I. Each student group was assigned a family line to research from the lynching records of the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI).

**Our Objective:** To discover what happened to the families impacted by racial violence, and to connect with their descendants.

### ONE GROUP BEGAN WITH THE MURDER OF JEROME WHITFIELD

who was lynched on August 14, 1921

- Accused of assaulting a white woman, he was murdered by a mob, without evidence or a trial
- Between 1,500 and 2,000 men participated in this Jones County murder, hanging Mr. Whitfield and riddling his corpse with bullets

### WHAT WAS PRINTED IN NEWSPAPERS OF THE DAY:

**NEGRO RAPIST GETS USUAL TREATMENT OF HANDS MADDENED MEN**

- Accused of raping a white woman, he was murdered by a mob, without evidence or a trial
- Between 1,500 and 2,000 men participated in this Jones County murder, hanging Mr. Whitfield and riddling his corpse with bullets

### MAKING CONNECTIONS

II. Scour the Internet, searching for any connections to descendants, looking through Census Records
Ancestry.com & other genealogy sites
Newspapers
Yellow Pages

### THE EQUAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE (EJI) LYNCHING RECORD

[https://lynchinginamerica.eji.org/explore/north-carolina](https://lynchinginamerica.eji.org/explore/north-carolina)

### AND WHAT WAS NOT ADDRESSED IN THOSE PAPERS:

- The wellbeing of the Whitfield family.
- The wellbeing of Jerome Whitfield’s wife, Victoria Whitfield.
- How the family survived after the eldest son was murdered.
- What happened to the families, and where they are today.

*The Descendants Project aims to find answers to these questions*

Marques Moore

*(George Whitfield’s great-grandson, Garfield “Bud”’s grandson, Diane Moore’s son)*

Our efforts to contact Mr. Moore are so far unsuccessful
In Washington DC, the class had the opportunity to interview descendants of Plummer Bullock. The interviews were held at the National Museum of African American History and Culture so both the descendants and students could experience the significance of the museum. The questions that we asked were based on the consultant’s personal life and what it is like to be Black in America today. The interviews have been recorded, logged, and will soon be placed in the UNC archives.

Students Sam Ndukwe, Jordan Teachy, and Dorothy Colon interviewing Louise Owens, niece of Plummer Bullock.

Students Callie Maunder, Miota Allen, Katie Rose Turlik, and Courtney Witherspoon with descendants Sibyl and Eddie Bines.

Students DJ Terrell, Griffin Rogers, Jiona Mills, Paapa Berko, Kaitlyn Wood, and Vicky Fonseca pose for a picture with descendant Mark Wrenn.

Two generations of descendants: David, Louise, and Diana Owens

Two historic landmarks captured in one photo. The Washington monument overlooking the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

A picture of the assault of Recy Taylor. A group of white men kidnapped, raped, and beaten her at gunpoint. Though the NAACP sent Rosa Parks down to seek justice for Taylor, no one was accused for assault and two all-white juries refused to indict the accused.

Mamie Till-Mobley talking about the open-casket viewing at her son Emmett Till’s funeral. She wanted the whole world to see and know about her son’s death, a tragic product of racism.

Students getting their materials and recording equipment ready for the interviews. Everyone was ready to meet the interviewees and excited for the lessons and stories they would share.