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## **Education**

Ph.D. History-Florida State University 2003

Dissertation Title: “‘A Wider Field of Usefulness’: The Life and Times of Jonathan C. Gibbs, c.1828-1874.”

Advisor: Joe M. Richardson

Committee: Maxine D. Jones, James P. Jones, Peter P. Garretson, and Patrick L. Mason

MA, History—Florida State University 1998

BA, History—Florida State University 1996

## **Fields/Areas of Interest**

African American History, Nineteenth and Twentieth Century U.S. History, Post Civil War America 1865-1890, Public History

## **Courses Taught**

### Tennessee State University

- HIST 2700 The African American Experience in the United States
- HIST 2010 History of America to 1877
- HIST 3340 Civil War and Reconstruction
- HIST 4910 African American History to 1877
- HIST 4920 African American History since 1865
- HIST 4320 Black Nashville in History and Public Memory
- HIST 4320 An Introduction to Public History

### Armstrong Atlantic State University (Georgia Southern-Armstrong)

- AFAS 2000-Introduction to African American Studies
- HIST 1100-Political History of America and Georgia.

- HIST 2111-US History to 1877
- HIST 2112-US History since 1865
- HIST 3000-Slavery and Emancipation in Lowcountry Georgia
- HIST 3730-US History 1877-1914
- HIST 3910-African American History since 1865.
- HIST 4930-Seminar: Twentieth Century African American Intellectuals
- HIST 4930-Seminar-Slave Communities in the United States
- HIST 4960-American Historiography
- HIST 5650-The Civil Rights Movement in the United States
- HIST 5830-Historic Preservation

#### Florida State University

- AMH 1000-American Civilization
- AMH 2091-The African American Experience in the United States.
- AMH 2097-Race and Ethnicity in the United States.

#### Tallahassee Community College

- AMH 1000-United States History 1607 to present.
- AMH 2020-United States History since 1865.

#### **Positions**

Fall 2015- Present-Associate Professor of History. Tennessee State University.

Fall 2009-2015-Assistant Professor of History. Tennessee State University

Fall 2009-Present-Coordinator. -North Nashville Heritage Project. Tennessee State University

Fall 2004-2009-Assistant Professor of History. Armstrong Atlantic State University

Fall 2005-2009-African American Studies Program Coordinator. Armstrong Atlantic State University

Fall 2003-2004-Adjunct Professor of History. The Florida State University.

Fall 2003-Adjunct Professor of History. Tallahassee Community College.

Spring 1999-2003—Teaching Assistant. The Florida State University.

2002-2004—Historic Site Specialist. Florida Department of State, Bureau of Historical Preservation. Division of Historical Resources., Tallahassee, Florida.

Summer 2002-Analyst, Guadalajara Censuses Project. Florida State University.

Fall 1996-Fall 1998—Graduate Assistant, The Florida State University.

Summers of 1996-2002—Graduate Assistant, Center for Academic Enhancement and Enrichment (Care) Program. The Florida State University.

The CARE program is an academic support unit that assists the Florida State University in its outreach and support to undergraduate students who may be disadvantaged due to economic, educational or cultural circumstances. CARE provides programs and a service targeted to the first-generation college student, and helps to facilitate their preparation, recruitment, adjustment, retention and graduation from college. As a graduate assistant my duties included assisting in the development and preparation of a six-week American Civilization course, grading writing assignments, lecturing, and leading discussion sections.

## **Publications**

- **Refereed Works**

Co-Editor with Amie Thurber, *I'll Take You There: Nashville Stories of Place, Power, and Struggle*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press (Forthcoming: Spring 2021).

"Black Faces Along the Cumberland Basin" in Guider, John, *Voyage of the Adventure Retracing the Donelson Party's Journey to the Founding of Nashville*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press. 2020

Essay- "A Balm in Gilead: Love, Hope, and Despair in North Nashville." in *Murals of North Nashville Now*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press. 2019

"'I Have Both Given and Taken Some Hard Blows': Jonathan Clarkson Gibbs's Transformation from a Presbyterian Abolitionist to Southern Politician, 1866-72. *Southern Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of the South*. Volume 24:2 (Fall/Winter 2017): 79-103."

