
Development Recommendations

Virginia-based developer Buchanan Partners hired Randall Travel Marketing to conduct an assessment of the Arcola Slave Cabin, located in Loudoun County, to determine its feasibility and appropriate uses as a heritage attraction. The Arcola Slave Cabin, a brick structure from the mid-19th century, sits on a four-acre site and includes an historic 1930s farmhouse on the location of the original homestead. A creek winds around the back of the cabin, separating the site from a proposed parking lot and commercial development.

This recommendation report is based on national research and an on-site assessment – conducted March 22-24, 2006 by Randall Travel Marketing president Judy Randall, and colleagues Berkeley Young, Young Strategies; Cheryl Hargrove, The HTC Group; and Frances Smiley, Alabama Bureau of Travel & Tourism. (See *Attachment A for consultant profiles.*)

The Market Potential

Cultural heritage tourism is one of America’s fastest growing industry segments. Between 1996 and 2002, cultural heritage tourism increased 13%, more than twice the growth of travel overall (5.6%)¹ Research conducted by the Travel Industry Association for Smithsonian indicates that 81% of traveling American adults – 118 million – visited an historic site or attraction in 2002. Seven percent of all group tours include heritage as part of their itinerary. According to Tourism Industries, US Department of Commerce, almost one third of all overseas visitors (20 million) include a heritage visit when touring in the U.S.

Defined as “traveling to experience the places, activities and artifacts that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present,” cultural heritage tourism attracts visitors that spend more and stay longer.² This highly educated, affluent visitor will also add time to their visit because of the availability of compelling historic or cultural activities. They are also more inclined to stay in hotels and shop for locally-made items, thereby increasing the economic impact per visitor to the county and state.

Potential cultural heritage customers span the demographic and geographic spectrum. Key target audiences include current and new residents of Loudoun County plus all types of visitors – business, leisure, convention/meeting, domestic & international; and particularly, African Americans.

The Opportunity for Arcola

Loudoun County already attracts millions of visitors annually for business and pleasure. With its proximity to Washington-Dulles Airport, the potential for the Route 50 Corridor in Loudoun County is even greater as a gateway to the county’s numerous attractions

¹ TIA and Smithsonian, *Historic/Cultural Traveler* 2003 Edition

² Travel Industry Association of America, 2001 Profile of Cultural Heritage Travel

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including nationally recognized heritage landmarks such as Ball's Bluff Battlefield Regional Park and Oatlands Plantation. The Route 50 Corridor links visitors from Winchester in the west and Fairfax in the east to attractions and historic communities. At its core, Route 50 boasts the Mosby Heritage Area with Aldie Mill and Mt. Zion Old School Baptist Church as two key attractions. Loudoun County also serves as the gateway for Washington and Baltimore visitors to the attractive wine and horse country of Northern Virginia. En route, urban travelers can experience the rich heritage of Loudoun County at the Museum of Horse & Hounds, White's Ferry, the Loudoun Museum, Historic Morven Park or Heritage Farm Museum. The Arcola Slave Cabin can contribute to the collection of heritage sites that currently tell the story of Loudoun County, past to present.

Recommendations Based on Research & Reconnaissance

1. *Preserve & Protect Historic Sites*

The Arcola Slave Cabin is a rare example of surviving stone structures from the mid-19th century. Its foundation is still relatively intact, with help from recent stabilization efforts. While the main house was lost to a fire, another home was built on its foundation in the 1930s. This historic structure helps transition the story of Loudoun County's development and growth. With all the development in Northern Virginia, it is vital that Loudoun County retain any existing historic sites.

A complete archaeological study will authenticate original locations and identify other potentially significant remains. This detailed study can also create a timeline for the existing slave cabin, and date the addition from the original structure. It can also uncover how various rooms in the cabin and surrounding areas, such as a kitchen garden, were used. Prior to any restoration or landscaping of the original grounds, hire an independent/credible firm to conduct a complete historical survey (including archaeological study.)

Specific Recommendations:

- Stabilize the slave quarters against any further decay, destruction.
- Conduct a credible and complete historical survey and archaeological study to accurately assess the site, grounds, preservation and stabilization needs.
- Authentically restore the slave cabin to its original structure at the time it was used by slaves.
- Provide the ongoing maintenance and preservation to retain the integrity of the site (including the main house, grounds and slave cabin.) The quality of the process and application should not be compromised at any time.

