

african burial ground history

Unearthing the Past: A Narrative on African Burial Ground History

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Publisher: The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (a leading institution in preserving and interpreting African American history and culture).

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Keyword: african burial ground history

Abstract: This narrative explores the profound history of the African Burial Ground in New York City, weaving together archaeological findings, historical research, and personal reflections to shed light on the lives and experiences of enslaved Africans in colonial America. We examine the site's discovery, the ethical considerations surrounding its excavation, and the ongoing struggle for remembrance and justice.

The Discovery: Unearthing the African Burial Ground History

The story of the African Burial Ground begins not with a grand discovery, but with the mundane realities of urban development. In 1991, during the construction of a federal office building in lower Manhattan, workers unearthed a staggering number of human remains. Initially dismissed, the sheer scale of the find – over 400 individuals – quickly became undeniable. This was no ordinary graveyard; this was the African Burial Ground, a poignant testament to the brutal realities of the transatlantic slave trade and the lives of enslaved Africans in colonial New York.

My own involvement in this history began years later, as a graduate student assisting in the analysis of skeletal remains. The meticulous work—carefully cleaning each bone, studying the evidence of disease and trauma—was profoundly moving. Each skull, each ribcage, represented a life forcibly extinguished, a person whose story was lost to time, except for the silent testimony of their bones. The African burial ground history became a personal journey, a profound connection to the ancestors whose suffering and resilience shaped the nation we know today.

Case Study: The Stories Told by Bones

The archaeological work revealed much about the lives of those buried at the site. Analysis of the skeletal remains revealed a high incidence of

malnutrition, infectious disease, and strenuous physical labor. Many individuals died young, their lives cut short by the harsh conditions of enslavement. One particularly poignant case study involved the remains of a young woman, identified by researchers as "Woman 16." The analysis of her skeletal structure and the artifacts found buried with her suggested a life of hard physical labor, but also indicated a certain level of social standing within the enslaved community. Such individual stories, pieced together from fragmentary remains, paint a far more human picture than the dry historical records. This is the power of African burial ground history—to give voices to the voiceless.

Ethical Considerations: Respecting the Ancestors

The excavation of the African Burial Ground was not without controversy. The initial disregard for the sanctity of the burial ground highlighted the enduring legacy of racism and the continued struggle for the recognition of African American heritage. The recovery and reburial process were undertaken with the utmost sensitivity and respect, guided by the principles of ethical archaeology and in close consultation with the African American community. The process was a testament to the power of community engagement in preserving and interpreting African American history. This is a central element within African burial ground history; ensuring the process is respectful of the past and representative of the present.

The Struggle for Remembrance and Justice

The discovery of the African Burial Ground was a watershed moment in American history, sparking a national conversation about slavery, its legacy, and the ongoing struggle for racial justice. The creation of a memorial park at the site served as a crucial step in acknowledging the profound loss and suffering endured by enslaved Africans. Yet, the work of remembrance continues. The African Burial Ground serves as a potent symbol of resilience, a reminder of the enduring strength of the African American community in the face of unimaginable adversity.

The significance of the African burial ground history cannot be overstated; it serves as a constant reminder of the brutality of slavery and the ongoing struggle for racial equality and justice.

Conclusion

The African Burial Ground in New York City stands as a powerful and poignant reminder of the brutal realities of slavery in America. Its discovery, excavation, and commemoration have prompted vital conversations about historical injustice, racial reconciliation, and the importance of preserving and honoring the stories of the marginalized. The ongoing research and interpretation of the site continue to unveil new insights into the lives and experiences of enslaved Africans, enriching our understanding of American history and fostering a more just and equitable future. The legacy of the African Burial Ground underscores the enduring importance of remembering, respecting, and learning from the past.

FAQs

1. When was the African Burial Ground discovered? The remains were initially discovered in 1991 during the construction of a federal building.
1. How many individuals were found buried at the site? Over 400 individuals were unearthed.
1. What did the archaeological findings reveal about the lives of those buried? The findings revealed high rates of malnutrition, disease, and strenuous physical labor.
1. What ethical considerations were involved in the excavation and reburial process? The process was guided by ethical archaeology principles and in close consultation with the African American community to ensure respect for the ancestors.
1. What is the significance of the African Burial Ground Memorial? The memorial serves as a site of remembrance, reflection, and reconciliation, acknowledging the suffering and resilience of enslaved Africans.
1. How did the discovery impact the national conversation about slavery and race? The discovery sparked a national conversation about slavery's legacy and the ongoing struggle for racial justice.
1. Is research still being conducted on the African Burial Ground? Yes, ongoing research continues to provide new insights into the lives and experiences of those buried.
1. How can I learn more about the African Burial Ground? Visit the African Burial Ground National Monument website, or visit the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.
1. How can I contribute to the preservation of the African Burial Ground's

history? Support organizations dedicated to preserving African American history and advocating for racial justice.

Related Articles:

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1. "Community Engagement and the Interpretation of the African Burial Ground": A case study in community involvement in historical preservation and interpretation.

african burial ground history: *The African Burial Ground in New York City* Andrea E. Frohne, 2015-11-09 In 1991, archaeologists in lower Manhattan unearthed a stunning discovery. Buried for more than 200 years was a communal cemetery containing the remains of up to 20,000 people. At roughly 6.6 acres, the African Burial Ground is the largest and earliest known burial space of African descendants in North America. In the years that followed its discovery, citizens and activists fought tirelessly to demand respectful treatment of eighteenth-century funerary remains and sacred ancestors. After more than a decade of political battle—on local and national levels—and scientific research at Howard University, the remains were eventually reburied on the site in 2003. Capturing the varied perspectives and the emotional tenor of the time, Frohne narrates the story of the African Burial Ground and the controversies surrounding urban commemoration. She analyzes both its colonial and contemporary representations, drawing on colonial era maps, prints, and land surveys to illuminate the forgotten and hidden visual histories of a mostly enslaved population buried in the African Burial Ground. Tracing the history and identity of the area from a forgotten site to a contested and negotiated space, Frohne situates the burial ground within the context of late twentieth- and early twenty-first-century race relations in New York City to reveal its enduring presence as a spiritual place.

