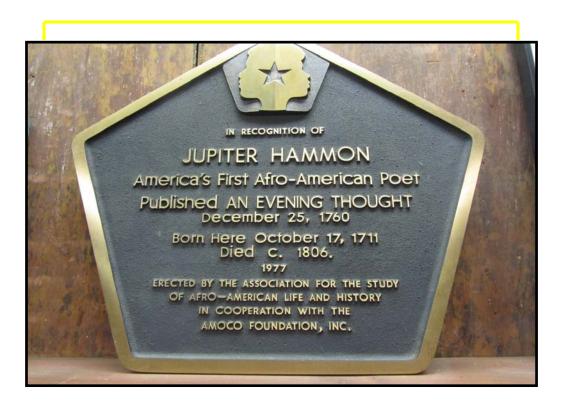
# THE AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DESIGNATION COUNCIL (AAHDC) Volume IV

#### **PRESENTS**

# A TRIBUTE TO JUPITER HAMMON AMERICA'S FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN PUBLISHED POET





# TOWN OF HUNTINGTON NEW YORK

**FEBRUARY 2011** 

# AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DESIGNATION COUNCIL (AAHDC)



### **HUNTINGTON TOWN BOARD**

Frank P. Petrone, Supervisor Mark Cuthbertson, Councilman Susan A. Berland, Councilwoman Glenda A. Jackson, Councilwoman Mark Mayoka, Councilman

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# AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DESIGNATION COUNCIL (AAHDC) MEMBERS

Irene Moore, Chair Gennifer Ellis Phyllis Pottinger Richard H. Robertson, III Charla Bolton

Robert C. Hughes, Town Historian Rex Metcalf, Advisor

# GREETINGS FROM SUPERVISOR FRANK PETRONE AND COUNCILWOMAN GLENDA JACKSON







Dear Residents,

It has been a tremendous year for the African American Historic Designation Council. The Council's exhibit currently housed at the Huntington Train Station will be made available to other groups in the near future, including local colleges, schools, libraries, historic groups, and other related organizations. The exhibit was funded in part by a matching grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and by local and state organizations. The exhibit highlights African American history in the Town of Huntington.

At its inception, the African American Historic Designation Council (AAHDC) was charged with the ever-important task of preserving our history in the Town of Huntington, specifically as it pertained to recognition of prominent African American leaders. The AAHDC has continued to work closely with the Historic Preservation Commission and the Town Historian to create a more thorough narrative of the legacy of African Americans in Huntington.

It is our hope that with the fourth edition of this booklet, we will help to educate the public about the history of African Americans in the Town and encourage Huntington residents to come forward to share their personal family histories. With your continued assistance, we can bring this goal to life.

The AAHDC has provided an insert in this booklet for your convenience that will allow you to share your family history. Please complete the insert and forward it to the address listed on page 4. The Council will contact you if additional information is needed.

On behalf of the Town Board, we would like to thank the African American Historic Designation Council for its diligence in compiling this booklet and sharing it with residents of Huntington and also for their constant commitment to keeping our history alive for future generations.

Sincerely,

FRANK P. PETRONE

Supervisor

GLENDA A. JACKSON

Illenda (d. Ja

Councilwoman

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#### INFORMATIONAL SHEET

A separate informational sheet has been inserted in this booklet specifically for you to share pictures or any information you have about Huntington's African American heritage. Your information will allow the Council to compile and preserve pertinent information about the history and contributions of African Americans in the Town and may appear in future publications such as this one.

Please return the sheet to:
MRS. IRENE MOORE, AAHDC CHAIR
c/o COUNCILWOMAN GLENDA JACKSON
TOWN OF HUNTINGTON, 100 MAIN STREET
HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK 11743

#### **FOREWORD**

The African American Historic Designation (AAHDC) is proud to present its fourth booklet. This edition commemorates the 300th anniversary of the birth of Jupiter Hammon, America's first published African American poet. Jupiter was born in Lloyd Neck (originally Caumsett, meaning, "place by sharp rock," named by the Matinecock Indians) on October 17, 1711 and died in his nineties around c1806. In conjunction with the school districts in the Town, the Council will co-sponsor a program in October, 2011, highlighting Jupiter's life. Students will be given the opportunity to write essays and compete for a prize. Additional information will be available at a later date.

