

Preserving the Past and Educating for
the Future:

A Commemoration
for Black History Month

Montgomery County, Maryland
Feb. 27, 2018

George W. McDaniel

“Travel is the enemy of prejudice”
and the path to understanding

History is travel
through time and place.

Our Travel Across Space



First Stop: Nat'l Museum of African American History and Culture



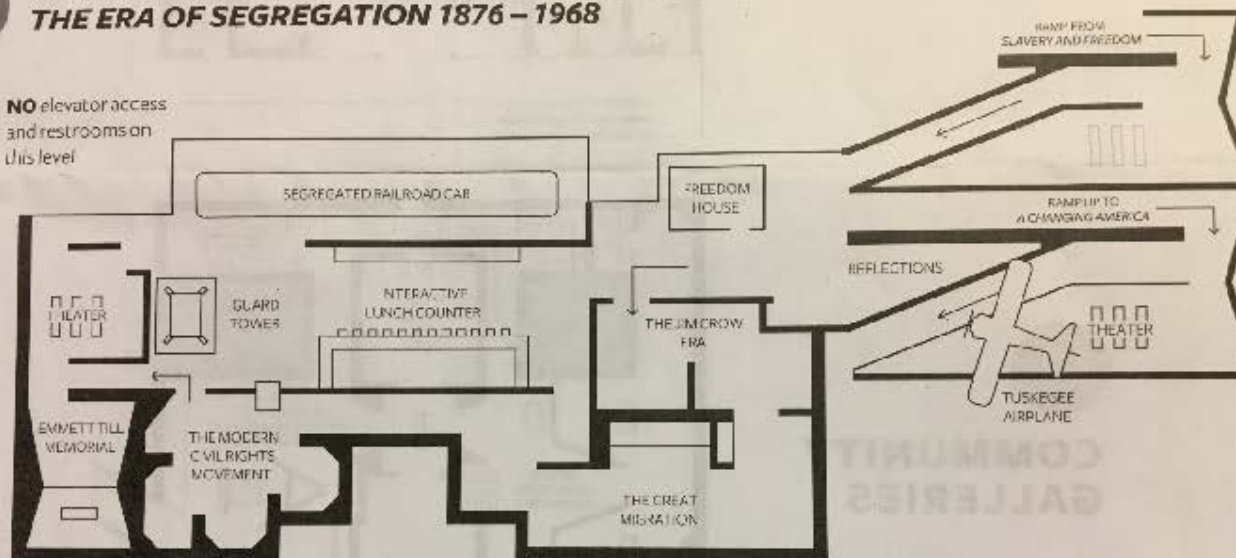
Most Popular Museum in America



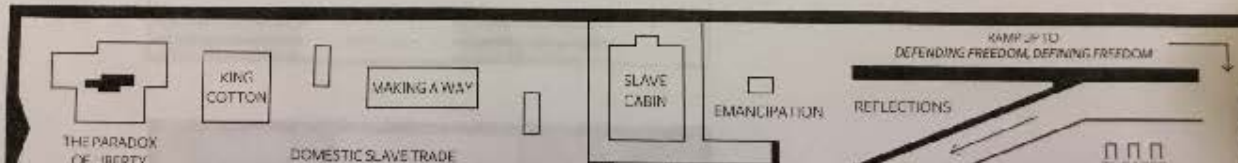
The Freedom House

2 DEFENDING FREEDOM, DEFINING FREEDOM: THE ERA OF SEGREGATION 1876 – 1968

NO elevator access
and restrooms on
this level



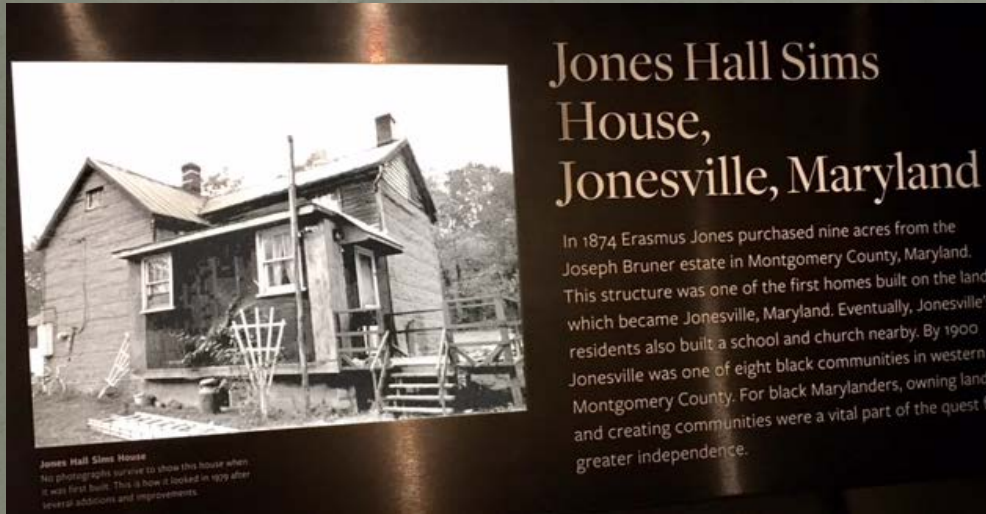
SLAVERY AND FREEDOM 1400 – 1877



