

GRAVE ASSUMPTIONS

A History Through Characters

Historic Coloured Cemetery, Nantucket, MA

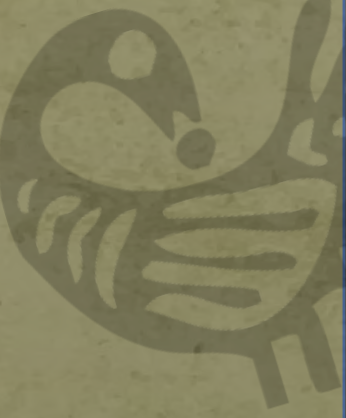
Bethlehem Methodist Episcopal Cemetery, Archer, FL

Nigel Rudolph
PIN 2022



Preservation Institute Nantucket
1972-2022





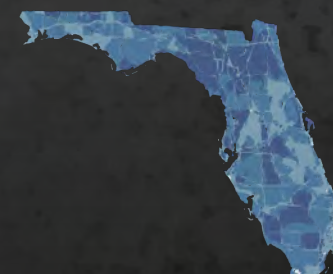
Colored Cemetery,
Groveland, Florida



Pinesville Cemetery, Archer, Florida



Asbury Cemetery,
Alachua, Florida





“Telling peoples stories is holding on to their history as well as their journey. Their journey can reflect our own story one day” – Dr. Queenchiku Ngozi.
Illumination In Darkness



GRAVE ASSUMPTIONS





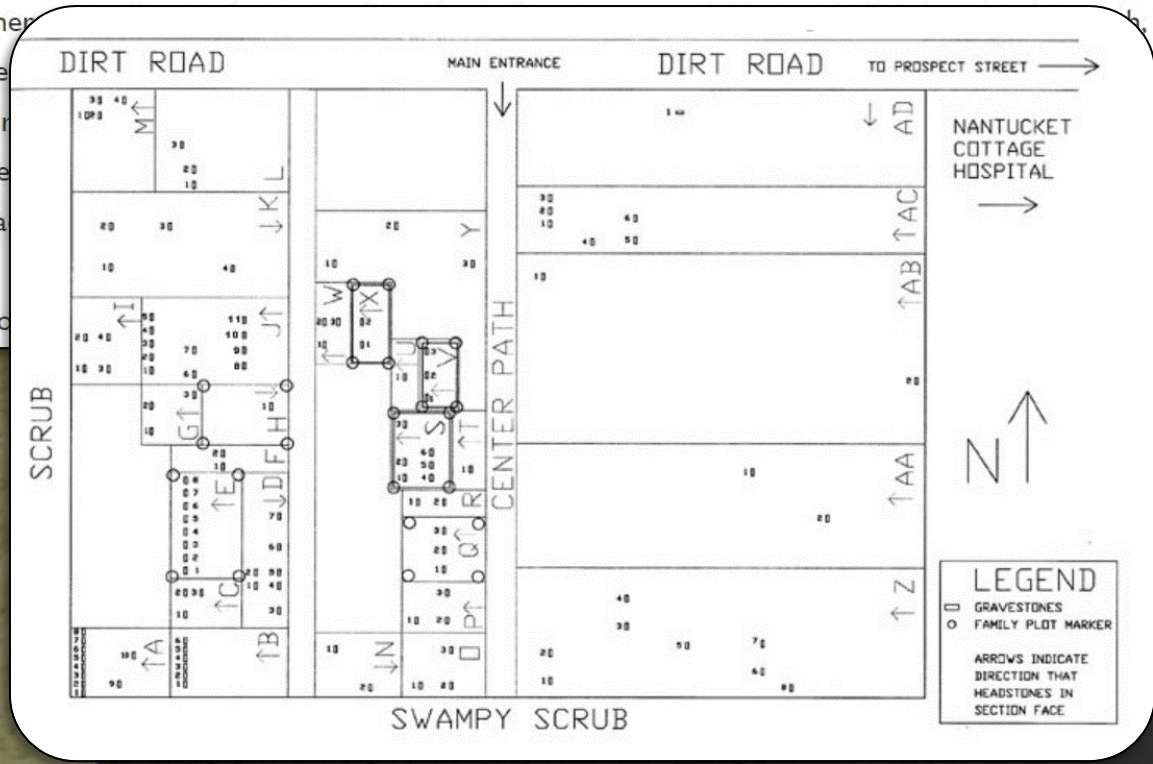
Colored Cemetery

There are 120 markers in the Colored Cemetery on Mill Hill, traditionally used for the burial of people of color, as of July 2004.