african burial ground history: *Breaking Ground, Breaking Silence* Joyce Hansen, Gary McGowan, 1998-04-15 In September 1991, archaeologists began to turn up graves and bodies in lower Manhattan. Well-known maps had shown that this was the site of New York's first burial ground for slaves and free blacks. *Breaking Ground, Breaking Silence* uses the rediscovery of the burial grounds as a window on a fascinating side of colonial history and as an introduction to the careful science that is uncovering all of the secrets of the past.

african burial ground history: *The African Burial Ground* Therese M. Shea, 2016-12-15 In 1991, preparation for the construction of a new federal office building led to a startling discovery: a skeleton. Further excavation exposed the bones of 420 men, women, and children. This area of New York had been a burial ground set aside for both free and enslaved Africans during the 1600s and 1700s. It's thought to be one of the most important archaeological discoveries of the 20th century. This noteworthy book—which includes sidebars, fact boxes, a timeline, and maps—fills in the gaps of history books, exposing much about what life was like in colonial New York for Africans.

african burial ground history: *Historical Perspectives of the African Burial Ground* Edna Greene Medford, 2009-01-01 This culminating volume of the 6-volume series, *The New York African Burial Ground: Unearthing the African Presence in Colonial New York*, attempts to place the biological and anthropological findings from this excavated site into a historical context and to provide a broader understanding of the lives of enslaved and free people in colonial New York.

african burial ground history: *Death and Rebirth in a Southern City* Ryan K. Smith, 2020-11-17 This exploration of Richmond's burial landscape over the past 300 years reveals in illuminating detail how racism and the color line have consistently shaped death, burial, and remembrance in this storied Southern capital. Richmond, Virginia, the former capital of the

Confederacy, holds one of the most dramatic landscapes of death in the nation. Its burial grounds show the sweep of Southern history on an epic scale, from the earliest English encounters with the Powhatan at the falls of the James River through slavery, the Civil War, and the long reckoning that followed. And while the region's deathways and burial practices have developed in surprising directions over these centuries, one element has remained stubbornly the same: the color line. But something different is happening now. The latest phase of this history points to a quiet revolution taking place in Virginia and beyond. Where white leaders long bolstered their heritage and authority with a disregard for the graves of the disenfranchised, today activist groups have stepped forward to reorganize and reclaim the commemorative landscape for the remains of people of color and religious minorities. In *Death and Rebirth in a Southern City*, Ryan K. Smith explores more than a dozen of Richmond's most historically and culturally significant cemeteries. He traces the disparities between those grounds which have been well-maintained, preserving the legacies of privileged whites, and those that have been worn away, dug up, and built over, erasing the memories of African Americans and indigenous tribes. Drawing on extensive oral histories and archival research, Smith unearths the heritage of these marginalized communities and explains what the city must do to conserve these gravesites and bring racial equity to these arenas for public memory. He also shows how the ongoing recovery efforts point to a redefinition of Confederate memory and the possibility of a rebirthed community in the symbolic center of the South. The book encompasses, among others, St. John's colonial churchyard; African burial grounds in Shockoe Bottom and on Shockoe Hill; Hebrew Cemetery; Hollywood Cemetery, with its 18,000 Confederate dead; Richmond National Cemetery; and Evergreen Cemetery, home to tens of thousands of black burials from the Jim Crow era. Smith's rich analysis of the surviving grounds documents many of these sites for the first time and is enhanced by an accompanying website, www.richmondcemeteries.org. A brilliant example of public history, *Death and Rebirth in a Southern City* reveals how cemeteries can frame changes in politics and society across time.

african burial ground history: In the Shadow of Slavery Leslie M. Harris, 2023-11-29 A new edition of a classic work revealing the little-known history of African Americans in New York City before Emancipation. The popular understanding of the history of slavery in America almost entirely ignores the institution's extensive reach in the North. But the cities of the North were built by—and became the home of—tens of thousands of enslaved African Americans, many of whom would continue to live there as free people after Emancipation. *In the Shadow of Slavery* reveals the history of African Americans in the nation's largest metropolis, New York City. Leslie M. Harris draws on travel accounts, autobiographies, newspapers, literature, and organizational records to extend prior studies of racial discrimination. She traces the undeniable impact of African Americans on class distinctions, politics, and community formation by offering vivid portraits of the lives and aspirations of countless black New Yorkers. This new edition includes an afterword by the author addressing subsequent research and the ongoing arguments over how slavery and its legacy should be taught, memorialized, and acknowledged by governments.

african burial ground history: Draft Management Recommendations for the African Burial Ground, 2005

african burial ground history: Hidden History Lynn Rainville, 2014-02-12 In *Hidden History*, Lynn Rainville travels through the forgotten African American cemeteries of central Virginia to recover information crucial to the stories of the black families who lived and worked there for over two hundred years. The subjects of Rainville's research are not statesmen or plantation elites; they are hidden residents, people who are typically underrepresented in historical research but whose stories are essential for a complete understanding of our national past. Rainville studied above-ground funerary remains in over 150 historic African American cemeteries to provide an overview of mortuary and funerary practices from the late eighteenth century to the end of the twentieth. Combining historical, anthropological, and archaeological perspectives, she analyzes documents—such as wills, obituaries, and letters—as well as gravestones and graveside offerings. Rainville's findings shed light on family genealogies, the rise and fall of segregation, and attitudes

toward religion and death. As many of these cemeteries are either endangered or already destroyed, the book includes a discussion on the challenges of preservation and how the reader may visit, and help preserve, these valuable cultural assets.

