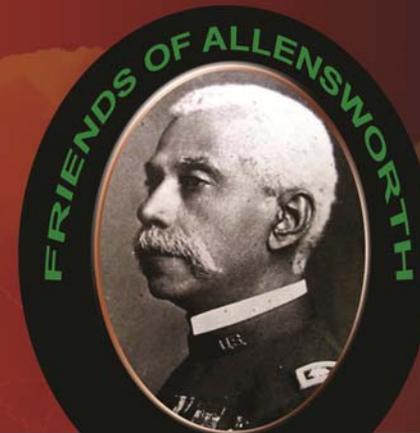


Website: www.friendsofallensworth.org

Toll Free: 877-245-6232

Cell: 310-948-5524



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Founded in 1984, the FRIENDS OF ALLENSWORTH (FOA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit cooperating association that works with the State of California's Department of Parks and Recreation. The mission of the FOA is to support, promote, and advance the educational and interpretive activities of Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park.

Statewide President: Sasha Biscoe
2400 March Ave., Bakersfield, Ca 93313

Information Line: 877-245-6232

SOCIAL MEDIA

<https://www.facebook.com/Friendsofallensworthofficial>

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

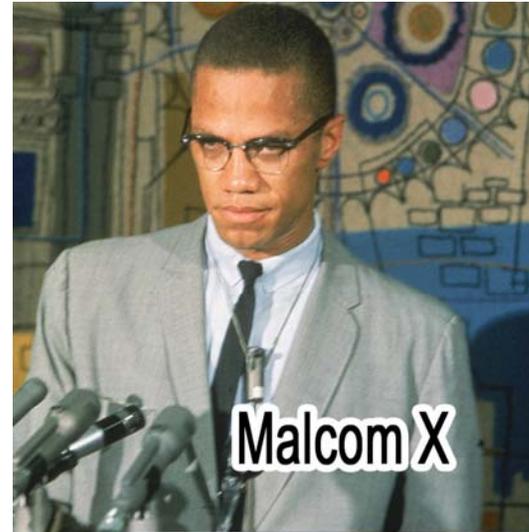


Hello,

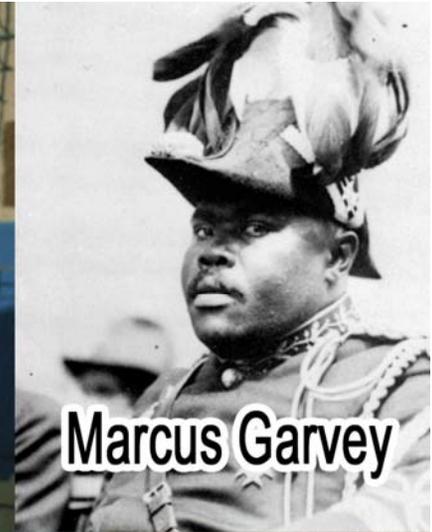
On behalf of Friends of Allensworth, I would like to thank you for your participation in our event. We greatly appreciate you. We are a group of volunteers working diligently to improve conditions at Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park, share the history of the town of Allensworth and make more people aware of it to pass on to future generations. It is people like you and your participation in our events that will insure this continues to happen.

Again, thank you, and we are hopeful that you will continue to support us as we support Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park.

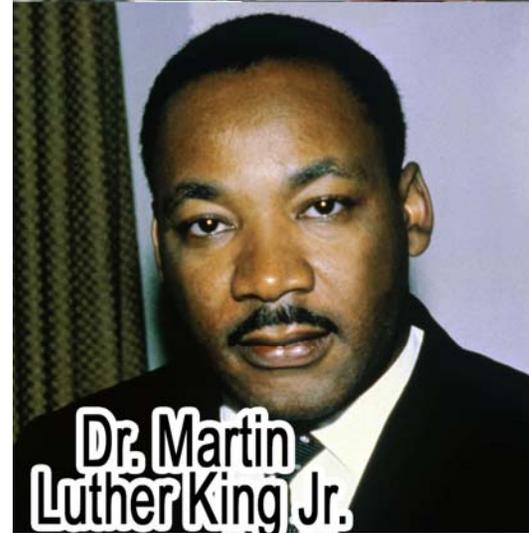
Sasha Biscoe
President Friends of Allensworth