"Using the Weapons with Which We Are Skilled": George W. Gore, Jr., and Student Protest at Florida A&M University, 1950–68. *The Journal of HBCU Research + Culture*. Vol. I. No.1. Spring 2016.

"'Leave the Pulpit and Go into the School Room': The Board of Missions to Freedmen in South Carolina, 1866-67" *Southern Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of the South* 8 (Spring/Summer 2006): 89-101.

*On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand: The Life and Times of Jonathan Clarkson Gibbs, 1826-1874.* Under revision for the University of Arkansas Press.

- Works in Progress:

*"Singing a Song in a Strange Land: Black Nashville in History and Public Memory"*-60 Percent Complete

- **Book Reviews and Encyclopedia Entries**

"John Henry Eaton" "Whig Party" "Tennessee State University," *Nashville Encyclopedia*

"Harrison Reed", "Florida", and "William Marvin" in Richard Zuczek, ed., *Encyclopedia of Reconstruction*, New York: Greenwood Press, 2006.

"Ambrose Caliver," in Henry Louis Gates and Evelyn Higginbotham, eds., *The African American National Biography*, Oxford University Press, 2004.

Book Review-*Penn Center: A History Preserved*. By Orville Vernon Burton with Wilbur Cross, Foreword by Emory S. Campbell. (Athens and London: The University of Georgia Press, 2014. Pp. [xxi], 190. \$24.95, ISBN 978-0-8203-2602-3.) *Journal of Southern History*

Book Review- *The Papers of Zebulon Baird Vance, Vol. 3, 1864-1865*. Edited by Joe A. Mobley. (Raleigh: Office of Archives and History North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 2013. Pp.xxix, 584, ISBN 978-0-86526-462-5.) *Journal of Southern History*.

Book Review- *Schooling the Freed People: Teaching, Learning and the Struggle for Black Freedom, 1861-1876*. By Ronald E. Butchart. *Journal of American Ethnic History*, Vol. 32, No. 4 (Summer 2013), pp. 113-114

Book Review-Michelle M. Mears, *And Grace Will Lead Me Home: African American Freedmen Communities of Austin, Texas, 1865-1928*. *Agricultural History*, Spring 2011, Vol. 85 Issue 2, 27-29.

Book Review- Margaret Wade-Lewis. *Lorenzo Dow Turner: Father of Gullah Studies*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2007, for *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, Summer 2009, Vol. 93 Issue 2, 209-11.

Book Review-Kathleen Clark, *Defining Moments: African American Commemoration & Political Culture in the South, 1863-1913* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005) for *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, 90 (Winter 2006): 589-91.

Book Review-Susan E. Dollar, *The Freedmen's Bureau Schools of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana, 1865-1868*, Natchitoches: Northwestern State University Press, 1998 for *Southern Studies: A Interdisciplinary Journal of the South*, 7 (Winter 1998): 59-61.

## **Public History Projects**

Researcher/Interviewer: Barbara Fertig, "Sylvia's Children and Lula's Catch": Kinship Networks in Coastal Georgia" DVD, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, Georgia. 2008.

Coordinator/Researcher/Interviewer: Learotha Williams, Jr., North Nashville Heritage Project, Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee. 2011 to present.

Nashville Sites. Walking and Augmented Reality Tours of Nashville. <http://nashvillesites.org>

1. Early Black Nashville in History and Culture.
2. Tennessee State University
3. Fisk University and Meharry Medical College

## **Papers and Presentations**

Lunch & Learn: "A History of Structural Racism in Nashville." YWCA Nashville, TN 2020

Presentation Crossroads Symposium. Historic Franklin Masonic Hall Foundation. "Black Nashville, Slavery, and Public Memory." Franklin TN 2019

"The Day is Past and Gone: A Reconsideration of North Nashville in History and Public Memory" Tennessee State Museum. Nashville, TN 2019.

