

CH-796

1801-1883

Round Hill Cemetery

Benedict vic.

Private

The Round Hill Cemetery includes over one dozen grave markers associated with the Estep, Martin, Wall and Wheelley families. The earliest marker dates from 1801 marking the grave of Philemon Estep and was active until 1883, as evidenced by the latest date appearing in the cemetery, that of Richard P. Wall. The cemetery is one of many rural family burial sites throughout Charles County. Including fourteen stones, Round Hill cemetery represents one of the largest private burial grounds currently documented. This site requires further study.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-796

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Round Hill Cemetery

other

2. Location

street and number 16901 Tidewater Lane not for publication

city, town Hughesville vicinity

county Charles

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James and Kathleen Morgan

street and number 16901 Tidewater Lane telephone unknown

city, town Hughesville state MD zip code 20637-2852

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 37 p. 130

city, town La Plata liber 3407 folio 342

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture		
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade		<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic		<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education		<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
			0	

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-796

Condition

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> altered |
-

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Round Hill Cemetery includes 14 grave markers located on a high knoll in the former Thomas Stonestreet Farm. Today the property is part of Swanson Creek Landing located on the west side of Teague's Point Road in the vicinity of Benedict. According to the Index of Cemetery Records in Charles County, the cemetery includes 14 grave markers associated with the Estep, Martin, Wall and Wheatley [sic] families. The earliest marker dates from 1801 marking the grave of Philemon Estep. The cemetery was active until 1883, as evidenced by the latest date appearing in the cemetery, that of Richard P. Wall. The cemetery has been included in Lot 24. The site was not accessible at the time of the survey and requires further study.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-796

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates	1801-1883	Architect/Builder	unknown
Construction dates	1801-1883		

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The cemetery is one of many rural family burial sites throughout Charles County. Including 14 stones, Round Hill cemetery represents one of the largest private burial grounds currently documented. Following the Revolutionary War, Charles County experienced a period of economic retrenchment. A spate of bankruptcies caused by the accumulation of debts during the war disrupted the reestablishment of the former social and economic order. Additionally, the decline in soil quality affected by the intensive cultivation of tobacco left many planters short on arable land. In general, it was the most well-established wealthy landowners who weathered this period, reestablishing their economic and social dominance.

During the short period of stability that followed the Revolutionary War, Charles County was integrated into the state and national government. In 1799, the county was divided into four election districts. In 1807, a geographical text authored by Joseph Scott included a description of Charles County. Included among the list of towns were Port Tobacco, Allenfresh, Nanjemoy, Hilltop, Benedict [sic], and Newport. Port Tobacco seems to have been by far the largest of these towns with fifty houses, an Episcopal Church, a tobacco warehouse, a courthouse and a jail.

Following the War of 1812, Charles County experienced a period of economic stability. Although competition from other tobacco-growing regions intensified during the first half of the nineteenth century, the large-scale planters seem to have maintained their economic stability. By 1820, most of the out migration caused by the depredations of war and the inability of small tenant farmers to prosper had ceased. Tobacco prices became unstable, and remained so throughout the early nineteenth century. However, the wealthiest of the landowners in the county remained prosperous. Many diversified their interests, investing in corn or wheat cultivation or in commercial industries, such as milling, fishing, and commerce.

Through the 1830s, 1840s, and 1850s, Charles County continued to thrive on its agricultural and growing commercial trade. Although census records reveal no significant population growth during these years, there are no indications of economic depression. However, the relative calm of county life was disrupted by the initial rumblings of dispute that would lead to the Civil War. Charles County was sensitively located between the northern or Unionist states and the southern, secessionist states. As a tobacco-dependant county, most landholders resented the pressure brought by abolitionists to free the slave population. During the entire armed conflict that followed the secession of the southern states, Charles County was occupied by Union soldiers. Because of its southern sympathies, the county was treated like occupied territory.

Following the Civil War, Charles County suffered the same fate as most of the southern states. The basis of the economy, slave labor, was gone. Land ceased to be cultivated, credit collapsed and many planters fell deep into debt. In addition, Federal taxes levied by the "carpet-bag" government threatened landowners with the loss of their land. The turmoil of the Reconstruction era continued in Charles County well into the twentieth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-796

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property unknown
Acreage of historical setting unknown
Quadrangle name Benedict Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 37, parcel 130, Lot 24.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Cathy Hardy/Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning	dat	2/5/2004
street and number	200 Baltimore Street	telephone	301-396-5815
city or town	La Plata	stat MD	zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-796

Section 9 Page 1

Round Hill Cemetery

name of property

Charles County, MD

county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. *Charles County, Maryland, A History*.
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

"Charles County, Maryland Tombstone Inscriptions and Name Index." Charles County Historical Society. Southern Maryland Studies Center, College of Southern Maryland

Hardy, Cathy Currey. "Phase III Final Report Charles County Historic Sites Survey."
Charles County Planning. July 2002.

KCI Technologies, Inc. *Draft--Historic Context For the U.S. 301 Southern Corridor Transportation Study*. August 1996.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. *The History of Charles County, Maryland*.
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

Maps

Griffith, Dennis. *Map of the State of Maryland Laid down from an actual Survey of all the principal Waters, public Roads, and Divisions of the Counties therein....* Philadelphia, PA: J. Tallance, Engraver, June 6, 1795.

Martenet, Simon J. *Martenet's Map of Maryland and the District of Columbia*. Baltimore, MD: Simon J. Martenet, C.E., 1865; revised 1885.