Malcom X



Marcus Garvey



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

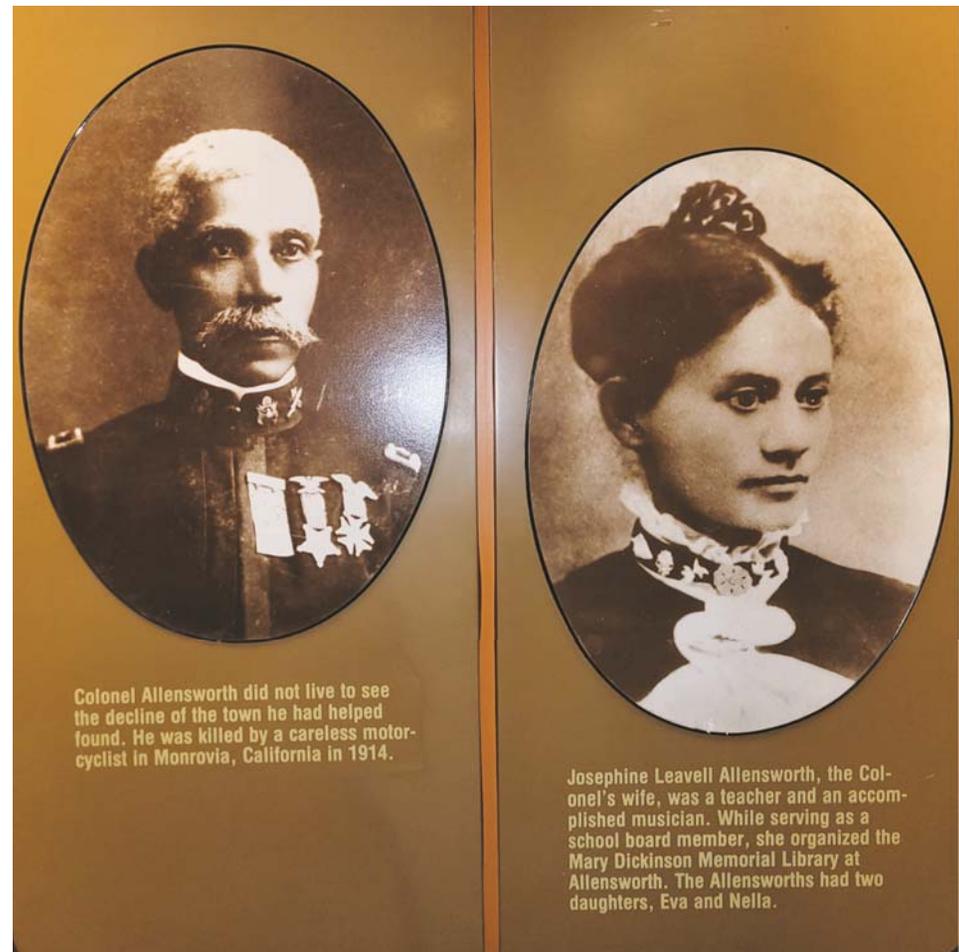


Nelson Mandela

This page is dedicated to our political leaders



**ALLENSWORTH PROGRESSIVE
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION,
SUPPORTING OUR HISTORICAL PARK**



Colonel Allensworth did not live to see the decline of the town he had helped found. He was killed by a careless motorcyclist in Monrovia, California in 1914.

Josephine Leavell Allensworth, the Colonel's wife, was a teacher and an accomplished musician. While serving as a school board member, she organized the Mary Dickinson Memorial Library at Allensworth. The Allensworths had two daughters, Eva and Nella.

Allen Allensworth (7 April 1842 – 14 September 1914), born into slavery in Kentucky, escaped during the American Civil War and became a Union soldier; later he became a Baptist minister and educator, and was appointed as a chaplain in the United States Army. He was the first African American to reach the rank of lieutenant colonel. He planted numerous churches, and in 1908 founded Allensworth, California, the only town in the state to be founded, financed, and governed by African Americans.

Please visit the Friends of Allensworth website for more information on the colonel and his wife.



