SLAVE DWELLING PROJECT CONFERENCE
The Stono Rebellion and the Atlantic World

September 8–10 at The College of Charleston
Charleston, South Carolina
The harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, has always been crucial to its economy. Today it is commercial cargo and tourists that enrich the waters of the harbors. Historically, the cargo that generated Charleston’s wealth was Africans who were brought to this new world to be enslaved. The product of stolen labor, Charleston’s antebellum built environment is world-renowned. The evidence of the existence of the enslaved Ancestors exist in some of the bricks that are still visible in many of those buildings. I’ve had the honor of spending nights in some of those buildings, among them the Aiken Rhett House, Heyward Washington House, Magnolia Plantation and Gardens, Middleton Place, Old Charleston Jail, Old Exchange Building, 16 ½ Glebe Street, and 25 Longitude Lane.

In 2020 Charleston County Parks’ Caw Caw Interpretive Center was selected as a new listing on the National Park Service’s National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. Caw Caw was one of 16 additions that year to the network, which honors, preserves and promotes the history of resistance to enslavement through escape and flight; the network features 680 sites across 39 states. The National Park Service (NPS) chose Caw Caw because of its proximity to, and relationship with, the 1739 Stono Rebellion, when 20 enslaved people of African descent who were seeking freedom escaped from their slaveholders on September 9, 1739.

After learning that Caw Caw had been added to the NPS National Underground Railroad Network, I initiated a telephone conversation with Sheri Jackson, Southeast Regional Program Manager of the NPS National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, and Shawn Halifax, who works with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. That initial conversation ultimately led to this conference on The Stono Rebellion and the Atlantic World, which became our brainchild. Over the course of a year, the idea for a Stono commemoration was nurtured by a dedicated committee of planners including historians, NPS staff, historic site managers, cultural leaders in and around Charleston, and SDP board members and staff. Without the extraordinary expertise and contributions of this dedicated team, together with the generous support of the National Park Service and the College of Charleston, we would not be here today, and I am immensely grateful.

Many people are under the impression that the Underground Railroad only ran north, but depending on where “you were enslaved geographically,” freedom further west or south could be your best bet. In South Carolina, it was wiser to go south because of Spanish-controlled Florida and its efforts to disrupt the English colonies north of Florida. Accordingly, on September 9, 1739, freedom seekers in the colony of South Carolina armed themselves and marched through the countryside shouting “Liberty!” Their destination was Fort Mose, Florida, which had been established as a free Black settlement in 1738. The number of freedom seekers grew as they approached the Edisto River, where they engaged in armed combat with a group of white militiamen. Some freedom seekers escaped, while others were killed alongside white people, and nearby plantations burned. In its immediate aftermath, the Stono Rebellion led to heightened fear of slave uprisings among white colonists and the subsequent establishment of strict slave codes. But although the Stono Rebellion itself was short-lived, its legacy endures.

Among people of African descent, enslaved and free, the Stono Rebellion became, and remains, a powerful symbol of the rebellion, resistance, and resilience that has always been necessary for us. This conference will remind participants that enslaved people did not just sit idly by waiting for their freedom. The likes of Harriet Tubman, Susie King Taylor, Harriet Jacobs, Nat Turner, Frederick Douglass, Henry Box Brown, and Denmark Vesey had their origins in the courageous actions of those brave people of African descent who boldly proclaimed their freedom from slavery in 1739. Throughout this conference we will pay tribute to the countless enslaved Ancestors who over the centuries sought proactively to claim their freedom from a vile and brutal system.

None of this work would be possible without the support of the dedicated Board of Directors of the Slave Dwelling Project and countless additional supporters of our work. Please get to know them during the conference. Please join me also in thanking The 1772 Foundation, whose ongoing support of our conferences has been indispensable. Lastly, my inspiration has always been the enslaved Ancestors. It is for them that we gather in the Holy City, the Cradle of Secession, for a conference on the Stono Rebellion and the Atlantic World.

On behalf of our ancestors, thank you.
Sunrise over a former rice field at Caw Caw County Park (photo by Shawn Halifax) with a 1711 map of Charleston, South Carolina overlaid.

The Stone Legacy Project Committee

Michael Allen
National Park Service, retired

Beth Burkett
Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission

Charles Ellis
Fort Mose Historical Society

Shawn Halifax
National Trust for Historic Preservation

Sheri Jackson, Committee Chair
National Park Service, National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom

Thomas Jackson
Fort Mose Historical Society

Theodore “Ted” Johnson
National Park Service at Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve and Castillo de San Marcos National Monument

Dr. Jane Landers
Vanderbilt University

Jane Mahoney
Fort Mose Historical Society

Dr. Tonya Matthews
International African American Museum

George H. McDaniel
South Carolina Battleground Trust

Joseph McGill Jr.
Slave Dwelling Project

Diane E. Miller
National Park Service, National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom

Joshua Parks
International African American Museum

Amanda Pollock
National Park Service Network to Freedom Visual Information Specialist

Dr. Bernard Powers
College of Charleston

Virginia McGee Richards
Independent Historian and Documentary Photographer

Victoria Smalls
Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor

Toby Smith
Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission

Dr. Sandra Slater
College of Charleston Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Program (CLAW)

Leslie Stainton
Slave Dwelling Project Board of Directors

Dr. Peter H. Wood
Duke University
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

8:00-8:45 am ................................................................. Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:45-9:00 am ........................................ Welcome from Joseph McGill Jr. and the Slave Dwelling Project Board of Directors
Stern Center Ballroom

9:00-10:30 am ................................................................. Introduction to the Stono Rebellion
Stern Center Ballroom, Chair: Sandra Slater

Peter H. Wood and a Panel Discussion
Shawn Halifax, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Sheri Jackson, National Park Service
Joseph McGill Jr., Slave Dwelling Project
Victoria Smalls, Gullah Geechee Historic Corridor

10:30-10:45 am ................................................................. Coffee Break

10:45 am-12:15 pm ................................................................. Honoring the Ancestors: Remembering Where Middle Passage Survivors Arrived
Stern Center Room 201; Chair: Michael Allen

“Building the Port Markers Project: Truth-telling and NIMBY”
Ann Chinn, Founder, Board Chair, Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project

10:45 am-12:15 pm ................................................................. Trans-Atlantic Slavery: Rethinking the “Shared Heritage” and Reaching New Publics
Collaborating Across the Atlantic to Rethink the Shared Heritage of Slavery: A Case Study
Stern Center Room 205; Chair: Norrece T. Jones

“Reclaiming, Co-producing, and Sharing the Histories and Heritage
of Enslavement and Resistance in the Atlantic World”
Gayle Jessup White, Public Relations & Community Engagement Officer at Monticello
Laura Sandy, Associate Professor in the History of Slavery and Director of Centre for the
Study of International Slavery at the University of Liverpool

10:45 am-12:15 pm ................................................................. Ending Slavery at Any Cost: Revisiting the Lives and Plans
of Denmark Vesey and John Brown
Stern Center Ballroom; Chair: Bernard Powers

“The John Brown Suite”
Ryan Johnson, Associate Professor, Elon University

“Denmark Vesey: Slave Resistance during the Antebellum period and his legacy.”
Donald West, Trident Technical College

“Denmark Vesey Bicentennial”
Tamara Butler, Avery Center Executive Director

12:30–2:00 pm ................................................................. Lunch Break, College of Charleston Stern Center

2:00–3:00 pm ................................................................. Teaching Tough Topics: Exploring Slavery and Rebellion with Young People
Stern Center Ballroom; Chair: LaVerda Kearse James

“Yes, I teach Nat Turner’s Rebellion!”
Valencia Abbott, Rockingham County Schools/Rockingham Early College High School

“What Slave Auction Notices Reveal about the Lives of Early African Americans”
Brigitta McTigue, Retired Teacher, Park Vista Community High School

2:00–3:00 pm ................................................................. The Calm Before the Storm
Stern Center Room 205; Chair: Vennie Deas Moore

“Richmond, 1800: A Storyteller Goes Inside Gabriel Prosser’s World”
Yemimah Davis, Independent Storyteller/Historical Interpreter

3:00–3:30 pm ................................................................. Coffee Break
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 (continued)

3:30–5:00 pm.................................................... Digging for Evidence Beside the River: Case Studies of What Archaeology Can Teach Us
Stern Center Room 205; Chair: Ron Daise

“The Stono Rebellion and James Stobo’s Plantation at Willtown”
Martha Zierden, Curator of Historical Archaeology, The Charleston Museum

“Conjuring Resistance: Activist Archaeology and Evidence of Soul Value”
Teresa Lee, Historic Site Supervisor, Riverside, Farnsley-Moremen Landing, Louisville, KY
Lori Stahlgren, Staff Archaeologist, Kentucky Archaeological Survey