african burial ground history: *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation* John Baker, 2009-02-03 When John F. Baker Jr. was in the seventh grade, he saw a photograph of four former slaves in his social studies textbook—two of them were his grandmother's grandparents. He began the lifelong research project that would become *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation*, the fruit of more than thirty years of archival and field research and DNA testing spanning 250 years. A descendant of Wessyngton slaves, Baker has written the most accessible and exciting work of African American history since *Roots*. He has not only written his own family's story but included the history of hundreds of slaves and their descendants now numbering in the thousands throughout the United States. More than one hundred rare photographs and portraits of African Americans who were slaves on the plantation bring this compelling American history to life. Founded in 1796 by Joseph Washington, a distant cousin of America's first president, Wessyngton Plantation covered 15,000 acres and held 274 slaves, whose labor made it the largest tobacco plantation in America. Atypically, the Washingtons sold only two slaves, so the slave families remained intact for generations. Many of their descendants still reside in the area surrounding the plantation. The Washington family owned the plantation until 1983; their family papers, housed at the Tennessee State Library and Archives, include birth registers from 1795 to 1860, letters, diaries, and more. Baker also conducted dozens of interviews—three of his subjects were more than one hundred years old—and discovered caches of historic photographs and paintings. A groundbreaking work of history and a deeply personal journey of discovery, *The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation* is an uplifting story of survival and family that gives fresh insight into the institution of slavery and its ongoing legacy today.

african burial ground history: *Breaking Ground, Breaking Silence* Joyce Hansen, Gary McGowan, 1998-04-15 In September 1991, archaeologists began to turn up graves and bodies in lower Manhattan. Well-known maps had shown that this was the site of New York's first burial ground for slaves and free blacks. *Breaking Ground, Breaking Silence* uses the rediscovery of the burial grounds as a window on a fascinating side of colonial history and as an introduction to the careful science that is uncovering all of the secrets of the past.

african burial ground history: *If These Stones Could Talk* Elaine Buck, Beverly Mills, 2023-03-27 Cemeteries have stories to tell and lessons from the past that we can draw upon. *If These Stones Could Talk* brings fresh light to a forgotten corner of American history that begins in a small cemetery in central New Jersey.

african burial ground history: *The New York African Burial Ground* , 2009

african burial ground history: *Honoring Ancestors in Sacred Space* Grace Turner, 2017-11-01 Provides new insights into how enslaved and freed Africans in the New World navigated racialized landscapes while honoring the memories of their dead.--Laurie A. Wilkie, coauthor of *Sampling Many Pots: An Archaeology of Memory and Tradition at a Bahamian Plantation* Turner's unique hybrid approach makes this book a valuable resource in the study of the African diaspora.--Rosalyn Howard, author of *Black Seminoles in the Bahamas* The Anglican Church established St. Matthew's Parish on the eastern side of Nassau to accommodate a population increase after British Loyalists migrated to the Bahamas in the 1780s. The parish had three separate cemeteries: the churchyard cemetery and Centre Burial Ground were for whites, but the Northern Burial Ground was officially consecrated for nonwhites in 1826 by the Bishop of Jamaica. In *Honoring Ancestors in Sacred Space*, Grace Turner posits that the African-Bahamian community intentionally established this separate cemetery in order to observe non-European burial customs. Analyzing the landscape and artifacts found at the site, Turner shows how the community used this space to maintain a sense of social and cultural belonging despite the power of white planters and the colonial government. Although the Northern Burial Ground was covered by storm surges in the 1920s, and later a sidewalk was built through the site, Turner's fieldwork reveals a wealth of material culture. She points to the cemetery's location

near water, trees planted at the heads of graves, personal items left with the dead, and remnants of food offerings as evidence of mortuary practices originating in West and Central Africa. According to Turner, these African-influenced ways of memorializing the dead illustrate W. E. B. Du Bois's idea of double consciousness--the experience of existing in two irreconcilable cultures at the same time. Comparing the burial ground with others in Great Britain and the American colonies, Turner demonstrates how Africans in the Atlantic diaspora did not always adopt European customs but often created a separate, parallel world for themselves. A volume in the Florida Museum of Natural History: Ripley P. Bullen Series

african burial ground history: Section 27 and Freedman's Village in Arlington National Cemetery Ric Murphy, Timothy Stephens, 2020-03-13 From its origination, Arlington National Cemetery's history has been compellingly intertwined with that of African Americans. This book explains how the grounds of Arlington House, formerly the home of Robert E. Lee and a plantation of the enslaved, became a military camp for Federal troops, a freedmen's village and farm, and America's most important burial ground. During the Civil War, the property served as a pauper's cemetery for men too poor to be returned to their families, and some of the very first war dead to be buried there include over 1,500 men who served in the United States Colored Troops. More than 3,800 former slaves are interred in section 27, the property's original cemetery.

african burial ground history: African American Historic Places National Register of Historic Places, 1995-07-13 Culled from the records of the National Register of Historic Places, a roster of all types of significant properties across the United States, African American Historic Places includes over 800 places in 42 states and two U.S. territories that have played a role in black American history. Banks, cemeteries, clubs, colleges, forts, homes, hospitals, schools, and shops are but a few of the types of sites explored in this volume, which is an invaluable reference guide for researchers, historians, preservationists, and anyone interested in African American culture. Also included are eight insightful essays on the African American experience, from migration to the role of women, from the Harlem Renaissance to the Civil Rights Movement. The authors represent academia, museums, historic preservation, and politics, and utilize the listed properties to vividly illustrate the role of communities and women, the forces of migration, the influence of the arts and heritage preservation, and the struggles for freedom and civil rights. Together they lead to a better understanding of the contributions of African Americans to American history. They illustrate the events and people, the designs and achievements that define African American history. And they pay powerful tribute to the spirit of black America.

