

Bentonville Battlefield Buck Dunn Memorial Internship 2012

What: 2012 will be the second year of the annual Buck Dunn Memorial Internship Program sponsored by the Bentonville Battlefield Historical Association. The internship honors Mr. Buck Dunn, a lifelong supporter of Bentonville Battlefield, and is designed to give interested college students experience in the public history field.

Where: Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site in southeastern Johnston County near Newton Grove, NC.

When: Week of May 21st, 2012 through the week of August 6th, 2012. The actual work schedule will be flexible, but expect to work most weekends.

Who: Applicants should be either a graduate student, a rising senior, or rising junior, majoring in public history, history, museum studies, or a related field.

Pay: \$9.50 per hour and will work 35 hours per week for 12 weeks (420 total hours). Housing will not be provided.

Application Deadline: February 15th. Interviews will be the last week of February, and the first week of March. The selected intern will be notified by March 15th.

Project Proposal: "The People of Bentonville" Interpretive Program.

Project Objective: Commemorate and personalize the stories of individual soldiers, citizens, and enslaved people that lived in Bentonville or fought in the Battle of Bentonville through an interpretive program for school groups.

Major Tasks to Be Performed: The selected intern will use the site library, archives, Bradley research, and online resources to research and compile short biographical sketches that may or may not include images, on individuals that were involved or living in the area during the Battle of Bentonville. These individuals include soldiers, civilians, and enslaved people. The sketches will be a minimum of one to two paragraphs. Once research is complete, the intern will work with the Programs Coordinator to design the additional materials needed to launch the project.

"The People of Bentonville" Project Description: The biographical sketches prepared by the intern will be used to implement "The People of Bentonville" interpretive activity that will be available for school groups, and other visiting groups upon request. Students will receive an "enlistment form" with biographical information of one individual upon arrival at the site or prior to the scheduled field trip. Throughout their field trip experience, students will be aware that clues may be given about the role and fate of their assigned person. The teacher or group leader will be provided with information on the fate of each individual that will be revealed to the students at the completion of the trip. Did they perish in the battle? Were they wounded? Did they survive the war and go on to a noteworthy career? What happened to their homes and families?

This program is loosely based on the "Titanic Experience" and the visitor experience at the National Holocaust Museum. In both instances visitors receive the name of an individual who was present during the event, and the fate of that person is revealed following a tour of the exhibit or museum. These programs personalize the event for visitors and students and encourage greater interest and participation in the tour or museum experience.

Final Product or Anticipated Outcome: "The People of Bentonville" interpretive activity will be completed and available for groups at the conclusion of the internship. The intern will gain valuable experience in historical research, writing, and educational programming for a state historic site.

Additional Duties and Tasks: In addition to the project, half of the intern's time will be spent giving tours of the Harper House, greeting and providing orientation to visitors, and meeting all other visitor services requirements. The intern may also be required to assist with special events that occur during the course of the internship. This should give the prospective intern "real life" public history experience juggling visitor services with administrative tasks.

How to apply: Please send a completed NC PD 107 application, resume with cover letter, and letter(s) of reference to:

Attn: Buck Dunn Internship
Bentonville Battlefield SHS
5466 Harper House Rd
Four Oaks, NC 27524

Contact: Please contact Derrick Brown or Megan Maxwell at (910) 594-0789 if you have any questions about the internship.