

Maryland Lost Burial Ground Project

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Project of Jeff Duvall

Prince Georges County

Becketts African American Burial Ground-Bowie

Benjamin H. Beckett Sr. (1766-1841).

Becketts Burial Ground is believed to be on the property of Benjamin H. Beckett Sr. (1766-1841). Land was obtained in 1818 from William Bowie (PG. Co. Deed EH 1-301 218 Acres). In 1841 Benjamin H. Beckett Sr. dies (PG. Co. Will PC-157) with Benjamin Beckett Jr. (1808-1877) as Executor. Prince Georges County 1850 Census list Benjamin Beckett Jr. (Planter) living with Margaret Beckett (Mother) and his 2 sons William M. Beckett & Benjamin Beckett III. No deeds list a graveyard on the property. No headstones were found on Find a Grave for the early Beckett Family. Is the Beckett Family buried here?

Beckett property south side of Duckettown Road & Backus Drive Bowie MD. Land is now a subdivision. Area of 39.005388° -76.791765°

<https://www.ancestry.com/genealogy/records/benjamin-h-beckett-24-8zr6zh>

Prince Georges County Death Certificates list 29 African Americans buried in Becketts Burial Ground

Benjamin H. Beckett Sr. (1766-1841) is showing 11 slaves on the 1840 PG. Co. Census. Is the Becketts African American Burial Ground an early slave burial ground for the Beckett Family? In later years were ex slaves and their descendants buried here? Unknown as to the number of burials.

Deceased	Died	Age	Father	Mother
Baker, Francis E.	12 Apr 1922	9 Days	Lloyd Baker	Ethel Watkins
Baker, Still Born (Male)	3 Apr 1922	-	Lloyd Baker	Ethel Watkins
Barton, Welsey	20 Jan 1916?	45	N/A	N/A
Broglin?, Priscilla	11 Mar 1923	63	Henry Gardner	Maria Hall
Brooks, Elnora	2 Dec 1922	19	Patrick? Brooks	Louisa Griffin
Brooks, Still Born (Male)	1 Dec 1922	-	? Homes	Elnora Brooks
Bryant, Still Born (Female)	19 June 1934	-	George Burley?	Mary Bryant

		Chew, John	2 July 1927	66	John H. Chew	Matilda Chew
		Colver, Willie R.	19 Mar 1925	3 Mos.	Roy Colver	Sadie Garner
		Cubit, Andrew	20 Mar 1915	46	George Cubit	Mildred Cubit
		Deneal, Mable C.	13 Aug 1932	1	Mark Deneal	Bertha Hall
		Franklin, William	23 Sep 1922	50	Franklin, William	Finfe? Johnson
		Gray, Helen	17 Aug 1928	1	James Gray	Bertha Hall
		Hall, George	11 Oct 1914	75	Addison Hall	N/A
		Hall, Mary A.	3 Sep 1919	90	N/A	N/A
		Hall, Richard	18 Nov 1919	75	N/A	N/A
		Hawkins, Still Born (Male)	25 May 1928	-	Andrew Hawkins	Elizabeth Colver
		Hebron, E. ? (Male)	25 July 1912	7 Mos.	Robert Hebron	N/A
		Howard, Benjamin	29 Feb 1918	65	Harry Howard	N/A
		Johnson, George C.	9 Feb 1929	2 Mos.	George F. Johnson	Margaret West
		Jones, Charles H.	22 June 1911	27	N/A	N/A
		Marshal, James E.	6 June 1913	1 Mos.	Samuel Marshal	Martha Williams
		Matthews, Beulah M.	6 Oct 1924	49	Jacob Banks	Mildred J. Payne
		Sheffard, Bertha	7 Mar 1921	34	Jacob Banks	Mildred J. Payne?
		Still Born (Male)	16 Jan 1914	-	Henry Colbert	Louisa Thomas
		Still Born (Male)	30 Sep 1916	-	Clarence Smith	Helen Zuander?
		Walters, Washington	2 Mar 1915	106x	N/A	N/A
		Williams, Muriel	13 Oct 1912	1	John H. Williams	Marjorie Banks
		Young, Irene	7 Nov 1928	6 Days	Robert Young	Irene Brooks
Carrick Family? Henry Carrick Sr. 1771-1824	PG. Co.	In 1861 Richard Carrick obtains deed (PG. Co. Deed CSM 4-59 317 Acres). Deed states “Land which Henry Carrick Sr. died seized. Land was part of Carricks Industry surveyed for John Carrick (PG. Co. Patent # 443 600 Acres 1762). Tracing the deeds forward with division of the property the first mention of a graveyard is in 1945 (PG. Co. Deed 833-398). Westside of Old Laurel Bowie Road & north of Duckettown Road Bowie MD. Unknown if anything remains. Area of 39.017463° -76.787731°				