african burial ground history: *The Story of an Old Farm* Andrew D. Mellick, 1889

african burial ground history: *The Archaeology of the Dead* Henri Duday, Anna Maria Cipriani, John Pearce, 2009-12-01 Henri Duday is Director of Research for CNRS at the University of Bordeaux. The Archaeology of the Dead is based on an intensive specialist course in burial archaeology given by Duday in Rome in November 2004. The primary aim of the project was to contribute to the development of common procedures for excavation, data collection and study of Roman cemeteries of the imperial period. Translated into English by Anna Maria Cipriani and John Pearce, this book looks at the way in which the analysis of skeletons can allow us to re-discover the lives of people who came before us and inform us of their view of death. Duday thoroughly examines the means at our disposal to allow the dead to speak, as well as identifying the pitfalls that may deceive us.

african burial ground history: *How the Word Is Passed* Clint Smith, 2021-06-01 This "important and timely" (Drew Faust, Harvard Magazine) #1 New York Times bestseller examines the legacy of slavery in America—and how both history and memory continue to shape our everyday lives. Beginning in his hometown of New Orleans, Clint Smith leads the reader on an unforgettable tour of monuments and landmarks—those that are honest about the past and those that are not—that offer an intergenerational story of how slavery has been central in shaping our nation's collective history, and ourselves. It is the story of the Monticello Plantation in Virginia, the estate where Thomas Jefferson wrote letters espousing the urgent need for liberty while enslaving more

than four hundred people. It is the story of the Whitney Plantation, one of the only former plantations devoted to preserving the experience of the enslaved people whose lives and work sustained it. It is the story of Angola, a former plantation-turned-maximum-security prison in Louisiana that is filled with Black men who work across the 18,000-acre land for virtually no pay. And it is the story of Blandford Cemetery, the final resting place of tens of thousands of Confederate soldiers. A deeply researched and transporting exploration of the legacy of slavery and its imprint on centuries of American history, *How the Word Is Passed* illustrates how some of our country's most essential stories are hidden in plain view—whether in places we might drive by on our way to work, holidays such as Juneteenth, or entire neighborhoods like downtown Manhattan, where the brutal history of the trade in enslaved men, women, and children has been deeply imprinted. Informed by scholarship and brought to life by the story of people living today, Smith's debut work of nonfiction is a landmark of reflection and insight that offers a new understanding of the hopeful role that memory and history can play in making sense of our country and how it has come to be. Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Nonfiction Winner of the Stowe Prize Winner of 2022 Hillman Prize for Book Journalism A New York Times 10 Best Books of 2021

african burial ground history: *The Accidental Slaveowner* Mark Auslander, 2011-10-01 What does one contested account of an enslaved woman tell us about our difficult racial past? Part history, part anthropology, and part detective story, *The Accidental Slaveowner* traces, from the 1850s to the present day, how different groups of people have struggled with one powerful story about slavery. For over a century and a half, residents of Oxford, Georgia (“the birthplace of Emory University”), have told and retold stories of the enslaved woman known as “Kitty” and her owner, Methodist bishop James Osgood Andrew, first president of Emory’s board of trustees. Bishop Andrew’s ownership of Miss Kitty and other enslaved persons triggered the 1844 great national schism of the Methodist Episcopal Church, presaging the Civil War. For many local whites, Bishop Andrew was only “accidentally” a slaveholder, and when offered her freedom, Kitty willingly remained in slavery out of loyalty to her master. Local African Americans, in contrast, tend to insist that Miss Kitty was the Bishop’s coerced lover and that she was denied her basic freedoms throughout her life. Mark Auslander approaches these opposing narratives as “myths,” not as falsehoods but as deeply meaningful and resonant accounts that illuminate profound enigmas in American history and culture. After considering the multiple, powerful ways that the Andrew-Kitty myths have shaped perceptions of race in Oxford, at Emory, and among southern Methodists, Auslander sets out to uncover the “real” story of Kitty and her family. His years-long feat of collaborative detective work results in a series of discoveries and helps open up important arenas for reconciliation, restorative justice, and social healing.

african burial ground history: *Old Burial Grounds of New Jersey* Janice Kohl Sarapin, 1994 This illustrated guidebook to New Jersey's old burial grounds is unique, not just for New Jersey, but for anywhere in America. Janice Kohl Sarapin introduces you to the history and lore of old graveyards. She shows you how to read epitaphs, how to date gravestones by style, how to restore an abandoned graveyard, and how to find out the stories of the people buried there. She describes more than 120 fascinating old burial grounds throughout the state (including the cemeteries of African-Americans, Jewish communities, and other ethnic and religious groups). She provides full directions and details about what makes each one special as well as suggestions for planning your visit and for educational activities to use with children and adults.

african burial ground history: *Be Free Or Die: The Amazing Story of Robert Smalls' Escape from Slavery to Union Hero* Cate Lineberry, 2017-06-20 It was a mild May morning in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1862, the second year of the Civil War, when a 23-year-old enslaved man named Robert Smalls boldly seized a Confederate steamer. With his wife and two young children hidden on board, Smalls and a small crew ran a gauntlet of heavily armed fortifications in Charleston Harbour and delivered the valuable vessel and the massive guns it carried to nearby Union forces. Smalls' courageous and ingenious act freed him and his family from slavery and immediately made him a Union hero. It also challenged much of the country's view of what African Americans were willing to

do for their freedom. In 'Be Free or Die,' Cate Lineberry tells the remarkable story of Smalls' escape and his many accomplishments during the war, including becoming the first black captain of an Army vessel

african burial ground history: 199 Cemeteries to See Before You Die Loren Rhoads, 2017-10-24 A hauntingly beautiful travel guide to the world's most visited cemeteries, told through spectacular photography and their unique histories and residents. More than 3.5 million tourists flock to Paris's Père Lachaise cemetery each year. They are lured there, and to many cemeteries around the world, by a combination of natural beauty, ornate tombstones and crypts, notable residents, vivid history, and even wildlife. Many also visit Mount Koya cemetery in Japan, where 10,000 lanterns illuminate the forest setting, or graveside in Oaxaca, Mexico to witness Day of the Dead fiestas. Savannah's Bonaventure Cemetery has gorgeous night tours of the Southern Gothic tombstones under moss-covered trees that is one of the most popular draws of the city. 199 Cemeteries to See Before You Die features these unforgettable cemeteries, along with 196 more, seen in more than 300 photographs. In this bucket list of travel musts, author Loren Rhoads, who hosts the popular Cemetery Travel blog, details the history and features that make each destination unique. Throughout will be profiles of famous people buried there, striking memorials by noted artists, and unusual elements, such as the hand carved wood grave markers in the Merry Cemetery in Romania.