In keeping with the Council's goals and objectives to educate and increase public awareness of values and contributions of African Americans in the Town, the Council is currently working on a web page to be included on the Town's web site. The Council sponsored four tours during the 2010 year, including tours of the Old Burying Ground and the Village Green Historic District. The Council also participated in the Huntington Unity Day Parade and Festival, and sponsored a successful Octogenarian Forum during spring 2010 with seniors and their grand-children. Invaluable information and documents were shared at the forum.

To further its Education and Public Awareness Program, the Council's exhibit "African American History in the Town of Huntington" will be made available for exhibit to other organizations throughout the year. Interested organizations should contact Robert Hughes, Town Historian, at (631) 351-3244.

To ensure proper recognition of African American contributions to the Town of Huntington, the Council is requesting your continued assistance. Please utilize the enclosed insert and forward copies of your information to the address in this booklet on page 4. The success of this endeavor will depend largely on your support and the support of others like you.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank the Town Board, especially Councilwoman Glenda Jackson, for assisting the Council with its mandate and the publication of this booklet.

Sincerely,

Irene Moore, AAHDC Chair

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Members: Gennifer Ellis Phyllis Pottinger Richard H. Robertson, III Charla Bolton

Robert C. Hughes, Town Historian Rex Metcalf, Advisor

# AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DESIGNATION COUNCIL (AAHDC) MANDATE

The African American Historic Designation Council will assist the Town in identifying and researching historic sites having ties to African American heritage in the Town of Huntington and explore the many potential undiscovered noteworthy locations in the Town which deserve to be celebrated and protected. Some of the Town Board's historic designated landmarks include the John Coltrane House in Dix Hills, where he wrote "A Love Supreme," and the Booker T. Washington House in Fort Salonga, where his family spent a few summers before his death in 1915. The AAHDC will help to further the endeavor of the Town to preserve and celebrate black history.

The African American Historic Designation Council will engage in the significant task of ensuring proper recognition of all sites that hold historical value to African American history in the Town. The Council will locate and research important areas, which have been key to the legacy of African Americans in Huntington, and make recommendations, where appropriate, for landmark designation under the Town Code.

The African American Historic Designation Council is comprised of (5) members. Each Town Council Member, along with the Supervisor, appoints one person to the Council. Such appointees are chosen due to their exemplification of leadership within the Town of Huntington as well as their interest and concern for the African American history that our Town possesses.

The African American Historic Designation Council will serve as a subcommittee of the Huntington Historic Preservation Commission and the Town Historian shall serve as an ex officio non-voting member and as Secretary of the Council.

The members of the Council serve without compensation.

#### HISTORY OF COUNCIL

The first official meeting of the African American Historic Designation Council (AAHDC) was hosted by Councilwoman Glenda A. Jackson on Thursday, March 23, 2006 at 6:00 p.m., in room 304 of Town Hall, 100 Main Street, Huntington, New York. Joined by Town Historian Robert Hughes, Councilwoman Jackson discussed the vision and objectives of the AAHDC. Expressing deep appreciation for the history of the Town, Councilwoman Jackson remarked, "This is a vital point in our Town's legacy, the preservation of our history is essential and needed for all. This Council will reveal untold history and is a safeguard for our children."

Appointed members were; Irene Moore, John Johnson, Jerry Brown, Sr., Thelma Jackson-Abidally and Gennifer Ellis. Present at the first meeting were Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Jackson-Abidally, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Susannah Mrazek, Mrs. Moore, and J. Stewart Moore, Esq. The current members are: Irene Moore, Chair, Gennifer Ellis, Phyllis Pottinger, Richard H. Robertson, III, Charla Bolton, Robert Hughes, and Rex Metcalf, Advisor

The African American Historic Designation Council (AAHDC) began as a vision of Attorney J. Stewart Moore. Mr. Moore attended a meeting of the Huntington Historic Preservation Commission in 2005, where he was invited to speak. He spoke about the importance of placing a resolution on the agenda for creating an African American Historic Designation Council and later presented the idea to Councilman Mark Cuthbertson. Councilman Cuthbertson was instrumental in presenting this resolution to the Town Board, and on September 13, 2005, resolution Number 2005-596 to create the African American Historic Designation Council was passed by the Board.

