

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

Group 1A & 1B – What are the stories that you want told about Charlottesville?

- UVa built by slaves & served needs of students; slave contributed immensely (role of slaves)
- Be inclusive & complete-tell all stories so add more statutes (5)
- Have African Americans tell their stories personally (3)
- No sugar coated stories even though painful
- Graveyard for slaves near Monticello & other unrecognized places
- Beauty & music of Charlottesville
- Be sure schools teach the complete stories too (1)
- Ivy Creek, Tonsler Park (1)
- Written work with these stories for tourists
- Slave auction place more visible
- Vinegar Hill
- Urban Renewal south of tracks, near UVa (Gospel Hill) & Rose Hill, 10th & Page –where did people go when this happen
- Environmental justice (1)
- Zoning history since 1920's – relating to class & race
- People of African American community (history) that have gone unsung
- Identify & list rural African American communities – free state, etc
- List as many businesses form Vinegar Hill & what happened to those individuals (1)
- History of segregation of schools, Massive Resistance & the blacks & whites who protested it (2)
- History of Belmont – working class (1)
- UVa Anatomy Lab story – dissecting African American people
- How inhabit same place but have totally different ways of seeing world (creating memory history) (1)
- 10,000 years of Indians here (1)
- Contribution of African Americans (1)
- Indians from NY (before white settlers) invaded locan Indians, capturing some & killing some (one of many invasions over time)
- Don't get stuck in one time frame (1)
- Tell specific stories (such as Nanay West who started a newspaper)
- More storytelling so everyone knows tham (a venue of sharing)
- Schools tell Virginia history better

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- Find stories from when Washington Park was to be built – make accessible
- Tell stories of the Gibbons at UVa- teacher Jefferson School/Founder 1st Baptist
- Stories of early African Americans at UVa (1)
- Discussion of anti-Semitism (1)
- Main Street-Friendship Court – urban renewal – how past affects present, education make a learning experience
- Details of integration & race issues i.e. library, cemeteries, (not just schools) ongoing today (step by step) (1)
- Platform history channel – untold stories of Charlottesville (2)
- Eugenics – sterilization-history (2)
- UVa researching on black bodies without consent, health disparities – blacks not given same pain meds, connect as a way to make past connect to present
- Know what happened to the slaves – accomplishments? (1)
- Know more about black & white businesses & about Vinegar Hill-more stories (1)
- There are no statues of black people. What about Queen Charlotte, a black woman-why? McIntire's role as white supremacist?
- Know more about the stories of accomplishment of freed black people & all people of color(2)
- Learn more about the confederate hospitals & cemeteries
- American Indian history & stories (3)
- Learn more about the confederate hospitals & cemeteries
- Slave cemeteries – how were people buried (threw them over the wall)
- First Baptist as hospital in Civil War (2)
- Individuals – Stones- Oral Histories of Elders
- UVa Credit Union history founding members included Black WWII veteran & this history is not displayed (reference photo at Lowe's, story around 50 anniversary)
- History of Woolen Manufacturing Charlottesville Gray – West Point
- What does John Paul Jones have to do with Charlottesville?
- How are we supporting conversations to try to move past pervasive racism?
- Vinegar Hill is Charlottesville but they don't want you to know (1)
- Jefferson School – a great school, all black teachers – history repeating itself
- Black people struggling forever (3)
- African American churches & schools in rural Albemarle – the political boundaries don't erase the interconnection (1)
- Vinegar Hill as a reservation story – connection between Indian removal, Black removal, gentrification today (4)

