9. Pre-Civil War Graves (1825-1860) This is a list of individuals buried outside of the original enclosed area in Square 1115. These graves are unmarked. Not all records indicate if they were free or enslaved, but that information is included when available. **R24/S118-140**

S118 "Mrs. Stone's Colored Woman," Gratis, **d. 1857**

S124 "Colored Girl," slave of James G. Long, **d. 1860**

S125 Jenny Walker, Gratis, **d. May 21, 1856**

S126 Louisa, **d. April 17, 1855**

S126 Susannah Gordon, slave of John Ingle, **d. 1855**

S127 Linney Henry Winsor, **d. May 25, 1829**

S128 Solomon Dines, Age 5, **d. Dec. 29, 1829**

S129 Daughter of Henson Dines, **d. May 25, 1830**

S130 Letty McPherson, **d. Sept. 20, 1833**

S131 Farno (or Famo) Clark, **d. July 17, 1839**

S131 Child of William Bush, **d. Jan. 1843**

S132 Mary Inch and child, **d. Feb. 4, 1846**

S133 Child, site proprietor Ann Berry, **d. July, 1849**

S134 "Child, Slave", Gratis, **d. Sept. 29, 1849**

S135 Vina, **d. May 31, 1850**

S135 Child of J.P. Chase, **d. Dec. 25, 1851**

S136 James Albert McCleary, **d. July 21, 1851**

S136 Child, **d. July 1853**

S137 Kitty Kau, former slave of Mary Ingle, **d. 1851**

S137 Lucy Kau, **d. Aug. 3, 1855**

S138 Aunt Jenny, gratis, **d. Sept. 11, 1852**

S140 "Colored Boy," **d. Dec. 10, 1859**

10. Rosa Marks (d. May 28, 1866) lived and worked in the Gadsby family home, as a slave and free person. She is interred in the Gadsby Family Vault. John Gadsby was an English tavern keeper in Alexandria, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C. **GADSBY VAULT, Section 1 Vaults/S3**

Did You Know?

The Compensated Emancipation Act ended slavery in the District of Columbia, immediately providing Union slaveholders up to $300 in compensation for releasing their slaves. The act, which set aside $1 milllion, was signed into law by U.S. President Abraham Lincoln on April 16, 1862. Coming nine months after the Emancipation Proclamation, this act freed those enslaved in Washington, DC. An additional $100,000 allocated by the law was used to pay each newly freed slave $100 if he or she chose to leave the United States and colonize in places such as Haiti or Liberia. As a result of the act's passage, 3,185 slaves were freed.

In Washington, D.C., April 16 has been celebrated as Emancipation Day since 1866. In 2005, the District celebrated Emancipation Day for the first time as an official city holiday.

A WORD OF CAUTION: The centuries have made many grave markers and sites unstable. Please be careful near grave markers and watch where you step: depressions and sink holes lie hidden in grass, and footstones and corner markers can trip the unwary.

Join us!

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established in 1976 and dedicated to the restoration, interpretation, and management of Congressional Cemetery. It is predominantly a volunteer-based organization relying on over 400 neighbors, history buffs, conservators, dogwalkers, and armed forces personnel each year to help restore and maintain this national treasure. In 1979, the Association succeeded in having Congressional Cemetery listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It became a National Historic Landmark in 2011. Please join the Association or make a donation to help the Cemetery in its third century of service to the Nation's Capital.

CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY
ESTABLISHED 1807

Association for the Preservation of Historic Congressional Cemetery

Walking Tour
AFRICAN AMERICANS

History comes to life in Congressional Cemetery. The creak and clang of the wrought iron gate signals your arrival into the early decades of our national heritage.

The Cemetery was founded in 1807 by private citizens, who purchased the property. It was then turned over to Christ Church in March 1812. The by-laws adopted by the Christ Church vestry on March 30, 1812 stated that "no person of color shall be permitted to be buried within that part of the burial ground which is now enclosed." There was not any mention about interments for African Americans outside the enclosed area of the Cemetery, which was about ¾ of the original Square 1115. There were at least 23 African Americans buried here before the Civil War, and two women were buried in the Cemetery during the Civil War. Most of these burials were in Range 24, sites 113-140, which were outside of the perimeter of the enclosed area of the Cemetery, marked on the map with a black rectangle.