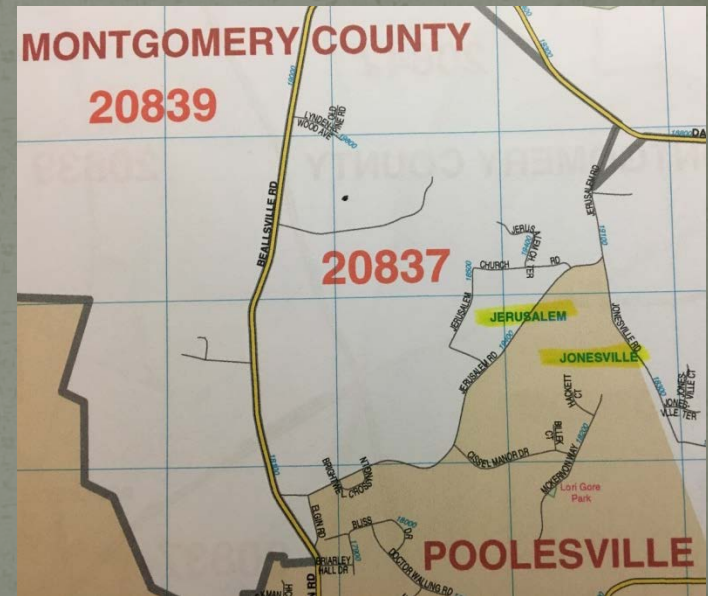
Inside the Museum: Freedom House from Montgomery County Connects People from across World to African American History: Struggle for Freedom



At the Smithsonian: The Freedom House from Montgomery County, MD (Jonesville)



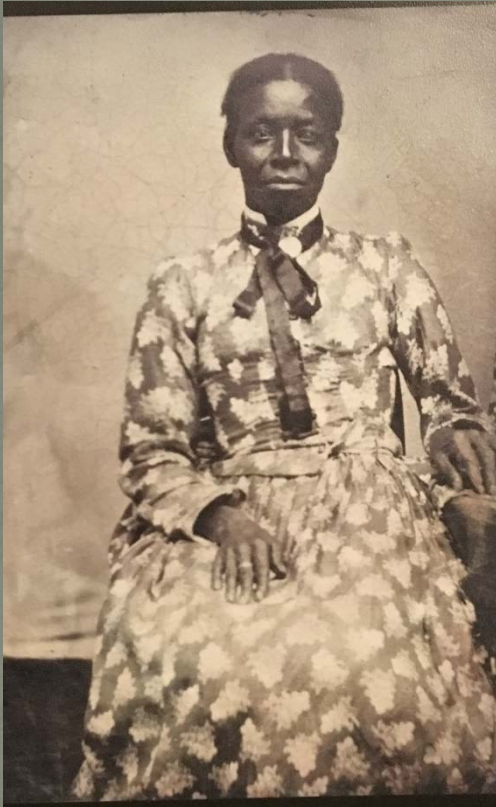
Jonesville: above Poolesville, adjacent to Jerusalem. Founded by Jones family, soon after emancipation in 1870s. Like Sugarland, Jerusalem, it was a landowning community.



Perhaps the most highly visited African American home in the world?



Montgomery Co. Residents like Gwen Reese and Suzanne Johnson Contributed Photographs to Personalize the House



Sugarland Ethnohistory
Project Inc.



