

EMPLOYMENT

Stono History Consulting, Independent Consultant, 2010-present

Provide museum consulting and training services as an independent contractor.

Interpretive planning, exhibit development, re-interpretation efforts, and training in the ethical interpretation of history and nature at sites and museums. The eight principles for ethical interpretation guide this work.

Sr. Interpretive Specialist, Fairfax County Park Authority, VA, 2024-present

The Authority manages over 23,000 acres of park land to help preserve the county's natural and cultural heritage.

Internal consultant for the Resource Management and Interpretation Division. Recommend and prepare agency policies and procedures. Lead efforts to collaborate with stakeholders to reinterpret Sully Plantation Historic Site. Consult in the development of individual park interpretive plans. Develop and deliver training for paid and volunteer interpretive staff. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/>

Executive Director, Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House, VA 2021-2024

Two sites of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Provide leadership and direct planning, site operations, promotions and marketing, strategic partnerships, fundraising, inclusive and community-based programming, and ensure full and truthful interpretation and programming of the sites. Develop and maintain collaborative community relationships and ensure that relevant programming and activities directly serve local needs and are drivers for long-term viability of the sites. <http://www.woodlawnpopeleighey.org/>

Cultural History Interpretation Coordinator Charleston Co. Park and Recreation Commission, SC, 2013-2021

This position oversees interpretation at 43 parks on 11,000 acres including McLeod Plantation Historic Site.

Oversee the development and implementation of public history programs; work cooperatively across departments for the preservation and care of the park agency's cultural and historic resources and collections; lead interpretation efforts at one of only two plantation museums in the nation whose purpose is to interpret African American history and culture. <https://www.ccprc.com/>

Director of Public Programs, Fort Monroe Authority, VA, 2010-2013

Fort Monroe is where Africans in English North America first arrived and slavery's legal demise began.

Direct the development and implementation of public history programs; facilitate the successful transition of the Casemate Museum during ownership transfer and serve as interim museum director; and establish the Fort Monroe Foundation. <https://fortmonroe.org/>

Caw Caw Interpretive Center Manager, Charleston Co. Park and Recreation Commission, SC, 2010

This preserve interprets the historic rice plantation and its association with the 1739 Stono Slave Uprising.

Manage center operations, visitor services, facilities, natural and cultural resources. <https://www.ccprc.com/53/Caw-Caw-Interpretive-Center>

Interpretive Programs Coordinator, Charleston Co. Park and Recreation Commission, SC, 2000-2010

The Interpretation Department interprets the natural and cultural history of Charleston, South Carolina.

Coordinate the interpretation of the park agency's natural, cultural, and historical resources and the development and delivery of Social Studies curriculum based education programs. <https://www.ccprc.com/125/Nature-History>

History Interpretive Specialist, Charleston Co. Park and Recreation Commission, SC, 1999-2000

Established in 1999, this was the commission's first public history position.

Develop and implement public history interpretive and curriculum-based education program focused on the African Diaspora and subsequent enslavement of African people in South Carolina.

Interpretation and Volunteer Coordinator, Middleton Place Foundation, SC, 1998-99

This National Historic Landmark interprets the Middleton family and plantation history.

Develop and coordinate interpretive and education programs and events related to the experiences of the plantation's enslaved and later freed inhabitants. <https://www.middletonplace.org/>

Education Coordinator, Jamestown – Yorktown Foundation, VA, 1997-98

Jamestown Settlement and the American Revolution Museum explore America's English colonial past.

Develop, coordinate, and present state-wide curriculum-based programs.

<https://www.jyfmuseums.org/learn/student-programs/classroom-outreach>

Craft Demonstrator, Jamestown – Yorktown Foundation, VA, 1994-97

Living History and guided tours are the focus of interpretive efforts at the museum.

Present 3rd person living history interpretation of people living in 17th century Virginia.

<https://www.jyfmuseums.org/visit/jamestown-settlement/living-history>

CONSULTING, PLANNING, and RELATED EXPERIENCE

Hasty Point Plantation, Friends of Coastal South Carolina, Mount Pleasant, SC, 2025-present.

- Engage with community and lead the development of an interpretive prospectus for the site.
- Develop wayside exhibits.
- Consult in the design, fabrication and installation of wayside exhibits.

Nathaniel Russell House, Historic Charleston Foundation, Charleston, SC 2025-present.

- Lead community engagement efforts to build support re-interpretation of the Nathaniel Russell House.
- Develop interpretive prospectus for the Nathaniel Russell House.

