#### **United States Department of the Interior** National Park Service

# **National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property Historic name:St. Paul's Episcopal Church Ceme	stery
Other names/site number: DHR #100-0143	ter y
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A	
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property	perty listing
2. Location  Street & number: _Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex City or town: Alexandria State: _VA C Not For Publication: _N/A Vicinity: _N/A	
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Histo	ric Preservation Act, as amended,
I hereby certify that this <u>X</u> nomination <u>requestion</u> requested the documentation standards for registering properties. Places and meets the procedural and professional requestions.	es in the National Register of Historic
In my opinion, the property $\underline{X}$ meets $\underline{\underline{X}}$ does no recommend that this property be considered significately level(s) of significance:	
national statewide X lo Applicable National Register Criteria:	ocal
ABX_CD	
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
Virginia Department of Historic Resources	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Go	vernment
In my opinion, the property meets does criteria.	not meet the National Register
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title:	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery	City of Alexandria, VA
Name of Property	County and State
4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
entered in the National Register	
determined eligible for the National Register	
determined not eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain:)	
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
5. Classification	
Ownership of Property	
(Check as many boxes as apply.) Private:	
Public – Local	
Public – State	
Public Fodous!	
Public – Federal	
Category of Property	
(Check only <b>one</b> box.)	
Building(s)	
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

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Paul's Episcopal Church Cenne of Property	netery	City of Alexandria, VA County and State
Number of Resources wi	thin Property	
	listed resources in the count)	
Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	1	buildings
1	0	sites
4		
1	1	structures
0	0	objects
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2	2	Total
<b>Historic Functions</b>		
(Enter categories from ins FUNERARY: Cemetery	tructions.)	
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#### 7. Description

#### **Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: \_BRICK; METAL: wrought iron\_

#### **Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

#### **Summary Paragraph**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery is part of the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex in the City of Alexandria. The cemetery complex was established after burials within the town limits of Alexandria were prohibited out of concerns about public health. St. Paul's Cemetery was founded on November 12, 1809, and today occupies 2.8 acres. It is bordered by Wilkes Street to the north, Hamilton Lane to the west, S. Payne Street to the east, and Washington Street United Methodist Church cemetery to the south. The cemetery's most significant design feature is its assortment of 19th and early 20th century grave markers of varying type, material, age, and ornamentation, and the artistry displayed by many of the hand-cut markers. Marker styles range from simple tablets to elaborately-carved obelisks and sculptures, featuring pictorial symbols and other decorative elements. Stone carver Charles Lloyd Neale produced hand-cut grave markers for burials in the cemetery from 1837 until his death in 1886. A tool shed at the north edge of the cemetery is a non-contributing building because its function is unrelated to the cemetery's significance, while a 1991 columbarium is a non-contributing structure as it postdates the cemetery's period of significance. The Hooff family's beehive tomb is a contributing structure. Overall, the cemetery has excellent integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

#### **Narrative Description**

#### Setting

St. Paul's Cemetery is found by traveling south on Henry Street/Route 1, then turning right on Wilkes Street. At the entrance of Hamilton Lane, there are signs for several nearby cemeteries that are part of the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex. The entrance to St. Paul's Cemetery is across from a Presbyterian church's cemetery. The sign for St. Paul's Cemetery stands at the

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cemetery entrance and near a small caretaker's dwelling that is no longer in use, but historically housed a gravedigger. A small, wood-frame, gable-roofed tool shed stands at the north edge of St. Paul's Cemetery and is in relatively good condition; its date of construction is unknown.

#### Detailed Description

The cemetery is bordered by a wrought iron fence with brick columns that runs parallel to Hamilton Lane. The entrance is marked by a black sign with gold lettering that says "St. Paul's Cemetery – Established 1809." Within the cemetery, a narrow lane defines the edges of the southwest quadrant and provides the means for vehicular access to the cemetery from the west entrance on Hamilton Lane to an exit route on the cemetery's southern side (and into a neighboring cemetery).

According to *The History of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia*, the cemetery initially consisted of four large lots that were subdivided into 211 burial plots. The northwest corner of the cemetery was set aside for burial of the poor beginning around 1840. Early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, lots were added around the cemetery's perimeter and within earlier walkways. A notice in the *Alexandria Gazette* of 30 May 1911 (p. 3) announced that the St. Paul's Cemetery Association had plans for the "immediate improvement" of the cemetery, chiefly "grading and mechanizing of the roads and the placing of granolithric (sic) gutters."

The extant grave markers display varying types, materials, ages, and ornamentation, many of which came in and out of favor as funerary practices, popular taste, technology, and other aspects of funerary art evolved over time. Nineteenth-century marker styles range from tablets featuring pictorial symbols and other decorative elements to box tombs to elaborately carved obelisks and sculptures. Children's markers feature icons evocative of innocence and truncated lifespan, such as flowers, doves, cherubs, and lambs.

For the well-to-do, death was a way to indicate wealth and stature in life. For example, the Hooff family is interred in a brick, barrel-vaulted tomb with stepped parapets on the east and west elevations. Insets in both facades are inscribed with the names of the deceased and an iron access door is on the west elevation. The tomb looks similar to the old Washington Family tomb at Mount Vernon, which is not out of the realm of possibility: Lawrence Hooff, Sr., did business and was friends with George Washington. A large white marble angel overlooks the graves of the Rev. James T. Johnston (1797-1877) and his family. Other high-status individuals are commemorated with horizontal table stones and box tombs.

Features often found at other cemeteries that were established during the 19<sup>th</sup> century are at St. Paul's, with some family plots enclosed with low iron pipe fencing, stone coping, and wroughtiron fences; an example is the plot for Charles Calvert Smoot and his family. Other family plots have large markers memorializing the entire family, while identifying burials of individuals with small headstones or footstones.

The cemetery contains many gravestones for those who died during wartime and for veterans. While the majority are from the Civil War, other wars are represented, including one for a

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Revolutionary War veteran who died in 1818. The U.S. Department of War (today's Department of Defense) began supplying standardized, marble grave markers for those killed in action and for veterans shortly after the Civil War as national cemeteries were being established. Burials for U.S. military veterans have continued to be eligible for government-issued markers up through today, with new brass plates becoming available during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century in addition to the well-known marble tablets. Graves of Confederate veterans are not eligible for the government-issued markers, but the Commonwealth of Virginia provided funds for maintaining such burials through the 2010s.

During the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, machine-cut grave markers began to supplant hand-carved markers and have been the predominant marker type ever since. Examples of machine-cut markers usually are polished granite and typically feature the names and birth and death dates for those interred, as well as funerary motifs such as flowers, vines, urns, scrolls, and religious symbols.

