# Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory

Name: Salm umc	ID: 142
Alternate name: 19600 block of	Semain A.
Address:	and the
	Town: Bronkeville
ADC Map Page 2/ Grid F-6	
Type Religious Family Other	Association  Free black Enslaved Ethnic Prehistoric
Setting Rural Urban \( \sigma \) Suburban	
Condition Excellent Good Fa	ForestedOther
Negative Impacts (vandalism, dumping, neglec	ır Poor
——— Partis (vandanism, dumping, neglec	t, encroachment, etc)
Approximate no. of burials 4400	ate range of burials 1843 - present
Description (markers, materials, arrangement, la	andscaping, fence, paths and roads, etc.) back loop  road, flagstone path with  iron fince along road
paned durine, plus gravel	rond 1 through middle & back loop
steps down middle.	iron Jene blanch with
No trees or shrubs in cem, but	bordered for working Road.
Active cood and well tended. C	hurch across GA Are.  Lem. has many concrete markers  no carving on them  Survey date 4-10-205  Date  Photoma
a fairly large section at rear	6 cm. has more concrete markers
Surveyor(s) linne & Janet with	no carving on them
Photographer	Date Photo no.
Current owner <u>Sclam Cometery</u> Address/Phone No.	Board
Historic Status Locational Atlas ID Master Plan ID	National Register Other
UTM	
Additional sources of informations	

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND INTERESTS OF BROOKEVILLE'S SALEM CEMETERY



Salem United Methodist Church 12 High Street Brookeville, Maryland 20833 (301) 774-7772



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Much of the early history of the Salem United Methodist Church cemetery is somewhat vague. However we are pleased to share those facts that are definitely known and documented.

It is known that the land records of Montgomery County, records the following. In a deed dated March 3, 1834. In county record book #6 B.S., pages 265, 266, and 267, a parcel of ground containing one (1) acre plus 18 ½ perches was sold for one (1) dollar (i.e. gifted) by Eliza P. Thomas to a Thomas McCormick, Urias Brown, William Brown, Thomas Riggs, and Samuel and Henry Brown, trustees of the Methodist Protestant (forerunner of Salem) church at Brookeville. The deed specifically states that the trustees are authorized to cause to be built a house of worship and land to be used for the burial of the dead.

Other descriptive records of the cemetery from the early years have not been located. However, there are some very old historic grave markers that indicate some birth dates around the approximate time of the founding of the village of Brookeville in 1794. Some of these markings are not legible or identifiable due to weather exposure over the years, but some have maintained a clarity - - as an example there is one marker in particular that is clearly marked, date of birth July 1769 and died July 1844. There also exists an interesting pattern of over 200 marked stones with very similar configurations. We have observed that many of these stones are scattered among 10 or 11 rows, but in many instances there is what appears to be a grouping-- most of them 10" wide, with quite a few being 14" wide, but all of them measuring 2 ½" thick and all above grade anywhere from 6" to 9". There is no substantial proof or hard evidence, but it is assumed many of these unmarked stones with similar configurations may be those of civil war casualties. A local resident who is very knowledgeable of civil war history shares this reasoning. As soldiers were retreating after some of the costly battles, it was an accepted practice to stop in village churches to administer aid and bind up the wounded, along with burying the dead. We believe this theory to be the most likely explanation for the unmarked stones.

There is documentary evidence that there was a charter of incorporation granted by the state of Maryland for the "Salem Cemetery Company" dated April 10, 1916 and that the cemetery entity, although owned by the Salem Methodist Church, was granted a separate certificate as a Maryland corporation in the name of the Salem Cemetery. Unfortunately no records appear to exist from that period of time until the year of 1934. At that time, a Mr. Joseph Jones enters the picture. Mr. Jones was driven by personal concerns for the grave locations of some members of his family. He lived in Baltimore and was motivated by the fact that his grandmother was buried in a Frederick Road cemetery in Baltimore, but was never able to locate it. Knowing that his own parents were buried somewhere in the Brookeville cemetery, which had by this point in time become overgrown, untenable, and appearing as something of a wilderness due to obvious neglect, Mr. Jones embarked on a mission. That mission began as a one

man "team", and he set about to restore Salem Cemetery. He did so over a six year period, using primarily his own funds.

The following is an excerpt from an accounting in 1984, when a book was published marking the 159th anniversary celebration of the beginning of the Salem Methodist Church.

