McKnight

Presbyterian Cemetery · Section 41:20 · Fort Duquesne, French prisons, the White House battle, and an empty sleeve

Presbyterian Cemetery · Buried elsewhere · Context, or burial not confirmed

Family tree by Gravestone Stories · gravestonestories.com

Martha Bryan McKnight
(c. 1745 – June 3, 1775)
Died in Cumberland Co., Pa.
Her name on the box tomb is the **oldest date in the cemetery**;
whether she lies here is unknown

m. 1st

Capt. William McKnight
(1732 – July 25, 1812)
Pennsylvania Provincials: **took Fort Duquesne**
Came to Alexandria 1775; tavern at King & Royal
Its upstairs **"Long Room"** was used by Washington
Burial: *41:20, box tomb*

m. 2nd, 1775

Susannah Evans McKnight
(Sept 19, 1746 – Nov 10, 1836)
Of Bucks County, Pa.; m. 1775
Stone says "aged 90 years 7 months";
the true span was 90 years 1 month
Burial: *41:20*

Capt. John McKnight
(July 2, 1769 – Feb 7, 1834)
Ship captain at 19; taken by French
privateers **three times**; escaped prison
in Nantes on ropes made of blankets
Later Alexandria's harbor master
m. Catherine Piercy 1799; twelve children
Burial: *41:20*

William McKnight Jr.
Drowned off
Smith Point at 21

Capt. Charles McKnight
(Apr 7, 1774 – Mar 11, 1853)
Led the **Independent Blues** at the
Battle of the White House, 1814
Renamed the tavern the Eagle;
"McKnight's Corner" · judge 1837–53
Wrote *Captain Jack*; never married
Burial: *41:20*

A fourth son
Of William
and Martha

Dashed line: William Henry is recorded as "William McKnight's son," but born in 1800 he fits as John and Catherine's son (married 1799). Not yet confirmed.

William Henry McKnight
(Aug 24, 1800 – Dec 29, 1887) · master builder
With David Price built the **Lyceum** from St. Mary's bricks
Arrested Feb 1862; a month in the Old Capitol Prison
m. Margaret Jacobs, daughter of Presley Jacobs, 1832 · **Burial:** *Presb. Cem.*

Three generations in 41:20: the Fort Duquesne captain; a son thrice captured by French privateers and a son who fought the British in 1814; and two grandsons who fought for the Confederacy. Brothers William Presley and Charles Henry never married.

Elizabeth Chew McKnight
(Apr 2, 1833 – Nov 16, 1911)

Lt. William Presley McKnight
(June 12, 1838 – Oct 24, 1927) · 17th Va.
Captured at Frayser's Farm and Antietam
Business manager, *Alexandria Gazette* · **41:20**

Charles Henry McKnight
(Apr 21, 1840 – Aug 15, 1916)
Lost his right arm: "I just adore
that empty sleeve" (Isabel Emerson, 1865) · **41:20**