

North Carolina Freedom Park Field Notes

This Notebook Belongs To:



WELCOME TO NORTH CAROLINA FREEDOM PARK!

DATE OF VISIT _____

WHAT I ALREADY KNOW ABOUT NC FREEDOM PARK:

I AM MOST EXCITED ABOUT:

THINGS THAT FIRST CAUGHT MY EYE WHEN
ENTERING THE PARK:

JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN: IF YOU COULD ASK HIM A QUESTION ABOUT THE PARK, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

“The goal is a public art tribute to **freedom** as expressed through the African American Experience...[North Carolina Freedom Park] will be located in the heart of the state capital as a continuing reminder of the struggles for freedom – & how much more we need to do to achieve equity & justice in our society.”

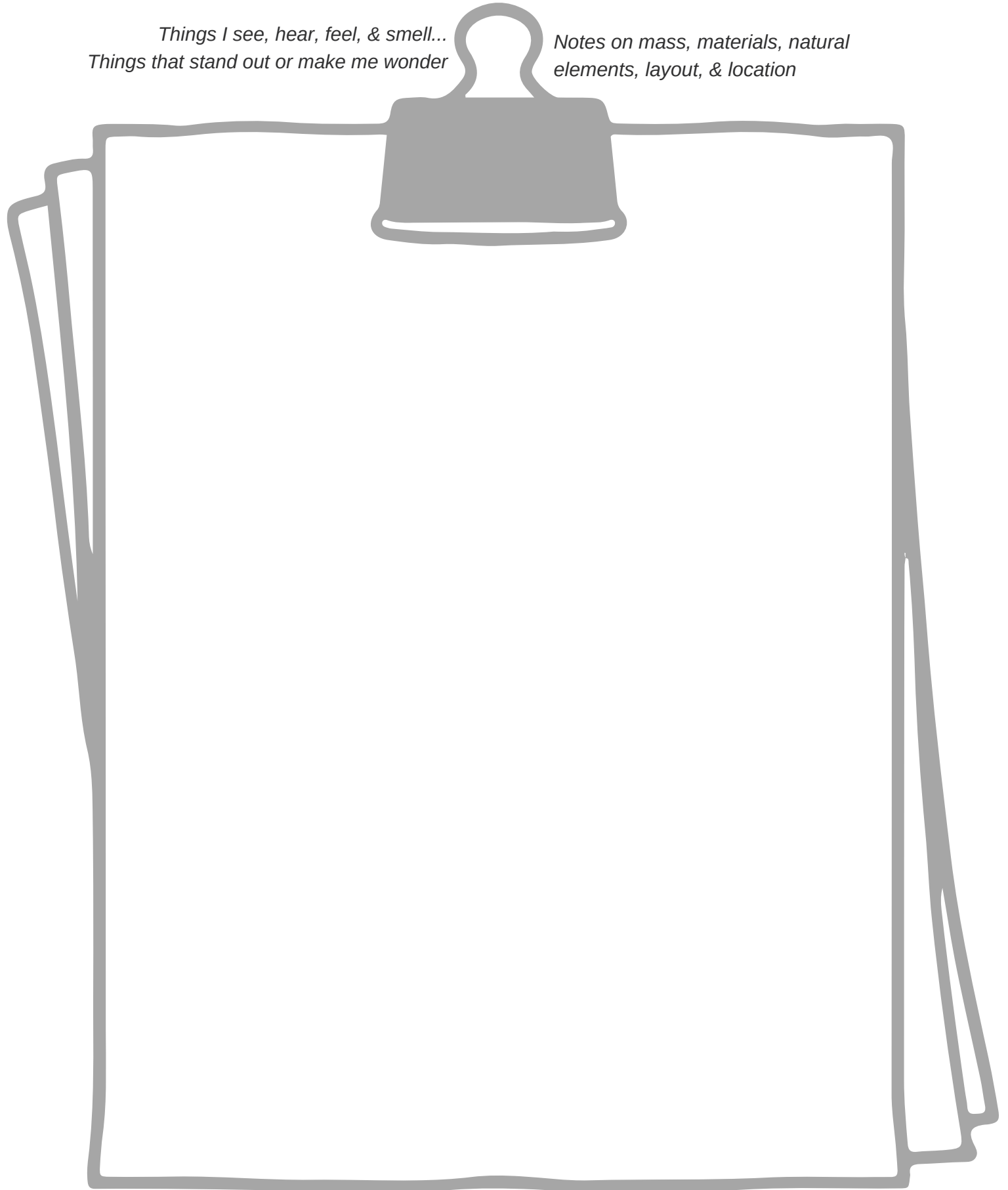


Dr. Franklin was one of America's most accomplished historians, a celebrated author, & professor at Duke. He was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1995) & was a founding member & chair of the NC Freedom Park Board.

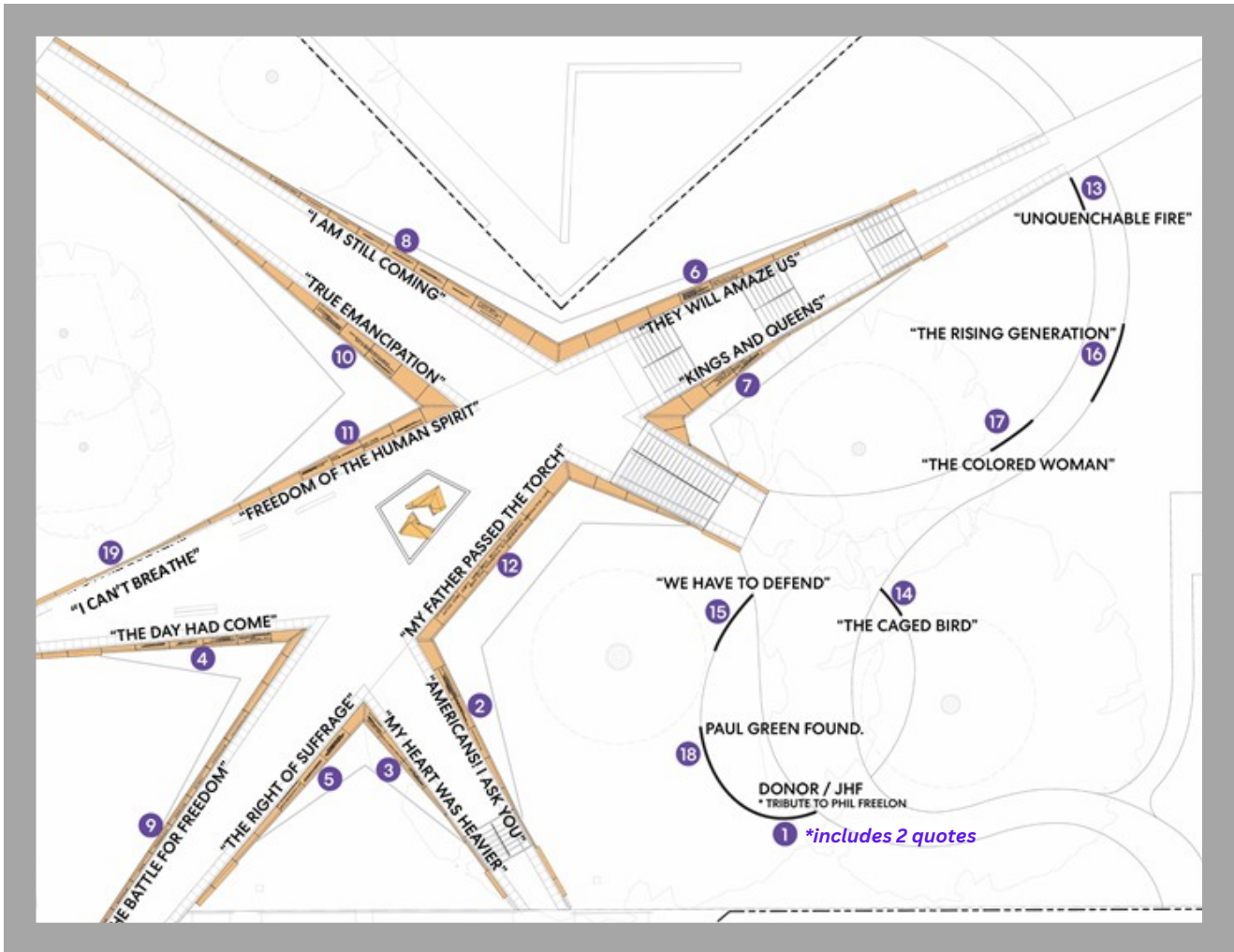
PARK OBSERVATIONS

Things I see, hear, feel, & smell...
Things that stand out or make me wonder

*Notes on mass, materials, natural
elements, layout, & location*



EXPLORING THE "VOICES OF FREEDOM"