College of Charleston, Committee on Commemoration and Landscapes, 2025-present.

- Advise and assist in the creation of a campus wide interpretive plan.

Friends of the Free State Capital, Constitution Hall, Topeka, KS 2024-present.

- Lead comprehensive interpretive planning efforts.
- Advise exhibit planning, development, fabrication, and installation process.

Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax County, VA, 2024-present.

- Advise and lead re-interpretation efforts at Sully Historic Site.
- Advise in the development of exhibits at Historic Huntley.
- Advise in the development of an interpretation plan for Green Spring Gardens.
- Advise and assist in developing agency wide and regional interpretive plans

Visit Alexandria, Alexandria, VA, 2023-2024.

- Historic Preservation Representative, Board of Governors, member

The University of Mississippi Slavery Research Group, Oxford, MS, 2023.

- Interpretation consultant for re-interpretation of William Faulkner's Rowan Oak.

The Stono Legacy Project Committee, Charleston, SC, 2021-2022.

- Founding member.

National Association for Interpretation, Fort Collins, CO, 2020-2021

- Advisor for the revision of the Certified Interpretive Guide curriculum and assessment criteria and tools.

City of Charleston's Special Commission on Equity, Inclusion, and Racial Conciliation, Charleston, SC, 2020-2021.

- Member of History and Culture Sub-committee.

Cheekwood Estate and Gardens, Nashville, TN, 2020-2021.

- Interpretation consultant for re-interpretation project.

John Dickinson Plantation, Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, Dover, DE, 2020-2021.

- Interpretation advisor on the John Dickinson Plantation Advisory Committee.

American Association of State and Local History, Nashville, TN, 2020

- Interpretation advisor for the updated Standards and Excellence Program for History Organizations (STEPS) program.

American Association for State and Local History, Nashville, TN, 2019-2021.

- History in Our Parks Taskforce, founding chairperson.

Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission, Charleston, SC, 1999-2021.

- Lead team developing Descendant Community Engagement plan for McLeod Plantation Historic Site (MPHS), 2018-2021.

- Interpretation advisor for developing and implementing Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission (CCPRC) Cultural Resource Management Plan, 2013-2021.
- Team member developing and implementing museum collections plan for MPHS, 2015-2021.
- Team member developing African American cemetery preservation plan for CCPRC and MPHS, 2015-2021.
- Co-lead team planning and developing site exhibits and interpretive media at MPHS, 2013-2015.
- Interpretation advisor in the development of master interpretive plan for MPHS, 2013.
- Interpretation advisor for master planning of Old Towne Creek County Park, 2017-present.
- Interpretation advisor for master planning of Long Savannah/Bulow County Park, 2015-present.
- Interpretation advisor for inter-agency master plan at Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve, 2008.
- Team member developing agency wide interpretive plan, 2005.
- Team member developing exhibits at Caw Caw County Park, 1999.
- Team member developing Caw Caw County Park interpretive master plan, 1999.

National Endowment for the Humanities, Public Humanities Projects, Washington, DC, 2020.

- Panelist for the peer review of grant applications.

Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort, KY 2019-2020.

- Consultant and advisor for IMLS funded "Centering Difficult History in the Border South: Prioritizing Diversity and Inclusion at the Kentucky Historical Society" program.

Homewood Museum, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, 2019.

- Consultant for IMLS funded re-interpretation project.

Lynchburg Museums System, Lynchburg, VA, 2019.

- Consultant and advisor to "Confederate Battle Flag Community Platform" exhibition.

Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park, Hilton Head, SC, 2019.

- Advisor to scholar's summit.

Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage, Ridgeland, SC, 2019.

- Exhibit reviewer for "Beyond the Oaks" exhibit.

Boulder Valley School District, Boulder, CO, 2019.

- Consultant for developing Boulder Valley School District's curriculum on race and social justice.

Oak Alley Plantation, Vacherie, LA, 2018.

- Consultant for re-interpreting the plantation to be more inclusive of African American history.

Reconstruction Era National Monument, Beaufort, SC, 2018.

- Interpretation advisor for creation of Monument's foundation documents.

Impact on Education, Boulder, CO, 2016-2018.

- Content consultant for developing Boulder Valley School District's trans-Atlantic slave trade and slavery curriculum.

Telfair Museums, Savannah, GA, 2014-2018.