Ethel Hall Norton was the first librarian in Allensworth. Her sister, Alwortha Hall Tompkins, was the first child born in Allensworth in 1910.



Sgt. James Grimes the Treasurer of the Legal Committee that took control of the Allensworth Rural Water Company.



Mary Jane Bickers had the first store in Allensworth, operating it from 1909 until 1912. Her store contained the first post office and she was the first postmistress.



Margaret Prince was the first schoolteacher hired to assist Professor Payne. She taught music in grades 1 through 5 while Payne taught the older children. She was also the accompanist for the Glee Club.



Nettie Morrison
Community Activist, Mayor of Allensworth



Gemelia Alta Hall Herring
Docent, Activist, & Member of Friends of Allensworth



Josephine Herring-Triplett
Docent, Activist, & Member of Friends of Allensworth

PEOPLE THAT HELP ESTABLISHED ALLENSWORTH

Historical Memories of Allensworth Town Citizens



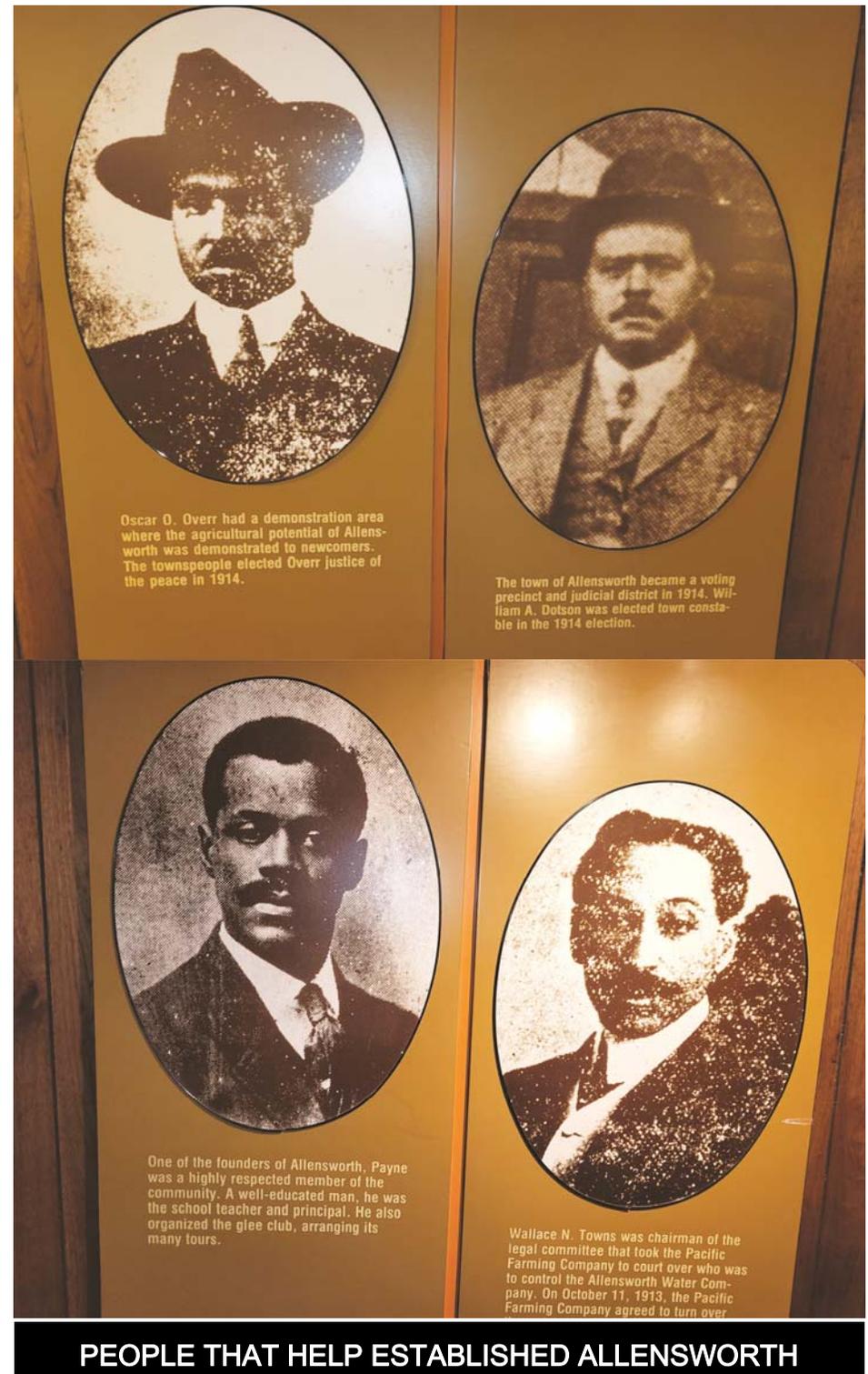
Mrs. Alice Royal
RN, MPH, Historian Author



