Seaton

George Lewis Seaton · a builder, a legislator, two marriages, and ten children

Trinity Methodist Cemetery · Buried elsewhere · Context, or burial not confirmed · Grave unknown · featured on the tour

Family tree by Gravestone Stories · gravestonestories.com

Where is he buried? No record confirms George Lewis Seaton's grave. Many believe he rests at Trinity Methodist, with his parents, his brother Adolphus and two of his sisters; others suggest Union Cemetery.

George Seaton
(c. 1791 – Dec 10, 1844)
Free Black carpenter
Burial: *Trinity Methodist, H:7*

Lucinda Seaton
(c. 1799 – Mar 15, 1865)
→ see the Seaton tree
Burial: *Trinity Methodist, H:7*

John Andrew Seaton
(c. 1834 – ?) · younger brother
Alexandria alderman in the 1870s; m. Virginia J. (c. 1843 – 1872)
Burial: *not confirmed*

brother

Maria Bryant Seaton
(c. 1826 – before 1874)
Born free in Loudoun County, Virginia; registered in Alexandria, 1847
Burial: *not confirmed*

m. by 1847

FROM ENSLAVEMENT TO JUSTICE · STOP 10

George Lewis Seaton
(1822 – 1881) · born free; third of eleven children
Carpenter and builder; in the 1870s the largest Black grocer in Alexandria. Head trustee of the First Free School Society and builder of schools for Black children. First African American member of the Virginia General Assembly from north of the Rappahannock (House of Delegates, 1869–1871). On the grand jury that took up the treason case against Jefferson Davis. Spent his later years at 404 South Royal Street, in Hayti.
Burial: *unknown — Trinity Methodist or Union Cemetery?*

m. March 1874

Catherine "Kate" Turley Seaton
Called "Miss Caroline Turley" in the wedding notice; Catherine in deeds. Lived on at 404 South Royal until after 1910
Burial: *not confirmed*

George C. (c. 1847)
Virginia (c. 1849)
Catharine (c. 1850)
Edwin (c. 1852)
Sallie (c. 1854)
Constance (c. 1855)
Colcote (c. 1859)

Children of George Lewis and Maria Seaton

George L. Seaton
(Dec 22, 1874 – Nov 4, 1899)
Listed as "George A." in the 1880 census; his stone reads "son of George L. & Kate Seaton"
Burial: *Washington Street Methodist, SW Lot 35*

Bertha (c. 1876)
Courtland J. (c. 1878)

Children of George Lewis and Kate Seaton

Whose names? Maria's children are named in the 1860 census; Virginia, born a year before Catharine, comes from Cristina Lawhead's 1993 research and is known only by her birth year. Kate's children are named in the 1880 census. Birth years are approximate.

The second wedding took place in March 1874 before a large "assemblage" at the Colored First Baptist Church, as the *Alexandria Gazette* reported. Their son George was born that December.

His son's epitaph, 1899: "A precious one from us has gone, / A voice we loved is stilled; / A place is vacant in our home / Which never can be filled." The footstone reads "G. L. S."

Sources: Bernstein et al., The Life and Times of George Lewis Seaton (Alexandria Archaeology Publications No. 121, 2001), drawing on the Free Negro Registers, the 1860 and 1880 censuses, and the Alexandria Gazette, March 19, 1874; McCord, Across the Fence, But a World Apart (1985); Foner (1993); Find a Grave memorials.