THROUGHOUT THE PARK, YOU WILL DISCOVER 20 "VOICES OF FREEDOM." (SITE 1 INCLUDES 2 QUOTES.) AS YOU EXPLORE & READ THESE IMPORTANT WORDS, CONSIDER THEIR MESSAGE & HOW THEY RELATE TO THE CONCEPT OF FREEDOM.

IN ADDITION TO FREEDOM, WHAT THEMES ARE PRESENT THROUGHOUT THE VOICES REPRESENTED?



WHY DO YOU THINK THE PARK CREATORS CHOSE TO FEATURE WORDS?

EXPLORING THE "VOICES OF FREEDOM"

FIND THE PAULI MURRAY QUOTE IN THE PARK THEN READ & LISTEN:

"It has taken me almost a lifetime to discover that true emancipation lies in the acceptance of the whole past, in deriving my strength from all my roots, in facing up to the degradation as well as the dignity of my ancestors."

Reverend Dr. Pauli Murray (1910-1985)

Although born in Baltimore, Pauli Murray was raised by grandparents in Durham, NC. After graduating from Hunter College in New York, Murray was denied admission to the UNC-CH Law School, who did not admit Black students at the time. Dr. Murray went on to study law at Howard University, the only woman in that year's class. Dr. Murray then went on to be the first Black person to earn a doctorate of law from the Yale Law School. In 1966, Dr. Murray helped form the National Organization for Women and in 1977 Rev. Murray became the first black woman to be ordained as an Episcopal priest.

A relentless social justice crusader, Murray crafted a broad vision of justice, equity, and human rights - using words as a primary tool to fight for freedom. Dr. Murray's legacy serves as a beacon of hope and inspiration to all.

Murray's family home in Durham has been designated a National Historic Landmark.



bit.ly/MurrayOnAmerica PATRIOTISM?

REREAD THE QUOTE FROM DR. MURRAY IN THE PARK. WHAT MESSAGE IS DR. MURRAY CONVEYING?

EXPLORING THE "VOICES OF FREEDOM"

FIND THE ABRAHAM GALLOWAY QUOTE IN THE PARK THEN READ & WATCH TO LEARN MORE:



<https://bit.ly/AbeGalloway>

Scan the QR. Scroll to "'He laughed loud and often.' The life philosophy of Abraham Galloway". Listen to historian David Cecelski discussing Galloway's life philosophy.

**"I am looking for
the rising generation...
there must be a deep
foundation laid for the
coming generation."**

Born to an enslaved mother near Wilmington in 1837, a 20-year-old Abraham Galloway escaped by stowing away on a turpentine ship bound for Philadelphia.

He went on to become a leader in the abolitionist movement, and in 1863, he returned to New Bern aiding the Union as a spy & a military recruiter for North Carolina's USCT regiments.

Growing in prominence as a well-known civil rights leader, in April 1864, he led a delegation of southern Black men to meet President Lincoln and advocate for political equality, including equal treatment of Black troops and suffrage.

In 1868, Galloway was elected as one of North Carolina's first Black legislators during Reconstruction, where he blazed a trail for formerly enslaved men to hold public office and was a constant advocate for civil rights. He also helped rewrite the North Carolina Constitution after the war, and became a nationally recognized activist and speaker on civil rights.

When Galloway died in 1870, approximately 6,000 people attended his funeral. Newspapers at the time reported that it was the largest funeral in North Carolina history.

What about Abraham Galloway's contributions & life do you find most interesting or important and why?

What do you think it took for Abraham Galloway, a man born into slavery who never learned to read or write, to accomplish so many things?