"In September 1934 when Mr. Jones deposited the first \$100.00 in an endowment fund for the restoration and future upkeep of the cemetery in the First National Bank of Sandy Spring, the old burying ground was a wasteland full of grown trees and tangled underbrush so thick, as Mr. Jones recalled it, that even rabbits could not get through. Since then, Mr. Jones in his position as treasurer of the endowment extended something like \$1500.00 to clean up, restore and maintain the cemetery. Doing a large part of the labor with his own hands he re-set every headstone in the two-acre (at that time) reservation, and mended broken ones. Three hundred (300) new and uniform ones were made to replace some crude and obscure tablets. With the aid of a steam shovel rented at cost by a neighborhood contractor, he leveled off the burying ground, which sloped sharply to the side, terraced it gradually from the front and with the surplus dirt filled in a small ravine which ran through the rear. In addition to resetting and ordering the old graves, he laid out twenty-seven (27) rows of new burial lots (enough to provide 1000 more graves), resodded the entire cemetery, and planted decorative Junipers and Norway maples. He personally laid a flagstone walk 200 feet down the center of the cemetery, from the little iron gate to the back of a wire fence".

Over a six (6) year period of time Mr. Jones almost single handedly brought the Salem cemetery from a wilderness of underbrush and overgrowth to the beautiful condition it is here in the early twenty first century. The Salem church council, the trustees, and the cemetery board, stand by a commitment and pledge to maintain in perpetuity the maintenance and care currently being experienced.

Serving as an update and so stated herein, currently, the cemetery contains a total of 4.385 acres. This has occurred through a series of small parcels of land acquired during periods of 1941 thru 1949, as recorded in the land records of Montgomery County, all culminating in a deed dated April 23, 1949 as recorded in liber 1247, polio 488 and 489. This deed reads that Margaret I. Jones (widow of Joseph Jones) granted and conveyed to Salem Methodist Church (a corporation) all land (description and measurements spelled out in deed) and appurtenances thereto and buildings thereon, containing four (4) plus acres.

In the interest of clarity let it be known that for many years there had been (for reasons that remain unclear) two (2) distinctive Maryland corporations, i.e., Salem Cemetery company, and, Salem Methodist Church. However, as stated in the 1984 anniversary celebration document (previously referred to herein) it is important to note that therein is a quotation stating - ("both the church and the

cemetery are incorporated, the cemetery in such a manner that the trustees of the church will always be the trustees of the cemetery"). A review of the records, especially from the Joseph Jones reclamation era on, clearly indicates that these dual corporations represented a time and level of confusion and concern. This area of mixed and convoluted emotions and confusion was eventually addressed and resolved through clarification, as reviewed and summarized in the following paragraph:

In January 1997 a special Salem United Methodist Church charge conference was convened by the then active Dr. Donald Stewart, district superintendent of the Washington West district of the Baltimore-Washington annual conference of the United Methodist church. On January 27, 1997 by majority vote of those in attendance and eligible to vote at said conference, the following action was recorded in the official minutes of the Salem charge conference. The action taken was to dissolve the separate cemetery corporation and to merge the two (2) corporations (church and cemetery) into one (1) entity known as the Salem United Methodist Church Inc., Brookeville, Maryland. Following this action the operation and management of the cemetery would be under the direction and supervision of the Salem Church council (the church's duly elected legislative body) to be administered by an annually elected cemetery board of nine (9) members in accordance with a management guideline policy adopted by the church council on March 20, 1997. The cemetery board continues to function accordingly today with some periodic amendments to the 1997 guideline policy. All amendments are submitted by the cemetery board and become active policy only after properly voted on in legislative session and approved by the church council.

Please note the following sub-sections referred to as areas I thru III are important policy informational statements for cemetery lot owners and visitors to the cemetery

- I. Policy on use of fresh and artificial flowers as posted on sign in cemetery:
  - 1. "No artificial flowers permitted during mowing season May 1 thru November 1"
  - 2. "All dead flowers and above ground containers will be removed"
  - 3. "No glass containers permitted at any time"
  - 4. "No planting of flowers, plants, or shrubbery is permitted at any time"
  - 5. "Cemetery board not responsible for loss of, or damage to memorial markers"
  - 6. "No parking or trespassing after sunset"

- II. Pertaining to burial of "cremains" only; any available lot may be used for the burial of "cremains" if this be the wishes of the family. There is, however, a designated area where large veins of rock have been encountered, which will not permit depth enough for a standard vault/coffin burial. In this special area, primarily in the first row, just inside the wrought iron fence, there is sufficient depth above the rock layers to place a cremains vessel. These lots (for cremains use only) are available at \$300.00 each and are large enough to accommodate two such burials.
- III. Existing policy for perpetual care and maintenance:
  - 1. Following interment, and after allowing sufficient time, all dead flowers will be removed by staff.
  - 2. When it is appropriate, after allowing time for earth settlement, the site will be graded and seeded.
  - 3. An annual program for fertilization and reseeding is performed as necessary as part of an ongoing part of the maintenance program.
  - 4. Perpetual contracts for grass mowing, trimming, removal of leaves as needed, and clearing roadway of snow when required are all part of the board's pledge to maintain an acceptable appearance, and accessibility, with a pleasant environment for visitors during all seasons.
  - 5. If at any time any visitor or family member has a question or comment, you are encouraged to call the Salem Church office and leave your message, which will in turn be brought to the attention of a member, or members of the cemetery board for an appropriate response.