Chanell Kelton, Her Daughter Blessing, Paul Gardullo with Me at Opening of NMAAHC



In 1978-79 I Researched the Area and Documented the
Jones-Hall-Sims House for Sugarloaf Reg. Trails
and Maryland Historical Trust.

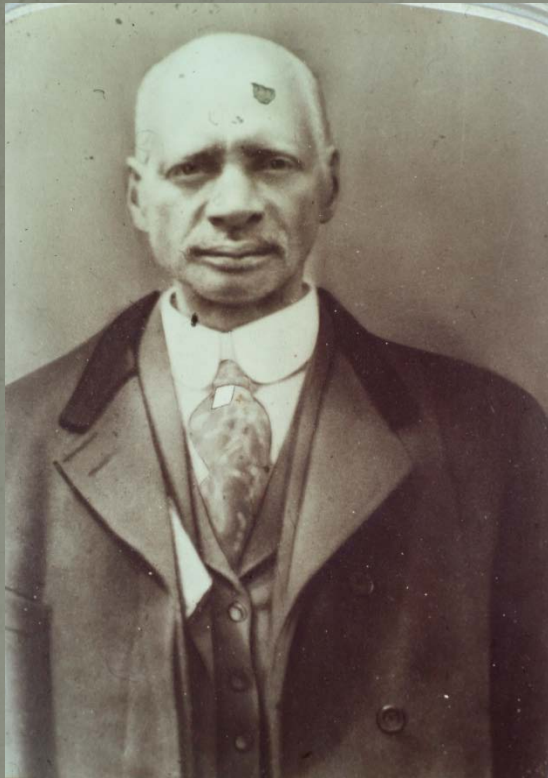


John Sims and me.

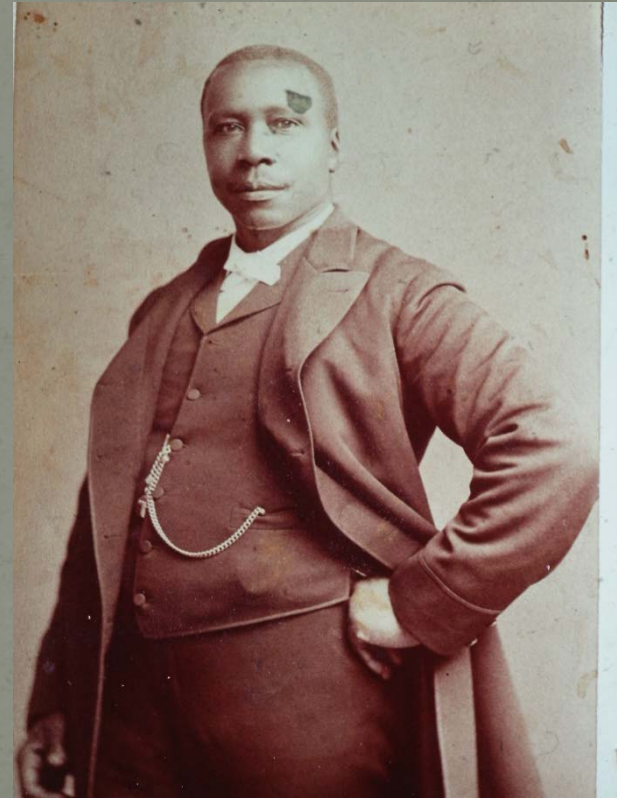
Jonesville Today: History in Your Own Backyard



Jones-Sims House , Gwen Reese's Sugarland, Jerusalem, Lincoln Park, and other communities in Montgomery County tell of that moment of transition from slavery to the promise of freedom and onwards

