

Hidden Cemetary

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conflicts.

Though their regiments were ended when President Harry Truman desegregated the military in 1948, many Black communities formed organizations dedicated to the soldiers. The local Buffalo Soldiers group rides motorcycles and wears uniforms with Union cavalry hats and buffalo belt buckles.

The Buffalo Soldier name originated with the legendary Black soldiers, some of them Civil War veterans, who fought on the western frontier. Historians say Native Americans gave that name to the troops as a sign of respect.

A memorial is planned for the site of the cemetery to provide a peaceful resting place that is well-deserved. City Council has been presented 2 proposals for the memorial site and should have an answer within 30 days.

The memorial park will have elements including a concrete wall, decorative fencing and 26 granite stones in a grassy area. Each stone will honor those who are buried. There will also be benches with a canopy over them, plus a walking path with flowers along the side.

Buried or possibly buried individuals at the park

A list in the preliminary report released by the committee notes the following individuals may be buried at the park:

Floyd Prime (1875)

Rosie Hoff (1871-1872)

Sallie Smith (1857-1875)

Lavinia Olestra Prime (1876-1878)

Unnamed daughter of Peter and Catherine Lewis (Jan. 1878-Feb. 1878)

Solomon McIntire (1857-1878)

Laura Wilson (1878-1879)

William White (1879-1880)

Blanche Louise Hoff (1880-1881), listed as buried in Easton Cemetery on Findagrave.com with plot location; not buried at Nesquehoning Street as indicated in report

Jane Durling (1820-1860)

Jacob Prime (1824-1861)

Edward McIntire (1834-1864)

Catherine Moss (1862-1864)

Sophia Duncan (1846-1864)

Francis Martin (April 1864-Aug. 1864)

Catharine Moore (1847-1864)

Nancy Hunt (1785-1866)

Louisa Benjamin (18??-1871)

Frank Prime (1871-1872)

Possible burials:

Duncan (1862-1866), buried with Sanford Duncan (1866-1866), 20 days old in same grave possibly at First Colored Lutheran Church Cemetery

Unnamed daughter of George and Lizzie Merritt (May 2-5, 1879)

George W. Merritt (1876-1879)

George Poindexter (1877-1879), possibly in Easton Cemetery

Samuel Wagner (1873-1902)

Peter Rowe (1816-1903)

Reinterred at Easton Cemetery:

George A. Hoff (1841-1870), served in the Civil War, buried at FCLC Cemetery in 1870, reinterred May 1886 at Easton Cemetery in GAR section

Aaron Hoff (1807-1902), a founding member of the church, buried at Easton Cemetery but may have been reinterred as well from FCLC Cemetery

Buffalo Soldiers:

George A. Hoff (1842-1870), Co. B 25th Regiment of Colored U.S. Troops

George Good, may be mistaken for George Hoff

Benjamin Good (Feb. 20, 1864), part of the 7th U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment Company G Pennsylvania and Co. F U.S. Colored Troops 8th Infantry, injured at the Battle of Olustee or Battle of Ocean Pond, listed as missing in action, died of wounds, likely buried in a mass trench grave on the original battlefield, or potentially in Tallahassee, Florida in a military cemetery, possibly transferred to Easton