3:30–5:00 pm.......................................................... Education as a Form of Resistance
Stern Center Room 201; Chair: Herb Frazier

Latisha Vaughn, contributor to Ukweli: Searching for Healing Truth; book signing to accompany

3:30–5:00 pm....................................................... Reassessing African Resistance in the Wider Atlantic World: Two Case Studies
Stern Center Ballroom; Chair: LaVerda Kearse James

“Accessing Revolution: The 1733 St. John Rebellion and Memories of Resistance”
Fran Mahon, University of York (UK)

“Freedom on Their Own Terms: Understanding and Reassessing Enslavement Insurrections on the Island of Puerto Rico”
Anthony Luis Sanchez Cruz, DMA, Independent Researcher

KEYNOTE LECTURE
5:30 pm............................................................... Harriet Tubman, the Combahee River Raid, and Black Freedom
Rita Hollings Center; Chair: Nicole Moore

Dr. Edda L. Fields-Black, Carnegie Mellon University

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

8:00–9:00 am .......................................................... Continental Breakfast

KEYNOTE LECTURE
9:00–10:30 am.................................................... Beyond Victimhood: Enslaved Resistance on Antebellum College Campuses
Stern Center Ballroom; Chair: Nicole Moore

Dr. Hilary Green, Davidson College

10:30–10:45 am ........................................................ Coffee Break

10:45 am–12:15 pm.................................................. After Stono: Who Tells the Story, and How?
Stern Center Room 205; Chair: LaVerda Kearse James

“Atlantic History and the Historiography of the Stono Rebellion”
Daniel Littlefield, Carolina Professor Emeritus, University of South Carolina

“An Environmental History of the Gullah War”
Camden Elliott, PhD Candidate, Harvard University

“Stono and Florida”
Jane Landers, Vanderbilt University

10:45 am–12:15 pm............................................ Finding Allies and Resisting Colonialism Across the Southeast and Beyond
Stern Center Ballroom; Chair: Sara Daise

“African Resistance, Rebellion + Solidarity in the Gullah Geechee Corridor + Atlantic World”
Heather L. Hodges, Director of External Relations, The Historic New Orleans Collection

“Genealogical Resistance: Mapping the Power of Storytelling in Resisting Colonialism”
Gabriel A. Greaves, Researcher, Historian and Professor of African Diaspora Studies, National Council of Elders
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2022 (continued)

10:45–12:15 pm ..................................................................
“I’ve Known Rivers Ancient as the World” - Langston Hughes
Stern Center Room 201; Chair: Sheri Jackson

“Acknowledging the Past, Present and Future of the Lowcountry’s Watery Landscape:
River Corridors as Underground Railroads and as Drivers for Tourism and Resiliency”
George H. McDaniel, Historian, South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust
Blake C. Scott, PhD, Assistant Professor of International Studies, College of Charleston
Sharon E. Richardson, MPA, Founder, Resilient Lands Matter, Inc.

12:30–2:00 pm ............................................................... Lunch Break, Embassy Suites, 337 Meeting Street

2:00–3:30 pm ................................................................ Mapping Insurrection: The Hard Work of Reconstructing Rebel Routes
Stern Center Ballroom; Chair: Laverda Kearse James

“Through the Eyes of Nat Turner: Reconstructing the Southampton Insurrection on the Ground”
Dr. Garrett Fesler, Deputy City Archaeologist, Alexandria Archaeology, the Office of Historic Alexandria, Virginia
“The Cultural Landscape of the Stono Rebellion through the Lens of Caw Caw”
Patricia Ploehn, Historic Preservation Specialist, Warren Lasch Conservation Center

2:00–3:30 pm ............................................................... Sailing Against the Tide: Black Boatmen in the Carolina Lowcountry from 1670 to 1865
Stern Center Room 205; Chair: Vennie Deas Moore

“South Carolina’s Black Mariners: The Intersection of Black Codes & Maritime Law, 1670-1849”
John "J.P." Wilson, College of Charleston and The Citadel
“Robert Smalls and steamship Planter: Turning the Tides for the Union Military in the Civil War”
W. Kevin Donaldson, Master’s Candidate - History, University of North Carolina, Charlotte

3:30–3:45 pm ................................................................................................................ Coffee Break

3:45–5:15 pm ................................................................ Support and Resistance to the Stono Rebellion
Stern Center Ballroom; Chairs: Jane Landers and Peter H. Wood

“Fort Mose: The Destination of the Stono Freedom Seekers”
Thomas Jackson, VP, Fort Mose Historical Society
“Exploring the Slave “July” who protected his owner and was granted his freedom”
Mr. Ted Johnson, The National Park Service at Timucuan Ecological and
Historic Preserve and Castillo de San Marcos National Monument

3:45–5:15 pm ........................................................................ Stono in the Air
Stern Center Room 205; Chair: Sandra Slater

“The Stono Rebellion, the Angel Oak and Beyond: Preserving Historic Sites and Their Stories”
David Ray and Samantha Siegel, Lowcountry Land Trust
Helen Fields, Family Farmer; President, Sea Island Small Farmers Cooperative
“Stono: An Audio-ritual”
T. Carlis Roberts, Freelance artist, former professor at University of California, Berkeley

3:45–5:15 pm ............................................................... Old Buildings, New Interpretations: Preserving Black History, North and South
Stern Center Room 201; Chair: LaVerda Kearse James

“This Was Going on in Maine? Filling Missing Pages of Portland’s Black History”
Pamela Cummings, Board Chair & Dir. Ed. Programs, Abyssinian Meeting House, Portland, ME
“From the Back of the Big House to its Front Porch: Interpreting the Landscape of Slavery at Franklin Grove”
Rachael Finch, Sr. Dir. of Preservation, Education & Advocacy, Heritage Foundation of Williamson County

6:30 pm ................................................................................................................................. Dinner at Embassy Suites, 337 Meeting Street
Aunt Pearlie Sue and the Gullah Kinfolk presented by Preservation Solutions, LLC
Dr. Edda L. Fields-Black, Associate Professor, Carnegie Mellon University in the Department of History, has written numerous scholarly studies on the transnational history of West African rice farmers, including *Deep Roots: Rice Farmers in West Africa and the African Diaspora* (Bloomington: Indiana University, 2014, 2008), uses a unique blend of interdisciplinary sources and methods to chronicle the development of tidal rice-growing technology by the inhabitants of the West African Rice Coast region, the region where the majority of captives disembarking in South Carolina and Georgia originated. By integrating linguistic evidence, biological and botanical studies of mangrove ecosystems, oral traditions, and travelers’ accounts from the first European traders to visit the coastal region, *Deep Roots* reconstructs a historical period pre-dating the first written sources for the region and beginning more than a millennium before the trans-Atlantic slave trade when both West African rice and rice farmers became important commodities. *Deep Roots* builds on the underlying premise of the comparative method of historical linguistics—inheritance, innovation, and borrowing—to fashion a theory of cultural change which is sufficiently open and elastic to encompass the diversity of communities, cultures, and forms of expression in Africa and the African Diaspora. She is co-editor of *Rice: Global Networks and New Histories* (co-edited with Francesca Bray, Peter Coclanis, and Dagmar Schaeffer), which was awarded the Choice Outstanding Academic Title for 2015 and translated into Chinese in 2020.

From 2012 to 2016, Fields-Black served as the consultant for the Smithsonian National Museum of African-American History and Culture’s permanent exhibit “Rice Fields of the Lowcountry” located in the Power of Place Gallery. Fields-Black is also a history consultant for the International African American Museum (scheduled to open January 21, 2023) and advised the “From Slavery to Freedom” permanent exhibit at the Senator John Heinz History Center.

Fields-Black’s latest book, *‘Combee’: Harriet Tubman, the Combahee River Raid, and Black Freedom during the Civil War* (Oxford University Press trade list, scheduled for release Juneteenth 2023), the first full-length study of Harriet Tubman’s Civil War activities. This narrative history will tell the untold story of the Combahee River Raid from the perspective of Tubman and the enslaved people she helped to free based on new sources not previously used by historians, as well as new interpretations of sources familiar to Tubman’s biographers. It is the story of Harriet Tubman’s Civil War service during which she worked as a cook and nurse in Beaufort, SC, and gathered intelligence among freed people and enslaved blacks. It is the story of enslaved people who labored against their wills on nine rice plantations, ran for their lives, boarded the US gunboats, and sailed to freedom.

