

OLD ST. PAUL'S CEMETERY, BALTIMORE

St. Paul's Cemetery, located at Redwood, Lombard, and Fremont Streets, in the city of Baltimore, is the most historic burial ground in Maryland. Here are the remains of our revolutionary heroes and statesmen of more than local fame as well as many of the Baltimoreans who successfully repelled the British attack on the City in 1814.

But more important, St. Paul's Cemetery is a record of Baltimore in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Buried here are the men and women who founded Baltimore and led it through its period of great economic prosperity in the early nineteenth century. The cemetery is an integral part of Baltimore's historic heritage, and should always remain undisturbed in its present location.

The land for St. Paul's Cemetery was purchased in 1800 and interments in the new burial ground were begun in the same year. St. Paul's Church had two earlier cemeteries, one at the location of the first St. Paul's Church on North Point, established in 1675 and another at the present Church site at Charles and Saratoga, begun when St. Paul's Parish moved to Baltimore in 1730. After 1804 no burials were allowed in the graveyard surrounding the church and in 1817, the vestry moved all of these remains to the new burial ground.

What is the future of this historic cemetery and why the present concern? Approximately five years ago when the plans for the East-West Expressway were announced St. Paul's Cemetery lay within the recommended corridor. At that time there was, unfortunately, no positive opposition from the church vestry and plans were drawn with a highway slicing through and virtually eliminating the cemetery. It is hoped that the attached minutes of a recent meeting with Mayor McKeldin will relieve the expressway problem. The following preservation groups have all voiced their opposition to the disturbance or removal of St. Paul's Cemetery: Baltimore Heritage, The Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities, The Maryland Historical Trust, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.