#### Church address, phone, and Email to serve you:

Salem United Methodist Church 12 High Street, Brookeville, MD 20833

Phone: (301) 774-7772

Email: salemch@erols.com

Web Site: www.salemunitedmethodist.org

September, 2003

### OPERATIONAL HANDBOOK FOR THE SALEM CEMETERY BOARD 2003 and the first of the contract of the contract

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Salem United Methodist Church 12 High Street Brookeville, Maryland 20833 (301) 774-7772



# OPERATIONAL HANDBOOK FOR THE SALEM CEMETERY BOARD 2003

#### 1 SELLING OF LOTS

For standard burial, the dimensions are 38" x 96", with a standard depth of 60" subject to judgment of the excavator as to rock content or other controlling factors. When marking off a grave site for opening allow 6" between adjoining vaults. If so desired by the family representative, we do permit double depth burials, i.e., one casket on top of the other, again the proper depth is the decision of the excavator - generally eight (8') deep for the vault on the bottom.

#### 2 PRICING OF LOTS

Currently, the standard price for a full size lot (38" x 96") is \$600.00, subject to modification as economic and market conditions dictate.

### 3 LOTS FOR BURIAL OF "CREMAINS" ONLY

For a full size lot of 38" x 96" the price remains the same, but can accommodate at least two sets of Cremains on a single lot (or four with double depth) if client so wishes. There are however, some lots available on the first row, just inside the wrought iron fence, that are available for burial of Cremains only at \$300.00 per lot; this is due to a known rock vein just a few feet below grade in this area that will not allow for sufficient depth to accommodate a standard vault and casket.

# 4 WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PURCHASE BURIAL LOTS IN SALEM CEMETERY?

The current policy contains no restrictions. In keeping with Christian principles there are no discriminatory regulations in effect. The intent is to practice an open policy of accepting anyone who wishes to purchase a burial site and have access to the Salem cemetery.

### 5 PAYMENT FOR LOTS

The current policy is to accept U.S. currency in cash or check payable upon purchase and also for scheduling a grave opening for interment. There is one exception to this policy, the Cemetery Board in effect as of January 1, 1999 did establish a limited time payment plan available only for Salem church members. There is one requirement however, that must be met in accordance with the time payment agreement - if one is in the process of purchasing and paying for multiple lots and needs to access one (1) of the said lots prior to completion of payment of said proposed lot to be opened, that specific lot must be paid for in full before opening the site for interment. A "Certificate of ownership" document will be issued only for each lot as the payment of said lot has been received in full.

# 6 PROCEEDURE TO FOLLOW UPON RECEIPT OF A CALL TO OPEN A GRAVE SITE.

If at all possible place a call to the Excavators (Grave Digger) at least 48 hours ahead of scheduled time of services established by the Funeral Home. We are currently using "HOLSTON EXCAVATORS" (Rodney & Pam Holston at home 301-540-4732, or their answering service at 301-963-8012, or, Holston's personal cell phone if deemed necessary in the interest of time scheduling. The cell phone number is 301-440-2471.

a) For standard burial, mark off the grave site, 38"x 96" using stakes on all four corners as dictated by the 3'x 8' metal template kept in the Storage Shed at the cemetery, located at the far East end.

# OPERATIONAL HANDBOOK FOR THE SALEM CEMETERY BOARD 2003

b) FOR INTERMENT OF CREMAINS. -- generally housed in a small container, or vase shaped vessel, but in either type of container an opening of an 18" deep, at minimum and rectangular opening of at least 24" long by 18" wide is usually adequate. It is probably wise to check with Funeral Home representatives first in case of any irregularities in size of container. Occasionally the family will have chosen a "VAULT" type outer housing made to accomodate a Cremains container, and if this is the case the depth may need to be 30" to 36". Whatever depth is required to receive the container it is important to have at least 12" to 14" below grade from top of container.