Fields-Black is executive producer and librettist of *Unburied, Unmourned, Unmarked: Requiem for Rice*, the first full symphonic work about enslavement composed by three-time Emmy Award winning classical music composer, John Wineglass. The ambitious and ground-breaking project takes history off the shelf, puts it on stage, and finds innovative ways to teach the painful and difficult topic of enslavement. The original score is based on Fields-Black’s chilling libretto, which tells the lived experiences, sufferings, sacrifices, and contributions of Blacks enslaved on Lowcountry South Carolina and Georgia rice plantations. It is written from primary historical sources. Unburied, Unmourned, Unmarked: Requiem for Rice was performed by the Colour of Music Festival Orchestra (COMF) in Pittsburgh, PA (February 2019), Nashville, TN (November 2019), Colombia, SC (September 2021), and Sacramento, CA (January 2022), the San Bernardino Symphony (January 2020), and the San Bernardino Symphony (January 2022). It is scheduled to be performed by the Santa Cruz Symphony (2023), and Monterey Symphony (2024). *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* classical music critic Jeremy Reynolds wrote, after attending the premiere: “The performance was a small taste of what promises to be a grand dramatic homage to the darkest chapter of American history.” Acclaimed sculptor, Vanessa German uses “Unburied, Unmourned, Unmarked: Requiem for Rice” as the soundscape for her exhibit, “Reckoning: Grief and Light” at the Frick Pittsburgh (opened April 2021).

Dr. Fields-Black is principal investigator of a team of scientists. The team of historian and scientists are engaged in a project, “‘Queen Rice’: How Enslaved Labor Transformed Wetland Landscapes and America,” an interdisciplinary 300-year study of the impact of enslaved labor on the coastal wetlands, the impact of the Lowcountry environment on enslaved communities, and best practices for conservation of Lowcountry’s rice fields in the face of climate change and sea level rise using archaeology, conservation, digital humanities, historical sources and analysis, pollen studies, soil science, and wildlife ecology.
The Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Program at the College of Charleston explores the Atlantic World and its connections to both the Lowcountry and interconnectedness between colonization across the Americas, Europe, Caribbean, and West Africa. Since its inception in 1995, CLAW has hosted annual international conferences, guest lecturers supported by an endowment from Wells Fargo, book clubs, panels, and workshops. We also maintain a successful publishing series with the University of South Carolina Press, establishing a Board of Editors this year of top scholars in Atlantic history.

Intellectual and community partnerships across America and international academic societies and other universities provide CLAW with a unique opportunity to engage innovative scholarship while advancing the mission and vision of the College of Charleston. Locally, CLAW partners with the International African American Museum, Avery Research Center, Historic Charleston Foundation, Charleston County Park Services addition to other local public history sites.

VISIT CLAW.COFC.EDU TO LEARN MORE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Dr. Hilary Green, Davidson College
Beyond Victimhood: Enslaved Resistance on Antebellum College Campuses
Friday, September 9, 2022 at 9:00 am in the Stern Center Ballroom

Hilary Green is a professor of history in the Africana Studies Department at Davidson College. She previously worked at the University of Alabama, where she developed the Hallowed Grounds Project in 2015. She earned her PhD in history from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She is the author of Educational Reconstruction: African American Schools in the Urban South, 1865–1890 (2016). She is currently at work on several projects, including a second book manuscript examining how everyday African Americans remembered and commemorated the Civil War.
Opportunities to further explore the themes of rebellion, resistance, and resilience, and the Gullah culture are available after the conference.

McLeod Plantation Historic Site  
www.ccprc.com/mcleod (843) 762-9508  
325 Country Club Drive, Charleston, SC 29412

Please consider a visit to McLeod Plantation Historic Site, sister property of Caw Caw, MPHS is one of the two historic sites in the country that intentionally interprets the issue of slavery from the standpoint of the enslaved. Tours have been described as provocative, thought-provoking and heart-breaking all at the same time. Tours are offered Tuesday -Sunday from 9:30 to 2:30 pm.

Caw Caw Interpretive Site  
www.ccprc.com/53/Caw Caw-Interpretive-Center (843) 762-8015  
5200 Savannah Hwy., Ravenel, SC 29470

Step back into the past and explore lands rich in natural, cultural and historical resources. Caw Caw was once part of several rice plantations and was the site of historical events connected to the Stono Rebellion of 1739. Caw Caw is a member of the National Park Service’s National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program. Naturalists will enjoy six miles of trails, interpretive exhibits, thousands of naturalized tea plants from a 20th century tea farm and a massive birding hotspot. Caw Caw is managed as a low-impact wildlife preserve. Pets and bicycles not permitted. Open Tuesday -Sunday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage  
www.morrisheritagecenter.org (843)284-9227  
10782 S. Jacob Smart Boulevard, Ridgeland, SC 29936

Want to get out of Charleston, head south on 17...  

Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage is a hidden jewel in Ridgeland, South Carolina, whose mission is to cultivate community experiences through education, preservation and celebration of the region’s rich history and culture.

Any time is a good time to visit this special place, but on September 24, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, themed tours will be offered on rebellion, resistance and resilience.
Valencia Abbott

Yes, I teach Nat Turner’s Rebellion!

Valencia Abbott is a History/Social Studies teacher at Rockingham Early College High School in Wentworth, NC. The 2022-2023 school will mark her 18th year in education. After completing a Master’s Degree in Liberal Studies, she received a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in African American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. In 2016 she received her Add-On Licensure Academically/Intellectually Gifted (AIG) from Duke University. She is a first-generation college student receiving a BA degree in Political Science Pre-Law and a minor in Speech from Catawba College. She currently serves on the National Council for History Education Teacher Advisory Group and the National American Civil War Museum Teacher Advisory Committee. Valencia’s current passion project is the curator of the project The Civil Rights Movement Beyond 1968: Griggs vs. Duke Power Company, which tells the story of the 1971 United States Supreme Court case originating in Rockingham County, NC. And this year received the J. Arthur Griggs Civil Rights Memorial Award from the Rockingham County Branch of the NAACP. Other parts of her life are filled with three daughters, one son-in-law, four grandchildren, and two grand furbabies.

Michael Bedenbaugh

Michael Bedenbaugh, who was most recently President & CEO of Preservation South Carolina for over 14 years, is owner of Preservation Solutions, LLC continuing his dedication to preservation. Born in Prosperity SC in the shadow of his Great Grandfathers home, Mike has always had a love and respect for old places. After serving in the US Navy for 5 years on board the USS South Carolina, Mike attended USC and Columbia University in New York for a degree in International Studies and History. Following school, he moved to NY and helped to build a product marketing company that catered to the entertainment industry with offices in NY and LA. In 1991 he moved the corporate headquarters to Prosperity and became socially involved as a member of the local planning commission, chair of the county Board of Zoning Appeals, joined the Board of Preservation SC, and was elected to his hometown’s city council. After a high pressured 14 years of managing the needs of clients such as DreamWorks, MGM, Island Records, Paramount Pictures and Philip Morris, Mike decided to focus on local community and took on managing the social studies program for Newberry Academy’ middle and high school until assuming the reigns of Preservation SC in 2007 until leaving to continue and grow the family business after his father’s passing. When not traveling the state in search of endangered historic places to save, Mike resides on his grandfather’s restored farm outside of Prosperity SC with his wife Anya.

Tamara Butler

Denmark Vesey Bicentennial

Dr. Tamara T. Butler is the Executive Director of the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture and Associate Dean of Strategic Planning & Community Engagement at the College of Charleston Libraries. Dr. Butler is a first-generation college graduate who earned degrees from THE Ohio State University and Xavier University of Louisiana. As a doctoral student, she learned a great deal about the importance of community and mentoring networks as a Cultivating New Voices Among Scholars of Color Fellows (2012-2014). Therefore, she dedicates her time to initiatives and organizations that center equity, responsibility, and accessibility in education and community engagement. She served as a member of the Womxn of Color Initiatives Project at Michigan State. In the field of English Education, she serves as a member of English Language Arts Teacher Educators’ (ELATE) Executive Committee and an editorial board member for various peer-reviewed journals. She previously served as a member of the National Council of Teachers of English’s Standing Committee on Research and continues to review manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals in education.
Ann L. Chinn
*Building the Port Markers Project: Truth-telling and NIMBY*

Ann Chinn is the Executive Director of the Middle Passage Ceremonies and Port Markers Project, Inc. She holds degrees from Mount Holyoke College and has studied at Yale College and George Washington University. Ann grew up in Washington, DC, among family and friends with a strong awareness of history. Over the years she became a person who loves stories and the people who generate these narratives. Along the way she also realized that each of us is deeply entwined with a local and national heritage that can be traced through memory as well as knowledge. Textile art, social service, community organizing and historical research are constants in her life. Ann is married to Charlie Cobb (journalist and author.) Being a member of a diverse and ever-expanding family of three children, five grandchildren, and numerous cousins, Ann increasingly appreciates the role we all have in telling the story, in valuing who we are and who helped shaped us, and in acknowledging that process.