A columbarium of limestone was built along the south edge of the grounds and was dedicated in 1991. In 2011, St. Paul's supplemented the columbarium with the addition of the Mark J. Hulkower Memorial Garden where ashes may be strewn. Strategic planning is underway to restore and repair many of the historic monuments, headstones, and slab stones that are in need of repair and restoration.

#### Integrity

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery retains a high degree of historic integrity. The church occupies its original location and the setting within the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex has seen few changes. The cemetery displays integrity of design with its four original quadrants in place and an area for burials for the poor that was established around 1840. Defined walkways once allowed visitors to wend through the cemetery; these were a popular feature during the 19<sup>th</sup> century when cemeteries often doubled as parks where people could visit graves, enjoy the peaceful setting, and perhaps have a picnic. The walkways gave way during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to create space for additional burial plots. Today the cemetery has a narrow lane that enters the cemetery from Hamilton Lane and turns south to exit St. Paul's then leads back to Hamilton Lane. The grave markers display remarkable workmanship, particularly the hand-cut examples, and the integrity of materials in the cemetery also is high. The gutters that were installed in 1911 are still in place. St. Paul's Cemetery has excellent integrity of feeling and association as an early 19th century cemetery that has remained in continuous use and today conveys a melding of its historic and current use as a small church cemetery within an increasingly urbanized environment. Parishioners from St. Paul's organize a clean-up day once or twice a year. The cemetery trustees are developing a five-year plan to preserve the cemetery as a historic part of Alexandria.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery	City of Alexandria, VA
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8. Statement of Significance	
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the crite listing.)	ria qualifying the property for National Register
A. Property is associated with event broad patterns of our history.	s that have made a significant contribution to the
B. Property is associated with the liv	ves of persons significant in our past.
construction or represents the wo	characteristics of a type, period, or method of rk of a master, or possesses high artistic values, stinguishable entity whose components lack
D. Property has yielded, or is likely history.	to yield, information important in prehistory or
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	
X A. Owned by a religious institution	or used for religious purposes
B. Removed from its original location	on
C. A birthplace or grave	
X D. A cemetery	
E. A reconstructed building, object,	or structure
F. A commemorative property	
G. Less than 50 years old or achievi	ng significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) ART  Period of Significance 1809 - 1972  Significant Dates 1809 - First documented burials 1814 - Cemetery lots advertised for sale  Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) N/A  Cultural Affiliation N/A	St. Paul's I	Episcopal Church (	Cemetery
Period of Significance	Name of Prop	perty	
Period of Significance			
Cultural Affiliation   Cultural Affiliation	Areas	of Significance	
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Architect/Builder

Neale, Charles Lloyd (stone carver)\_

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church cemetery in Alexandria, Virginia, is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Art for its locally significant examples of funerary art from the pre-Civil War era through the early 20th century. The names memorialized on grave markers include locally significant people dating back to the early years of the city of Alexandria and the founding of St. Paul's Episcopal Church (VHR #100-0104, NRHP #85000987). The cemetery contains the work of local stone carver Charles Lloyd Neale, who worked in Alexandria as early as 1837 (the earliest stone attributed to him) until his death in 1886. The funerary art and design include a wide range of artistic expressions: three-lobed gravestones that were popular during the 17th and early 18th centuries, Egyptian Revival-influenced obelisks, horizontal table slabs, and box tombs to more ornate Victorian-era and Classical Revival-style works. The earliest documented burial within the cemetery dates to 1809, while the first advertisement for purchase of burial plots occurred in 1814. The cemetery's period of significance begins in 1809 with the earliest known burial and ends in 1972 with the traditional fifty-year end date for properties where historic activities have continued but do not meet Criteria Consideration G. St. Paul's Cemetery meets Criteria Consideration A for religious properties and Criteria Consideration D for cemeteries because its significance is rooted in the significance of its collection of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20th century funerary art.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church was founded on November 12, 1809, as a result of a split in the congregation of the Episcopal Church, known today as Christ Church. The separation was initiated by the sudden resignation of the rector, Rev. William Lewis Gibson, who was upset about the criticism of his clerical attire and abrasive preaching style. The first location of St. Paul's had a small graveyard behind it that could no longer be used. A municipal restriction had been imposed on burials within the town limits by the Common Council of Alexandria effective March 27, 1804.<sup>1</sup>

The history of the Spring Garden Farm subdivision dates back to 1794 when Philip Alexander began selling lots on the north side of Duke Street. John Wise purchased 86 acres, including the 82-acre tract known as Spring Garden Farm. According to *The History of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia*, Spring Garden Farm had been surveyed and laid out in 1796. The 128 lots, bounded by Duke Street, Henry Street, and Hunting Creek, were purchased quickly by investors.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> William Cranch, *Charter of the Town of Alexandria*, with the Revised Code of Laws of the Corporation of Said Town. (United States, Rounsavell and Pittman, printers, 1821), 28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ruth Lincoln Kaye, *The History of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Alexandria, Virginia, November 12, 1809-November 12, 1984.* (Springfield Va.: Goetz Publishing Co., 1984), 32.

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The four lots that make up St. Paul's Cemetery were numbered 79, 80, 89, and 90. Daniel McClean (McLean), a founder and major benefactor of St. Paul's, purchased the lots for \$500 on behalf of the church. He specifically conveyed the land to the ministry and vestry of St. Paul's church in his will dated January 21, 1822, once his estate had been reimbursed for the land (Alexandria Will Book 3: 87; see relevant excerpt below). Several local churches also looking for new cemetery locations settled on this area southwest of the corner of Wilkes and Payne Streets, known today as the Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex.

(https://www.alexandriava.gov/historic-sites/historic-cemeteries-of-alexandria)

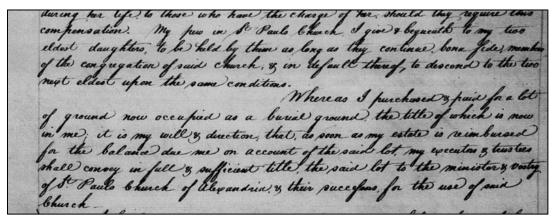


Figure 1. Example of record of ownership of a pew at St. Paul's Church and purchase of a lot within the St. Paul's Cemetery

The two earliest interments were for McLean's nephew John Somers, son of his sister Hannah (Mrs. John) Somers, who died 5 November 1809 at age 17, and Christian Ludwick Hellrigel, who died 24 December 1809, aged 59. The most recent interment took place on 10 April 2021 for Mark Richard Maddox.