## 7 COST OF OPENING AND CLOSING OF GRAVE

This may vary from time to time, but currently we are billed \$450.00 (invoice mailed to the Board Treasurer from the Excavator) for a standard 38" x 96" opening, plus an extra \$100-00 if is for double depth. The Cemetery Board in turn quotes and collects from the client \$495.00 (plus \$100.00 if double depth is needed. This additional \$45.00 over our base cost is to help fund the expenses of sewing grass seed, clearing debris removal of excess dirt and other general maintenance costs. It is the Board's representative's responsibility to pick up the check (for opening and closing) from either the client or Funeral Home staff at time of interment. It is usually not collected in advance.

a) COST OF OPENING AND CLOSING FOR CREMAINS BURIAL: For a standard Cremains opening and closing, the standard dimension is approximately 24" long x 18" wide x 18" deep. Cost to the Board is \$125.00 and we collect \$150.00 from the Client. An exception to this is when the Client chooses to use a Cremains vault in that case the Cemetery Board is billed \$175.00 and collects \$200.00. There is one other option. Occasionally a client will want to provide for the opening and closing themselves. In this event there is no charge, but a Board representative must be present to assure that coverage is adequate and satisfactory.

### 8 USE OF VAULTS.

The Cemetery Board does not have a role in arranging for type of vault, selection, procurement, etc. This has been the responsibility of the Client and the Funeral Home. The selection of a vault can range from what is known as a simple Concrete Liner, to a vault known in the trade as a STANDARD vault, or, a very heavy duty deluxe type vault, depending on the Client's choice. The issue has been raised as to whether or not Salem requires any kind of vault? THE ANSWER IS "YES, WE DO REQUIRE AT LEAST THE "STANDARD" CONCRETE LINER TYPE VAULT. Further, if the burial is to be of double depth, both caskets, top and bottom, shall have the "STANDARD" type concrete liner installed as a minimum requirement.

a) In case of burial of Cremains only, no vault is officially required. However, if the Client chooses to use a Cremains container type vault this needs to be known in advance by the Excavator to assure the proper size opening is provided.

### 9 TRAFFIC/SAFETY CONTROL - POLICE ASSISTANCE

This can be a concern/problem at times. Permanent fixed solutions in place are not possible. Planning for assistance is done on a "needs" basis. There exists an understanding with the Olney Sub-Station Montgomery County Police, to give them as much advance notice of our needs as is possible, and if they have available manpower will send an Officer/s. Needs vary as to volume of cars anticipated, weather conditions, and for instance, if the services are here in Salem's sanctuary, generally, those who are physically able will park in Church's parking lot and walk as a body directly to the Cemetery. If however, Police assistance is needed to control traffic call the county at 240-773-5500, state the need and times needed, and they will inform you if they will have some help available. It is important to call 48 hours ahead of time. If a family wishes to have police escort/convoy from some other area to Salem

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Cemetery, they will have to make their own arrangements with the Police Department for said service.

#### 10 BURIAL PERMIT

The Funeral Homes will usually supply the Cemetery representative with a "BURIAL TRANSIT" permit. 'Fill out and sign where applicable and mail original to the Government Jurisdictional authority as indicated on the permit form. Before mailing original, a copy should be made and retained with all Cemetery records.

#### 11 RECORD KEEPING:

Make appropriate entries in the Cemetery records with names, addresses, telephone numbers, next of kin, or family representatives along with any pertinent notes, like double depth burial, Cremains, or any instructions for future representatives accepting responsibility for the deceased. Make a notation of any records that may help future Board representatives in their responses to family members who have concerns or questions.

### 12 MARKERS, MEMORIAL STONES, MONUMENTS

Whereas the Cemetery Board does not have any specific dimensional requirements, it is asked that the following guidelines be accepted and adhered to.

- a) Basically, Memorial Markers shall conform in style and size with existing patterns which have already been established, many of which have prevailed for decades. New Markers shall be of a general size and configuration that refrains from any massive pyramid like tall monuments and not extend horizontally over five feet (5').
- b) At this time it is not mandated, but the Board is strongly encouraging a movement towards preferring the flat grade level surface type marker, where practical, to conform to the row area terrain as already established. The grade level, flat surface is of great significance in facilitating perpetual care in mowing, trimming, and general ease of providing maintenance.
- c) As previously stated, since the Cemetery has been in existence for over 165 years, there are a number of inconsistencies in marker placement. PLEASE BE ADVISED, THAT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2003 THE BOARD WILL REQUIRE THAT ALL NEWLY ENGRAVED INFORMATION WILL BE PLACED ON THE SIDE OF THE MARKER FACING THE CENTER OF THE CEMETERY IN EAST OR WEST DIRECTION.

