

# ANTH 370 - SOUTHERN LEGACIES: THE DESCENDANTS PROJECT - ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

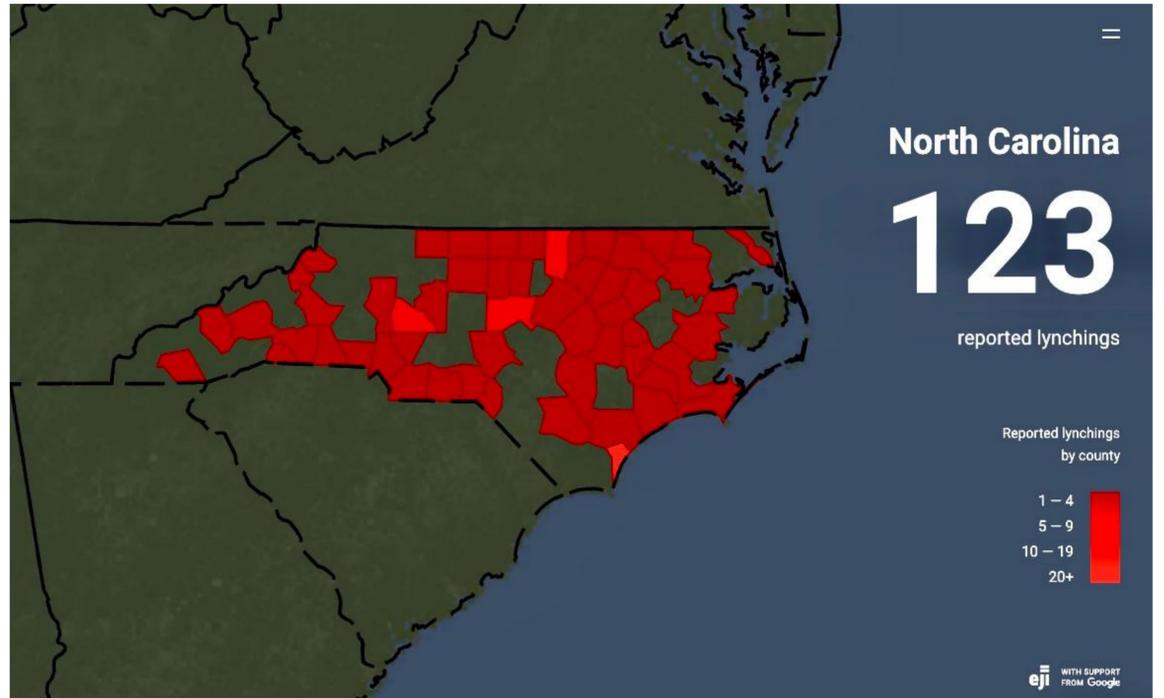
I. Each student group was assigned a family line to research from the lynching records of the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI).

**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



## THE EQUAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE (EJI) LYNCHING RECORD

[HTTPS://LYNCHINGINAMERICA.EJI.ORG/EXPLORE/NORTH-CAROLINA](https://lynchinginamerica.eji.org/explore/north-carolina)

## WHAT WAS PRINTED IN NEWSPAPERS OF THE DAY:

**JONES COUNTY PEOPLE LYNCH NEGRO GUILTY OF CRIMINAL ASSAULT**  
 Jerome Whitfield, Caught in Woods and Identified, Summarily Executed  
**HANGED AND SHOT**  
 Mob of 1,500 to 2,000 Men Fire as Many as 1,000 Bullets Into His Body  
 (Special to the Star)  
 KINSTON, Aug. 14.—A mob, variously estimated at from 1,500 to 2,000 armed men, captured Jerome Whitfield, negro criminal assaulter, at 11 o'clock today in a Jones county woods six miles from the scene of his crime at sunset yesterday, and after swinging him to an oak tree by his wrists, riddled his body with bullets.  
 The victim of the assault, Mrs. Elizabeth Irving, 19-year-old wife of a prominent Jones county farmer, positively identified Whitfield as the perpetrator of the deed, and no further questions were asked.  
 The capture was effected at the edge of a densely wooded area several miles wide and long. One wing of the searching party, headed by the sheriff of Jones county, it is said, was searching the woods when the coup was struck. The mob members suddenly emerged from a thicket, making it impossible to get close to the victim, and a full blast of gunfire, extending for many miles toward New Bern.  
 He was commanded to halt, which he did, though Whitfield in an earlier episode, the crowd rushed him to the home of the Irvings, six miles away, where Mrs. Irving identified him.  
 "Please don't kill him here in the yard," she pleaded.  
 They proceeded with the negro to a point about one mile from the home, where a house was slipped about his neck and he was dragged to a large oak tree where the negro body was riddled with bullets.

