

The History of Segregation in South Carolina State Parks

In June 2018, the South Carolina State Park Service posted a [digital exhibit online](#) that interprets the fight for integration in state parks in the 1950s and 1960s. The exhibit “Remembering and Acknowledging the History of Segregation in South Carolina State Parks” outlines how the parks operated as segregated public facilities from 1938 to 1966, including six locations designated for African Americans only. When formal challenges to segregation were made, the state Forestry Commission decided to close state parks rather than integrate.

Some of the historic structures from that time period still stand, including a picnic shelter at Lake Greenwood.

The exhibit can be found at this link:

<https://scsps-rmi.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=f7d41a2e8288446ea6bda99390b45f95>.



The Park Service also has other African American history pages on its website, including one on the Civil Rights Movement and one on African American history overall.



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission is to identify and promote the preservation of historic sites, structures, buildings, and culture of the African American experience in South Carolina and to assist and enhance the efforts of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.



South Carolina Team Lobbies Congress

National Parks Deferred Maintenance

The South Carolina team, pictured below, included; Jannie Harriot, Executive Director, SCAAHF, Leigh Ann Snuggs, Executive Director of Gaffney Main Street, Michael Lisle, Executive Director of Summerville Main Street and Celeste “Clete” Boykin, Board Member of Clemson Institute for Parks represented South Carolina. Teams from North Carolina and Iowa met with their respective Congressional Delegation to ask for support of legislation to address the \$11.7 billion National Parks deferred maintenance. “Everyone we spoke to agreed that this is needed and almost all were supportive of the legislation” reported Jannie Harriot.

Senators Portman (R-OH), Warner (D-VA), Alexander (R-TN) and King (I-ME) introduced **The Restore Our Parks Act, S.3172**, legislation that would address the multi-billion maintenance backlog plaguing the National Park Service. The bipartisan bill brings together the best components of the previously introduced National Park Service Legacy Act and the National Park Restoration Act.



The successful South Carolina Team garners support for The Restore Our Parks Act.

The Restore Our Parks Act would:

Establish a federal fund in the U.S. Treasury - named the “National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund” - to draw down the national park maintenance backlog. The Fund would be established for five years, from FY2019 - FY2023, with annual revenue capped at \$1.3 billion.

The system includes 417 areas covering more than 85 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These areas include national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. www.nps.gov

Funds for the trip were provided by the PEW Foundation.



SC African American Heritage Commission Sponsors Summer Teacher Institute



The institute was sponsored by the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission (SCAAHC), whose mission is to identify and promote the preservation of historic sites, structures, buildings, and culture of the African American experience in South Carolina and to assist and enhance the efforts of the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

“The five-day Summer Institute’s purpose was to provide teachers with additional resources they can use to enhance their teaching of the state’s history that reflects African American heritage”, said Jannie Harriot, vice chairperson of SCAAHC and executive director of its fundraising arm, the South Carolina African American Heritage Foundation (SCAAHF). Twenty-three public school teachers from across South Carolina reversed roles and became students recently when they participated in the “2018 School Desegregation in South Carolina” Summer Institute.

Wallace Foxworth is an eighth-grade social studies instructor who teaches South Carolina history at Johnakin Middle School in Marion. He said the institute expanded his understanding of how school desegregation happened. Meeting people involved with those cases, such as Nathaniel Briggs, the son of Harry Briggs, Sr., lead plaintiff in *Briggs v. Elliott*, and Joseph DeLaine, Jr., whose father was also involved in the case was inspirational.

“I wanted to gain a better view of what is out there besides what we find in the textbooks,” Foxworth said. “The textbooks have a certain slant on history, and sometimes the slant is misguided concerning the contributions of African Americans in history. To be a more effective history teacher and bring more balance to history, this is something I feel is necessary.”

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Teachers who participated in the institute included:

Jasmine Govan, Stephanie Gold, Kay Ingram of Richland District 1; Melinda Hanna, Allison Geddings, Joceline Murdock, Ashley Rogers, Darlington County School District; Andrea Walker, Allendale County Schools; Wallace Foxworth, Marion County Schools; Amy Robinson, Beaufort School District; Mary Hoyt, Lexington/Richland School District; Tracy Carter, Lisa Hyman, Michael Jenkins, Florence District 1; Wonda Hilliard, Greenville County Schools; Brian Day, Calhoun County Schools; Barbara Bodison, Berkley County Schools; Coastal Carolina University English professor; Dr. Veronica Gerald; South Carolina State University student Enifinette and retired educator, Patricia Evans Hall

Institute presenters included:

*Jean Grosser, Professor of Art, Coker College, Hartsville
Joy Young, South Carolina Arts Commission, Columbia
Dr. Larry D. Watson, Professor of History, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, and the University of South Carolina
Dr. Bobby Donaldson, Professor of History, University of South Carolina, Columbia and the Center for Civil Rights History and Research at the USC
Dr. Valinda Littlefield, Director of African American Studies, University of South Carolina, Columbia
Dr. Louis Venters, Associate Professor of History, Francis Marion University, Florence
Dr. Jennifer Heusel, Assistant Professor of Communication, Coker College, Hartsville
Brian Gandy, Darlington County Historical Commission, Darlington
Felicia Flemming McCall, Southern African American Heritage Center, Cheraw
Cecil Williams, Photographer
Joseph DeLaine, Briggs v. Elliott
Nathaniel Briggs, Briggs v. Elliott
James Felder, historian
Alada Shinault Small, historian and Charleston Tour Guide*

We hope you found the Summer Teacher Institute valuable and will recommend others to attend next year!

He who learns, teaches. ~ Ethiopian proverb



SCAAHC Selected to Attend National Trust for Historic Preservation Board Training

Preservation Leadership Training®

Targeted: Board Building and Preservation Planning Workshop

Brought to you by National Trust for Historic Preservation and made possible through the generous support of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation in partnership with the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) will host a two-day workshop designed to address the specific needs of executive directors, trustees, and boards managing African American historic sites and museums.

Topic areas will include non-profit management, preservation planning, board development and fundraising strategies. Workshop facilitators will use highly interactive exercises, case studies, small group work, and assignments focused on the specific needs of participant organizations.

The workshop offers effective methods of advancing organizational goals and provides knowledge on the processes and skills to promote leadership development for building sustainable organizations.

Workshop Goals

The goals of the workshop are to:

- * Increase the capacity of organizational leaders;
- * Strengthen the skills and strategies available to board and executive staff; and
- * Engage participants in active communication about challenges and solutions to common organizational development issues.

The two-day workshop will be followed by a six-month period of correspondence to help organizations move from learning to application and successful implementation.

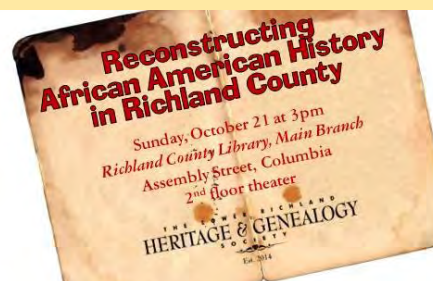
Six SCAAHC board members Abel Bartley, Jannie Harriot, Dawn Dawson-House, Strauss Moore Shiple, Terry James and Cassandra Williams will attend this board building workshop in late September in Annapolis, Maryland. SCAAHC is honored to have been invited to attend this workshop from a nationwide pool of applicants.



We Are On the Move!

Genealogy Workshop

Dr. Bobby Donaldson will be the speaker at the Reconstructing African American History in Richland County workshop on October 21, 3pm at Richland Library Main, 1431 Assembly Street. This event hosted by Lower Richland Heritage and Genealogy Society is free and open to the public.



Speaking Engagements

SCAAHC (Dawn Dawson-House & Jannie Harriot) will make a presentation at the South Carolina Library Association's Annual Conference in Greenville, to provide information about the Green Book and its entire body of work. The presentation is scheduled for 3:30-4:20 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 1.



Jannie Harriot has been invited to make a presentation about the SCAAHC at the African American Tourism Conference on September 29 in Charleston. She will be one of three presenters. Harriot also wants to leverage the opportunity to promote the 25th Anniversary of SCAAHC and its "25-for-25" campaign.

Presentations

SCAAHC (Louis Venters, Dawn Dawson-House & Jannie Harriot) has been accepted to make a presentation at the 2019 National Council on Public History Annual Meeting in Hartford, Connecticut. The session title is "Towards a 'New Southern Experience': African American History in The Green Book of South Carolina". This presentation will introduce participants to The Green Book of South Carolina, a new mobile travel guide to African American historic and cultural sites in South Carolina.

Grants Awarded

- ◆ USDA funding is to develop a resource guide that identifies sources of technical assistance on topics related to small business practices, as well as resources that support heritage, history, and cultural development in rural communities.
- ◆ SC Arts Commission funding is to support a summer teacher institute that integrates the arts and social studies.



We Are On the Move!

