

Monument Proposal

Ryan, Matt, Whitney

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

Site Plan



Sources

- Wallace-Sanders, Kimberly. *Mammy: A Century of Race, Gender, and Southern Memory*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2009.
- 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
- McElya, Micki. *Clinging to Mammy: The Faithful Slave in Twentieth Century America*. Harvard University Press, 2007
- Hudson, Lynn. *The Making of “Mammy Pleasant”*. University of Illinois Press, 2003