The first mention of the Mill Hill cemetery was in the Nantucket Registry of Deeds, Proprietors Records, Vol. 1, p. 228, 29th day of fifth month, 1805: "Voted that the Black People may fence in one acre of land

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1805: "Then
have
rods; from
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Courtesy of the NHA

PIN
1974

CEMETERIES OF NANTUCKET

By
Robby Cangelosi

AE 321
University of Florida

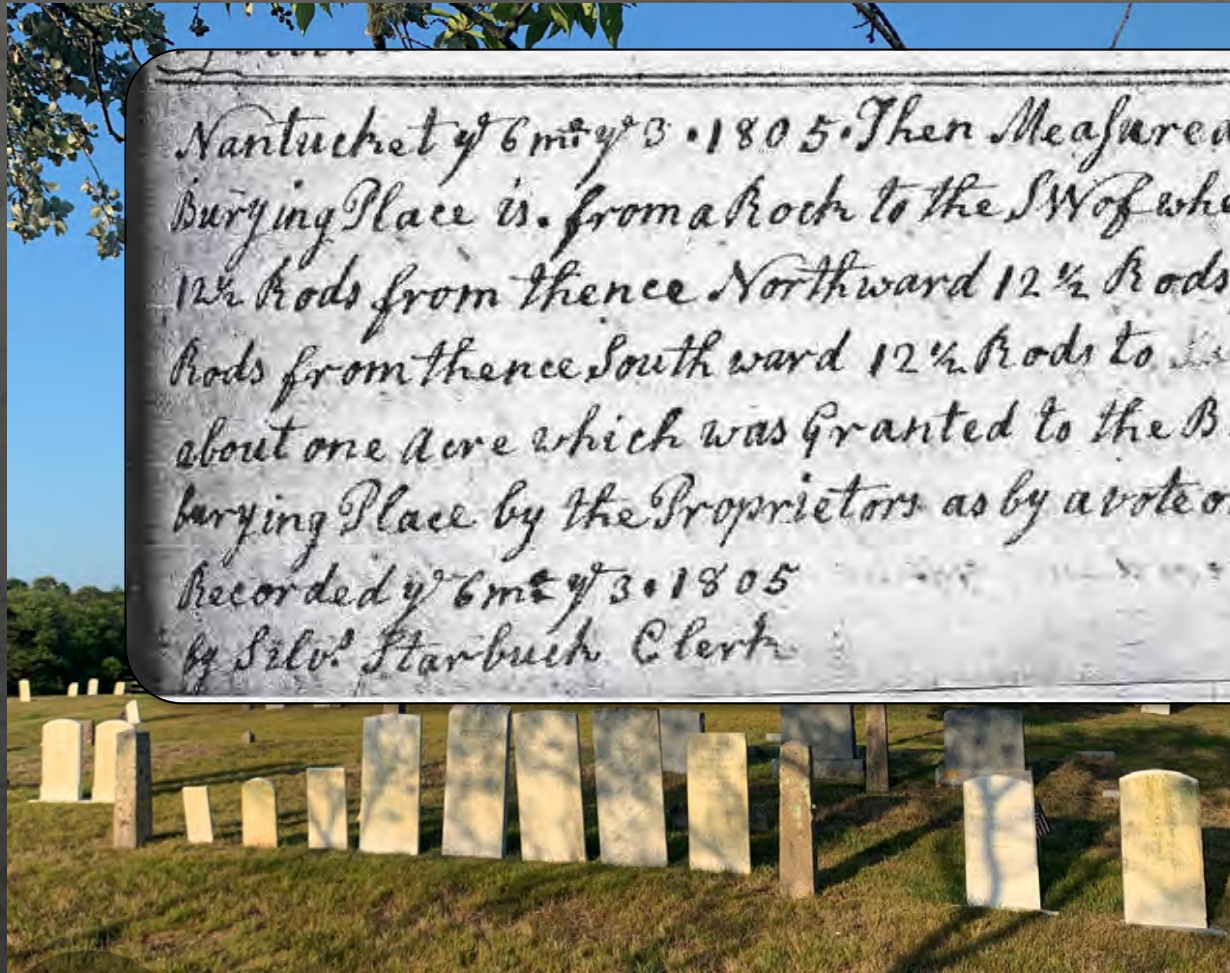




Voted that Timothy Perain may Exchange Sixty Rods of some ...
 like Quantity to the Captain of ...
 Exchange 30 Rods ...
 in Reuben Swains ...
 days - all the above ...
 to the Lot layers of ...
 open to the Proprietors ...
 may fence in about ...
 and that the Lot Layer ...
 1805.
 for Sophia Barber Esq. near the ...
 ft Bound is the N.E. Bound of a Tract said ...
 8 from thence S²0 W 23³/₄ Rods from thence ...
 W 29³/₄ Rods to 2 way fence & from thence ...
 to the first Bound: it being house lot ...
 7-4 acres & 12 Rods there account for it as ...
 bought of Micah Coffins Esq. to 191 ...
 aniah Coffins Esq. to 80 Rods by the ...
 where Edman Beth Liverd & Piece in ...
 Rods the whole contains 652 Rods ...
 the Proprietors for whom it is ...
 and will appear - laid out by us ...
 Silv^r Starbuck Lot ...
 James Coffin Esq.