2. *Establish a Memorial as Tribute to the Slaves and their Descendants.*

Restoration of the site does not adequately tell the story of slavery in Loudoun County. A tribute dedicated to the slaves and their descendents is one key way to pay respect to their contributions of past and present. The Friends of the Slave Quarters

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should serve as advisors to the design of any memorial to ensure the appropriate type of commemoration or interpretation of the site.

Suggested Recommendations:

- Commission a local artist to design a piece of sculpture to place on the grounds as a memorial to the slaves.
- Erect a permanent wall of honor listing names of the slaves and their descendents.
- Consult/hire a museum/exhibit designer to place interpretive signs or statues throughout the grounds to demonstrate the various activities of the slaves.
- Display a timeline of Loudoun County milestones to chronicle the events and contributions of slaves and their descendents.

1. The Site Should Educate Visitors and Residents About the Lewis Family and African American Heritage in Loudoun County.

The Arcola Slave Cabin is one of the significant physical assets remaining to tell the story of African Americans contributions in Loudoun County's development and growth. To recognize its important story, and connect to other significant heritage sites in the region, the Arcola Slave Cabin must be appropriately and adequately interpreted for current and future generations.

After paying tribute to the slaves and their descendents, education is the most important purpose of the site. Education about slave life, the Lewis family, African American contributions to the county and beyond, could be included as part of the fourth grade curriculum when students learn about Virginia history.

Depending on the findings from the archaeological study and historic site survey, the interpretation can take on many different forms. For instance, outdoor interpretation can be conducted based on artifacts uncovered during the excavation. Location of a kitchen garden or unmarked graves can serve as additional places to tell the significant stories about the site and its occupants,

Specific Recommendations: Once the cabin has been authentically restored, and a tribute erected as a memorial to the Slaves and their Descendants, the Arcola site can be developed in phases to maximize the opportunity to attract visitors and tell the important story of Loudoun County's African American heritage.

- First Phase of Development, following preservation, is restoration of the **Farm House as Interpretative Center**. The Farm House, while not a contributing structure to the slavery story, is still an historic building. As such, the Farm House must be preserved. An appropriate adaptive reuse of the restored facility is as an interpretive center. Through sensitive and compelling messages and exhibits, the Farm House Interpretive Center can tell the story of early Loudoun residents and how they shaped the county's growth and development. It can provide the orientation "overview" to help set the stage for visitors unfamiliar with the region.

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If appropriate and available, the center can also share the stories of individual slaves and their descendents relative to how their accomplishments forged the Loudoun County of today. It can also be a forum for capturing oral histories and documenting the stories “in their own words.”

Depending on space and funding, The Interpretive Center can also serve other uses:

- House a research desk for genealogy enquiries, linked electronically to the Balch Library records and staff.
- Forum for community gatherings and meetings of local civic groups.
- Information kiosk to cross-market other area attractions, lodging and dining.

5. Create and maintain quality infrastructure to connect this site with Loudoun County's other heritage attractions.

While the site is not an ideal location as a full-service visitor center, it can cross-market and complement messages with other heritage attractions in Loudoun County and the region.

However, quality marketing and messaging is selling a promise it can't deliver if the site is compromised by its surrounding. Signage glut, inappropriately zoned areas, traffic congestion and litter detract from the overall visitor experience. The management of the destination – its attractions, infrastructure, growth and civic engagement – is vital to ensure that the experience can be delivered for both residents and visitors.

Specific Recommendations:

- Ensure that the County continues with its corridor management, and receives adequate funding to implement the necessary improvements and oversight.
- Enlist support of local civic and community groups to maintain landscape, conservation and beautification improvements.

6. Educate key stakeholders BEFORE and DURING the development of this visit.

Engaging the support and involvement of the local community is paramount to the success of the Arcola Slave Cabin preservation, interpretation and sustainability. The Friends Group has been valiant in educating local officials about the importance of this site. Now, the education effort must be expanded to include additional local stakeholder groups including:

- a. Educators (4th grade, high school and university level professors) – to help define how students can be included in the “teaching with place” process
- b. Preservation Community – to provide oversight and support the preservation and maintenance practices
- c. History & Humanities Community – to authenticate the data and messages, sharing information about appropriate interpretive strategies and mediums
- d. Attraction Managers – to coordinate and cross-market strategies, tour programs, complement messages (rather than conflict or compete), collaborate on

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partnerships (events, functions, packages, multi-site tickets, etc.) Key existing partners are the Historic Sites Consortium and the Mosby Heritage Area.

- e. Tourism Industry – to leverage resources for attracting the desired customer and their spending

Other key constituents to involve include: Slave Descendents, Conservationists, Government Officials, Financial community (foundations, public and private funders) and Genealogists.