The four original lots were initially subdivided into 211 burial plots. The following advertisement appeared in the August 13, 1814, *Alexandria Gazette*:

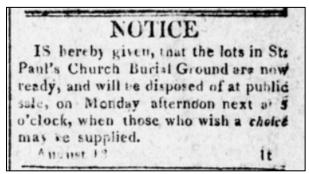


Figure 2. Notice of availability of plots for purchase at St. Paul's Cemetery (Alexandria Gazette, August 13, 1814)

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#### Beautification of the Grounds

In 1853, a letter to the editor in the *Alexandria Gazette* lamented the "unimproved and neglected state of the "Village Burial Ground" ...Respect for the dead is so natural a feeling, and evinces itself so constantly in the adornment, and beautifying of these "Cities of the Silent...." The author pleaded to "transform this ruined burial ground, into a *Cemetery* worthy of the place...Then instead of ruined walls, sunken and trodden graves, and the luxuriant, rank bramble, turf-clad and flower-scented knolls would greet the eye, and connect every pleasing association with the otherwise appalling grave."

St. Paul's made improvements to enhance the cemetery's aesthetics. For example, in 1871, "The trustees of the grave yard...are having that cemetery enclosed with a handsome pailing fence with an ornamental gate way."<sup>4</sup>

A notice in the *Alexandria Gazette* in 1911 announced that the St. Paul's Cemetery Association made plans for the "immediate improvement" of the cemetery, chiefly "grading and mechanizing of the roads and the placing of granolithric (sic) gutters."<sup>5</sup>

In 1914, St. Paul's appealed to the other cemeteries to improve their image as well: "There is no good reason why the Alexandria cemeteries should not present as tidy an appearance as those of other cities." Early in the 20th century, lots were added around the perimeter and within earlier walkways.

A columbarium of limestone was constructed along the south edge of the grounds and was dedicated in 1991. In 2011, St. Paul's supplemented the columbarium with the addition of the Mark J. Hulkower Memorial Garden where ashes may be strewn. The cemetery trustees are developing a five-year plan, including preserving the cemetery as a historic part of Alexandria and infrastructure projects that are necessary to preserve, protect, and activate the cemetery.

#### **Cemetery Management**

In 1890, the vestry applied to the Circuit Court of Fairfax County, Virginia, that William H. Marbury, John W. Green, Anthony McLean, Edward L. Daingerfield, and John R. Zimmerman be "hereby appointed Trustees of said property of St. Paul's Church and Congregation…". Accompanying the order was a survey plat of the cemetery property.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Alexandria Gazette*, September 22, 1853, 2. The letter reflects the influence of the rural cemetery movement, which began in the 1830s. Before the development of public parks, cemeteries were laid out in the style of English landscape gardens for the public to enjoy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Alexandria Gazette, June 20, 1871, 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Alexandria Gazette, May 30, 1911, 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Alexandria Gazette, October 20, 1914, 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Fairfax County Circuit Court Minute Book 3, 1880-1896, 248.

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In March 1910, the lot owners established a cemetery association to assist with the costs of upkeep and maintenance. In September 1910, the vestry again decided to make an application "to the proper courts in Alexandria and Fairfax County for appointment as trustees for property and cemetery of J.R. Zimmerman, Geo. T. Klipstein, Wm. B. Smoot, Lawrence Stabler, and J.K.M. Norton".8

At the same time, there was a vestry motion that "the entire control of the cemetery be turned over to St. Paul's Cemetery Association including sale of lots, said association to issue certificates to purchasers showing such sales and record to be kept by said association of such sales." However, the vestry reserved the right to resume control of the cemetery at any time.

In 1912, the vestry decided that any money St. Paul's received as recompense for its Civil War claim (the church was used as a hospital during the war) would be turned over to be used for the benefit of the cemetery. The money was invested in local company bonds, and any income was given to the cemetery trustees.

The empty northwest corner of the cemetery, which was kept for the burial of the poor, is a contrast to the hundreds of memorials to Alexandrians. No record exists of when or how many burials took place in this section. In 1841, church records noted the receipt of \$10 from John Hooff for burial lots for poor communicants so it's likely some burials were people who had received financial assistance from St. Paul's.

It should be noted that not everyone buried in the cemetery was a congregant, and many early parishioners were buried in other cemeteries such as Christ Church. Most early records were destroyed in a fire at a local funeral home and by a flood at the Smoot Lumber Company in the 1950s. A list from 1857 shows 46 lot owners. By 1861 there were more than 300 interments. A 1979 record of 1,309 gravestone inscriptions by the St. Paul's Historical Commission and a copy of an old cemetery plot made in 1948-49 are the primary records today. The inscriptions and interments are on file in a vintage library card catalog in the parish office. The church does not have copies of deeds of sale.9

In the early years of the 20th century, the cemetery was managed by a sexton. Beginning in the 1940s or 1950s, cemetery management was handled by a subcommittee of the vestry, and the costs were integrated into the overall church budget.

#### **Notable Burials**

The cemetery is the final resting place for church leaders as well as prominent members of our congregation and community. Considering its extensive 19th-century history, one can see many recognizable Alexandria family names: Fairfax, Hooff, Zimmerman, Peyton, Corse, McLean/McClean, Entwisle, Smoot, and many more.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Kaye, 37.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Kaye, 34.

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The graves of many local civic leaders can be found in the cemetery. Col. Francis Peyton (d. 1836) fought in the American Revolution and became a prominent Alexandria merchant and politician. He served on the city council and was mayor before Alexandria was ceded to the District of Columbia. Christopher Neale (d. 1862) was mayor while Alexandria was part of the District. James Keith Marshall Norton (d. 1929), son of St. Paul's fifth rector George Hatley Norton, was a judge of the Alexandria Corporation and Circuit Courts. Ann Page Claggett (d. 1861), daughter of vestryman Charles Page, was a founding member of the Orphan Asylum and Female Free School Society. George Smoot French (d. 1933) was Justice of the Peace for many years. Adam Lynn (d. 1835) served as a lieutenant colonel during the War of 1812 and his participation in community affairs was not entirely military: His public service roles included justice of the peace, clerk of Common Council, magistrate, and one of the first vestrymen at St. Paul's Church. Augustine Jacquelin Smith (d. 1830) represented Fairfax County in the Virginia House of Delegates in 1796, 1797-98 and 1821-22.

Brigadier General Thomas Wells Childs (d. 1853) served with distinction in the Seminole Wars and the US-Mexican War. After the Mexican War, Childs commanded at Ft. McHenry, Md., then took charge of the Military Operations in East Florida.

