



## **Request for Qualifications and Proposal**

The Natchez U. S. Colored Troops (USCT) Monument Committee requests qualifications and a proposal for project discovery, conceptual and schematic design of a monument that will honor the over 3,000 African American men who served in six Army regiments at Fort McPherson, Natchez, MS and those born in Natchez who served in the U.S. Navy during the Civil War.

### **Background**

The Natchez USCT Monument Committee was established in 2021 by Natchez Mayor Dan Gibson as an independent organization. The committee is organized as follows:

Chairman	Robert Pernell
Vice-Chairman	Carter Burns, Executive Director of the Historic Natchez Foundation

#### **Subcommittees:**

History and Research	Deborah Fountain, Genealogist and Researcher
Monument Design	Lance Harris, Director, Grand Village of the Natchez Indians
Site Selection	Devin Heath, Executive Director, Visit Natchez
Marketing/PR	Roscoe Barnes, III, Ph. D., Cultural Heritage Tourism Manager, Visit Natchez
Finance/Fundraising	Mayor Dan Gibson and Robert Pernell

A list of names of Army soldiers and Navy servicemen has been received. A database of descendants is underway. Marketing accomplishments include social media, internet, TV, newspaper, and radio. Various sites have been researched and evaluated. Design concepts have been discussed within the Monument Design Subcommittee and also at one community meeting. Fundraising was initiated January 13, 2022.

Additional resource material is available at:

Website: <https://natchezusctmonument.com>

Facebook page: Natchez U.S. Colored Troops (USCT) Monument Committee - Natchez, MS (a private group which you will be required to join)

#NatchezColoredTroops

#NatchezUSCT

## **Vision**

The Natchez USCT Monument is envisioned as a tribute to the individual African American Army and Navy enlistees and also recognition of their descendants, many of whom are residents of the Natchez area. The Natchez USCT soldiers and Navy servicemen deserve their history to be known, respected and honored. Up to this time, little if any of their history has been known or discussed.

The Natchez USCT Monument will also serve as a place of inspiration, learning, and connection to other USCT places of meaning in Natchez. In addition to a built environment, interactive and sensory communication of information is desired. Preliminary site criteria are summarized in Appendix A. The Design Subcommittee presentation is attached as Appendix B. Community surveys are seen in Appendix C. Background and historical information related to the Natchez USCT is found in Appendix D.

## **Considerations of the Monument Design Subcommittee**

### **Design Intentions**

- Engaging, interactive, and educational
- Inspiring and meaningful
- Historical and innovative
- Figurative and non-figurative
- Experience of place, not an object

### **Preliminary Design Criteria**

#### **Site:**

- Handicap accessible
- On-site parking for vehicles, (if off-site parking is not available)
- Motor coach pull-off space, (if nearby off-site pull-off is not available)
- Integrated landscape

#### **Monument:**

- Inclusion of over 3,000 soldiers' names, organized by regiment
- Distinction of each 6 army regiments and naval volunteers
- Seating incorporated in the monument structure or in the landscape
- Area or exhibit space to connect the USCT monument to notable USCT Natchez sites
- Low maintenance materials

## **Site Selection**

The location has been determined but the specific site size will be determined by the design. Approximately 25 proposed sites were evaluated by the Site Selection Subcommittee. These sites were ranked according to a matrix of factors, weighted by importance by each individual committee member. Community input also influenced the site selection committee evaluation. An example of the evaluation matrix is attached as Appendix A. For the selected site, a location map and its historical significance to the Natchez USCT are included in Appendix A. Additional site information will be provided to the selected contractor.

### **Qualifications Information**

For this RFQ/P, please submit one print copy and one USB thumb drive (as pdf files) of contact information, qualifications, cost of proposed scope of work and deliverables (as seen below), and any additional information as appropriate, to include the following:

- Firm or individual name (with point of contact, address, phone, email)
- NAICS Number
- Mississippi Development Authority Certified Minority Business Report (if applicable)
- Brief history of firm or individual professional experience
- Design team organizational chart with resumes
- Potential subcontractors
- Examples of past work similar to project
- Licensure
- Unique qualifications
- References with contact information
- Cost Estimation for Services Provided related to this RFQP (to include all work as listed below including meeting facilitation, content creation, product deliverables and travel/lodging/meals)

### **Project Schedule**

RFQ/P request issued	May 13, 2022
Questions submitted	June 10, 2022
Answers provided	June 17, 2022
Submittals due	June 24, 2022
Project awarded	July 8, 2022
Project completed (12 week project)	September 30, 2022

### **Proposed Scope of Work**

The following scope of work is for project discovery, conceptual design, and schematic design. Subsequent phases of the project (design development and construction administration) will proceed under separate contracts.