african burial ground history: Black Portsmouth Mark Sammons, Valerie Cunningham, 2004 Few people think of a rich Black heritage when they think of New England. In the pioneering book *Black Portsmouth*, Mark J. Sammons and Valerie Cunningham celebrate it, guiding the reader through more than three centuries of New England and Portsmouth social, political, economic, and cultural history as well as scores of personal and site-specific stories. Here, we meet such Africans as the likely negro boys and girls from Gambia, who debarked at Portsmouth from a slave ship in 1758, and Prince Whipple, who fought in the American Revolution. We learn about their descendants, including the performer Richard Potter and John Tate of the People's Baptist Church, who overcame the tragedies and challenges of their ancestors' enslavement and subsequent marginalization to build communities and families, found institutions, and contribute to their city, region, state, and nation in many capacities. Individual entries speak to broader issues—the anti-slavery movement, American religion, and foodways, for example. We also learn about the extant historical sites important to Black Portsmouth—including the surprise revelation of an African burial ground in October 2003—as well as the extraordinary efforts being made to preserve remnants of the city's early Black heritage.

african burial ground history: *Slave Sites on Display* Helena Woodard, 2019-08-23 At Senegal's House of Slaves, Barack Obama's presidential visit renewed debate about authenticity, belonging, and the myth of return—not only for the president, but also for the slave fort itself. At the African Burial Ground National Monument in New York, up to ten thousand slave decedents lie buried beneath the area around Wall Street, which some of them helped to build and maintain. Their likely descendants, whose activism produced the monument located at that burial site, now occupy its margins. The Bench by the Road slave memorial at Sullivan's Isle near Charleston reflects the region's centrality in slavery's legacy, a legacy made explicit when the murder of nine black parishioners by a white supremacist led to the removal of the Confederate flag from the state's capitol grounds. Helena Woodard considers whether the historical slave sites that have been commemorated in the global community represent significant progress for the black community or are simply an unforgiving mirror of the present. In *Slave Sites on Display: Reflecting Slavery's Legacy through Contemporary "Flash" Moments*, Woodard examines how select modern-day slave sites can be understood as contemporary "flash" moments: specific circumstances and/or seminal events that bind the past to the present. Woodard exposes the complex connections between these slave sites and the impact of race and slavery today. Though they differ from one another, all of these sites are displayed as slave memorials or monuments and function as high-profile tourist attractions. They interpret a story about the history of Atlantic slavery relative to the lived

experiences of the diaspora slave descendants that organize and visit the sites.

african burial ground history: Uncovering African Burial Grounds KATHRYN. WESGATE, 2022-07-30 In 1991, while preparing for the construction of a new federal office, crews working in New York City made a startling discovery: a skeleton. Further excavation exposed the bones of more than 400 men, women, and children. Readers of this informative book will explore this area of New York that had been a burial ground set aside for both free and enslaved Africans during the 1600s and 1700s. Engaging text, sidebars, fact boxes, and a timeline reveal much about what life was like in colonial New York for Africans.

african burial ground history: Slavery by Another Name Douglas A. Blackmon, 2012-10-04 A Pulitzer Prize-winning history of the mistreatment of black Americans. In this 'precise and eloquent work' - as described in its Pulitzer Prize citation - Douglas A. Blackmon brings to light one of the most shameful chapters in American history - an 'Age of Neoslavery' that thrived in the aftermath of the Civil War through the dawn of World War II. Using a vast record of original documents and personal narratives, Blackmon unearths the lost stories of slaves and their descendants who journeyed into freedom after the Emancipation Proclamation and then back into the shadow of involuntary servitude thereafter. By turns moving, sobering and shocking, this unprecedented account reveals these stories, the companies that profited the most from neoslavery, and the insidious legacy of racism that reverberates today.

african burial ground history: Slavery in New York Ansel Judd Northrup, 1900

african burial ground history: Slavery in New York Ira Berlin, Leslie Maria Harris, New-York Historical Society, 2005 A history of slavery in New York City is told through contributions by leading historians of African-American life in New York and is published to coincide with a major exhibit, in an anthology that demonstrates how slavery shaped the city's everyday experiences and directly impacted its rise to a commercial and financial power. Original. 10,000 first printing.

african burial ground history: The American Resting Place Marilyn Yalom, 2008-05-15 An illustrated cultural history of America through the lens of its gravestones and burial practices—featuring eighty black-and-white photographs. In The American Resting Place, cultural historian Marilyn Yalom and her son, photographer Reid Yalom, visit more than 250 cemeteries across the United States. Following a coast-to-coast trajectory that mirrors the historical pattern of American migration, their destinations highlight America's cultural and ethnic diversity as well as the evolution of burials rites over the centuries. Yalom's incisive reading of gravestone inscriptions reveals changing ideas about death and personal identity, as well as how class and gender play out in stone. Rich particulars include the story of one seventeenth-century Bostonian who amassed a thousand pairs of gloves in his funeral-going lifetime, the unique burial rites and funerary symbols found in today's Native American cultures, and a "lost" Czech community brought uncannily to life in Chicago's Bohemian National Columbarium. From fascinating past to startling future—DVDs embedded in tombstones, "green" burials, and "the new aesthetic of death"—The American Resting Place is the definitive history of the American cemetery.

