

Mammoth Cave: A Slavery Perspective

February 8, 9, and 10, 2008
Mammoth Cave National Park

The rediscovery of Mammoth Cave by American Europeans brought a flood of change to the western frontier of the United States. That flood carried with it the cultural traditions of both industrial and agrarian regions in the north and south. One of those traditions was slavery.

This three-day workshop will briefly explore the impacts of slavery on a region that soon became the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We will discuss stories and sites commemorating the contributions of slaves and their descendants to this Commonwealth, then be exposed to ways and means of researching African American families in this country.

Participants will spend two days immersed in the story of slavery at Mammoth Cave, walking in the footsteps of cave guides Stephen Bishop, Mat and Nick Bransford, and others along the tour trails of Mammoth Cave. They will celebrate the lives of the men, women and children of Mammoth Cave's slavery heritage as they take short treks to various landmarks in the Park representative of home sites, final resting places, and the beneficial work of the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930s.

Come join us for an up close and personal look at the lives of Mammoth Cave's African Americans, set against the winter landscape of this national park.

Objectives:

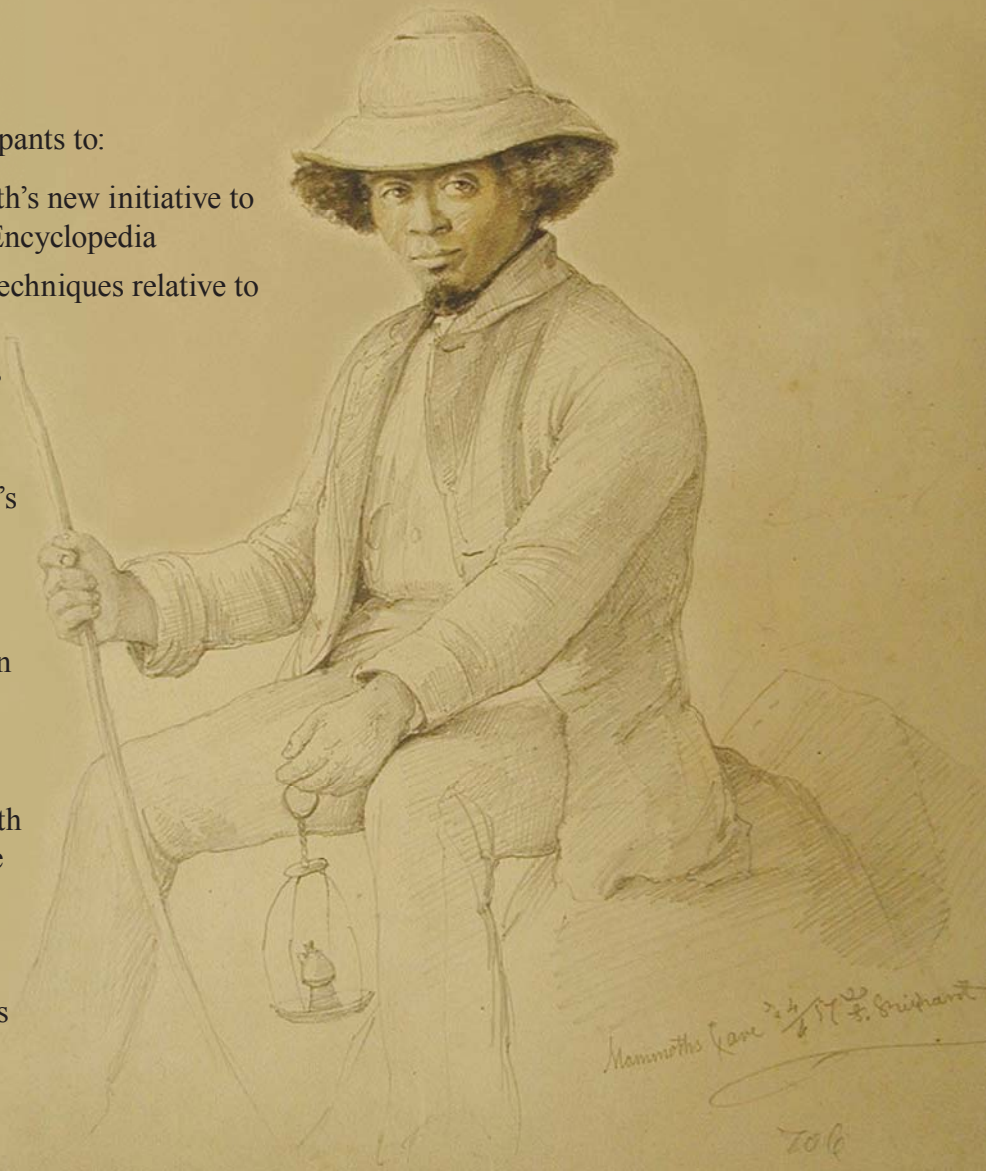
This three-day workshop will allow participants to:

- become informed of the Commonwealth's new initiative to create a Kentucky African American Encyclopedia
- learn genealogical and other research techniques relative to collecting African American history
- become familiar with the contributions of African Americans to Mammoth Cave's guide history
- understand the relationship of the Park's topographical features to community settlement
- understand the importance of archaeological and cultural resources in a national park setting

Location:

Activities will be based out of the Mammoth Cave National Park Training Center. Please come prepared to spend time in Mammoth Cave and to hike to some of the cemeteries and historic homesites in the park.

Comfortable, close-toed shoes (tennis shoes or hiking boots) are required.



Schedule: (all times CST)

Friday, February 8

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Welcome and evening sessions at Training Center.

Saturday, February 9

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Morning sessions at Training Center.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own.

1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Afternoon sessions in Mammoth Cave and hike to the Old Guide’s Cemetery. Come prepared to spend time in the cave and outside.

6:00 p.m. Dinner at Mammoth Cave Hotel with Jerry Bransford, current cave guide and relative of Mat Bransford. (Cost of meal not included in registration.) Evening session with Jerry to follow dinner.

Sunday, February 10

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Morning and Afternoon activities. Meet at Training Center. Come prepared to spend all day hiking to historic locations within the park. Boxed lunches will be provided.

Lodging:

Single or double occupancy rooms are available at the Mammoth Cave Hotel for \$50 per night (plus tax) on Friday and Saturday nights. Other hotels are available in Cave City, approximately a 20 minute drive from the Training Center.

Cost:

\$65 per person. Price includes *Making Their Mark: The Signature of Slavery at Mammoth Cave* by Joy Medley Lyons, Friday night refreshments, and a boxed lunch on Sunday.

Registration:

Registration limited to 12 participants. Please return completed registration form and payment by February 4, 2008. For more information call Joy Lyons, (270) 758-2435.

Workshop presented by the Mammoth Cave International Center for Science and Learning and Western Kentucky University’s Center for Cave and Karst Studies. Thanks to Mammoth Cave National Park for providing us with access to the sites and allowing us to conduct this workshop at the park.

**Registration Form
Mammoth Cave: A Slavery Perspective
February 8, 9, & 10**



Please complete this form and mail along with \$65 registration fee to:
The Center for Cave and Karst Studies, Department of Geography and Geology, Western Kentucky University, 1906 College Heights Blvd. #31066, Bowling Green, KY 42101-1066

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE:

FULL NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____
E-MAIL _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT (Check One√)

____ Check or Money Order _____ Credit Card: Amount Authorized: \$65 registration fee
(Check One√) MasterCard ____ Visa ____
Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____