#### **Goals and Objectives:**

- To locate, research, and preserve African American history and culture through collecting and documenting information, and sponsoring programs that will enhance research and promote public interaction.
- To become an outstanding resource for African American historical information.
- To educate and promote an understanding and appreciation of history through collections, exhibitions, and programming.
- To conduct and develop programs using various interdisciplinary initiatives to educate and inform the community.
- To preserve and tell the story of Huntington through informative and engaging exhibits.

### JUPITER HAMMON'S FIRST PUBLISHED POEM - DECEMBER 25, 1760 "AN EVENING THOUGHT, SALVATION BY CHRIST WITH PENETENTIAL CRIES"

Salvation comes by Christ alone, The only Son of God; Redemption now to every one, That love his holy Word.

Dear Jesus, let the Nations cry, And all the People say, Salvation comes from Christ on high, Salvation doth at length supply, Haste on Tribunal Day.

Dear Jesus, unto Thee we fly; Depart, depart from Sin, The Glory of our King.

Dear Jesus, we would fly to Thee, And leave off every Sin, Thy tender Mercy well agree; Salvation from our King.

We cry as Sinners to the Lord, Salvation to obtain; It is firmly fixed, his holy Word, Ye shall not cry in vain.

Come, ye Blessed of the Lord, Salvation greatly given; O turn your Hearts, accept the Word, Your Souls are fit for Heaven.

Salvation comes now from the Lord, Our victorious King; His holy Name be well ador'd, Salvation surely bring.

Dear Jesus, unto Thee we cry, And make our Lamentation: O let our Prayers ascend on high; We felt thy Salvation.

Dear Jesus, we now turn to Thee. Salvation to obtain; Our Hearts and Souls do meet again, To magnify thy Name.

Dear Jesus, give thy Spirit now, Thy Grace to every Nation, That han't the Lord to whom we bow, The Author of Salvation.

Lord, turn our dark benighted Souls; Give us a true Motion, And let the Hearts of all the World, Make Christ their Salvation.

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove, The Object of our Care; Salvation doth increase our Love; Our Hearts hath felt they fear.

Dear Jesus, unto Thee we cry, *Give us the Preparation;* Turn not away thy tender Eye; We seek thy true Salvation.

Ten Thousand Angels cry to Thee, Yea, louder than the Ocean. Thou art the Lord, we plainly see; Thou art the true Salvation.

Now Glory be to God on High, Salvation high and low; And thus the Soul on Christ rely, To Heaven surely go.

Salvation comes from God we know, The true and only One; It's well agreed and certain true, He gave his only Son.

*Now is the Day, excepted Time; The Day of the Salvation; Increase your Faith, do not repine:* Awake ye, every Nation.

Come, Blessed Jesus, Heavenly Dove, Accept Repentance here; Salvation give, with tender Love; Let us with Angels share.

Lord, hear our penetential Cry: Salvation from above; It is the Lord that doth supply, With his Redeeming Love.

Lord, unto whom now shall we go, Or seek a safe abode? Thou has the Word Salvation Too, *The only Son of God.* 

**Finis** 

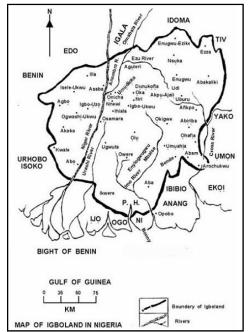
Dear Jesus, by thy precious Blood, The World Redemption have: Salvation now comes from the Lord, He being thy captive slave.

Ho! every one that hunger hath, Or pineth after me, Salvation be thy leading Staff, To set the Sinner free.

#### TRACING THE FAMILY OF JUPITER HAMMON

By Rex Metcalf and Charla Bolton

Jupiter Hammon is well known as America's First African American Published Poet. His literary work, however, is not the focus of this article. It focuses instead upon the history of his family from its West African origins through seven generations on Long Island. The Hammond family is one of the best documented African American families. Recent research has been intense and some of our latest discoveries are included here.



A comparison of plantation records with African trading company records, together with certain other evidence, has enabled us to piece together a glimpse into the lives of Jupiter's grandparents, Tamero and Oyo. Positive proofs are impossible, but based on extrapolation of the facts that we have, the following assumptions are probably as close as we can get to their life story.

