

From: [Donald Serotta](#)
To: [Melissa Foote](#)
Subject: Fw: Cemetery [BELL STATION CORP SUBDIVISION]
Date: Tuesday, July 5, 2022 3:38:56 PM

Please distribute thanks

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Begin forwarded message:

On Tuesday, July 5, 2022, 11:28 AM, Clifton Patrick <historian@thetownofchester.org> wrote:

Hi Don,

The cemetery in question appears to be the "Jeremiah Stevens & Smith" burial ground. As noted on the "Known Town of Chester Cemeteries" document:
#39 Jeremiah Stevens & Smith 41° 17.789'N 074° 16.531'W ID# 332289 18-1-12 Kurtz and/or 17-1-26.4 Sullivan

I took a few photos of it a long time ago, when Bruno Kurtz invited me to check it out. I have pretty much spent the whole weekend looking for those photos (unsuccessfully).

If I recall correctly, several grave markers were visible in the dense overgrowth, several feet below the Bellvale Road grade. I could not tell if part of this burial ground had been covered by the road fill grading.

The 1977 From "Cemeteries of Chester, New York" book, page 97, recorded the following interments:

> JEREMIAH STEVENS AND SMITH CEMETERY
> Burials on property of B. Wolfgang Kurtz, formerly owned by Johnson, Stevens and Smith on west side of Bellvale Road.
>
> Stevens, Nancy 3-17-1833 37y 6m 6d
> Samuel 1-11-1806 9y 4d
> S. S.
> N. S.
> O. S.
> J. S.
> Jeremiah No stone
>
> Probably 10 or 15 other bodies buried here in unmarked graves. Field stones scattered.

Since the "Cemeteries of Chester, New York" book mentions 17-22 burials, I suspect the burial ground is actually larger than is depicted on the site plan. Perhaps professionals with expertise in locating unmarked/poorly marked graves

could more definitively determine the actual burial grounds boundaries.

Given the proximity to the proposed driveways, it would be prudent to provide both clear demarkation, identification, and physical protection for these burials.

I would like to witness the examination of the site by any expert investigators. I'd also be honored to document the burials when it is accessible. I have setup a more organized method of filling these records, as I am continuing the search for the photos of this burial ground taken so long ago.

Please keep me advised on this project.

Respectfully yours,
Clif

Clifton Patrick
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Ps: I'm healing nicely from the surgery and should be able to resume normally physical activity soon.

> On Jun 28, 2022, at 9:39 AM, Donald Serotta <donaldserotta@yahoo.com>
wrote:

>

> Cliff

>

> Attached is the proposed site plan. Hope you feel better. Thanks for your help.

> <BELL STATION CORP SUBDIVISION SITE PLAN 6.22.22 (2).pdf>