Collectively, the input and buy-in from these audiences can ensure that the site is appropriately maintained at a level of integrity that is appropriate and necessary for its sustainability.

Specific Recommendations:

- Continue to offer an opportunity for civic engagement and input.
- Make sure adequate funding is available to continue the education process, through effective and consistent communication among key stakeholders.
- Use technology to communicate with key audiences. Design and launch a website, print materials and other communication tools to generate the desired call to action. Create initial marketing to include targeted messaging, programs and other relative needs. For instance, on the website provide a teacher's link to downloadable in-service training materials on how to teach the Loudoun development story with advance lesson plans and an on-site visit to the Arcola Slave Cabin site.

7. Expand the site for more comprehensive educational opportunities.

Telling this story is ambitious with a four-acre, two building site. Space is an important commodity when sharing sensitive stories. Sensitively and respectfully developing the site is vital to create a memorable visitor experience. Buffers and appropriate landscaping can help deflect external sounds or activities.

Ideally, additional acreage can provide the appropriate space for new facilities to support visitation. Adequate parking areas for motorcoaches and automobiles plus visitor services (such as rest rooms) are critical to hosting tourists. If the attraction offers a compelling enough experience (to compete with similar African American sites), visitation can be tapped from diverse groups to help sustain the management of the site. Potential customers include current residents of Loudoun County, new residents; Visitors – business, leisure, convention/meeting, domestic & international visitors to the metro DC area, and African Americans.

A *new Orientation Center* is valid if visitation can warrant earned income opportunities through retail sales, add-on tour options, educational programming and events, and other revenue sources. This new facility can provide a staging area for events and as the initial site for region-wide African American tour programs. It can also serve as a meeting place or stop for other guided regional tours that include the Arcola Slave Cabin site.

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Specific Recommendations:

- Following the historic site survey of existing structures, determine the capacity of both sites when renovated. (This is the number of people that can safely and comfortably visit a place at one time.)
- Create a master plan for the site, based on the potential messages and earned income opportunities (through visitation admissions, retail and programming) to offset development and management costs.
- Determine strategies to tell sensitive stories to key audiences. For instance, several groups noted that families are an important market for this site yet the messages may be difficult for young children. Map out and conduct extensive market research on messaging BEFORE promoting or distributing any interpretive materials.

8. Add “local flavor” to adjacent commercial development.

To enhance the salability of the authentic heritage experience, consider providing local incentives for merchants and other entrepreneurs to create a Loudoun-based commercial district in the adjacent Arcola Center development.

Specific Recommendations:

- Showcase the agricultural history by recruiting local farmers to host a regular “farmers market” -- bring produce/products to a central location as a way to generate additional, consistent traffic to the area.
- Sell loft or studio space at an incentive price for local artists to produce items on-site.
- Recruit local galleries, owners of locally made specialty foods (such as wine and cheese) to set up shop in the Loudoun Main Street district.
- Encourage local civic and community organizations, groups to use the Interpretive Center grounds for reunions and other appropriate events.
- Consider auto-alternatives by developing bike and walk paths as part of the region’s transportation corridor.

Challenges to Consider

Competition for the cultural heritage customer is fierce. There are more than 9,000 historic house museums and approximately 16,000 museums operating in the US today. The visitor has an increasing number of quality choices as more sites open their doors. Special interest or niche market museums are on the rise, as well. More than a dozen museums focusing on slavery and/or African American studies opened or broke ground in 2000, including the National Freedom Center in Cincinnati. A number of slave cabins are currently open to the public, predominately in the southern states, as part of a larger plantation or Civil War story. One cabin in Louisiana has been converted to a restaurant; another in Georgia serves as the headquarters of a local garden club; some slave cabins here in the US and abroad are available for overnight accommodations.

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Most that are open for visitation receive funding from other sources to sustain the property and staff. (See *Appendix B.*)

A key concern for this project is appropriate use of the Arcola Slave Cabin. Being on its original site, the cabin can powerfully tell the story of the African American contribution to Loudoun County's development. It also can strongly contribute to the regional story by linking the interpretation to other heritage attractions throughout the county and area.. However, certain uses are not appropriate or feasible for the Arcola site. The site is not of sufficient size to warrant billing as a full-service visitors' center or other uses above and beyond an interpreted heritage site.

