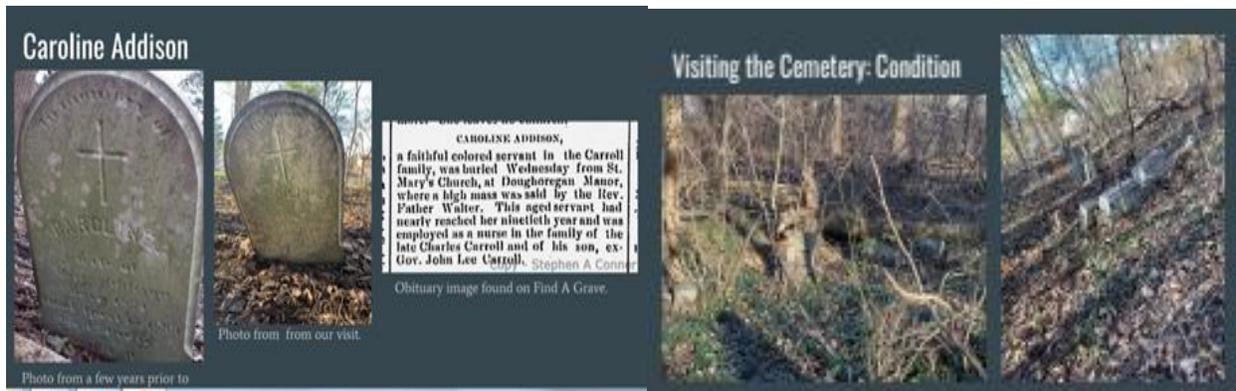


In support of HB 1099
Allen Greene
Maryland/Howard County Resident
Direct Descendent of Caroline Addison buried in St. Mary's Cemetery

I'm writing on behalf of St. Mary's Cemetery in Howard County. St. Mary's Cemetery is located on 3.2 acres in the Turf Valley neighborhood in Ellicott City, Maryland. The Cemetery is a Catholic Burial site for the families of former enslaved people, workers, and servants from the past local manors. It is also said to be the burial site of those enslaved but are unrecorded. It is my understanding that the property is now owned by the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks. Due to the outstanding efforts of a local Girl Scout leader, Ms. Tracy Hill, Troop #5916 and two of her scouts, Sarah Hill and Nadia Klements, the county has recently agreed to support some immediate clean-up of the property. HB 1099, with its passage, will help ensure that additional oversight will be brought to the property. The cemetery has come into disrepair over the years as tombstones have fallen over and vegetation and downed trees have overgrown the area. My (3rd) great grandmother, Caroline Addison is buried in the grave site. Her tombstone still remains on the property. I was most saddened when I first visited the area this fall, how unsightly it had become.

Ms. Addison is described below as a faithful colored servant employed as a nurse in the family of the late Charles Carroll. The picture on the right shows probably the better parts of the cemetery.



(Pictures courtesy of Ms. Tracy Hill)

As an 8th generation Marylander, the establishment of the Historic African American Cemeteries Preservation Fund to identify, preserve, restore, protect, maintain, or commemorate graves, monuments, or markers at historic African American cemeteries is a cause I fully support.

I ask that this legislation be passed and fully funded.