



**Northern Illinois  
University**

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# **Transformative Experiences Promoting Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging**

Vernese Edghill-Walden, PhD

May 2023

# ADEI Transformative Student Experiences



## University Goal 4B:

### Social Justice Education, Inclusion and Belonging

- Continue to create transformative experiences that encourage students to think critically, develop compassion and acquire the skills needed to integrate complex and conflicting realities. Leverage the success of Greenwood Rising tour and Rebuilding Democracy Lecture to design domestic and international student experiences that incorporate restorative history.

## Baccalaureate Learning Outcomes

### Global Interconnections and Interdependencies

Students should develop a global perspective and knowledge through cultural self-awareness and by encouraging them to compare and contrast themselves with others.

- Global Knowledge
- Global Intellectual Skills
- Global Perspectives
- Global Self-awareness

# ADEI & Asian American Resource Center

## Domestic Student Experience



### May 2022 Manzanar Summer Interim Trip

- Manzanar Japanese Incarceration Camp
  - Incarceration camp established during WWII

"After touring Manzanar, the group sat down with Rose, a National Park Ranger who helped us connect with the site and its stories...Sitting down with Rose provided us with context and aided in beginning to digest our experience at Manzanar...I was empowered by the resilience of those who were incarcerated and the community they were able to build for themselves..."

~Zoe

# ADEI & Asian American Resource Center

## Domestic Student Experience



- The Japanese American National Museum
  - Virtual reality exhibit on life in an incarceration camp
  - Understand the conditions in which Japanese Americans lived while imprisoned.



# International



## Barbados



- March 11-18, 2023
- Partnership between Illinois State University, NIU and the Center for Black Studies
- Faculty Directors
  - Dr. Doris Houston
  - Dr. Tina Williams
  - Dr. Vernese Edghill-Walden
- The courses associated with the study aboard experience:
  - Management and Quantitative Methods
  - Independent Study

# International



## Ghana

- May 20, 2023, through June 9, 2023
- Partnership Institutions
  - NIU Center for Black Studies
  - Illinois State University
  - Clemson University
  - College of Charleston (South Carolina)
- Faculty Directors
  - Dr. LaVerne Gyant
  - Dr. Taylor Duckett
  - Dr. Clint-Michael Reneau
- Courses
  - Black Studies 302 & 445
  - Independent Study 501 (Graduate Course)
- Alumni Engagement





# Mitraya Williams

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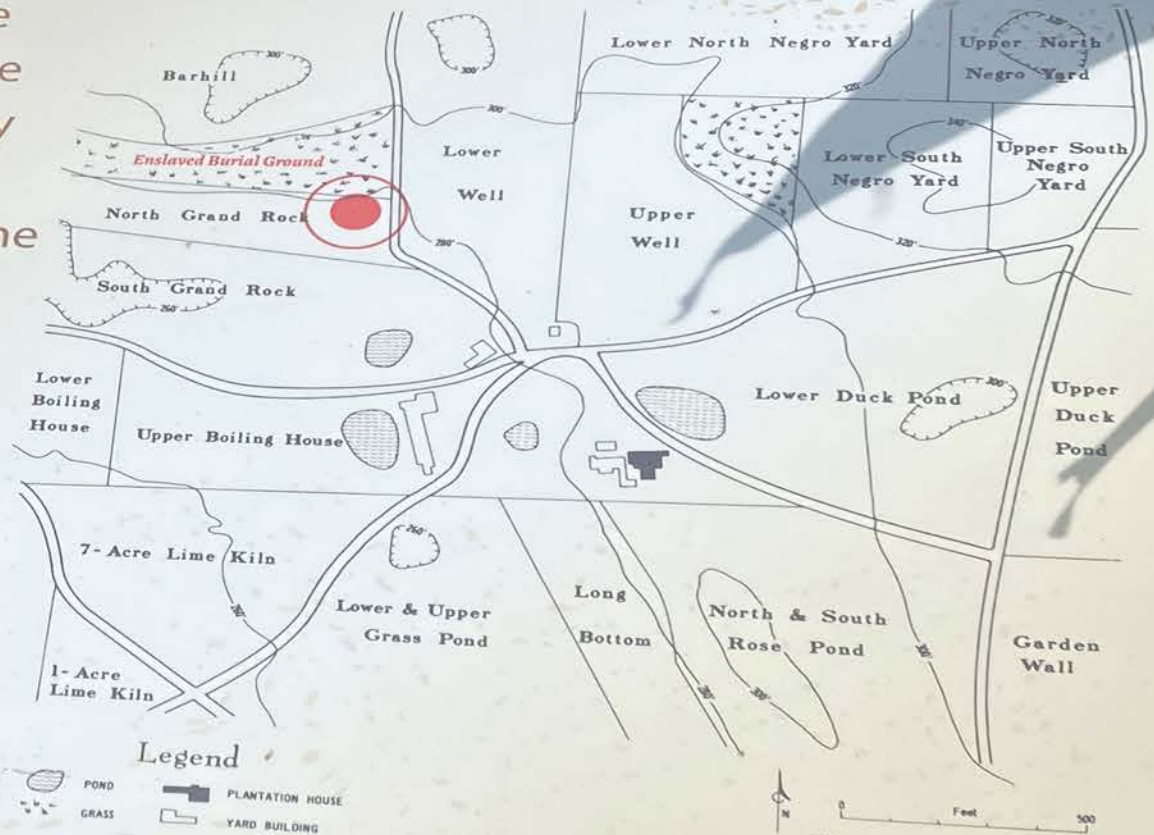




