

West Virginia Cemetery Survey Form

1. Site Number (OFFICE USE ONLY): 46 Hm 93
2. Cemetery Name, Historic: Mt. Pisgah Benevolence Cemetery Name, Common: _____
3. County: Hampshire 4. USGS 7.5' Quadrangle: Romney
5. UTM Zone: 17 Easting: E692450 Northing: N4356847
6. Location: US Route 50, 1.25 miles west of Romney
7. Ownership: Public: Municipal _____ County _____ State _____ Federal _____
Private: Family _____ Church _____ Denomination _____
Fraternal _____ Other _____
8. Burial Population : Approximately 100 burials including black slaves, black families, military men, and members of the Mt. Pisgah Methodist Church
9. Predominant Surnames: Method, Knots, Jackson, Willis
10. Mass Grave: Yes _____ No X Explain: _____
11. Public Accessibility: Unrestricted X
Restricted _____
For permission to visit, contact: _____
12. Access into Cemetery: By foot X By car X
13. Terrain: Cemetery is located on a hilltop above the South Branch
14. Bounded by: Fence _____ Wall _____ Hedge _____ Other Guard rail from US Route 50
15. Condition: Well maintained X Poorly maintained _____ Overgrown, easily identifiable _____
Overgrown, unidentifiable _____ Unidentifiable but known to exist through tradition or other means (identify source) _____
16. Disturbances (describe): _____
17. Cemetery Size and Orientation (please give dimensions in feet, and indicate compass direction for long and short axis): _____
18. Historical Background use (continuation sheet if necessary):
See Continuation Sheet

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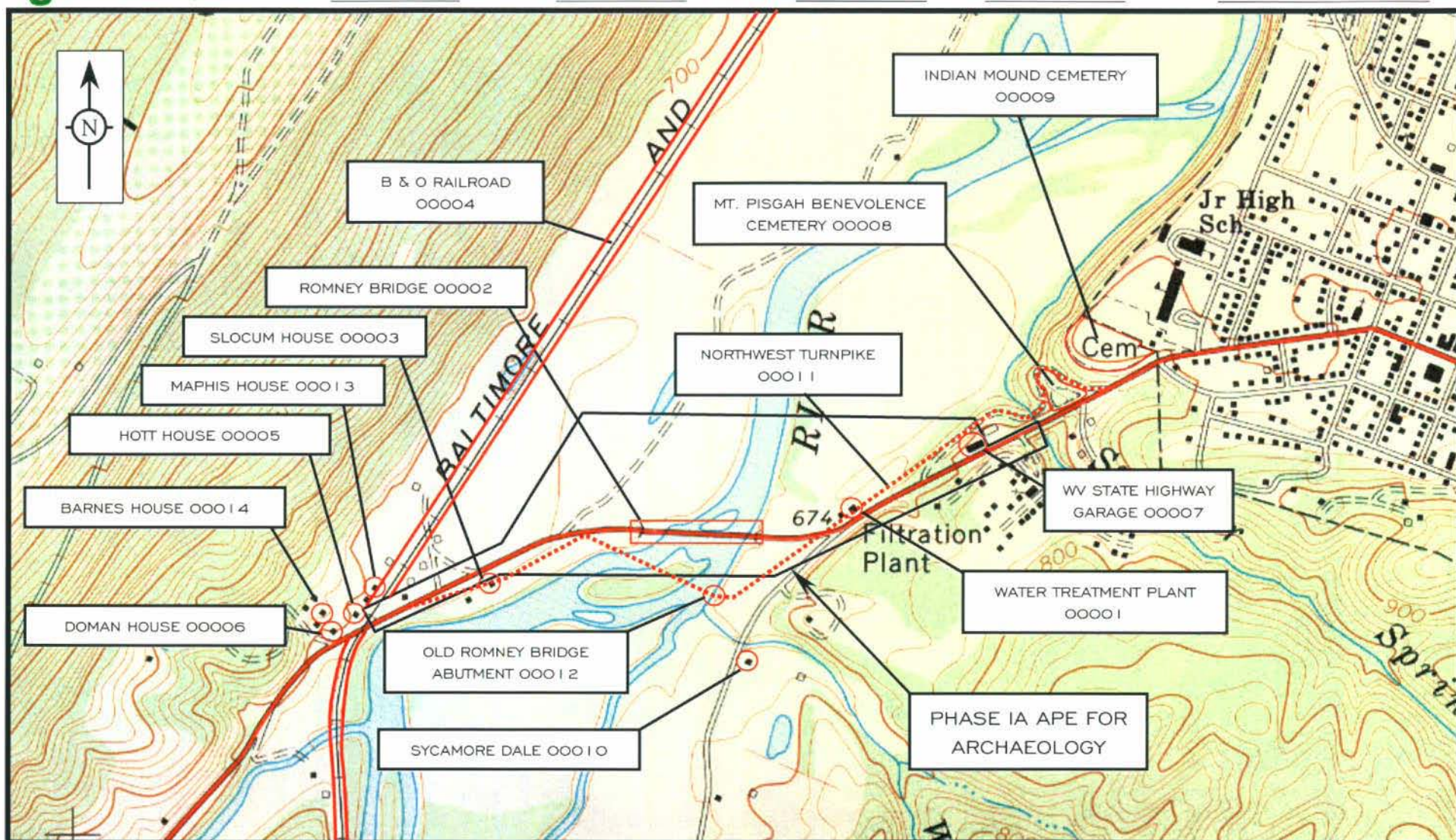
Historical Background Continuation Sheet