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- Current housing issues - Connect to historical displacement (3)
- Rubbber Road
- Stories of white & black people who have worked together - Carter years?
- Black artist in Jefferson School should fill this place with color
- Peter Faucet – giant monuments for people who resisted slavery (1)
- Tucker Issac (1)
- Positive comments from Monticello programming – The Slave Dwelling Project
- Homeownership at Piedmont Industrial Institute – history of black successes
- Confederate soldiers stories on why they fought (3)
- History closer to today – 40's, 50's, 60's, 70's
- Drewary Brown bridge
- Charlottesville initiatives started but become dormant
- Trash can in front of Vinegar Hill plaque
- Voices of youth – today
- Massive Resistance & Apologies (1)
- Other historical figures who have visited here – MLK, Ali
- Stories of people from Charlottesville & Albemarle County – local people –Tippy, Julian Bond, Eugene Williams, Sally Hemmings – street named after her (5)
- Were leaders surprised by the debate about removing the statue?
- History of UVa – built by slaves
- Discussion by young people
- How I can get involved to get beyond racism (2)
- What were people in Charlottesville thing when the statues were dedicated – who was there?
- See a common narrative of our history in Charlottesville
- Comprehensive list of current monuments – but not know about Vinegar Hill monument
- Stories of immigrants
- Black history of Charlottesville
- Good stories, like Maplewood Cemetery- & blacks & whites buried together
- Why don't we dialogue together
 - Queen Charlotte and her African heritage (1)
 - Black people not represented in Charlottesville's "brand" – white story is advertised (3)
 - Black stories in Civil War commemorations
 - White people as interested in learning black history because the stories are there – the folks who are pro Lee

**Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016**

This was the hotbed for slavery in VA – at one time there were more Africans than whites
(4)

Cont House – info about the laws that kept slavery working (1)

Tell the story post-Civil War latter 1800's, early 1900/s (3)

Need a clear periodization-huge gap in knowledge

African American genealogy

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- **Group 2A & 2B – What places need to be memorialized that are not being memorialized sufficiently? Who are some of the hidden heroes?**

Hidden Heroes:

- Sally Hemmings (18)
- Julian Bond (8)
- Eugene Williams (7)
- African American teachers (1); Teacher in the Civil Rights Movement (5)
- Survey “the unknown heroes”
- Ann Hope – integrated schools
- “WPA” like stories offered program by the City (3)
- Drewary Brown (4)
- John West (4)
- Moseby “Ranger”
- Alicia Lugo (2)
- Miss Garrett
- Rev. E. G. Hall
- George Custer
- Janie Porter Barrett (2)
- Seminole Indians (1)
- Research more Black slaves (4)
- Pastor Henry Mitchell (1)
- Rev. and Mrs. Benjamin Bunn (4)
- Pastor Andrew Gibbons (William ?) (1)
- Mr. and Mrs Gibbons (5)
- Benjamin Tonsler (2)
- Jackson P. Burley (1)
- Professor McGuffey
- Rebecca McGinness (5)
- John Jackson, DDS
- Nanny Cox Jackson
- **Pauline Minor: Delta founder** (5)
- Mrs. Fowlkes: ran the Carver Inn
- George Inges (4)
- MLK and John Lewis opened doors at CHS (3)

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

Places memorialized:

- 1870 James Monroe House
- Monticello Dairy
- Spud Nuts
- Grocery stores; related to G. Inges comment (1)
- Jefferson School (4)
- Slave Block, Court Square (38)
- Vinegar Hill (39)
- Lee Park (4)
- Washington Park (10)
- Black parks
- Roadways; Main St., Ghost Roads – Pearl St. (1)
- Historic Black Neighborhoods (3)
- Historic Neighborhoods
- McGinness House (1)
- Frys Spring Beach Club
- Cemeteries (4)
- DOZ cemetery (9)
- More Black cemeteries located and identified (2)
- Native Americans (6)
- Native American settlement (1)
- Indigenous communities – where located? (4)
- Churches; First Baptist, Virginia Murray (6)
- Diner on Emmett St.
- James River Bateaux Boatmen
- Installation on contemporary history
- History Park
- Black Cemetery at UVA (5)
- Closing of school; massive resistance (2)
- Full story (white and Black history) of the Jefferson School (5)
- History of the schools
- UVA history of Nursing Profession (3)
- Historic homes on Ridge St. (2)
- Jokers' Barber Shop (3)