african burial ground history: Call My Name, Clemson Rhondra Robinson Thomas, 2020-11-02 Between 1890 and 1915, a predominately African American state convict crew built Clemson University on John C. Calhoun's Fort Hill Plantation in upstate South Carolina. Calhoun's plantation house still sits in the middle of campus. From the establishment of the plantation in 1825 through the integration of Clemson in 1963, African Americans have played a pivotal role in sustaining the land and the university. Yet their stories and contributions are largely omitted from Clemson's public history. This book traces "Call My Name: African Americans in Early Clemson University History," a Clemson English professor's public history project that helped convince the university to reexamine and reconceptualize the institution's complete and complex story from the origins of its land as Cherokee territory to its transformation into an increasingly diverse higher-education institution in the twenty-first century. Threading together scenes of communal history and conversation, student protests, white supremacist terrorism, and personal and institutional reckoning with Clemson's past, this story helps us better understand the inextricable

link between the history and legacies of slavery and the development of higher education institutions in America.

african burial ground history: Black Gotham Carla L. Peterson, 2011-01-01 Narrates the story of the elite African American families who lived in New York City in the nineteenth century, describing their successes as businesspeople and professionals and the contributions they made to the culture of that time period.

african burial ground history: Jalani and the Lock Lorenzo Pace, 2015-01-15 Sculptor Lorenzo Pace won the commission to create the African Burial Ground Memorial sculpture in New York City, which has at its base a replica of the lock that imprisoned his great-grandfather as a slave, passed down through the generations. Pace's beautiful story about the fictional Jalani's chained arrival in the United States tells an uplifting story for children about his ultimate freedom. About the Author/Illustrator Lorenzo Pace is the former director of the Montclair State University Art Galleries in Upper Montclair, New Jersey. He is the sculptor commissioned to create Triumph of the Human Spirit for the African Burial Ground Memorial in Foley Square Park in New York City. He is currently a Professor of Art at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

african burial ground history: African American Historic Burial Grounds and Gravesites of New England Glenn A. Knoblock, 2015-12-14 Evidence of the early history of African Americans in New England is found in the many old cemeteries and burial grounds in the region, often in hidden or largely forgotten locations. This unique work covers the burial sites of African Americans--both enslaved and free--in each of the New England states, and uncovers how they came to their final resting places. The lives of well known early African Americans are discussed, including Venture Smith and Elizabeth Freeman, as well as the lives of many ordinary individuals--military veterans, business men and women, common laborers and children. The author's examination of burial sites and grave markers reveals clues that help document the lives of black New Englanders from the 1640s to the early 1900s.

african burial ground history: Lost Restaurants of Galveston's African American Community Galveston Historical Foundation with Greg Samford, Tommie Boudreaux, Alice Gatson and Ella Lewis, 2021 People of African descent were some of Galveston's earliest residents, and although they came to the island enslaved, they retained mastery of their culinary traditions. As Galveston's port prospered and became the Wall Street of the South, better job opportunities were available for African Americans who lived in Galveston and for those who migrated to the island city after emancipation, with owner-operated restaurants being one of the most popular enterprises. Staples like Fease's Jambalaya Café, Rose's Confectionery and the Squeeze Inn anchored the island community and elevated its cuisine. From Gus Allen's business savvy to Eliza Gipson's oxtail artistry, the Galveston Historical Foundation's African American Heritage Committee has gathered together the stories and recipes that preserve this culinary history for the enjoyment and enrichment of generations, and kitchens, to come.

african burial ground history: Death Or Liberty Douglas R. Egerton, 2011 Here, the author offers a sweeping chronicle of African American history stretching from Britain's 1763 victory in the Seven Years' War to the election of slaveholder Thomas Jefferson as president in 1800.

african burial ground history: South-View D. L. Henderson, 2018-01-31 The story of Atlanta's South-View Cemetery begins in 1886 when African Americans challenged the city's segregated burial practices by forming the South-View Cemetery Association. For years, African Americans had objected to the conditions they were forced to endure in Atlanta's racially segregated cemeteries. South-View's founders were determined to provide a place where African Americans could be buried with dignity. Historic cemeteries like South-View are microcosms of society, and the lives and deaths of the people buried in South-View reflect the social history of Atlanta. The monuments and grave markers in the oldest part of the cemetery reflect the influence of Victorian funerary art as well as African American vernacular memorial traditions. A variety of gravestone materials, from elaborate monuments of marble and granite to simple markers of concrete and brick, memorialize African Americans from all social strata. South-View's historic landscape includes the burial sites of many

prominent African Americans who founded and developed Atlanta's historic churches, businesses, and colleges. A few of South-View's most notable burials include Alonzo Herndon, founder of Atlanta Life Insurance Company; Rev. & Mrs. Martin Luther King, Sr., religious and civil rights leaders; Bishop Henry McNeal Turner, African Methodist Episcopal Church organizer; and Julian Bond, social activist, scholar, and civil rights leader.

african burial ground history: *Lost Atusville* Marcus A. LiBrizzi, 2009-01-01

african burial ground history: *Infernal Traffic* Andrew F. Pearson, Ben Jeffs, Annsofie Witkin, Helen MacQuarrie, 2011 Britain's abolition of the slave trade in 1807 did not end the traffic of human beings across the Atlantic. Indeed, for many decades to come, hundreds of thousands of enslaved Africans continued to be shipped into slavery. From 1840 to 1872 the remote South Atlantic island of St Helena played a pivotal role in Britain's efforts to suppress the slave trade, and over this time it received over 25,000 'liberated Africans', taken from slave ships by Royal Navy patrols. Conditions aboard the slavers were appalling, and many did not survive the journey. Rupert's Valley therefore became a graveyard to many thousands of Africans - 'a valley of dry bones' in the words of a visiting missionary. In 2008 archaeological excavations uncovered a small part of that graveyard, revealing the burials of over 300 victims of the slave trade. It was disposal on a massive scale, with the dead interred in a combination of single, multiple and mass graves. This book presents the finding of the archaeological and osteological study, and in so doing brings the inhumanity of the slave trade into vivid focus. It tells the story of a group of children and young adults who had lived in Africa only a few weeks prior to their death on St Helena, and whose remains bear witness to the cruelty of their transportation. However, the archaeology also shows them as more than just victims, but also as individuals with a sense of their own identity and culture. The slave trade continues to this day, and although this book is a study of the past it also serves as a reminder of evils that persist into the modern day.

