The interpretation of African American history and culture at historic sites and in history museums has grown tremendously in the last twenty years, as demonstrated by this bibliography of published articles and books. Although not comprehensive nor definitive, it provides a gateway to the breadth and width of the work underway in the United States for inspiration and best practices, as well as needs and opportunities. This bibliography primarily focuses on theories and methods (the “how”) of interpreting African American history and culture at museums and historic sites, such as tours, exhibits, events, programs, videos, and websites. Related, but not part of this bibliography, are guidebooks to museums and sites such as African American Historic Places (Wiley, 1994) and studies on the teaching and interpretation of African American history in the classroom and in textbooks. The history and historiography of the African American experience (the “what”) are collected in such works as The Harvard Guide to African-American History (Harvard University Press, 2001) and The Columbia Guide to African American History Since 1939 (Columbia University Press, 2006), although they typically exclude unpublished studies such as archaeological excavations, architectural surveys, and historic structures reports. Resources on the historical research and interpretation in general are available from such organizations as the American Historical Association, American Association for State and Local History, the National Association for Interpretation, National Council on Public History, and the National Park Service.


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