Keynote Address: "The Colored Hospital Movement in the United States. Maury County Hospital Historical Marker Ceremony. Columbia TN 2015

Keynote Address: "Slave Grandchildren Remember" Annual Meeting of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society. Nashville, TN 2013.

Presentation: Reexamining the Great Migration in African American History. Maury County African American Heritage Society. Columbia, Tennessee. 2013.

Presentation: Using the Tools with Which We are Skilled: George W. Gore and Student Activism at Florida A&M University, 1950-68. HBCUstory Symposium. Nashville, Tennessee. 2013.

Keynote Address: Celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. African American History Month Program. Blair's Chapel CME Church. Jackson, Tennessee, 2013.

Presentation: "Emancipation and the Meaning of Freedom" Black History Month Program at the Hermitage. Nashville, Tennessee. 2013.

Presentation: "North Nashville's Forgotten: A Brief Survey of the Residents and Businesses Displaced by the Construction of Interstate 40, 1922-1970." 34<sup>th</sup> Annual University-Wide Research Symposium, Tennessee State University, 2012.

Conference Paper: With Crystal deGregory, "Service, Scholarship and Steppin': An Exploration of Black Greek Lettered Organizations at Tennessee State University." 31st Annual Conference on African American History & Culture. Nashville, Tennessee. 2012.

Conference Paper: "Bibles, Books, and Businesses: The Rise, Decline, and Rebirth of Jefferson Street." Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Raleigh, North Carolina. 2010.

Conference Paper- "Hewing Stones of Hope from Mountains of Despair: The NAACP and Freedom Struggle in Southeastern Georgia, 1918-55." Association for African American Research and Preservation Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington. 2009.

Conference Paper- "The Day is Past and Gone: Thomas Van Renssalaer Gibbs and the Struggle for Equality in Post Emancipation Florida." Florida Conference of Historians Annual Meeting. 2007.

Conference Paper- "'In the General Interest of the Work': Jonathan Clarkson Gibbs and the Board of Missions for Freedmen, 1865-66." Association African American Historical Research and Preservation Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington. 2005.

Conference Paper- "They Shall Walk and Not Faint: George W. Gore and the Civil Rights Movement in Tallahassee, Florida, 1950-1968." Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting. 2004.

Presentation- "The Historic Relationship between African Americans and the American Criminal Justice System." Department of Criminal Justice Student Symposium. Tennessee State University. Nashville, Tennessee. April 2011.

Presentation-“Reexamining the Transatlantic Moment, 1502-1888.” Riverbend Maximum Security Prison. Nashville, Tennessee. February 2011.

Presentation: “A View from the Pew: Rural Perspectives of Savannah’s Civil Rights Movement.” For the Jepson Center for the Arts exhibition, "Freedom's March: Photographs of the Civil Rights Movement in Savannah," by Frederick C. Baldwin. Savannah, Georgia. 2008.

Presentation: “Who Owns the North End? African Americans and Ossabaw Island’s North End Plantation,” Armstrong Atlantic State University’s Faculty Lecture Series. 2008.

Presentation: “Slavery in Savannah and the Georgia Lowcountry,” Ossabaw Island Teacher Workshop. 2008.

Presentation: “Freedmen, Family, and Land Ownership” Atlantic World and American Life and Culture Symposium Teacher Workshop. Savannah, Georgia. 2008.

Presentation: ““A World of No Boundaries’: Eatonville as a Refuge from Segregation.” [Paper presented during Savannah’s Big Read. The book for 2007 was Zora Neal Hurston’s *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.]

Presentation: ““Reexamining Ernest Gaines’ Jefferson” [Paper presented during Savannah’s Big Read. The book for 2005 was Earnest J. Gaines’ *A Lesson Before Dying*.]

Presentation: Coastal Heritage Society. “Gen. William T Sherman and the Union Occupation of Savannah.” Savannah, Georgia. 2004.

Presentation: John G. Riley House/Goodwood Plantation “Blended Lives” Symposium. Topic: “Florida during the Reconstruction Era.” Tallahassee, Florida. 2002.