Mrs. Josephine Blodgett Smith
Granddaughter of Colonel Allensworth



Mr. Ed. Cornelius Pope
Visionary, Friends Of Allensworth Past President, Buffalo Soldier



PEOPLE THAT HELP ESTABLISHED ALLENSWORTH



Known as the "Father of " Carter G. Woodson was a scholar whose dedication to celebrating the historic contributions of Black people led to the establishment of Black History Month, marked every February since 1976. Woodson fervently believed that Black people should be proud of their heritage and all Americans should understand the largely overlooked achievements of Black Americans.

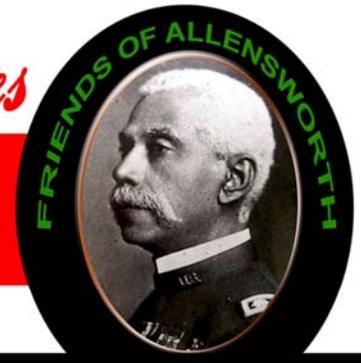
as a teen worked in the coal mines of West Virginia to help support his father's meager income. Hungry for education, he was largely self-taught and had mastered Woodson overcame early obstacles to become a prominent historian and author of several notable books on Black Americans. Born in 1875 to illiterate parents who were former slaves, Woodson's schooling was erratic. He helped out on the family farm when he was a young boy and common school subjects by the age of 17. Entering high school at the age of 20, Woodson completed his diploma in less than two years.

Woodson worked as a teacher and a school principal before obtaining a bachelor's degree in literature from Berea College in Kentucky. After graduating from college, he became a school supervisor in the Philippines and later traveled throughout Europe and Asia. In addition to earning a master's degree from the University of Chicago, he became the second Black American after W.E.B. Du Bois Harvard University. He joined the faculty of Howard University, eventually serving as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

After being barred from attending American Historical Association conferences despite being a dues-paying member, Woodson believed that the white-dominated historical profession had little interest in Black history. He saw African-American contributions "overlooked, ignored, and even suppressed by the writers of history textbooks and the teachers who use them."

Save These Dates

2022 Calendar



Website: www.friendsofallensworth.org
Toll Free: 877-245-6232
Cell: 310-948-5524

January							February							March							April							
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Black History Month Festival - Feb 12, 2022
Gospel Festival - Mar 12, 2022
Allensworth April Festival - Apr 9, 2022
African Market Place Festival - May 21, 2022
Juneteenth Celebration Festival - Jun 11, 2022
Allensworth Blues/Jazz Festival - Jul 9, 2022
Allensworth Scat to Rap Festival - Aug 13, 2022
Allensworth Rededication Festival - Oct 8, 2022
Allensworth Heritage Cultural Festival - Nov 12, 2022

LOCATION
Colonel Allensworth
State Historic Park
Grant Dr
Earlimart, CA 93219

Music
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Food
Ed-du-tainment
Presentations

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January 18th at 11:00 a.m.

FIRST COME BASIS

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Bikes Have Been Refurbished

For Black scholars to study and preserve Black history, Woodson realized he would have to create a separate institutional structure. With funding from several philanthropic foundations, Woodson the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915 in Chicago, describing its mission as the scientific study of the "neglected aspects of Negro life and history." The next year he started the scholarly *Journal of Negro History*, which is published to this day under the name *Journal of African American History*.

Woodson came to believe that African-American contributions "were overlooked, ignored, and even suppressed by the writers of history textbooks and the teachers who use them."

