

M.C. (died April 1810?)

The oldest date on a grave marker in the Old Berlin Cemetery is inscribed on a piece of slate and reads, "*MxC 1810 10 AP*". As of 2021, we have not been able to identify this individual.

Speculation: Someone with the initials M.C. died on April 10, 1810, when Berlin was still a very small village, and was buried in the Old Burying Ground adjacent to Berlin's western boundary. There were three people with a surname starting with "C" who bought land from Leonard Smith within 20 years prior to that date (John Calfrish, Jacobs Cribbs, and a Mr. Collard), but all three of them seemed to have defaulted on their purchase agreement by not building on their properties within 3 years, so the properties were repossessed prior to 1810. Perhaps the "C" family did not *own* property in Berlin, but were *renting*; we would have no record of that.

Your ideas are welcome!

