

Project Title

Student name, major; Mentor name, department

Background:

Former freemason and South Carolinian politician, Richard Howell Gleaves is a long forgotten figure in America's local, state, and national histories of Reconstruction. Beginning in the 1840s, Gleaves became involved in black freemasonry and helped to establish Masonic Lodges in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Louisiana, Kentucky, Kansas, Georgia, and South Carolina. While establishing masonic lodges throughout the United States, Gleaves served as the District Deputy Grandmaster and then the National Grandmaster of the National Grand Lodge for four three-year terms. It has been noted by historians that Gleaves was "the most distinguished" freemason of the nineteenth century and contributed to the rise of masonic interests among African Americans.¹ After becoming a popular freemason across the country, Gleaves changed his focus to politics in South Carolina during Reconstruction (1866-1877). Gleaves assisted with the creation of the Republican Party in South Carolina, presided over the state's first Republican Convention in 1866, and served as a trial justice, probate judge, and state commissioner of elections. Additionally, Gleaves served as the Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina and President of the South Carolina State Senate from 1872-1877. After serving as Lieutenant Governor, Gleaves was also a magistrate in Beaufort and customs inspector before he left the state in the 1880s.²

Interestingly, although Richard H. Gleaves was a high-ranking member in the freemason movement and in Carolinian politics during Reconstruction, his legacy is not well known beyond brief biographical sketches. Furthermore, the relationship between his freemason popularity and his rise to political prominence has not been thoroughly recorded either. It leads one to question how these aspects of his life coincided with each other. Moreover, it causes one to wonder if Gleaves' connections to freemasonry served as a political agenda during his years in political office. These questions are the basis of my project, which I intend to solve during the researching, writing, and editing process.

Research Statement:

The project will examine Richard Howell Gleaves' involvement in the freemasonry movement and how his influence within the circles of freemasonry supported his political roles in South Carolina during Reconstruction. The project will employ standard historical methods to determine the extent to which freemasonry bolstered Richard H. Gleaves' rise to political power during Reconstruction.

Project Goals and Objectives:

- (1) The goal of this project is to expound upon the relationship between Richard Gleaves' involvement with Masonic Lodges and his rise to political power in South Carolina during Reconstruction.
- (2) The project aims to do this by producing a written work based upon primary and secondary sources provided by local, state, and national research affiliates.

Project Impact and Significance:

At this point in time, the relationship between Richard Howell Gleaves' participation in Masonic Lodges and how it impacted his political career has yet to be fully explored. More generally, the significance of his influence in Masonic Lodges and as a political figure during Reconstruction has only been briefly mentioned in the current historiographical records. This project will fill in the missing pieces of Gleaves' narrative through the consummation of primary and secondary resources. Overall, this project shall encourage more exploration of South Carolina's Reconstruction period and will further one's understanding of how Richard Gleaves' freemasonry interests coincided with his political interests during Reconstruction.

¹ Steven J. Niven. "Gleaves, Richard H." *African American National Biography*, edited by Ed. Henry Louis Gates Jr., edited by Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham. *Oxford African American Studies Center*, <http://www.oxfordaasc.com/article/opr/t0001/e5363> (accessed Jan 30, 2014), p. 1-2.

² Ibid.

Project Design and Methodology:

Part one of my research will involve the further investigation of current literary sources surrounding Richard Howell Gleaves' involvement in the freemasonry movement and his political roles during Reconstruction in South Carolina. Through my findings in the current research, I will then begin archival and library research in Beaufort, Charleston, and Columbia, South Carolina to gather primary resources that will inform my project's goals & objectives. Part two will entail the writing portion of my project where I will bring both primary and secondary sources together to formulate my article. During this process I shall consult with my mentor to track my progress. After completing the writing portion I shall go through the editing process with the assistance of my mentor who will guide me through this procedure as well. Once the editing process is completed, and if time allows, I shall then begin submitting my article to scholarly journals for review.

Project Timeline:

Months	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Review of background literature							
Archival & Library Research							
Writing of Article							
Writing and editing of Article							
If time allows: Submitting to scholarly journals							

Anticipated Results:

The final result of this project involves bridging the connections between Richard Howell Gleaves' immersion in freemasonry and Reconstruction politics. I anticipate that the popularity Richard Howell Gleaves received from his involvement with Masonic Lodges contributed largely to his ability to become a major political contender in South Carolinian politics during Reconstruction. I also anticipate that my findings will produce a firmer understanding of Gleaves' life and the general scope of Reconstruction in South Carolina. While in the process of researching and writing, I also hope to come across new research questions to enrich this project and future projects. I will present my research at Discover USC and shall submit my article to *Caravel*, USC's undergraduate research journal. If time allows, I shall also submit my article to scholarly journals such as *The Journal for Southern History* and *The South Carolina Historical Magazine*.

Personal Statement:

As a history major with an abiding passion for the study of Reconstruction, this project will heighten my academic interests and research skills. Currently, I am exploring graduate schools to pursue a Master's of the Arts in History, and this research project will further my goal of obtaining this. Additionally, my research project resonates on a highly personal level because the ideas presented for this project were generated while visiting the local library (the Beaufort County Library) in my hometown (Beaufort, South Carolina). It is my hope that through this research I will begin a life-long career of researching, teaching, and inspiring others to learn about the history of South Carolina's Reconstruction period.