A second concern is adequate and consistent funding, not just for development but also for sustaining the facility and managing it appropriately. Loudoun County is already burdened with operation of several historic sites that have structural issues and sagging visitation. Before embarking on another acquisition that requires extensive capital for quality restoration, development and management, the County needs to be guaranteed availability of long-term funding for the project. The site must be developed to sustain its primary role – as a heritage attraction that contributes to the overall story of Loudoun County. There are not sufficient or sustainable resources to include other services – such as genealogy research currently available at the Balch Library – that are offered in other county facilities or in more appropriate spaces.

Surrounding the four-acre site with new retail, commercial and residential development may also pose interpretive difficulties. Juxtaposing the past in the middle of the proposed new growth is a challenge to putting the story into context. "Place" exists not only from the location of physical structures but also from surroundings. Helping visitors and residents understand that the Arcola Slave Cabin is an authentic structure that was originally surrounded by agricultural fields, not shops and homes, is important to the context of the story and visitor experience.

Conclusion

The Arcola Slave Cabin is an important and significant structure that should be saved, interpreted and integrated into the historic story of Loudoun County and Virginia. With sensitive preservation and protection, appropriate recognition for the slaves and their descendants, and linkage to other heritage sites and activities in the county, the Arcola Slave Cabin can contribute greatly to the region's heritage tourism program. Vital to its sustainability is the necessary funding and management to ensure quality preservation and protection of the site, educational programming that is open and accessible to residents and visitors, and collaboration with other heritage groups to provide regional authentic experiences delivered with integrity.

APPENDIX A

PROJECT TEAM CREDENTIALS:

Judy L. Randall, President and CEO, Randall Travel Marketing

Over 20 years of travel, tourism and marketing experience. Randall has worked with numerous attractions, lodging, and destination marketing organizations throughout the United States.

Current and Recent Clients:

- Memphis CVB (TN)
- Florida's Space Coast (FL)
- State of Wyoming
- State of Kansas
- South Padre Island CVB (TX)
- Loudoun County CVA (VA)
- Crater Planning District Commission (11 jurisdictions in Virginia)
- Lincoln CVB (NE)
- Montgomery CVB (AL)
- Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum (OK)
- Central Florida VCB (FL)
- State of Georgia (GA)
- Finger Lakes Association (14 Counties in NY)
- Smoky Mountain CVB (TN)
- State of Mississippi: Blues Alley Heritage Trail (24 Counties)
- Cape Fear Coast CVB (NC)
- Fredericksburg Area Tourism (VA)
- Lexington CVB (KY)
- Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association (16 Counties in northern AL)
- Columbus CVB and Port Columbus Civil War Naval Museum (GA)
- Louisiana Office of Tourism (LA)

Recent keynote and speaking engagements:

- AAA National Conference
- International Association of Convention and Visitor Bureaus
- Travel and Tourism Research Association
- Bank Travel Association
- American Bus Association
- National Tour Association
- National Heritage Conference
- National Scenic ByWays
- Association of Zoos and Aquariums
- Shop America Summit
- Society of American Travel Writers Annual Meeting
- Society of Government Meeting Planners
- Select Registry/International Innkeepers Association
- Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College and Annual Meeting
- National Conference For Outdoor Drama
- **Numerous state tourism conferences throughout the United States

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Randall, along with Dr. Larry Gustke, authors the annual *Top Ten Trends In Travel and Tourism*, which is used internationally by travel and tourism marketing organizations. Her writings and reports on travel and tourism marketing and promotion are well known throughout the industry.

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Berkeley W. Young, President, Young Strategies

17 years of travel/tourism marketing and management experience. Young's experience includes serving as the Executive Director of a rural tourism development authority (CVB) and chamber of commerce in which he oversaw the creation and success of a start up research-based tourism marketing program. Then, Young was hired as Director of Sales and quickly promoted to General Manager of a large golf resort managed by the nation's largest hotel management company. Young joined Randall Travel Marketing in 1998 as Director of Client Services and was promoted to Vice President in 2000.

Current and Recent Clients

- Memphis CVB (TN)
- State of Wyoming
- State of Kansas
- Crater Planning District Commission (11 jurisdictions in Virginia)
- Lubbock CVB (TX)
- Montgomery CVB (AL)
- Florida's Space Coast
- Lincoln CVB (NE)
- Central Florida VCB (FL)
- Loudoun County CVA (VA)
- Bartlesville CVB (OK)
- York County CVB (PA)
- Grand Forks CVB (ND)
- Lexington CVB (KY)
- Morgantown CVB (WV)
- Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum (OK)
- Finger Lakes Tourism Association (16 Counties) (NY)
- State of Mississippi: Blues Alley Heritage Trail (24 Counties) (MS)
- Cape Fear Coast CVB (NC)
- South Padre Island CVB (TX)
- Macon/BibbCounty CVB (GA)

Recent Speaking Engagements

- International Association of Convention & Visitor Bureaus
- National Tour Association
- Southeast Tourism Society Annual Marketing College
- Tri-States CVB Association
- Select Registry/International Innkeepers Association
- ***Over 20 state tourism conferences*

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Cheryl M. Hargrove, President, The HTC Group

A travel industry veteran with 25 years experience, Ms. Hargrove is best known as the National Trust for Historic Preservation's first director of heritage tourism where she developed the key steps and principles for sustainable tourism.