The Historical Plaque at the entrance of the cemetery reads:

"Mt. Pisgah Benevolence Cemetery, since the 1800's has been land for cemetery burial for black slaves, men who served in the Armed Forces, a governess who served for 25 years for the late Governor John Cornwell, two brothers who were barbers, members of Mt. Pisgah Methodist Church, and burial plots for black families down through the years."

Approximately 70 per cent of the graves are marked by plain white crosses, making it difficult to authenticate the veracity of this sign and its claims. The other graves are marked by headstones inscribed with the buried individuals' names and death dates. Some of thewse individual's death records have been researched at the Hampshire County Courthouse. Among the buried dead are David P. Rolls (1874-1941), a World War I veteran; Anna Singleton (1880-1958), a cook; Hilda Method (1925-1987), a housekeeper; Lester Green (died 17 February 1936), a railroad worker; Warner Jackson (1888-1977), a barber; and Annie Jackson (1899-1957), a housekeeper.





LEGEND

----- = NORTHWESTERN TURNPIKE ROUTE

SCALE

0 1000FT

SOURCE: USGS 7.5-MINUTE ROMNEY, WV QUADRANGLE (1973, PHOTOREVISED IN 1979)

FIGURE 1

LOCATIONS OF ARCHITECTURAL
RESOURCES INVENTORIED FOR
ROMNEY BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

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19. Gravestones (Please list the number of gravestones that fit in the categories below. If this is a guess or an approximation, put "circa" before the number. Include photographs and/or sketches of representative decorative carvings,):

Number of headstones c. 100 Number of burials c. 100 Footstones? Yes _____ No _____

Number of gravestones with burial dates from the 18th century _____ 19th century _____
20th century _____

Please list the earliest headstone date 1885 Most recent date 1999

Number of gravestones of each material: Slate _____ Marble _____ Granite 75
Sandstone _____ Fieldstone 25
Other _____

Number of gravestones with decorative carvings of: Skulls/Deathsheads _____
Faces _____ Urns/willows _____
Other (explain) _____

Number of gravestones that are: Readable _____ Eroded _____ Badly tilted _____
Cracked/broken _____ Broken but standing _____ Broken, no longer standing _____
Location of stones no longer standing _____

Restoration efforts, if any: _____

20. Please attach: 1) a copy of the topographic quadrangle map indicating the cemetery's location, and 2) general photograph(s) of the cemetery showing its setting and/or location. If you have any reference information about the cemetery (books, personal communications, etc.) please include a list.

Recorder: Geoffrey B. Henry and A. Renee Sobota Date: May 1, 2002

Address: 570 Beatty Road
Monroeville, PA 15146

Telephone Number: 412-856-6400

Please return form to:
Historic Preservation Office
The Cultural Center
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0300

Thank you for your interest in the West Virginia
Cemetery Survey.