

Deeds Chronology

Shoemaker Family Cemetery in Brookdale North

In 1839, Isaac Shoemaker, a Quaker farmer of German extraction, bought a tract of 140 acres between River Road and the Georgetown-Rockville Turnpike (now Wisconsin Avenue) just north of the Maryland boundary with Washington County (now the District of Columbia). Subsequently he sold a total of 66.6 acres of land to Hilleary Ball, a blacksmith, and farmers Aquila Eld, and Cyrus Eli Perry; but he kept most of what is now Brookdale North, GEICO and Bloomingdale's as his farm. On a hillside at the western (Perry) boundary of his farm, Isaac Shoemaker established a family burial ground of 1/7 acre; today, you can find this burial ground between 5200 and 5202 Murray Road in Brookdale North.

During the nineteenth century, it was customary for rural Maryland families to set aside some of their own farmland as burial places. Nineteenth century records of the Joseph F. Birch Funeral Home in Georgetown list the burial of Isaac Shoemaker on August 12, 1883, on the farm in Maryland. His wife, Ann Williams Shoemaker, who pre-deceased him in 1853, would have been buried on the family farm, as was Eliza Summers, Cyrus Perry's sister-in-law through his wife. Sallie (Sarah) McCoy, a household servant, was also buried in the cemetery, and perhaps minor children.

The graves of Isaac and his wife would not have been marked with headstones because of their Quaker heritage. It was often customary to mark such graves with bushes and perhaps small stone grave markers, although witnesses described the graves of Eliza Summers and Sallie McCoy marked with head stones. Isaac's descendants understand that this cemetery was vandalized in the mid-twentieth century and now no headstones remain. However, Dick Erdman, at 5202 Murray Road has located two original, dressed stone markers almost 30 inches in length, set about 8 feet apart in what had been a rose garden on the site.

Upon Isaac's death in 1883, his son Louis Shoemaker inherited the farm, which by then had shrunk to 52 acres, but still contained the Isaac Shoemaker family cemetery. After Louis Shoemaker's death in 1916, Isaac's heirs decided to sell the family farm. Isaac's grandson and Louis' son, Albert Shoemaker, acted as family trustee and agent. The land passed through several parties. The initial deed of transfer from Dawson and Shoemaker to Francis Bennet Poe, was recorded as liber 368 at folio 203 (1925). The deed of sale explicitly excluded "one seventh (1/7) of an acre containing the small burial plot located on the Perry boundary line near the river road". The exclusion for the family burial plot was repeated in two more deeds in short order: Poe to Tuckerman (liber 368 at folio 206, Jan 30, 1925), and Walter and Edith Tuckerman to Donald Woodward and Irene W. Parker (July 2, 1925, liber 378 folio 139. Each

When the farm was subdivided by Donald Woodward for development in 1938, the burial plot was clearly delineated on block 4 of plat 949 between plots 2 and 3 on Murray Road and marked "RESERVATION - Not included in this subdivision". Therefore, the Shoemaker family burial plot continued to be recognized as a cemetery and stayed in the possession of Isaac Shoemaker's descendants, who continue to visit it every year or more frequently. The houses built on plots 2 and 3 are now 5200 and 5202 Murray Road.

**Land records and other Documents relating to the Burial Ground on Murray Road,
Brookdale**

Introduction

As noted above, when the area that became Brookdale North was sold in 1925 by the trustees of the Isaac Shoemaker heirs, excluded from the sale was an area at the Perry property line of 1/7 of an acre which was established as a family burial ground since the farm had been purchased in 1839. When Donald Woodward subdivided Brookdale North in 1938, the burial ground, located between the first two lots on Murray Road, was set off as "Reservation Not included in this subdivision".

Summary of Transactions

The details of the transactions are given in three sections: From 1714 to 1839, from 1839 to 1939, and from 1939 to the present. Since 1939 the paper trail diverges - one for 5200, the other for 5202.