- Exhibit reviewer, Carrie May Weems Sea Island Photography Series, 2018.
- Advisor and consultant on NEH funded team to implement re-interpretation of the Owens-Thomas House and Slave Quarters, 2016-2018.
- Interpretation consultant on IMLS funded team assessing and making recommendations for interpretation of slavery at the Owens-Thomas House and Slave Quarters, 2014.

Fort Monroe Authority, Hampton, VA, 2010-2013.

- Direct the development of public history programs plan in cooperation with the National Park Service's Fort Monroe National Monument, 2011-2013.
- Team leader creating and implementing plan for Casemate Museum ownership transfer from US Army to Virginia, 2011-2013.
- Lead team participating in AAM's Museum Assessment Program for the Casemate Museum, 2012.
- Lead team updating Interpretive Master Plan following the creation of the Fort Monroe Authority, a new Commonwealth agency, 2010.

Hampton University, Hampton, VA, 2011.

- Interpretation consultant on NEH funded team creating interpretation of enslaved Contrabands.

Ossabaw Island Foundation, Savannah, GA, 2010.

- Interpretation consultant on NEH funded team creating interpretation of African American life.

Georges Island, Halifax, NS, Canada, 2010.

- Team member creating interpretive plan for Parks Canada Regional Halifax Defense Complex.

ACE Basin, Walterboro, SC, 2005.

- Co-lead team planning exhibit on historic rice fields and modern uses for habitat conservation.

Boone Hall Plantation, Mount Pleasant, SC 2004.

- Team member developing plan for interpreting archeological resources at slave dwellings.

South Carolina Aquarium, Charleston, SC, 2001.

- Consultant for planning and developing rice cultivation exhibit.

Penn Center, St. Helena, SC, 2001.

- Consultant for planning and developing exhibit on rice cultivation exhibit.

Middleton Place Foundation, Charleston, SC, 1998.

- Lead efforts developing interpretive plan for African American life on the plantation.

Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Williamsburg, VA, 1997.

- Lead team developing 4H youth volunteer training program.

WORKSHOP FACILITATION

Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC), Association of African American Museums, and the Southeastern Museums Conference, Charleston, SC, and Washington D.C., 2016-present.

- Interpretation of History Workshop.

Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax, VA, 2025.

- Interpretation 101: Introduction to Interpretation Workshop.

Harriett Tubman Underground Railroad National Historic Park, National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, and Maryland State Park's Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park, Cambridge, MD, 2017, 2018, 2024.

- Ethical Interpretation of History Workshop.

Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House, Alexandria, VA, 2024

- National Association for Interpretation Certified Interpretive Guide Workshop.

Walter Anderson Museum of Art, Ocean Springs, MS, 2024.

- Introduction to Heritage Interpretation Workshop.

National Trust for Historic Preservation, Pass Forward Conference, Washington D.C., 2023.

- Eight Principles for the Ethical Interpretation of History.

Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House, Alexandria, VA, 2023.

- Eight Principles for the Ethical Interpretation of History.

Association for the Study of African American Life and History, 108th Annual Conference, Jacksonville, FL, 2023.

- African American Civil Rights Network Interpretation Workshop, co-facilitator.

Southeastern Museums Conference Jekyll Island Management Institute, Jekyll Island, GA, 2023.

- Eight Pillars of Ethical History Interpretation.

National Association for Interpretation, (virtual) 2023.

- Eight Pillars of Ethical History Interpretation.

Black Heritage Trail New Hampshire (virtual), 2021.

- Engaging with Descendant Communities in Research.

Palmetto Carriage Works, LTD, Charleston, SC, 2021.

- Ethical Presentations of Charleston's History.

Clemson University, (virtual), 2021.

- Methods of Environmental Interpretation: Ethical Interpretation.

Homewood Museum, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, 2019-2020.

- Workshop facilitator for IMLS funded re-interpretation project.

Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission, Charleston, SC, 2015-2021.

- Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop, annually 2015-2021.

- o National Association for Interpretation Certified Interpretive Guide Workshop, 2015 and 2019.

Lynchburg Museums System, Lynchburg, VA, 2019.

- o Interpreting Confederate Battle Flags in the Museum Workshop.

South Carolina State Parks, Columbia, SC, 2019.

- o Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop.

Alabama African American Civil Rights Heritage Sites Consortium, Montgomery, AL, 2019.

- o Interpretive Planning: A Primer.

James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library, Fredericksburg, VA, 2019.

- o Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop.

Historic Charleston Foundation, Charleston, SC, 2018.

- o Aiken-Rhett House Museum Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop.