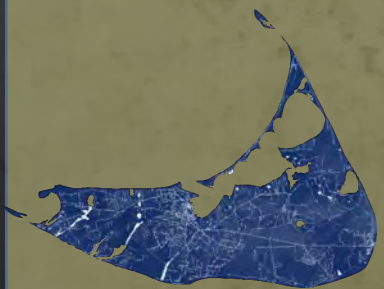
Nantucket 7th 6th mo 3rd 1805. Then Measured where the Black Peoples
 Burying Place is. from a Rock to the SW of where they have Buried Eastward
 12 1/2 Rods from thence Northward 12 1/2 Rods from thence Westward 12 1/2
 Rods from thence Southward 12 1/2 Rods to the Said Rock Containing
 about one acre which was granted to the Black People to fence in for a
 burying Place by the Proprietors as by a vote or record will appear
 Laid out by us
 Silv^r Starbuck Lot
 James Coffin Esq.

Recorded 7th 6th mo 3rd 1805
 by Silv^r Starbuck Clerk



“Voted that the Black People may fence in one acre of land where their Burying Place is and that the lot layers measure it to them.” 3rd day of sixth month, 1805: “Then measured where the Black People’s Burying Place is: from a rock to the southwest of where they have buried eastward 12 1/2 rods; from thence northward 12 1/2 rods; from thence westward 12 1/2 rods; from thence to the southward 12 1/2 rods to said rock; containing about one acre which was granted to the Black People to fence in for a Burying Place by the Proprietors as by a vote on record will appear.”

Courtesy of NHA



MISCELLANY.

Moral beauties of New England.—It is our moral associations that must bind us forever to the land of our fathers. It is a land of equal rights; its soil is not polluted by a slave. It is a land of religious freedom; no hierarchy can here exalt its head, no pontiff can hurl his thunders over a trembling and prostrate multitude. It is a land of industry and toil; affording in this a constant pledge of manly virtues. It is a land of progressive improvement. In no part of the world, is so liberal a provision made by law for public instruction. It is a land whose inhabitants have already fulfilled the high duties to which they have been called. Other nations have gathered more laurels in the field of blood; other nations have twined more garlands and sung louder praise for their poets and orators and philosophers; but where has romantic courage and adventurous skill been more strikingly exhibited? Where has practical wisdom been

Nantucket Inquirer March 29, 1828
Nantucket Antheneum Archives

“...new, degrading ways of representing black people as incompetent, childlike, bestial, or innately inferior.” (Saillant 2006, 66)

STABBING. Yesterday morning, John Peters, a black hair-dresser was brought before Josiah Hussey Esq. to answer to a complaint for stabbing one Stephen Hill, another black, on the night previous, at a place south of the town, called Guinea hill,—the residence chiefly of colored people. His defence was, that the attack was commenced by the other party. It appeared that three several stabs were inflicted by means of a large jack-knife in the hands of Peters—in the shoulder, the breast, and near the groin: the latter, it was at first apprehended, would prove mortal; but we since learn [that Hill will probably recover. An occurrence of this nature is so extremely rare in this place, that much excitement was naturally created by the circumstance. After as full an investigation of the affair, as could be had at that time, the magistrate ordered the offender to be committed to prison, for further examination on Monday next.

Nantucket Inquirer June 29, 1833
Nantucket Antheneum Archives

- This racist rhetoric was pervasive and entrenched in the opinion that if African Americans could no longer be enslaved then they should leave the island altogether.



University of Florida Historic Preservation Program – BMEC Management Plan

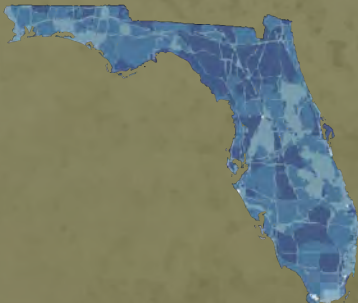
Ellen Lawrence 1796 - 1884

Given under my hand and seal this the 4th day
of August A.D. 1873
Signed sealed and delivered
in the presence of
George C. Abbott }
H. B. Steeles } Louis A. Barnes (seal)
Sherriff Alachua County
Florida.