Pamela Cummings
*This Was Going on in Maine? Filling Missing Pages of Portland’s Black History*

Pamela Cummings is currently President of the Board of Directors and Director of Education Programs for The Abyssinian Meeting House. She serves on the advisory committee for The state of Maine Dept of Education and Brown University She is currently creating and writing two books and is the founder of *A Walk Back in Time*, a theatrical walk retracing the footsteps of enslaved people in Portland, Maine–from the Custom Wharf to The Abyssinian Meeting House. She has a Bachelors of Science Degree in business. She is the proud mother of adult children Lindsey Alston DAndrea and Douglas Alston.

Yemimah
*The Calm Before the Storm*

Yemimah is a gifted Djelimusa and Author that uses her talents to promote awareness to lesser known historical events and people. Yemimah recently won the Royal Wolf Film Award for her work as a Narrator on “Until Caleb”. She has written and starred in several one woman shows focusing on domestic violence and historical women of courage. Being a teaching artist with Arts For Learning, Outschool and Wolftrap of Virginia allows Yemimah to teach African History through storytelling. Being a part of the Authentic Voices Fellowship program is exciting and has given her a new opportunity to embark on writing her first book. Modupe to her Ancestors for choosing her to give them a voice!
W. Kevin Donaldson
Robert Smalls and steamship Planter: Turning the Tides for the Union Military in the Civil War from 1670 to 1865

As a native of Charleston, South Carolina, and a grandson of Georgia sharecroppers, W. Kevin Donaldson has taken a particular interest in studying the Old South in his undergraduate and graduate school research. A graduate of the University of North Carolina Charlotte, Donaldson majored in History with a minor in Film Studies. He will complete his Master's in history at the end of 2022. As a non-traditional student returning to higher education after a 25-year hiatus, Donaldson is committed to the study of History and is proud to have been selected for The Gettysburg College Journal of the Civil War Era and the Slave Dwelling Project conference taking place in Charleston, South Carolina in September of 2022.

Camden Elliott
An Environmental History of the Gullah War

Camden R. Elliott is a PhD candidate in History at Harvard University. His work reinterprets wars and rebellions across vast early America by looking at the natural world. His work has been supported by a number of organizations including the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Eccles Centre at the British Library, and the French Colonial Historical association, among others.

Garrett Fesler
Through the Eyes of Nat Turner: Reconstructing the Southampton Insurrection on the Ground

Garrett Fesler has worked for 35 years as a historical archaeologist in the Chesapeake region. Since 2011 he has served as Deputy City Archaeologist in Alexandria, Virginia. Before that he co-owned and operated the James River Institute for Archaeology in Williamsburg, Virginia, with his partners Nick Luccketti and Matt Laird. He received his BA from the University of California at Santa Cruz in 1986, his MA in American history at the College of William and Mary in 1991, and his Ph.D. in Anthropology at the University of Virginia in 2004. Over his career he has pursued a host of research interests, all of which focus on inching toward a better understanding of the human condition in all its facets, both in the past and in relation to the present.
Rachael Harrell Finch

*From the Back of the Big House to its Front Porch: Interpreting the Landscape of Slavery at Franklin Grove in Franklin, Tennessee*

Rachael Harrell Finch is the Senior Director of Preservation, Education, and Advocacy for the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County, Tennessee. With over ten years of experience in historic preservation, museum leadership, and nonprofit management, Finch leads the preservation team in all preservation and education programming and projects, interpretation planning, and community advocacy. Finch holds an MA in Public History with an emphasis in Historic Preservation, Cultural Resource Management and Administration of Historical Organizations, from Middle Tennessee State University and a BA in history and political science from Metropolitan State University in Denver, Colorado. Finch previously served as the Executive Director for the Historic Franklin Masonic Hall Foundation, as Research Historian for the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, and as Civil War Projects Coordinator for the Center for Historic Preservation at Middle Tennessee State University. Finch, a recipient of the Scott Hartwig Fellowship at the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College, serves on the board of directors for the Franklin Civil War Round Table. She currently chairs the City of Franklin’s Civil War Historical Commission, serves on the membership committee for the National Preservation Partners Network, and is a member of the 2nd year cohort of the Southeastern Museum Conference Leadership Institute. Finch has appeared in several award-winning documentaries including *The American South As We Know It* and *Desperate Days: The Last Hope for the Confederacy*.

Herb Frazier

*Education as a Form of Resistance*

Herb Frazier is a Charleston, South Carolina-based writer. He’s special projects editor for the *Charleston City Paper*, and the former marketing director at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens in Charleston. Before he joined Magnolia, Frazier edited and reported for five daily newspapers in the South, including his hometown paper, *The Post and Courier*.

In 1990, the South Carolina Press Association named him Journalist of the Year. He has taught news writing as a visiting lecturer at Rhodes University in South Africa. He is a former Michigan Journalism Fellow at the University of Michigan. He studied journalism at the University of South Carolina.


His international reporting experience includes West Germany during the fall of the Berlin Wall, humanitarian relief efforts in Bosnia and Rwanda during its post-genocide. He also reported on the civil war in Sierra Leone. Frazier has written about the historical and cultural ties between West Africa and the Gullah Geechee people of coastal South Carolina and Georgia. He has also reported from Cuba, Barbados, South Korea and Japan.

He is a former member of the South Carolina on the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission, created by the U.S. Congress in 2006.

He is the author of *Behind God’s Back: Gullah Memories*. He is a co-author of *We Are Charleston: Tragedy and Triumph at Mother Emanuel* with Marjory Wentworth and Dr. Bernard Powers Jr. Frazier is also the co-editor of *Ukweli: Searching for Healing Truth, South Carolina Writers and Poets Examine American Racism*.

Frazier’s forthcoming books are *Sleeping with the Ancestors: Slave Dwellings Matter*. This book is co-written with Joseph McGill Jr., founder of the Slave Dwelling Project. He is also the author of the unpublished *Crossing the Sea on a Sacred Song*, the story of an ancient funeral song from Sierra Leone that links a Mende woman in Sierra Leone with a woman in coastal Georgia.
**Gabriel A. Greaves**  
*Genealogical Resistance: Mapping the Power of Storytelling in Resisting Colonialism*

Gabriel A. Greaves is a professor of African and African Diaspora Studies with Kennesaw State University and a teacher with Atlanta Public Schools (Gifted Middle Grades Social Science). He is also an ambassador (research assistant) for veteran teacher activists with the National Council of Elders. He previously worked as the Programs & Education Coordinator for the Prince George’s African American Museum & Cultural Center from 2019 to January of 2022, using his skills to create innovative virtual education programs in collaboration with Prince George’s County Public Schools, the Smithsonian Freedmen Bureau Transcription project, the Smithsonian Folklife Institute and several other organizations. Moreover, he has worked as a moderator with the Prince George’s County Lynching Memorial Project in collaboration with the Prince Georges County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and the Maryland Lynching Memorial Project.

Gabriel is a KSU Masters of American Studies Alumnus with a background in Afro-Latino Studies, the Civil Rights era, Christianity in the Americas and the social impact of religious worldviews. He is also of Afro-Caribbean descent, specifically from Coromantee in Jamaica/Barbados (Bajan), West Indian Hispanics in Panama and Gullah/Black Seminoles. Having grown up in a multi-ethnic/multi-generational home, he loves educating through oral histories and showing the complexities of racial/cultural identities. He is passionate for community development as well as utilizing movement journalism and historical activism in order to promote the notion of the “Beloved Community” as Dr. Martin Luther King popularized. This has also been expressed in the work he has done leading educational panels on Afro-Indigenous cultures within Maryland, South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Nova Scotia and further.

Gabriel has long believed that history is a means for healing. He enjoys seeing history/genealogy used as a way to empower others. He loves working as historian/educator, and interdisciplinary researcher who has worked within community outreach/grassroots organizing for over 14 yrs. He enjoys traveling around the world connecting with Indigenous and African Diasporic communities in multiple countries as he seeks to link diverse communities together in their ancestral stories.

**Shawn Halifax**  
*Introduction to the Stono Rebellion*

Shawn Halifax is a student of the Stono Slave Rebellion and currently the executive director of Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House, two sites of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Alexandria, Virginia. For eighteen years he oversaw public history programming, led history research, and assisted with cultural resource management at Charleston County Parks, in South Carolina. His essay, “Slavery, Resistance, and Memory in the Lowcountry: The Commemoration of the Stono Rebellion”, coauthored with Dr. Teri Snyder, appears in *Fugitive Movements: Commemorating the Denmark Vesey Affair and Black Radical Antislavery in the Atlantic World* and reflects on the rebellion’s history and its memorialization since the 1970s.
Sheri Jackson

Introduction to the Stono Rebellion

Sheri Jackson, Southeast Regional Manager, Interior Region 2, of the National Park Service’s National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program, has worked 28 years with the National Park Service. Eighteen of those years have been with the Network to Freedom Program. Jackson works with local, state, and federal entities, as well as interested individuals and organizations to provide advice, subject matter expertise and technical support to preserve and tell the stories of the Underground Railroad (UGRR). The program demonstrates the significance of the UGRR not only in the eradication of slavery, but also as a cornerstone of our national civil rights movement.

