

In August 2018, descendants and volunteers working to protect the cemeteries at Walter Pierce Park asked the DC Department of Parks & Recreation and Department of General Services to create a commemorative space to honor the 8,428 people buried at the site, proposing an “Ancestors Pavilion.” The descendants and their supporters agreed that:

- the Pavilion should send a message of resilience, respect, healing, and benevolence;
- there should be no disturbance of the land in creating the space;
- the names, ages, and years of death of the buried would be listed on nine signs along an existing centrally located wall, facing Adams Mill Road;
- the signs would tell the story of the site, the people, and the park;
- the bricks in front of the wall should be re-laid to incorporate a millstone motif to honor the miller who founded the Quaker cemetery;
- park entry signs should read “Walter Pierce Park – Site of Historic African American and Quaker Cemeteries”
- The Pavilion should be an accessible space for readings, performances, contemplation, and rejuvenation. It should be a space for the living!

OVERALL PROJECT MOCK-UPS-1

ANCESTORS PAVILION FOR WALTER PIERCE PARK, PROPOSED BY DESCENDANTS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS TO DC DPR/DGS AUGUST 2018



ABOVE: VIEWS OF THE EXISTING BRICK WALL WEST OF THE GRASSY OVAL ON THE ADAMS MILL ROAD END OF THE PARK. THE WALL SEPARATES THE UPPER AND LOWER PARTS OF THE PARK. IT IS 66' LONG BY 36" HIGH.



ABOVE: PROPOSED SIGNAGE FOR THE ANCESTORS PAVILION WOULD FEATURE THE NAMES, AGES, AND YEARS OF DEATH OF THE MORE THAN 8,000 PEOPLE BURIED AT THE CEMETERIES, 1807-1890.

NINE 6'x2' SIGNS WOULD BE MOUNTED TO THE WALL AT AN ANGLE FOR EASE OF READING. ALL SIGNAGE WOULD BE IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH.

OVERALL PROJECT MOCK-UPS-3



AT LEFT: THE EXISTING BRICK PAVEMENT AT THE WALL. THE DESCENDANTS PROPOSE THAT THE BRICK BE RE-LAID OR REPLACED TO HELP DEFINE THE COMMEMORATIVE SPACE.

THEY PROPOSE THAT JONATHAN SHOEMAKER, THE MILLER WHO DONATED LAND FOR THE QUAKER CEMETERY IN 1807, BE HONORED WITH THE INCORPORATION OF A MILLSTONE (REAL OR FABRICATED) OR MILLSTONE DESIGN IN THE PAVEMENT.

MILLSTONES/MILLSTONE MOTIF IN LANDSCAPE DESIGN (INTERNET PHOTOS)



OVERALL PROJECT MOCK-UPS-4

RE-PAINTED PARK ENTRY SIGNS, which now say “Walter Pierce Park,” could say “Walter Pierce Park – Site of historic African American and Quaker Cemeteries.”



ABOVE: EXISTING SIGN.



AT RIGHT AND BELOW: PROPOSED REPAINTED SIGNS.



SIGN MOCK-UPS-2

SAMPLE INSET, NAMES SIGNS: SOLDIERS & SAILORS BURIED AT WALTER PIERCE

Note: Spanish translation on this sample was done with a Word program, so there might be errors. Actual signage would contain translation by Spanish-speaking writer.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS BURIED AT MT. PLEASANT PLAINS CEMETERY SOLDADOS Y MARINEROS ENTERRADOS EN CEMENTERIO MT. PLEASANT PLAINS



A military color guard honors the soldiers and sailors buried at Walter Pierce Park, 2012. (Photo by Gretchen Roberts Shorter.) *Un guardia de color militar honra a los soldados y marineros enterrados en el Parque Walter Pierce, 2012.*

U.S. ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

Dabney Walker, Union scout, died April 23, 1885, age 74, survived by his second wife Rosey Dean, at 36 Pomeroy St. NW.

Lucy Ann Walker, spy for the Union, husband Dabney, died June 12, 1880, age 66, at alley dwelling between R, S, 13th & 14th streets NW.