- o Nathaniel Russell House Museum Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop.

Belle Meade Plantation, Nashville, TN, 2018.

- o Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop.

Oak Alley Plantation, Vacherie, LA, 2018.

- o Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop.

New Jersey Historical Society, Grounds for Sculpture, Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum and the William Trent House, Trenton, NJ, 2017.

- o Presenting and Discussing Difficult Topics in African American History Workshop.

James Madison's Montpelier, Orange, VA, 2017.

- o Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop.

Telfair Museums Owens-Thomas House and Slave Quarters, Savannah, GA, 2017.

- o Certified Interpretive Guide and Ethical Interpretation of Slavery and Its Legacy Workshop.

PRESENTATIONS and CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Southeastern Art Museum Directors Conference, Columbus, GA 2025.

- o Leaving Space for Learning: Reaffirming Museum Purpose.

Small Museum Association, Annual Conference, Richmond, VA, 2024.

- o Inclusive Museum Storytelling: Eight Principles for Ethical Interpretation, conference keynote presenter.

Historic House Museum Consortium of Washington D.C., 2023.

- o Eight Principles for the Ethical Interpretation of History, presenter.

Oregon State Parks, MentorCorps Workshop, Virtual, 2023.

- o Eight Principles for the Ethical Interpretation of History, workshop keynote presenter.

Daughters of the American Revolution, John Alexander Chapter, Alexandria, VA, 2023.

- o Telling the Full History at Woodlawn Plantation, presenter.

The Slave Dwelling Project, Charleston, SC, 2023.

- o The Stono Rebellion Trail, facilitator.

The University of Mississippi, The Slavery Research Group, Speaker Series, Oxford, MS, 2023.

- o The Principles of Ethical Interpretation, presenter.

The Slave Dwelling Project Conference, The Stono Rebellion and the Atlantic World, Charleston, SC, 2022.

- o Introduction to the Stono Rebellion, panelist.

- o The Stono Rebellion Trail, facilitator.

Annual Meeting of the American Heritage Chocolate Society, Williamsburg, VA, 2022.

- o Recruiting and Retaining Interpreters of Color, moderator and panelist.

The University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA, 2021

- o Museum Education and Interpretation class presentation.

The University of North Carolina Pembroke, Pembroke, NC, 2021

- o Introduction to Public History class presentation.

The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, Webinar, 2020.

- o Weddings at Former Plantations? Determining Event and Visitor Behavior Policies at Historical Sites, panelist.

The Citadel Black History Month, Charleston, SC, 2020.

- The Challenges of Interpreting Slavery in the 21st Century: A Roundtable Discussion and Display of Slave Artifacts, panelist.

Slave Dwelling Community Forum – Let's Talk Reconstruction: A Community Gathering, Charleston, SC, 2019.

- The Importance of Interpreting Reconstruction on Historic Sites, panelist.

Carolina Lowcountry in the Atlantic World Program, College of Charleston, The Vesey Conspiracy at 200: Black Antislavery and the Atlantic World, 2019.

- Slavery, Resistance, and Memory: The Commemoration of the Stono Rebellion, presenter.
- Stono Rebellion Sites, facilitator.

Southeastern Museums Conference – Transforming Myths, Charleston, SC, 2019.

- The American Alliance of Museums' Education Professional Network's Engaging Descendant Communities in the Interpretation of Slavery at Museums and Historic Sites Workshop, facilitator.
- Building Communities of Practice for Just Histories: Reflections from NMAAHC Interpretation Fellows, panelist.

National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference, Baltimore, MD, 2019.

- History Help: Caring for Cultural and Historic Resources in Our Parks, moderator and panelist.

American Association of State and Local History Annual Meeting – What Are We Waiting For? Philadelphia, PA, 2019.

- History in Our Parks Roundtable: Challenges to Caring for Historic Resources in Local and Regional Park Systems, facilitator.
- No Time Like the Present: Engaging Descendant Communities in the Interpretation of Slavery, moderator and panelist.

Association of African American Museums – Roots of Revolution: Reaching Back, Pushing Forward, Jackson, MS, 2019.

- Building Communities of Practice for Just Histories: Reflections from NMAAHC Interpretation Fellows, panelist.

Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage – Beyond the Oaks: Lowcountry Plantations, Ridgeland, SC, 2019.

- Exhibit Opening, panelist.

International Museums /Museums of the Caribbean - Itinerant Identities: Museum Communities/ Community Museums, Bridgetown, Barbados, 2018.