**NEGRO RAPIST GETS USUAL TREATMENT AT HANDS MADDENED MEN**  
 Brute Criminally Assaulted Respected Young White Woman Across Line in Jones County and is Summarily Dealt With Shortly After His Apprehension—Confessed His Awful Deed  
 Jerome Whitfield, a negro brute who assaulted the young wife of a respected Jones county farmer Saturday afternoon near Haskins Chapel, met the usual fate Sunday about noon at a short distance from the home of the victim and the scene of the heinous crime. An all-night search in which hundreds of organized citizens from three or four counties joined, brought no results, but the criminal was caught about 11 o'clock Sunday. The Sheriff of Jones County was said to have been on the scene shortly after the brute was carried to the place where his dastardly attack was made, but is said to have been unable to get close to the culprit and to have been given to understand that the affair was not for the orderly course of the law to handle.  
 The details of the crime were particularly revolting. The young mother was at the time of attack carrying her infant in her arms, the assailant who was a tenant on the farm of the husband, grabbed the child and hurled it into a clump of bushes where it lay while he accomplished his terrible design.

## 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*

## MAKING CONNECTIONS

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

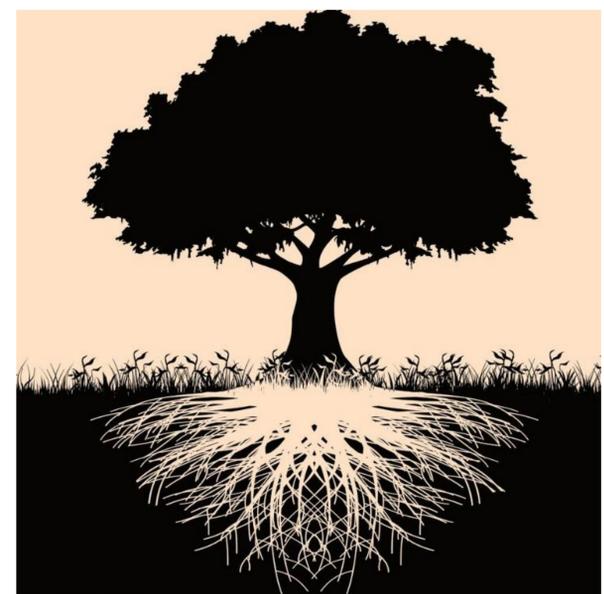
**Marquies Moore**  
 (George Whitfield's great-grandson, Garfield "Bud"'s grandson, Diane Moore's son)

*Our efforts to contact Mr. Moore are so far unsuccessful*

**Garfield "Bud" Whitfield**  
 Garfield "Bud" Whitfield, 72, of 907 Cunningham Road, died Friday, Feb. 27, 2004, at Kinston Rehabilitation and Health Care Center. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Who So Ever Will Church of Christ Disciples of Christ with Pastor Otis Simmons officiating. Burial will be held at Southview Cemetery. Survivors include eight daughters, Diane Moore of New Bern, Rose Pate, Elaine Jones, Vera Pearsall, LeKasha Hill and Aranda Whitfield, all of Kinston, Francine Keys of La Grange and Vanessa Cox of Raleigh; and son, Darion Whitfield of Kinston. Visitation will be held from 1 to 8 p.m. today at Mills Funeral Home. Family visitation will be held from 7 to 8 p.m.

