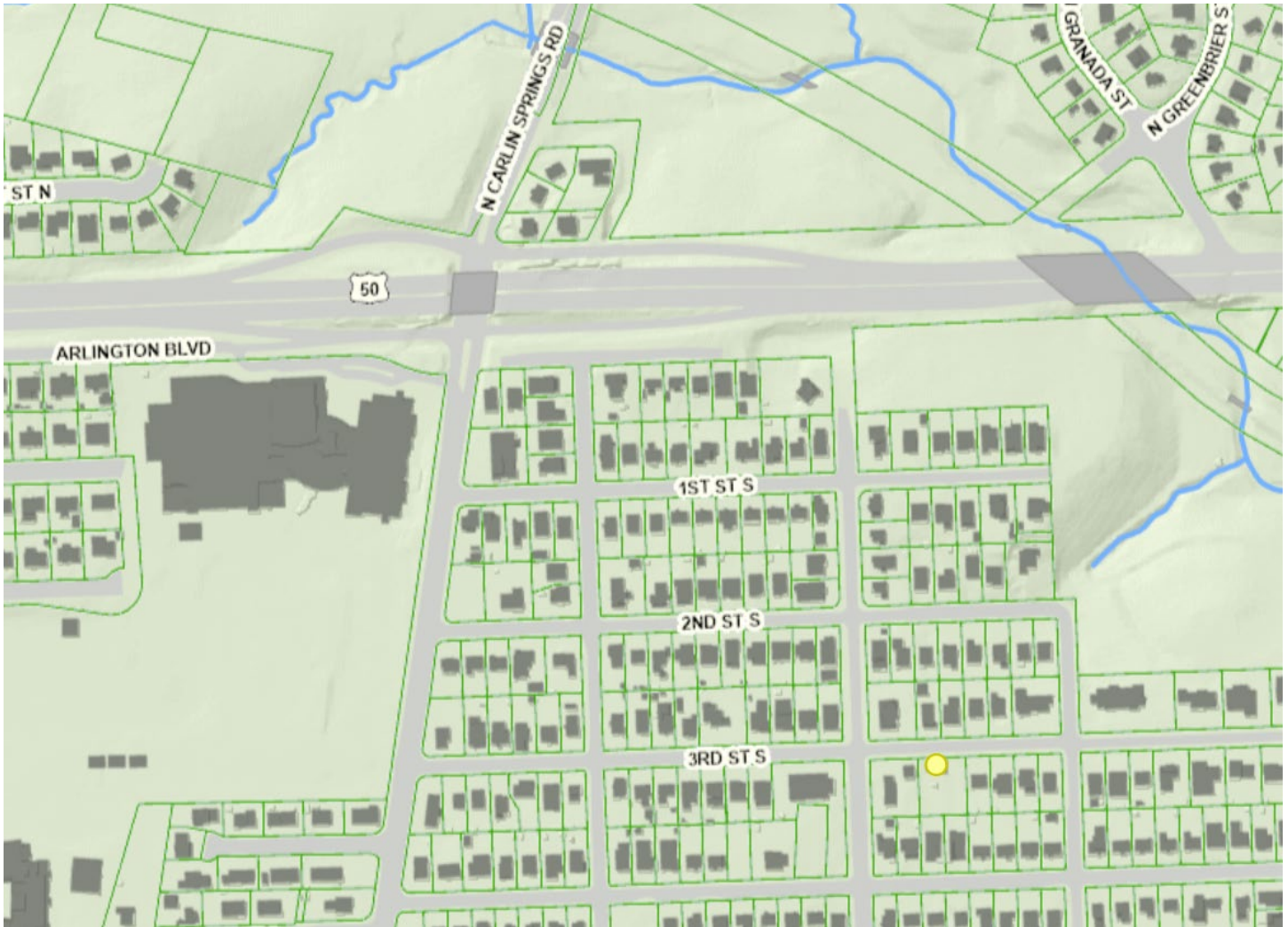


Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board

Arlington County, Virginia



HALRB Meeting August 16, 2023, CoA 23-20

5620 3rd Street South: A request to install three 4" x 4" brass markers memorializing people formerly enslaved on the property on concrete blocks protruding from gravel along the sidewalk edge of the grass



JOHN BALL HOUSE
A fine old New England
house, built in 1780, and
one of the best preserved
of its kind in the
region. It was built by
John Ball, a prominent
merchant and shipowner,
and is a fine example of
the architecture of the
period. The house is
well preserved and is
open to the public.
It is a fine example of
the architecture of the
period. The house is
well preserved and is
open to the public.