Selected References:

Primary Sources:

Manuscripts & Microfilm Collections

South Caroliniana Library, Columbia SC

Robert McKay Papers, 1865-1887

South Carolina State Archives, Columbia, SC

Babbit, Benjamin B. "Letter Inviting R. Howell Gleaves and the Senate to Visit the University." South Carolina Department of Archives & History, last modified January 25, 2014.

<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/Thumbnails.aspx?recordId=292351>.

The State vs. Richard H. Gleaves, Samuel J. Lee, and Josephus Woodruff, A. O. Jones, And Francis L. Cadozo (Richland County, 1877)

The State vs. R.H. Gleaves (Richland County, 1881)

News Papers & Periodicals

The Anderson Intelligencer (Anderson, South Carolina)

The Beaufort Gazette (Beaufort, South Carolina)

The Christian Recorder (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

The Daily Constitution (Atlanta, Georgia)

The Daily Phoenix (Columbia, South Carolina)

The Manning Times (Manning, South Carolina)

The New York Times (New York, New York)

The Planet (Georgetown, South Carolina)

The Washington Post (Washington, District of Columbia)

Secondary Sources:

Allen, Walter. *Governor Chamberlain's Administration in South Carolina: A Chapter of Reconstruction in the South States*. Freeport: Books for Libraries Press, 1888.

Bailey, Louise N. *Biographical Directory of the South Carolina Senate, 1776-1985*, vol. 1. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1986.

Dray, Phillip. *Capitol Men: The Epic Story of Reconstruction Through the Lives of the First Black Congressman*. New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2008.

- Edgar, Walter. *South Carolina: A History*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1998.
- Foner, Eric. *Freedom's Lawmakers: A Directory of Black Officeholders during Reconstruction*. Rev. ed. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1996.
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- Guyette, Elise A. *Discovering Black Vermont: African American Farmers in Hinesburgh, 1790-1890*. Lebanon: University Press of New England, 2010.
- Helsley, Alexia Jones. *Beaufort, South Carolina: A History*. Charleston: The History Press, 2005.
- Holt, Thomas. *Black over White: Negro Political Leadership in South Carolina During Reconstruction*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1977.
- Lamson, Peggy. *The Glorious Failure: Black Congressman Robert Brown Elliot and the Reconstruction of South Carolina*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1973.
- Miller, Edward A. *Gullah Statesman: Robert Smalls From Slavery to Congress, 1839-1915*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1995.
- Niven, Steven J. "Gleaves, Richard H." *African American National Biography*, edited by Ed. Henry Louis Gates Jr., edited by and Evelyn Higginbotham. *Oxford African American Studies Center*, <http://www.oxfordaasc.com/article/orp/t0001/e5363> (accessed Jan 30, 2014).
- Reynolds, John S. *Reconstruction in South Carolina, 1865-1877*. Columbia: State Co. Publisher, 1905.
- Rubin III, Hyman. *South Carolina Scalawags*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2006.
- Savile, Julie. *The Work of Reconstruction: From Slave to Wage Laborer in South Carolina, 1860-1870*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1994.
- The South Carolina Encyclopedia*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 2006.
- Tindall, George. *South Carolina Negroes, 1877-1900*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1952.
- Uya, Okon E. *From Slavery to Public Service, Robert Smalls 1839-1915*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1971.
- Williamson, Joel. *After Slavery: The Negro in South Carolina During Reconstruction, 1861-1877*. Durham: University of North Carolina Press, 1965.

Magellan Scholar BUDGET FORM

Student's Name:

Double-click on table to enter data

Student salary	Hours Estimated number of hours student will work	Rate Enter the hourly wage	Subtotal
Research hours during semesters when enrolled in classes	175	\$8.50	\$1,487.50
Research hours during semesters when NOT enrolled in classes	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fringe: Student salary * student fringe rate (What is fringe? See budget instructions or guidebook)			
Enrolled in classes	\$1,487.50	0.55%	\$8.18
NOT enrolled in classes	\$0.00	8.29%	\$0.00
Materials/Supplies	Enter sub-total from below:		\$0.00
Travel	Enter sub-total from below:		\$0.00
TOTAL:			\$1,495.68
Amount requested for MGS award:			\$1,495.68

Budget Justification/Description

Student Salary: Indicate estimated number of student research hours per week and hourly rate separated by semesters when student is enrolled in classes or not enrolled in classes (generally fall or spring vs summer semesters).

10 hours a week for 10 weeks over the summer (enrolled in classes) at \$8.50 an hour.

5 hours a week for 15 weeks during the Fall school term at \$8.50 an hour.

Materials/Supplies: Indicate items, quantity, and estimated price. *Be sure to include taxes on all purchases.*

Not applicable- Student will pay for expenses out of pocket.

Travel: Indicate location, purpose of travel, estimate itemized costs (transportation, lodging, registration, etc).

Not applicable- Student will pay for all travel expenses out of pocket