MONTGOMERY COUNTY CEMETERY INVENTORY

Survey ID 274
Cemetery name Layton Family
Alternate name(s) Layton House
Address (or direction from nearest intersection)
ADC Map Page 1 Grid D-9 Town Laytonsville
TypeReligious Free blackFamily EnslavedPrivate EthnicOther Prehistoric
Setting Rural Urban Suburban Forested Other
Condition Excellent Good Fair V Poor
Negative Impacts (vandalism, dumping, neglect, encroachment, etc) ### Location unknown Approximate no. of burials
Current owner Address/Phone No. Historic Status Locational Atlas ID Master Plan ID 14 37 UTM National Register Other
Additional sources of information:
Faraubar, p. 191

THOO BEINE FORE

The Layton House

John Layton, and the brick house shown right was no doubt his home. When it was built is impossible to state, although it has many characteristics of houses built near the Revolutionary period. It is located in the center of the village, twenty-five miles northwest of the Zero milestone, on less than an acre of land forming the southwest corner of the cross roads.

The property was no doubt part of a large plantation, for a deed transferring the place to a descendant of John Layton as recently as 1885 gives the acreage at that time as 130¼ acres. The place, as well as the village, is located on Addition to Brooke Grove, an original grant to James Brooke of 7,906 acres in September, 1762. Just when the property came into possession of the Layton family the author has been unable to determine. There is a will on record, dated March 1850, of Keziah Layton, of which John R. Layton is made executor. This will devised several slaves, and mentions among several children John R. and John H.

A deed recorded in July, 1885, conveying the property to Edward O. Brown and his wife, Almira Layton, refers to John L. Layton, late of Montgomery County, deceased. It refers, also to the dower right allotted to the widow of the said Layton. This deed is a conveyance of 130½ acres, for a consideration of \$1,900 from George E. Gaither.

Edward Brown died in 1919; his wife Almira Layton Brown, in 1916. In 1920 the house with the original 130 acres was sold to Vernon Fulks, who died in 1938. After the death of his wife in 1947 the house with less than acre was sold to Dr. George M. Boyer of Frederick County. At that time the remaining large farm acreage was sold to William Fulks. In 1950 the house with two-thirds of an acre was purchased from Dr. Boyer by Mr. & Mrs. Augustus Wilson Lee. Mr. & Mrs. Lee can claim illustrious ancestry. He is a direct descendant of Thomas Sim Lee, Governor of Maryland after the Federal Constitution was adopted, and his lovely young wife, Miss Brooke Conley of Frederick County, is a direct descendant of Robert Brooke, who settled at De La Brooke in St. Mary's County on the Patuxent River in 1650. The Lees have



NO. 58 C-8 JOHN S. LAYTON CA. 1780-'90 BRICK

two children. They are, O'Donnell Lee, named for his great-grandfather, Columbus O'Donnell Lee (of Baltimore) and Christina Sim Lee, named for the mother of Thomas Sim Lee—Provincial Governor of Maryland, (for two terms) 1779-1782 and 1792-1794.

The house is of red brick. Its face brick is laid in Flemish bond facing the Goshen-Unity roadway, and Federal bond is on the sides. The bricks are said to have been made in the garden south of the house. There is the remnant of a family burial plot, but all markers have disappeared. Beside the house there is one box bush, American variety, about fifteen feet high, which is probably over a century old. A number of others surround the house. Extending back from the main house is a wing, forming a "T," two stories high with an attractive porch the full two stories in height on the side. Brick cornices are under the eaves.

In the front hall to the right is a fine old stairway. On the left of the hall is a living room with a fireplace. Behind this room is the dining room which also has a fireplace. From the dining room one enters a hall with a pantry. Further to the rear is another room with a huge fireplace with crane supports. There is a bedroom on the second floor over each first-floor room.