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- Inges' Grocery Store (3)
- Lewis and Clark House
- Ivy Creek Natural Area; Greer (10)
- Rose Hill hotel (Carver Inn) on Albemarle St (3)
- UVA hospital – Lee St. near Roosevelt (2)
- UVA gardens; recognize who built (3)
- Model of the community/businesses – before stories are lost (1)
- Lower Belmont – stock yard; class system explained (4)
- Making memorials interactive (3)
- Carter Woodson better publicized (2)
- Promote historic sites better (2)
- App for walking tours of historic sites (2)
- Prisons- behind library and new court house (3)
- Nau Hall site- Foster property (1)
- Highlight places where positive stories of African Americans histories (2)
- Albemarle Co. courthouse- house where man fought for freedom- Mighak? (1)
- Museum talking about African American history and highlight places to visit (2)
- UVA President's Commission on Slavery (1)
- Bren-wanna – hotel, restaurant, and nightclub on 29S (1)
- Tell full stories of people who won and lost; personal stories of sacrifice (2)
- African American graveyard at Monticello; original site of Hartman's Mill; operated until 1950's included Black and white workers from community (9)
- Oddfellows Hall and Blue Diamond Club (3)
- Woolen Mills; 4,000 year old Native American graveyard (8)
- Albemarle Hotel on West Main St. (1)
- Need generic empty public space free of any history and open to new ways of interacting (2)
- Buck v Bell plaque on Preston needs more visibility (4)
- Bowles family cemetery – Dunlora area (5)
- Integrate sites into African American trails project (3)
- Lynn Rainville has a cemetery project with all locations (1)
- Put info/history on Google maps as opposed to road markers (3)
- Need better ways to protect historical sites from degradation (2)
- Memorialize private sites/homes (1)
- Un-memorialize Thomas Jefferson (4)

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- More historical info, the better; more ways to learn (1)
- Profile positive Black role models; more positive stories (4)
- More community gardens/something similar- positive spaces for positive interactions (4)
- Expanding history lessons in public schools (5)
- What does memorialization mean? (2)

Group 3A & B – What does the statue of Stonewall Jackson mean to you – what would you like to see happen in that location (next to courthouse)?

- Add to what is there (1)
- Rename the park – plaques, statues contextualize w/civil rights from Cville-civil rights leaders from the time era
- Monument to free African American **shadach battles** (1)
Historic to **that spot built a house** (3)
- Remove statue from pedestal
- Tear it down use it for new courthouse (7)
- Contextualize funding sentiment during statue planning commission
- Objective education of Jackson remove statues to museum (2)
- Plaque-mention white supremacy – teach-make it welcoming for all (2)
- Choose different place for existing statues. Interpretive timeline
- All statues in one place labeled –interpret insurrection treason (1)
- Move the statue
Thematically interpret to prevent “Re-created Nazi Camp”
- Memorialize more plaques!! (4)
- Leave it as is, no emotion, it’s art (7)
- Women’s memorial in history plantings add to the story
- Slave Market Memorial (2)
- Something inclusive and privately funded add to
- A new role for the space, then decide who is responsible for the space?-compromise
- Replace the statue, a statue of Nat Turner
- Remove statue represents social, political, economic oppression, positive uplifting
- Something that speaks to African American story – all different histories, timeline concise, consistent history of the park
- Process feedback...understand where people feel comfortable (1)
- Relocate/Add Context

