



**TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY  
RECLAMATION PROJECT**

# **AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AT TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL**



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

# Dr James Bond, First African American Psychologist at Toledo State Hospital.

- Chief Psychologist, 1951-1966
- Elected head of Northwest Ohio Psychologists' Association, 1967
- Vice President of BGSU 1967-1972
- President of California State College in Sacramento 1972



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

# African American Chaplains at Toledo State Hospital.

- The Rev. James Mitchell, 1st Black Chaplain, 1955
- The Rev. Franklin Freeman, active in 1960s Civil Rights. Also appointed first African American Assistant Minister at University of Toledo campus chapel.
- Current Chaplain is Pastor Dwayne Braxton.



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### Sally Hull Jones, RN.

- One of the first 2 Black students to enroll in OSU's School of Nursing
- Psychiatric Rotation was at TSH in 1955



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

Lee Troy, First African American to work in  
Recreational Therapy for Toledo State  
Hospital (1954).

- Graduate of Libbey H.S. and U.T.
- Co-ordinator of Patient Humanization program, Ohio Department of Mental Health (ODMH).
- Executive Assistant to the Director of ODMH (retired 1983).



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### Paul Laurence Dunbar

- Mentored and befriended by superintendent Dr. H.A. Tobey
- Visited and performed at TSH, staying with the Tobey family
- Wrote poetry during his visits





## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### **‘LEAD GENTLY’, WRITTEN BY PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR AT TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL, 1895.**

Lead gently, Lord, and slow,  
For oh, my steps are weak,  
And ever as I go,  
Some soothing sentence speak;

That I may turn my face  
Through doubt's obscurity  
Toward thine abiding-place,  
E'en tho' I cannot see.

For lo, the way is dark;  
Through mist and cloud I grope

Save for that fitful spark;  
The little flame of hope

Lead gently, Lord, and slow  
For fear that I may fall  
I know not where to go  
Unless I hear thy call

My fainting soul doth yearn  
For thy green hills afar  
So let thy mercy burn--  
My greater, guiding star!



# TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

## AFRICAN AMERICANS BURIED IN TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES







## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### AFRICAN AMERICAN BURIAL STATISTICS

- 196 total burials, 8 identified as bi-racial
- 142 men
- 54 women
- Shortest stay 3 days. Longest stay 66 years
- 5 war vets + 4 more probables and many unknowns
  - 3 Civil War, 1 Spanish American War, 1 WW I
- Burials represent 23 states and Canada
- Percentage of African American burials larger than that in general population: 8.9% on average in cemetery, compared to 5.7% in general population



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### Victoria Holiday

- Earliest African American burial, marker #47
- Canadian, lived in Toledo
- Transfer from Northwest Ohio Asylum
- Burial in 1891 at age 43



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### Anderson Frost

- Marker #325
- Born in 1859 in South Carolina, likely into slavery
- Owned by John D Frost
- Burial in 1904 at age 45



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### Martha Manley

- Marker #538,
- Born in Ohio, 1893
- Lived in Blanchard, Hardin County
- Admitted at age 16, in 1909
- Burial in 1912 at age 19



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### Emmet Merritt

- Marker #1687
- Born 1891 in Alabama
- Lived in Elyria, Lorain County
- Admitted 1948
- Shortest length of stay of 3 days. Died of arteriosclerosis.
- Burial at age 57



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### Fannie Bannister

- Marker #1853
- Born in Hardin County, 1870
- Admitted in 1891 after death of young child
- Died in 1957 after a 66 year hospitalization
- Permission to bury her in the hospital cemetery was given by family in 1921, 36 years before her death



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### Kenneth Whittaker

- Last burial, marker #1999
- Born in Pennsylvania, in 1940
- Resident at Lucas County Children's Home at age 9, as was his older brother Arthur
- Burial in 1973 at age 42

A wide-angle photograph of a cemetery. The ground is covered in green grass, and numerous small, white, triangular markers are scattered across the field. Large, mature trees with dense green foliage are interspersed throughout the scene, casting shadows on the grass. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and somber.

## Black Civil War Veterans in the Toledo State Hospital Cemeteries

- *Forgotten No More*





## BLACK CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES

*And their deeds shall find a record,  
In the registry of fame;  
For their blood has cleansed completely  
Every blot of slavery's shame.  
So all honor and all glory  
To these noble Sons of Ham—  
To the gallant colored soldiers,  
Who fought for Uncle Sam!*

*"The Colored Soldiers" Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906)*



## BLACK CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES

*“Once let the Black man get upon his person the brass letter, U.S., let him get an eagle on his button, and a musket on his shoulder and bullets in his pocket, there is no power on earth that can deny that he has earned the right to citizenship.”*

Frederick Douglass



# BLACK CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES

## Enlistment



## 127th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

Ohio's first African American regiment which later became the 5th U.S. Colored Troops. Nearly four hundred soldiers were mustered into service within the first five weeks of recruiting.