Focus again on Galloway's Freedom Park quote. Why do you think he was focused on youth/"the coming generation?"

EXPLORING THE "VOICES OF FREEDOM"

Charlotte Hawkins Brown

was born in Henderson, NC. After living & getting an education in Massachusetts, in 1901 she returned to NC to teach at a school for Black children in Sedalia. The next year she founded her own school, the Palmer Memorial Institute. The successful boarding school became renowned as a college preparatory school, one of the few such institutions in the nation serving Black students during segregation. Palmer Memorial is now a State Historic Site.

FIND THE QUOTE BY DR. CHARLOTTE
HAWKINS BROWN IN THE PARK:

“My philosophy is that position or place can never segregate mind or soul. I sit in the Jim Crow car, but my mind keeps company with the kings and queens I have known.”

*Charlotte Hawkins Brown (1883-1961)
founder Palmer Memorial Institute*

IMAGINE YOU HAVE BEEN HIRED TO DESIGN A SMALL ARTISTIC FEATURE FOR
PLACEMENT BY BROWN'S QUOTE IN THE PARK. SKETCH AN IDEA BELOW:

EXPLORING THE "VOICES OF FREEDOM"

"Remember, we are not fighting for the freedom of the Negro alone, but for the freedom of the human spirit, a larger freedom that encompasses all mankind."

Women were key to the Civil Rights Movement in North Carolina and across the nation, even though they have historically not received as much credit as male counterparts. For over five decades, Ella Baker – who grew up in Littleton, NC – was instrumental in community organizing and building capacity in the most instrumental civil rights organizations of the time.

A graduate of Shaw University (the oldest HBCU in the South, located in Raleigh), she organized many branches of the NAACP and served as executive director of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Later in life, she was a guiding spirit for the founding of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), founded at Shaw University in 1960. Baker had a profound influence on the next generation of civil rights activists; she recognized that "the young people were the hope of any movement...They were the people who kept the spirit going."

Ms. Baker collaborated with familiar civil rights leaders such as, W. E. B. DuBois, Thurgood Marshall, A. Philip Randolph, & Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. She also mentored up-and-coming activists like Diane Nash, Stokely Carmichael, & Rosa Parks.

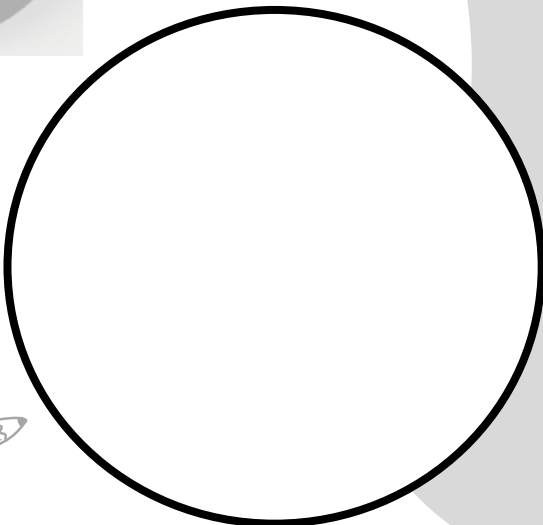
While engaged in the struggle for civil rights, Ella Baker, like all women during the Civil Rights Movement, faced the simultaneous challenge of gender discrimination. She confronted the male Movement leaders who often undermined or excluded her. Despite the dual challenges she faced, many historians agree that without Ella Baker, there may not have been as effective of a Civil Rights Movement.



WHAT DOES IT TELL YOU ABOUT ELLA BAKER TO KNOW THAT SHE WAS SUCH AN IMPACTFUL LEADER IN THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT, DESPITE THE DUAL DISCRIMINATION SHE FACED OF GENDER AND RACE?



CHECK OUT AN ACTUAL PIN FROM THE 1960s DESIGNED TO PROMOTE SNCC. DESIGN A NEW ONE FOR PROMOTING CIVIL RIGHTS.



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CHOOSE YOUR FAVORITE QUOTE/"VOICE OF FREEDOM")

FROM THE PARK. COPY IT HERE:

WHY DID YOU SELECT THIS QUOTE? WHAT STRIKES YOU ABOUT THESE WORDS?

