What is the Network?

- The Reconstruction era (1861-1900) is the historic period in which the United States grappled with the question of how to integrate millions of newly freed African Americans into social, political, economic, and labor systems.


- Network is nationwide and works to provide opportunities for visitors to connect to the stories of Reconstruction.
Discover the Network

- The resources (property, facility, or program) chosen for inclusion in the Reconstruction Era National Historic Network offer a comprehensive overview of the people, places, and events associated with Reconstruction across the United States.

- As of April 2022, we have 77 sites that are included as part of the Network
  - National Parks, museums, HBCUs, houses, churches, historic parks and sites
  - 27 States plus the District of Columbia
Discover the Network
Discover the Network – As of 4/1/22
Criteria

- (A) All units and programs of the National Park Service that are determined by the Secretary to relate to the Reconstruction Era.
- (B) Other Federal, State, local, and privately owned properties that the Secretary determines—
  - (i) relate to the Reconstruction Era; and
  - (ii) are included in, or determined by the Secretary to be eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places.
- (C) Other governmental and nongovernmental sites, facilities, and programs of an educational, research, or interpretive nature that are directly related to the Reconstruction Era.
Criteria cont’d.

- Connection to Reconstruction (1861-1900)
- Listed in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (if applicable)
- NPS units or programs determined to relate to Reconstruction
- Owner permission
Network Key Values

- National in scope: Reconstruction did not just take place in the South
- Inclusive: emphasize the accomplishments of all citizens
- Relevant: the people and stories from 1861-1900 are just as important today
Defining Resources

- **Properties:** The physical location of an event or pattern of events, or a location associated with a significant individual or group.

- **Facilities:** Locations that may or may not have existed during Reconstruction but are dedicated to collecting and interpreting the history of Reconstruction.

- **Programs:** Site tour, performance, educational curriculum, or other way that the history of Reconstruction is presented or explained to the public.
The Museum of the Reconstruction Era

at the Woodrow Wilson Family Home
NRHP Eligibility

- Listed in or determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places

- Requires communication with State Historic Preservation Office

Robert Smalls House, Beaufort SC
Benefits

- National recognition
- Use of the program logo and other marketing materials
- Technical assistance
- Assistance with educational resources development
- Research and scholarship
- Information sharing throughout Network
What the Network Isn’t
Application Process

- Applicants can apply any time using our electronic application form.
- For properties that are not on the NR, we can provide information on obtaining a Determination of Eligibility Letter.
- Supplemental documents, e.g., newspaper clippings, bibliography, etc. are appreciated, but not required.
- New sites will be notified and formally announced quarterly, (MAR, JUN, SEP, DEC).
Network Program Staff

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