

The Juneteenth Celebration held by the Richmond City Council Slave Trail Commission on Wednesday, June 19, 2013 will feature guest speaker, Lynne M. Jackson, the great-great granddaughter of Dred Scott and Founder of the Dred Scott Heritage Foundation. The theme is Emancipation and Reconciliation. Representative Delores McQuinn and Pastor Sylvester Turner convened this program. The event will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Virginia Union University.

The <u>Richmond Slave Trail</u> is a walking trail that chronicles the history of the trade of enslaved Africans from Africa to Virginia until 1775, and away from Virginia, especially Richmond, to other locations in the Americas until 1865.

It begins at Manchester Docks, a major port in the massive downriver Slave Trade that made Richmond the largest source of enslaved Africans on the east coast of America from 1830 to 1860. The trail then follows a route through the former slave markets of Richmond, beside the Reconciliation Statue commemorating the international triangular slave trade, past Lumpkin's Slave Jail and the Negro Burial Ground to the site of First African Baptist Church, a center of African-American life in pre-Civil War Richmond.

Ms. Jackson was in Virginia this April 2013 to help unveil the new highway marker in Southampton, VA honoring her famous ancestor, the history of the Blow family who originally owned him and the children who were instrumental in helping gain his family's freedom. Mr. Jeff Hines, City Clerk of Southampton, Mr. Rick Frances and the Southampton Historical Society hosted that event. While there, she, her daughter Sherrie and Laura Murra had the opportunity to visit and walk a part of the historic slave trail led by Pastor Sylvester Turner.

Websites:

www.thedredscottfoundation.org,

http://www.richmondgov.com/CommissionSlaveTrail/

Recommended Reading: Dred Scott's Virginia by Mr. Jeff Hines, Blow family descendant