RESEARCH SOME FACTS ABOUT THIS PERSONS LIFE. IN WHAT WAYS DID THEY FIGHT FOR
FREEDOM IN NORTH CAROLINA & BEYOND?

THE "BUSH ARBOR"

Find the NC Freedom Park arbor area (a circular feature under trees with wooden benches.) "The Arbor" is a place for thought & reflection at NC Freedom Park. Find a place to contemplate & listen:

I. "STEAL AWAY," A SPIRITUAL



[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/48HY4RVV](https://tinyurl.com/48HY4RVV)

II. INFORMATION ON "NEGRO SPIRITUALS"



[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/6J456TAX](https://tinyurl.com/6J456TAX)

HOW DOES THE SONG "STEAL AWAY" MAKE YOU FEEL WHILE LISTENING? WHAT IS THE SPIRITUALS TONE? WHAT EMOTIONS, WORDS, SYMBOLS, &/OR THEMES STAND OUT?

WHAT DOES THE HISTORY OF BUSH ARBORS, AND THE ACTIVITIES THAT TOOK PLACE THERE, SUCH AS SINGING & COMMUNITY BUILDING, TEACH US ABOUT ENSLAVED PEOPLE & THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE ACROSS TIME?

The Arbor reflects a tradition of the African American experience in North Carolina. During slavery, enslaved people would meet in secret in "bush arbors" (also called "hush arbors" or "brush arbors"—wooded, secluded areas where they could gather for fellowship, support, and worship outside of the gaze of enslavers. The arbor was a place to cultivate community & faith, & gain strength from each other as they resisted and survived the inhumane conditions of slavery.

Some arbors were constructed with branches, sticks, & other natural elements to form a basic, natural structure. Secret meetings & religious gatherings often took place in the evenings, after laboring long hours or when enslavers were traveling. Enslaved people prayed and sang spirituals for hope, including "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," "Go Down Moses," "Wade in the Water," & "Steal Away," the song you heard above. The spirituals often related to escape, freedom, or God coming to carry them home.

After the end of slavery, the arbor meetings evolved into revivals, meeting places, and even post-Civil War schools for multi-generational Black students. These gatherings were the foundation of the southern Black church. In fact, many Black churches were built on the very places where bush arbor meetings were held.

Studying the history of brush arbors is an important exploration of the ways enslaved individuals found moments of community, cultural expression, and resilience despite the hardships they faced.

SKETCH THE "BEACON OF FREEDOM":

WHAT WORDS WOULD YOU USE
TO DESCRIBE IT?

WHAT DO YOU THINK IT
SYMBOLIZES?

WHAT DOES FREEDOM MEAN TO YOU?

WRITE WORDS, PHRASES, SYMBOLS, ETC.

“There is another peculiarity about the people of North Carolina....There seems to be more of the unquenchable fire of freedom in the eyes of these people than in those of any other people we have visited.”



Robert Hamilton (1819-1870) was a newspaper editor who made this observation when visiting recently emancipated areas of the South near the end of the Civil War.

WRITE YOUR OWN QUOTE ABOUT FREEDOM:

SCAN THE QR & LISTEN TO THE SPIRITUAL "OH FREEDOM" AS YOU THINK.