1. Research and Preliminary Work
  - a. Contractor will review project documentation, site, and additional information related to the project.
  - b. In consultation with a representative of the Natchez USCT Monument Design subcommittee, contractor will prepare presentations, surveys, and other items as needed to conduct initial committee and community engagement meetings.
2. Committee and Community Engagement Meetings
  - a. Contractor will execute and moderate meetings with the Monument Design subcommittee, to include the chairs of the other subcommittees) and a public engagement meeting with the purpose of identifying themselves to the community, providing information on their design process, gathering feedback from the community, and identifying stakeholders to serve in advisory capacity for the work. The Natchez USCT Committee will provide the venue, marketing, audio/visual elements (including virtual meeting as needed).
3. Conceptual Design
  - a. Contractor, in consultation with a representative of the Natchez USCT Monument Design subcommittee, will prepare preliminary conceptual designs based on research,

proposed site, and information gathered from the community engagement meeting and advisory stakeholders.

4. Committee and Community Presentations

- a. Contractor will execute and moderate meetings with the Monument Design subcommittee, to include the chairs of the other subcommittees, and a public engagement meeting with the purpose of providing initial design concepts, ranking initial design concepts, and gathering information and feedback from the participants to prepare the final schematic designs.

5. Final Edits, Schematic Design, and Product Delivery

- a. Based on input from the committee and community presentations, and in consultation with a representative of the Natchez USCT Monument Design subcommittee, contractor will refine the concepts into one schematic design including layout, scale, designated areas of informational content, materials, concepts underlying art or sensory aspects, etc.
- b. Contractor will provide all product deliverables as listed below to the Natchez USCT Monument Committee.

**Deliverables**

Contractor will provide the following products at the end of the project/contract period:

- a. one bound copy and one electronic pdf copy of the schematic plan and elevation drawings as needed to communicate the project
- b. one bound copy and one electronic pdf copy of a detailed concept estimate of project cost for use in project fundraising, divided into 3 categories - a) construction, b) professional services, and c) art, exhibit displays, and other sensory aspects, etc.
- c. one bound copy and one electronic pdf copy of all presentations, meeting notes and memos and other archival materials related to the project/contract
- d. a maximum of two foam core board mounted (minimum height of 18 inches), illustrated, colored renderings for use in project fundraising and PDF images of same renderings
- e. one three-dimensional scale model

**Evaluation Criteria**

Submitted RFQ/Ps will be evaluated for a possible total of 100 points on the following information:

1. Experience of work with public monument or commemorative projects (up to 20 points)
2. Experience of work with projects relating to African-American history (up to 15 points)
3. References (up to 15 points)
4. Resumes of key design team members proposed for this project (up to 20 points)
5. Cost of Proposal Scope of Work (up to 30 points)

**Questions or inquiries:**

Robert Pernell, 601-334-7225, [robeperne@gmail.com](mailto:robeperne@gmail.com)

Lance Harris, 601-446-6502, [lharris@mdah.ms.gov](mailto:lharris@mdah.ms.gov)

**The deadline for all submittals is June 24, 2022, 5 PM CST. Address or deliver Qualifications and Proposal to:**

Natchez USCT Monument Committee  
Attn: Lance Harris  
Grand Village of the Natchez Indians  
400 Jeff Davis Blvd.  
Natchez, MS 39120

## APPENDIX A

### SITE EVALUATION CRITERIA USED BY SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

### USCT Site Evaluation Matrix

CRITERIA	WF	Site 1	S1 xWF	Site 2	S2 xWF	Site 3	S3 xWF
<b>COMMUNITY &amp; SOCIAL CRITERIA</b>							
Site USCT Historical and/or African American/Civil Rights Significance							
Accessibility to Served Populations							
Proximity to Future Community Development							
Site Visibility and Security							
<b>PHYSICAL CRITERIA</b>							
Site Encroachment of Existing Facilities							
Site Erosion Potential and/or Flooding							
Road Access, Capacity and Safety							
Proximity of Utilities (electrical, water)							
Potential for Environmental Hazards							
Flexibility of Site to Accommodate Various Potential Types of Monuments							
<b>TOTALS</b>							

#### Sites

- 1) Natchez Memorial Park (under oak trees)
- 2) Fork of the Roads
- 3) Cemetery Rd (East side by Natchez Cemetery)
- 4) Cemetery Rd (West side overlooking Bluff)
- 5) MLK & Gayosa St

- 6) Zion Chapel AME Church
- 7) MLK & Beulah St
- 8) Behind Pig Out BBQ
- 9) Natchez Visitor Center

#### Weight Factors (WF)

- 1 = None/not Very Important  
 2 = Somewhat Important  
 3 = Important  
 4 = Very Important  
 5 = Essential

#### Site Scores

- 1 = Unacceptable (least desirable)  
 2 = Poor  
 3 = Fair  
 4 = Good  
 5 = Excellent (most desirable)

Proposed Site Selection – The corner of Madison Street and North Broadway Street in Natchez, MS.