Samuel Reed was among these recruits.



# BLACK CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES

## Our Black Civil War Veterans

- *Samuel Reed*  
Company G, 5th Regiment US Colored Infantry
- *Asbury Jones*  
100th Regiment of US Colored Infantry
- *Nathaniel Harmon*  
Company E, 97<sup>th</sup> Regiment US Colored Infantry
- *John H. Jackson*  
Company F, 12th Ohio Cavalry



# BLACK CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES

## Samuel Reed, Burial #451

- Enlisted age 16 years (5 feet 3 inches tall)
- Company G, 5th Regiment US Colored Infantry
- Saw extensive military action including Saltville (see Saltville Massacre)
- After the war he married with children and settled in Deshler, Ohio.
- Admitted to Toledo Asylum for the Insane before 1890. He died there 1909



## BLACK CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES

### Asbury Jones, Burial #295

- Enlisted age 17 to 9th United States Colored Heavy Artillery.
- Transferred to 100th Colored Regiment of US Infantry to protect Nashville & Northwestern Railroad.
- Saw action at Johnsonville, Battle of Nashville, Overton Hill
- Mustered out 1865.
- Settled in Blanchard, Ohio with wife and son.
- Admitted to Toledo Asylum for the Insane before 1890.
- Died there 1903.



# BLACK CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES

## Nathaniel Harmon, Burial #1294

- Enlisted age 18, in Company E, 97th US Colored Infantry
- Built bridges, roads, rifle pits
- After the war was married and separated.
- Moved to Kenton, Ohio and worked as a laborer.
- When he could no longer work was sent to Hardin County Home.
- Admitted to Toledo State Hospital in 1925 at the age of 75.
- Died 1934.



## BLACK CIVIL WAR VETERANS IN THE TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERIES

### John H. Jackson, Burial #487

- Enlisted age 15 in Company F of the 12th Ohio Cavalry (evidence he was much younger)
- Served in a white regiment; some records indicate he was Black.
- Wounded, shot through the nose leaving disfiguring wounds.
- After war worked as horse trader.
- Admitted to the Toledo Asylum for the Insane in 1889.
- He died 1910.





## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

Patient information is available to families searching for those once admitted to Toledo State Hospital (see handout).



**TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY  
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**TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL  
CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT**



# TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

## CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT MISSION

- To preserve the cemeteries and develop them into a place of remembrance and reflection for people who have experienced mental illness, disability, or addiction, and their family members.
- To transform forgotten graves into a memorial.
- To educate the community and combat stigma surrounding mental illness.



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

# OHIO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY BURIALS

Toledo has the largest number of burials at any State Hospital in Ohio:

- Toledo 1994 in 2 cemeteries
- Athens 1964 in 3 cemeteries
- Columbus 1305 in 3 cemeteries
- Longview, Cincinnati 1160
- Dayton 595
- Lima 477
- Tiffin 175
- Massillon ?



# TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

## CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

Old Cemetery, 906 burials



Behind Bowsher High School

New Cemetery, 1088 burials



On UT Health Science Campus



# TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

## CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT FUTURE PLANS

- Annual memorial ceremony in 2019 is 131<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Toledo State Hospital opening.
- Plan under development for Old Cemetery to include name panels, footpaths and outlook.
- Move and install 3 original concrete fence posts to Old Cemetery.
- Install flagpole at New Cemetery to honor veterans.



## TOLEDO STATE HOSPITAL CEMETERY RECLAMATION PROJECT

### CONTACT DETAILS

Website:

<http://www.toledostatehospitalcemetery.org>

Facebook:

[@ToledoStateHospitalCemeteries](https://www.facebook.com/ToledoStateHospitalCemeteries)

E-mail:

[toledostatehospital@buckeye-express.com](mailto:toledostatehospital@buckeye-express.com)

The TSH Cemetery Reclamation Project is a 501c3 organization through NAMI. Donations can be made to NAMI of Greater Toledo, 2753 West Central Avenue, Toledo, Ohio 43606 – with a notation in the memo line “TSH Cemetery Reclamation Project”.