

MODELS FOR  
INTERPRETATION AND  
CONTEXTUALIZATION

February 4, 2021

# INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE PURPOSE

- Illuminate the power of place
  - Clear educational message and content inform the public and teach a site's significance
- More than facts, inspire stewardship
  - Strengthen awareness of cultural resource
- Demonstrate community pride in local heritage
- Consistent message can be delivered at all times
- Enhance a visitor's perceptions of a site or event so they can better appreciate unique history

# DIFFERENT MEDIUMS

- Monuments
- Signs
- Markers
- QR codes (quick response code)
- Websites

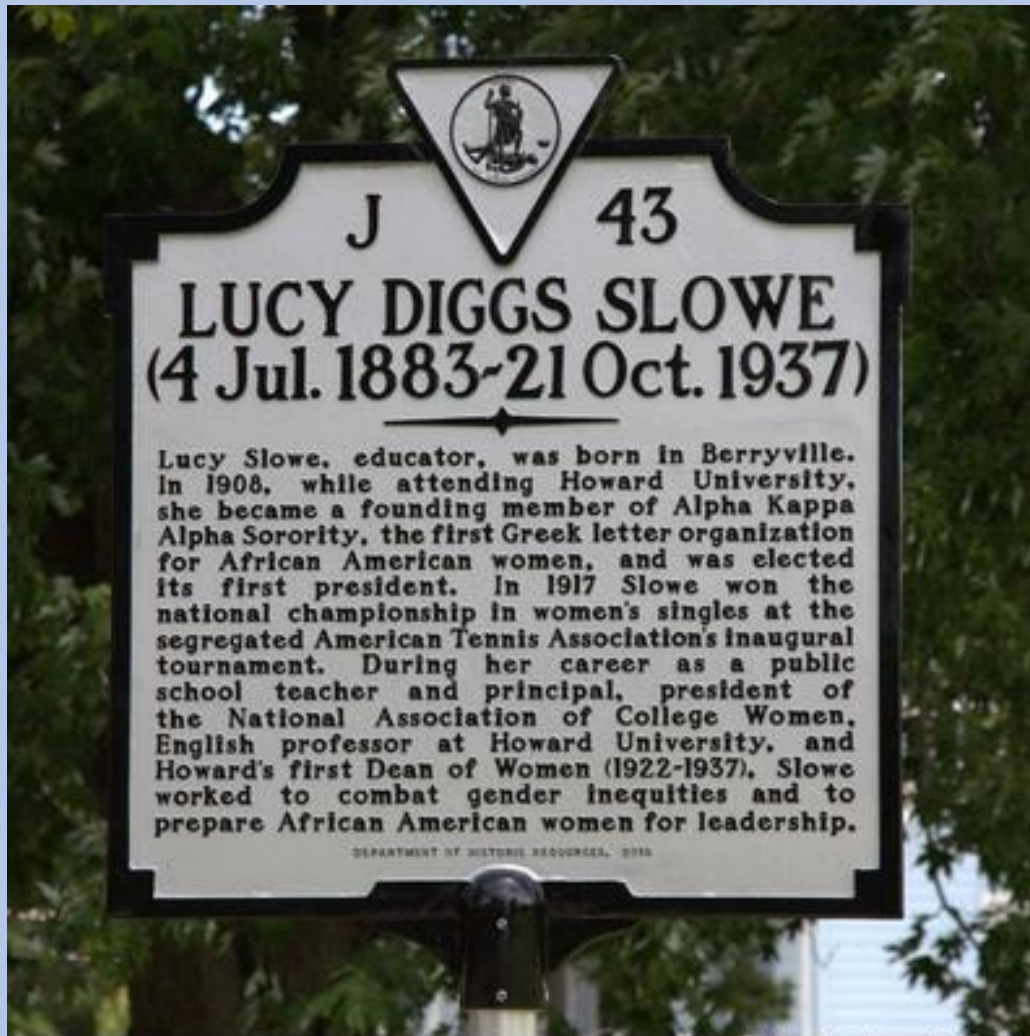
# MONUMENTS



# SIGNS



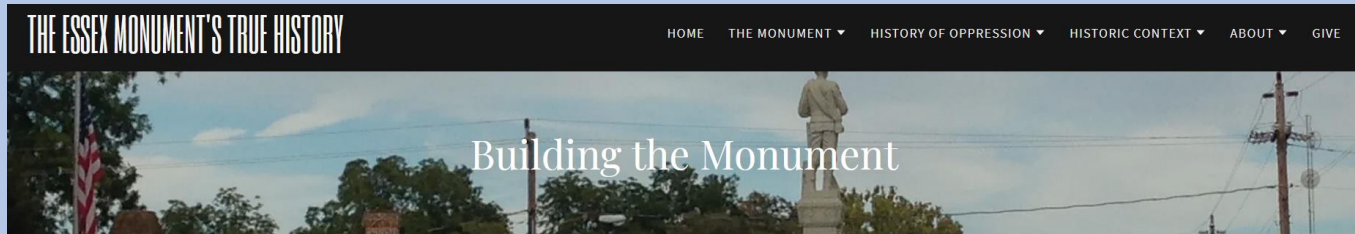
# MARKERS



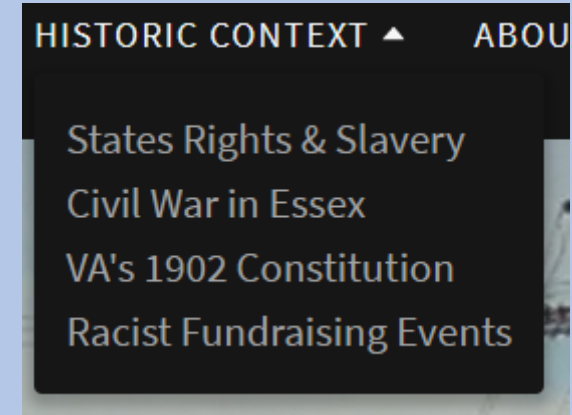
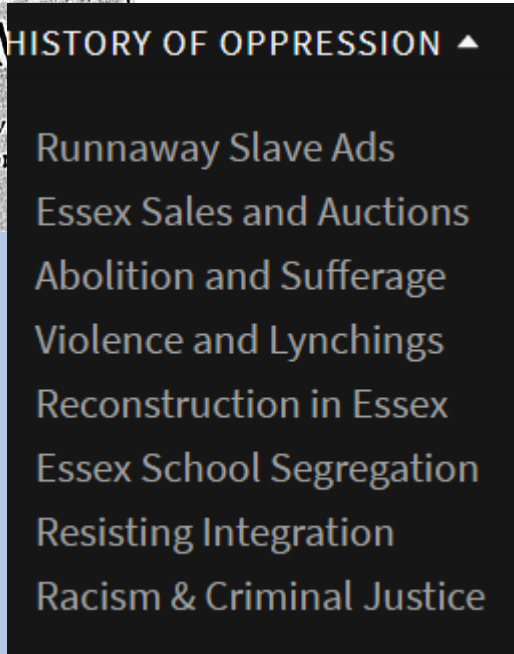
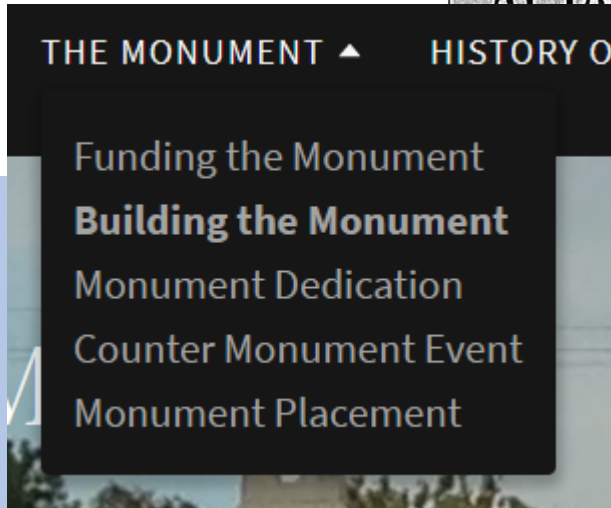
# QR CODES



# WEBSITES



The bronze tablets unveiled



## Why is the monument where it is?



### Symbolic Significance

Monuments mean something not only because of what they are, but where and how they are placed for public viewing. The position of the Tappahannock Confederate Monument is intentional, and communicates a number of ideas.