## 1 | INTRODUCTION

The Enslaved Burial Ground at Newton houses some 570 burials on a half-acre site. Those interred would have worked on the Newton plantation from 1660-1838. By the end of the Emancipation period, the newly freed moved to settlements on non-agricultural lands of the plantation. The enslaved cemetery ceased operation in 1838. Its rediscovery in the 1970s was as a site of archaeological excavation and analysis that allowed for the rethinking of how enslaved populations lived and died. Today the site is a sacred space and place of contemplation for the descendants of those who live on this island and in the diaspora.

## THE ENSLAVED BURIAL GROUND AT NEWTON



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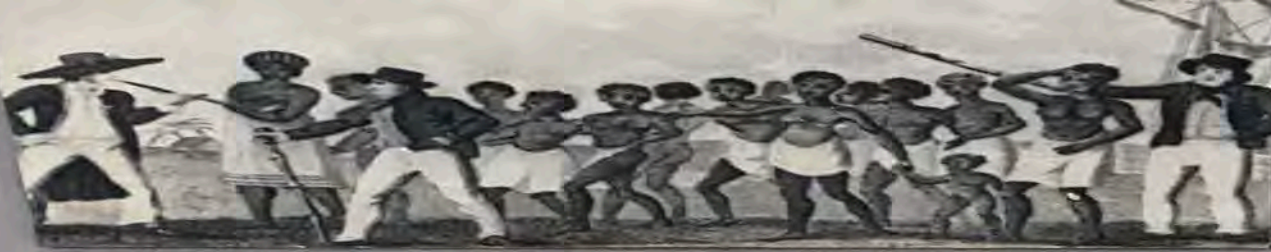


