



Designs Chosen for Burial Ground Memorial

Design concepts by Lance Hosey of Charlottesville and the team of Katherine A. Towson of Watertown, Mass., and Roger Charles

Sherry of Charlottesville have been selected by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation for a permanent memorial at the African-American burial ground at Monticello.

The design concepts by Hosey and Towson and Sherry were chosen from the 120 submitted following a call for proposals in July 2001.



Lance Hosey

Design concept by Lance Hosey selected for the African-American burial ground at Monticello.














The selections, made by a committee of Monticello staff members in consultation with an advisory panel of outside experts, were announced June 13, and the designers were recognized during a reception at the Jefferson Library.

Hosey, an architect, received a \$1,000 honorarium. He is the husband of TJF employee Heidi Hackford, managing/electronic editor of *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson: Retirement Series*. Their relationship was not known to members of the selection committee.

Towson and Sherry, both landscape architects, shared a \$1,000 honorarium.

Hosey's design consists of a circle of tall stone pillars with climbing ivy at the edge of the slave cemetery. The design by Towson and Sherry

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MONTICELLO



Burial Ground Memorial

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features a path to the site planted with native trees and paved intermittently with rough-hewn stones.

“Together, these designs will provide an avenue of reflection and a space for contemplation of the humanity that endured in conditions of slavery,” said Sara Bon-Harper, Monticello’s archaeo-

logical research manager and chair of the selection committee. “They will produce a fitting tribute to Monticello’s enslaved community.”

Designs submitted by Gina Crandell of Brookline, Mass., and the team of Lareese Hall and Maria Riley of Charlottesville were accorded honorable mention by the Monticello committee.

The African-American burial ground at Monticello was identified in the winter of 2001 following archaeological investigations. The graves were not disturbed, and no remains were disinterred during the archaeological work, which identified the burials of 20 adults and children. Statistical models indicate that the site contains at least 40 graves. It is not possible to identify the graves of any particular individuals.

The site, which is approximately 65 feet by 75 feet, is located on a relatively flat tract of wooded land about 2,000 feet from the main house, near the southern end of Monticello’s parking area for visitors.

The site—the first slave cemetery identified at Monticello—was dedicated Oct. 6, 2001, with a commemorative ceremony that featured remarks by longtime civil rights leader Julian Bond. The burial ground is enclosed by a split-rail fence and marked by an interpretive sign.

An advisory panel has been formed, with Director of Gardens and Grounds Peter Hatch as chairman, to devise guidelines for site planning and development of the permanent memorial. No completion date for the project has been set.



Katherine A. Towson and Roger Charles Sherry

Design concept by Katherine A. Towson and Roger Charles Sherry selected for the African-American burial ground at Monticello.

COMMENTS? newsletter@monticello.org