OPEN



Proposal for the Ball-Sellers House

The Arlington Historical Society would like to place a brass plaque or “stumbling stone” in the corner between the sidewalk and brick pathway of the Ball-Sellers House to honor the enslaved people who lived and worked at the house in the nineteenth century. The stone is based on those created in Germany to memorialize Holocaust victims. The enslaved individuals we hope to memorialize are: Nancy, born ca. 1775 and died between 1831-1840 (Fig. 1), a male whose name is unknown – born between 1806 and 1820, and a male whose name is unknown born in 1844. These will be the first stones placed in Arlington as part of the Historical Society’s project, Memorializing the Enslaved in Arlington, 1669-1865. We hope to place “stumbling stones” throughout the county at the many locations where slavery occurred.

The plaques will be placed on concrete or stone, set in the ground, and surrounded by gravel. See Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 for examples of what the embedded plaques will look like.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

Stumbling Stones for the Ball-Sellers House



Enslaved Here
Nancy
Female
Born ca. 1775
Died ca. 1831-1840



Enslaved Here
Name Unknown
Male
Born ca. 1806-1820

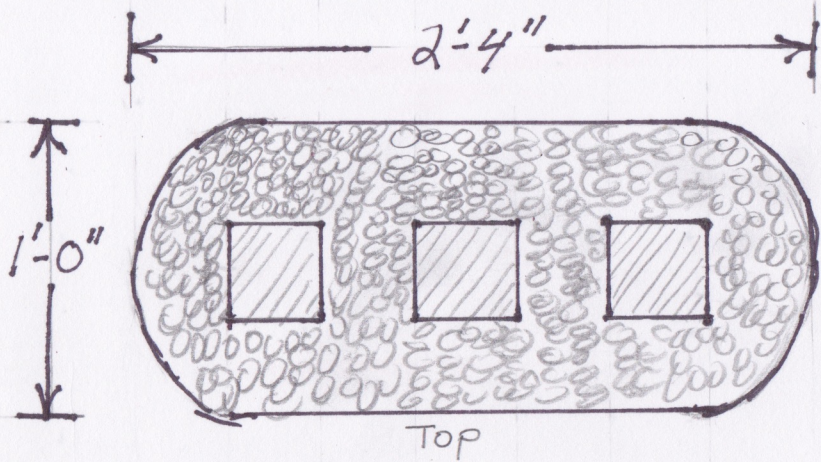


Enslaved Here
Name Unknown
Male
Born 1844

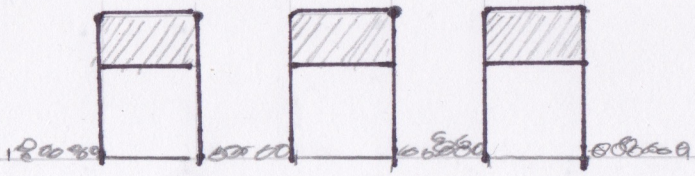


Sankofa – Embracing past lessons for a
brighter future

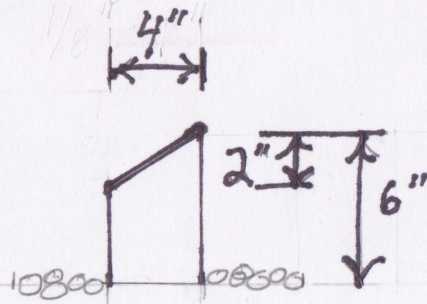
3 View Drawing of stumbling
stone at the Ball-Sellers
House



Top



Front



Side