Zadock Williams, Sr.

(15 Feb 1805 - 11 Apr 1892)

Williams. On Monday, April 11, 1892 at 3 o'clock p.m., Zadock Williams in the 88th year of his age. Funeral will take place from his late residence, No. 1314, Third street southeast on Wednesday, April 13 at 3 o'clock p.m. Relatives and friends invited to attend. No flowers.

The Evening Star, April 12, 1892

Death of Mr. Zadok Williams

The venerable Mr. Zadok Williams, died last evening at the residence of his son, Joseph Z. Williams, 1314 3d street southeast. Mr. Williams had spent all the eighty-seven years of his life in this city, and was familiar with its early history, retaining a remarkably clear recollection of scenes and incidents of former years. Mr. Williams was born near Benning, February 15, 1805. His father, who served in the War of 1812, came to this city from Prince George's county, Md., in 1810, and located in East Washington. In 1814, when the British attacked this city, Mr. Williams remembered well when Commodore Tingey had the old Navy Yard bridge burned to keep the British from coming to the city. He also gathered with an old colored man many pieces of the old guns destroyed by the British at the marine barracks and placed them in an old lockup that stood near the navy yard gate. When quite a young man he learned the tailor business under Mr. Jewell in Georgetown and had made garments for many celebrated and distinguished persons of the day, among them Mr. E.W.P. Custis of Arlington, with whom he was personally acquainted. He owned from time to time much property in this section and also owned the famous "race course track," purchased from the late Mr. Thomas Blagden, and sold it to the United States government to form a part of the asylum tract, reserving the original race track, which he subsequently sold to private individuals. He married in 1828 Miss Edney Ann Denoon, by whom he had a large family. Two sons and three daughters survive him -- Mr. Joseph Z. Williams, Mr. George Williams, Mrs. Joseph Grinder, Mrs. Enoch M. Norris and Mrs. M.F Rue -- and many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Mrs. Williams died in July 1853, and he married a second time, Miss Mary Morton of Baltimore, Md., who died in July 1886, and left no family. Mr. Williams was up to a few years ago engaged in business. He was a member of the Oldest Inhabitants' Society and was the oldest parishioner of Christ Church, East Washington. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock from the late residence. The interment will be at Congressional cemetery.