#### Historical Significance of Proposed Site:

- Colored Troops Camp (below the bluff near Brown's Sawmill via Learned's Mill Road) located nearby
- Each day, the Colored Troops walked up the hill (Learned Mill's Road) to drill with the white soldiers at or near the proposed site that previously served as a parade ground
- Black recruits enlisted at Brown's Sawmill
- The site is near the southern edge of Fort McPherson
- The site is in proximity to debarkation point for Naval ships
- The site is in close proximity to Contraband Camps located near Learned's Mill

The proposed site is owned by the city of Natchez and its use for the Natchez USCT Monument has been approved by the Board of Alderman and the Natchez Preservation Commission. Read more here: <https://www.natchezdemocrat.com/2022/03/11/bluff-site-selected-for-u-s-colored-troops-monument/>

**APPENDIX B**

**DESIGN COMMITTEE SUMMARY PRESENTATION**

Natchez United States  
Colored Troops  
Monument Design Sub-Committee

## Monument Design Sub-Committee

- **Mission:** To conduct an open, informed, and transparent process for presenting the best monument design for the Natchez United States Colored Troops Monument to the larger committee that reflects the needs and desires of the community at large and the descendants of those veterans.
- **Co-Chairs:** Debbie Cosey and Lance Harris
- **Sub-Committee Members:** Carter Burns, Liz Dantone, Mary Jane Gaudet, Jarita Frazier King, Robert Morgan, Catherine Murray, Kim Sessums, Bob Willis

## Background Information

- **WHO:** There were more than 3,000 United States Colored Troops (USCT) soldiers who served at Ft. McPherson, Natchez, MS and Navy servicemen whose birthplace was Natchez. The Natchez regiments included: a US Colored Heavy Artillery regiment- **6<sup>th</sup> (USCHA)** and the Colored Infantry (USCI) regiments – **58<sup>th</sup> (USCI), 70<sup>th</sup> (USCI), 71<sup>st</sup> (USCI), 63<sup>rd</sup> (USCI) and 64<sup>th</sup> (USCI).**
- **WHAT:** A monument which honors the Natchez USCT soldiers and Navy servicemen.
- **WHEN:** As soon as possible through the well-managed, open process which is being undertaken.
- **WHERE:** A Natchez monument site to be selected as best suited to honor, with distinction, the Natchez soldiers and Navy servicemen.
- **WHY:** More than 150 years have passed since the Civil War ended in 1865.
  - The Natchez Civil War soldiers and Navy servicemen deserve their history to be known, respected and honored. Up to this time, little if any of their history has been known or discussed.



## Process - Early Phase

- Committee and Sub-Committee Meetings have been occurring since May 27, 2021
- Monument Design Sub-Committee members have assembled general information and thoughts to serve as a starting place for monument design discussions as seen in the following slides
- 1<sup>st</sup> Public Meeting (November 10, 2021) to discuss the project with the citizens of Natchez and descendants of the Natchez USCT to gain an understanding of what they would like to see in the monument design
- Opportunity for the Natchez community at large and descendants of the Natchez USCT to submit their thoughts following this meeting
- Compilation of information to provided to artists and design teams to inform their design submittals

## Examples from Other Locations

## Alexandria VA Contraband and Freedman's Cemetery



## Ark of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, New York



## Corinth, MS Contraband Camp



## Fort Meyers, FL



## Lincoln College, MO



## National Colored Troops Monument





## Portsmouth African Burying Ground



## SC African American History Memorial



## TX African American History Memorial



## Vicksburg National Military Park



## 29th Colored Regiment



## African American Civil War Memorial





## Shaw monument - 54th MA (Boston Commons ).



## Sub-Committee Thoughts



# #1

- A place of meaning, not simply a statue in a place.
- A place that tells the important history of the USCT presence and contributions in Natchez and the country in more than one way, such as panels and QRcodes, and tour talks.
- Some imagery – artistic, architectural, three dimensional, that invites people to engage with this place of learning and recognition of honorable military service. Walk around it, not simply stand in one place.
- A place to sit and take it all in.
- A connection to other USCT places of meaning in Natchez, through the narrative, the trail system, downloads, etc
- Another idea is to represent each regiment and the navy contingent separately and working together in some way (7 figures for example, working together under the Union represented with a frame, base, armature, or some sort of context) with info about the # of troops in each regiment, and actions of each regiment, casualties, etc