### In front of the Courthouse

During the years the monument was being planned, funded, and built, Jim Crow was becoming the law of the land in Virginia. Placing the monument just outside the Essex Courthouse reminded the entire community that racism was the law of Virginia, and of Essex.

### The Monument Faces East

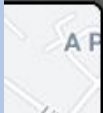
In a feature article about Tappahannock in 1942, when school segregation was in full swing and with the "Mixed Race Controversy" in Essex public schools settled by racial integrity



# POTENTIAL SUBJECTS

- Current Confederate monument's historical context
- African-American community in Clarke County
- Emancipation
- African Americans from Clarke who fought in the Civil War
- Other significant African Americans from Clarke County
- Significant women in Clarke County
- Early History
- Famous citizens
- Formation of the county
- Explanation of buildings and history







# Jane Ailes, Professional Researcher

- Men of Color in Union Army and Navy, born in Clarke Co., Virginia
- The U.S. Navy allowed men of color on vessels as crew members early in the Civil War.
- The U.S. Army did not allow men of color to enlist for service until President Lincoln's order in March 1863 which formed the Colored Regiments and allowed recruitment of soldiers for those regiments.
- The earliest Naval enlistments found so far for men born in Clarke Co. are two men who enlisted in July 1862.

# Examples of information gleaned from U.S. Army service records:

- Typically, the men born in Clarke Co. who enlisted in the Army, enlisted while in Pennsylvania and Ohio.
- A few men born in Clarke Co. were enslaved in Tennessee at the time of their enlistments—probably taken to TN with a master who removed from Clarke Co. to TN, or possibly taken south and sold in the TN slave markets.
- The descriptive portion of the service records note age, height, complexion, eye and hair color, occupation, and place of birth.

# About half of the soldiers applied for pensions based on their service.

- These pension documents reveal such things as:
  - Places of residence throughout life.
  - Circumstances for leaving Clarke Co.
  - Name(s) of person(s) who enslaved them, or if they were born free in Clarke Co.
  - Details of life as a slave or free person before the War.
  - Names and details of other veterans who were from Clarke Co. who then can also be researched.
  - Names of wives and children: widows applied for pensions and minor children were eligible for pension if their pensioned father died.
  - Names of parents since some parents applied for pension based on deceased son's service if they relied upon him for their support.

S | 2 | U.S.C.T.

*Ans. Snowden*  
Co. *1st*, 2 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on  
Company Descriptive Book  
of the organization named above.

DESCRIPTION.  
Age *22* years height *5* feet *7* inches.  
Complexion *black*  
Eyes; *black* hair *black*  
Where born *Clark Co., Va.*  
Occupation *Farmer*

ENLISTMENT.  
When *Sept 9*  
Where *Db.*

By whom \_\_\_\_\_; term \_\_\_\_\_ y'rs.

Remarks: *Drafted. Off. Sg. Oct. 15, 1863. Reduced for disobedience of orders, Dec 19, 1863. Promoted to Capt Jan 1, 1865. On scout to Appatachaety July 12, 1864. To St Andrews over*

*W. H. Ragan*  
Copyist

DEAD

*Snowden, John*

NAME OF SOLDIER:

SERVICE: *Late rank, Pvt. Co. No. 2, Reg't U.S.C. Inf.*

TERM OF SERVICE: *Enlisted*, 1 *Discharged*, 1

DATE OF FILING.	CLASS.	APPLICATION NO.	LAW.	CERTIFICATE NO.
<i>1907 Feb. 19</i>	<i>Invalid,</i>	<i>1031276</i>	<i>5/20</i>	<i>712975</i>
<i>1891 June 9</i>	<i>Widow,</i>	<i>1165472</i>	<i>5/20</i>	
<i>1920 Nov. 2</i>	<i>Minor,</i>			

ADDITIONAL SERVICES:

REMARKS: *L. H. W. G. W. Died Sept 1, 1920, in Germantown, Phila., Pa*