State of Florida }
Alachua County } Personally appeared George C.
Abbott well known to me to be the person whose
name is signed as a subscribing witness to the above
Deed who being duly sworn upon oath says that he
knows the above named grantor execute the same for
the purposes therein expressed and that affiant on or
H. B. Steeles signed the same as subscribing witnesses
sworn to and subscribed before me
this 13th day of August A.D. 1873 } George C. Abbott
Not. Carolina Clark }
per W. H. Bellum D.C.

Filed for record August 13th 1873
Recorded August 13th 1873
Not. Carolina Clark
per W. H. Bellum D.C.

State of Florida }
Alachua County } This the 13th day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight
hundred and seventy three between Major Reddick
and Romeo Reddick Rinaldo Reddick Major Reddick,
Henry Peterson Adam Hamilton, Richard Doby and Arthur
Waynes Trustees in trust for the uses and purposes hereinafter
mentioned being of the County of Alachua of the
second part Witnesses that the said Major Reddick's
for and in consideration of Five Dollars lawful money of the
Treasurer of said Board in hand paid before the sealing
and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is here
by acknowledged, have given granted, bargained, sold,
aliened, and conveyed, and by these presents do bargain
sell, confirm, release and convey unto them the said
Romeo Reddick, Rinaldo Reddick, Major Reddick,
Henry Peterson, Adam Hamilton, Richard Doby, and
Arthur Wayne and their executors in trust Trustees



Alachua County Ancient Records –
BMEC Deed from Major Reddick 1873



Historic Pinesville Cemetery in Archer...loads of trees



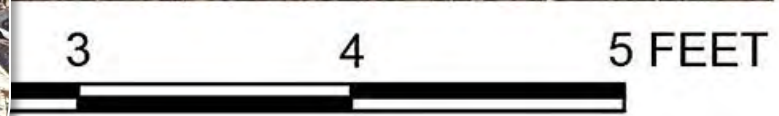
Historic Coloured Cemetery, Nantucket... Few trees!