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- Pleasure for passersby, for all
- Finest equestrian statue/remarkable (1)
- Historical information/questions
- Memorial to confederate soldiers
- Discomfort (1)
- Placement at courthouse?
- Feeling of anger/loss providing justice location near slave auction/preserves slavery
- Happen at stonewall location
- Balance of story (1)
- Move in context of McIntire gift (1)
- “Re-contextualize” (5)
- Stay where it is /familial (5)
- Equestrian ok, remove and replace with General Custer
- Sell/donate statue
- Location of stone
- What about black family if we talk about “family” (1)
- I’m not sure? (1)
- Legal work/check deed, patents, etc. (1)
- Means a lot to tourists, residents, etc. statue is a “mirror” of perception (1)
- Ancestors fought/enslavement
- Work of art (4)
- Where is it?
- Equestrian/beautiful
- Values whites only (1)
- Move to history park (Lee Park) (1)
- Leave/acknowledge history good/bad (1)
- Expand story/leave it for inclusion (1)
- Move to museum (8)
- Full story...
- Move to a “history park”
- Make a history boulevard leave/incorporate other histories
- Dominate size-add to /equally-sized to tell another story
- What did Italy/Germany do with statues
- Here before I was born
- Lot of history/a presence

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- Work of art (4)
- Remembering segregation & hatred/white superiority
- Curiosity
- Symbol of the past
- Leave in place and add other statues & information (5)
- Move to a museum (9)
- Seek balance in place (2)
- Use the space as an educational opportunity (3)
- Never seen it
- Beautiful but no significance
- Irreplaceable piece of art
- Aesthetic pleasing
- Part of an era
- Balance at the location
- Remove statues – leave a plaque
- Make a history park & tell the whole story
- Seek balance
- Memorialize legal freedom
- Draw the citizens to it-reflecting pool
- Place of war, not a place of court
- Leave in place, like simple open spaces
- People, not \$\$ to move the statue

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

Group 4A & 4B – What does the statue of R.E. Lee mean to you – what would you like to see happen in that location (Lee Park, next to the library)?

- The statue has only recently become an issue
- Nothing that represents white folks should affect me
- The statue is low hanging fruit – look at Jefferson
- Change name of park is ok, but moving statue is too much
- “Heroes” who represent inequality is the issue – should add elements from “other” perspective (black, native American, etc.)
- Have this conversation after all African American children read well
- Lee is a good role model on being a human
- Stands for slavery & confederacy
- Put Lee in art museum & replace –historically it was Lee Park that was the issue-(black kids didn’t go there)
- Replace Lee statue
- I admire beauty of statue
- Public art was a gift to city
- Statue should remain
- History of Lee & Lee Park should be made clear
- Change name of Park
- Resented Lee statue & park as a child
- Add more history of local meaning in history (African American)
- Statue is not a big thing to African American community-its that hate surrounding this issue that hurts
- Use money to help the current residents
- Statue should stay
- Add notable figures
- Concentrating on Lee’s bravery & services whitewashes history – his history w/rescinding voting rights is ignored
- Statue could go since the history is uncomfortable it stays, need fuller history
- I see both sides & hate art being destroyed
- Statue is an affront to founding principles of us – doesn’t feel inclusive (2)
- Statue should be reframed, perhaps in a special park (5)
- For statue to mean anything to me, it needs to be in context of why it was put there & present historical context
- As art, it shouldn’t be destroyed but moved elsewhere w/fuller history

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- Lee fought but also worked for reconciliation after war-add reconstruction history (1)
- Statue was an entry to history for me
- Touched by story that black children couldn't play in park
- I don't want to go into Lee Park now that I know local history (3)
- Move it elsewhere (2)
- Need more info on why statue went up in that location
- Add elements representing "positives of Lee
- Informational plaques on objective history
- Suggest group reading on Lee & then further discussion
- As civil war student, I admire Lee & see fine statuary that was commissioned by McIntire
- Should stay (historic & art) (1)
- Lee Park is home of many festivals without adverse effect (add significance) & should stay (1)
- Take it down-represents racism(wading pool-celebrates confederacy & slavery both(3)
- Cluster the confederate monuments in a "history park" with balance, equal art
- State is part of our history-not all of it
- Court Square history is only partly told – let's bring the whole areas' history
- As an African American, I've never gone into Lee Park (1)
- This is not a unique statue (disputed: there were generic confederate statues)
- Statue means nothing to me, but there should be representation of black people in park as well- I want something to love
- Advertising for tourism contains no images of blacks (2)
- History "boulevard" from Court Square to Lee Park – more room to represent all history (9)
- Maintain statue – add talks from Historical Society
- Tells us about our American identity/development
- Statue should stay (there are Union statues in Maine) and add other statuary/signs to round it out (1)
- Need more diversity represented in Lee Park (1)
- Statue should stay (art & history)
- Statue shows people were proud of what they did (right or wrong – leave statue but all more history (1)
- Money to move statues is better spent on other needs (kids programs, low income needs) (6)
- Confederacy means different things to different people
- Segregation, subjugation, white superiority – should go to museum & Park devoted to history of Charlottesville