1ST REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Crier, Thompson (or Thomas) M., Co. C; widow Martha. He enlisted at age 13 and served as a drummer boy. He died Dec. 11, 1878, age 31, at 1613 12th St. NW.

Edmonson, Richard Jr., Co. B; widow Sarah. He died Jan. 3, 1889, age 45, at Baptist Alley between 9th, 10th, E & F, NW.

Ferguson, Louis (escaped slavery and served under the alias "William Henson"), Co. E; widow Patsy. He died April 22, 1885, age 40, at 1343 S St., NW.

Marks, Edward, Co. B; widows Maria and Annie. He escaped slavery near Petersburg, Va., in 1863, and enlisted in Washington. He died March 14, 1889, age 55, at Freedmen's Hospital.

Noble, Samuel, Co. K; widow Fannie. He died July 3, 1888, age 48, at 1214 Blagden's Alley, NW.

Tolson, William E. (served under the alias "John Gray"), Co. B; widow Lettie. He ran away from slavery in Prince George's County, Md. He died July 2, 1886, age 39, at 1758 T St., NW.

White, Philip, Co. I, widow Martha. He died May 2, 1884, age 48, at 410 18th Street, NW.

2ND REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Boyd, John, Co. C. Boyd, who was emancipated April 16, 1862, died March 31, 1868, age 22.

Davis, Reuben, Co. B; widow Jane. He died July 27, 1887, age 39, at 1706 Glick's Alley between 6th, 7th, S & T, NW.

Fox, Charles, Co. I; widow Lucinda. He died Feb. 10, 1886, age 53, at 618 3rd St., SW.

Gray, Reuben, Co. E; widow Lucy. He died June 18, 1886, age 45, at 1736 17th St., NW.

Johnson, Joseph, Co. H; widow Maria Louisa. He died June 10, 1889, age 56, at Freedmen's Hospital.

Smith, Adam, Co. C; mother Fannie, father William. He died March 5, 1866, age 25.

Williams, Charles, Co. I; widow Carrie. He died Oct. 7, 1885, age 40, at 632 New York Ave. NW.

Williams, Joseph, Co. H; widow Rosannah. He died Nov. 23, 1887, at 933 Naylor's Alley, NW.

4TH REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Magruder, Enoch, Co. F, widow Harriet. He died Feb. 6, 1871, age 46.

Smith, Robert M., Co. D; widow Priscilla. He died Dec. 15, 1882, age 55, at Foundry Place between 13th, 14th G & H, NW.

11TH REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED HEAVY ARTILLERY

Burley (Berley), Fletcher, corporal, Co. M; enlisted at Providence, RI. He died Nov. 29, 1873, age 27.

22ND REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Weir (Ware), James, Co. A; widow Amy. He died March 10, 1890, age 54, at Freedmen's Hospital.

23RD REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Boon(e), John, Co. H; widow Elizabeth. He died August 26, 1887, age 68, at 713 Freeman's Alley.

Churchwell, Benjamin, sergeant, Co. I; widow Maria. He died April 16, 1883, age 45, on I Street between Half & South Capitol streets.

Holland, Sandy, Co. G; widow Mary. He died August 30, 1888, age 52, at 121 First Alley.

Johnson, Samuel, Co. K; widow Louisa. He died July 20, 1888, age 48, at Freedmen's Hospital.

Triplett, Addison, Co. A; widow Louisa. He died Jan. 15, 1887, age 48, 1817 Cedar St., NW.

25TH REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Baggott, Hugh, unassigned company; widow Cornelia. He died June 28, 1888, age 49, at 481 Ridge St., NW.

28TH REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Johnson, William, Co. K or H. He died July 3, 1884, age 45, at Freedmen's Hospital.

32ND REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Bell, Louis (Lewis), Co. E; widow Mary. He died Jan. 3, 1886, age 56, at 1334 15th St., NW.

Lewis, John, Co. B; widow Amy. He died Oct. 2, 1882, age 42, on Franklin St. between 4th, 5th P & Q, NW.

