



IN REPLY REFER TO

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Blue Ridge Parkway
199 Hemphill Knob Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28803

H20

January 17, 2002

Mr. Bob Heafner
619 Candlewood Drive
Greensboro, North Carolina 27403

Dear Mr. Heafner:

This letter is in response to your interest in the possible slave cemetery on Blue Ridge Parkway property at the Meadows of Dan Baptist Church. We have discussed this at length and we feel that before a decision is made about the cemetery, it is very important that we learn more about the site in order to manage it effectively.

In order to do this we are asking for assistance from the NPS Southeast Archeological Center, to develop a Scope of Work so that we can seek funding for archeologists to examine the site with ground penetrating radar and later to research local records for documentation on the site.

Unfortunately, I cannot give you a time frame when this work will be completed. The park is hoping to procure funding from our partner organizations or we will need to submit project requests for funding from the NPS. Often, the approval process for funding requests takes considerable time, as we must compete with other parks.

Our staff is currently researching the parks records for any documentation on the cemetery site. We would appreciate any further information or written documentation that you can provide. If we determine that a cemetery site does exist on Parkway property, we will then make a decision on how best to interpret and manage this important historic resource.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (828) 271-4779, ext. 202.

Sincerely,

Daniel W. Brown
Superintendent