# Romeo Bell

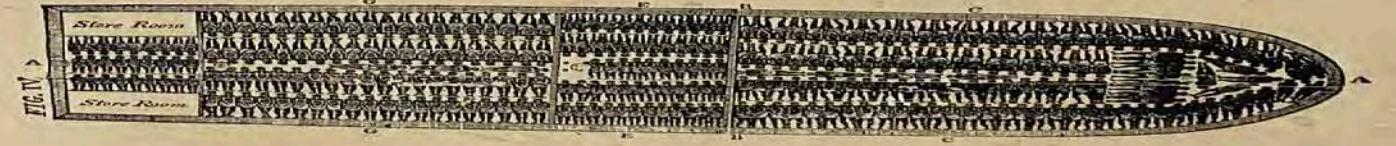
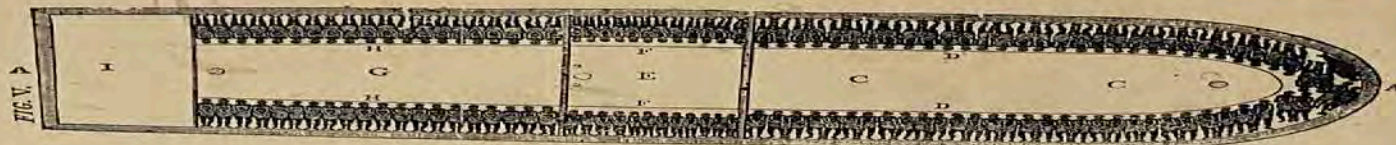
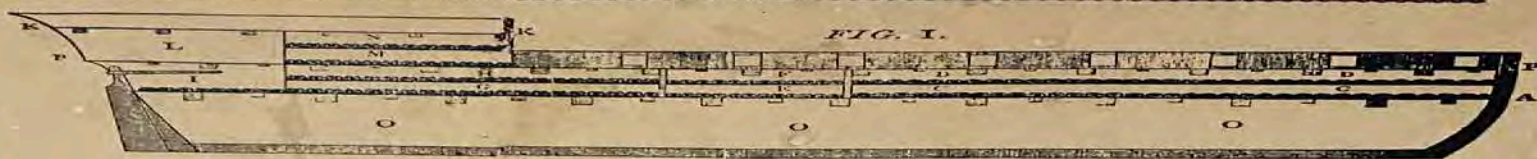
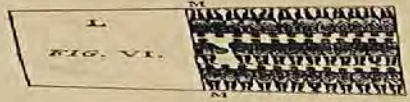
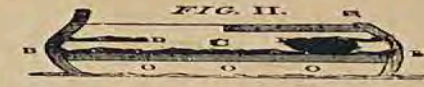
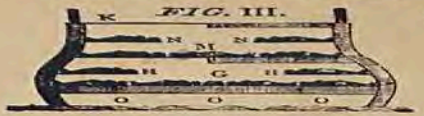
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# DESCRIPTION OF A SLAVE SHIP.



**THE PLAN OF THE SHIP**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SHIP**

**LIST OF THE SHIP'S COMPANY**

Name	Rank	Age	Complexion	Height	Build	Complexion	Height	Build
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

**THE PLAN OF THE SHIP**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SHIP**

Name	Rank	Age	Complexion	Height	Build
...	...	...	...	...	...

**THE PLAN OF THE SHIP**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SHIP**

Name	Rank	Age	Complexion	Height	Build
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**THE PLAN OF THE SHIP**

**DESCRIPTION OF THE SHIP**

Name	Rank	Age	Complexion	Height	Build
...	...	...	...	...	...



### 3 | HISTORY OF THE PLANTATION

Cot Samuel Newton, an Englishman, purchased several small parcels of land in Christ Church and developed two plantations, both called Newton, that were in operation by the 1660s. William Mayo's map of Barbados, 1717-1721, identifies one plantation called 'Newton' in Christ Church made up of 581 acres of lands.

Newton remained in the possession of the Newton and Lane families for over two hundred and fifty years until 1924, when the plantation passed out of the possession of the Lane family.

The plantation 1660-1838 was the site of bondage, work and death for some 300-400 enslaved persons at any one time. The most significant feature of the Newton Plantation is the presence of a burial ground for those Africans and Barbadians who were enslaved at the Newton Plantation between the 1660s until full Emancipation in 1838.

THE ENSLAVED BURIAL GROUND AT NEWTON



#### Legend

- POND
- GRASS
- PLANTATION HOUSE
- YARD BUILDING

MAP DRAWN BY H. IRBY  
 BASED ON A FIELD SURVEY BY H. BIRCHAN, S.C. BLOOMER IN MAY  
 OF 1881. IT IS THE BARBADOS MAP PUBLISHED BY THE BUREAU  
 OF COLONIAL SURVEYS 1888.

The map above allows you to view the layout of the plantation from this ridge. The RED DOT indicates where you are right now. The enslaved village over to your left, the plantation in line with the Royal palm, the factory demarcated by the Chimney. The Enslaved Burial Ground below surrounded by cane fields in which enslaved Africans and their pre-emanclaption descendents toiled.





# Jaelyn Logan

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# Thank you!



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