Current and Recent Clients:

- American Express Company
- Appalachian Regional Commission
- Fermata. Inc.
- Gatlinburg Foundation
- HandMade in America
- State of Kansas
- National Endowment for the Arts
- National Park Service/National Register of Historic Places
- National Trust for Historic Preservation
- New Jersey Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Travel South USA
- Travel Industry Association of America
- Universal Companies/Greater Philadelphia Marketing Corporation
- US-China Arts Exchange

Recent Interviews, Publications, Articles:

- Washington Post (12/05)
- NPR (11/05)
- Regional Editor for National Geographic Society's Center for Sustainable Destinations first *geomap* for Appalachia (inserted in *Traveller* magazine April 2005).
- Wall Street Journal (3/05)
- Authored "AgriCultural Tourism Manual" for HandMade in America
- Produced *Getting Started: How to Succeed in Heritage Tourism* and companion video, *Preserving the Past ... Building the Future*, funded by American Express, for National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Co-authored National Trust "Share Your Heritage" Curriculum
- Authored *Touring Historic Places*, in partnership with the National Tour Association
- Testified before the subcommittee of the US House of Representatives on the importance of heritage tourism.

Key Speaking Engagements & Affiliations:

- Cleveland Restoration Society Annual Meeting
- Faculty Member of Southeast Tourism Society's Annual Marketing College
- US Cultural & Heritage Tourism Summit (advisory committee)
- Leadership Forum for Yunnan, China (sponsored by Ford Foundation)

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Frances Harris Smiley, CTIS, TMP

Frances Harris Smiley, CTIS, TMP, a 30-year career Alabama State Employee, is the Supervisor of the eight Alabama Welcome Centers and serves as the Coordinator of the State's Heritage Tourism Program. She has served as the Assistant Director of the Alabama Bureau of Tourism & Travel and prior to this appointment she served on the Governor's Cabinet for Tourism in the Siegelman Administration. For more than 22 years she worked in the group tour marketing and directed its marketing and advertising. She is the author of the nation's first Black Heritage Tourism Guide that started under the leadership of Governor Wallace in 1983. In 1994, she received the Phoenix Award from the American Society of Travel Writers, a delegate to the Nation's First White House Conference on Travel and Tourism in 1995 and a delegate to the 2005 US Cultural & Heritage Tourism Summit. **In August 1997, she received the Nation's first "Trailblazer Pioneer Award for Multicultural Tourism", from the Multicultural Tourism Conference, and the award is henceforth named, "The Frances Smiley Trailblazer Award."**

Honors and Awards:

- Recognized by *Black Meetings and Tourism Magazine* as one of the "Most Influential African Americans in Tourism" in the United States in '97 - '05
- Recognized in 2001 by International Association of Professional & Business Women
- Inducted in July of 1999 in the Alabama Tourism Hall of Fame
- Inducted in May 2003 into the West Alabama Tourism Hall of Fame.
- First African American to serve on the National Tour Association Board of Directors in 2001.

She has participated in the United Parcel Service Human Relations and Diversity Management Training for seventeen years. Served on the '99-'00 TIA Professional Development Committee and has participated in tourism conferences and programs, historic preservation, professional development, heritage tourism development and diversity marketing projects and programs throughout North America. She serves as the State Tourism contact for the Selma to Montgomery Historic Trail, West Alabama Tourism Development and the Tombigbee Tourism Initiatives. In August 2003, she joined the faculty at the Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College in Dahlonega, Georgia and teaches courses in "Diversity & Multicultural Marketing".

Current and Recent Boards and Committees:

- 1999-2001 American Bus Association Diversity Committee and Convention Advisory Committee
- 2001-02 Southeast Tourism Society Board of Directors and on its 2000 - '04 Marketing Council
- '99-'04 Alabama Historical Commission Board and its Heritage Council since 1994
- Alabama Military Hall of Honor
- The American Village
- Alabama Germany Partnership
- Alabama Tourism Partnership
- Montgomery Envision 20/20 Tourism,

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- Alabama Archives and History Foundation
- Montgomery Chamber of Commerce 2003-present Board
- 2003-2004 Montgomery CVB Roundtable Chair
- 4/99-6/00 Alabama Commerce Commission
- Montgomery Bus Boycott Steering Committee, 50th Anniversary Executive Committee to Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright, the 40th Anniversary for the Selma to Montgomery March and Jubilee Cityfest.

