Including Women in the Sequel: Re-Interpretation and Telling the Full History at Historic Sites

Kristen Laise, Molly Jessup, and Barbara Lau; Moderated by Priya Chhaya

MARCH 14, 2018
Structure

• Site Introductions
  – Belle Grove Plantation – Kristen Laise
  – Oneida Community Mansion House – Molly Jessup
  – Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice – Barbara Lau

• Moderated Discussion

• Audience Q&A

• Wrap Up

Amache Prowers, recently inducted into the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame, was pivotal in the story at the National Trust’s National Treasure at Boggsville.
What are “Women's History” Sites?

Looking back to Choptank Bridge from Poplar Neck | Credit: Harriet Tubman Byway
Belle Grove Plantation

Kristen Laise, Executive Director
Nelly Madison Hite
Ann Tunstall Maury Hite
Judah
My coach was dangerously ill.

Judah
(Judy)
(Purchased from Abraham Bowman)
1794-1836

Sam
(May 1814)
George
(March 1816)
Marcus
(August 1817)
Milly
(1819)
Mary
(Mar. 6, 1821)
Anthony
(Feb. 1823)
Maria
(Feb. 15, 1825)
Westley
(Sept. 1, 1827)
Elias
(Mar. 16, 1830)
Elijah
(Jan 4, 1832)
Emily
(May 13, 1834)
Jonathan
(Feb. 28, 1836)

Emelia
(Sept. 4, 1844)
Amanda
(Jan. 28, 1847)
Willis
(Aug. 31, 1848)
Ann Eliza
(Jan. 25, 1850)

The youngest only four weeks old.
Oneida Community Mansion House

Molly Jessup, Curator of Education
Oneida Community Mansion House

Religiously-based Socialist Utopian community (1848-1880) of 250 individuals

Known for practices of “Bible Communism,” “Complex Marriage,” and manufacturing
Prior: Noyes-Centered or Avoidance of Gender/Sexuality

The Great Oneida Experiment

Uncle Johnny’s Woman Farm

He roped off this hunk of land and lined up an army of plump young girls opposite a legion of fun-loving men. Then he shut his eyes and blew his whistle...
Current: Dialogic Tours, Discussion Series, Youth Program
Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice

Barbara Lau, Executive Director

Women’s complex stories can be an asset at our historic sites…
Pauli Murray: A Life of Activism

- Challenged gender roles and gender identities
- Challenged segregation of higher education based on race
- Challenged segregation of higher education based on gender
- Challenged Civil Rights Movement to recognize women’s leadership
- Coined the term Jane Crow
- Co-Founder, National Organization for Women
- JFK Commission on the Status of Women
- First African American Women Ordained Episcopal Priest
Be Intersectional
Pauli Murray Traveling Exhibit: Imp, Crusader, Dude, Priest

Pauli Murray wrestled with her multidimensional identity from an early age. When she was in her 20s, she created a series of posed photos to reflect different aspects of her personality.

Murray gave these provocative pictures names such as “The Imp,” “The Dude,” and “The Crusader.” She included them in an album, “The Life and Times of an American Called Pauli Murray.”

What about you? What would you label the different aspects of yourself?
Honoring Pauli’s Vision in Programming
Planning for Opening in 2020

Think Tank: A New Approach to Interpretive Planning—March 2017

Focus Question: What does it mean to do Pauli Murray’s work at the Pauli Murray Center?

Emergent Concepts:
- How we work is as important as what we do
- Language matters
- Dynamic nature of life—no sugarcoating
- Name the resistance we feel to understanding the fullness of Pauli’s identity
- Serve as Community Place
- Practice radical hospitality
- Connect Pauli’s story to other unsung heroes
MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION

Moderator: Priya Chhaya
Manager for Online Content and Products, National Trust for Historic Preservation
QUESTION AND ANSWER

Use the chat box on the bottom right to ask questions of the speakers.
Twitter Handles: @savingplaces

- Belle Grove Plantation: @BelleGrove1797
- Oneida Community Mansion House: @OCMH1848
- Pauli Murray Center: @PaulMurrayCntr

Hashtag: #PreservationForum
Keep Talking

- **Forum Connect** is Forum’s new online community
- **FREE** and open to everyone

Forum.SavingPlaces.org/Forum-Connect
Keep Learning

• Forum Blog Series: Women's History and Historic Preservation
• Forum Blog Series: Interpreting Slavery
• Forum Blog Series: When Does Preservation Become Social Justice?
• Forum Journal on women’s history, coming 2018
• National Collaborative for Women’s History Sites: www.ncwhs.org
Thank you!

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