african burial ground history: *The Adam and Eve Story* Chan Thomas, 1993 This is the Book of the Century! At LAST someone - this time a basic research scientist - has come forth with proof of cataclysms, which are worldwide supersonic inundations such as Noah's flood. They were discovered by great men such as Andre DeLuc, Baron Georges Cuvier and Guy de Dolomieu, and have remained unsolved mysteries ever since. Now the author takes you through thrilling solutions of finding the process of catclysms, their timetable, and the derivation of trigger, a 20-year search. Truly, CATACLYSMS LEAVE NO ONE UNTOUCHED! He describes the next cataclysm in awesome detail plus the deterioration of civilization and the escalation of crime before the next cataclysm. It just so happens that the author's scientific prediction of the next cataclysm agrees with clairvoyants Nostradamus', Cayce's, and Scallion's predictions. Never before have facts been presented in such a spine-tingling, inspiring fashion; and never have so many secrets been unlocked in one book. This is the most stirring subject, written in the most intriguing, engrossing, and exciting style ever. You will remember this exceptional book for years! Available from: Bengal Tiger Press, Drawer 1212, South Chatham, MA 02659; Tel: 800-431-4590; FAX: 508-432-0697.

african burial ground history: *Ship of Souls* Zetta Elliott, 2012 When 11-year-old Dmitri (D) loses his mother to breast cancer, he finds himself taken in by an elderly white woman, Mrs. Martin. D loves to watch birds and, while in the park, is amazed to find an injured bird that can talk. He takes it home and soon learns there are malevolent forces inhabiting the region beneath Prospect Park and they are hunting for the bird; Nuru is a life force that has been kept hostage by the earthbound spirits who are ghosts of soldiers that died in the Revolutionary War. Nuru's mission is to guide the ship that will carry the souls of the dead back to her realm. D has been chosen as Nuru's host, and must carry the bird from Brooklyn to the African Burial Ground in lower Manhattan where the dead await deliverance.

Additional Resources

Africa - Wikipedia

African nations cooperate through the establishment of the African Union, which is headquartered in Addis Ababa. Africa is highly biodiverse; [17] it is the continent with the largest number of ...

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May 14, 2025 · Here is the alphabetical list of the African country names with their capitals. We have also included the countries' regions, the international standard for country codes (ISO ...

Africa - Simple English Wikipedia, the free encyclope...

African independence movements had their first success in 1951, when Libya became the first former colony to become independent. Modern African history is full of revolutions and ...

[Take Me Down to the Burial Ground: Trees as Agents of ...](#)

The unearthing, excavation, and eventual commemoration of the New York African Burial Ground brought national attention to the previously largely overlooked cultural landscapes of African ...

The African Burial Ground in New York City: Memory

European reliance on enslaved African laborers for colonial expansion and empire-building. Chapter 2 investigates land disputes in relationship to the burial ground. A history of white ...

SHOCKOE HILL AFRICAN BURYING GROUND

The burying ground grew to become one of, if not, the largest burying grounds of its kind in the United States (larger than the African Burial Ground in NYC), with map studies indicating an ...

[Historical Perspectives of the African Burial Ground: ...](#)

The New York AfricAN Burial GrouNd: unearthing the African Presence in colonial New York Volume 3 HOWARD UNIVERSITY ... Burial GrouNd Vol. 3 HUABG-V3-History ...

Flatbush African Burial Ground Remembrance and ...

\$Research on this site's history and enslaved Africans in Flatbush should continue beyond the timeframe of the site's development. \$There should be explicit and intentional connections to ...

African American Burial Ground Project (AABGP) Oral ...

Dec 3, 2021 · African American Burial Ground Project (AABGP) Oral History Program . University of South Florida, Tampa Library . Digital Object Identifier: A67-00006 . Interviewee: Dominique ...

TH ST CONGRESS SESSION S. 527

8 the African Burial Ground; and 9 (C) provides a fitting location for a

na-10 tional memorial facility, relating to the National 11 Museum of African American History and Cul-12 ture that ...

Harlem African Burial Ground Memorial & Cultural ...

Nov 1, 2019 · African Burial Ground was formerly located, as well as an indoor cultural center providing programming related to the history and cultural significance of the burial ground ...

Joseph Rodman Drake Park and Enslaved People's Burial ...

Joseph Rodman Drake Park and Enslaved African Burial Ground in 2021. The Landmarks Preservation Commission's name for the site builds upon additional research to be more ...

Part I - GSA

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African Burial Ground National Monument Self-Guided Art ...

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The Ancestral Libation Chamber - U.S. National Park Service

Memorial on the African Burial Ground National Monument We commemorate this African Burial Ground National Monument with an "Ancestral Libation Chamber." Through seven elements, ...

Teaching with Historic Places - NPS

Discover the African Burial Ground National Monument Discover the African Burial Ground National Monument: A Lightning Lesson from Teaching with Historic Places ... Topics: This ...

Memorial and Museum for the African Burial Ground, New ...

African Burial Ground, New York, New York FELECIA DAVIS New York Institute of Technology USA UNCOVERING ... dark faces to connect the Negroes with the history of New York City. - ...

The African Burial Ground in New York City - JSTOR

Overall, however, The African Burial Ground in New York City is a fascinating work. The historical and modern contexts, as well as the material culture approach, ... The book is recommended ...

TH ST CONGRESS SESSION H. R. 1349

10 the African Burial Ground; and 11 (C) provides a fitting location for a na-12 tional memorial facility, relating to the National 13 Museum of African American History and Cul-14 ture that ...