# #2

- **THE LAYOUT:** A monument plaza layout which will provide visitors a unique, inter-active experience like no other (e.g.– kiosks, signage with QR codes, Natchez map with other relevant tour points etc.) The location will be beautifully landscaped, well-lit, ADA accessible and welcoming to visitors of all ages.
- **THE NAMES:** The Natchez USCT monument will honor the six Natchez USCT regiments which included one colored heavy artillery regiment (**6<sup>th</sup> USCHA**) and five colored infantry regiments, (**58<sup>th</sup> USCI**), (**70<sup>th</sup> USCI**), (**71<sup>st</sup> USCI**), (**63<sup>rd</sup> USCI**) and (**64<sup>th</sup> USCI**) regiments as well as those Navy servicemen whose birthplace was Natchez. The monument will bear the names of the more than 3,000 USCT soldiers with each of the six regimental listings of every soldier's name in alphabetical order by last name as well as the alphabetical listing of the Navy servicemen.
- **THE SCULPTURE(S):** The over life-size, monumental sculpture(s) depicting multiple soldiers include at least one of each type i.e. - colored heavy artillery soldier, an infantry soldier, and also a Navy serviceman. On-lookers of the monument will be **drawn-in and captivated** by resolute strength, valor, determined expressions and standing posture of those Natchez USCT and Navy sailors.
- Also, the U.S. flag should be included in the design as it was a very important symbol in many ways. The flag represented freedom and citizenship. Many of these soldiers married "under the flag" while serving in the USCT. The marriage certificate provided legal proof and legitimization of their marital relationship for the first time. We have the records.

- **THEIR STORIES:** The monument design should include the historical background story points of the Natchez USCT soldiers and Navy servicemen. Their story includes:
  - (a) their work in the construction of the five-sided earthwork fortifications surrounding Fort McPherson (which included the Marine hospital) and the barracks within the fort with wood obtained from
  - (b) their demolition of the slave pens at the Forks of the Road.
  - (c) Their story also includes the fact that the generous contributions of the Natchez USCT was the largest portion of funds collected which paid for the creation and erection of the Emancipation Monument in Washington D.C. (Unfortunately, there was no input regarding the monument design and currently no acknowledgement to specifically recognize the significance of their contributions.)
- **OTHER NOTABLE HIGHLIGHTS OF THEIR STORIES:**
  - Wilson Brown, born in Natchez, was a Navy Landsman and was one of the eight African Americans who was awarded the Navy and Marine Medal of Honor during the Civil War. Wilson Brown is buried in the Natchez National Cemetery.
  - Both grandfathers of Richard Wright served in the Civil War. His paternal grandfather, Nathan Wright served in Natchez in the 58<sup>th</sup> USCI regiment and his maternal grandfather, Richard Wilson (alias Richard Vincent) served in the Navy.
  - There are other notable ancestor and / or descendant connections to the Natchez USCT soldiers and Navy servicemen.

#3



#1

I like this rustic, earthy material that would start out green and/or healthy-looking at the bottom then show how something can start strong then decay, develop cracks, or fall apart. We could do six large "coils" representing each regiment with the honorees' names on a slant on each sculpture. They would have to be big as there are a lot of names!

"Eighteen thousand enslaved and non-enslaved African descent persons from Mississippi deliberately enrolled in the Union Army and Navy of the Mississippi Valley and Gulf Civil War Campaign."

Sixth U.S. C Heavy Artillery  
58th U.S. Colored Infantry  
70th U.S. Colored Infantry  
71st U.S. Colored Infantry  
63rd U.S. Colored Infantry  
64th U.S. Colored Infantry

## THE BUREAU OF UNITED STATES COLORED TROOPS COMMEMORATIVE EXHIBIT



## #2

I love the idea of using bells as a tactile media to create each patron's own "monument." Shown here are tubular bells.

A big tube across the top could have the regiment name with soldiers' names on hanging bells. A patron can play a bell or a group of bells by touching it to honor the soldier(s) and regiment(s) or just make music!

Some of the bells could make a hollow sound to demonstrate an almost-human moaning or crying. Others could be in a higher register to show the willingness to carry on perhaps with joy. Rung together they would be more joyous, in essence applauding the men (women?) who served.

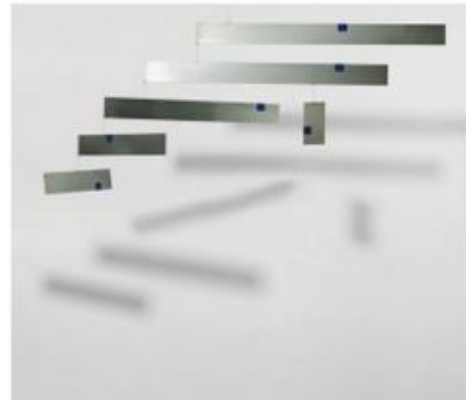


## #3

I like how this light but strong-looking material seems to float by itself exhibiting strength and freeness both. It is also reflective and can show how we look to ourselves in the face of the horror of war.