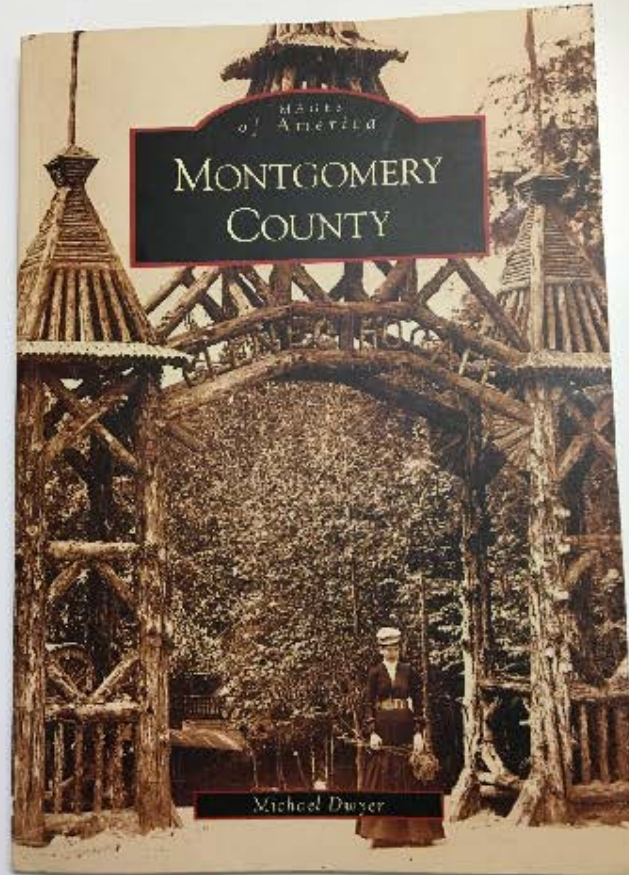


Patrick Hebron, born c. 1840s, great grandfather, Gwen Reese



Rev. Lewis, St. Pau's Methodist Church, Sugarland near Poolesville

Little to no African American Presence in Too Many History Books



Why Important to the Present and the Future?

- Carter G. Woodson, founder of Black History Month:
- “If you don’t tell them, they won’t know.”
- Martin Luther King, Jr.:
- “He who controls my mind controls my body. He who controls my history controls my mind.”

Resource for Today: My Research, Documentation, Writings of 1978-79 for Sugarloaf Regional Trails and MD Historical Trust

BLACK HISTORICAL RESOURCES

IN UPPER WESTERN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND



Sugarloaf Regional Trails
July 1979

BLACK HISTORICAL RESOURCES IN UPPER WESTERN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

George W. McDaniel
Sugarloaf Regional Trails
July 1979

Community Leaders Step Up and Support Preservation
and Education via My Survey:
Jerusalem, Howard Lyles; Ora McPherson Lyles



Churches, Cemeteries: Elijah's Rest Methodist Church,
Jerusalem, Jonesville:
Home Church for Jones, Hall, Sims Families.



"What they'd been through as slaves drew
them closer to God."
Howard Lyles

- Martinsburg: Evelyn Herbert and Lemuel Graham, 1979



Herbert and Graham are now deceased. How might their historical photographs and artifacts be recorded digitally for archival and educational purposes to remedy lack of historical African American presence, per Arcadia Press book seen earlier?