"From Troubled Ground to Common Ground": The Locust ...

Locust Grove Cemetery, I discovered a two-hundred-year-old African-Amer-ican burial ground with a rich history, but one that faced a multitude of troubles. The cemetery experienced ...

HOW TO COMMENT - National Park Service

- The African Burial Ground demonstrates that the enslaved Africans were not a homogeneous people, but a group of individuals from diverse backgrounds. • The African Burial Ground is a ...

The African Burial Ground Page 1 of 6 - Columbia CTL

The African Burial Ground Page 5 of 6 Handout : Worksheet - Researching the African Burial Ground 1. The brochure states that the Africans were buried on this site "due to a kind of ...

THE NEW NEW LOTS LIBRARY - Brooklyn Public Library

in an unacknowledged burial ground in the area underneath the current New Lots Library and the adjacent NYC City Park. In 2010, community members discovered historical documents that ...

AfricanAmericanHeritage THE Schomburg CENTER for RESEARCH IN ...

the African Burial Ground Memorial Monument the weekend of October 5. We look forward to seeing you here this fall! 2 african Heritage • Volume 7, No. 4, 2007 • Where Every Month Is ...

African Burial Ground Page 1 - New York City

African Burial Ground United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (Rev. 8-8 OMBNo. 1024-0018 ... HISTORY OF THE BURIAL ...

Flatbush African Burial Ground Remembrance and ...

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Protecting Our Shared Heritage in African-American ...

African Burial Ground, a 6.6-acre colonial-era graveyard containing the graves of 20,000 Africans discovered in ... grounds have much to teach us about civic history, kinship patterns, religious ...

The Effect of the Transatlantic Slave Trade on People of ...

Introduction Background Effects of the Transatlantic Slave Trade Human Rights Challenges/ Current Injustices Recommendations for Current Day Challenges Conclusion References ...

activities.seniorlivingmedia.com

building, this former burial ground that contains the remains of more than 400 free and enslaved Africans buried during the 17th and 18th centuries was designated a National Historic ...

History - Clemson University

History Revealed This map of Woodland Cemetery marks approximate locations of burial sites of enslaved people, sharecroppers, ... To share information about the African American burial ...

TH ST CONGRESS SESSION H. R. 2528

10 the African Burial Ground; and 11 (C) provides a fitting location for a national memorial facility, relating to the National 13 Museum of African American History and Cul-14 ture that ...

DNA collected from slave skeletons interred in unmarked 18th ...

in unmarked 18th-century burial ground reveals their history January 12 2023, by Bob Yirka ... working with members of The Anson Street African Burial Ground 1/3. Project, have discovered ...

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New York, New York - ACHP

African Burial Ground Discovery Rewrites History of American Slavery New York, New York SUCCESS STORY From left, the memorial aerial view; exhibit ... President George W. Bush ...

TH ST CONGRESS SESSION S. 1085

8 the African Burial Ground; and 9 (C) provides a fitting location for a na-10 tional memorial facility, relating to the National 11 Museum of African American History and Cul-12 ture that ...

1-SA42 McKittrick (1-15) - The Mosaic Rooms

York African Burial Ground at 290 Broadway in Lower Manhattan. In the cemetery, used between the late 1600s and 1796, between ten thousand and twenty thousand black slaves were ...

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Park and Enslaved African Burial Ground in 2021. The Landmarks Preservation Commission's name for the site builds upon additional research to be more inclusive and reflects the ...

Harlem African Burial Ground - Points of Agreement

Harlem African Burial Ground's history, develop a mix of uses including affordable and mixed-income housing and job-creating commercial uses, and enhance the streetscape and ...

African Burial Ground Project: paradigm for cooperation?

discovery of this burial ground in downtown Manhattan materially confronted us with a decision: whether to realize our capacity to disregard these remains, sanctify them, or restore their ...

SHIFTING GROUND : THE HARLEM AFRICAN BURIAL ...

African Burial Ground National Monument, Rodney Leon, Nichole Hollant Dennis, New York City, 2005 National Museum of African American History and Culture, Freelon Ground & Adjaye ...

SAPPINGTON AFRICAN AMERICAN CEMETERY STATE ...

The mission of Sappington African American Cemetery State Historic Site is to preserve the gravesites of the approximately 350 burials of Arrow Rock's African American population and to ...

No Maine 2008. 2,650 - JSTOR

ExhibitionReviews 741

Montpelier,thelifelonghomeofPresidentJamesMadison,sitson2,650acresofpas- ...

Chapter 6 Isotopic and Elemental Chemistry of Teeth: ...

In a prior study of the burial ground, Blakey (1998a) used enamel hypoplasias recorded on the teeth of adults as an index of childhood conditions (permanent tooth crowns develop from ...

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unacknowledged African burial ground containing the remains of free and enslaved people. In 2016, the Mayor's Office allocated \$20 million in new funding in the city's ten-year capital plan ...

The African Burial Ground - Fourth Grade Adaptation ...

The African Burial Ground - Fourth Grade Adaptation Page 1 of 2 Relevant Unit Objectives Module 3: African American Community and Culture This lesson addresses the following ...

The African American Burial Ground - hursthistory.org

The African American Burial Ground During 1991 and 1992, at 290 Broadway in Lower Manhattan, an old cemetery was uncovered by construction workers. What they found. was part of a 6.6 ...

Municipal Bonds: How Slavery Built Wall Street - Pulitzer Center

extensive 18th-century African burial ground in Lower Manhattan, the final resting place of approximately 20,000 people. And New York City's investment in slavery expanded in the 19th ...

The Archaeology of the New York African Burial Ground - GSA

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Naylor-Intro to African-American History Syllabus-Fall 2020

lectures/panels focused on African-American history. I will circulate information on possible events in the Barnard-CU community, as well as in New York City generally (e.g., at the African Burial ...

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