The regiment names could be on top "bar" with members of each on bars underneath.

Possibly made by the lady who makes mobiles in Natchez? Her shop is next door to Planet Thailand.





#4

This design would be very different from this example but it reminds me of tears that could show the grief of African Americans who fought a war to keep America together and not use slavery.

After the meeting yesterday, I felt a pull to include descendants of Troop members in sculpture. Before I was unsure as to how.



#5

Put names on the outside of a tunnel. By going inside, one becomes a part of history, immersed. Would reflect the sheer amount of space that is needed to write all names.

Write something about descendants inside tunnel.  
Example: "We are all a part of our history."



#6

Intertwining paths (straight or curved) culminate in the center where descendants would be mentioned (Example: "This is for you"). I like the paths overlapping showing that paths cross in real life. Have benches in middle in a circle around edge pointing in ("look within") or out ("look to the future" or "acknowledge the past") or both!

Regiments and names would be on walkways.



Sample panel style.



Onlooker ideas.



#7

Statues depicting contemporary young people sit or stand around arced bronze panels filled with historical information learning this history.

Single statues might include a young Asian on lunch break, a skater dude flashing a peace sign, a Black woman soldier, a Native American, a toddler, one figure perhaps with tears. Depict trauma in one, happiness and interest in others. Using young people alludes to learning at an early age.

Have one or two figures around each panel with places to sit with them. Panels are arcs spread across the site facing in different directions. I still like the winding paths to show the many-perhaps circuitous-ways to come upon this information.

The historical representatives emerging from the panels could be the ones Mr. Sessums included in his project. Troop names and historical narratives are also on panels.

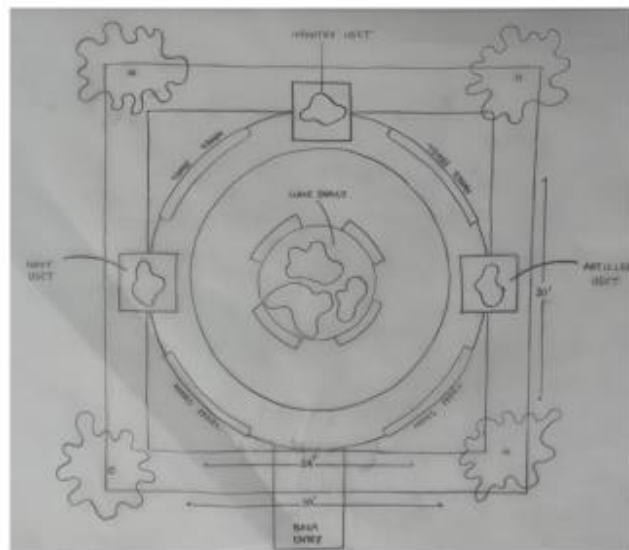
The panels would be for monument visitors to learn from also!



## #4

- The vast majority of the humans who have lived on this earth are no longer with us, prompting those of us still living to think of ways to honor the memory of those who have gone before. Some of those lives leave a larger footprint than others, contributing in significant ways to the history of our nation.
- Much debate has been waged among Civil War historians regarding the degree to which the conflict impacted or transformed the lives of American slaves and freedmen and their families. When Ulysses S. Grant orchestrated his siege of Vicksburg on the Mississippi River in the summer of 1863, thousands of slaves escaped the plantations and their masters and having self-emancipated at risk to their own lives, attached themselves to the Union Army. President Abraham Lincoln believed these Freedmen could be a resource to help stem the attrition within his Military in the later years of the war. He dispatched Adjutant General Lorenzo Thomas to the Mississippi Valley to recruit these men to join and help establish the United States Colored Troops. Word spread among the plantations. By the War's end, 3000 plus USCT served in the Natchez region.
- Memorial Monuments, by their very nature, should be history made visible whether they commemorate specific individuals or groups or significant events in history. Some strive to achieve all three and the best of them lead us as visitors on a path to better comprehend the past and somehow apply that knowledge and wisdom to our present.
- Such should be the goals for the proposed monument honoring the Natchez United States Colored Troops (USCT) and their service at the end of the American Civil War. This monument should be more than a sculpture figure of a black man in USCT uniform, more than a military tombstone, and more than an historical marker attempting to explain the where, who, why and how of the USCT.
- It should be an experience, ushering the viewer into an interactive journey to a part of our history that has been long forgotten, rarely discussed, and poorly taught or mentioned in our educational systems. As efforts are made to correct that reality, the questions regarding the design of a Natchez USCT Monument become more focused. What is the best way to allow this memorial to be an instrument in the effort to foster more awareness of the significance, sacrifice, and consequences of the Natchez USCT?
- I would propose that this design would incorporate a plaza in the round, with four contoured vertical limestone panels demarcating the space, allowing for the inscription of the six USCT Regiments active in the Natchez Union Army plus those who served in the Union Navy. The alphabetized names of those 3000 plus individuals would be inscribed on the panels as well. The design would be well landscaped, handicap accessible, with accent lighting and paved with historical stone or brick. There should be spaces to sit and contemplate the visual information and history.
- In the center of that circular plaza, upon a round pedestal of limestone, would be the over life-size composition of three human figures; a Mississippi enslaved family representing three generations; a grandfather, his daughter and her child, communicating through their sculpted features the hardships of life as enslaved people, the hopes of freedom, and the acknowledgment of the USCT soldiers standing at attention around them on pedestals between the limestone vertical wall panels. The USCT are represented by over life-size historically and anatomically accurate bronze figures of an infantry soldier, an artillery soldier, and a naval soldier, and serve as a reminder to that family and to modern day families and visitors to this monument that the courage, sacrifice, and dedication of these men had lasting and historical impact.