Taylor, Andrew Jackson, Co. D; widow Emma. He died Sept. 12, 1876, age 45, at 210 Jackson Alley, NW.

38TH REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Turner, Henry, Co. K; widow Julia. He died Dec. 7, 1884, age 55, at 1510 10th St., NW.

43RD REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Hatton, John, Co. G; child William. He died Oct. 4, 1887, age 45, at Freedmen's Hospital.

Johnson, Robert, Co. K; widow Mary. He died June 3, 1884, age 48, at Union Alley between 14th, 15th, L & M, NW.

107TH REGIMENT, U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Cook, James, Co. B; widow Charlotte. He died June 5, 1883, at 313 L St., NW.

CAPTAIN BARNES'S UNASSIGNED U.S. COLORED INFANTRY

Walker, Washington, Co. A; widow Jane. He died April 15, 1886, age 62, at 917 Hughes Alley. He was buried at Mt. Pleasant Plains but reinterred in 1895 at Arlington National Cemetery.

U.S. NAVY

Ball, Griffin, enlisted at New York in 1862. He died March 4, 1875, age 70, at 1710 K St. NW.

Frazier, Hamilton, enlisted at New York and served on the vessels *North Carolina*, *Horace Beals* and *Wyandank*; widow Elizabeth. He died July 30, 1876, age 45, at Ebbitt House, at 1313 Alley behind New York Ave.

Gales, Eli, enlisted at Washington and served on the vessels *Thomas Freeborn*, *Ella* and *Resolute*; widow Laura. He died June 6, 1889, age 46, at 1533 4th St., NW.

Holmes, McKenzie, enlisted off Cape Fear and served on the *Maratanza*. He died Nov. 4, 1877, age 40, at 1817 T St., NW.

Lucas, Elijah, served on the *Western World* and the *Macedonian*. He died at age 50 on Jan. 30, 1878, on Columbia Road near 16th St., NW.

Young, Edward Owen, served on the *USS Bibb* with the U.S. Coast Survey. He died Oct. 21, 1875, age 29, at 1013 18th St., NW.

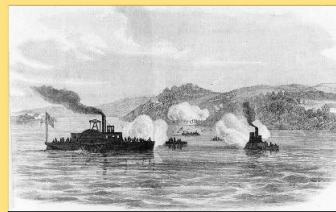
MILITARY VETERANS AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

10TH CAVALRY REGIMENT ("BUFFALO SOLDIERS")

Abbott, Wesley, died March 29, 1882, age 53, in the alley between 7th, 8th, R & S, NW.

Snowden, Samuel, Co. I; widow Sophronia (first wife Fannie Wills, deceased). He died Sept. 12, 1889, age 38, at 400 21st St., NW.

This research is ongoing. Go to www.walterpierceparkcemeteries.org.
Esta investigación está en curso. Ve a www.walterpierceparkcemeteries.org.



The steamer Thomas Freeborn of the Potomac Flotilla
El vapor Thomas Freeborn de la flotilla Potomac.

SIGN MOCK-UPS-3

SAMPLE INSET, NAMES SIGNS: NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD SITE

Note: Spanish translation on this sample was done with a Word program, so there might be errors. Actual signage would contain translation by a Spanish-speaking writer.

WALTER PIERCE PARK IS A NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD NETWORK TO FREEDOM SITE because many people buried here

resisted slavery and helped others become free.



Amelia Edmonson, mother of six *Pearl* passengers and anti-slavery activist.

Amelia Edmonson, madre de seis pasajeros de Perlas y activista antiesclavista.

THE COLORED UNION BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, which owned and operated Mt. Pleasant Plains Cemetery, was deeply involved in the largest Underground Railroad escape attempt in American history: the *Pearl* Affair.

In April 1848, 77 enslaved Washingtonians secretly boarded the schooner *Pearl* near the 7th Street wharf, setting sail for freedom. Many Association members had family and friends on board. Some assisted the escape. But the *Pearl* was captured by angry slaveholders at the mouth of the Potomac as it was about to enter Chesapeake Bay.