BMEC and Saint Peters
Cemetery, Archer, FL



Historic Coloured Cemetery, Nantucket

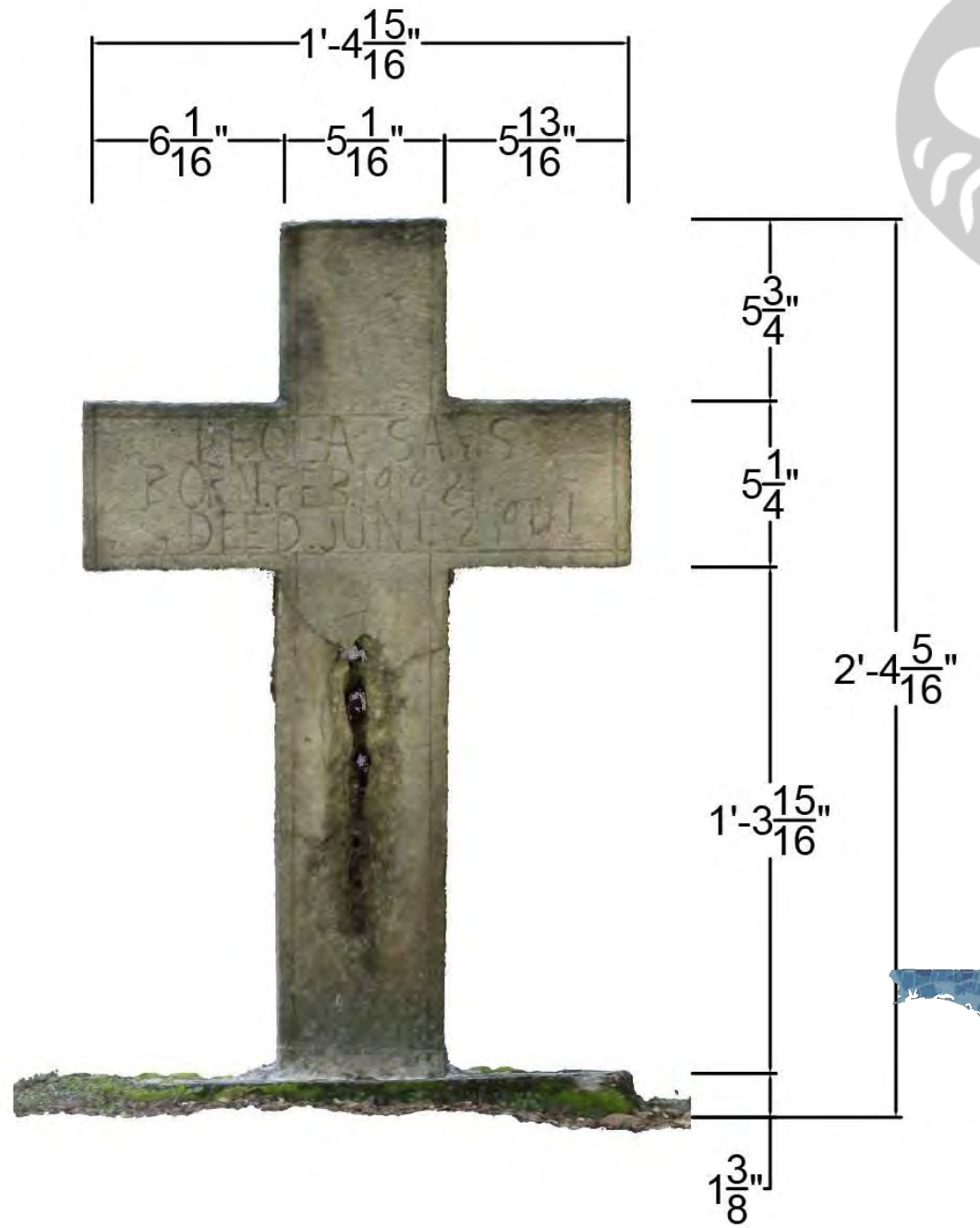


Vernacular vault cover – BMEC, Archer, FL





Vernacular gravemaker – BMEC, Archer, FL

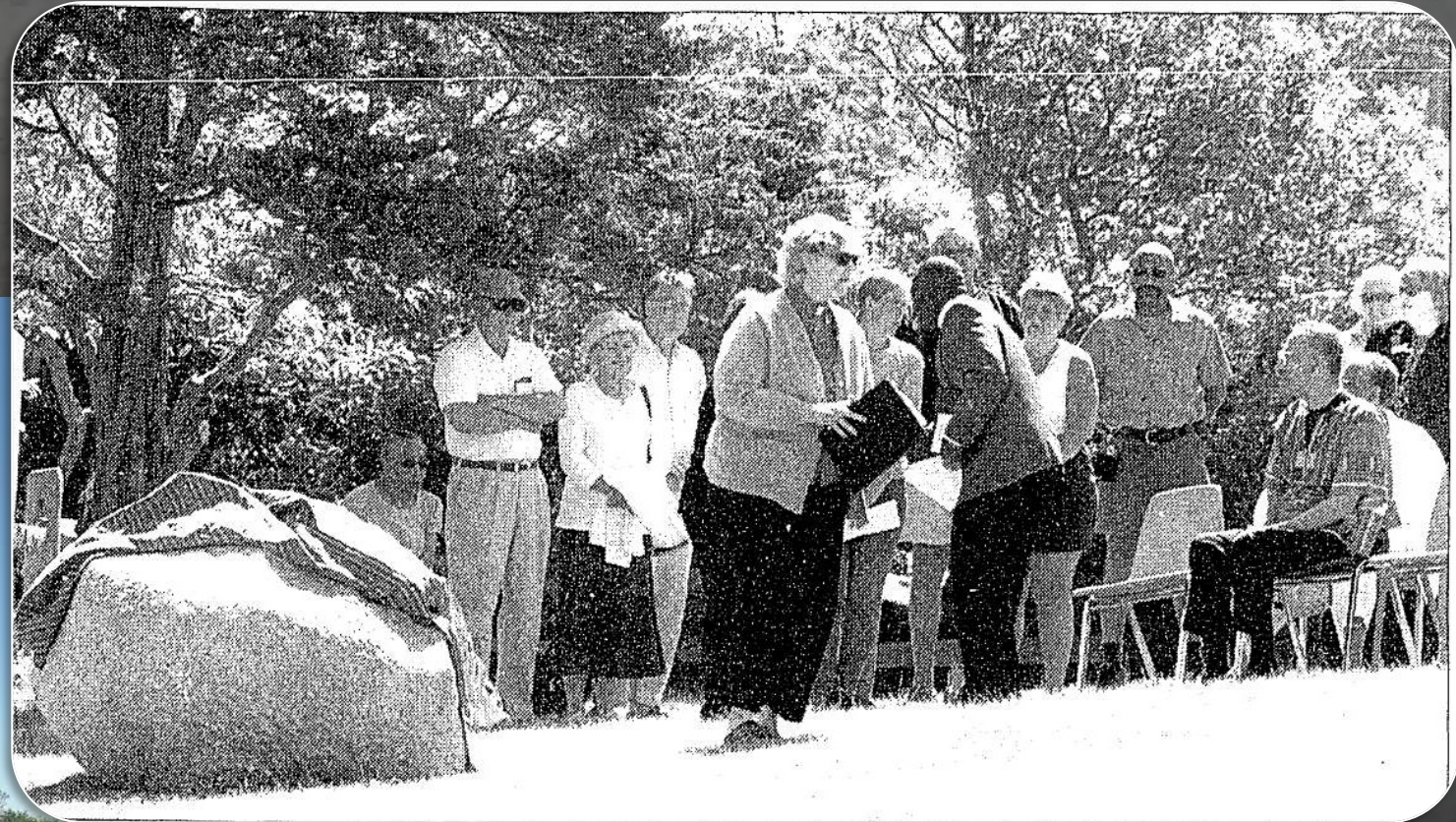




Broken Stones – Historic
Coloured Cemetery - Nantucket

