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46WA332



Stephen Bartram Cemetery plan map, 46WA322.

October 13, 2011

Mr. Jarrett Peters
5766 Hubbards Branch Road
Huntington, WV 25704
RE: Stephen Bartram Cemetery located on Fort Gay Middle School Property
Dear Mr. Peters,
Enclosed is a copy of the West Virginia Cemetery Survey Form for the above referenced cemetery. The form includes a sketch map illustrating the location of recommended protective fence. Please look over the form and let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Carolyn M. Kender
Archaeologist
West Virginia Division of Culture and History
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Cemetery 46WA322, looking eastward.


Cemetery 46WA322, looking southwest.

# West Virginia Cemetery Survey Form 

NR rating:

## Taken from

Meece, Jamie S.
2010 Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance to Identify a Reported Historic Cemetery at the Location of the Proposed New Wayne County Elementary School in Fort Gay, Wayne County, West Virginia. Contract Publication Series WV10-032. Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc., Hurricane, West Virginia.

Based on local history as obtained through discussions with Jack Bartram of Huntington, and David Thompson of Fort Gay, a cemetery was rumored to be located a small, prominent knoll on land owned by Wayne County Schools that was once owned by the Bartram family. According to Jack Bartram, when Stephen Bartram died, his ancestor, he was interred on this knoll with two personal slaves. He also stated that Stephen Bartram was a veteran of the American Revolutionary War and after the war was given land in the western part of what was then Cabell County, Virginia, now Wayne County, West Virginia. Based on archival and deed research, the last direct descendant of Stephen Bartram to own the land was Edith Bartram who died on August 16, 1921.

Wayne County Chancery Records dated November 18, 1910, provide information for how the property of William (Bill) L. Bartram was divided. William L. Bartram owned large amounts of family property outside and within the town limits of Cassville (Fort Gay). The 8.5 acre parcel containing the reported cemetery was created during this survey and was given to Edith Bartram, a young child of William L. Bartram (Chancery Book 16: 260-277). These records state that Edith received more or less 8.5 acres, with one-eighth of an acre reserved as a graveyard.

At the time of Captain John Bartram's death in 1910, he owned 19 parcels of land in Wayne County, 15 in the corporate limits of Fort Gay, containing $1057 / 8$ acres and 1 trace of 170 acres (Bartram and Bartram 1984:436). His son, William L. Bartram, sued the widow and other heirs of his father in 1910 to have the estate partitioned (Bartram and Bartram 1984:436). Another source (Lane and Wellman 1978: 695) states the Edith Bartram inherited the property where Fort Gay High School has their football field from her grandfather, John Bartram. The parcel included the old cemetery. Upon her death on August 16, 1921, the property went to her half-brothers, Leon and Bill Billups. The records for this transaction could not be located during the archival research conducted at the Wayne County Court House.

Based on data collected from the Wayne County Deed Books, on May 29, 1935, William Billups sold the land to M. K. Bellomy (Deed Book 183: 15). The description of the land states " 8.5 acres , more or less, excepting however one-eighth of an acre reserved as a grave yard."

On April 25, 1938, M. K. and Grace Bellomy sold the land to Leonidas and Mary Bartram Billups; the deed records states " 8.5 acres, more or less, excepting however one-eighth of an acre reserved as a grave yard" (Deed Book 191: 423).

On September 30, 1938, Leonidas and Mary Bartram Billups sold the land to W.C. and Vessie Lovely; the deed records states " 8.5 acres, more or less, excepting however one-eighth of an acre reserved as a grave yard" (Deed Book 192: 408).

On July, 31, 1947, W.C. and Vessie Lovely sold the land to the Wayne County Board of Education; the deed records states " 8.5 acres, more or less, excepting however one-eighth of an acre reserved as a grave yard" (Deed Book 238: 478).

According to information obtained by the archival and deed research, the 8.5 acres that changed hands from Edith Bartram to Wayne County School contains a graveyard (cemetery) set-aside or reservation of oneeighth acre. However, the identified records do not provide an exact or specific location for the cemetery. The information that the cemetery was located on the knoll beneath a large elm tree was provided to Wayne County Schools and CRA from personal interviews with relatives of Stephen Bartram and local knowledgeable residents of Fort Gay.

