

BLACK HISTORY MONTH “HALLOWED GROUNDS”

THIS YEAR’S THEME OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH IS “HALLOWED GROUNDS: SITES OF AFRICAN AMERICAN MEMORIES.”

THE HISTORY OF AFRICAN AMERICANS UNFOLDS ACROSS THE CANVAS OF AMERICA, BEGINNING BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE MAYFLOWER AND CONTINUING TO THE PRESENT.

FROM PORT CITIES WHERE AFRICANS DISEMBARKED FROM SLAVE SHIPS TO BATTLE FIELDS WHERE THEIR DESCENDANTS FOUGHT FOR FREEDOM, FROM THE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHERE THEY PURSUED EDUCATION TO PLACES WHERE THEY CREATED COMMUNITIES DURING CENTURIES OF MIGRATION, THE IMPRINT OF AMERICANS OF AFRICAN DESCENT IS DEEPLY EMBEDDED IN THE NARRATIVE OF THE AMERICAN PAST.



THE NATIONAL MALL IS ONE OF THE HALLOWED GROUNDS FEATURED AS PART OF THIS YEAR’S BLACK HISTORY MONTH RECOGNITION. IT WAS THE SITE OF THE 1963 CIVIL RIGHTS “MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR JOBS AND FREEDOM,” WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 250,000 PEOPLE AND SERVED AS THE SETTING FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.’S ICONIC “I HAVE A DREAM” SPEECH.