What was the Underground Railroad? The UGRR was not a train operating along hidden railroad tracks. The UGRR refers to the efforts of enslaved Africans to gain their freedom through escape and flight – and the assistance of people who opposed slavery and willingly chose to help them to escape - through the end of the U.S. Civil War. Wherever slavery existed, there were efforts to escape, at first, to maroon communities in rugged terrain away from settled areas, and later across state and international borders.

Heather L. Hodges

African Resistance, Rebellion + Solidarity in the Gullah Geechee Corridor + Atlantic World

Heather L. Hodges is currently the Director of External Relations at The Historic New Orleans Collection. The Historic New Orleans Collection is a museum, publisher and research center dedicated to the stewardship of the history and culture of New Orleans and the Gulf South. Heather was also the Executive Director of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, a federal National Heritage Area, from 2017-2020. She placed an emphasis during her tenure on developing educational programs, supporting cultural documentation and historic preservation efforts, encouraging heritage tourism, and fostering new research to facilitate interpretation of Gullah Geechee history and culture. Heather has served on numerous non-profit boards and currently sits on the advisory board for the Charles W. Joyner Institute for Gullah and African Diaspora Studies and the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

Thomas TJ Jackson

Fort Mose: The Destination of the Stono Freedom Seekers

Thomas ‘TJ’ Jackson was born and raised in St Augustine Florida and is a lifelong resident of the area. As an amateur historian and avid reenactor, T J has volunteered with the Fort Mose Historical Society for 25 plus years and serves on the Board of Directors. As a founding member he currently serves as Vice-President. The Fort Mose Historical Society is a citizen support organization (CSO) formed from former members of the Venetian Club of St Augustine to support the Florida Park service in managing and interpreting the Mose site. Reenactments at the site over the past 20 plus years have garnered recognition from national and international news and entertainment outlets. Fort Mose is a Florida State Historic site, a National Landmark and also a site of memory associated to The UNESCO Slave Route, Resistance, Liberty and Heritage project.

TJ attended local high schools and went on to attend Florida A & M University in Tallahassee earning a bachelor’s degree with a major in Philosophy and minors in Political Science and Religion. He returned to the St Augustine area and started working in the Adult Migrant and Seasonal farmworker program offering work alternatives to seasonal farm workers. After working for two years in the Orlando area and attending the University of Central Florida in Computer Science and Real Estate, TJ relocated back to the St Augustine area. Entering military service in the United States Air Force he earned a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Florida. TJ is also affiliated with several local volunteer organizations in the community. TJ is married to Barbara with four children Cerita, Celina, Thomas III (dec), & Katie Louise.
Ted Johnson
*Exploring the Slave “July” who protected his master and was granted his freedom*

Ted Johnson has served 20 years as an interpretive ranger with the National Park Service. He is currently the Community Engagement Specialist at Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve in Jacksonville, FL.

Throughout his career, Ted has collaborated regularly with the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom and has developed numerous African American history and culture-related programs and projects designed to ensure that more diverse and lesser known stories are included in America’s national history narrative. He employs various techniques to share these stories effectively including the development of living history portrayals of enslaved individuals. Ted has spent several years researching various aspects of the history of enslavement and resistance and looks forward to this opportunity to explore and discuss choices and decisions made by individuals with varied perspectives during the Stono Rebellion.

Ryan Johnson
*The John Brown Suite*

Ryan J. Johnson is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Elon University in North Carolina, U.S.A. He currently focuses on the ways in which Black Thought creatively critiques and transforms the canon of philosophy. He has published several books, including *The Deleuze-Lucretius Encounter* (Edinburgh UP 2017) and *Deleuze, a Stoic* (Edinburgh UP 2017), and the forthcoming co-written with Biko Mandela Gray *Phenomenology of Black Spirit* (Edinburgh UP 2022); as well as three edited volumes, including *Contemporary Encounters with Ancient Metaphysics* (Edinburgh UP 2018) and *Nietzsche and Epicurus* (Bloomsbury 2020). His current book projects Three American Hegels, The John Brown Suite, and Black Spinozism. At the heart of his philosophical practice is a pedagogical task of grappling with an unsettling past in order to help shape a richer, more welcoming, and brighter future of philosophy.

Jane Landers
*Stono and Florida*

Jane Landers is the Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of History at Vanderbilt University. She is Director of the Slave Societies Digital Archive and since 2015 has served as the U.S. member on UNESCO’s International Scientific Committee for the Slave Route Project. Landers’ award-winning monographs include *Black Society in Spanish Florida and Atlantic Creoles in the Age of Revolutions* and she is the co-author or editor of five other books and numerous articles on the history of African and Indigenous resistance in Florida and the Atlantic World. Her research has been supported by the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the British Library Endangered Archives Programme, among others. She has served as President of the Conference on Latin American History and Founding Chair of its Atlantic World Section, President of the Forum on Early-Modern Empires and Global Interactions, and President of the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the Southern Historical Association. She currently serves as Chair of the Committee on International Historical Activities of the American Historical Association.
Teresa Lee

*Conjuring Resistance: Activist Archaeology and Evidence of Soul Value*

Teresa Lee is the Historic Site Supervisor at Riverside, the Farnsley-Moremen Landing. She has held the position since 2018. Previously she was the Visitor’s Services Coordinator and Educator at the Portland Museum (Louisville, KY). She has degrees in history, anthropology, and gender studies. Riverside has an award-winning field trip program that allows approximately 2,500 students per year to be part of the process of doing history. Along with the Kentucky Archaeological Survey, students learn about the investigative process of history and evidence-based interpretation through a series of hands-on activities. Teresa has been part of the in-depth analysis of how slavery is interpreted at Riverside, as well as exhibit design, and program development. Riverside was one of the founding organizations of the *Louisville Coalition on the History of Enslavement* in 2021, whose purpose is to maximize the impact of the four former sites of enslavement, in their efforts to provide accurate interpretation and programming that ties the history of slavery to existing social inequity.

Daniel C. Littlefield

*Atlantic History and the Historiography of the Stono Rebellion*


Francis “Fran” Mahon

*Accessing Revolution: The 1733 St. John Rebellion and Memories of Resistance*

Francis Mahon is an archaeologist specializing in issues of empire and colonization; memory, power, and time. He is increasingly concerned with individual and community access to historic resources, memory, and land, both within and beyond the university, archive, and museum. He holds a master’s degree from the University of York (UK) in historical archaeology and a dual bachelor’s in anthropology and art history from the University of Delaware. Mahon will commence his PhD at York this autumn, exploring the city’s material colonial connections via the trade and consumption of chocolate, sugar, and tea, ca. 1650-1850.
George H. McDaniel  
**Acknowledging the Past, Present and Future of the Lowcountry’s Watery Landscape: River Corridors as Underground Railroads and as Drivers for Tourism and Resiliency**

George H. McDaniel is a historian for South Carolina Battleground Preservation Trust. He received his B.A. in history from Davidson College and, after some time spent wandering in the wilderness as a professional musician, he returned to school and earned his M.A. at the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. His graduate work focused on African American history and public history, particularly interpreting that history at historic sites. While in Oxford, George managed two museums—the L.Q.C. Lamar House, the home of the 19th century Mississippi politician and Supreme Court Justice; and the Burns-Belfry Museum and Multicultural Center, which was housed in the first African American church established in Oxford after the Civil War in 1867. He served on the University of Mississippi’s Slavery Working Group which researched and interpreted the history of slavery at the university. He was a founding member of L.O.C.A.L (Lafayette Oxford Community Archive Library) a collaboration between the community and university designed to bring university resources to bear to preserve the local history of the African American community. He led the successful effort to have Francis Beidler Forest designated as a site in the National Park Service’s National Underground Railroad: Network to Freedom program.

Brigitta McTigue  
**What Slave Auction Notices Reveal about the Lives of Early African Americans**

Brigitta McTigue was raised in a German family and alternated between living in Germany and the United States as a child. She graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor’s Degree in History and earned a Master’s Degree from the University of South Florida in the field of Library Science. Mrs. McTigue worked as a School Library Media Specialist at both the elementary and high school levels for twenty-three years. She then taught African, African American and World History at Park Vista Community High School for seven years. Mrs. McTigue was awarded the Outstanding Media Service Award by the Palm Beach County Educational Media Association in 2003, and was selected as the Social Studies Teacher of the Year by both Forest Park Elementary School and Park Vista Community High School. She participated in two NEH summer institutes on African American History, in Alabama and Mississippi. Brigitta McTigue retired from teaching last year, but continues to study history by reading and traveling.

