

THE STANTON FAMILY CEMETERY

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Stanton Family Cemetery
Circa 1853

Has Been Placed On
The National Register of Historic Places
By The Department of the Interior
and
The Virginia Landmarks Register
By The Commonwealth of Virginia
Department of Historic Resources

In 1853, the Stanton Family of Buckingham County, Virginia, headed by Nancy and Daniel Stanton, purchased 46.5 acres of land, becoming one of the few free black landholders in the region. Nancy Stanton, who purchased the original holdings, on which the cemetery is located, became the first known individual interred in the Stanton Family Cemetery, when she died on October 6, 1853.

The Stanton Family, traced as free blacks as early as 1820, was representative of the rural free black community of Buckingham County and the Commonwealth of Virginia. Family members included farmers, blacksmiths, carpenters, boatmen, soldiers and quarrymen.

The cemetery is a rare example of its kind. It was established, not on a plantation, but by free blacks on their own land. The substantial size of the cemetery reflects the economic and social standing of the Stanton Family in the County. It is a rare source that reveals important information about rural burial practices, local cemetery design, and a significant cultural group about which little is known.

The Stanton Family Cemetery symbolizes the notable contributions made by free blacks in Buckingham County and the region.

Dedication Ceremony
August 14, 1993

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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VIRGINIA LANDMARKS REGISTER