Two *Pearl* passengers—RICHARD EDMONSON and EPHRAIM EDMONSON—were buried at Mt. Pleasant Plains Cemetery, as was their mother AMELIA EDMONSON. Six of Amelia's 13 children tried to escape slavery on the *Pearl*. When the operation failed, AMELIA and her husband PAUL became outspoken anti-slavery activists. Their son-in-law JOHN H. BRENT aided the escape. LUKE CARTER, also buried here, hid *Pearl* passengers in his West End home before the escape.

OTHER UNDERGROUND RAILROAD HEROES BURIED HERE: CHARLES H. BROWN raised money to free enslaved people. DENNIS MAGRUDER fled slavery in Maryland when British forces invaded in 1814. LEWIS FERGUSON, WILLIAM TOLSON, and EDWARD MARKS ran away from slavery to join the U.S. Colored troops in the Civil War. DABNEY and

LUCY WALKER crossed into Union lines near Fredericksburg, Virginia, to scout and spy for the U.S. forces. COUNTLESS SELF-EMANCIPATED CIVIL WAR REFUGEES are buried here, undertaking dangerous risks to live free in Washington.

The National Park Service named Walter Pierce Park a National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom site in 2015. To read the nomination, go to www.walterpierceparkcemeteries.org.

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NATIONAL
UNDERGROUND RAILROAD
NETWORK TO FREEDOM

WALTER PIERCE PARK es una National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom sitio porque muchas personas enterradas aquí resistieron la esclavitud y ayudaron a otros a ser libres.

La Asociación de los Colores de la Unión Benevolente, que poseía y operaba el cementerio Mt. Pleasant Plains, estaba profundamente involucrado en el mayor intento de fuga de ferrocarril subterráneo en la historia americana: el asunto *Pearl*.

En abril de 1848, 77 los esclavizados Washingtonianos abordaron secretamente la goleta *Pearl* cerca del 7th Street wharf, zarpando hacia la libertad. Muchos miembros de la Asociación tenían familiares y amigos a bordo. Algunos ayudaron a escapar. Pero el *Pearl* fue capturado por los esclavistas furiosos en la desembocadura del Potomac, ya que estaba a punto de entrar en la bahía de Chesapeake.

Los pasajeros de *Pearl*—Richard Edmonson y Ephraim Edmonson—fueron enterrados en el cementerio Mt. Pleasant Plains, aligual que la madre de la heredera Amelia Edmonson. Seis de los 13 hijos de Amelia trataron de escapar de la esclavitud en la *Pearl*. Cuando la operación fracasó, AMELIA y su esposo PAUL se convirtieron en activistas anti-esclavistas. Su yerno, John H. Brent, ayudó a escapar. Luke Carter, también enterrado aquí, escondió *Pearl* los pasajeros en su casa de West End antes de la escape.

OTROS HEROES SUBTERRANEOS DEL FERROCARRIL ENTERRADOS aquí: CHARLES H. BROWN recaudó dinero para liberar a la gente esclavizada. DENNIS MAGRUDER huyó de la esclavitud en Maryland cuando las fuerzas británicas invadieron en 1814. LEWIS FERGUSON, WILLIAM TOLSON y EDWARD MARKS huyeron de la esclavitud para unirse a las tropas de color de Estados Unidos en el la guerra Civil. DABNEY y LUCY WALKER cruzaron las líneas de Unión cerca de Fredericksburg, Virginia, para explorar y espiar a las fuerzas estadounidenses. INNUMERABLES REFUGIADOS de la guerra Civil auto-emancipado son enterrados sue, emprendiendo los riesgos más peligrosos para vivir gratis en Washington.

El servicio de parques nacionales llamado Walter Pierce Park una National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom sitio en 2015. Para leer la nominación, vaya a www.walterpierceparkcemeteries.org.

SIGN MOCK-UPS-4

SAMPLE INSET, NAMES SIGNS: ARCHAEOLOGY. Note: *Spanish translation on this sample was done with a Word program; there might be errors. Actual signage would be translated by a Spanish-speaking writer.*

ARCHAEOLOGY IN ADAMS MORGAN: SURVEYING THE WALTER PIERCE PARK CEMETERIES, 2005-2013

FROM 2005 TO 2013, HOWARD UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGISTS conducted a survey of the Walter Pierce Park cemeteries at the request of the Adams Morgan community. Their goal: to identify where vulnerable graves from the African American and Quaker cemeteries might still exist.