Prominent Confederate Civil War leaders interred in the cemetery include Brigadier General Montgomery Dent Corse (d. 1895); two members of the Fairfax family: Cary Orlando Fairfax (d. 1897) and Ethelbert Fairfax (d. 1922); two members of the deLagnel family: Col. Julius Adolphus deLagnel (d. 1912), and Maj. Johnston deLagnel (d. 1864); Dr. Abraham F. Cox (d. 1902), who served under Col. William Henry Fitzhugh Lee; and Capt. William Heath Dulany (d. 1870) was a delegate to the Virginia secession convention in 1861, and a member of the Virginia State Senate, 1863-65. Bushrod Washington Hunter (d. 1888) served both in the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant during the Mexican-American War and as a major in the Confederate Army. John Zimmerman (d. 1926) participated in the conflict from the very beginning until Lee's surrender at Appomattox and kept a diary during his years of military service. <sup>10</sup>

On the Union side is the Rev. Jonathan Pinkney Hammond (d. 1884), Episcopal church rector (St. George's, Baltimore) and Army chaplain. In 1863, Rev. Hammond wrote a chaplain's manual because there was no information from the army that defined the duties of chaplains. John Heishley (d. 1905) was a captain in the 2nd Regiment, Delaware Infantry.

A popular saying about Wilmer McLean is that the Civil War started in his front lawn and ended in his front parlor. The first major battle of the Civil War took place partially on his property, and later, his land became part of the First Bull Run battlefield. When General Robert E. Lee surrendered his forces to Lt. General Ulysses S. Grant on April 9, 1865, he did so in Wilmer McLean's parlor. McLean later moved back to Manassas, then to Alexandria where he passed away at age 68 in 1882.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Jack Sullivan, "The Dark Clouds of War: The Civil War Diary of John Zimmerman of Alexandria." *Memories and Miscellany* (blog). <a href="https://bottlesboozeandbackstories.blogspot.com/2021/04/the-dark-clouds-of-war-part-one.html">https://bottlesboozeandbackstories.blogspot.com/2021/04/the-dark-clouds-of-war-part-one.html</a>.

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Dr. Holmes Offley Paulding was born into a distinguished family; his father and his great-uncle were ranking naval officers. As a medical officer, Paulding was one of the first to see the dead of Custer's command after the Battle of the Little Big Horn. <sup>11</sup> After Little Big Horn, he served at Fort McHenry, Baltimore, and later in the Department of the Dakota. On April 21, 1883, he suffered an attack of acute rheumatism, and died suddenly on May 1, at age 30.

The first Alexandrian to die during World War I was Richard H. Fawcett, who died in an airplane training accident in July 1918. Two months later, Chaplin E. Evans died, following a brief bout of influenza.

The George Washington Chapter, Virginia Society, Sons of the American Revolution conducted a grave marking ceremony on October 9, 2021, marking the graves of patriots Peter Tatsapaugh (Photo) and Lawrence Hooff, Sr., (Photo).

#### Other notable burials include:

- Marion Hannah Cox Wilmer, wife of St. Paul's second rector, Rev. William H. Wilmer.
- Sarah Wilmer Cannell, half-sister of Rev. Wilmer, and her husband, Isaac Cannell.
- Rev. James T. Johnston, 4th rector of St. Paul's.
- Rev. George Hatley Norton, 5th rector of St. Paul's.
- James Entwisle, Senior Warden, Registrar, and Treasurer of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.
- Col. Abraham Charles Myers, Quartermaster General, CSA. Fort Myers. The city seat of Lee County, southwestern Florida is named for him.
- Daniel McLean, St. Paul's benefactor.
- Capt. Josiah Hewes Davis "John" Smoot, whose many public service roles included fire warden, member of the Board of Health, and director in the Alexandria Water Company.
- John Bryan Smoot, Mayor of Alexandria, 1885-1887.
- Minna and Aida Lester Simms, two sisters who operated the Everleigh Club, a famous brothel in the Levee District of Chicago during the first decade of the 20th century. 12

#### The Female Stranger

The identity of the Female Stranger is an enduring mystery in Alexandria. According to legend, in September 1816 a young couple arrived in Alexandria and disembarked from a ship that had traveled from the West Indies. The couple was well dressed; the woman was clearly ill and in need of immediate medical attention, her face obscured by a long, black veil. The couple traveled to Gadsby's Tavern where a local doctor and nurses were hired to care for her, all of whom were sworn to secrecy. Despite their efforts, the young woman died on October 14,1816. Her husband paid for a gravesite in St. Paul's cemetery and a large table stone erected over her grave. Then he

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Thomas R. Buecker, "A Surgeon at the Little Big Horn." *Montana: The Magazine of Western History* 32, no. 4 (1982): 34–49. http://www.jstor.org/stable/4518692.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Karen Abbott, Sin in the Second City: Madams, Ministers, Playboys, and the Battle for America's Soul. (NY: Random House, 2007).

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disappeared, leaving behind many debts, including the room at Gadsby's, the medical care his wife received, and the burial.

The story of the Female Stranger intersects with the tale of another famous missing woman, Theodosia Burr, the daughter of Aaron Burr, and the wife of Joseph Alston, governor of South Carolina. On December 31, 1812, Theodosia and Dr. Timothy Green, a friend of Aaron Burr's who was escorting Theodosia, boarded a small schooner in Georgetown bound for New York. The ship never arrived and soon after there was much speculation about what had happened to Theodosia. One story claimed that Theodosia was the Female Stranger, accompanied by Dr. Green, after they were held captive in the islands. Although fascinating to consider, it's unlikely Theodosia was the Female Stranger. The Female Stranger died on October 14, 1816, at the age of 23. Theodosia was 29 years old when she disappeared in 1812.<sup>13</sup>

The Female Stranger has also been the subject of local picture postcards` depicting her tombstone and her grave and she is still popular with visitors today. Although her identity remains unknown, the Female Stranger is an indelible part of Alexandria history and St. Paul's is honored to be her caretaker.



Figure 3. Historic postcard showing the "Grave of the Female Stranger" (date unknown)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Hadley Meares, "The Dramatic Life and Mysterious Death of Theodosia Burr". *Atlas Obscura*, March 9, 2022, <a href="https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/mysterious-death-theodosia-burr">https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/mysterious-death-theodosia-burr</a>.

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#### Criterion C: Art

St. Paul's Cemetery has an array of funerary art—grave markers of varying type, material, age, and ornamentation are represented. This cemetery has examples of stones with a colonial profile dating to the early 1800s to elaborately carved obelisks and sculptures featuring pictorial symbols and other decorative elements.

Aside from the military gravestones decorated with insignia, fraternal organizations are represented. The monuments document the predominance of Freemasonry in Alexandria. The Alexandria-Washington Masonic Lodge, No. 22, also known as the Lodge of George Washington, has been in continuous existence since 1783. The lodge also laid the cornerstone for St. Paul's Church on June 21, 1817, in a ceremony attended by many town dignitaries. The Independent Order of the Odd Fellows is sometimes referred to as The Triple Link Fraternity in reference to the Odd Fellow symbol of a chain with three links, which represent the fraternity's guiding principles of Friendship, Love, and Truth.