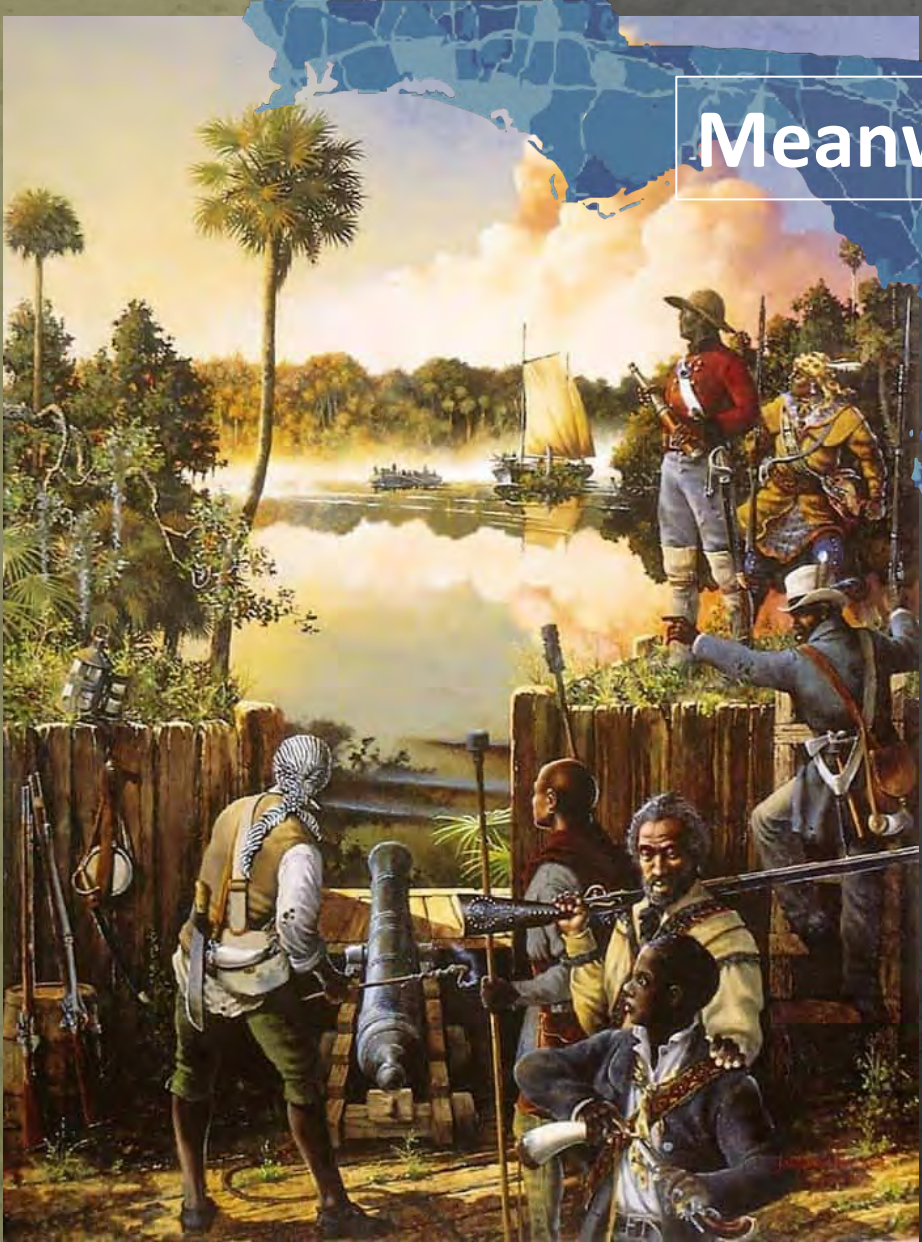


“Historic Cemetery” plaque unveiling at
Historic Coloured Cemetery
The Inquirer and Mirror, Thursday, June
28, 2007



Rev. Georgia Ann Snell,
descendant to Lincoln Porte
buried in Historic Coloured
Cemetery, was a speaker at the
2007 unveiling.
Photo by Jim Powers