- The infantryman would have Union attire including clothing, kepi hat, and rifle. The artilleryman would also be historically attired and be supported by the long sponge rammer used in cannon fire. The soldier representing the USCT of the Union Navy would be identified by his Naval cap, naval shirt and scarf, and would be supported by his own sponge rammer used for the heavy artillery aboard ship.
- The inscribed titles on the plaza side of their bases would spell out just that.
- USCT Artillery
- USCT Infantry
- USCT Navy
- Upon the center limestone base, as viewed from the entryway into the plaza, would be inscribed the Monument title.
- IN HONOR OF THE NATCHEZ UNITED STATES COLORED TROOPS
- Inscribed in successive panels around the rest of this center base would be a narrative of the history of chattel slavery in America, the demographics and population numbers regarding Mississippi during the American Civil War, and the historical facts of the establishment, functions, and significance of the Natchez USCT. Included in the information shared with the Monument visitors would be appropriate contact information allowing visitors a starting place to explore and research whether they are indeed descendants of any Natchez USCT.
- If successful, this Monument design could indeed be history made visible. That is the goal; to be well designed, executed, constructed, and placed so that visitors would be prone to seek it out, to interact with it, to learn from it, and to leave as people newly inspired to live more connected aware lives in an imperfect country that still strives to be one nation with liberty and justice for all.



## #5

- A brick paved plaza with landscaping and lighting; attention given to pedestrian/wheelchair traffic flow.
- Bronze covered walls, 6 feet in height, lining the brick walkway. These bronze walls would contain the names of all USCT soldiers and sailors. Design would be such to allow for "rubblings" by USCT descendants.
- A central focal point would be a bronze covered wall, 8 feet tall and 20 feet long. This bronze covered wall would consist of a base relief sculpture with the following elements: the Mississippi River flowing throughout the entire panel; travelers on the Natchez Trace; the Fork of the Roads; plantation homes; and Fort McPherson. A USCT Infantry soldier with a sledge hammer, tearing down the Forks of the Road; a USCT Infantry soldier running into battle with his rifle/bayonet ready; a USCT Artillery soldier preparing a cannon for firing; and a USCT sailor tugging a heavy rope from the River.
- At one end and separate from this "story wall", there would be a 3 dimensional lifesize bronze sculpture of a USCT Infantryman standing at attention with rifle at his side.
- At the other end of the wall would be another full size USCT Infantryman standing at attention with the US flag at his side.

## Common Themes from Sub-Committee

- Represent each Natchez USCT Regiment and Navy
- List the names of the 3000 plus who served
- Use life size, or over life size statues of soldiers and seamen
- Use the United States flag
- Tell the story
- Be interactive



## Questions for Consideration

- What is important to you for the Natchez USCT Monument Design?
- What feeling do you want the visitor to leave with?
- Do you want technology/interactives as part the monument?
- Do you want plants/trees as part of the monument?
- What materials (bronze, marble, brick, etc.) do you want to see in the monument?
- Should the monument use human statues?
- Should the monument tell a story? What stories should it tell?
- Should the monument include the names of all who served from Natchez?
- Should the monument include sound or water features?
- Should the US flag be part of the monument?

## THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING

- Please visit:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/natchezusctmonumentcommittee>

## APPENDIX C

### COMMUNITY SURVEYS

#### Natchez U.S. Colored Troops Monument Survey

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Monument Design

What is important to you for the Natchez USCT Monument Design? Telling a more complete story of the history in Natchez for tourism - more inclusive -

What feeling do you want the visitor to leave with? pride

Do you want plants/trees as part of the monument? \_\_\_\_\_

What materials (bronze, marble, brick, etc.) do you want to see in the monument? \_\_\_\_\_

Should the monument use human statues? \_\_\_\_\_

Should the monument tell a story? \_\_\_\_\_ What stories should it tell? I like the idea of telling the story of "tearing down the Forks of the Road."

