

NATIONAL HERITAGE SITES RESEARCH COMMITTEE (NHSRC) UPDATE

October 7, 2021

Submitted by Dr. Bettye Gardner and Barbara Spencer Dunn Co-Chairs, NHSRC

Committee Members: Bettye Gardner, *Co-Chair*, Barbara Spencer Dunn *Co-Chair*, Elizabeth Clark-Lewis, Vincent Deforest, John Whittington Franklin, Jarvis Givens, Cheryl Gooch, Dale Green, Sharon Harley, Jim Harper, Robert Harris, Ida Jones, Lionel Kimble, Lopez Matthews, Edna Medford, Janet Sims-Wood, Gabrielle Tayac, Amber Wiley, Francille Wilson, Ex-Officio: Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, *President*, Sylvia Cyrus, *Executive Director*

National Heritage Sites Research Committee Update:

Each of these projects has currently completed their Task Agreement, including budget.

- A Historic Context Study of African and African Americans in South Florida. The purpose of this Task Agreement is to "produce an annotated bibliography and comprehensive scope of work that explores the lives of Africans and African Americans in the past 500 years in the region now known as South Florida including its connection to the Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean and the Atlantic world." (\$129,792)
 - **Selected PIs for this project on Tuesday, August 10, 2021**
- Booker T. Washington National Monument, National Register Nomination Update (\$75,000)
 - **Released RFP for PI selection this TA on Friday, August 20, 2021. Did not receive applicant responses; RFP was re-released to the public and during the 2021 Virtual Conference on September 14, 2021.**
- Martin VanBuren Historic Site: A Special History Study of Free and Enslaved Africans at Lindenwald [VanBuren's Home in Upstate New York]. (\$85,000). RFP was sent out to the public September 20, 2021; Due on October 22, 2021.
- Visual Anthropology of the Statue of Liberty within the African American community. A historic resource study will be produced that records the historical and contemporary use of the imagery of the Statue of Liberty among African American communities for political, commercial and other social means. (\$118,300)
 - **Received Notice of Grant Award on September 22, 2021.**
- De Soto National Monument – Africans in the De Soto Expedition, \$53,787. Notice of Grant Award September 13, 2021. Development of PI contract in process.

Ongoing Projects:

Buffalo Soldiers

Buffalo Soldiers and their Role in the National Park Service Annotated Bibliography and Historic Context Study

Phase II kick - off held and this Phase is now underway.

September 22, 2021, draft annotated bibliography submitted; Phase II – Historic Context Study – will begin after bibliography is reviewed and accepted by NPS.

Valley Forge

Produce Historic Resource Study for African American Participation in the Valley Forge Encampment 1777-1778

Phase I: A symposium was held via zoom on Saturday, April 10, 2021, Dana King, President of the Phila Montco Branch of ASALH.

Response to the proposed scope of work, a proposed project budget and schedule to the Project Manager on or before June 4, 2021 for consideration. The RFP process will follow this schedule.

RFP dated 5/14/2021

Applications received through email to nps@asalh.org 6/4/2021

Applications sent to NHSRC 6/7/2021

NHSRC review of applications complete 6/16/2021

Interviews 6/20-25/2021

Selected PI for Phase II ; Full execution of contract with PI, July 1, 2021

CAWO Place-Based Curriculum and Kiamsha Peer-to-Peer Historical Youth Scholars and Docents Documentary Project

Two summer programs (2020 and 2021) reaching twenty students each summer (4 of these were college students each summer) have been conducted: Summer 2020 students received training on how to produce documentaries using their cell phones and to become historical scholars for their family. Each student interviewed an elder in their family and produced a documentary on that interview. Students received training on the life and legacy of both Dr. Carter G. Woodson, Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune and their historic home and the history of historic Dunbar High School in Washington, DC. from ASALH historians and NPS staff.

Summer 2021 students produced tic toc videos and advertisements to increase visitorship to the Woodson and Bethune Historic Sites. Virtual tours of both the Woodson and Bethune homes were produced along with advertisements for other NPS sites in Washington, DC metro area such as Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. Students are being trained to become docents to both the Woodson and Bethune Historic Sites. Students provided SWOT analysis for producing marketing materials for historic tours and documentaries.

Acadia

Historic Resource Study of Participants at Acadia Job Corps Center

Final Report received from PI September 17, 2021

September 20, 2021, ASALH sent report for copy/editing

ANNOUNCEMENT

National Historic Landmark (NHL) Committee Meeting on Oct. 21st. You are welcome to attend the presentation by one of the Principal Investigators for the Task Agreement (TA) entitled: Carter G. Woodson National Historic Site National Historic Landmark Update. The findings will be presented before the NHL Committee for approval. This is a historic event—the NHL process seeks to update the 1976 original designation for the Woodson Home as a National

Historic Landmark. The Principal Investigators selected for this project by ASALH's National Heritage Sites Research Committee were Dr. Marya McQuirter and Dr. Amber Wiley. Dr. Amber Wiley will present on October 21st and Dr. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham will speak at the conclusion of Dr. Wiley's presentation in support of the nomination. You must register to attend. Registration link below:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5961423820066079502>