Civil Rights Tour Development Update

SCAAHC continues to work with a community group in Summerton to develop the Briggs vs. Elliott civil rights tour, promoting nearly thirty (30) sites associated with the court case. Dawn Dawson-House and Jannie Harriot met with the group, who have identified the sites: including the home sites of some of the principal petitioners; their work places; churches; meeting halls; schools and private businesses. A historian wrote the copy for these sites and a graphic artist has developed a set of design standards. The project will include a printed map-brochure, and eventually will be posted on the Green Book of South Carolina.

Recognition

The Wando-Huger CDC presents the 6th SC African American Tourism Conference on September 29 focusing on the growth of the African American sector of the tourism industry in the state. Jannie Harriot will be among the presenters at a session titled: **Infrastructure: Regional Approach.**

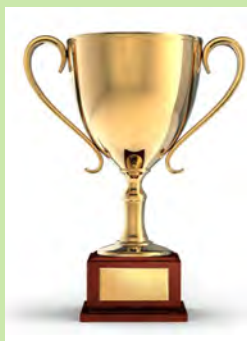
At the conference, the Wando-Huger CDC will also present the Denmark Vesey Organization Award to the SC African American Heritage Commission. This award honors an organization that has been instrumental in the development and growth of cultural/ African American tourism in South Carolina.



Support the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission today.

Make a tax-free donation at <http://www.scaaheritagefound.org/donate.html>

We Are On the Move!



SCAAHC Board Members Honored

Dawn Dawson-House has been nominated for the Enduring Spirit Award given annually by the Friends of African American Art and Culture (FAAC). The FAAC will present the second annual Enduring Spirit Awards at the Columbia Museum of Art on September 27. The awards recognize the outstanding achievements of



African American women in the Midlands who are working to improve their communities.

The Enduring Spirit Awards are named in honor of the work of Columbia artist Tyrone Geter, who credits his mother as the inspiration for his art.



Jannie Harriot will be included in the 2019 African American History Calendar presented by the SC Department of Education. The calendar highlights twelve extraordinary individuals who have made significant impacts through public service, medicine, education, preservation, and business. Each honoree has enriched South Carolina's history and been an ambassador for the state. The unveiling gala will be held on October 9 at the Koger Center for the Arts.



The Renaissance Foundation will host the inaugural "Ernest A. Finney Hall of Fame Gala" which will pay tribute to and honor a new class of South Carolina history-makers. *Dr. Bobby Donaldson and Jannie Harriot* are among this year's inductees. The Gala will be held on October 23 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center and highlights the progress made by our fellow citizens in the areas of civil rights, arts, education, science, sports and philanthropy.



Dr. Bobby Donaldson will be honored with the SC Humanities Council Governor's Award on October 25, at USC's Alumni Center in Columbia. Established in 1991, the Governor's Awards in the Humanities recognize outstanding achievement in humanities research, teaching, and scholarship; institutional and individual participation in helping communities in South Carolina better understand our cultural heritage or ideas and issues related to the humanities; excellence defining South Carolina's cultural life to the nation or world; and exemplary support for public humanities programs. Seventy-eight individuals and organizations have received awards from 1991 to 2017.



Help SCAAHC Celebrate Our 25th Anniversary!

From the Chair,

Oh, to be 25 again! Next year, the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission will celebrate its 25th anniversary and we would love for you to participate in the celebration! In order to commemorate our 25 years of existence and to continue the great work we have been engaged in in chronicling African American contributions to South Carolina's past we are trying to raise \$25,000.

Won't you join us in our 25 for 25 program and partner with us as we financially position ourselves to tackle the challenges of the next 25 years? We encourage you to consult your hearts and then contribute to this worthwhile endeavor.

When you invest in the SCAAHC, you invest in yourself and your children. No group has had as great an impact on this state as African Americans and we have a duty and a responsibility to never forget their sacrifices. We have assembled a group of dedicated volunteers who have committed time and treasure to ensuring that the work continues. However, we can't do it alone. We need all hands-on deck. Many hands make light work. Please do your part. Join us in ensuring our future.

You can give by either joining the foundation, donating online or, mailing a check. There are many worthy causes you can donate to, however, no other cause does more to ensure that our forefather's contributions are not forgotten than a donation to our cause. Please help us.

*Dr. Abel A. Bartley, Chair
SCAAHC*

25 for 25

Support the South Carolina African American Heritage Commission!

For its 25th anniversary, the SCAAHC launched an effort to raise \$25,000 by April 2019. Called "**25 for 25**," its goal is to generate funds for the SCAAHC's ongoing program of work to preserve and share our heritage. You can join us with a single donation of \$25 or with a pledge for monthly commitments. Make your tax-free donation or become a member at SCAAHeritageFound.org/donate.html.



"...preservation engages the past in a conversation with the present over a mutual concern for the future." — William J. Murtagh