<https://bit.ly/goldengospel>

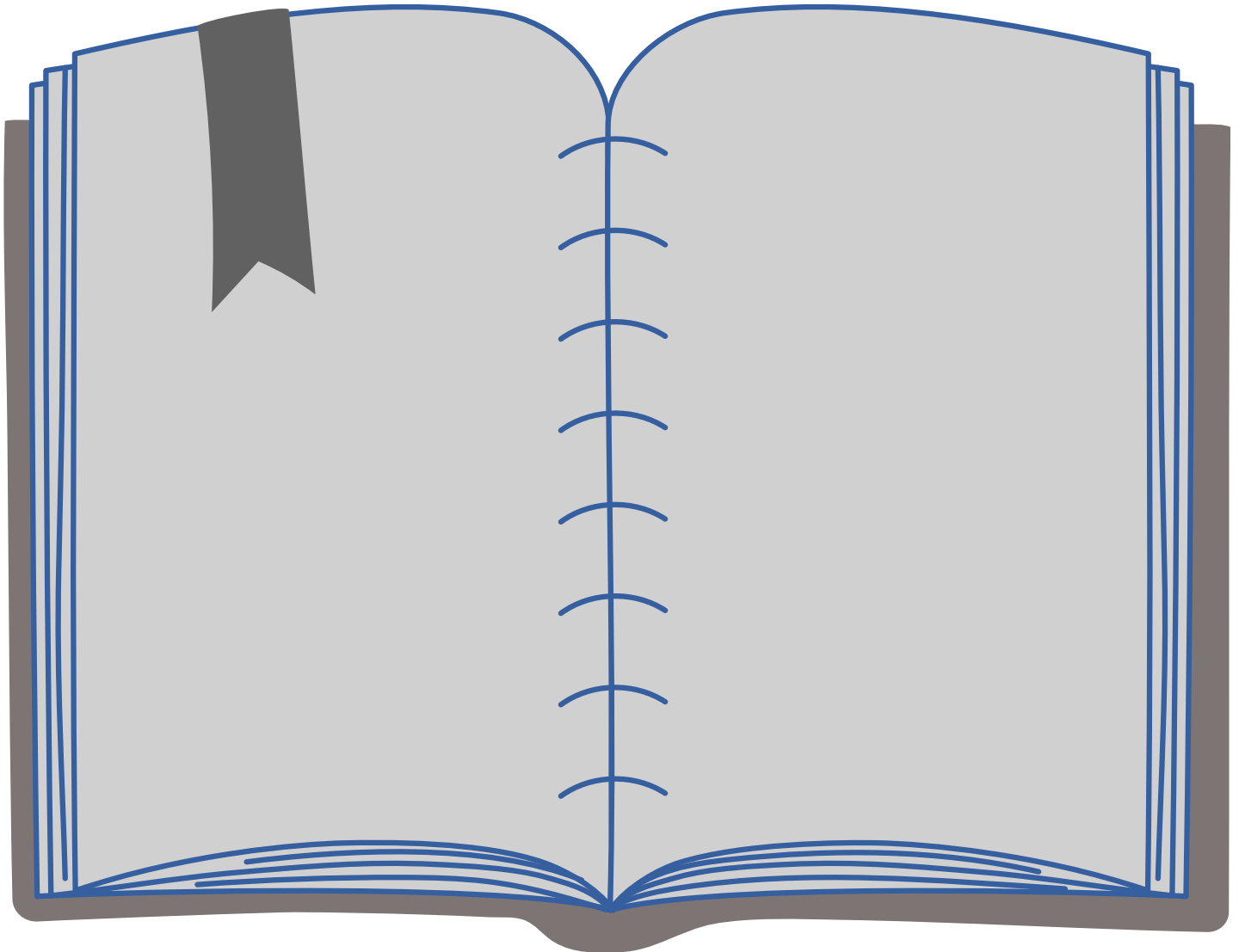


SKETCHES & DOODLES FROM FREEDOM PARK



REFLECTIONS

I AM INSPIRED BY...



THE MOST SPECIAL SPOT IN
FREEDOM PARK IS...

I WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT...