## **Service and Voluntary Activities**

Coordinator- North Nashville Heritage Project- North Nashville Heritage Project is a digital humanities project created during the Fall Semester 2010. The project’s purpose is to create and present to the public an oral, photographic, and written record of the history of North Nashville.

Coordinator-The Middle Tennessee African American Heritage Collective-The Middle Tennessee African American Heritage Collective is an organization that was created at Tennessee State University to provide opportunities for TSU students to assist economically challenged African American societies collect, analyze, interpret and present the histories of their communities to academic and public audiences.

Master’s Theses-Directed

Michelle McLean-Mobley. "The Savannah Tribune: Completing the News for Savannah's African Americans, 1929-1941." Thesis (MA). Armstrong Atlantic State University. Savannah, Georgia. 2008.

Helen Waters. "From the Pulpit to the Populace : Religion and Politics in Savannah Churches, 1861-1865" Thesis (MA). Armstrong Atlantic State University. Savannah, Georgia. 2007.

Master's Theses- Committee Member

Cook, Melanie, "A study of citizens' perceptions of the war on drugs." 2013.Masters Thesis, Tennessee State University.

Matthew L. Perry. "Building a Bird Cage: The History and Architecture of Savannah, Georgia's first Municipal Airport, 1929-1941." Thesis (MA). Armstrong Atlantic State University. Savannah, Georgia, 2007.

Jaime Woodcock Trotter. "Our Contemporary Ancestors: Appalachia and the Tennessee Valley Authority, 1933-1941." Thesis (MA). Armstrong Atlantic State University. Savannah, Georgia, 2007.

### **Recent Committee Appointments**

- 2015-Present- Member. [Department of Environment & Conservation](#) State Review Board
- 2015-Present Metro Historical Commission foundation
- 2009-Present-Chair-Public Relations Committee. College of Arts and Sciences. Tennessee State University.
- 2009-Present- Gateway to Heritage TSU Column Committee. Tennessee State University.
- 2007-2009-Trustee. Historic Savannah Foundation
- 2007-2009-Member. Revolving Fund Committee. Historic Savannah Foundation
- 2007 Savannah's Big Read Planning Committee
- 2007-Invited Lecturer for the 100 Black Men of Savannah Black History Program
- 2006-2009: Ossabaw Island Foundation Lowcountry Slavery NEH Grant & Symposium Planning Committee.
- 2006-2009: Faculty Advisor to the AASU Student Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).
- 2006-2009: Savannah Chatham County Technical Advisory Committee
- 2005-2009: Owens-Thomas House NEH Grant Planning Committee
- 2005-2009: Chair AASU Academic Appeals Committee
- 2005-2009 Member of AASU Leaders Among Us Program.
- 2004-2009: Phi Alpha Theta faculty advisor.
- 2004-2009: AASU Early Alert and Support Environment (EASE) Mentor.
- 2004-2009: Judge-Southeast Undergraduate Moot Court Tournament held at AASU.
- 2004-2009: King-Tisdale Cottage Foundation Negro Heritage Trail Tour Committee.



- 2004-Invited Speaker at the Coastal Heritage Society's commemoration of General William T. Sherman's arrival in Savannah, Georgia.
- 1996-2003—Guest Speaker for the Tallahassee Museum of Natural History and Science's African American Heritage Program.
- 2002-Guest Speaker at the New Salem Missionary Baptist Church African American History Program.
- 1996-1997—Secretary of The Florida State University Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta Historical Society.
- 1996—Student representative to The Florida State University Department of History Graduate Committee.

### **Membership in Professional Societies**

- African American Intellectual History Society
- Association for the Study of African American Life and History
- Florida Historical Society
- Georgia Association of Historians
- Georgia Historical Society
- Southern Historical Association

### **References**

Maxine D. Jones, Ph.D.  
 Professor of History  
 Florida State University  
 Tallahassee, Florida 32306  
 850.644.5588

Catherine J. Adams, Ph.D.  
 Assistant Professor of History

State University of New York at Geneseo  
Geneseo, New York 14454  
585.245.5374

Glen A. Harris, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor of History  
University of North Carolina Wilmington  
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