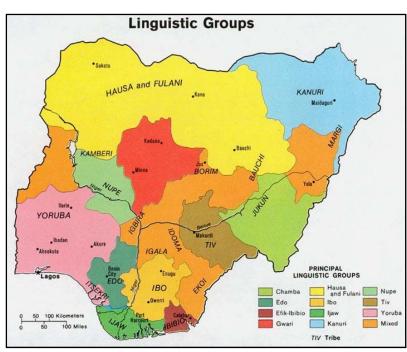
Tamero, the progenitor of the Hammond family, was born about 1650, probably among the Ibo people in the ethnic region of Igboland in eastern Nigeria, West Africa. He was likely enslaved by the Aro people, taken to the trading port of Old Calabar and transported on a Spanish slave ship to Havana, Cuba. He was baptized Catholic, given the name Tamero, and sold in c1665 to an English merchant named Thomas Rous, to work on a Barbados sugar plantation in which Rous was a partner.

Oyo, the wife of Tamero, was also born about 1650, but apparently in the kingdom of Oyo in the ethnic region of Yoruba land, in

western Nigeria. Oyo was likely enslaved by the Fon people of Dahomey, taken to the trading port of

Wydah and transported on an English slave ship to Barbados. Among the English at this early period, some Africans were identified by ethnicity and place of embarkation, such as Oyo of Wydah. Oyo was sold in c1665, apparently to the same Thomas Rous.

In addition to the Barbados sugar plantation, the partnership also owned a provisioning plantation located on the east end of Long Island. Tamero and Oyo were transferred there, possibly by 1669, and were listed as husband and wife in the records of the Sylvester Manor. They raised four children and died there, apparently by 1697.



#### TRACING THE FAMILY OF JUPITER HAMMON continued

It has long been assumed that Obium, the eldest son of Tamero and Oyo, was born at the Sylvester Manor in c1670. He was removed to Boston, MA in 1687 as the servant of James Lloyd, returned to Long Island in 1709 as the servant of Henry Lloyd and remained thereafter on the Lloyd Manor, adjoining the Town of Huntington. He apparently married his wife Rose there in 1710 and had sons Jupiter and Obediah.

Jupiter, the poet and eldest son of Obium and Rose, became butler and senior servant of the manor. Mr. Lloyd's second wife, Mary, influenced Jupiter to become a profoundly devout Christian and lay preacher to



Sylvester Manor House, Shelter Island - Built 1733, by Brinley Sylvester. Mary Dering, daughter of Brinley, inherited the Manor from her father. She was married to Thomas Dering of Boston, MA.

the local black community. He purchased a Bible via his master in 1733. Bibles printed at that time contained a glossary defining Hebrew and Classical words found in the text. We believe that Jupiter found his name listed as a synonym for salvation, along with the word hammon, listed as a synonym for preparation. He apparently adopted the name Jupiter Hammon (Salvation Preparation), perhaps thinking of it as a perfect definition of himself. The Lloyds' referred to him by that name from then on.



Amelia Lloyd House (1784), 187 Park Avenue, Hunfor Mrs. Lloyd, until her death in 1818.

Obediah, his brother, had a wife who has not been identified and children Richard, Cato and Ruth. After Jupiter adopted the surname Hammon, Obediah used Hammond (with a "d"), conforming to English usage. Decades of research have determined that there was no connection with any other Hammond family.

It appears that Richard Hammond, the eldest son of Obediah, had a wife named Cloe, whose family also came to the Lloyd Manor in 1709, and they had children Benjamin Sr. and Boston.

tington. Benjamin and Phoebe Hammond worked here Benjamin Hammond Sr., the eldest son of Richard, was freed in 1793. He and his wife Phoebe had children Benjamin Jr., Samuel and Nancy. They left the

Lloyd Manor in 1799 and bought a house from Stephen Brown for \$125, with two and a half acres of land, at the head of Huntington Harbor. There they apparently cared for his great uncle, Jupiter Hammon. Jupiter is named as head of the household in the Census of 1800, although documents prove that the house was owned by Benjamin. Overtaken by debt, they eventually sold their homestead to John Place, but continued to live there as tenants. The house still stands at 73 West Shore Road in Huntington.