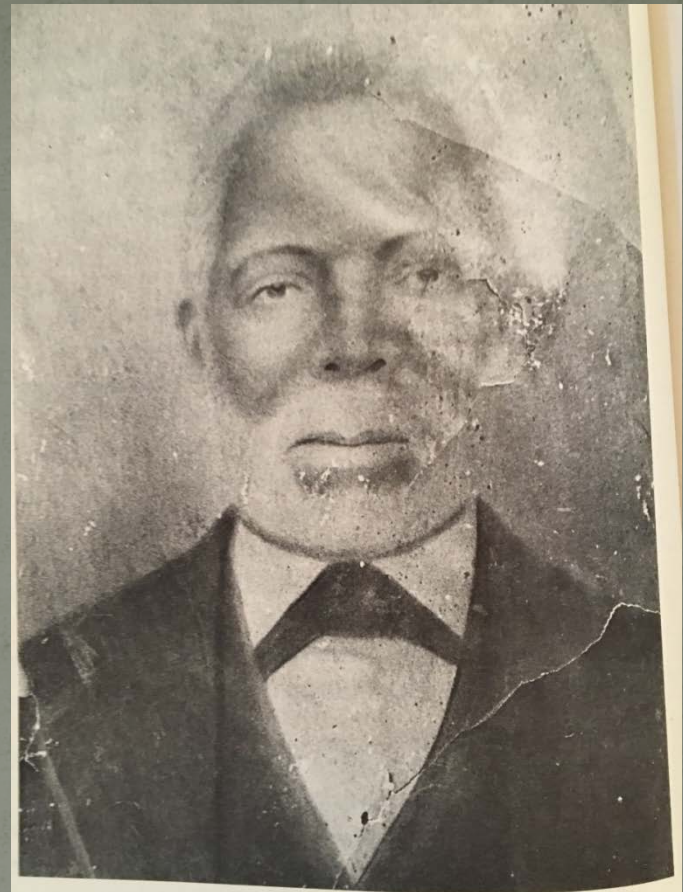


Figure 19. Portrait of Albert Thompson, Martinsburg. A former slave born in 1817, Thompson was one of the founders of the black community in Martinsburg. His residence is shown on the Hopkins Atlas of Montgomery County of 1879, map 2. His son Charles was a blacksmith in Martinsburg, and his granddaughter, Evelyn Herbert, taught school there.

Albert Thompson, born 1817

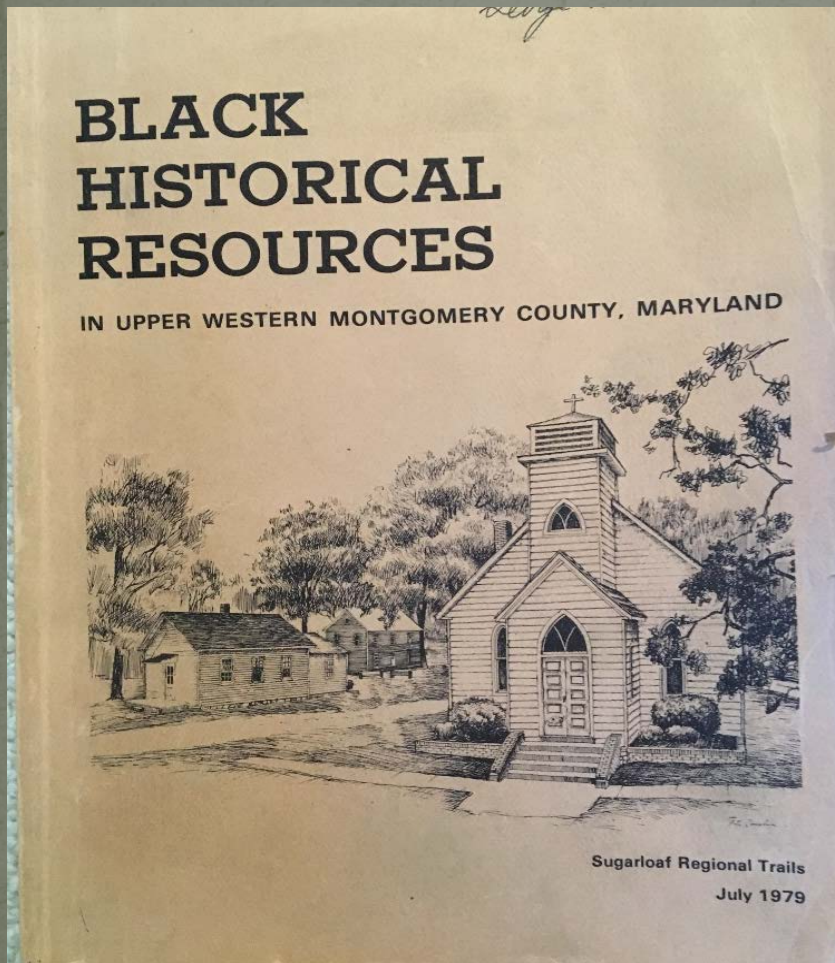
Lemuel Graham, 1979, Martinsburg house, an archives of history, now demolished.



John Peters, Graham's grandfather,
blacksmith and landowner, born during
slavery. Where is photograph now?

