

Interpretive Planning: Landscape and Economics

Drayton Hall, Charleston, South Carolina

July 16-17, 2012

Participants

Scholars: Dr. S. Max Edelson, University of Virginia; Dr. Rex Ellis, National Museum of African American History and Culture; Dr. Fraser Neiman, Monticello and the University of Virginia.

Visitor Research Specialist: Conny Graft

Staff: Eric Becker, Randy Boone, Rikki Davenport, Carter C. Hudgins, George McDaniel, Joe Mester, Kristine Morris, Trish Smith, Sarah Stroud

Facilitator: Max van Balgooy

Goals

1. Develop preliminary themes that interpret the site holistically and integrate documents, artifacts, buildings, and landscape into the visitor experience.
2. Develop a scholarly foundation for understanding Drayton Hall's landscape and economics as a whole and its place within a regional, historical, and cultural context.
3. Identify strengths and weaknesses of the current interpretation of the site's landscape, areas for additional research, monographs and articles to consult, and recommendations for the draft interpretive themes for the orientation exhibit in the new interpretive center.

Agenda

Monday, July 16, 2012: Drayton Hall

11:15 Welcome and introductions (George, Max)

12:15 Lunch with staff

1:00 Site and collections: overview (Carter)

1:45 Break

2:00 Site and collections: site visit (George, Carter)

5:00 Adjourn

6:10 Tour of Drayton-related sites in downtown Charleston (George, Carter; meet in King Street lobby)

6:30 Dinner at Rue de Jean in downtown Charleston (scholars)

Lodging at the Francis Marion Hotel, 387 King Street, Charleston

Tuesday, July 17, 2012: Drayton Hall

Breakfast on your own

9:00 Initial impressions (scholars, Max)

10:00 Break

10:15 Topics and themes (scholars, Max)

12 n Lunch

1:00 Needs and opportunities (scholars, Max)

2:00 Identify key artifacts, documents, places (scholars, Carter, Max)

3:00 Wrap-up and next steps

4:00 Adjourn