#### TRACING THE FAMILY OF JUPITER HAMMON continued

Benjamin applied to the Town for temporary financial aid in January 1821. His sworn deposition establishing legal residency is a valuable surviving document. In it, he mentioned his homestead, described above, and also stated that he was formerly the bondservant of Henry Lloyd Sr., Joseph Lloyd and John Lloyd and was manumitted (set free) by the widow Amelia Lloyd in Oyster Bay in June, 1793. He fur-



Brown-Hammond House (c1790), 73 West Shore Road, Huntington. This house, now much altered, was purchased in 1799 by Benjamin Hammond Sr., whose family lived here for 30 years.

ther stated that he had been working in Huntington, except for fifteen months as a hired hand for John N. Lloyd of Oyster Bay, and that he had a wife and three children. Other records indicate inconclusively that he was probably employed most of the time at the town house of Mrs. Lloyd, which still stands at 187 Park Avenue. It is noteworthy that his surname was spelled Hammon (without the "d") in this document.

Boston, his brother, was freed in 1791. He and his wife, Penny, had five children, not yet identified. They worked as hired hands for Matthias Abbot, a tenant farmer on the manor, probably until 1806, and then relocated to Huntington. Penny died there a widow in 1838. This branch of the family has not been traced further.

Benjamin Hammond Jr. and his wife had a son, Daniel, in 1814, but both parents died soon afterward. Daniel was raised by his grandparents and died in 1838. Samuel Hammond, the younger son of Benjamin Sr. and Phoebe, was single and living with his parents in 1810. By 1820 he had a wife named Charity and they were living on Park Avenue. The Census record lists him between Capt. Alexander Mather and Isaac Losee, which probably places him in the tenant house that once stood at 325 Park Avenue, next to the old St. John's Episcopal Church. They gave birth to a daughter there in 1820, after the Census had been taken. Their household included an elderly female, who may have been Charity's mother. By 1830, Samuel and his parents, Benjamin Sr. and Phoebe, were deceased. The Census for that year

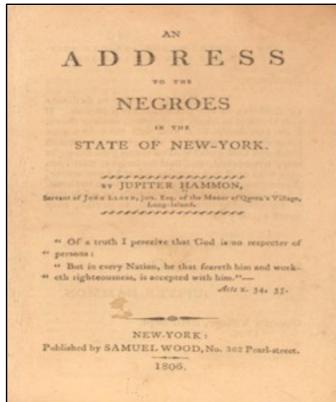


Title Page from one of the publications of Jupiter Hammon.

shows that Charity Hammond had relocated nearby to the vicinity of Creek Road, where she was living with her ten year old daughter and, again, possibly her mother.

Since there were several unidentified children of Boston and Samuel Hammond living in Huntington in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, it is possible that their more recent descendants may be living here today. If further research enables us to document those later generations to the present, their kindred will acquire a family history that spans across five centuries, to their roots in Africa.

#### A COLLAGE OF DOCUMENTS AND ARTIFACTS



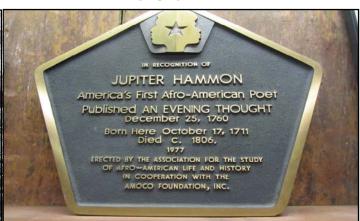


Jupiter Hammon's "Address to the Negroes of the State of New York" - 1806.

Dr. J. Ruppert Picott and Lloyd Harbor Historical Society member, Mrs. Robert Osann, plaque presentation, June 25, 1977.



Joseph Lloyd Manor in 1910

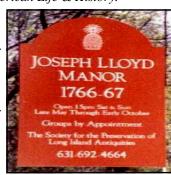


Plaque given to the Lloyd Harbor Historical Society by the Association of Afro-American Life & History.



Pictured on the left, photo of The Joseph Lloyd Manor House.

Pictured on the right, photo of The Joseph Lloyd Manor House Historic Marker.



#### A COLLAGE OF DOCUMENTS AND ARTIFACTS continued



The Joseph Lloyd Manor House



The Henry Lloyd Manor House, birthplace of Jupiter Hammon



Candlestick, brass, late 18<sup>th</sup> Century. This Candlestick was used in the Root Cellar of the Brown-Hammond House and probably belonged to the Hammond family.



Slave Quarters at The Joseph Lloyd Manor House.