This tour highlights a few of the African Americans buried at Congressional Cemetery. These important individuals from many periods of American history help create a diverse narrative of American heritage. African-American history contains many instances of difficult history including slavery, discrimination, prejudice, and segregation. Additionally, there is little surviving written documentation about African-Americans, especially in early American history.

Most of the existing written documents were not written by African-Americans because enslaved Africans had little to no ability to keep their own records. Therefore, their history is primarily viewed through the lens of white Americans and white society. Consequently, things important to African-Americans--such as relationships, skills, and forms of knowledge--are often erased.

At Congressional Cemetery, there is not much surviving documentation about African-Americans, especially in the 1800s and early 1900s. While the existing documents offer some glimpse into the lives of some of the African-American residents at the cemetery, there is much that remains unknown.

The following are numbered to correspond with the map on the back. Please also refer to the Range (R) and Site (S) grid numbers to help locate each grave site.

1. Alain Locke (1885-1954) was the first gay man as well as first African-American to be awarded a Rhodes scholarship to Oxford University - there would not be another for more than 50 years. Locke has been credited as an originator

Alain Locke

of the Harlem Renaissance and the New Negro Movement. In a 1949 note, Locke reflected on the irony of being born in the U. S. with three minority identities: "had I been born in ancient Greece, I would have escaped the first [his sexual identity]; in Europe, I would have been spared the second [U.S. racial segregation policies and discrimination]; in Japan I would have been above rather than below average [height]." Sixty years after his death, Locke received a permanent resting place. Initially, Locke's friend, Arthur Barry Fauset possessed his ashes, along with his important papers and writings. Mr. Fauset gave the ashes to his niece, who then gave them to Howard University's Moorland Springarn Research Center, where the ashes were stored in a brown paper bag. **R62/S90**

2. Betsy Jane Fairfax (d. March 14, 1942) was born into slavery and served the Swingle family for 80 years. Fairfax received an award from the District Federation of Women's Clubs, commemorating her service to three generations of the Swingle family. Fairfax also traveled with the Reed family to Honolulu to care for the Reed children. In her old age, Fairfax was said to have remembered details from the Battle of Antietam. **R86/S315**

3. Lucy "Mammy" Gray (d. November 5, 1914), as it states on her marker, faithfully served Virginia A. Thompson for 48 years. Gray died at the age of 65, and she is interred in the Thompson family vault. This was not typical of the time period, in fact, it was highly unusual and was a sign of respect and the high regard in which the family held her. **THOMPSON VAULT, Section 2 Vaults/S3**

4. Three generations of the **Howard Family** are buried here. **Theophilus Howard (c. 1818-1891)** married **Diana Ball (c. 1812-1885)**, formerly enslaved by Archibald Henderson, Commandant of the Marine Corps, at Christ Church in 1846. Theophilus worked as a sexton for Christ Church from 1858 to 1869, during which time he was drafted by the Union Army (1864) and detailed to the Navy Yard. Theophilus Howard owned property at 638 Independence Ave SE and variously worked as a white washer, oysterman, and peddler. Theophilus and Diana had two children: **Alice Howard Lee (1849-1868)** and T**heophilus Howard Jr. (1853-1883)**, who attended Howard University and worked as a teacher. Theophilus Howard Jr. married **Mary Ella Eskridge (1860-1937)**, a house servant, and they had four children: Eugene Howard **(1877-1905)**, a porter; **Alice Howard (1879-1905)**, a house servant; **Losceola Howard (1881-1931)**, a hairdresser; and **Hermon Howard (1884-1946)**, a desk helper at the Government Printing Office. When T. Howard, Sr. died he left his estate to his four grandchildren, with the proviso that "if any become drunkards or gamblers or pursue an immoral life, the proceeds of the estate shall be shared only by those who do not violate the moral law." Mary Ella Howard was also mother to **Grace Howard Butler (1894-1972)**. Grace and

her husband, **James Butler (1894-1970)**, are also in the family plot. Christ Church, the Capitol Hill Community Foundation, and individual donors provided funding for the installation of the Howard family headstone. **R22/S251-255**
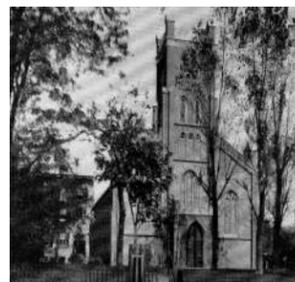
Christ Church, 1913

