



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

H. Alexander Wise, Jr., Director

Department of Historic Resources

221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

July 25, 1994

Mrs. Edith Stanton Ingram
African American Heritage Preservation Foundation, Inc.
60 Grove Street - 6513
Wellesley, Massachusetts 02181

Dear Mrs. Ingram:

Thank you for your kind letter of July 18. Your family's interest and efforts to have the Stanton family cemetery placed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places is an inspiration for other families.

I am delighted that your success and good working relationship with this department may lead to an archaeological study and possible registration of the Stanton family home site as well. While the department does not have any grants for this type of work, you may count on our staff for technical advice and assistance in putting together grant applications, reviewing applications, and in writing recommendations for your project. Mr. David Hazzard will continue to be your contact person for further work.

When you apply for grants it helps to have an archaeologist already involved in planning the project. Organizations like the National Endowment for the Humanities require fairly sophisticated research plans. Both the University of Virginia and the Virginia Commonwealth University have archaeologists with research interests in African American sites. Ms. Drake Patton at the University of Virginia or Dr. Robin Ryder at Virginia Commonwealth University might be interested in helping you.

Thank you also for your good wishes in my new position. I look forward to hearing more from the Stanton family. Good luck in your endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. Alexander Wise, Jr.", written in dark ink.

H. Alexander Wise, Jr.
Director

Memorandum

Date: February 8, 1994

To: Randy Turner

Fm: David K. Hazzard ^{OKH}

Re: Site Inspection

7 February 1994

Met with Renee Ingram at the site of the Stanton family cemetery in Buckingham County. Two members from Land and Community Associates were there to examine vegetation in and around the cemetery with an eye toward future landscaping. We then proceeded to the Stanton family home site where Renee pointed out features she was aware of. Upon their departure I went back and made a sketch of features noted and took some black and white photographs.

Although the cemetery nomination makes reference to the house site as having been vandalized and without integrity archaeological integrity looks sound. Two field stone foundations (main house and barn) were readily obvious and a third area with an abundance of slate may have been evidence of a third structure. Ten feet off the corner of the main house was a 10' diameter hole filled with water, presumably the remains of a well. Three other pits looked to be evidence of privy locations. In front of the house at roadside were two overgrown boxwood plants now $\pm 14'$ tall. Approximately 150' from the house adjacent to the road lies a stone foundation approximately 16' square Renee identified as a barn. There was no evidence of non-site-related ground disturbing activities and I therefore think this site retains excellent integrity from an archaeological standpoint.

Renee is considering archaeology and other options regarding the property at the present time. She has spoken with Drake Patten about the site. Drake is presently working on a similar site in Charlottesville. Among other things, I mentioned stewardship, registration, and easement as considerations for the property. She noted the older members of the family are interested in the property while the younger members are not as interested.