

Bethany Bell

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

African American History, 19th Century U.S., U.S. South, Historical Memory, U.S. Civil War and Reconstruction, Slavery and Emancipation in the Atlantic World, Race and Space, The Built Environment

EDUCATION

- 2024 **University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA**
M.A., History
Graduate Certificate, Digital Humanities

Thesis (forthcoming): *Dismantling the Master's House: How Freedom Seekers Reshaped the Built Environment During the U.S. Civil War, 1861-1865*
- 2016 **Boston University, Boston, MA**
M.A., Global Development Policy
Graduate Certificate, African Studies
- 2014 **University of Central Arkansas, Conway, AR**
B.A., International Studies

PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP

Digital Publications

- 2023 [*Rhiannon Giddens' "Build A House": Homeplace Making in Black Memory and Imagination Part 2*](#), American Historical Association, August 24, 2023
- 2023 [*Beyoncé's "Formation": Homeplace Making in Black Memory and Imagination Part 1*](#), American Historical Association, July 26, 2023
- 2023 [*"Florida's rejection of an AP course is the latest salvo in a very old war"*](#), *The Washington Post*
- 2022 [*"In Their Own Words: Black Pioneers from UVA's North Grounds to the Pacific Northwest"*](#), *Race and Slavery at UVA's North Grounds*

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

Panels Chaired or Organized

2023 Organizer | *Beauty from Ashes: Black People and Radical Space Making during the Civil War and Reconstruction*
Association for the Study of African American Life and History
(Jacksonville, FL), September 20-24

Papers Presented

2023 Presenter | *Dismantling the Master's House: How Freedom Seekers Reshaped the Built Environment During the U.S. Civil War, 1861-1865*,
Association for the Study of African American Life and History
(Jacksonville, FL), September 20-24

Workshops/Roundtable Sessions

2023 Presenter | *Charlottesville's Court Square and the Central Virginia Slave Trade, 1831-1865*
Student Showcase: Participating in Democracy, Karsh Institute of
Democracy, University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA), October 20

2023 Presenter | *Centering the Enslaved in Plantation Narratives*
Public History Symposium by Queen's University Belfast and
American University (Washington, DC), October 3

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Current Projects

2023 - Present [The Memory Project](#), Karsh Institute for Democracy, University of
Virginia

Additional Research Experience

2023 Dr. Lisa Goff (UVA) and Justin Reid (Griffin Blvd Archives), Archival
research on Black land ownership in Reconstruction-era
Cumberland County, Virginia

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Boston University

IR/GE 304: Environmentally Sustainable Development, Teaching Assistant (Fall 2015)

MEDIA COVERAGE

Andrew Ramspacher, “‘Remarkable’ UVA Students Expand Possibilities Through Washington Post Partnership,” *UVA Today*, March 13, 2023, <https://news.virginia.edu/content/remarkable-uva-students-expand-possibilities-through-washington-post-partnership>

Aniya Gold, “Unearthing the Master’s House with Bethany Ann Bell”, *The Grad Perspective Podcast*, October 26, 2023 <https://open.spotify.com/episode/3em96jXw5ZaT9aGNZtqITT?si=59uH1cHdTEumaZ8o5couTQ>

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Peer Review

2023 Peer Reviewer | *Essays In History*

SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY/DEPARTMENT

University of Virginia

2022-Present Secretary, Graduate History Students Association

2023 - Present Home Places: Mapping Black Virginia Working Group | Digital Mapping and Genealogy Subcommittee

Boston University

2015-2016 Dean’s Ambassador, Pardee School of Global Studies

LANGUAGES

French (Proficient)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)

American Historical Association (AHA)