Monument Proposal

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The New Monument

- Featureless
- Grey (neutral)
- Evocation of the female form, not precise
- Not a precise human figure but more geometric and abstract
- Figure holds the original Dinah plaque above her head in both hands
Big Idea

◉ Dual meaning behind the monument’s imagery
◉ Missing details from Dinah’s story and the lack of representation of African Americans in history; a lack of transparency
◉ The color grey is a symbolic blend of both the whitewashing of history and African Americans as the main victims of the perpetuation of the mammy stereotype
◉ Figure holding the plaque above her head, nearly crushed by the weight of it but standing firm and showing it to the world
Interpretive Program

- Tour guide offers insight on symbolism behind statue, educating about mammy figures and their impact
- Start discussion with school aged children by teaching them about the symbolism behind monument and asking questions
- Goal is to have visitors leave still thinking about Dinah’s story
Sources

- Tyson, Amy M. “Crafting emotional comfort: interpreting the painful past at living history museums in the new economy”, *Museum and Society* 6, no. 3 (2008): 246-261