There are variations of the three-lobed-shaped gravestones that were popular during the 18th and early 19th centuries. Christian Hellrigel, who died in December 1809, has one of the oldest. It is made from red sandstone and the stone is badly eroded, although some of the beautiful hand-carved script is still visible, a simple summary of his life. The marker of John T. Suter, who shares a grave with two of his children, is similarly memorialized in brief. The tablet of John Christy Patterson, who was not quite two years old when he died, is a tribute from his grieving parents. The graves of Peter and Mary Piles have footstones that match the headstones as do many others.

Around 1830, motifs evolve to a more sentimental depiction of death. The early 19th century saw a transition to the romantic abstraction of stylized urns, weeping willows, lambs, and flowers. <sup>14</sup> For example, the gravestone of Mary Criss, who died at age 17 in 1829, is rounded at the top and decorated with an urn and weeping willow. The gravestone of Lucy Ann Vernon, who died in 1840, depicts two angels and a descending dove. The headstone of Aquila Emerson, who died in 1850, features an open book beneath draperies. The memorial for Samuel and Elizabeth Heflebower has clasped hands; since he died first, it is his hand that guides her to Heaven.

The obelisk is the "most prevalent Egyptian form to be used in American funerary and commemorative art.... principally recognized for its potential of achieving great height atop limited ground space..."<sup>15</sup> Two prime examples are the obelisks for two branches of the Smoot family that anchor the families' plots and are impossible to miss. The monument for Charles

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Charles O. Jackson, "American Attitudes to Death." *Journal of American Studies* 11, no. 3 (1977):302.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Richard E. Meyer and Peggy McDowell. *The Revival Styles in American Memorial Art.* (United States, Bowling Green State University Popular Press: 1994), 133.

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Calvert Smoot Sr. measures 15 feet high and three feet square at the base (Photo) while the memorial to Capt. Josiah Hewes Davis Smoot measures 22 feet and weighs 13 tons. <sup>16</sup> (Photo)

Death is an opportunity to display one's socioeconomic status. A notable example is the Hooff family, who are interred in a brick, barrel-vaulted tomb with stepped parapets on the west and east elevations in keeping with Lawrence Hooff Sr.'s (1755-1834) status as a successful businessman. The tomb looks similar to the old Washington family tomb at Mount Vernon, which is not out of the realm of possibility: Lawrence Hooff Sr. did business and was friends with George Washington. There are insets in both façades inscribed with the names of the deceased buried within and an iron access door on the west elevation. (Photo) The use of brick in graves was an added funeral expense, and out of reach of the lower classes.

Statues, box tombs, table stones, and other designs were other displays of social status. For example, the graves of Rev. James T. Johnston (1797-1877) and his family are watched over by a life-sized white marble statue of an angel that was reportedly imported from Italy. (Photo) Many family plots are enclosed by low iron pipe fencing and stone curbs as if to segregate themselves from the rest of the cemetery; other families, such as the Gibsons, erected large markers to memorialize the whole family while individual members are marked with small headstones or footstone.

The most common symbols by far on the graves of children and infants are flowers and lambs. A good example of this is the grave of Elizabeth Pinkney Hammond, who was about two years old when she died in 1851. While the headstone is worn and broken, the footstone is a beautifully carved sleeping lamb under an arch with her initials that remains intact. A lamb also rests atop the marker for James Mark Owens.

It was not unusual, and likely more economical, to bury siblings in the same plot. Examples include Sarah Jane Price and her brother Edward; Elizabeth Mary, Edith, Bezsin, and a second Edith Masters; and the Addison siblings, Ayers, William, James, and Frances.

Some children's markers were elaborately carved. For example, the headstone of 10-year-old Elliot Brown has a dove holding an olive branch and above it the eye of God radiating rays of light. The headstone of George Chatham Dixon, who died at age five, features a wreath encircling his nickname, "Chatty," as well as carved flowers atop the stone. The gravestone for eight-month-old Annie Blake Hunter is a carved scroll on a pedestal with a lily resting on the bottom.

In his study of American gravestones, historian James Hijiya calls the style of the late Victorian era "Monumental". There is no single predominant motif in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; by its sheer size, the stone calls attention to itself and to the person. <sup>17</sup> Granite began growing in popularity by the 1880s, although softer stones were still being used. This trend is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Alexandria Gazette, May 30, 1870, 3; September 25, 1888, 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> James A. Hijiya, "American Gravestones and Attitudes toward Death: A Brief History." *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* 127, no. 5 (1983): 355. http://www.jstor.org/stable/986503.

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perhaps best expressed by the markers for the Parrott, Smith, Aitcheson, Greenough, and Moore families, established between 1881 and 1891. The Parrott, Aitcheson, and Greenough markers are substantial in size and elaborately carved, and the inscriptions' lettering looks very similar. (Photo) The Moore and Smith monuments appear to be two-piece obelisks with the column sitting on top of the base with the family name, which in turn sit on a rough-hewn pedestal.

While Art Nouveau style is not represented, the memorial for Judge Samuel Brent and his wife Rebecca is adorned in the Art Deco style.

#### Charles Lloyd Neale

Charles Lloyd Neale (1800-1886) was Alexandria's foremost stone carver for nearly 50 years. Of the more than 200 markers in Alexandria cemeteries that are attributed to C.L. Neale & Sons, approximately 20 can be found in St. Paul's cemetery. 18

Neale was born in 1800 in St. Mary's County, Maryland, into a family whose American roots go back to 1660. At some point in his twenties, he moved to the District of Columbia and married Ann Johnson in 1829. That same year the first of 12 children, Charles Washington Neale, was born. Neale fell on hard times: In May 1837, he appealed to the D.C. Circuit Court to release him and his family from imprisonment under an act for the relief of insolvent debtors. In order to discharge the debt, Neale surrendered nearly everything he owned to be sold by his creditors.