Should the monument include sound or water features? yes - sound

Should the US flag be part of the monument? yes

Additional Thoughts or Ideas:

#### Other Subcommittees

☐ GENERAL COMMENTS:

☒ HISTORY AND RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE:

I liked Deborah Fountain's presentation - the more names + connections the better.

☒ SITE SELECTION SUBCOMMITTEE:

different choice but should be separate from Forks of the Road Memorial Park - then each (both sides) represented there - both CSA monument + this new one -

☐ FINANCE / FUNDRAISING SUBCOMMITTEE:

grants, grants, grants

☐ MARKETING / PR SUBCOMMITTEE:

## Natchez U.S. Colored Troops Monument Survey

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Monument Design

What is important to you for the Natchez USCT Monument Design? THAT IT BE A PEACEFULLY POSITIVE AND REFLECTIVE PLACE.

What feeling do you want the visitor to leave with? ADMIRATION, RESPECT FOR THE COURAGE, CONTRIBUTION AND SACRIFICE MADE BY THE USCT TROOPS.

Do you want plants/trees as part of the monument? YES, MARK LIKE SITTING WITH SHADE AND SEATING.

What materials (bronze, marble, brick, etc.) do you want to see in the monument? MATERIALS MATTER LESS THAN DESIGN. SHOULD BE DURABLE AND RESISTANT TO VANDALISM

Should the monument use human statues? YES, THE VICKSBURG USCT MONUMENT IS A NICE EXAMPLE

Should the monument tell a story? YES! What stories should it tell? THE GOOD TROOPS, THE DISMANTLING OF THE FORDS OF THE ROAD FOR OVERLOOKS, PROTECTION OF NATCHEZ

Should the monument include sound or water features? STRONGLY AGAINST ELECTRONIC FEATURES WHICH BEING/BECOMING OUTDATED

Should the US flag be part of the monument? YES, AND THE USCT SHOULD BE CARRYING IT, SINCE THEY WERE FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM + THE UNION.

Additional Thoughts or Ideas:

### Other Subcommittees

☐ GENERAL COMMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ HISTORY AND RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ SITE SELECTION SUBCOMMITTEE:

WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THE AREA BEHIND THE PIG OUT IN IS THE BEST.

☐ FINANCE / FUNDRAISING SUBCOMMITTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ MARKETING / PR SUBCOMMITTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Natchez U.S. Colored Troops Monument Survey

Name: [REDACTED] Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Monument Design

What is important to you for the Natchez USCT Monument Design? History

What feeling do you want the visitor to leave with? History Learned

Do you want plants/trees as part of the monument? Yes

What materials (bronze, marble, brick, etc.) do you want to see in the monument? Marble

Should the monument use human statues? Yes

Should the monument tell a story? Yes What stories should it tell? Fort + McPherson

Should the monument include sound or water features? water

Should the US flag be part of the monument? Yes

Additional Thoughts or Ideas:

### Other Subcommittees

☐ GENERAL COMMENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ HISTORY AND RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ SITE SELECTION SUBCOMMITTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ FINANCE / FUNDRAISING SUBCOMMITTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_

☐ MARKETING / PR SUBCOMMITTEE:

\_\_\_\_\_

## Natchez U.S. Colored Troops Monument Survey

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Monument Design

What is important to you for the Natchez USCT Monument Design? I would like the design to be inclusive in representing all races that will also ignite other individuals to explore the depths of their own historical content in hopes of them learning about themselves

What feeling do you want the visitor to leave with? I want the design to evoke visitors with curiosity in finding out more information about themselves, especially the younger ones.

Do you want plants/trees as part of the monument? Yes, would love for it to resemble the "Hard to Breathe" one.

What materials (bronze, marble, brick, etc.) do you want to see in the monument? I think this design should resemble the "Hard to Breathe" monument by the Natchez Auditorium

Should the monument use human statues? No I am not in favor of human statues

Should the monument tell a story? Yes What stories should it tell? The design should tell the story of the Natchez USCT troops and how their bravery saved the City of Natchez.

Should the monument include sound or water features? Yes, like the William Johnson Sand Feature

Should the US flag be part of the monument? The Union Flag & the USCT Regime. I'm Heavy Artillery Flag

Additional Thoughts or Ideas:

### Other Subcommittees

☐ GENERAL COMMENTS:

None

☒ HISTORY AND RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE:

See attached docs in email on ancestry info

☐ SITE SELECTION SUBCOMMITTEE:

None

☐ FINANCE / FUNDRAISING SUBCOMMITTEE:

☐ MARKETING / PR SUBCOMMITTEE:

None

## APPENDIX D

### BACKGROUND AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## **U.S. COLORED TROOPS: Monuments in the U.S.**

The [SlaveryMonuments.org](http://www.slaverymonuments.org) website collection features U.S.C.T. monuments across the U.S. The collection features background information for each monument such as monument image(s), title, description, creator, date, source, type, dimensions, medium, location and project support & funding sources.

