

# Mitchelville Times

December 2019

Newsletter

*The Mitchelville Times is the official newsletter of Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park.*

*Thank You For A Great Year!*



As another year draws to a close, it's time to look back and reflect on the past 12 months. It is also a time to give thanks to the Citizens of Mitchelville, partners, sponsors, volunteers and friends that supported Historic Mitchelville Preservation Park. As a small organization, it means a lot to us that we were able to reach an unprecedented 35,410 people in 2019. Our network of supporters helped us create and deliver an authentic Mitchelville experience. Their knowledge and insider access is key to inspirational, intriguing and memorable travel and truly local experience. It is heartening to see the support from our new friends.

We wish you all a safe and prosperous holiday season and look forward to seeing each and every one of you in Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park during the year of 2020.

For details on all 2020 events in HMFP, visit us online at [exploremitchelville.org](http://exploremitchelville.org) and follow us on:

Facebook [[@exploremitchelville](https://www.facebook.com/exploremitchelville)]

Instagram [[@exploremitchelville](https://www.instagram.com/exploremitchelville)]

Twitter [[@mitchelville](https://twitter.com/mitchelville)]

## *Freedom Day*



National Freedom Day is an observance in the United States that honors the signing of a resolution that proposed the 13th amendment of the nation's constitution on February 1, 1865. Abraham Lincoln, who was the president at the time, signed the resolution to outlaw slavery. This anniversary is annually observed on February 1.

## *Upcoming*

**February 1, 2020**

Freedom Day Celebration  
Historic Mitchelville  
Freedom Park

**March 28, 2020**

Blues & BBQ  
Location: TBD

**June 20, 2020**

Juneteenth Celebration  
Historic Mitchelville  
Freedom Park

Historic Mitchelville Freedom Park preserves, promotes and honors Mitchelville, the first self-governed town of formerly enslaved people in the United States. HMFP is a 501(c)3 organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

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## *Archaeology Update*

Lead HMFP Archaeologist Katie Seeber has been conducting the analysis of all the artifacts and samples taken from the last two summer digs (2018 and 2019). In particular, she has analyzed all the pieces of pottery found from the dig. She has studied the pieces of colonoware ceramic found. Colonoware is a type of pottery made by enslaved Africans in South Carolina and Virginia. She examined all the pieces to see how they were made, what exactly they are made of, and when they might have been made to help us understand more about who left them behind at Mitchelville.



## *Be A Volunteer. Be A Citizen. Be A Sponsor.*

The story of Mitchelville, South Carolina, is the story of the brave and industrious people who created it. It's an American story that millions of African-Americans can still lay claim to today. A significant number of African-Americans can trace their family lineage back to Mitchelville. But, whether you can trace your roots back to Mitchelville or not, once you set foot on freedmen's land, you can't help but feel a part of this rich local history.

With your help, we can safeguard this incredible story and preserve the significance of Mitchelville and its original creators by creating an economically, culturally and environmentally-sustainable historical destination experience that will enrich the lives of visitors for generations to come.

**To become a volunteer, Citizen, or sponsor, please visit [exploremitchelville.org](http://exploremitchelville.org) for more details.**

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