Transactions from 1714 to 1839

The land records reach back to the original patent for the 3124 acre tract called "Friendship" obtained by Thomas Addison and James Stoddert from Lord Calvert in 1713 in the state of Maryland (recorded in Liber P.L. #3, folios 460-462). The river road passed through in the northwest to near Tennallytown. Stoddert had 1562 acres in the northern part of this land. In terms of current landmarks, Stoddert's portion was north of Fessenden Street, NW. and extended into Bethesda to Edgemoor Lane on both sides of River Road and Wisconsin Avenue. In 1746, George Goodwin purchased 400 acres from Benjamin Stoddert (Prince Georges Liber BB #1 ff433-4). In 1752, Henry Threlkeld purchased the 400 acres (Liber E.I.9 folio 340, October, 1752).

The part of Threlkeld's land to the east of River Road was conveyed to Clement Smith in 1828 (Liber BS2 Folio 30, October 12, 1828).

1. On 9-27-1839 Isaac Shoemaker bought 140 acres from the heirs of Clement Smith, and the deed was entered at Liber 9 Folio 533 of the Montgomery County Land Records. In current terms, this land is south of Somerset between River Road, and Wisconsin Avenue and was bounded to the south by the District of Columbia (Western Avenue). (Also see "The History of Brookdale" by Amy Rispin, figures 3 and 4.)

9-27-1839	To	Isaac Shoemaker	
	From	Clement Smith's heirs	Liber 9 Folio 533

Transactions from 1839 to 1938

From 1839 to 1854 Isaac Shoemaker sold land totaling 65.6 acres to Cyrus Eli Perry (November 27, 1854, Liber JGH No. 4 folio 111), Hilleary Ball (1846, Liber 306-7 folio STS 2), and Aquila Eld (July 19, 1854, Liber JGH No. 3 folio 820). Isaac shoemaker died in 1883 and was buried on his farm. By 1915, after additional transactions, Isaac's son, Louis was farming about 59 acres of land; the area runs from near the intersection of River Road with Shoemaker Farm Lane, east to southeast to Wisconsin Avenue, south on Wisconsin Avenue to Western Avenue, southwest on Western Avenue to River Road, northwest on River Road to just beyond Keokuk Road, north and then northeast to the starting point. After the death of Louis Shoemaker the heirs agreed to appoint Albert Shoemaker and Richard Dawson (Clerk of the Circuit Court) to liquidate the remainder of the estate.

2. On 10-27-1924 the trustees sold the property to Francis Bennett Poe; the deed was not recorded until 2-6-1925 at liber 368 folio 203. The Reservation was specifically excluded from this sale. "Exclusive however, of a small burial plot located on the Perry boundary line near the River Road; containing 1/7 of an acre."

2-6-25 To Francis Bennett Poe

 From Albert E. Shoemaker and Thomas L. Dawson

Liber 368 Folio 203

3. 2-6-25 Francis Bennett Poe sold the property to Walter R. Tuckerman, recorded at Liber 368 Folio 206. Again, the Reservation was specifically excluded by reference to the Shoemaker/Dawson deed of sale, "being the same [land] that was conveyed to the said Francis Bennet Poe by Thomas L. Dawson and Albert E. Shoemaker."

2-6-1925 To Walter R. Tuckerman

 From Francis Bennett Poe and Catherine S. Poe

Liber 368 Folio 206

4. 7-2-1925 Walter R. Tuckerman sold the property to Donald Woodward and Irene W. Parker, recorded at Liber 378 Folio 139. The Reservation was again excluded at par. 5. "One seventh (1/7) of an acre containing the small burial plot located on the Perry boundary line near the River Road." Also, "except in part..., and one seventh of an acre in the burial plot."

7-2-1925 To Donald Woodward and Irene W. Parker

 From Walter R. Tuckerman Liber 378 Folio 139

9. On 10-20-1972 Mary Parker Pearson et al. (heirs of Donald Woodward) wrote a Quit Claim deed to James P. and Mary E. Corrigan, "The described premises being half of the parcel containing 7260 sq. ft. shown as "RESERVATION" on the plat of Block 4, "Brookdale" Subdivision, Plat Book (4), Plat 949 in the Office of the Surveyor for Montgomery County, Maryland".