5. Junos Fauntleroy (d. March 9, 1855) and **Lettie Nelson Wheeler (c. 1778 - Feb. 9, 1863)** are both listed as a "Colored Woman of Dr. George Humphries." These graves are unmarked. The 1860 Census lists Humphreys, age 48 as a dentist. He bought Range 43, Sites 177 to 181 in July 1850. He and his family are buried in sites 178 to 181. **R43/S177**

6. Marion Barry (1936-2014) was one of the most influential and controversial figures in D.C. politics winning a record four terms as mayor, eventually receiving the nickname "Mayor for Life." He was an early advocate of home rule, a civil rights
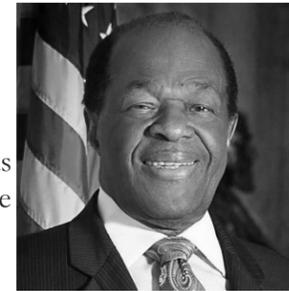
Marion Barry

leader and a self-proclaimed advocate for the poor and dispossessed. He first arrived in D.C. in 1965 as a Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee organizer where he organized and advocated for civil rights and ten years later he became Mayor. During his tenure he integrated the government bureaucracy, created new social welfare programs and secured the District more independence from Congress. However, his tenure was also marred by accusations of corruption and drug use. In 1990, he was convicted of misdemeanor cocaine use and was sentenced to six months in prison. After being released he staged one of the most remarkable political comebacks in local history. In 1992, he crushed the incumbent for the Ward 8 council seat and in 1994 he won a fourth term as Mayor. However, rumors of corruption and cocaine use continued, which prompted Congress to strip him of control of D.Cs finances. Ultimately he did not seek a fifth term, but he continued as a councilman for Ward 8 where he lived in the same impoverished housing as many of the Ward's residents, beloved by many in D.C. **R20/S191**

7. Tyrone Gayle (1987-2018) began his career working as a driver and body man for U.S. Senator Tim Kaine (D-Va). Reflecting on this position, Gayle revealed that he "drove Kaine, kept him on schedule, briefed him on who he was

Tyrone Gayle

meeting, and kept up his morale." Gayle worked briefly for the Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee and joined the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee as a spokesman in the 2014 midterm elections. During the 2016 Presidential campaign, Gayle served as a spokesman for Hillary Clinton. When Clinton was selecting a running mate for Vice President, Gayle vouched for Senator Kaine, whom Clinton ultimately selected as her running mate. At the time of his death from colon cancer, Gayle was working as the Washington Press Secretary for then-Senator Kamala Harris. **R12/S167**

8. Lucy Bell (d. June 8, 1862) was born into slavery near the beginning of the American Revolutionary War. By 1850, Lucy Bell had claimed her freedom. She was the mother to at least five children, including Daniel Bell, who paid $100 for his wife, eight children and two grandchildren to escape in the *Pearl* incident

The Pearl

- the largest recorded nonviolent escape attempt by slaves in United States history. On April 15, 1848, seventy-seven slaves attempted to escape Washington, D.C. by sailing away on a schooner called the *Pearl* but were apprehended days later before they were able to leave the Chesapeake Bay. **R24/S113**

Ann Bell (d. May 3, 1873) was Lucy Bell's daughter. Ann Bell was most likely the first in her family to arrive in Washington, D.C. It is believed that she arrived in 1813 with the permission of Gabriel Greenfield. Ann Bell conducted herself as a free person after she moved to D.C. until 1836, when the Greenfield family claimed that Ann was enslaved. On December 24, 1836, Ann Bell filed a freedom suit in D.C.'s circuit court. The summons went unanswered because the defendant, Gerard Truman Greenfield, primarily resided in Tennessee, not Washington. Ann Bell's case focused on her freedom and whether or not she was freed by the 1815 will of Gabriel. P. T. Greenfield. In 1840, Ann Bell's petition for freedom went to trial. The jury gave Ann Bell a verdict in support of her freedom because she purchased real property, built a house, and hired a servant from the defendant. On April 15, 1840, Ann Bell was granted her freedom, making her the only member of the Bell family to successfully win her court case. Ann Bell lived with her great-niece, Caroline (Daniel Bell's daughter), in 1870. Ann Bell died on May 3, 1873. She

is buried in the same plot as her mother, Lucy Bell.

In total, the Bell family brought seven cases to the DC court system to support and ensure the freedom of their family members. Although the Bell family fought hard to keep their family together and to fight for their freedom, the slave trade, war, and slaveholders separated the family. **R24/S113**