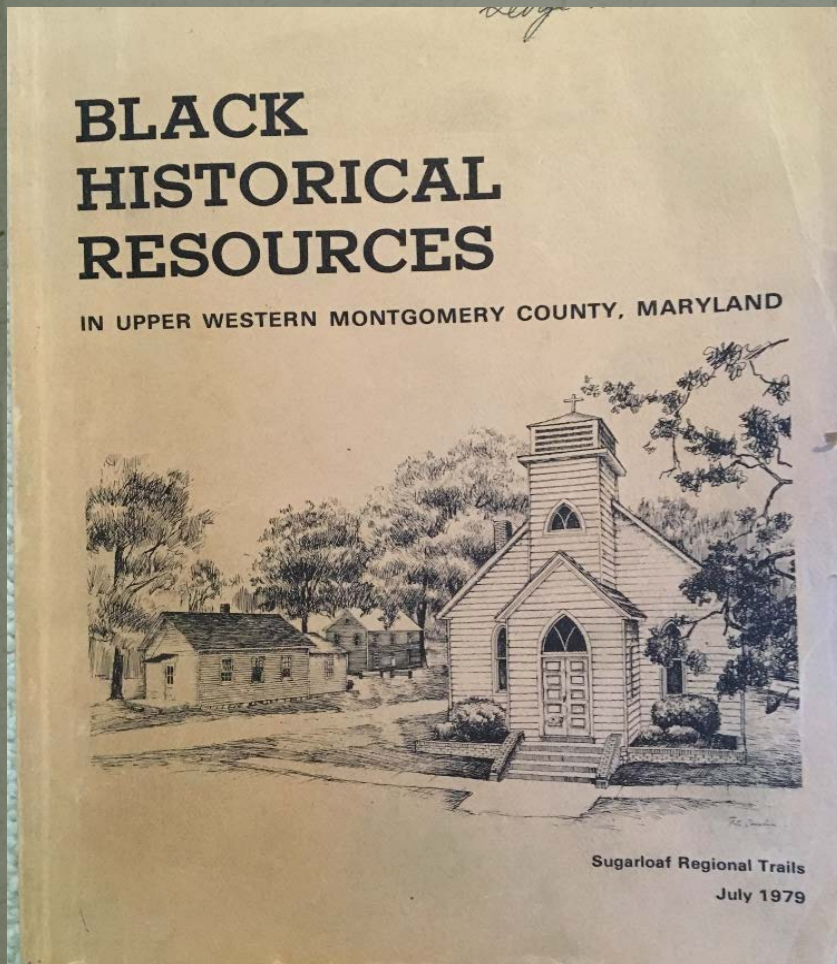


My Historic Survey, 1978-79: MD Historical Trust, Sugarloaf Regional Trails



- Documented 189 historic places (houses, schools, churches, work places)
- Copied > 100 family photos
- 17 oral history interviews recorded

My Historic Survey, 1978-79: MD Historical Trust, Sugarloaf Regional Trails



- Deposited with MHT, Montgomery Public Library
- All my slides have been misplaced
- Research may locate them
- I kept an extra set, c. 550 slides
- My slides of 1978-79 are what you are seeing

Martinsburg: Loving Charity Hall, Image of 1978, built 1914 by Scott Bell



- Community benefit society headquartered in Richmond with chapters in Maryland, even MS
- Insurance, burials, orphans, widows
- Center for dances, plays, meetings, etc.
- Product of segregation and of strategy of making a way out of no way

Loving Charity Hall, 2017: Documentation and Vision Led to Restoration for Its Future



Loving Charity Hall Restoration Ground-Breaking, Fall, 2107



Survey Methodology, 1978-79; Engage Students. Proximate Learning



Ethel Foreman, Clarksburg, and intern Karen Sewell, recording an oral history interview about historical Clarksburg .

Example Today of Proximate Learning: Clarksburg High School on Wims Rd.



John Henry Wims, born 1849, enslaved, purchased land 1885, became mail carrier in the county. Wims Rd. named after him and his family, from slavery to freedom.

Proximate Learning: All Within Eyesight



Clarksburg Negro School, c. 1932, grades 1-7.

Teacher, Inex Hallman from Big Woods

Segregation. Little support from county.
Education: How to find a way?

