



## SC African American Heritage Commission

### February Newsletter

Welcome to the SC African American Heritage Commission newsletter. In it you will find updates about their activities and events pertaining to African American History in South Carolina!

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### THANK YOU!

The Commission would like to thank every single person who attended, showed interest, shared information about the 2025 Annual Conference! It would not have been as successful as it was without all of you. We hope you walked away with a wealth of knowledge on Black History in South Carolina and had the ability to connect and network with like minded people. If you have any suggestions on how to make future conferences even better, please consider filling out the short survey.

[2025 SCAAHC Annual Conference Survey](#)

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### SCAAHC Events and Announcements!

#### Submissions for Green Book Publication Open!

The Commission is accepting proposals for their Green Book publication. Submissions can cover the topics listed on the flyer or must be closely associated with South Carolina and Green Book sites. **The deadline is March 7, 2025.** Questions? Contact Ayanna Goines, [agoines@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:agoines@scdah.sc.gov).



## SCAAHC Green Book Call for Proposals/Writers

The South Carolina African American Heritage Commission (SCAAHC) is calling for proposals from interested authors for their publication on the Green Book, edited by Dr. Vernon Burton and Harris Bailey Jr. There are studies of the Green Book, but the SCAAHC's proposed scholarly analysis represents the first state study of the influence of the Green book. This study focuses on South Carolina.

The SCAAHC proposes a series of essays that explore how *The Negro Travelers' Green Book* influenced South Carolina and its citizens. Essays will consider the historical, political, social, cultural, and economic contexts as well as the shifting demographics in South Carolina. Writers are not limited to the following topics, but the publication hopes to cover these areas:

- A biographical sketch of Victor Hugo Green, the founder of the Green Book and his wife, Alma Duke Green, who served as publisher of the Green Book in the 1960s
- How travel for African Americans was impacted by various modes of transportation, like trains, buses, and commercial airlines
- Distinguishing between de jure and de facto segregation and examples of both in South Carolina, maybe a comparison across regions
- A discussion on the articles included in the Green Book and how they change over time
- A comparison of legal jurisdictions by region in South Carolina and how Black travelers navigated the various interpretations. Compare regional differences with sites in the travel guide and how they change over time
- The creation of a Black Middle class. Compare and contrast across regions of the state. Expand beyond businesses listed in Green Book by looking at Black newspaper ads and city directories
- Observing the Black communities and their physical location to Green Book sites, if there were any. Determine why sites are more prevalent in certain cities than others
- A case study on Esso and Amoco, national oil companies, who crossed the color line in the South and extended franchise agreements to Black businesspeople
- Looking at women as business owners, operators, and entrepreneurs. Can be a statistical breakdown of how many women were involved in running a business
- The relationship between the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Black travel. Can also look at the Voting Rights Act of 1965

Writers interested in contributing to the publication will send a 1-2 page proposal, detailing a topic pertaining to the Green Book and South Carolina. Must include the relevancy and importance of the proposed essay to the discussion of the travel guide and suggested methods for research. Accepted essays will vary in length, depending on topics and evidence from somewhere between 5 to 30 pages, with citations. Essays will be reviewed by outside peer reviewers.

Proposals should be sent to Ayanna Goines, [agoines@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:agoines@scdah.sc.gov) with "Green Book Publication Proposal" in the subject line. The deadline for proposals is **March 7th, 2025**.

## Commission Activities

Commissioners have been busy participating in events. See below for a recap!

### **February 20, 2025**

Charmaine Clowney gave a presentation on the life and times of iconic SC Civil rights activist, Rev. Dr. I. DeQuincey Newman for Columbia, SC's St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church Black History Month luncheon.



### **February 23, 2025**

Vivian Glover, Rhonda Midgette, and Wilfred Pace attended the unveiling for the Mt Moriah Baptist Church marker. This marker, honoring the oldest Black Baptist congregation in Kershaw County, is one of 25 markers funded by the Commission.

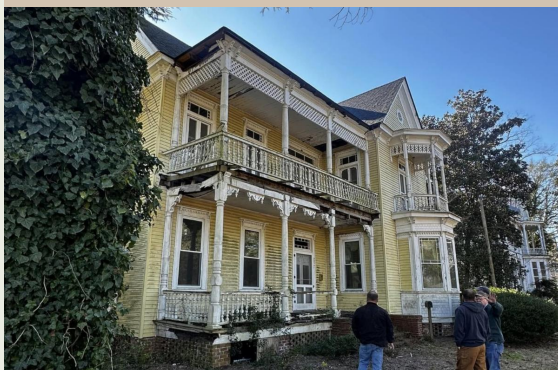


## Recent African American Preservation News

**3 SC African American Sites listed to National Register**  
**Atlantic Beach Historic District** (Horry), **Finley High School** (Chester), and **Green's Funeral Home and Ambulance Service** (Florence) have all been listed to the National Register of Historic Places. All were presented at the State Board of Review and after being reviewed by the National Park Service, have been approved by the Keeper of the National Register and will be listed. For more on the nomination process, visit [this link](#).



**Lincoln High School Collection**  
 The South Carolina Digital Library recently published the Lincoln High School Collection which includes student yearbooks, newsletters, photographs, and newspaper clippings that highlight the rich history of the the first school for African Americans in Sumter. To view the collection, click this [link](#).