**The first monument featured is the “Spirit of Freedom” : African American Civil War Memorial (Washington, D.C.).** "Civil War to Civil Rights and Beyond. This Memorial is dedicated to those who served in African American units of the Union Army in the Civil War. The 209,145 names inscribed on these walls commemorate those fighters of freedom."

### **U.S.C.T. Monuments**

The monuments and memorials in this section honor the vital contributions of the United States Colored Troops (USCT) in the Union victory during the Civil War. On May 22, 1863, the U.S. War Department created the Bureau of Colored Troops. By the end of the Civil War ended, nearly 180,000 men, including white officers, served in 175 regiments of USCT, which made up six percent of the Union army. The monuments in the sections are located across the nation from the [Memorial to the 2nd Regiment Infantry](#) in Fort Myers, Florida, to the [Solider Memorial](#) at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri.

**CLICK link below:**

<http://www.slaverymonuments.org/collections/show/2>

## **CIVIL WAR SITES: Natchez, Mississippi**

**The National Park Service (NPS): Natchez National Historical Park – Things to Do**

**The NPS driving tour website link features background information for each site such as site images/depictions, historical significance, and location.**

### **NPS: Natchez Civil War Sites Driving Tour**

Take a driving tour of Civil War sites in Natchez, while moving at your own pace and in your own car. Your voyage will wind you through historic Natchez, highlighting only some of the more important sites relevant to the Civil War and the Federal occupation of Natchez. Unlike some other Southern cities, Natchez emerged from the conflict relatively unscathed and today, contains one of the greatest collections of antebellum architecture in the nation.

**CLICK link below:**

<https://www.nps.gov/thingstodo/natchez-civil-war-sites-driving-tour.htm>

## **CIVIL WAR: U.S. COLORED TROOPS – Natchez, Mississippi**

-

### **AMERICAN CIVIL WAR HISTORY NOTES:**

● January 1, 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

1) It declared all persons held as slaves in the rebellious states to be free - AND -

2) it announced the acceptance of black men into the Union Army and Navy, enabling the liberated to become liberators.

- The number of African Americans who served in the Union in the Civil War was roughly **200,000**. (Roughly, 179,000 in Union Army -and- 19,000 in Navy)

"By the end of the Civil War, roughly **179,000 black men (10% of the Union Army)** served as soldiers in the U.S. Army and another **19,000 served in the Navy**."

(\*National Archives link below from [archives.gov](https://www.archives.gov) website)

<https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/blacks-civil-war#:~:text=By%20the%20end%20of%20the,19%2C000%20served%20in%20the%20Navy>

- May 22, 1863 - The War Department issued General Order 143 creating the United States Colored Troops. (USCT)

(Link below from [Ourdocuments.gov](https://www.ourdocuments.gov) website)

<https://www.ourdocuments.gov/doc.php?flash=false&doc=35>

- July 4, 1863 – Vicksburg fell! This decisive victory gave the Union army control of the Mississippi river.

#### **NATCHEZ, MS CIVIL WAR HISTORY NOTES:**

- July 13, 1863 – Nine days after the fall of Vicksburg, General Grant took possession of Rosalie Mansion in Natchez to use as Union Army Headquarters.

- August, 1863 – U.S. Colored Troop regiments began to be raised in Natchez.

A large number of these Black men who enlisted were from Natchez or many had bravely left plantations in the Natchez district surrounding counties and fled to Natchez and enlisted.

The U.S. Colored Troops were freedom fighters of emancipation ---- freedom for themselves, their families, and the nation --- the United States of America!

- Fort McPherson was located in Natchez, Mississippi. Over **3,000 USCT** soldiers served there.

**The U.S. Colored Troop Regiments of Ft. McPherson, Natchez, MS were:**

**6th U.S. C Heavy Artillery** - <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UUS0006RAH0C>

**58th U.S. Colored Infantry** - <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UUS0058RI00C>

**70th U.S. Colored Infantry** - <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UUS0070RI00C>

**71st U.S. Colored Infantry** - <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UUS0071RI00C>

**63rd U.S. Colored Infantry** - <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UUS0063RI00C>

**64th U.S. Colored Infantry** - <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UUS0064RI00C>

For additional information, contact Natchez USCT history and research subcommittee chairperson Deborah Fountain at [DescendantsofNatchezUSCT@gmail.com](mailto:DescendantsofNatchezUSCT@gmail.com).