Neale was likely very motivated to be successful after the experience of debtors' prison. Neale may have entered the stone cutting business after his release; the earliest headstone attributed to him was carved in 1837. In February 1848 an ad for marble monuments, tombs, and headstones "executed in the best manner and on moderate terms" appeared in the *Alexandria Gazette*, signed "H. C. Neale & Bro." Property of the successful after the experience of debtors' prison. Neale

The business didn't last long. In January 1850, H.C. Neale announced that the partnership had dissolved and he would continue the business. In February, Charles L. Neale announced the opening of his marble yard, "prepared to make to order any kind of work in his line" including monuments, tombs, and headstones. He set up his new business one block away from his brother's.<sup>21</sup>

In January 1851, the Alexandria Common Council hired him to carve a block of marble that would be part of the construction of the Washington Monument.<sup>22</sup> Three of Neale's sons

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> David Vance Finnell, "Fifty Years of Reliability: The Stonecarving Career of Charles Lloyd Neale (1800-1886) in Alexandria, Virginia," *Markers X* (1993): 91-114.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Finnell, 92. It's unclear when Neale developed his stonecutting skills.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Alexandria Gazette, February 8, 1848, 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Alexandria Gazette, February 23, 1850, 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> The block appears at the 280-foot level of the monument <a href="https://www.nps.gov/articles/alexandria-virginia-280-level.htm">https://www.nps.gov/articles/alexandria-virginia-280-level.htm</a>

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eventually joined him in the business, though there was enough work for Neale to advertise for an apprentice in 1853.

Neale's style is stately and clean, which likely appealed to the public, but he was also capable of creating larger as well as more intricate monuments. For example, the large obelisk memorial to Charles Calvert Smoot Sr. mentioned above is by Neale as is the headstone of Aquilla Emerson. The headstone of Elizabeth Page (Photo) features a delicately carved shell and flowers arched over a shield with a Bible verse carved in italics that are flanked by two thin columns on each side.

The design he is most associated with (though not an original one) is a double column-and-arch design that can be found in four family monuments in Alexandria, one of which is the Bossart/Schwab family monument in St. Paul's cemetery. The monument has a three-tiered base, two 14-inch cubes, two two-foot-high columns, and an arch. At the apex, Neale placed an urn for Protestants and a cross for Catholics. Neale's own monument in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery is a variation of this design, with a two-tiered base supporting four columns and topped by a canopy.

Neale was not the only stonecutter in Alexandria but his tenure was the longest. Prior to Neale, Thomas Baird (1817-1833) and his partner John Tyler had a marble yard on Water St. (now N. Lee St.) between Cameron and Queen Sts. They offered "All kinds of Free stone work executed with neatness and despatch (sic)." Edward Colgate (or Colegate) appeared in the 1834 Alexandria city directory, then relocated to Maryland.

Other stonecutters were in business around the same time as Neale. Thomas Lang advertised his services in 1853 after buying H.C. Neale's entire stock of marble. William Chauncey (1834-1900) was a native Alexandrian and William Owens (1838-1876) immigrated from England to Alexandria with his family. (Owens died January 5, 1876, from an accident.)

The competition among Chauncey, Neale, and Owens, who had set up their businesses on Duke St., was stimulated by advertising. Neale and Owens were advertising as early as 1864 in *Boyd's Business Directory*. Chauncey first appeared in Boyd's 1871 directory along with Neale and Owens. In *Chataigne's Alexandria City Directory* in 1876, Chauncey and Neale are prominently listed in boldface capital letters (which cost more), but Chauncey upped the ante with a display advertisement.

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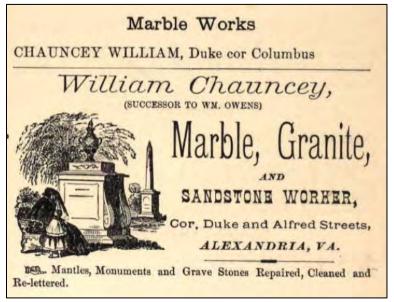


Figure 4. Example of advertisement by stone cutter William Chauncey (*Chataigne's Alexandria City Directory*, 1876)

Not only was the image of a mourning mother and child intended to evoke emotion, Chauncey also invoked William Owens to attract Owens' former clients. By 1881, Chauncey and Neale appeared in the Alexandria city directory, along with their sons; Neale had a display ad that is clearly based on Chauncey's earlier ad but it had an obvious error.



Figure 5. 1881 Advertisement for S. C. Neale & Sons in the Alexandria City Directory

By 1887 both men had turned their businesses over to their sons, who continued to advertise, but only C.L. Neale & Sons continued using display ads. Neale died in June 1886 of pneumonia, possibly brought on by his habit of showering each morning outdoors year-round in his stone yard. He was remembered for being one of the oldest citizens of Alexandria and for his civic activities, including captain of the night watch, city councilman, board of health member, and clerk of the market.

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Provious documentation on file (NPS).

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #
Primary location of additional data:
X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

<ul> <li>Paul's Episcopal Church Ceme ame of Property</li> </ul>	tery		City of Alexandria, VA County and State
Name of repository:	Virginia Departmer	nt of Historic Resources	
Historic Resources Survey	Number (if assign	ned): DHR #100-0143	
10. Geographical Data			
Acreage of Property 2.8	3 acres		
Use either the UTM system	or latitude/longitud	le coordinates	
Latitude/Longitude Coord Datum if other than WGS84 (Enter coordinates to 6 decir	<u></u>		
1. Latitude: 38.799658	Longi	tude: -77.056555	
2. Latitude:	Longi	tude:	
3. Latitude:	Longi	tude:	
4. Latitude:	Longi	tude:	
Or UTM References Datum (indicated on USGS	map):		
NAD 1927 or [	NAD 1983		
1. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
2. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
3. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	
4. Zone:	Easting:	Northing:	

#### **Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The historic boundary for St. Paul's Cemetery is demarcated by the wrought iron and brick column fence along the site's west side, while the east and north boundaries are defined by a chain link fence between St. Paul's and neighboring Bethel Cemetery. The south boundary follows a lane that separates St. Paul's from Washington Street United Methodist cemetery. The historic boundary is coterminous with the property's tax parcel 079.02-02-10 as recorded

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by the City of Alexandria, Virginia. The true and correct historic boundary is shown on the attached Sketch Map and Tax Parcel Map.

#### **Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The historic boundary follows the cemetery's boundaries as originally defined when the cemetery was established in 1809 and, therefore, encompasses the property's historic setting and all known associated resources.