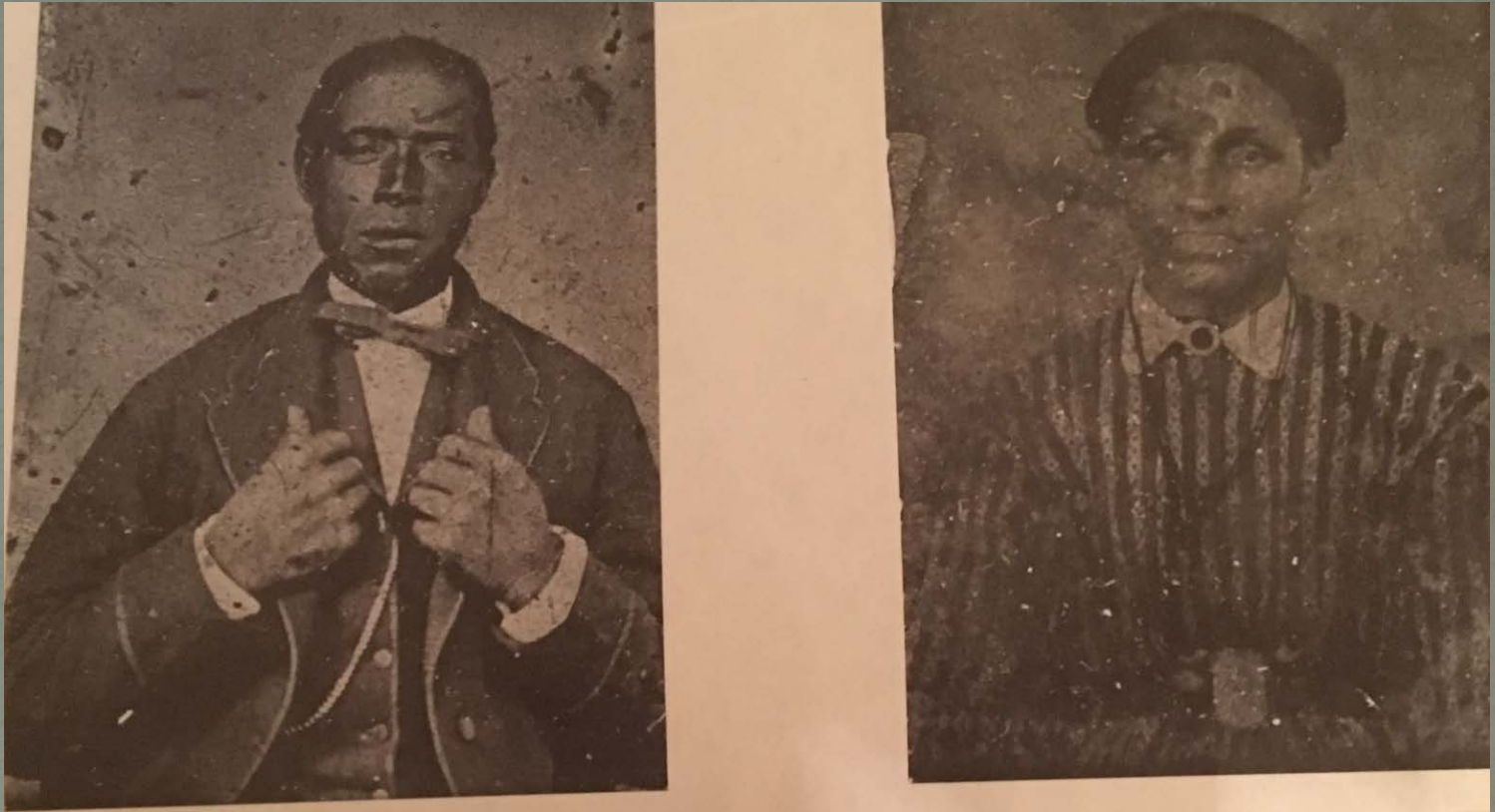


Original
Methodist
Church, 1880's



Warner Wims,
born 1845,
brother of John
Henry Wims

Free Blacks Tell More Complete Story of County



James and Caroline Spencer, born 1815 and 1823.
Resource for schools.

My Unpublished Manuscript: Part I Is New, 150 Pages

REFLECTIONS OF BLACK HERITAGE: AN ARCHITECTURAL AND SOCIAL HISTORY OF BLACK COMMUNITIES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