Family	County	Deed #	Patent #	Estate Record #
Dorcas Clarke Carrick 1771-1858 Son Richard Carrick 1811-1865 Sarah A. Duvall Carrick 1815-1880		None of the early Carrick Family are listed on Find a Grave. Unknown as to the number of burials. .Major grading has taken place for future construction https://ancestors.familysearch.org/en/G78S-SXW/richard-carrick-1811-1865		
Shorter Family (Colored) William Shorter 1846-1925 Wife Belle Shorter 1860-<1910	PG. Co.	Shorters African American Burial Ground-Laurel William Shorter (Age 30) first appears in the 1880 PG. Co. Census 10 District with children John W. Shorter (3) & Harriett A. Shorter (1). Also living next to the Tyler & Dorsey families listed in the deeds below. In the 1900 William Shorter (54) is listed in PG. Co. Census with wife Belle Shorter (40) along with daughter Elizabeth Shorter (19) and granddaughters Bertha E. Matthews (4) & Hattie B. Harris (11 mos.). Belle Shorter does not appear on the 1910 PG. Co. Census. Appears William Shorter married twice. Probable the wives of William Shorter are also buried here. William Shorter obtained the land where the graveyard is believed to be located in 1880 (PG. Co. Deed WAJ 1-754 1.5 Acres). Deed states “William Shorter (Colored) from Rev. Presley B. Smith”. Tracing the deeds out the		