Rev. William Schenk House (1802), 324 Park Avenue, Huntington. Clarissa, an indentured servant of Rev. Schenk, lived here from 1805 to 1817. Capt. Alexander Mather lived here from 1817 through the 1820's. Samuel and Charity Hammond lived directly across the street from Capt. Mather

#### AN ADDRESS TO MISS PHILLIS WHEATLY

Composed by Jupiter Hammon, August 4,1778 - "An Address to Miss Phillis Wheatly [sic], Ethiopian Poetess, in Boston, who came from Africa at eight years of age, and soon became acquainted with the gospel of Jesus Christ" Miss Wheatly; pray give leave to express as follows:

П Ш. O come you pious youth! adore Thou mightst been left behind Fair wisdom's ways are paths of peace, The wisdom of thy God, Amidst a dark abode; And they that walk therein, In bringing thee from distant shore, God's tender mercy still combined, Shall reap the joys that never cease, To learn His holy word. Thou hast the holy word. And Christ shall be their king. IV V١ God's tender mercy brought thee here; While thousands tossed by the sea, That thou a pattern still might be, Tossed o'er the raging main; And others settled down. To youth of Boston town, In Christian faith thou hast a share. God's tender mercy set thee free, The blessed Jesus set thee free. Worth all the gold of Spain. From dangers that come down From every sinful wound. VII VIII IX The blessed Jesus, who came down, That we poor sinners may obtain, Come you, Phillis, now aspire, Unveiled his sacred face. And seek the living God, The pardon of our sin; To cleanse the soul of every wound, Dear blessed Jesus now constrain, So step by step thou mayst go higher And give repenting grace. And bring us flocking in. Till perfect in the world. XΙ XII Thou hast left the heathen shore: While thousands moved to distant shore. I pray the living God may be, And others left behind, The shepherd of thy soul; Through mercy of the Lord; The blessed Jesus still adore, His tender mercies still are free Among the heathen live no more, Implant this in thy mind. Come magnify thy God. His mysteries to unfold. XIII XIV XVThou, Phillis, when thou hunger hast, The Bounteous mercies of the Lord. These bounteous mercies are from God. Or pantest for thy God; Are hid beyond the sky, The merits of His son; The humble soul that loves His word. Jesus Christ is thy relief, And holy souls that love His word, Thou hast the holy word. Shall taste them when they die. He chooses for His own.

#### AN ADDRESS TO MISS PHILLIS WHEATLY continued

XVI

Come, dear Phillis, be advised,

To drink Samaria's flood;

There nothing that shall suffice

But Christ's redeeming blood.

XVIII

When God shall send his summons down,

And number saints together,

Blest angels chant, (triumphant sound),

Come live with me forever.

 $\mathsf{X}\mathsf{X}$ 

Behold! the soul shall waft away,

Whene'er we come to die,

And leave its cottage made of clay,

In twinkling of an eye.

XVII

While thousands muse with earthly toys;

And range about the street,

Dear Phillis, seek for heaven's joys,

Where we do hope to meet.

XIX

The humble soul shall fly to God,

And leave the things of time,

Start forth as 'twere at the first word,

To taste things more divine.

XXI

Now glory be to the Most High,

United praises given,

By all on earth, incessantly,

And all the host of heav'n.



Engraving of Phillis Wheatly

#### AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY TOURS OF 2010 IN REVIEW

By Rex Metcalf and Phyllis Pottinger

African American history was the focus of our guided walking tours of the Old Burying Ground and the Village Green in Huntington. More than one hundred people of all ages and backgrounds attended the program.



The Old Burying Ground Tour Participants.



The Old Burying Ground Tour

a cabinetmaker and co-founder of the Bethel A.M.E Church in Huntington. This was a moment of particular emotion for one lady in the group, who did not know until then that it was the grave of her great, great grandfather, Nelson Smith, the last African American to be interred in the Old Burying Ground.

Touring the Village Green, visitors learned that African Americans have always been an active part of this original core of the community, long known as the "Town Spot." In the 1700s, the vast majority regularly attended the Old First Presby- Mounting Block (c1750), 184 South Woodhull Road, Hun-

Touring the Old Burying Ground, visitors learned that about 400 African Americans were interspersed evenly among the other early residents of the Town who were interred there. Typically, their graves were marked with "Jacob's Pillow" field stones, although several inscribed tombstones have survived from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. The earliest African American burials took place there in the late 1600s and the last one took place in 1888. Visitors learned that one-fourth of the African Americans were born in Africa and transported mostly to Barbados before they came to Long Island. Half of them were born locally and spent their lives as enslaved bondservants. After New York passed the Manumission Act of 1799, another fourth lived here as free residents. At the grave of Rachel, the innkeeper, visitors discovered how she preserved some of the African beliefs and customs of her parents, who both came from the Ashanti Kingdom, in modern-day Ghana. The group was able to see and touch a genuine Sankofa, a symbol of respect to the spirits of her ancestors, which belonged to Rachel more than 250 years ago. Visitors also paused at the grave of



terian Church, which stands on Main Street, op- tington. This stone block was set in place by African Ameriposite the Town Hall. A small number attended cans to mount horses and farm wagons. It is the last remnant of the old Bunce Homestead.

#### AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY TOURS OF 2010 IN REVIEW continued

the St. John's Episcopal Church on Park Avenue. Although the building is now gone, the St. John's Cemetery remains. The Bethel A.M.E. Church was founded by African Americans in 1843. Their church building, parsonage and cemetery occupy the land on Park Avenue that they purchased from the Episcopal Congregation in 1854. Visitors also heard the stories of dozens of African Americans, who have lived, worked and played in the Village Green neighborhood over the centuries. Many of those stories are associated with at least ten historic buildings, which still stand there today, not counting the church and school buildings. Those who attended were also shown a few personal artifacts, which belonged to African Americans who lived in the neighborhood long ago.



The Bethel A.M.E. Church (1926), 291 Park Avenue, Huntington. This church still serves the African American community on land purchased in 1854.

These African American History Tours planned by the Council, an educational goal for 2010, had never before been offered to the public. AAHDC member Phyllis Pottinger, was the Mistress of Ceremonies, and visitors were welcomed by the Honorable Glenda Jackson, Huntington's first African American Town Councilwoman. Council Advisor Rex Metcalf, who served as the Tour Guide, provided everyone with handouts. Attendees came from all geographical parts of Huntington and from as far away as Stony Brook and Bayside, Queens. They included young children, high school students, educators, historians and members of churches and other organizations.



AAHDC member Phyllis Pottinger Mistress of Ceremonies, and AAHDC Advisor Rex Metcalf Tour Guide at the Old Burying Ground.



The Village Green Tour participants saw, heard and touched the rich legacy of the African Americans who lived at the "Town Spot."

### AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY TOURS OF 2010 IN REVIEW continued



Huntington Village Green South Meadow



Before public schools were established, Clarissa earned her education as an indentured servant in the home of Rev. William Schenk..



The Old First Presbyterian Church (1784), 125 Main Street, Huntington. African Americans attended this church regularly, until the Bethel A.M.E. Church was organized in 1843.



The Baptismal Font in the Old First Church sanctuary. Fifty seven African Americans were baptized here.



Heckscher Park, Huntington, New York.



2010 Tour group participants

# HUNTINGTON UNITY DAY PARADE AND FESTIVAL OCTOBER 2, 2010





Pictured from left to right: AAHDC Chair Irene Moore, AAHDC Member Charla Bolton, and AAHDC Advisor Rex Metcalf.

# TOWN OF HUNTINGTON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY TOURS

SPONSORED BY

# THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC DESIGNATION COUNCIL

## THE OLD BURYING GROUND

**RAIN OR SHINE** 

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2011 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2011 WALKING TOUR

#### STARTS AT 2:00PM AND LASTS ABOUT ONE HOUR

ASSEMBLE AT THE SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MEMORIAL BUILDING, 228 MAIN STREET HUNTINGTON, NEW YORK

HUNDREDS OF AFRICAN AMERICANS ARE BURIED HERE AMONG HUNTINGTON'S EARLY RESIDENTS. THEY INCLUDE OUR FIRST RECORDED AFRICAN AMERICAN, WHO ARRIVED HERE IN 1657; A REVOLUTIONARY CELEBRITY CALLED "THE MAN WITH THE BULLET PROOF HEAD" AND A CHURCH FOUNDER, WHO WAS THE LAST AFRICAN AMERICAN TO BE INTERRED HERE. THESE EARLY RESIDENTS ARE PART OF A SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF THE HISTORY OF HUNTINGTON.

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Pictured from left to right: Town Historian Robert Hughes, AAHDC Member Charla Bolton, AAHDC Member Phyllis Pottinger, Councilwoman Glenda A. Jackson, AAHDC Chair Irene Moore, AAHDC Member Gennifer Ellis, and AAHDC Advisor Rex Metcalf. Missing from photo: AAHDC Member Richard H. Robertson, III.

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