James Smith

(-17 May 1930)

Smith, James F. On Saturday, May 17, 1930, James F. Smith, aged 53 years. Funeral from W.W. Deal funeral home, 816 H n.e., on Monday, May 19, at 2 p.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

The Evening Star, May 20, 1930, p. 2

Work House Prisoner Killed By Falling Pole

James Smith of Southwest Washington Dies Instantly in Accident at Occoquan

James Smith of 400 block Four-and-a-half street southwest, who was serving a 90-day sentence at the District Work House, Occoquan, Va., was instantly killed Saturday morning when an electric lighting pole fell on him.

Smith, according to Capt. M.M. Barnard, superintendent of penal institutions of the District, was erecting poles in the work house grounds along with other prisoners.

One of the poles became dislodged from a hole in which it had been sunk and fell. Smith tripped on a vine as the pole dropped and it struck him on the head.

The prisoners working with Smith all signed statements that the man's death was due to an unavoidable accident Capt. Barnard said.