10-20-1972 To James P. and Mary E. Corrigan
From Mary Parker Pearson, Jane Parker Caswell, Andrew Parker,
and Cassie Parker Thompson
Liber 4309 Folio 211

10. 8-1-1989 James Corrigan sold the property to Najibeh and Kuros Amouzdar recorded at Liber 8991 Folio 874. For the first time half of the Reservation is mentioned as part of the transfer. An error in the deed had the Amouzdars grantees instead of Roy and Paulette Betteley.

8-1-1989 To Najibeh and Kuros Amouzdar
From James P. Corrigan Liber 8991 Folio 874

11. On 12-1-1989 The error was corrected in a quit claim deed from Najibeh and Kuros Amouzdar. to Roy and Paulette Betteley, which was recorded at Liber 9127 Folio 294.

12-1-1989 To Roy D.R. and Paulette Z. Betteley
From Najibeh and Kuros Amouzdar Liber 9127 Folio 294

12. On 12-11-1992 Roy D.R. Betteley entered a preliminary plan for the subdivision of 5200 Murray to split his lot into two, one containing the existing house and the reservation, the other containing part of his original lot and the Keokuk additions. This plan is document #13.

12-11-1992 Resubdivision by Roy D. R. Betteley of 5200 Murray Preliminary plan

13. 2-3-1993 Roy Betteley sent a letter to the Erdmans in 5202 Murray discussing the preliminary plan for that subdivision. "Mr. Norton's letter states that my property is contiguous to a Native American reservation/burial ground and that it should be preserved. I agree. This burial ground is on the other side of my house and would not be affected by the proposed subdivision one way or another." Note that the reference to Native American is an error, the Shoemakers were Quakers.

14. On 7-29-1997 Roy D.R. Betteley proposed the resubdivision of lots 6 and 7 (Lot 6 is 5200 Murray plus part of "Reservation"). This is the current plat.

Plat 20479

7-29-1997 Resubdivision by Roy D. R. Betteley of lots 6 and 7 (Lot 6 is 5200 Murray)

Deeds for 5202 Murray 1939 - 1982

We have not obtained a record of a transfer from Donald Woodward (developer) to Cooper Lightbown (builder).

15. On 11-27-39 Cooper Lightbown sold the property at 5202 Murray Road to Stanley and Nydia A. Young which was entered in Liber 759 Folio 232.

11-27-39 To Stanley and Nydia A. Young
From Cooper Lightbown Liber 759 Folio 232

16. On 5-20-1970 Nydia A. Young sold the property to Jack B. and Helen H. Sagendorf which was entered in Liber 3968 Folio 669.

5-20-1970 To Jack B. and Helen H. Sagendorf
From Nydia A. Young Liber 3968 Folio 669

17. On 10-20-1972 Mary Parker Pearson et al. (heirs of Donald Woodward) signed a Quit Claim deed to Jack B. Sagendorf and Helen H. Sagendorf, "The described premises being half of the parcel containing 7260 sq. ft. shown as "RESERVATION" on the plat of Block 4, "Brookdale" Subdivision, Plat Book (4), Plat 949 in the Office of the Surveyor for Montgomery County, Maryland".

10-20-1972 To Jack B. Sagendorf and Helen H. Sagendorf
From Mary parker Pearson, Jane Parker Caswell, Andrew Parker, and Cassie Parker Thompson
Liber 4309 Folio 207

18. On 1-21-1982 Jack B. and Helen H. Sagendorf sold the property to Richard and Sybil Erdman, which was entered in Liber 5828 Folio 20. The Reservation was included.

1-21-1982 To Richard and Sybil Erdman
From Jack and Helen H. Sagendorf Liber 5828 Folio 20