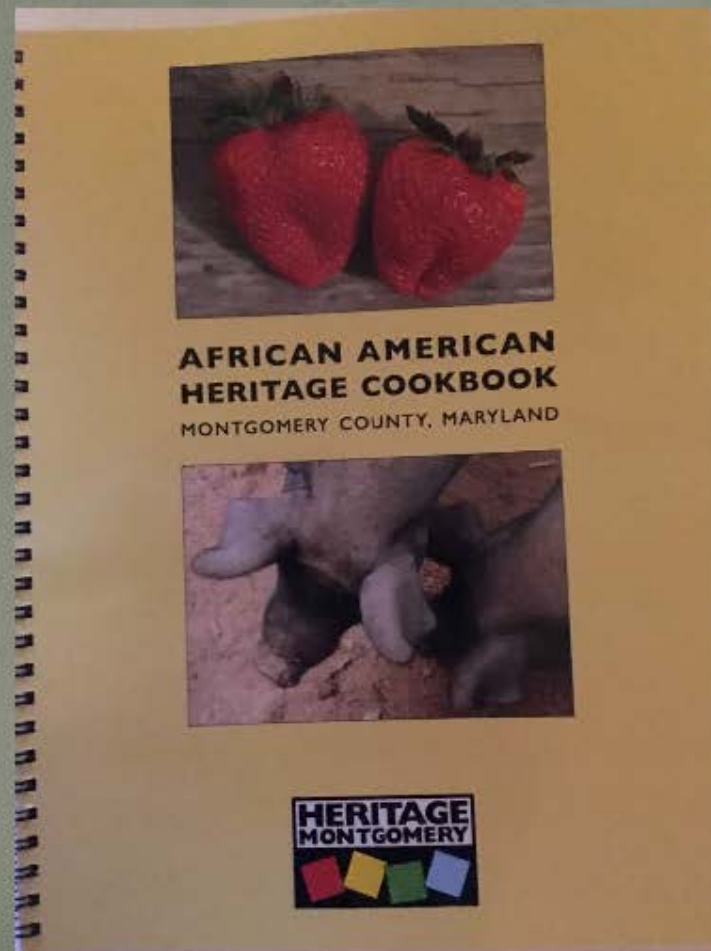
George W. McDaniel
Sugarloaf Regional Trails
September, 1979

CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword	111
Acknowledgements	iv
List of Illustrations and Maps	xiii
SUMMARY AND FINDINGS	1
Results	1
Findings	1
Buildings	1
Social Relationships	1
Institutions	1
Landscape	1
Conclusions	1
Structure of Report	1
INTRODUCTION	10
Part I. Historical Overview	12
Chapter I. Historical Setting	12
African Heritage	12
Free Blacks	13
Historical Resources from the Slavery Era	14
After Freedom: Establishing Identity	17
Settlement Patterns	17
Naming Patterns	18
Family Structure	19
Composition	20
Size	21
Kin Relationships	22
Family and Community Economy	24
Occupations	24
Wages	33
Prices	36
Impact of Cost of Living on Family and Community	37
Institutions	39
Churches	39
Schools	44
Lodges/Benefit Societies	47
Chapter 2. House Types	55
Introduction	55
House Form	56
Comparison of Folk Houses of White and Black Families	59
Predominance of Log Houses	60
Methods of Log Construction	61
Notching and Pegging	65
Methods of Frame Construction	68

Heritage Cookbook: Innovative Gateway to History. Sarah Rogers.

My 1979 Manuscript Provides Introductions to Chapters along with My Copies of Historical Photos.



AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE COOKBOOK

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

HERITAGE MONTGOMERY

Historical Excerpts by Dr. George McDaniel

Larkin Rogers, Chef/Curator

Sarah L. Rogers

Remarkable Resources Here in County: Historians, Preservationists, Teachers, Neighbors



Sharyn Duffin, Lincoln Park

Partnerships in Preservation: *Cemetery Inventory Project Revisited.* *Over 80 African American Burial Sites Located*



Sugarland, Martinsburg are examples

Cemetery Documentation and Conservation : How to Connect to The Living? By Peopling the Place.



Gravestone, Alexander Hebron, 1872-1930
Photo, Patrick Hebron, uncle, born 1840s.

Montgomery County History: Both Local and National; Contributes to Understanding of our American Heritage



Preserving the Past and Educating for the Future.

Suggested Next Steps.

- Organize an archival initiative to preserve this history.
- Digitize all my slides since MD Historical Trust and Montgomery Co. Public Library have misplaced them. Video story behind them of the people and places.
- Connect Montgomery Co. and the Nat'l Museum of African American History and Culture
- Develop educational programs: K-12, undergrad and grad schools, using these resources
- Use history to promote cross-cultural understanding, tolerance, and respect

Let's Commemorate, Preserve, and Connect. Time Is Now.