ROUND HILL CEMETERY

Teagues Point Road, Hughesville

Thomas Stonestreet Farm on left side of the road, 8/10 mile down
a dirt lane, located high upon a hill in a field

14 tombstones

Transcribed April 19, 1980 by Danny Fluhart

ESTEP

In memory of Louisa Estep born August 4, 1792 died July 18, 1858

Philemon Estep departed this life November 25th 1801 in the 37th
year of his lifeRichard C. Estep departed this life March 19th 1816 in the 18th
year of his age

MARTIN

A husband's memento to his fond and beloved wife Harriet S. Martin
who died May 17, 1858 in the 39th year of her age. A life of purity
robbed death of its terrors ;Drop a tear to the memory of Lawrence, son of Thomas and Harriet S.
Martin who died March 11, 1874 at the early age of 22 yearsLydia, daughter of Thomas and Harriet S. Martin born Sept'r 24, 1853
died Oct'4, 1864

WALL

Catherine M. Wall, wife of John T. Wall born Dec'r 3, 1800
died Aug't 8, 1875Marie C. Wall, wife of John T. Wall, daughter of () born Feb'y 24,
186(1) died Sept'r 26, 1877Richard P. Wall, son of John T. and Catherine M. Wall born April 15,
1824 died Jan'y 29, 1883

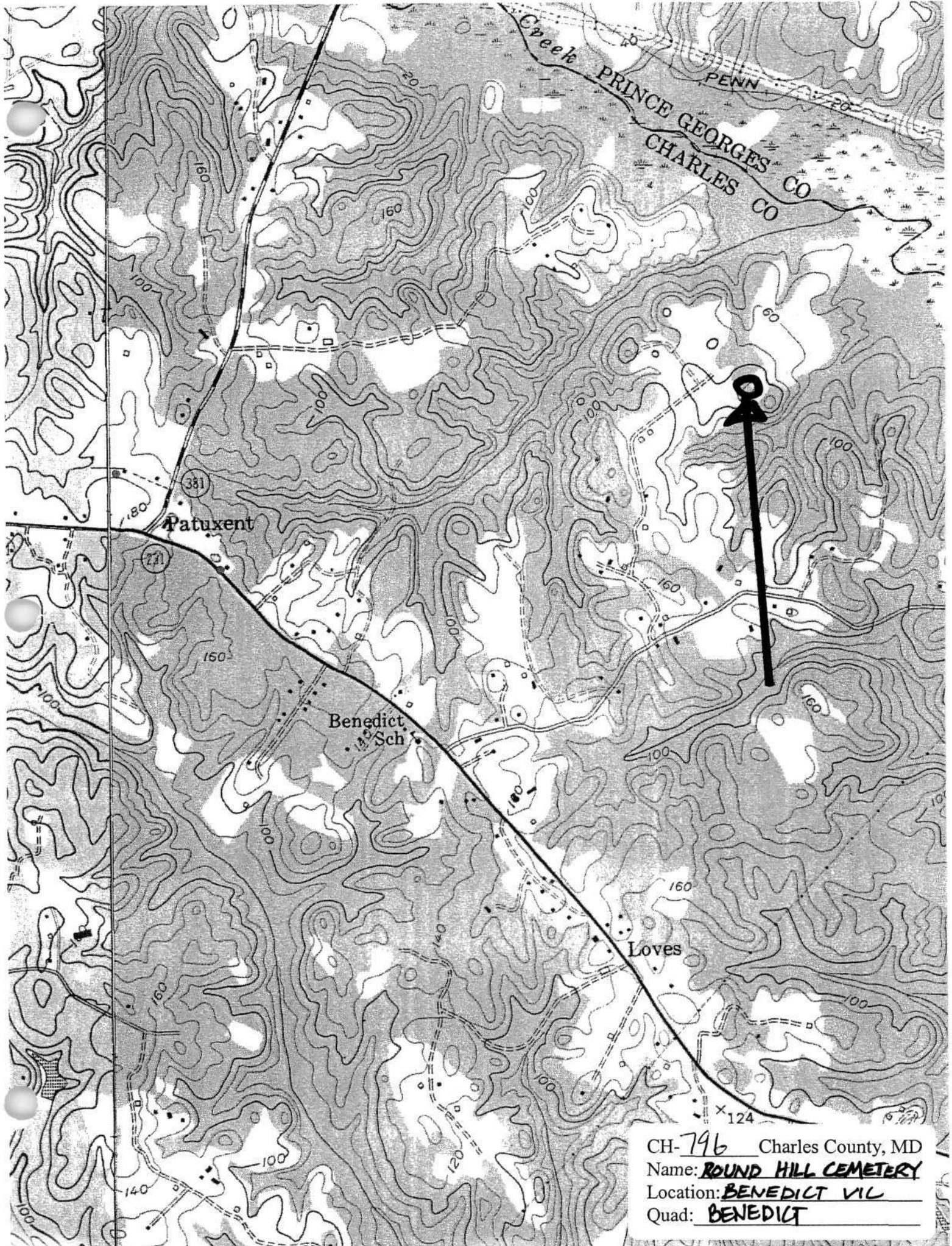
WHEETLY

Lidia D. Wheetly departed this life August 28, 1822 in the 29th
year of her age

Name Index to Cemetery Records in Charles Co.

The Historical Society of Charles Co.

Southern Md. Studies Center, College of Southern Maryland



CH-796 Charles County, MD
Name: ROUND HILL CEMETERY
Location: BENEDICT VIL
Quad: BENEDICT



CH 796

ROUND HILL ~~RD~~ CEMETERY

BENEDICT VIL

1/2004

MD SHPO

C. HARDY

LOOKING E

10F 1