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ASALH President 1995-1997

Bettye J. Gardner, Emerita Professor of History, Coppin State University, received her B.A. and M.A. degrees in History from Howard University and her Ph.D. from George Washington University. At Coppin State University she served as the Dean of the Division of Arts and Sciences, and Chair of the Department of History, Geography and Global Studies. She has been Project Director and/or Consultant for a variety of Humanities projects and National Conferences including the Smithsonian Conference on Historically Black Colleges, the Humanities Council of Washington's Symposium, "In Vogue: Black Culture and Identity in the Jazz Age", "Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.: Remembering His Legacy", "Lifting the Double Burden: A Critical Review of Race and Gender" (NPS), and "1968 and Beyond" (National Museum of African American History and Culture, Smithsonian Institution). She served as a Federal Commissioner of the Mary McLeod Bethune National Historic Site and represented ASALH on the Congressional Task Force on "The Use of Slave Labor in the Building of the U.S. Capitol".

Her articles have appeared in *The Journal of Negro History*, *The MD Historical Magazine*, *The Negro History Bulletin*, and *Southern Studies*, and she has contributed essays in the following books: *The State of Afro-American History, Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia, the Encyclopedia of African American Education, and the Encyclopedia of Blacks in Business,* and *The State of Black Baltimore*; and has lectured extensively on 19t h Century African American Communities with a special focus on Baltimore's Free Black Community.

Dr. Gardner served as National President of ASALH (1995-1997) and served for several years on the Executive Council of ASALH. She chairs the Woodson Home Site Committee, representing ASALH with the NPS in the interpretation and content development of the Exhibit Design of the Woodson Home Site. She also co-chairs the National Heritage Site Research Committee.

Her honors include the John Blassingame Award (Southern Historical Association) in 2004 for her scholarly work and her mentoring of African American students; the Outstanding Educator Award (Baltimore Chapter, Howard University Alumni Association) in 2005; and the Bethune Service Award (Association for the Study of African American Life and History) in 2006.