Patricia Ploehn  
**The Cultural Landscape of the Stono Rebellion through the lens of Caw Caw**

Patricia Ploehn is a South Carolina native with a passion for cultural landscapes and heritage preservation. Born and raised in Columbia, South Carolina, she attended the College of Charleston, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in historic preservation and community planning, art history, and a minor in southern studies. She recently graduated with her Master of Science degree from the Clemson University and College of Charleston Historic Preservation Program. She has worked for Lowcountry institutions including Drayton Hall and Charleston County Parks & Recreation. She recently started working in a new role as a historic preservation specialist at the Warren Lasch Conservation Center. Her responsibilities include the examination, documentation, and treatment of collections managed by WLCC, including conservation objects and outdoor historic cultural heritage. Patricia participates in the creation and implementation of chemical and mechanical treatments for WLCC collections. She also produces, organizes, and maintains object treatment reports, as well as writing grants and technical publications for the conservation center. She has experience with compiling historic structure and cultural landscape reports, documenting historic buildings and cemeteries, and conserving cast and wrought iron artifacts. In her free time, she enjoys visiting heritage sites and documenting the Lowcountry through the lens of her camera.
David Ray

The Stono Rebellion, the Angel Oak and Beyond: Preserving Historic Sites and Their Stories

David Ray is Lowcountry Land Trust’s Chief Conservation Officer, leading a team that protects land throughout South Carolina’s coastal plain using traditional and innovative tools and funding. His team at LLT also stewards more than 500 conservation interests, and partners with communities to identify and preserve places with important natural resource, recreational, and cultural values. David’s conservation career began in 2002 after six years of law practice. Working for both regional and national organizations, he has played a significant role in over forty-five conservation projects on more than 40,000 acres.

Sharon E. Richardson

Acknowledging the Past, Present and Future of the Lowcountry’s Watery Landscape: River Corridors as Underground Railroads and as Drivers for Tourism and Resiliency

Sharon E, Richardson, MPA, mother of 3 daughters born in SC, combines a heart centered approach to executive leadership with her cognitive, collaborative and intuitive healing gifts to embody a resilient mindset. Her hope is to promote a greater appreciation for the river corridors, as a living system. Sharon promotes a collective pride of cultural heritage as a conscious act of understanding the good, bad and ugly of our shared relationships with the natural landscapes, especially the Lowcountry Rivers. Mission driven by truth and transparency, she identifies as a Cultural Conservation Strategist, Author, Speaker, Educator, Nature Based Solution Advocate, Impact Investment Advisor, Community Capacity Thought Leader. With 30 years of case studies, funding innovative solutions and driving landowner/community engagement to permanently protect and/or restore over 35,000 acres of culturally complex and ecologically rich lands, including hundreds of miles of stream and river corridors. Speaker at the ASLA Landscape Architecture National Convention: “Heavy Lifting, How Conservation Lands Can Embed Climate Resiliency at the Regional Scale”. She collaborates with State and Local leadership and community groups, to identify and green Infrastructure opportunities to drive more inclusive professional development opportunities. From a spiritual perspective, she holds a deep understanding of systemic and generational trauma of the many under-resourced and disadvantaged descendant communities, often pushed to living in the margins of historic floodplains. Professionally, the landscapes she works in have deep histories often related to pre-Revolutionary Colonization Imperial Strategy. The Ashley, Combahee, Ashepoo, Savannah, Edisto and other rivers weave those stories together. Her experience in Beaufort as the Long Range Planner in 1995, afforded her the opportunity to drive an inclusive community engagement process for SC’s first comprehensive plan including being active in the Penn Center Sea Island Initiative with Sea Island elders. She successfully implemented the State’s first River Overlay Buffer Ordinance, protecting the expansive marshes and creeks of the St. Helena Sound, to benefit the Gullah Geechee heritage and connection to healthy waterways. Co-authored: Brabec, Elizabeth and Richardson, Sharon, “A Clash of Cultures The Landscape of the Sea Island Gullah” (2007). Landscape Journal. 48. https://scholarworks.umass.edu/larp_faculty_pubs/48. Authored Chapter 12, in Protecting the Land: Conservation Easements Past, Present, and Future, Julie Ann Gustanski and Roderick H. Squires, editors, Island Press, 2000. A long time advocate for environmental and social equity and gender justice, she focuses on landowners and communities in high priority river watersheds and floodplain communities, to understand and remove barriers to investment in green infrastructure and incentivized solutions that benefit the greater public good Moving “Resiliency Beyond the Rhetoric” and into action and empowerment. The SC legacy of her daughter’s births bind her maternal tenacity with her professional passion: protecting the river corridors and the stories of the people who have lived because of the rivers, from the indigenous, to the formerly enslaved, to present day communities. All to build healthy bridges for cultural pride and heritage with improved equity and justice of future generations.

www.landsmatter.org
T. Carlis Roberts  
**Stono: An Audio-ritual**

T. Carlis Roberts is an artist and scholar who engages sound as a tool for transformation and liberation. His professional work has straddled theater, film, television, dance, performance art, and music. As a composer and sound designer, T has worked around the U.S. at theaters including Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, About Face Theatre, San Jose Repertory Theater, California Shakespeare Theatre, and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. As a songwriter and performer, T appeared on the Grammy-nominated album The Love by Alphabet Rockers, wrote original music for the Starz series Vida, and toured the country in A Queer Story of the Boy Band, a theatrical concert he co-created with The Singing Bois. T is co-founder of the Spiritual Technologies Project, a research and performance consortium that explores the metaphysical dimensions of African diasporic music, and a former Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology at UC Berkeley.

Anthony L. Sánchez Cruz  
**Freedom on Their Own Terms: Understanding and Reassessing Enslavement Insurrections on the Island of Puerto Rico**

Anthony L. Sánchez Cruz obtained a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Composition, concentrating on Musicology and Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the University of Georgia. Sánchez Cruz has been a member of the American Musicological Society, Phi Kappa Phi, and Pi Kappa Lambda. As an independent researcher, Dr. Sánchez has presented lectures in the United States and Puerto Rico related to musicology, transculturation, and music culture preservation. Publications, articles, and lectures by Dr. Sanchez include: *Musical Innovations from Three Different Eras: A Collection of Essays* (2012); *The Jibaro and the Gaucho United in Music and Song* (El jíbaro y el gaacho unidos en música y canción (Spanish version, 2018; English version, 2019); “Aspects of Romanticism in the Puerto Rican Danza”; “United States and Latin American Negotiations of Racial Identity in Literature, Poetry, and Music”; “Your Voice is My Sound: Audio Recording Technology, Identity and Re-Creating the Gullah/Geechee Diaspora” (2020). His latest book is entitled *From Ring Shout to Bomba: Ethnographic Perceptions and Approaches to Music and Religion in the Gullah/Geechee and Afro-Latin Diasporas* (2022). Dr. Sánchez Cruz currently lives in Savannah, Georgia.

Laura Sandy  
**Reclaiming, Co-producing, and Sharing the Histories and Heritage of Enslavement and Resistance in the Atlantic World**

Dr Laura Sandy Associate Professor at the University of Liverpool (UK). She is a historian of slavery, North America and the Atlantic World and is, also, currently the University of Liverpool Co-director of the Centre for the Study of International Slavery (CSIS), in collaboration with the International Slavery Museum, Liverpool (ISM). Laura teaches undergraduate modules on colonial America, American slavery and Civil Rights and, also, postgraduate modules on comparative slaveries. She joined the University of Liverpool in October 2015 having previously held full-time posts at Oxford Brookes University (UK) and Keele University (UK). Laura’s PhD and first Post-Doctoral award were funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council and supported research on American slavery. This work led to the publication of works which review the lives of overseers (free and enslaved) and their wives on colonial slave plantations in Virginia and South Carolina. Her first book is entitled *The Overseers of Early American Slavery: Supervisors, Enslaved Labourers, and the Plantation Enterprise*. She is also the editor of two collections of essays, “The Civil War and Slavery Reconsidered: Negotiating the Peripheries” and “Women and Slavery: Resistance, Violence, and Constraint in the American South” a special edition for the journal of *American Nineteenth Century History*. Laura’s work has involved archival research in every southern state looking at slavery, plantation management, resistance, free people of colour, voluntary enslavement, the theft of enslaved people, and the laws of slavery. Her most recent work investigates the illegal trafficking of the enslaved in North America in the 18th and 19th centuries. Laura has advised on museum exhibitions and given talks on her research to historical societies, libraries, museums, and schools in the UK, Europe, and the US.
Blake C. Scott
**Acknowledging the Past, Present and Future of the Lowcountry’s Watery Landscape: River Corridors as Underground Railroads and as Drivers for Tourism and Resiliency**

Blake C. Scott is Assistant Professor of International Studies at the College of Charleston, interested in the diverse cultures and ecologies that make up the Caribbean and US South. He teaches introductory and advanced courses in the International Studies Program at the College of Charleston, examining issues of cultural and economic globalization, travel and migration, environmental change, and inter-American relations. He has also written about these topics for academic and popular publications, including: the journal of Environmental History, the Journal of Tourism History, The Caribbean Writer, the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History, and The Huffington Post, among others. In support of his research, he has received fellowships from the Fulbright Program, the Smithsonian Institution, and the University of Texas at Austin.

