Genealogy Roundtable-Oral History-Black Narratives

Saturday, November 17, 2018 @ 12 pm
At the MARC Historic Complex in the old County Courthouse
1086 N.C. Highway 65 in Wentworth, NC
Add to the Calendar

Attend any of my presentations and become a member of the MARC and you will be eligible for a drawing for the book in February with our Food For Thought series. 2019 theme will be Biscuits and Rice. 06.08.18-Black Genealogy O8.18.18-Remembering Freetown (Madison Library) 11.16.18-African American Genealogy-Oral History February 16, 2019-Black History Month: Biscuits and Rice
#Sankofa

*Remembering Freetown-August 2019*

Beyond 1968-Griggs vs. Duke Power-2021

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*The plaintiffs were Willie Griggs, James Tucker, Herman Martin, William Purcell, Clarence Jackson, Robert Jumper, Lewis Hairston, Jr., Willie Boyd, Junior Blackstock, John Hatchett, Clarence Purcell, Eddie Galloway, and Eddie Broadnax.* All of the plaintiffs were employed and classified as laborers or semiskilled laborers at Duke’s Dan River Steam Station, a steam-generating facility in Eden, Rockingham County, North Carolina. The Dan River facility converted the energy in coal into electric energy that Duke Power sold to its customers. The process of converting coal into electric energy involves receiving large quantities of coal brought to the facility from mines, the weighing of coal shipments, and the sampling, unloading, and distributing of the coal to storage bunkers. The coal is fed from the bunkers through pulverizing mills into boilers. From the boilers, the energy from the coal is turned into heat energy by burning, and this heat energy forms steam. The steam is sent to turbine generators, where the heat energy is turned into mechanical energy, and...*
Mission:

Searching for ancestors in African-American families creates a very different set of questions and obstacles for researchers. Valencia Abbott will lead participants in a discussion of DNA research, search difficulties, and success stories. One of Valencia’s goals will be sharing resources to help other people “paint the picture of their ancestors in the context of the time periods of history.”
We are storytellers.
The Middle Passage
The Atlantic Slave Trade in Two Minutes
315 years. 20,528 voyages. Millions of lives.
At one time, almost half of all enslaved African Americans lived in Virginia. By the 1860s, black families with Virginia roots were spread throughout the “Black Belt,” a crescent-shaped section of the South where the dark, rich soil was ideal for growing cotton. The “Black Belt” took on a second meaning as more and more enslaved African Americans were brought in large numbers to work the land in the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. Even after the Civil War and emancipation, many African American families stayed in the South as farmers and sharecroppers.
African American Research
IN MEMORY OF
THE VALOROUS SERVICE OF REGIMENTS
AND COMPANIES
OF THE U.S. COLORED TROOPS
ARMY OF THE JAMES
AND ARMY OF THE POTOMAC
SIEGE OF PETERSBURG
1864 — 65
Oral History vs. Storytelling

Oral history is the systematic collection of living people's testimony about their own experiences. Oral history is not folklore, gossip, hearsay, or rumor. Oral historians attempt to verify findings, analyze them, and place them in an accurate historical context. Oral historians are also concerned with storage of the findings for later use. In oral history projects, an interviewee recalls an event for an interviewer who records the recollections and creates a historical record.

Contains a historical dimension and significance and relates local tradition, family history and personal experiences.

Example: Ernest J. Gaines “I come from a long line of storytellers. I come from a plantation, where people told stories by the fireplace at night, people told stories on the ditch bank. . . . People sat around telling stories. I think in my immediate family there were tremendous storytellers or liars or whatever you want to call them. . . . They would talk and talk and talk, and I listened to them.”

Alex Haley added: "The blacks who are buying books are not buying them to go out and fight someone, but because they want to know who they are...."
The Atlantic slave trade: What too few textbooks told you - Anthony Hazard

TEACHING HARD HISTORY A Framework for Teaching American Slavery

The Crafting Freedom Institute
Books

Roots: The Saga of an American Family by Alex Haley
The Slave Ship: A Human History by Marcus Rediker
Saltwater Slavery: A Middle Passage from Africa to American Diaspora by Stephanie E. Smallwood
Laboring Women: Reproduction and Gender in New World Slavery by Jennifer L. Morgan
The Female King of Colonial Nigeria: Ahebi Ugbabe by Nwando Achebe
Climbing Up to Glory: A Short History of African Americans during the Civil War and Reconstruction by Wilbert Jenkins
Slaves in the Family by Edward Ball
The Genetic Strand: Exploring a Family History Through DNA by Edward Ball
Ealy Family Heritage: Documenting Our Legacy by Melvin J. Collier
Mississippi to Africa: A Journey of Discovery by Melvin J. Collier
150 Years Later: Broken Ties Mended by Melvin J. Collier
Finding a Place Called Home: A Guide to African-American Genealogy and Historical Identity by Dee Parmer Woodtor Ph.D.
A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors. How to Find and Record Your Unique Heritage by Franklin Carter Smith (Author), Emily Anne Croom (Contributor)
Slave Genealogy: A Research Guide with Case Studies First Edition by David H. Streets
Black Roots: A Beginners Guide To Tracing The African American Family Tree by Tony Burroughs
Genealogy at a Glance: African American Genealogy Research by Michael Hait
Websites

**AncestorNews Genealogy** - Free genealogy is alive and well

**Roots Revealed** - Viewing African American History Through a Genealogical Lens

**Finding Your Roots With Henry Louis Gates Jr.**

**WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?**
Where do you go from here?

Family History Center
The Family History Center: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 4751 N.C. 14 just south of Eden. A professional genealogist is available on most Tuesdays. Trained consultants work with patrons at all the sessions. Information: 336-623-7154 (during hours of operation). Hours: 12:30-3 p.m. Tuesdays; 12:30-3 p.m., Wednesdays: 4-7 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. (youth only) Wednesdays; 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays

AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
Established in 1977, the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc, (AAHGS) a 501(c)(3) non-profit national organization dedicated to promoting research, study and publication of history and genealogy of Americans, with particular interest in persons of African descent. It is headquartered in Washington, DC, with members and chapters located in various parts of the United States and the world.