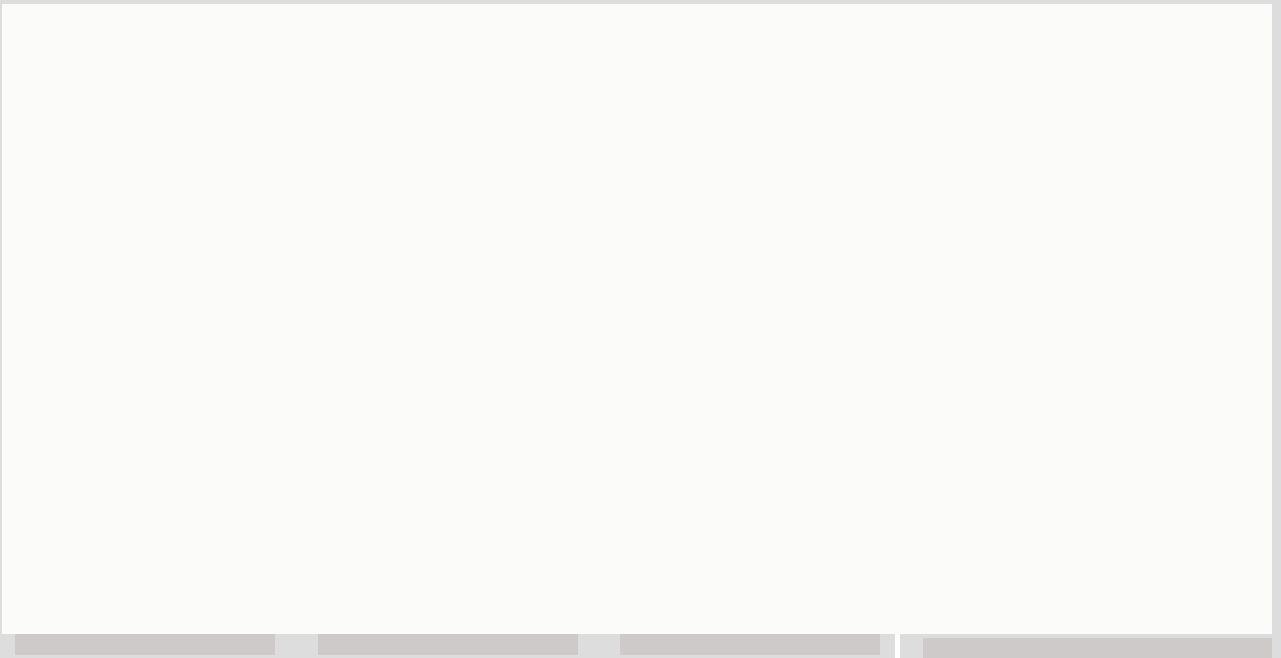
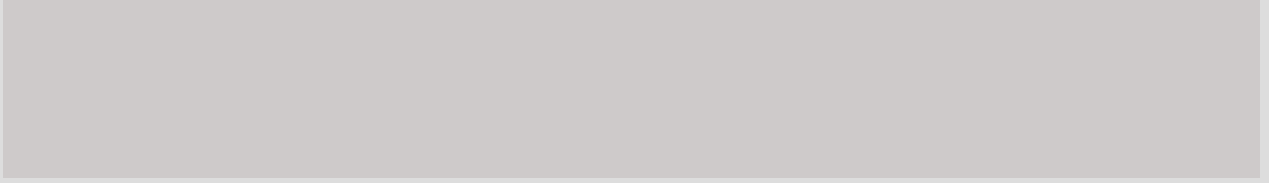
REFLECTIONS

MOST IMPORTANT THINGS I LEARNED

MOST MEMORABLE PARTS OF MY VISIT

WHO ELSE SHOULD SEE FREEDOM PARK & WHY? WHO WOULD YOU PERSONALLY MOST LIKE TO BRING & WHY?
WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO THEM ABOUT FREEDOM PARK TO CONVINCE THEM TO VISIT?

CREATE A HEADLINE FOR A NEWS ARTICLE ABOUT FREEDOM PARK.
UNDERNEATH, SKETCH A PICTURE THAT MIGHT APPEAR WITH THE ARTICLE.



IF YOU WERE INTERVIEWING ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OR ARCHITECTS
OF FREEDOM PARK, WHAT QUESTIONS WOULD YOU ASK?

DESIGN A POSTCARD FOR NC FREEDOM PARK!

DETERMINE & SKETCH A VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF FREEDOM PARK IN THE TOP BOX (THE FRONT SIDE OF THE POSTCARD.) IN THE SECOND BOX, ADDRESS IT TO SOMEONE YOU WOULD LIKE TELL ABOUT YOUR TRIP TO NC FREEDOM PARK.

The postcard template consists of two main rectangular sections. The top section is a large, empty square box intended for a sketch. The bottom section is a rectangle divided into two parts. On the right side of the bottom section is a smaller rectangle labeled "Place Stamp Here". To the left of the stamp area, there are three horizontal lines for writing a message. The entire address and message area is separated from the rest of the bottom section by a vertical line.



About the Author:



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