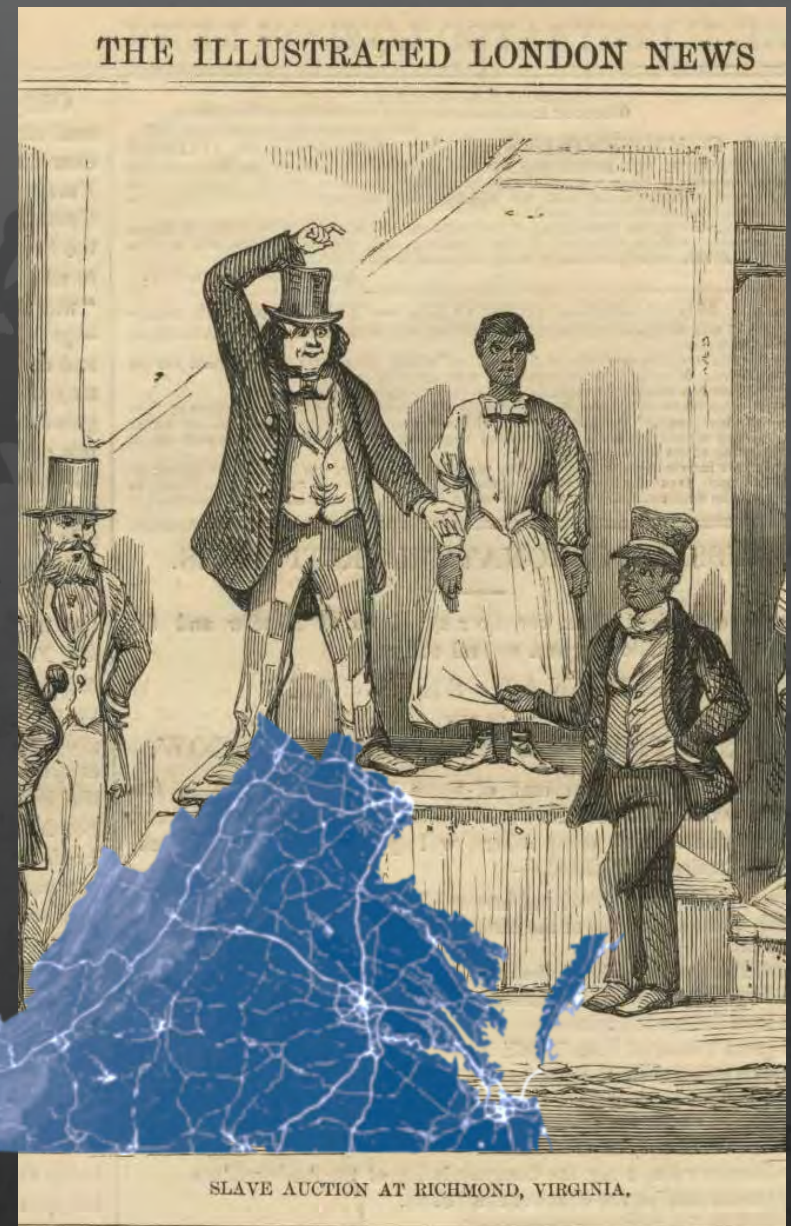
Meanwhile in Florida...



Battle of Negro Fort – 1817

Painting by Jackson Walker

<https://thejwstudio.com/Gallery%20items/warriorsfrombondage.html>



'Slave auction at Richmond, Virginia',
by Eyre Crowe (1856)

RUNAWAYS

100 DOLLARS Reward.—Runaway from the subscriber a negro man named Charles, about 24 years old and about 5 feet 8 inches high, rather stout built, quick spoken and smart, and wore when he left a heavy moustache. He was probably raised in Surry, as he was carried from that county to Richmond, where I bought him in last October. When last heard from he was within 44 miles of Petersburg, and it was thought he would endeavor to cross the Appomattox above Petersburg, and the James above Richmond, on his way North; or he may be lurking about Richmond. If delivered to me or lodged in jail, I will pay all necessary expenses and give \$100 reward. If he is apprehended about Richmond, report to McKinney, Dupuy & Archer, commission merchants, Shockoe Hill, or to WM R RIGG, St Tammany P O, Mecklenburg. fo 10—61

100 DOLLARS Reward.—Run away from the farm of the subscriber, near Roxboro', N C, on Friday, the 5th inst, a likely mulatto girl, named Lucy, aged 17 or 18 years, short, thick set, and when she left was neatly attired. It is presumed that she is making her way to Richmond.—The above reward will be paid for her apprehension and delivery to me at the store of B Allison & Bro, corner of 17th and Franklin sts. A A HILSON fo 10—61