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Woodson's devotion to showcasing the contributions of Black Americans bore fruit in 1926 when he launched Negro History Week in the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Woodson's concept was later expanded into Black History Month.

Woodson died from a heart attack at the age of 74 in 1950. His legacy lives on every February when schools across the nation study Black American history, empowering Black Americans and educating others on the achievements of Black Americans.

Throughout the course of his life, Woodson published many books on Black history, including the *A Century of Negro Migration* (1918), *The Education of the Negro Prior to 1861* (1919), *The History of the Negro Church* (1921), and *The Negro in Our History* (1922).



Charles Young was born to enslaved parents, Gabriel & Arminta Young, on March 12th, 1864 in May's Lick, Kentucky. That same year his father escaped enslavement and in February 1865 joined the 5th Regiment, U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery. Sometime after Gabriel's enlistment, young Charles and his parents relocated from Kentucky to across the river in Ripley.

As a soldier, diplomat, and civil rights leader, Charles Young overcame stifling inequality to become a leading figure in the years after the Civil War when the United States emerged as a world power. His work ethic, academic leadership, and devotion to duty provided a strong base for his achievements in the face of racism and oppression. His long and distinguished career as a commissioned officer in the United States Army made him cause military leaders would not allow an African-American officer to command white troops, the Adjutant General's Office waited three months after Young's West Point graduation in 1889 before assigning the newly-commissioned 2nd Lieutenant to the 9th Cavalry at Fort Robinson, Nebraska. After a year, marked by isolation and hostility, Young transferred to Fort Duchesne, Utah, where the command and fellow officers proved more welcoming. Here, Young mentored Sergeant Major Benjamin O. Davis, Sr. who later became the first African American to attain the rank of General. a popular figure of his time and a role model for generations of new leaders.

Between 1889 and 1907 Young served in the 9th Cavalry at western posts and rose to the rank of captain. He also taught military science, served as a military attaché, and fought with distinction in the Phillipine-American War, winning the praise of his commanders for his troops' courage and professionalism in and out of combat.



Chancellor Williams (1893-1992)

Chancellor Williams was born on December 22, 1893, in Bennettsville, South Carolina, as the last of five children. His father was a formerly enslaved African, while his mother was a cook, nurse, and evangelist. Williams' curiosity concerning the realities of racial inequality and cultural struggles about African Americans began as early as fifth-grade. Williams moved with his family to Washington, D.C. in the early 20th century. His first wife, Dorothy Ann Williams, died in 1925, leaving him a widower with five children. Williams earned an undergraduate degree in Education in 1930 followed by a Master of Arts degree in History in 1935, both from Howard University. He was awarded a Ph.D. in History and Sociology by American University in 1949.

He did field research in African History at Ghana's University College. At that time, his main focus was on African achievements and self-ruling civilizations, which existed long before the coming of the Europeans or Asians. In 1935, Williams took the post of Administrative Principal for the Cheltenham School for Boys in Maryland. He became a teacher in Washington D.C. public schools 4 years later. In 1946, he returned to his alma mater, the school or college that one once attended, as a Social Science instructor until 1952. It was then that he transferred to the History department, where he remained until he retired in 1966. In 1971, Williams published his most important work, *The Destruction of Black Civilization*.

The second edition of the book was published in 1987 and received wide critical acclaim from the African American community. In 1979, the 21st Century Foundation honored Chancellor Williams with its first Clarence L. Holte International Biennial Prize. Dr. Williams died of respiratory failure on December 7, 1992 at Providence Hospital in Washington D.C. His book, *The Destruction of Black Civilization*, not only outlined our past achievement



Mary Ellen Pleasant (August 19, 1814 – January 11, 1904) was a 19th-century entrepreneur, financier, real estate magnate and abolitionist. She was arguably the first **African-American** self-made millionaire, preceding Madam C. J. Walker by decades.