The survey involved NO DIGGING so that no graves would be disturbed. Examining the surface of the site, the archaeologists found the exposed remains of at least nine individuals, coffin hardware, grave offerings, and other cemetery features.

The survey was led by biological anthropologist Mark Mack of Howard University, a leading expert on African American burial sites. Prof. Mack was laboratory director of the African Burial Ground in New York before his untimely death in 2012.

In 2013, a geophysical survey of the park found intact graves, although the topography of the site has changed over time due to human-made disruptions. The scientists determined that hundreds—or possibly thousands—of graves remain in the park. Today, any work in the park requires archaeological monitoring so that no graves are disturbed.



Howard University archaeologists, led by Mark Mack, survey the soccer field in 2006. *Los arqueólogos de la Universidad Howard, dirigidos por Mark Mack, encuestan el campo de fútbol en 2006.*



Decorative coffin hardware. *Herrajes decorativos de ataúd.*

ARQUEOLOGÍA EN ADAMS MORGAN: ENCUESTA DE LOS CEMENTERIOS DE WALTER PIERCE PARK, 2005-2013

DE 2005 A 2013, HOWARD UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGISTS, llevó a cabo una encuesta de los cementerios de Walter Pierce Park a petición de la comunidad Adams Morgan. Su objetivo: identificar dónde podrían existir tumbas vulnerables de los cementerios afroamericanos y cuáqueros.

La encuesta implicó NO DIGGING para que no se molestaran las tumbas. Examinando la superficie del sitio, los arqueólogos encontraron los restos

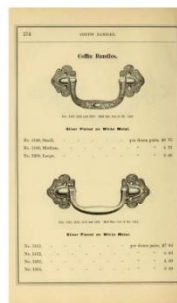
expuestos de al menos nueve individuos, herrajes de ataúdes, ofrendas de tumbas y otras características del cementerio.

La encuesta fue dirigida por el antropólogo biológico Mark Mack de la Universidad Howard, un experto líder en sitios de entierro afroamericanos. El profesor Mack fue el director de laboratorio del African Burial Ground en Nueva York antes de su prematura muerte en 2012.

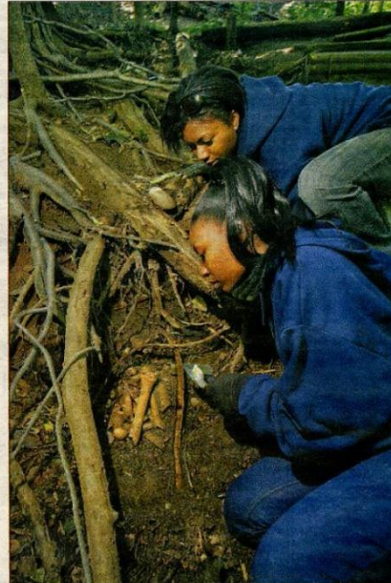
En 2013, un estudio geofísico del parque encontró tumbas intactas, aunque la topografía del sitio ha cambiado con el tiempo debido a interrupciones hechas por el ser humano. Los científicos determinaron que cientos, o posiblemente miles de tumbas permanecen en el parque. Hoy en día, cualquier trabajo en el parque requiere monitoreo arqueológico para que no se molesten las tumbas.



A metallic king-like ceremonial object, possibly a candleholder or incense burner. *Un objeto ceremonial metálico similar al rey, posiblemente un portavelas o un quemador de incienso.*



Above, coffin handles. Left, an 1871 catalog showing similar handles. *Arriba, manijas de ataúd. Izquierda, un catálogo de 1871 que muestra asas similares.*



Howard students Miesha Hegwood and Kristin Baker examine an exposed grave. *Los estudiantes de Howard Miesha Hegwood y Kristin Baker examinan una tumba expuesta.* (Photo: Robert A. Reeder, The Washington Post)