- Meaningful Interpretation: Reflections on NMAAHC's Interpretation Workshop, panelist.

Southeastern Museums Conference - Museums Rise Up, Jackson, MS, 2018.

- Meaningful Interpretation: Reflections on NMAAHC's Interpretation Workshop, panelist.

Association of African American Museums – Till Earth and Heavens Ring: Celebrating the Progress and Sustaining the Promise, Hampton, VA, 2018.

- Meaningful Interpretation: Reflections on NMAAHC's Interpretation Workshop, panelist.

Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina - Memory, Monuments, and Memorials, Charleston, SC, 2018.

- Difficult History: Plantations, Concentration Camps, and Cultural Tourism, panelist.

Telfair Museums, Savannah, GA, 2018.

- Interpreting Slavery in a Historic City, panelist.

National Association for Interpretation Conference – Illuminating Interpretation, Spokane WA, 2018.

- Crafting an Inclusive History at African American Sites Workshop, facilitator and panelist.

Southeastern Museums Conference - Art, History and Culture in Motion, New Orleans, LA, 2017.

- Interpreting African American History and Culture Workshop, panelist and facilitator.
- Generating Empathy Across Race and Time: Innovative Strategies for Interpreting Slavery, panelist.

Association of African American Museums - Presence, Power, Persistence: Advancing the History and Possibility of Museum Activism, Washington DC, 2017.

- Interpretation Seminar - Interpreting African American History and Culture Workshop, panelist.

Carolina Lowcountry and the Atlantic World, College of Charleston - Transforming Public History, Charleston, SC, 2017.

- Transforming the Traditional Southern House Museum and Plantation: The Use of Counter-Narratives to Tell a More Inclusive History, panelist.
- Remembering Slavery in America's Most Historic City, panelist.

- Interpreting African American History in the Age of Black Lives Matter and Trump, moderator.

Association of African American Museums - Looking West: New Audiences and New Practices, Riverside, CA, 2016.

- National Museum of African American History and Culture, Charleston County Parks and Association of African American Museums Interpreting African American History and Culture Workshop, panelist.

ARTICLES and PUBLICATIONS

The Stono Rebellion Trail: A Map and Guide. For the Slave Dwelling Project, 2022.

"Seeking Racial Truth in an Unlikely Place." *Ukweli: Searching for Healing Truth, South Carolina Writers and Poets Explore American Racism*, edited by Herb Frazier and Horace Mungin, Evening Post Books, 2022, pp 1-6.

"Slavery, Resistance, and Memory in the Lowcountry: The Commemoration of the Stono Rebellion," *Fugitive Movements: Commemorating the Denmark Vesey Affair and Black Radical Antislavery in the Atlantic World*, (co-author with Teri Snyder) edited by James Spady, University of South Carolina Press, 2022, pp. 136-160.

"Review: Slave Sites on Display: Reflecting Slavery's Legacy through Contemporary Flash Moments, by Helena Woodard." *The Public Historian*, Vol. 43, No. 2, 2021, pp.150-152.

"McLeod Plantation Historic Site: Sowing Truth and Change." *The Public Historian*, Vol. 40, No.3, 2018, pp. 252-278.

Engaging Descendant Communities in the Interpretation of Slavery at Museums and Historic Sites: A Rubric of Best Practices Established by the National Summit on Teaching Slavery, 2018, (Contributing author) The National Trust for Historic Preservation African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund.

"The Role of Heritage Sites and Museums in a Time of Social Change: Reflections of a Veteran Interpreter and Trainer." *Legacy*, Vol. 29, no. 3, 2018, pp 28-30.

CERTIFICATIONS and EDUCATION

Certified Interpretive Trainer, 2015-present, National Association for Interpretation.

Certified Interpretive Planner, 2011-present, National Association for Interpretation.

Certified Interpretive Guide, 2008-present, National Association for Interpretation.

Certified Heritage Interpreter, 2007-present, National Association for Interpretation.

Certified Interpreter of Archeological Resources, 2004-present, National Park Service.

Graduate Level Course Work, Public Administration, 2008, College of Charleston.

Virginia Collegiate Professional License, 5th-8th Social Studies/Science 1997-2002, Commonwealth of Virginia (expired).

Bachelor of Arts, History, 1993, Christopher Newport University.

MEMBERSHIPS

American Alliance of Museums

American Association for State and Local History

Association of African American Museums

National Association for Interpretation

National Council on Public History

Southeastern Museums Conference