### Diane Moore Obituary

NEW BERN - Diane Moore, 59, of the Pleasant Hill Community, died Monday, Oct. 12, 2009, at CarolinaEast Medical Center.  
 Diane graduated with honors in 1968 from J. T. Barber High School and continued her education in New York. She was employed by the New York Public School #398 and the New York Transit System.  
 A funeral will be held at 1 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 18, 2009, at Pleasant Hill A.M.E. Zion Church with the Rev. Don Roberts, pastor, and the Rev. Allen Lee Patrick officiating. Burial will follow.  
 She is survived by her three sons, Marquies Moore of Raleigh, Brian Moore and Breon Cornelius of Brooklyn, N.Y.; three daughters, Denisia Moore, Bobbie Jo Moore Askew, and Diane Moore of New Bern; her mother, Evelyn Moore Clark of New Bern; two brothers, Shelby W. Clark of New Bern and Darian Whitfield of Kinston; fifteen sisters, Evergene Clark, Cynthia Staten, Evelyn Cherry, Renee Clark, Virginia Farris, all of New Bern, Doris Clark of Pontiac, Mich., Jackie McCain of Havelock, Rose Pate of Winterville, Elaine Jones, Vera Pearsall and Aranda Whitfield, all of Kinston, Francine Keys of LaGrange, Vanessa Cox of Knightdale and Kiki Whitfield of Tren-ton; and five grandsons.  
 The family will receive friends at the residence of her mother, 122 East Pleasant Hill Drive.  
 Viewing will be from 1 to 6 p.m. Friday, at Oscar's Mortuary and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
 On line condolences may be sent to [oscarasmortuary.com](http://oscarasmortuary.com).  
 Arrangements are by Oscar's Mortuary, Inc.



# STRENGTH IN RESILIENCE

Bobby Jo Moore

Breon Cornelius

Marquies Moore

Brian Moore

Denisia Moore

Diane Moore

Elaine Jones

**Diane Moore**  
Obituary

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Rose Pate

Name:	Jennie Whitfield [Jennie Whitfield]
Gender:	Female
Race:	Negro (Black)
Age:	36
Birth Year:	abt 1928
Marriage Date:	22 Oct 1964
Marriage Place:	Wayne, North Carolina, USA
Father:	George Whitfield
Mother:	Victoria Murvin
Spouse:	Jewel Hall
Spouse Gender:	Male
Spouse Race:	Negro (Black)
Spouse Age:	34
Spouse Father:	Joe Hall
Spouse Mother:	Elizabeth Koonce
Event Type:	Marriage

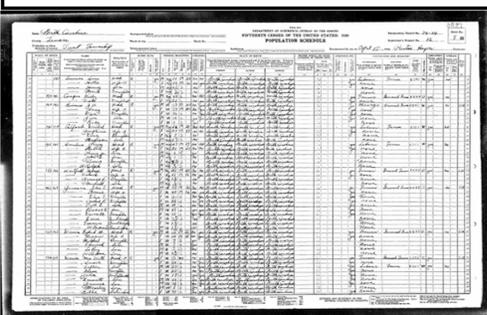
Garfield & Edna Whitfield

Jennie Hall

Jerome Whitfield



George & Victoria Whitfield



# Washington D.C.: The Past, Present, and Future of African American History



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

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 Yaw Sackey, Allison Delgado, Ugo Ikoro, and Marin Wolf interviewing Mary Greene, neice of Plummer Bullock.



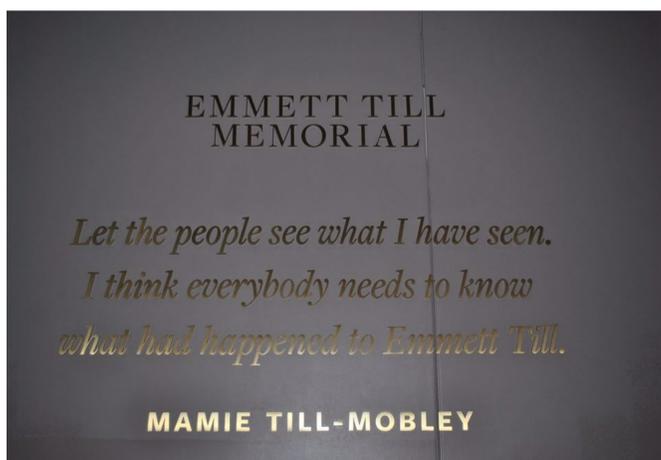
Students Callie Maunder, Miota Allen, Katie Rose Turlik, and Courtney Witherspoon with descendants Sibyl and Eddie Bines.



