



Next Chapter Meeting via Teams: Saturday, January 24, 2026



Historic Bratton Plantation: An Enslaved Ancestral Burial Ground

Lisa Bratton, Ph.D.

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Dr. Bratton will share her research on Historic Brattonsville, the plantation where her ancestors Green and Malinda Bratton were enslaved. Drawing on 150 years of plantation records, she traces how enslaved people resisted both slavery and the violence that followed—and explains how she uncovered these documents. She will also discuss how DNA confirmed her ties to the white Bratton family, with whom she now meets regularly to confront their shared history. View a preview of her comments about the burial ground during a reconsecration ceremony in this video (timestamp 00:20-01:06): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iqhtpkPeax8&t=9s>

Biography

Dr. Lisa Bratton, a native of Vallejo, California, is an Associate Professor of History at Tuskegee University. She received her B.B.A. from Howard University, her M.B.A. from Atlanta University and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in African American Studies from Temple University. She is working on a book about Historic Brattonsville, the South Carolina plantation on which her ancestors, Green and Malinda Bratton, were enslaved. Her work will reposition over 150 years of plantation records to describe how enslaved people resisted the brutality of enslavement and its terrorizing aftermath. In 2022, she confirmed through DNA that she is blood-related to the white Brattons and meets monthly with their descendants to discuss the difficult questions of their shared heritage. She is an avid traveler who has visited 50 states, six continents and such fascinating places as North Korea, Swaziland, Venezuela and Cuba; in 2018, she traveled to five continents in five weeks. Antarctica is planned for 2026.

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