev. and Mrs. Robert Brodie for raising additional funds so this plaque could be made possible,
- The descendants of the Sugarland Forest Community for their generous donations and enthusiasm,
- FARM, For a Rural Montgomery, first, for their historically significant donation of a sugar maple tree from which Sugarland Forest received its name. Second, for their invaluable help with historic research and production of this brochure,
- Buzz who erected the plaque and prepared a place for the tree,
- Our neighbors, the Hanson/Gilmour and Goldman families for their encouragement, advice and support.
- All of those who supported our fund raising projects,
- All of you for joining us on this historic occasion making our joy complete,
- Walter Beander for supplying chairs,
- Walter Hebron for the use of his generator,
- Phillip Gassaway caretaker for St.Paul,
- A special thanks to Nettie La Master for the many hours she spent helping to collect, organize and document Sugarland Forest history,
- Gwen Reese without whom all of this would not have been possible.

To Almighty God a praise of thanksgiving we offer for receiving and answering the many prayers prayed by you on our behalf, causing a vision to become a reality. It was by the grace of God we together laboring as a family unit raised the amount of \$1900 offsetting the cost of the plaque. It is because of you family, neighbors, and friends the bill is stamped "paid in full".

"Beautiful faces are they that wear the light of a pleasant spirit there. Beautiful hands are they that do deeds that are noble. good and true. Beautiful feet are they that go swiftly to lighten another's woe."

1871 - 1996 God Bless You Always 140 14730 SUGARLAND ROAD