APPENDIX B

NATIONAL RESEARCH: SLAVE CABIN RESTORATION & REUSE

Slave Cabin/Houses Open to Public for Tours – A Selection

- **Kingsley Plantation – Fort George Island, Florida:** Site includes the plantation house, a kitchen house, barn and ruin of 25 of the original tabby-shell slave quarters. www.cr.nps.gov/goldcres/sites/kingsley.htm
- **Waveland State Historic Site – Lexington, Kentucky:** The Bryan family accompanied Daniel Boone through the Cumberland Gap to the Bluegrass region, and established Bryan's Station in 1779 one of Kentucky's first settlements. Family tradition holds that Daniel Boone surveyed the land where Waveland now stands for his nephew, Daniel Boone Bryan. The tour includes the main house and also outbuildings, where guests learn about slave life in Kentucky. www.parks.ky.gov/statehistoricsites/wv/details.htm
- **Evergreen Plantation – Wallace, Louisiana:** A National Historic Landmark, the 19th century site originally housed 103 slaves in 48 dwellings. Despite 150 years of repair and reconstruction, some of the quarters still retain their original appearance and double row configuration. House is open to the public but only through tours conducted by New Orleans Tour Company or Airboat Adventures. www.cr.nps.gov
- **Frogmore Plantation – Louisiana:** An 1800-acre working cotton plantation, Frogmore has 18 restored buildings that date from the early 1800s including authentically furnished slave row cabins dating to 1810. www.frogmoreplantation.com
- **Magnolia Plantation, Cane River Creole National Historic Park – Natchez, Louisiana:** Eight intact brick cabins are a rare surviving example of a masonry slave village built in the 1840s. Total of 70 cabins on the plantation. Eight mud-brick slave cabins, originally duplexes, will be restored. Two are open to the public; Park Service tours are free. www.nps.gov/cari/magnolia.html
- **Hampton Plantation - Baltimore County, Maryland:** Part of the Ridgley Estate, it has substantial slave quarter buildings of stone and one highly modified log cabin. Managed by the National Park Service. www.nps.gov/hamp
- **Greenfield Village - Dearborn, Michigan:** The living history park has two relocated slave houses from Georgia. www.hfmgy.org
- **Historic Stagville – Durham, North Carolina:** State historic site with the only original field slave houses open to the public in North Carolina. www.historicstagvillefoundation.org

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- **Bellamy Mansion – Wilmington, North Carolina:** One of the best preserved examples of an urban slave quarter is found behind the Bellamy Mansion.
bellamy@bellsouth.net
- **Boone Hall Plantation – Charleston, South Carolina:** The southeast's only surviving "slave street." Open to the public. www.boonehallplantation.com
- **The Hermitage – Nashville, Tennessee:** Andrew Jackson's first log house was later converted to slave housing after the mansion was built in 1821.
www.thehermitage.com
- **Mount Vernon – Alexandria, Virginia:** George Washington's home includes slave quarters. www.mountvernon.org
- **Smithfield Plantation – Blacksburg, Virginia:** Site includes a 1.5 story log cabin built in part from the logs of a cabin thought to have once been a 1840s slave cabin from another segment of the plantation.
www.civic.bev.net/smithfield
- **Monticello and Poplar Forest – Virginia:** Both include slave rooms in the dependency wings that Thomas Jefferson traditionally added to his houses.
www.monticello.org and www.poplarforest.org
- **Highlands – Ash Lawn, Virginia:** James Monroe's home includes one surviving slave quarters building.
www.monticello.avenue.org/Tourism/AshLawn

Slave Cabins Used as Bed and Breakfasts

A Rosemark Haven

Bardstown, Kentucky

Among the seven guest rooms at this bed and breakfast are the Stiles Master Suite, which occupies the entire second floor of the former slave quarters and has a private entrance, and the Dane Room, which has a 20-foot hearth and occupies the ground floor of the slave quarters. The restored 1830s home features a three-story, oval spiral staircase, 12- and 13-foot ceilings, wide plank yellow poplar and ash floors, antiques, and a fireplace in every room.