The NC/Piedmont-Triad Chapter of the Afro-American Historical & Genealogical Society-meets at Genesis Baptist Church in Greensboro. The group teaches people how to research their roots through records and DNA. The group meets 12 times a year — six times for business meetings and the rest for free how-to workshops in genealogy.
North Carolina Digital Heritage Center is a statewide digitization and digital publishing program housed in the North Carolina Collection at UNC's Wilson Special Collections Library. The Digital Heritage Center works with cultural heritage institutions across North Carolina to digitize and publish historic materials online.

"e-Vault." This site contains unofficial records provided as a public service. The official records are kept in the Office of the Register of Deeds located at the Rockingham County Courthouse in Wentworth, North Carolina. For filings recorded from 1-1-1996 and after the electronic database in the Office of the Register of Deeds is the primary or "official" source of index information.

Through the Slavery Deeds project, the Guilford County Register of Deeds office found 254 deeds of men, women, and children of color sold as property prior to the Civil War. For historians and genealogists finding this information can be like finding “needle in a haystack”. We have managed to triangulate the needles and make them available to the public from as far back as 1774. This information is now online. We encourage our community, educators, students, and researchers and genealogists, to use this information and share it wide.

Rockingham County Legacy: A Digital Heritage Project Rockingham County Legacy is a collaborative project providing a gateway to images, documents and artifacts relating to the people, history and cultural heritage of Rockingham County, NC
The Rockingham County Historical Collections, funded through the auspices of the Rockingham Community College Foundation, are housed in the Gerald B. James Library. The purpose of the collections is to collect, preserve and make available photos, documents and related items that are historically significant to Rockingham County and surrounding areas.

The collections are open to the public for on-site research and study. The James Library staff is happy to do a limited amount of research for those unable to visit campus, however, please be aware that we cannot undertake projects requiring more than 3 hours.

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center 50 East Freedom Way Cincinnati, Ohio 45202-Discover Your Family Roots
Have you ever been interested in discovering your family's origins, but never had the tools? Now you can take advantage of the FREE family history resources available. Volunteers provide free, personalized assistance in tracing your family tree. Hours: 11am to 4pm Tuesday through Saturday.
Conversations Afterwards - Information and tidbits that was shared during and after the presentation

**Blood on the Mountain (2016)**

“Between 1870 and 1930, thousands of white people, African Americans, and European immigrants came to West Virginia to work in the coal mines. African Americans migrated to mines throughout the state, but most of them came to work in the smokeless coal fields of southern West Virginia. What they found was the opportunity to build a better life for themselves and their families. By 1909, African Americans made up over 26 percent of West Virginia mine workers.” -[https://www.nps.gov/neri/planyourvisit/african-american-coal-miners-helen-wv.htm](https://www.nps.gov/neri/planyourvisit/african-american-coal-miners-helen-wv.htm)

**Genealogy Research | State Library of North Carolina**

**Underground Railroad in Guilford College Woods**

**NC Runaway Slave Advertisements - UNCG Digital Collections**
Family Deeds—Deeds are legal documents that transfer the ownership of an asset (such as property) from one person to another; however, there are different types of property deeds for slightly different purposes.

**THE FREEDMEN’S BUREAU**
Emancipation freed nearly 4 million slaves. The Freedmen’s Bureau was established to help transition them from slavery to citizenship, providing food, housing, education, and medical care. And for the first time in U.S. history, the names of those individuals were systematically recorded and preserved for future generations.

**FamilySearch**
It's all about family. FamilySearch is a nonprofit family history organization dedicated to connecting families across generations. FamilySearch believes that families bring joy and meaning to life. [Has FamilySearch Digitized the Records You Need? Here’s How to Check](#)

**African American Newspapers-Chronicling America** (ISSN 2475-2703) is a Website providing access to information about historic newspapers and select digitized newspaper pages, and is produced by the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). [African-American Newspapers Webinar Deck](#) collection of African-American newspapers feature a wealth of information about cultural life and history from 1827 to 1902 and contains first-hand reports of major events and issues of the day. The collection also essays and editorials, as well as poetry and advertisements, all of which embody the African-American experience.
Records of the Bureau of Prisons

Fold3 provides convenient access to US military records, including the stories, photos, and personal documents of the men and women who served.

Use funeral home records to...
Get death information, birth information, and parents' names of your ancestor with just a phone call.
Find an accurate death date and place.
Find the names of your ancestor’s parents (especially helpful for married women).
Learn where your ancestor is buried.

A Database of Fugitive Slave Ads Reveals Thousands of Untold Resistance Stories - Freedom on the Move is a database of fugitives from North American slavery. With the advent of newspapers in the American colonies, enslavers posted “runaway ads” to try to locate fugitives. Additionally, jailers posted ads describing people they had apprehended in search of the enslavers who claimed the fugitives as property.

Thanks to DNA research, 80 Charlestonians of African descent may learn more about their roots.
My Great-Grandfather, the Nigerian Slave-Trader

Slavery on America's College Campuses Went Beyond Buying and Selling

Forgotten slaves of Scotland revealed through newspaper adverts

Runaway Slaves in Britain: bondage, freedom and race in the eighteenth century