Family	County	Deed #	Patent #	Estate Record #																																																																																																						
		property was located between Contee Road & Braygreen Road Laurel MD. which is now commercial structures. Unknown if any headstones remain further research needed. Area of 39.078923° -76.870808°																																																																																																								
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		Adjacent to the William Shorter property 2 other lots were obtained from Rev. Presley B. Smith by Mary E. Tyler (Colored) 1880 & Mary A. Dorsey (Colored) 1881. in PG. Co. Deeds WAJ 1-752 &WAJ 3-334. No later deeds mention a burial ground.																																																																																																								
		<table><tr><th colspan="6">Prince Georges County Maryland</th></tr><tr><th colspan="6">Death Certificates</th></tr><tr><th colspan="6">Shorters Cemetery-Laurel/Contee</th></tr><tr><th>Deceased</th><th>Died</th><th>Age</th><th>Husband</th><th>Father</th><th>Mother</th></tr><tr><td>Brooks, Infant (M)</td><td>1928</td><td>Still Born</td><td>-</td><td>Thomas? Brooks</td><td>Priscilla Cochran?</td></tr><tr><td>Brooks, Infant (M)</td><td>1916</td><td>Still Born</td><td>-</td><td>Edward Brooks</td><td>? Williams</td></tr><tr><td>Burley, Helen</td><td>1921</td><td>6 Mos.</td><td>-</td><td>Samuel Burley</td><td>Bertha Matthews</td></tr><tr><td>Coats, Alice R.</td><td>1915</td><td>10 Mos.</td><td>-</td><td>Howard Coats</td><td>Rebecca Thomas</td></tr><tr><td>Douglas, Flavilla U.</td><td>1917</td><td>32</td><td>William Douglas</td><td>George Williams</td><td>Rachel Williams</td></tr><tr><td>Douglas, Walter W.</td><td>1917</td><td>8 Mos.</td><td></td><td>W. Douglas</td><td>? Williams</td></tr><tr><td>Douglas, William</td><td>1918</td><td>30</td><td></td><td>George Douglas</td><td>Harriett? Warfield</td></tr><tr><td>Harrison, Infant (F)</td><td>1913</td><td>3 Mos.</td><td></td><td>? Harrison</td><td>Florence Moorhead</td></tr><tr><td>Hurt, Charles E.</td><td>1924</td><td>21 Days</td><td>-</td><td>Edward Hurt</td><td>Sarah Coatley</td></tr><tr><td>Hurt, Infant (M)</td><td>1919</td><td>Still Born</td><td>-</td><td>Edward Hurt</td><td>Bissie Carlin</td></tr><tr><td>Johnson, Infant (M)</td><td>1912</td><td>6 Mos.</td><td>-</td><td>Edward Johnson</td><td>Bertha Hebron</td></tr><tr><td>Johnson, Mary L.</td><td>1916</td><td>2 Days</td><td>-</td><td>George W. Johnson</td><td>Mary E. Waltman</td></tr><tr><td>Miller, Amelia</td><td>1930</td><td>74</td><td>-</td><td>William Dorsey</td><td>N/A Frank Miller</td></tr></table>			Prince Georges County Maryland						Death Certificates						Shorters Cemetery-Laurel/Contee						Deceased	Died	Age	Husband	Father	Mother	Brooks, Infant (M)	1928	Still Born	-	Thomas? Brooks	Priscilla Cochran?	Brooks, Infant (M)	1916	Still Born	-	Edward Brooks	? Williams	Burley, Helen	1921	6 Mos.	-	Samuel Burley	Bertha Matthews	Coats, Alice R.	1915	10 Mos.	-	Howard Coats	Rebecca Thomas	Douglas, Flavilla U.	1917	32	William Douglas	George Williams	Rachel Williams	Douglas, Walter W.	1917	8 Mos.		W. Douglas	? Williams	Douglas, William	1918	30		George Douglas	Harriett? Warfield	Harrison, Infant (F)	1913	3 Mos.		? Harrison	Florence Moorhead	Hurt, Charles E.	1924	21 Days	-	Edward Hurt	Sarah Coatley	Hurt, Infant (M)	1919	Still Born	-	Edward Hurt	Bissie Carlin	Johnson, Infant (M)	1912	6 Mos.	-	Edward Johnson	Bertha Hebron	Johnson, Mary L.	1916	2 Days	-	George W. Johnson	Mary E. Waltman	Miller, Amelia	1930	74	-	William Dorsey	N/A Frank Miller
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		Moore, Isabella	1918	29?	-	Frank Matthews	Amelia Dorsey	
		Nicholson, Stephen R.	1916	9 Mos.	-	Henry Nicholson	Florence Moorhead	
		Shorter, William	1925	79	-	N/A	N/A	
		Thomas, Ruth	1923	4 Mos.	-	Samuel Thomas	Annie Hebron	
		Thomas. Louisa V.	1916	1	-	William Thomas	Bertha Hebron	
		Woods, Infant (M)	1924	3 Hrs.	-	William Woods	Mary Matthews	
		Perleen Hebron death certificate list burial at Contee which is the same area as the Shorter property.						
		Hebron, Perleen	1912	17	-	John Hebron	Maggie Hammond	
	PG. Co.	Slinghuff Farm Cemetery (African American)-Bowie						
		Melford Mansion						
		Prince Georges County Maryland						
		Death Certificates						
		Slinghuff Farm						
		Deceased	Died	Age	Father	Mother		
		Wilson, Mary Alice	1918	7 Days	Richard Wilson	Emma Power/Powell		
		Wilson, Thomas	1917	2	Thomas Wilson	Katie Young		
		(Unknown as to the location on the Slinghuff Farm. Possible location of early slave burial ground)						
		Slinghuff Farm Melford Boulevard & Route 50 Bowie MD. 38.960931° -76.710663°						
Note								
Thomas Wilson (1851-1931) was the father of Richard Wilson. Katie Young Wilson (1888-1964).								
Death Certificate for Thomas Wilson								

Family	County	Deed #			Patent #			Estate Record #
			Deceased	Died	Age	Father	Mother	
			Wilson, Thomas	1931	80	William Wilson	Martha E. Wooten	
			Death Certificate list Thomas Wilson died Mitchellville PG. Co. and buried Chews Chapel Anne Arundel Co. Name not found on Find a Grave					
		https://apps.mht.maryland.gov/Medusa/PDeF/NR_PDFs/NR-1007.pdf						
		https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2772672/duckett-cemetery						
https://apps.mht.maryland.gov/medusa/PDF/AnneArundel/AA-126.pdf								