Genealogy data linking Edith Bartram to the man supposedly buried in the cemetery, Stephen Bartram, is provided below.
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Stephen Bartram (1752-1821) was born about 1752 in Edinburgh, Scotland (Comisford 2007:279). He married Elizabeth Swearingen (1756-1795) in Dublin, Ireland (Comisford 2007:279). He was a protestant Preacher, was not received well in Ireland, and moved to the American Colonies (Comisford 2007:279). He arrived around the time of the American Revolutionary War and become a solider (Comisford 2007:279). He was supposedly at Valley Forge with George Washington's army (Comisford 2007:279). Records indicate that he served 7 years and 2 months (Comisford 2007:279). After leaving the army, his wife was living near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (Comisford 2007:279). Then later settled near Appomattox, Virginia, and started a family (Comisford 2007:279). Stephen owned land on the Maiden Spring Fork of the Clinch River sometime prior to 1804 (Comisford 2007:279). During frequent Indian attacks, he and his family often took refuse in Maiden Spring Fort, erected by Lieutenant Rees Brown (Comisford 2007:279). Elizabeth dies before 1794 somewhere in Virginia (Rootsweb 2010a). Stephen later married Jane Peery, she was born before 1775 and dies after 1820 both locations unknown (Rootsweb 2010a). Stephen died between May 1, 1821 (Comisford 2007:279) and May 28, 1821 (Rootsweb 2010a) in what was then Cabell County, Virginia (Comisford 2007:279).

David Bartram (1786-1864) was born on October 20, 1786 in Appomattox, Virginia to Stephen Bartram (1752-1821) and Elizabeth Swearingen (1756-1795) (Comisford 2007:279). David married Rebecca Blue (1794-1824) on July 19, 1810 in Cabell County, then Virginia (Comisford 2007:279). After her death in 1824, David married Lucy Sperry on March 27, 1825 in Lawrence County, Kentucky Comisford 2007:279). David Bartram died on April 28, 1864 in Catlettsburg, Boyd County, Kentucky (Comisford 2007:279) and is buried in High Street Cemetery, Fort Gay, Wayne County, West Virginia (Rootsweb 2010a).

William Bartram (1816-1877) was born on September 1, 1816 in what was then Cabell County, Virginia to David Bartram (1786-1864) and Rebecca Blue (1794-1824) (Rootsweb 2010b). He married Laurane or Lorana "Raney" Wellman (borm March 26, 1821 in Lawrence County, Kentucky) on August 23, 1836 in Lawrence County, Kentucky (Rootsweb 2010b). After her death on March 5, 1871 in Fort Gay, West Virginia, he married Aly Jane Pack Copley (Rootsweb 2010b). Upon her death he married Susanna Baker Walker (born March 15, 1836 in Kentucky) in 1872 in Wayne County, West Virginia (Rootsweb 2010b). William Bartram died on August 7, 1877 in Fort Gay, West Virginia and is buried in High Street Cemetery in Fort Gay, Wayne County, West Virginia (Rootsweb 2010b). Sometime after 1877, his widow, Susanna, applied for Civil War pension based on his service (Rootsweb 2010b). She died on January 20, 1915 in Huntington, West Virginia; she was buried in Fairview Cemetery, Fort Gay, West Virginia (Rootsweb 2010b).

John Bartram (1839-1910) was born January 23, 1839 to William Bartram (1816-1877) and Laurane "Raney" Wellman (1821-1871). Little data is available for John. Other than, he married Mary Stafford Wellman (1842-1928) in 1862, and he died on February 11, 1910 (Rootsweb 2010c). He was buried in High Street Cemetery in Fort Gay, West Virginia (Zoominternet 2010).

William (Bill) L. Bartram (1869-1934) was born to John Bartram (1839-1910) and Mary Stafford Wellman (1842-1928) on February 2, 1868 (Zoominternet 2010). He died on January 18, 1934, and is buried in High Street Cemetery in Fort Gay, West Virginia (Zoominternet 2010).

Edith Bartram (1906-1921) was born to William (Bill) L. Bartram and Rebecca Bartram (?-?) on September 23, 1906. Little data is available for her other than she died on August 16, 1921 (Zoominternet 2010).