## 13 FOR BOARD MEMBERS' READY REFERENCE

The policy for the flowers placed on graves, as visibly posted on the sign located on south end of the cemetery, is printed here for convenience and ready reference:

THE BOARDS' POLICY FOR ARTIFICIAL AND LIVE FLOWERS IS

- "NO ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS PERMITTED DURING MOWING SEASON, JUNE 1st thru NOVEMBER lst"
- "ALL DEAD FLOWERS, AND THEIR ABOVE GROUND CONTAINERS WILL BE REMOVED"
- "NO GLASS CONTAINERS PERMITTED AT ANY TIME"
- "NO PLANTING OF FLOWERS, PLANTS, OR SHRUBBERY IS PERMITTED AT ANY TIME"
- "CEMETERY BOARD NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSS, OR, DAMAGE TO MEMORIAL MARKERS
- "NO PARKING OR TRESPASSING AFTER SUNSET"

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Salem United Methodist Church, Brookeville, MD USA - Rev. Lillian Geib, Pas

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## Salem United Methodist Church - A Brief Histor

Thanks to the efforts of Thomas McCormick, May 26, 1833 marked the beginning of what we now know as the Salem United Methodist Church in Brookeville, Maryland. Thomas McCormick was the seventh postmaster of Brookeville and a local preacher who had been expelled from the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1827 because of his devotions to the reform movement which gave birth to the Methodist Protestant Church.



A small frame structure was built in the Southwest corner of the ex cemetery on land which was given by Eliza P. Thomas. Not many recc are available concerning activities of our church between 1833 and 19 when a new and larger church was built diagonally across the road on donated by John H. Parsley who deeded the land to the church in 191 cornerstone was laid August 4, 1910. Rev. Dryden stated that... "the is beautiful both inside and out. The entire debt has been paid except small margin, which will be met in the near future, more than a thous persons having contributed and from every quarter of the county. Tru church built by faith. The heroic members of 46 have worked beyond comparison."

Many changes have come to pass through the years. Brookeville (S was at one time on a four church circuit with Clarksville, Linden, and I Carmel. The pastor lived in a parsonage in Clarksville (Howard County 1944 the churches at Clarksville and Linden were placed on a Baltimo circuit and Salem and Mt. Carmel were placed on a three circuit charg Oakdale Emory in Olney. In 1953, Oakdale Emory became a station clarecessitating providing a parsonage to house the pastoral family to se Salem and Mt. Carmel. That parsonage was built on a lot previously o by Salem, the costs being borne evenly by both churches. The entire parsonage property was jointly deeded to Salem and Mt. Carmel Chur

Many hours of labor were donated as well as material resulting in a parsonage being built at an approximate cost of \$19,000. The Parsonawas dedicated on February 29, 1954, with Bishop G. Bromly Oxnam b the message on that occasion.

At a Salem membership meeting on March 16, 1980, those in atten

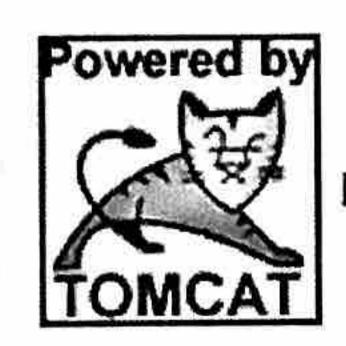
voted unanimously to request the Baltimore Annual Conference to c Salem's status to that of a station church. This was done only after m study and exploration and an invitation to Mt. Carmel Church to comb with us. Mt. Carmel decided not to accept our invitation.

The request to the Conference was granted and, effective July 1, 19 Dr. James Ditto was appointed to serve Salem. In the fall of 1980 Mt. Carmel was paid \$42,000, their share of the appraised value of the parsonage, which had been professionally appraised at \$85,000. That has been paid in full and the mortgage was burned in 1984.

Several years ago it became apparent that additional space was new for our growing church families and expanding programs. Because Brookeville is on the historical register we were limited by law in what be permitted. However the wheels were put into motion and permissing granted to put an addition on the rear of the existing church. With mapprayers and the talent of many people construction on a lovely addition began on March 31, 1996. The addition was consecrated on March 16 with Rev. Donald Stewart, District Superintendent, bringing the messa Today we have a lovely church with a membership of more than 290, beautiful parsonage, Orndorff Hall which is used as our educational but and other events, and a cemetery which is extremely well cared for.

Getting here in 2006 from the beginning in 1833 has required much by many people - members, friends, and those ministers assigned to Salem - all sharing their special skills and talents.

Truly a church built by faith.



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