“Doing it Up Right”
Safeguarding the African-American Burial Landscape
Through the Lens of Eden Cemetery

Presented by Charlette Caldwell
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Research Question:

• How do we design a standard preservation approach to safeguard the African-American burial landscape that is sensitive culturally and socially by using Eden Cemetery as a lens to analyze and interpret these values, resulting in a tangible plan that educates people about this aspect of American history?
3. AFRICAN-AMERICAN CEMETERY TYPOLOGIES PHILADELPHIA 20TH CENTURY SUBURBAN CEMETERY

LEGEND
- Known Potter’s Fields
- Churchyards
- Olive Cemetery
- Lebanon Cemetery
- Churchyards Relocated to Lebanon
- Churchyards Relocated to Olive
- Eden Cemetery
BENEATH THIS MONUMENT REST THE REMAINING OF SEVERAL CONGREGANTS OF THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS WHICH WAS FOUNDED IN 1792 BY AND FOR PERSONS OF AFRICAN DESCENT.

JAMES FORTEN WAS A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH'S VESTRY. FORTEN RESTS HERE WITH MANY OF HIS BRETHREN.

THE ORIGINAL CHURCH HOUSE WAS CONSTRUCTED AT SIN AND KOSMOPH STREET BUT HAS BEEN LOCATED IN SEVERAL OTHER PLACES IN PHILADELPHIA. THE CONGREGATION CONTINUES TO BE PREDOMINATELY AFRICAN AMERICAN.

TODAY THE AFRICAN EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS FLOURISHES AS AN OPEN CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY OF FAITH WHERE THE GOSPEL IS TAUGHT, LIVED, AND SPREAD.
“Chapel of Lebanon Cemetery”, 1850.
Lebanon Cemetery, Philadelphia, 1895.
THE EDEN CEMETERY.

Too Much Doubt in the Case to Continue the Injunction.

In the case of the borough of Collingdale vs. the Eden Cemetery, Judge Johnson handed down an opinion yesterday in the following words:

"Too much doubt in this case to continue the injunction.

It will be remembered by the readers of the Times that this was an effort on the part of the Citizens and Council of the borough to prevent the establishment of a colored cemetery within the borough limits. On the hearing for the preliminary injunction counsel for the cemetery people argued that the borough authorities had no right to discriminate against the cemetery, there already being one within the borough limits, and it not having been shown or alleged that said cemetery would be a public nuisance.

BENJ
Eden Cemetery Burial Sections
5. PRESERVATION PLAN + POTENTIAL OUTCOMES

"Citizens of Eden"

Named after the first person buried in Eden

Location of a future interpretive center

Synthesizing records with site map

CHARLETT RALPH
PROPOSAL PRESENTATION. 62,01,2016.

TESIS ADVISOR: AARON WUNGH.

John Asbury
A prominent African American politician, an endorser of a statewide civil rights bill in 1972 that served as a model for future efforts. He was a physician, theologian, a founder of Eden's Episcopal Welfare Hospital, and coeditor, "The Colored American."
Memorial Garden Project Eden Cemetery
The Friends of Historic Eden Cemetery
Memorial Garden and Education and Interpretive Center
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Memorial Garden and Education and Interpretive Center
Thank you!