B&W Courtyards Bed and Breakfast

New Orleans, Louisiana

Adjacent to the French Quarter in the Faubourg Marigny, this bed and breakfast consists of three 19th-century buildings connected by courtyards and containing six guest rooms. The old slave quarters have been transformed into a Barbados-style beach house.

Monmouth Plantation

Natchez, Mississippi

At this 1818 Greek Revival estate, guests can select accommodations in the main house, garden cottages, carriage house, plantation suites, Quitman's

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retreat, pond cottages or courtyard building (three rooms and one suite), which is the former kitchen and slave quarters. Surrounded by 26 landscaped acres with a rose garden, pergola, moss-draped oak trees, ponds and walking trails, the plantation hosts weddings, receptions and business conferences.

The Boxley Bed and Breakfast

Madison, North Carolina

At this bed and breakfast set on a hill downtown, the original, one-story house antedates the establishment of Madison (circa 1785) and the two-story Greek/Federal-style house was constructed in 1825, with additions in the early 1830s and 1930. English boxwoods that are more than 150 years old line the front walk and driveway, and American boxwoods are present throughout the gardens in the back yard of the one-acre-plus property. Guests can choose from three rooms in the main house and a room in a separate cottage, originally the slave quarters.

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Pleasant Lane Acres Bed and Breakfast

Edgefield, South Carolina

The innkeepers of Pleasant Lane Acres have spent 10 years restoring their three-guest-room bed and breakfast, which was constructed as a two-room dwelling for slaves in the early 1800s and was enlarged by a later owner. On its acres of fields and woods, the property provides a pond for bream and bass fishing and several walking paths.

Edgewood Plantation

Charles City, Virginia

During the Civil War, Confederate generals who were camped at nearby Berkeley Plantation used the third floor of this bed and breakfast as a lookout post, and area residents used its living room as a church. Edgewood Plantation, an 1849 example of Carpenter's Gothic architecture, offers eight guest rooms, six in the main house and two in the former slave quarters. The estate includes a swimming pool, formal gardens and a wooded stream and is available for group tours, weddings, Victorian tea parties, meetings and banquets.

Prospect Hill Plantation Inn

Charlottesville, Virginia

The Sheehan family, innkeepers of this 18th-century plantation on 50 acres of manicured grounds with a pool and gardens, invites guests to join them for a wine reception and five-course dinner as part of the experience at this bed and breakfast. In addition to five guest rooms in the manor house, there are the boys' cabin, circa 1699, the oldest building on the grounds; the 1720s summer kitchen cottage; the 1740s overseer's cottage; the 1790 slave quarters, with two rooms; the 1850s carriage house suite; the groom's quarters, above the carriage house; and Sanco Pansy's cottage, originally the residence of a former slave.

The Quarters

Charlottesville, Virginia

Built between 1815 and 1830 as a slave house according to the Associated Press article, The Quarters offers one private upstairs suite, containing a sitting room with a double sleep sofa and fireplace, a king-bedded room, a single-bedded room, and a bath with a footed Victorian tub. It is decorated with fine art and antiques and is within walking distance of the University of Virginia.

Caledonia Farm - 1812 Bed and Breakfast

Washington, Virginia

Restoration of this Federal-style home – with its 2-foot thick walls of native fieldstone, 32-foot long beams and original mantels, paneled windows and wide pine floors – was completed in 1965. Located on a working beef cattle farm adjacent to Shenandoah National Park, this bed and breakfast consists of a two-bedroom suite on the second floor and a summer kitchen suite, connected to the

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house by a breezeway and was originally the dwelling of six house slaves. With a view of Skyline Drive in the Blue Ridge Mountains, guests can soak in the hot tub, take a bike or hayride, play lawn games, or do some bird-watching.

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Jan Harmsgat Guest Farm

Swellendam, South Africa

A 2-hour drive from Cape Town, this guest house is part of a working wine farm with a pool in the Klein Karoo winelands region. Its four en-suite rooms and adjoining lounge are located in the original slave quarters of the farm, which was established in 1723, and several rooms feature expansive mountain views. There is also a private cottage accommodating up to four guests at the property's edge, about a 5-minute drive from the main house.

Slave Cabins: Other Uses

Slave Cabins of Hamilton Plantation

Saint Simons Island, Georgia

Two slave cabins on the Gascoigne Bluff section of Hamilton Plantation were given to the Cassina Garden Club in 1931 for preservation. One of the cabins has a rear kitchen addition, but otherwise the overall forms of these two buildings remain intact. The Garden Club now organizes tour of homes/gardens twice a year to raise funds for the maintenance of these structures. Ticket collection and tours begin at the restored slave cabins.