Samantha Siegel
**The Stono Rebellion, the Angel Oak and Beyond: Preserving Historic Sites and Their Stories**

Samantha Siegel grew up between two homes: one in Rockville, Maryland and one on a tiny island in the Bahamas called Harbour Island. She currently lives in Charleston, South Carolina—a perfect blend of the suburbs of DC and the tiny island in the Bahamas that she grew up on.

Samantha became an activist when an historic Angel Oak became threatened by a large development. She founded the organization “Save the Angel Oak” to protect the beloved tree on Johns Island, through the preservation of surrounding forests and wetlands. Founded in 2008, they successfully built a grassroots campaign that culminated in protecting the land forever. Samantha also worked for the Sierra Club as a Conservation and Development Coordinator in South Carolina and for National Sierra Club as a Clean Energy Campaign Organizer. She currently works for Oceana as the Senior Southeast Field Representative and the Lowcountry Land Trust as the Angel Oak project manager.

Victoria A. Smalls
**Introduction to the Stono Rebellion**

Victoria A. Smalls is Executive Director of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor. She is a Gullah Geechee native of St. Helena Island in Beaufort County, South Carolina. She specializes in Gullah Geechee history and culture, as preservationist, historian, educator, artist, and arts advocate. She proudly served the National Park Service as a National Park Ranger with Reconstruction Era National Historical Park, served at Penn School National Historic Landmark District – Penn Center as Director of the History, Art and Culture Program, Director of the York W. Bailey Museum, and Assistant to the Executive Director, served as Program Manager for the International African American Museum in Charleston, SC, served as an educator for Beaufort County School District, and served as a Federal Commissioner on the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission. Ms. Smalls is a Leo Twiggs Arts Diversity Leadership Scholar, Riley Fellow in Diversity Leadership with The Riley Institute at Furman University, and is currently, a State Commissioner for the SC African American Heritage Commission. She attended South Carolina State University, Technical College of the Lowcountry, and University of South Carolina-Beaufort. Ms. Smalls is the newly appointed Executive Director of the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor National Heritage Area. In this role, she helps to recognize, sustain, and celebrate the important contributions made to American culture and history by the Gullah Geechee; to assist federal, state, and local governments and public and private entities in South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida in interpreting the story of the Gullah Geechee and preserving the culture for the benefit and education of the public.
Lori Stahlgren
Conjuring Resistance: Activist Archaeology and Evidence of Soul Value
Lori received her B.A. in Photojournalism from Western Kentucky University in 1990, a Law Degree from the University of Louisville in 1993, and a M.A. in Anthropology from Northern Arizona University in 1999. She specializes in historical archaeology and is particularly interested in the archaeology of plantations and slavery and public archaeology. She has previously worked at the Kentucky Heritage Council as the Archaeology Review Coordinator for Section 106 projects in the state of Kentucky. She is also interested in historic preservation issues and serves on the Louisville Metro Landmarks Commission. Lori has participated in excavations at Farmington and Locust Grove and she is an integral part of the public archaeology program at Riverside, the Farnsley-Moremen Landing. She has recently worked with Oxmoor Farm Foundation to secure funding for excavations around their extant slave cabins.

LaTisha Vaughn
Education as a Form of Resistance
LaTisha Vaughn is an education revolutionary, who has exhibited innovation at the classroom level, as a principal and at a District-level over her twenty-five-year career. Known for her ability to develop education leaders, LaTisha has coached and strengthened educational systems in the Midwest, Southwest and the East Coast through LaTisha Nicole Consulting (Formerly Vaughn-Brandon Consulting). Vaughn is the co-founder of E3: Educate, Empower, Elevate LLC, an organization that focuses on equitable outcomes for black and brown children and families in the region through increasing the diversity of teachers and leaders in the education and non-profit space, and authentically engaging and elevating the voices of parents and children.

Vaughn formerly served as the Chief Operating Officer for the Tri-County Cradle Collaborative, a backbone Cradle to Career organization, where she oversaw strategy and primary leadership to ensure equity and authentic engagement in supporting ambitious goals for all of the children in the Tri-county region (Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties) of South Carolina.

Vaughn’s prior role was a unique opportunity in which she served in two positions simultaneously as Director of Education Initiatives with Charleston Promise Neighborhood (CPN) and as the Assistant Associate Superintendent with Charleston County School District. As a public-private, shared staff position, Vaughn utilized her experience in education to align goals and synthesize efforts to maximize efficiency and impact between the Harlem Children’s Zone-modeled initiative (CPN) and the Charleston County School District, the largest of four districts in the state of SC.

Passionate about serving her community, LaTisha has also served on several non-profit boards, including her current service on the board of directors for Teach for America, South Carolina. She was also named as the 2018 Education honoree for the YWCA’s Women Bring Award, which recognizes women leaders breaking industry barriers across South Carolina.

LaTisha received her first bachelor’s degree in Accounting from the University of Missouri. After working for about six months in the field, she realized she needed to heed her calling to work in education and that her life’s work would be to ensure all children have equal access to world class education so they will be able to compete in a global society. She immediately returned to school to obtain a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Park College (now Park University), and Master of Educational Leadership from Georgia State University.

Vaughn resides in the North Charleston, South Carolina with her two vivacious daughters. She enjoys traveling to exotic locales, spending time at the beach, and a great book.
Donald West
**Denmark Vesey: Slave Resistance during the Antebellum period and his legacy**

Donald West is a full-time instructor in the Department of History, Humanities, and Languages at Trident Technical College. He teaches both series of the U.S. history and the African American history courses. He also teaches a survey history course on Africa. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, West is also a coordinator in his department.

West is a travel enthusiast, and he has used his love of history to facilitate learning through educational trips and tours in Charleston, South Carolina, the Southeast, and Washington D.C. He has also traveled to West Africa, where he has visited important historic sites including places connected to the Atlantic Slave Trade. West has also lectured and presented on aspects of African Americans in times of war. His articles have appeared in state and local as well as national anthologies and journals.

Gayle Jessup White
**Reclaiming, Co-producing, and Sharing the Histories and Heritage of Enslavement and Resistance in the Atlantic World**

Gayle Jessup White is the first public relations and community engagement officer at the Thomas Jefferson Foundation, the nonprofit that owns and operates Monticello. She is the author of the book, *Reclamation: Sally Hemings, Thomas Jefferson, and a Descendant’s Search for Her Family’s Lasting Legacy*. A former award-winning television reporter and anchor, Gayle started her career at the New York Times. She has written and spoken extensively about her work at Monticello, the legacies of slavery, and the means to healing a fractured nation.

Gayle serves on Virginia’s Citizens Advisory Council on Furnishing and Interpreting the Executive Mansion, where she is founding chair of the Descendant Committee. She is also a member of the Council of Historic Richmond, and the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society. She also serves on the Poplar Forest African American Advisory Group. She is currently working on a book about her mother’s family.

John “J.P.” Wilson
**South Carolina’s Black Mariners: The Intersection of Black Codes & Maritime Law, 1670-1849**

J.P. Wilson is a Master’s of Arts in History Candidate in College of Charleston’s and The Citadel’s joint graduate program. He is a scholar of Colonial and Revolutionary maritime history with special focuses on piracy, privateering, smuggling, and seaborne crime. His current project centers on Bermuda during the American Revolution and seeks to link the island’s decision to remain loyalist to its long privateering tradition.

J.P. is from Fort Mill, South Carolina. He attended the University of South Carolina, graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor’s of Arts in History in May of 2021. He currently works as a Graduate Assistant for the Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World program at College of Charleston, managing the program’s online presence, assisting with event planning, logistics, and management, and contributing to the program’s digital and physical projects.
Peter Wood
Introduction to the Stono Rebellion

Peter H. Wood, born in St. Louis, earned his PhD at Harvard and taught early American history at Duke University until his retirement in 2008. He is the author of *Black Majority* (Knopf, 1974), a pioneering book on slavery in colonial South Carolina, and *Strange New Land: Africans in Colonial America* (Oxford, 2003). Both volumes will appear in new editions next year. Wood has also published three books on the Black images of the American artist, Winslow Homer, and he has co-authored a popular US History text, *Created Equal*. A longtime supporter of the Slave Dwelling Project, Dr. Wood now lives in Longmont, CO, with his wife, historian Elizabeth Fenn.

