

Since May 2023, the WeGOJA Foundation has been spearheading a new project - the <u>South</u> <u>Carolina Preservation Toolkit</u>, funded by a two-year grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The toolkit will be a one stop shop of resources and tools to help African American communities preserve their historic spaces and places. Our goal is to bolster African American historic preservation in the state, equip and empower local communities, and increase accessibility and engagement with Black history. We expect the Toolkit to be available for initial testing in the fall of 2024, with a full reveal to the public during our Black History Month Gala in February 2025.

Since our last update, we have fully transitioned to Phase Two of the project and have been hard at work behind the scenes with our website development team, Period Three. We are focused now on actually building out all of the tools and resources we spent the fall discussing in Listening Sessions. The images below are screen shots of the toolkit's wireframe, or outline. Our focus this spring is on creating content and firming up decisions on navigation.



Tools Preservation Topics Why Preservation News & Notes About Us

## SC Preservation Toolkit Empowering African American History Preservation

Through the development of a Preservation Toolkit, the WeGOJA Foundation will help a growing number of organizations meet their preservation goals for African American history. The preservation toolkit will be a one-stop shop of interactive resources and information for property owners, practitioners, and preservationists, especially newly enthusiastic local activists.



I Want To...

*SC PRESERVATION	Tools Preservation Topics	Why Preservation News & Notes About Us
Preservation Topics I Want To Learn About		
Go deeper and gain valuable knowledge, tools and	insights around preservation topics that interest you. Your preservation and how to move your effort forward.	first and best stop to learn about African American
Cemeteries Explore topics, techniques and knowledge around preserving cemeteries.	Oral Histories Explore the most common form of preservation. Hear stories and learn how to protect and preserve your family's oral history.	African American Schools Start your journey to explore and celebrate african american through preservation of Rosenwald schools, Equalization schools and HBCUs

We have worked closely with Period Three to develop everything we plan to put into the Toolkit. This will include Blog Series, How-to Guides, several Tools, and more. By the end of March, we successfully outlined and scheduled all these pieces. April, May, and June are dedicated to writing all of the content and developing databases for the Tools. We are asking for your help in spreading the word to get preservation projects and professionals listed on the Toolkit!

Are you leading an African American historic preservation project or have you led one in the past? <u>Please consider submitting your project to be featured on the Toolkit!</u>

Are you a preservation professional or community advocate/leader? <u>Please join our</u> <u>Professionals Database!</u>

