

Glasgow Street Park



Monumental United Methodist Church, built in 1775 at South and Effingham and then moved to the Glasgow Street Park in 1792.



Monumental United Methodist Church at the Glasgow Street Park prior to 1856.



Monumental United Methodist Church as it is today. Current sanctuary dates from 1876.



Gravestone of Adj. William Ball Jr. at the Glasgow Street Park.

Glasgow Street Park, a historic site and cemetery of Monumental United Methodist Church, holds the grave of Adj. William Ball Jr. He was one of a total of about 30 Monumental members and others buried at this site prior to the 1840s.

Ball, 20, adjutant of the 4th Virginia Militia of the Winchester Rifles Company, was shot and killed on May 24, 1813 by a sentinel during the siege period prior to the Battle of Craney Island on June 22, 1813. Ball was carrying orders from Portsmouth's Fort Nelson to Norfolk's Fort Norfolk. At the trial, the sentinel was sentenced to 18 years in the state penitentiary because evidence showed that he killed Ball out of dislike. Ball's unit paid for his gravestone which said that he was "inhumanly shot by a sentinel."

Monumental, founded in 1772, bought this site in 1792. The congregation worshipped here from 1792 to 1833 and built and moved to the present site, 450 Dinwiddie Street Portsmouth, in 1833.

From 1831 to 1856 this site was shared with African American members, now Emanuel AME, located at 637 North Street Portsmouth, in 1857.

The park is one of nine Portsmouth sites and one of 103 statewide on Virginia's War of 1812 Heritage Trail. The trail commemorates Virginia's part in the war confirming America's independence.

Path of History
PORTSMOUTH, VA