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- Items of divisiveness should go to a separate place
- Memorializes conquest & supremacy
- Hard to disempower visually by additions but should be attempted
- Lee was treasonous, ended in death & was a failure – shouldn't be commemorated-should be removed.
- Offended by statue as military honoree belongs w/B. Arnold didn't defend me or my country, traitor to country would be glad to remove (2)
- Represents honor, courage commitment (2)
- Move to ground; level, lower ----- below ground
- Means nothing, removed because of time it was erected
- Energy raised by issue needs to be addressed; statue needs to go
- Money should be used for something else, keep it
- Explain –Japan still honors WWI heroes, analogy-Lee should not be honored, tore country apart, state rights, slavery can't be separated, unconscionable. At least lowered, civil rights figures (1)
- Unrealistic-add statue to park, remove, or add plaque w/filled history
- Problem honoring men in public space, owned by city; uneasy-offended as citizen, not black issue-contextualize needs to be owned by responsible private group
- Point in time-should Ø be erased-the piece of equestrian art
- Oppression, persecution, evil, military man, not like T.J. would rather see Hitler (2)
- Sculpture, history (2)
- Disturbing, represents slavery would like to see it moved subjugated, surround 20th century historical fiction used to intimidate AA, to make white southerners feel good – important to contextualize (1)
- Add Harriett Tubman & other African Americans
- First: beautiful statue, Jackson 3rd equestrian statue in world, visins info on the history's changing, want to know more
- Beautiful statue not sanitize –painful history, don't tear down history, risky-add, note Native Americans
- Touched by oral history of kids not allowed in Lee Park,, understand how it could still be intimidating, wants to see more perspectives/facets expressed (4)
- **Timeline of changing interpretation 1920-----**
- Lot of moving parts, should keep statue or moved doesn't need to be here
- Familiarity continuing-only other fix point besides Rotunda-want it to stay add African American statues
- Education completely surround statues is best argument against confederacy

Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces
Community Forum
July 27, 2016

- Symbol – we have the responsibility to change the meaning
- Starting to signify lack of education
- Sell it to highest bidder (1)
- Put it with confederate money
- Put down in flood plains
- Give to McIntire descendants
- Need newer context stories, experiences, diverse views & history
- Not sure what to think
- Hero, Cville would have burned
- Need more stories (2)
- Need to be careful – need more historical info/markers, not less <race card stirring trouble
- If Stay-more people, more stories, update plaques, something to help African Americans, people feel proud & share w/grandchildren throughout the city, add more info, what in heart is more important than statues, need to learn to get along, can't change past, move past hatred, teach history, read history (6)
- If Moved – hesitant to move, take down Thomas Jefferson's statue too, social equality cannot be achieved politically
- Glorifies people who marginalized people & oppressed – remove it
- Hateful against freeing slaves, moved but not destroyed, part of history, put in museum
- Lost cause, make into unicorn repaint w/pride colors
- Civil war & slavery and implementation – holding on to racism remove, add education (1)
- Glorifies power for unjust cause confederate
- Ghost of past still haunting present
- Time period & person who dedicated -----, separation, segregation or remove, burning--

- Supports white supremacy, history isn't taught in parks, if money were not an issue, what would you see remove & contextualize history , surround w/others not on same level/height
- Prevailing thought of time,, strolling park – use new as public space or can use if different
- Symbol of oppression, Lee could be celebrated at his house
- Sell it to museum, market (5)