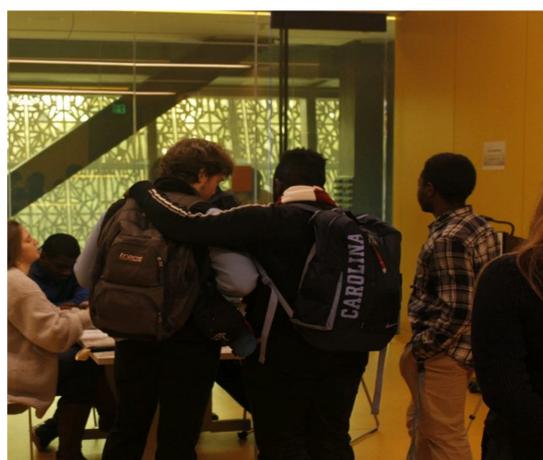
Students DJ Terrell, Griffin Rogers, Jiona Mills, Paapa Berko, Kaitlyn Wood, and Vicky Fonseca pose for a picture with descendant Mark Wrenn.



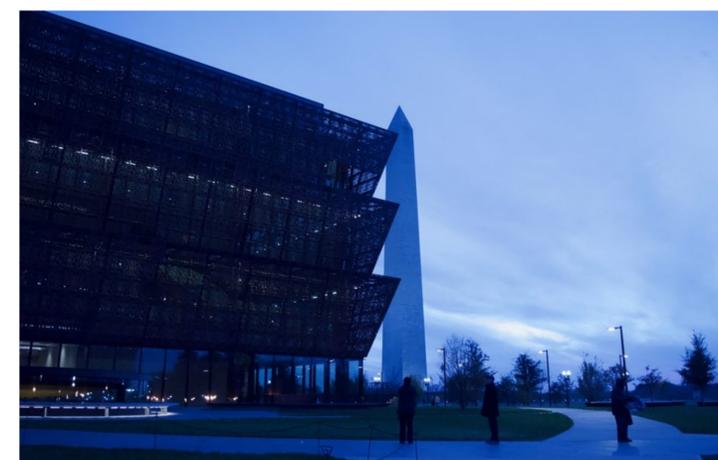
Two generations of descendants: David, Louise, and Diana Owens



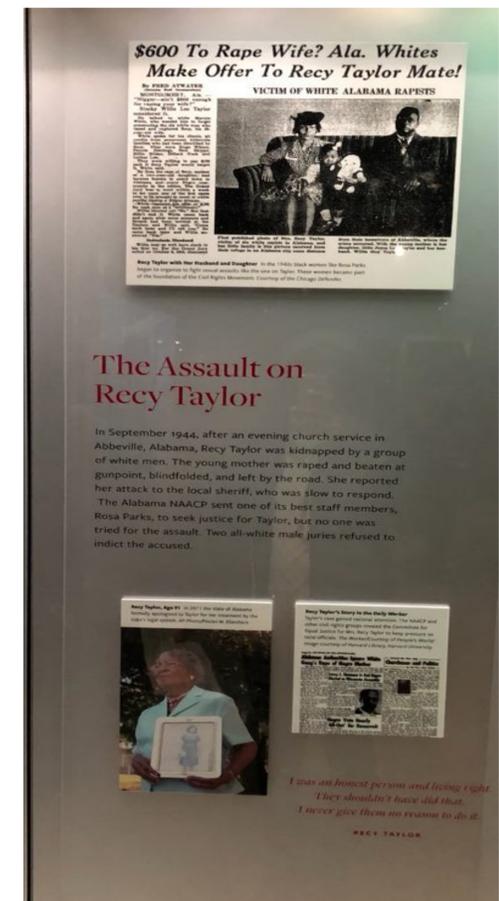
Mamie Till-Mobley talking about the open-casket viewing at her son Emmett Till's funeral. She wanted the whole world to see and know about her son's death, a tragic product of racism.



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.



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.