11. Form Prepared By
name/title: Corinne Marasco, Historian
organization: _St. Paul's Episcopal Church_
street & number: 228 S. Pitt St.
city or town: Alexandria state: VA_zip code: 22314
e-mail: corinne.marasco@gmail.com
telephone: <u>571-723-5781</u>
date: November 2022

#### **Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

#### **Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

#### Photo Log

Name of Property: St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Alexandria

OMB Control No. 1024-0018

t. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery ame of Property	_	City of Alexandria, VA County and State
County: Independent City	State: Virginia	
Photographer: Corinne Morasco		
Date Photographed: September 2022		
Description of Photograph(s) and numb camera:	per, include description of view ind	icating direction of
1 of		

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours Tier 2 – 120 hours Tier 3 – 230 hours Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

# St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery Name of Property

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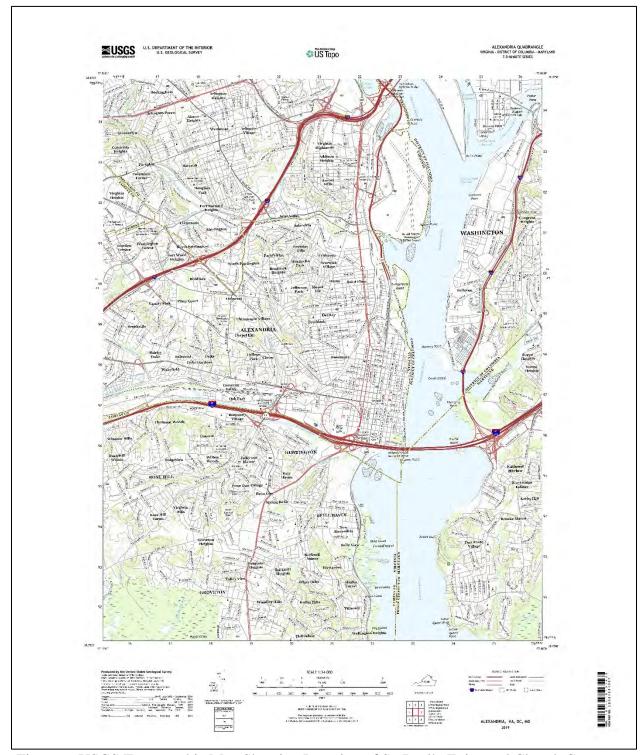


Figure 6. USGS Topographic Map Showing Location of St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery

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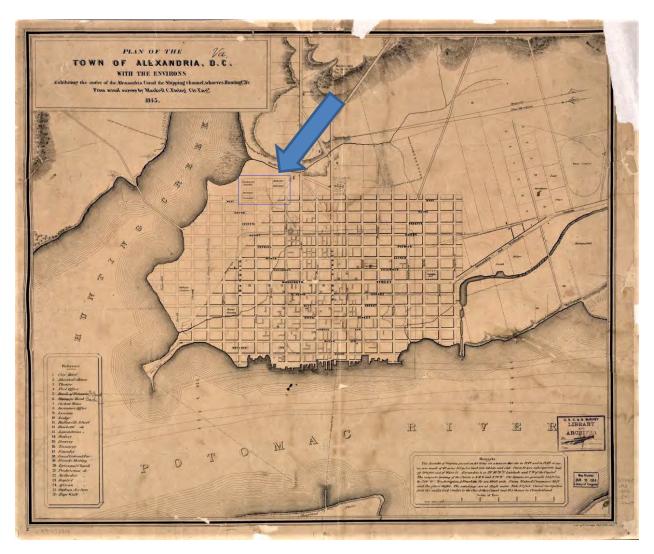


Figure 7. 1845 Map of Alexandria by Maskell C. Ewing. The Wilkes Street Cemetery Complex is outlined in blue. St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery is in the lower left-hand corner.



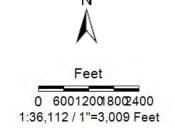
Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

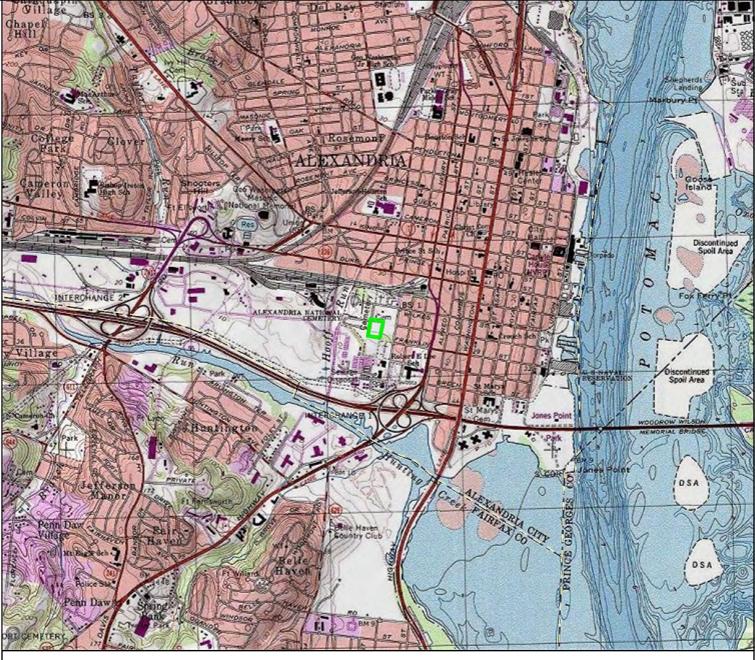
# **Legend**

County Boundaries

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery City of Alexandria, VA DHR No. 100-0143







Title: Date: 10/4/2022

DISCLAIMER:Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.



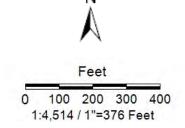
Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

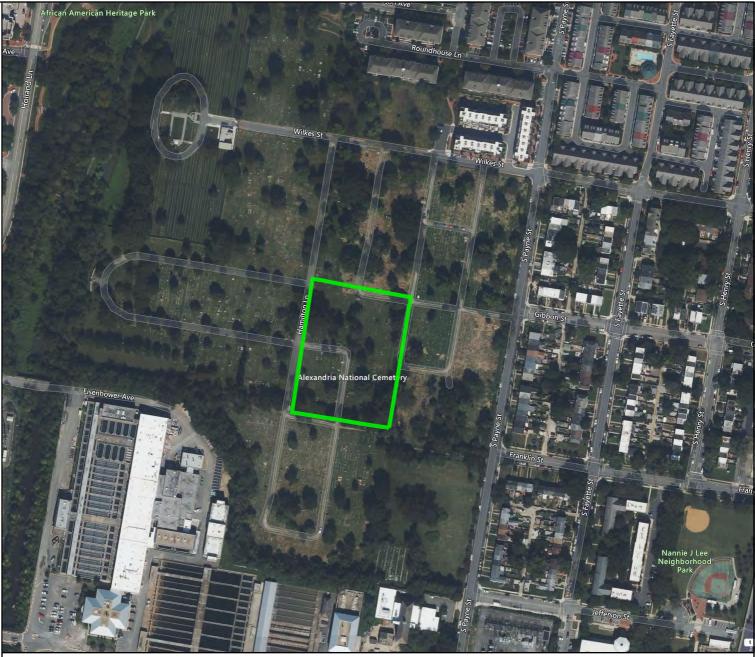
# **Legend**

County Boundaries

AERIAL VIEW - VICINITY St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery City of Alexandria, VA DHR No. 100-0143

Historic Boundary





Title: Date: 10/4/2022

DISCLAIMER:Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.



Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

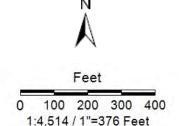
# **Legend**

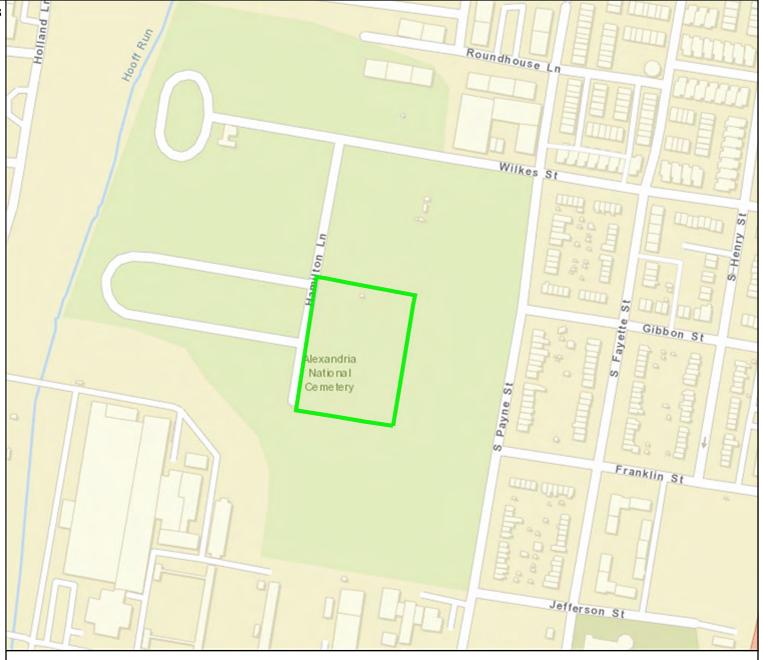
County Boundaries

LOCATION MAP St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery City of Alexandria, VA DHR No. 100-0143

Latitude: 38.799658 Longitude: -77.056555

Historic Boundary





Title: Date: 10/4/2022

DISCLAIMER:Records of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) have been gathered over many years from a variety of sources and the representation depicted is a cumulative view of field observations over time and may not reflect current ground conditions. The map is for general information purposes and is not intended for engineering, legal or other site-specific uses. Map may contain errors and is provided "as-is". More information is available in the DHR Archives located at DHR's Richmond office.

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Virginia Cultural Resource Information System

# **Legend**

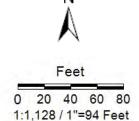
County Boundaries

#### **SKETCH MAP**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Cemetery City of Alexandria, VA DHR No. 100-0143

- 1. Cemetery (contributing site)
- 2. Hooff Family Tomb (contributing structure)
- 3. Tool shed (noncontributing building)
- 4. Columbarium (noncontributing structure)





Title: Date: 10/4/2022

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# TAX PARCEL MAP St. Paul's Episcopal Cemetery

City of Alexandria, Virginia; DHR No. 100-0143



Map-Block-Lot #: 079.02-02-10, obtained October 13, 2022, from City of Alexandria, Virginia, GIS Parcel Viewer



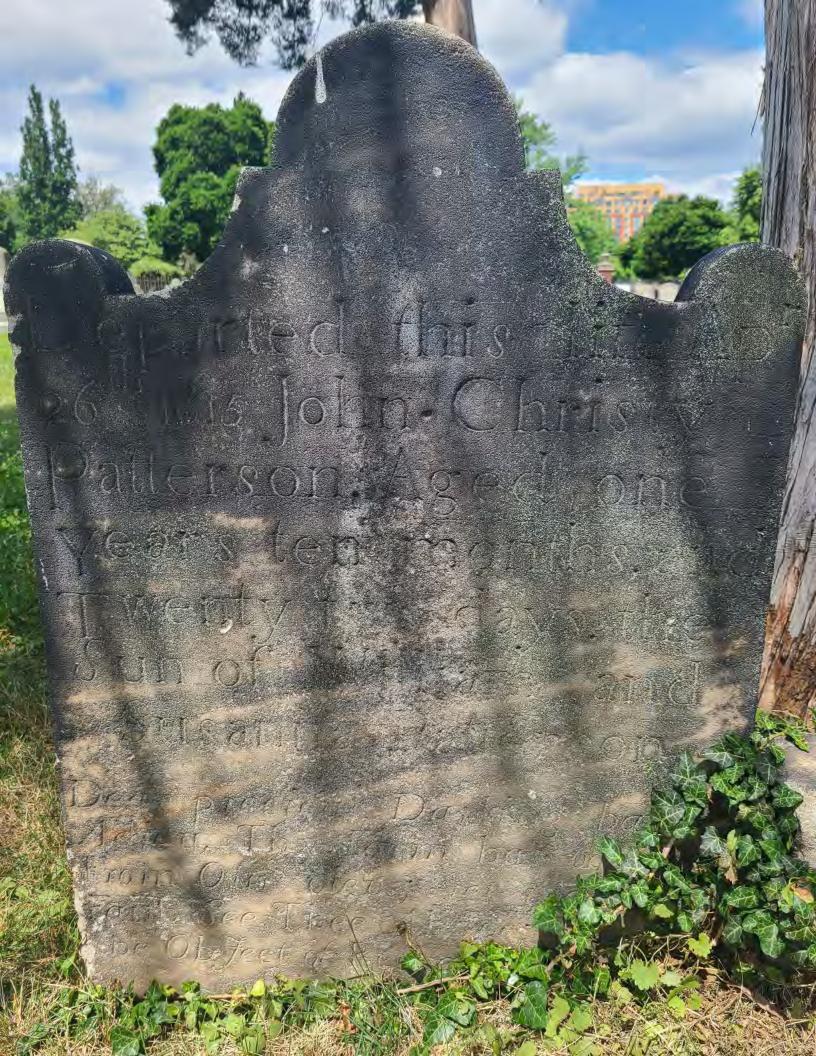
















To the memory of a FEMALE STRANGER
whose mortal sufferings terminal on the 14 th day of October 1816
Aged 2.5 years and 8 months.

This stone is placed here by her disconsolate Husband in whose arms she sighed out her latest breath and who under God did his utmost even to soothe the cold dead ear of death.

How loved how valued once avails thee not To whom related or by whom begot A heap of dust alone remains of thee Tis all thou art and all the proud shall be

To him gave all the Prophets witness that through his name whosoever believeth it him shall receive remission of since Acts. 10th Chap. 4.5%