Martha A. Zierden
The Stono Rebellion and James Stobo’s Plantation at Willtown

Martha Zierden is Curator of Historical Archaeology at The Charleston Museum, a position she has held since 1981. She graduated from Florida State University with a B.A. and an M.A. in Anthropology. She has conducted archaeological research and excavated numerous sites in Charleston and the surrounding lowcountry. This work has allowed her to explore the crevices and cracks, basements and backyards of many of Charleston’s most historic properties.

She has published book chapters, and articles in the journals *Historical Archaeology*, *Southeastern Archaeology*, and *South Carolina Antiquities*. Three decades of collaboration with zooarchaeologist Elizabeth Reitz of the University of Georgia led to the 2016 book, *Charleston: An Archaeology of Life in a Coastal Community* (University Press of Florida) that received the 2018 James Deetz Book award from the Society for Historical Archaeology. She received the 2022 J.C. Harrington medal from the Society for Historical Archaeology. She enjoys collaborating with colleagues at The Charleston Museum and other Charleston institutions to include archaeological materials in new research, exhibitions and programs.

Many thanks to the 1772 Foundation for their major gift which made this conference possible.

THE 1772 FOUNDATION
Before you leave South Carolina, touch the beauty of Beaufort

Stay on Highway 17 South and stop for a moment of reflection at the **Harriet Tubman Bridge**. Continue into Beaufort and pay homage to our State’s great legislator, **Robert Smalls**. Visit his memorial located at 901 Craven Street.

**Penn Center**  
[www.penncenter.org](http://www.penncenter.org) (843) 838-2474  
16 Penn Center Circle, West St. Helena Island, SC 29920

Penn Center on St. Helena Island is a must see…. Historically rich and significant, the Penn Center was the first school in the south for formerly enslaved West Africans. This National Historic Landmark District comprises two of the four sites in the Reconstruction Era National Park. Take the tour at the York W. Bailey Museum and spend some time with Sister Marie, she’s the best! Museum hours: Mon-Sat 10:00am-4:00 pm

**Cross the bridge, go onto the island of Hilton Head and step back in time to another example of resistance...**

**Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park**  
[www.exploremitchelville.org](http://www.exploremitchelville.org) (843) 255-7301  
40 Harriet Tubman Way, Hilton Head Island, SC 29926

The first town of self-governing formerly enslaved people in the United States, continues to reveal a deep and treasured history. What began as a military mission grew into a community, both defined and accentuated by the Gullah culture which undergirds the Southeast coastline from North Carolina to Florida. The website offers an awesome reflection of the Mitchelville story, which is far from being over. Private and group tours, special exhibitions as well as events and programs are ongoing. One visit will open the door to a long relationship with this very special place. The park is open daily from 6 am to 9 pm. For tour information, call or book online.

**The Gullah Museum of Hilton Head**  
[www.gullahmuseumhhi.org](http://www.gullahmuseumhhi.org) (843) 681-3254  
12 Georgiana Drive, Hilton Head, SC 29926

Spend some time getting to know your Gullah family at the Gullah Museum. Appointments are required; use the contact form online and request a private tour. Dedicated to maintaining Gullah customs traditions, language, stories, songs and structures, you'll feel at home in this unique space.
Changing the narrative, one slave dwelling at a time.

Founded in 2010, the Slave Dwelling Project envisions a future in which the hearts and minds of Americans acknowledge a more truthful and inclusive narrative of the history of the nation that honors the contributions of all our people, is embedded and preserved in the buildings and artifacts of people of African heritage, and inspires all Americans to acknowledge their Ancestors.

www.slavedwellingproject.org
Meet the People that Make the Slave Dwelling Project Possible

**Joseph McGill Jr.** is history and culture coordinator at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens, and the founder and director of The Slave Dwelling Project. Previously, as a field officer for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Mr. McGill worked to revitalize the Sweet Auburn commercial district in Atlanta, Georgia, and to develop a management plan for the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area. He is a former executive director of the African American Museum in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and a former director of history and culture at Penn Center, St. Helena Island, South Carolina. He has also served as a National Park Service park ranger at Fort Sumter National Monument in Charleston.

**Angela Dickey**, a retired United States diplomat, is a peace-builder and advocate for racial and environmental justice. In addition to her work for the Slave Dwelling Project, she serves on the board of DACOR, an organization of foreign affairs professionals, and its sister organization, the DACOR Bacon House Foundation, which operates a historic house museum in Washington, DC. Ms. Dickey is also an active member of Coming to the Table and the NAACP.

**Nicole A. Moore** is a public historian and consultant with over 10 years of museum experience, including interpreting the lives of the enslaved. Nicole has conducted training sessions at historic sites across the Southeast on best practices for interpreting enslavement, and the impact of race and identity on visitor learning. She has also consulted with historic sites on the development and implementation of interpretive plans. As the Director of Education at the National Center for Civil Rights in Atlanta, she is leading a multi-year expansion of educational content developed by and for The Center. Engaging audiences that range from K-12, to Fortune 500 C-suite executives and professional sports teams, Nicole urges groups to seek ways to protect the civil and human rights of all. Nicole is the board secretary for the Slave Dwelling Project, a past board member and active member of the National Council on Public History and active member of the American Association for State and Local History. Her publications include chapters for *Interpreting Slavery* and *Interpreting the Civil War for Museums and Historic Sites*, as well as *Radical Roots: Public History and a Tradition of Social Justice Activism*. A proud Charlotte 49er, Nicole received her BA in Psychology, and MA in History with a concentration in Public History from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

**Frederick Murphy** is the founder of History Before Us, LLC, a project centered on capturing, preserving, and advocating for influential history. He was raised in Clarksville, Tennessee and is a graduate of Tennessee State University. His first film, the award-winning *The American South as We Know It*, explores the lives of survivors of Jim Crow—the courageous individuals who didn’t make the headlines. His second documentary, *The Other Side of the Coin: Race, Generations & Reconciliation*, was released on September 2, 2020. A collection of experiences and thoughts addressing the complexities of race in America, the film asks, “How do we reconcile for the sake of future generations and humanity?” Murphy’s third installment *Sweet Home Alabama: A Chief and his Protégé*, will be released winter of 2021. Murphy has also directed educational films in collaboration with the N.C. Rice Festival, Black Indians NC, Saving Slave Houses, A1DAY1 Productions, Brunswick Arts Council and more. Frederick is a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor who finds joy in helping people achieve and retain an optimum level of functioning by focusing on their holistic health. He has a master’s degree in Transformative Leadership and serves on the board of the James K. Polk historic site in Pineville, North Carolina, the Slave Dwelling Project in Charleston, South Carolina and the Tennessee African American History Research Group located in Clarksville, Tennessee.

**Leslie Stainton** has taught at the University of Michigan Residential College and is the author of numerous essays and articles as well as two nonfiction books, *Lorca: A Dream of Life* and *Staging Ground: An American Theater and Its Ghosts*. She is currently at work on a book about her slaveholding ancestors, the Scarletts of Georgia. Ms. Stainton is a past board member of Coming to the Table and a founding member of the Social Justice Ministry at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

**Tanya Timmons**, treasurer of the Slave Dwelling Project, has a love for history and believes strongly that if you don’t know your past, you can’t appreciate your future. In addition to her responsibilities with SDP, Tanya serves as PTSA treasurer for Ashley Ridge High School (Summerville, SC) and is a member of the Dorchester District 2 Communication Committee; she also works with the South Carolina AAU Football Organization. An active member of the Planner Community, Ms. Timmons serves as the South Carolina Chapter Vice President of Black Women Who Plan and Create. She is a past project manager for Advanced Technology International and has supported various Department of Defense programs, from program management activities to configuration, management and financial analysis and tracking. She is married with two children and a fur baby.

**Jon Williams** holds a BA in history from Wake Forest University, an MS in history ( Secondary Education) from North Carolina A&T State University, and a post-master’s certificate for school administration from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. A former high school social studies teacher, Mr. Williams is currently principal of McMichael High School in Mayodan, North Carolina. Previously he served as an assistant principal at Walkertown High School and William Ellis Middle School. He was named the McMichael High School Teacher of the Year for 2012-2013 and is a past recipient of the Marcellus Waddill Excellence in Teaching Award from Wake Forest University. On five different occasions, Mr. Williams has organized and facilitated Slave Dwelling Project programs and overnight stays for schools with which he is affiliated. He serves on the board of the Slave Dwelling Project so that the story of the people from the “small house” behind the “big house” can finally be told.
National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom

The National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program, through collaboration with local, state, and federal entities, as well as individuals and organizations, honors, preserves and promotes the history of resistance to enslavement through escape and flight, which continues to inspire people worldwide.

Learn more at www.nps.gov/ugrr