

EXHIBITION FACTS

- 14 framed text panels (up to 48" x 36")
- 30 framed photo panels (up to 24" x 35")
- Labels for all photo panels
- One documentary video (Borrower is responsible for DVD player and monitor)

Approximately 1200 square feet.

Additional support materials provided, including 100 brochures and PDF file for printing of additional copies, if needed.

Medium security level required; attendant during open hours; locked and alarmed for fire and theft during off hours.

Exhibition space and storage areas must have temperature and humidity controlled at levels consistent with preservation and museum standards.

Lighting levels must not exceed 15 foot candles; no exposure to daylight or fluorescent lighting. Public photography is prohibited.

Borrower provides standard wall-to-wall all risk fine arts insurance coverage when on premises. Four soft-packed containers; can be handled by 2 people.

McKissick Museum exhibition staff will provide packing and shipping to and from venue.

Rental Fee: \$2500 for a 12-week venue plus any insurance costs.

Dawn of Freedom: The Freedmen's Town of Mitchelville

is available in 12-week venues beginning in 2017.

Available Dates:

October - December 2017

January - March 2018

April - June 2018

July - September 2018

October - December 2018



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

College of Arts and Sciences

*If you are interested in this offering, or other
MCKISSICK MUSEUM TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS
please contact us at:*

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Columbia, SC 29208

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artsandsciences.sc.edu/mckissickmuseum

McKissick Museum


Traveling
EXHIBITIONS

Dawn of Freedom The Freedmen's Town of Mitchelville




a nationally traveling exhibition

Traveling
EXHIBITIONS



Dawn of Freedom: The Freedmen's Town of Mitchelville



McKissick Museum, at the University of South Carolina, is pleased to offer as a nationally traveling exhibit, *Dawn of Freedom: The Freedmen's Town of Mitchelville*. This exhibit highlights Mitchelville's unique role as one of the first self-governing towns of African American freedmen in the country.

On November 7, 1861, Union forces attacked two Confederate forts on the Sea Islands of South Carolina near Port Royal. This attack – the Battle of Port Royal – later drove Confederate forces to retreat to the mainland. One island, Hilton Head Island, immediately became the headquarters for the Union Army. But it also soon became the setting for one of the first self-governing towns of freed Africans in the country.

For many African slaves in the area, the battle signaled the end of their bondage and marked the dawn of freedom. Seizing upon both the changes brought about by the war and the needs of the Union Army, men, women, and children escaped plantations in the area after the battle and headed for opportunities that lay behind Union lines. These self-liberated African refugees bravely improvised and negotiated an array of new practical roles for themselves amidst the army camps, but received no immediate guarantees of their freedom.

In need of labor, the Union Army hired African refugees as blacksmiths, carpenters, launderers, coopers, clerks, and cooks, and established a cotton campaign to continue the production of valuable Sea Island cotton. In return, a new town was proposed in 1862 to provide space for the thousands of self-liberated Africans who crowded the army's camps. Freed Africans built the town and formed a community, calling it Mitchelville. As residents of the town, men could vote on their own laws and elect their own town officials. The town also had its own legal system, as well as the state's first mandatory schooling law.

Dawn of Freedom: The Freedmen's Town of Mitchelville explores the transition from slavery to freedom for those who escaped to Hilton Head island during the Civil War, and helped create this unique space. It draws on historic documents, photographs and artifacts that piece together this seldom told story in American history.