100 DOLLARS Reward.—Abandoned from my farm, in Greenville county, Va, on Thursday night, Feb 4th, a mulatto man named Richard, about 28 years old and 6 1/2 feet high. He belonged until September last, to a gentleman near King George Court-House, whose name I do not remember, where he has a wife, and will doubtless try to reach that place. The above reward will be paid for the delivery of Richard to me in Greenville county, Va, or to Mr L Grady, in Richmond. LEWIS WELLS fo 9—61

100 Hundred Dollars Reward.—Run away from the subscriber, about two weeks ago, a slave calling himself Robert Davis. He is about 3 years old, near 5 feet 10 inches high, quite dark, slightly deaf, talks rapidly, but stammers. He is supposed to have carried with him a suit of black broad cloth, a cap with a glass cover, and a heavy pair of shoes. He had been employed as a dining room servant at the American Hotel; but was brought up in Petersburg, Va. The above reward will be given to any one who will bring the above negro to me, or secure him in the Henrico Jail. J B JENKINS fo 9—61 City of Marshall and Adams

100 Hundred Dollars Reward.—Will be paid for the apprehension and delivery in jail of my boy Tom, who absconded about 2 weeks ago, and is supposed to be now in or near the city of Richmond. He is about 12 years of age, brown color, and very sprightly; had on when he left a new suit of mixed jeans, cap, and pegged shoes. Address Warren P O, Albemarle co, Va. O L WINGFIELD, M D. fo 9—61

50 DOLLARS Reward.—Left my residence on Monday morning, about 6 o'clock, my negro boy Jesse. He is about 14 years of age, dark brown color, rather spare make, and grum appearance. He had on when he left a blue shaggy overcoat. He has doubtless left with some military company, or is attempting to go to the Yankees east of Richmond. The above reward will be paid on his delivery to me, 203 Main st, Richmond. THOS J STARK fo 9—61



And I heard a voice from heaven
Saying Write Blessed are the dead
which in the Lord from hence
forth

Portrait of Arthur Cooper, 1825-35.
Sarah (Sally) Gardner (1799-1862). NHA

Inscription courtesy of NHA



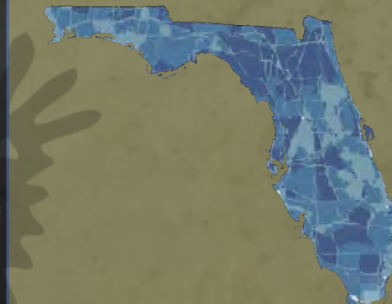


BLACK AMERICA SERIES

ALACHUA COUNTY FLORIDA

Lizzie PRR Jenkins

America is woven of many strands.



Juliann Sams (1826 – 1926)

Image courtesy of Lizzie Jenkins

“Not until I wandered into the firehouse one day back in the 1950s and spied the designation “Colored Cemetery” on the town map hanging on the wall, did I realize distinctions that should have been apparent to me all along.”
- Isabel Carter Stewart

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Issuu.
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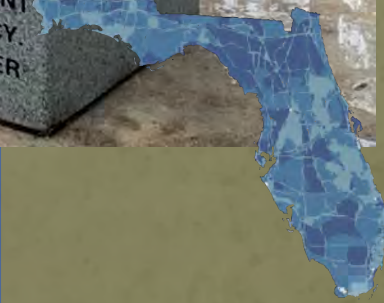


Photos courtesy of the NHA



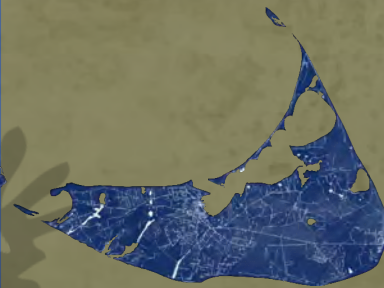


Roberta Lopez, Board President – Bethlehem Methodist Episcopal Cemetery Restoration Organization (BMECRO)





Both the Bethlehem Methodist Episcopal Cemetery in Archer, and the Historic Coloured Cemetery in Nantucket are safe and in good condition. However, continued conservation and documentation is needed.



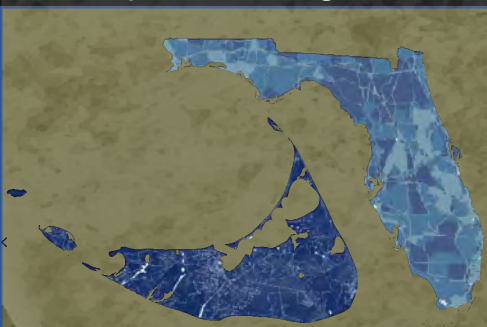




Dr. Queenchiku Ngozi. *Illumination In Darkness – Pine Grove Cemetery, Gainesville, Florida*

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**Thank you to everyone for all their
help with this project.**