### Acquisition of E.T. West House

Preservation SC, through their Revolving Fund, was able to acquire the E.T. West House in Darlington. This house is one of many properties in the area designed and built by Lawrence Reese, a self-taught Black carpenter, architect, and entrepreneur. Reese's homes are distinguished by their intricate woodwork and elaborate Gothic-style architectural elements. Preservation SC is working with experienced local builders to do immediate repairs and stabilization measures on the front balconies. Learn more [here](#).

### 3 SC Black Churches Receive Grant Funds

**Soapstone Baptist Church** (Marietta), **New Tabernacle Fourth Baptist Church** (Charleston), and **Taveau Church** (Moncks Corner) have received funds from the Preserving Black Churches Grant through the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Funds will support critical preservation work from structural restoration work to enhancing stewardship planning. To learn more about the 2025 cohort or recipients, click this [link](#).



### Nominations for 2025 Historic Preservation Awards

The SC Department of Archives & History, Preservation SC, and the Office of the Governor invite you to nominate individuals or organizations that represent the best of historic preservation in the state. There are six award categories and you can find more information about them [here](#).



## Grants!

- **SCDAH Federal Historic Preservation Grants:** The Archives is administering federal funds for Survey and Planning Projects or Stabilization Projects. Any local government, non-profit, or institution in SC may apply but the SHPO's first priority will be to fund projects in SC's CLGs. **The deadline for FY2025 applications is May 1, 2025.** Click [this link](#) for more information.

## Upcoming Events & Conferences

- **March 1, 2025:** The South Carolina Historical Association will have their Annual meeting with the theme "The Struggles for Democracy." Learn more about the event [here](#).
- **March 12, 2025:** Join the Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor for a training that will cover information on land preservation strategies, led by a panel with expertise on land trusts, housing land trusts and conservation. Find more information about this hybrid opportunity [here](#).
- **March 27-29, 2025:** The Confederation of SC Local Historical Societies' Landmark Conference. Held in Sumter, you can find more info [here](#).

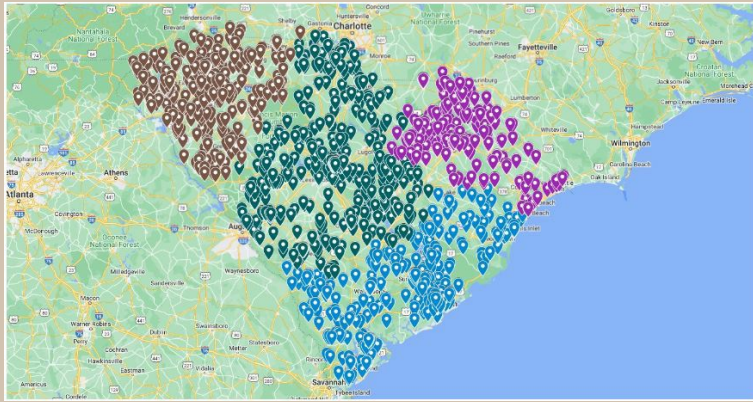
- **Friday April 25th, 2025:** SCDAH will host the Statewide Historic Preservation Conference. Call for proposals is open until December 16. More information can be found [here](#).
- **April 25-26, 2025:** Join the Institute for the Study of the Reconstruction Era for their Spring Symposium. Women, in various roles, are key figures in the history of the 1st South Carolina Volunteers of African Descent (33rd US Colored Troops), the first regiment of Black Soldiers deployed in a combat role during the Civil War. The 2025 symposium will celebrate the many women associated with the 1st South Carolina VAD as well as the impact made by women throughout South Carolina during the Reconstruction Era. Find current info [here](#) or click on the flyer below. Registration info coming Feb. 2025.
- **July 23-25, 2025:** The Association of African American Museums will have their annual conference in Charleston, SC. For more info on the call for proposals, exhibitors, and more, click this [link](#).
- **September 10-12, 2025:** The South Carolina Federation of Museums will host their Annual Conference in Belton, SC from September 10-12. For more information on the event and the call for proposals, click this [link](#).

### Ongoing Events

- The SC Dept. of Archives & History has opened a new exhibit called *"Know Your State and Make It Known: The South Carolina Historical Marker Program."* Visit the Archives Monday through Friday from 9am to 4:30pm, except State Holidays.
- The Center for Civil Rights and History's exhibit **"Where Do We Go From Here?"** explores Dr. Martin Luther King's questions about the future and illustrates how the passage of major civil rights legislation affected education, housing, health care, employment, and more. This exhibit, housed at the Ernest F. Hollings Special Collections Library at the Thomas Cooper Library can be viewed during the Library's normal hours of operation. Click here for [more info](#).
- Free Admission to the Columbia Museum of Art where visitors can see the **"Our Story Matters"** Gallery that discusses Columbia's vibrant Washington Street Black Business District.
- SC State Museum **"Shared Sacrifice: South Carolina in World War II"** exhibit that details the stories of SC men and women who contributed to the war effort, as well as Black South Carolinians' pursuit of "Double Victory" over fascism abroad and segregation at home.
- Tours of the exhibits **The Language of Clay: Catawba Indian Pottery & Oral Traditions** and **Sandy Islanders: A People of the Land** at the Morris Center for Lowcountry Heritage. These guided tours discuss the history and culture of the Catawba nation and Gullah people of Sandy Island. Find more info at this link.



## Markers



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