



## **SAINT PHILIPS PARISH GRAVEYARD**

(Also known as: African American Graveyard, Strangers Graveyard)  
(121 Interments)

The graveyard was begun in 1775 for “Strangers,” who were non-Moravians, both black and white. During this time Moravians, both black and white, were buried in God’s Acre. As a result of changing racial attitudes in the Moravian Church, by 1816, both black Strangers and black Moravians were buried in the Church Street graveyard. White Strangers were buried adjacent to God’s Acre.

In 1823, a log church was built by and for the black members of the Moravian Church. This church was next to the graveyard. The graveyard itself was used until 1859 when a new cemetery for African American was begun next to the new white Salem Cemetery. A new, larger brick church for the black congregation was built in 1861 placed behind the graveyard.

In 1890, a front addition to the church was built on top of graves in the earlier, rear, section of the graveyard. Investigations beneath the 1890 addition of the church confirm graves dating from as early as 1775 remain.