

INFORMAL MEMORANDUM

TO: FILE

FROM: CARREL COWAN-RICKS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18, 1991

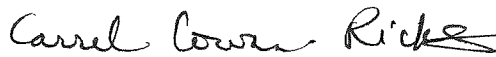
RE: CEMETERY HILL - SLAVE BURIAL GROUND

H. D. Webb, Toxicologist (654-1785) telephoned to provide the following information to my project:

He said a number of graves in the area of the parking lot west of cemetery hill were destroyed. He said burials were opened up and the remains removed. He did not know where reburial took place. He said they found hair, teeth and coffin nails. He examined 3 or 4 burials in detail. In response to my question as to whether or not they were African American burials, he said they had "kinky" hair "and lets put it this way, they were not white or Indian." He was called in because they thought the burials were a result of the small pox epidemic prior to the Civil War.

He said Henry Hill was responsible for moving these burials.

When I mentioned this to Sonya, she said according to Mr. Wilson, the parking lot cemetery is believed to have been associated with the small houses that were on the bottoms. These were tenant farm houses, therefore, postbellum burials.


Carrel Cowan-Ricks
Historical Archaeologist
Historic Houses

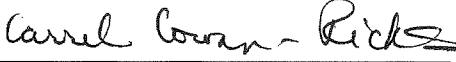
September 25, 1991

INFORMAL MEMORANDUM

TO: THE FILE
FROM: CARREL COWAN-RICKS
DATE: SEPTEMBER 19, 1991
RE: CEMETERY HILL SLAVE BURIAL GROUND

Sonya Goodman (656-5846) telephoned to say she had spoken with Mr. Wilson who was in charge of the cemetery in the 1960s regarding the location of the slave burial ground. Mr. Wilson indicated it is located 50' west of the Fike plot.

Measured 50' from the Fike plot. It takes me right to my eastern boundary. Trenches 3A, 4A etc. are directly west of the Fike plot. I am right on.



Carrel Cowan-Ricks
Historical Archaeologist
Historic Houses

September 25, 1991