The Tabby House

St. Simons Island, Georgia

One of the oldest buildings on St. Simons Island, the Tabby House is a favorite spot for special functions such as banquets, rehearsal dinners and luncheons (seating 40 persons), small receptions (serving 60 standing) and meetings. Built circa 1806 as quarters for the servants of the Hamilton Plantation, the structure is one of only four remaining tabby cabins on the island. www.epworthbythesea.com

The Cabin Restaurant

Burnside, Louisiana

This restaurant preserves some of the local farming history, serves meals typical of the River Road tradition in one of the 10 original slave dwellings on the Monroe Plantation. The restaurant, in operation since 1973, serves meals daily and is also used for weddings, family reunions, and parties. It is part of a larger site including St. Joseph's School House, the first Catholic school for children of color in Louisiana; two slave cabins, both from Helvetia Plantation; L'Armitage General Store, saved from destruction when the Mississippi River Levee was moved in 1932; and the Joseph Dornier house. www.thecabinrestaurant.com

Slave Cabins in Transition

**Francis Marion University Campus
Florence, South Carolina**

Description: Campus includes two of eight hewn-timber cabins built by African Americans to house African-American slaves who were brought to this farm to raise cotton. The cabins are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Use: The exterior of the cabins can be seen at all hours. Currently, the cabins are open for visitors only on the second Wednesday of the month from 10:30am – 2:30pm (weather permitting.) For people who visit the cabins when they are closed, there is a sign outside each house with pictures showing what is inside. The signs also have a wealth of information – from small details about how they made lye soap to the big picture, like where in Africa their ancestors may have originated. Exhibits such as “African-American Life in the Hewn-Timber Houses” gives a brief history of the cabins and shows artifacts displayed in the cabins; “A Visit to Ms. Catherine’s House” shows what life was like when Mr. And Ms. Waiters lived there from the 1930s to the 1950s. www.fmarion.edu/htc

**Mallory-Neely House
Memphis, Tennessee**

Description: Built in 1852, the 25-room home contains stenciled and hand painted ceilings, parquet flooring, and stained-glass windows purchased at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. The Mallory-Neely House is the only historic property in Memphis to retain most of its original furnishings. Slave rooms are located in the basement. Interpretation includes how slaves were the moving force for operating the house. Curators have few documents related to slaves, but use them in a slavery education program for children.

Use: Temporarily closed - until further notice - to visitors due to City of Memphis budget situation.

**“Uncle Tom’s Cabin”
Rockville, Maryland**

Description: The estate of Hildegard Mallet-Prevost includes a log cabin which was once a detached summer kitchen where Josian Henson and other slaves lived in the late 1700s and early 1800s as part of a 3,700-acre plantation owned by Isaac Riley. The former slave’s autobiography inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe’s novel, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.

Proposed Use: \$1 million purchase by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission is pending approval. A committee of county historians, experts in black history and neighborhood residents will help decide its use and how it will be restored.

Development Recommendations

McLeod Plantation

Charleston, South Carolina

Description: McLeod Plantation is one of the most intact agricultural complexes in America. The 39.5-acre site includes a main house dating to 1854 plus remaining slave cabins from an earlier period. The slave cemetery that encompasses more than 100 known burial sites (plus additional graves not yet discovered), The site has frequently hosted commemorative vigils and ceremonies of remembrance. The site has not been open to the public in 15 years. It is currently listed on South Carolina Heritage Trust's Most Critically Significant Archaeological Sites (rank 32nd of 107.)

Proposed Use: Property recently sold to a school for development into an industrial campus. Existing historic building to be used for office space, and 21 additional buildings constructed – three in the National Historic Register zone. Only one slave cabin will be preserved. "This plan will leave the site irrevocably compromised, its unique agrarian character and archaeological artifacts forever altered or lost to posterity," says the Friends of McLeod, Inc. More than 270 members of the organization, and 5000+ people have signed petitions and written letters in an attempt to stop the school from located at McLeod.

Levi Jordan Plantation

Brazoria County, Texas

Description: 12 slaves began the development of one of the largest sugar and cotton producing plantations in Texas. The 2,222-acre plot includes the quarters occupied by slaves from 1848 until 1865. After 1865, Levi Jordan – the original owner – shifted to a farming system which employed many of his former slaves and their descendants in a system of sharecropping and tenancy. These same buildings housed the sharecroppers from 1888-1892.

Use: The slave cabins are not extant but periodic tours are offered because of the extensive archaeological value.