



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

Montgomery County Burial Sites Inventory

Historic Preservation ID:

HP-365

Name:

Valdenar Family Cemetery

Description:

Small 19th-century family burial ground

Community:

☐

Religious:

☐

Family:

☒

African American:

☐

Other Site Type:

Number of Burials:

1+

Visible Markers:

☐

Formal Entrance:

☐

Cemetery Sign:

☐

Active:

☐

Earliest Year:

1824

Latest Year:

1876

Is the Site Extant?:

Is the Location Sensitive?:

☐

Sensitive Contact:

Sensitive Reason:

Location Confidence:

Known

Location Confirmed:

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

2006 Survey Summary:

Montgomery Preservation, Inc.:

FindaGrave.com:

Maryland Tombstone Transcription Project:

Other Website:

https://mcatlas.org/hp2/hpdocs/M_%2033-02.pdf

Master Plan Historic Resource No.:

Historic Resource:

Confirmed by Planning Board:

Confirmation Date:

Site Survey Date:

Revision Date:

No

Site Surveyor Name:

Data Originator:

Notes:

Along Mowbray Road near Colesville. The location is shown on USGS Topographic Maps from 1956 -1979. The Valdenar family owned the land from 1824 - 1876. The earliest and latest dates are based on Valdenar family ownership.

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

Public Display Scale:

Is there a Restriction on Sharing Information?:

1: 0

GIS Source Date:

GIS Source Datum:

Boundary Type:

Horizontal Accuracy:

GIS Data Source:

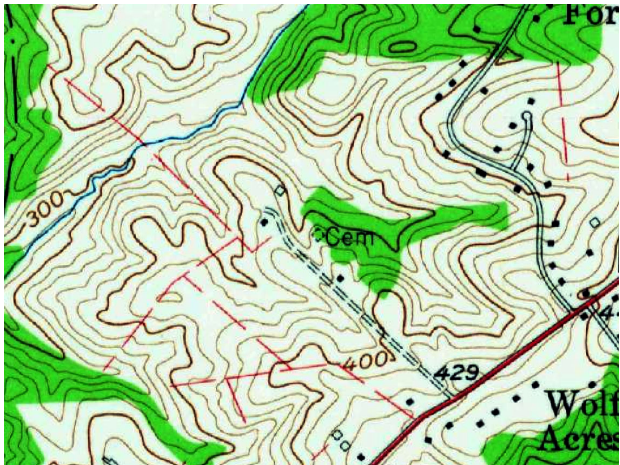
Additional Information:

The burial records of Grace Episcopal Church in Silver Spring record the burial of Elizabeth Valdenar on March 3, 1876. "Buried at "Westover" the old home of the Valdenars on Friday the 3rd of March 1876 Mrs Elizabeth Valdenar wife of Francis Valdenar + mother of Mary Harings aged 83ys - 1 mo - 26 days. She kept the Faith." Westover is a Montgomery County Master Plan Historic Site, 33-2.

The cemetery is referenced in deed reservations in 1876 (Liber EBP 15 Folio 380 and Liber EBP 16 Folio 43) and 1926 (Liber 414 Folio 231). EBP15 Folio 380 reads "nevertheless reserving and excepting the family graveyard on said farm as at present enclosed for the benefit of the Valdenar family with the right of ingress thereto and egress therefrom."

Other than Elizabeth Valdenar, it is unknown whether anyone else was interred at Westover. The burial place of Elizabeth's husband Francis Valdenar is not known, nor is that of their children Mary and William. Francis Francis outlived Elizabeth and the sale of Westover outside the family, but since he retained ownership and access to the cemetery, it is possible that he was buried next to his wife. Some of their children could have been buried there as well. Valdenar also held at least 33 people in slavery per the 1876-68 records of the Maryland Commissioner of Slave Statistics, it is possible that some of those the family enslaved could have been buried within or near the family graveyard.

Images:



HP-165-01
1956 USGS map showing the cemetery



HP-165-02
2023 Aerial photograph of cemetery location

Date 09/30/2025
Photographer Brian Crane

Date 09/30/2025
Photographer Brian Crane

<u>MARKER ID</u>	<u>GIVEN NAME</u>	<u>FAMILY NAME</u>	<u>DEATH YEAR</u>
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