She identified herself as "a capitalist by profession" in the 1890 United States census. Her aim was to earn as much money as she was able to help as many people as she could. With her riches she was able to provide transportation, housing, and food for survival. She trained people how to stay safe, succeed, carry themselves, and more. The "one woman social agency" served African Americans before and during the Civil War, as well as meeting a different set of needs after Emancipation. She worked on the Underground Railroad and expanded it westward during the California Gold Rush era. She was a friend and financial supporter of John Brown and was well known among abolitionists. She helped women who lived in California during the California Gold Rush to stay safe and become self-sufficient. After the Civil War, she won several civil rights victories that resulted in her being called "The Mother of Human Rights in California". Legal battles, though, had mixed results. Realizing that she was in a tenuous position as a black woman who had gained political and financial power, she sought ways to blend in to the culture of the times. She portrayed herself as a housekeeper and a cook, long after she was wealthy, but she used these roles to get to know wealthy citizens and gain information for her investments. In the 1870s, she made the acquaintance of Thomas Bell, a wealthy banker and capitalist, which helped her make money and keep her riches and true financial status a secret. She spent her money, and developed the plans, to build a large mansion that outwardly was to seem as if it was the Bell's residence. She assumed the role of housekeeper for the Bells, but it was not a secret in the city that she actually ran the household, managed the servants, and also managed the relationships among the Bells. Author Edward White said of her: "As an entrepreneur, civil-rights activist, and benefactor, Mary Ellen Pleasant made a name and a fortune for herself in Gold Rush-era San Francisco, shattering racial taboos."

In the fall of 1894, Charles Young received a detached service assignment that wound up sending him to Wilberforce, Ohio. Young was to take over the planning and eventual teaching of the new Military Sciences & Tactics courses at Wilberforce University. The original choice to fill this teaching position, Lieutenant John Hanks Alexander, died suddenly in Springfield, Ohio on March 26th and Lieutenant Young was dispatched to take up for Alexander. Lieutenants Alexander and Young had roomed together for a few years while at the West Point Military Academy and they also served at Fort Duchesne, Utah together for some time, so Young was no stranger to Alexander. Eventually, Lieutenant

Lieutenant Charles Young became one of the distinguished professors at the university around the turn of the century, which included W.E.B. DuBois who would become a close life-long friend of Charles Young. By April of 1898, Young would be on the move away from Wilberforce as he mustered up and trained men for potential combat action in Cuba. However, Young had established himself at the university and in the city of Wilberforce and he frequently returned between his duty stations & assignments to visit and to purchase properties that he would call "home" for the rest of his life. In the summer of 1903, Captain Charles Young would become the first African-American national park Superintendent when he and his troops were tasked to manage and maintain Sequoia National Park in northern California. Because the U.S. Army was tasked with protecting the national parks in these early years, the Army would send troops to manage, maintain and patrol them. Young and his troopers arrived in Sequoia National Park in the summer of 1903 and proceeded to construct roads and trails that other troops were unable to do in the years before them. As the leader of his troops, Young would inherit the title of Acting Superintendent of Sequoia National Park that year. He incorporated the local townsfolk to assist his troop's efforts and he and his troops' accomplishments from their summer of hard work were lauded by many throughout the area. Roosevelt wrote for his monograph on the people and customs of Hispaniola. Young's experiences in foreign service and as a commander in the Philippines formed the basis of his book, *The Military Morale of Nations and Races* (1911).

In 1904 Captain Young became the first Military Attaché to Haiti and the Dominican Republic on the island of Hispaniola. Young joined 23 other officers (the only African American among them) serving in these diplomatic posts in the Theodore Roosevelt administration. He won President Roosevelt's praise through an introduction Roosevelt wrote for his monograph on the people and customs of Hispaniola. Young's experiences in foreign service and as a commander in the Philippines formed the basis of his book, *The Military Morale of Nations and Races* (1911).

From 1912 to 1916, he served as the military attaché to Liberia, helping to train the Liberian Frontier Force. After returning from Liberia, he then served as a squadron commander during the Punitive Expedition in Mexico against Pancho Villa. He distinguished himself at the Battle of Agua Caliente, leading his men to the aid of a cavalry unit that had been ambushed. During the same period, Young won additional promotions, to major in 1912, and to lieutenant colonel in 1916. In July 1917, Young was medically retired and promoted to colonel in recognition of his distinguished Army service. Young and his supporters asked for reconsideration of his retirement. To demonstrate his fitness to serve, Young, then 54, made a historic 500-mile horseback ride from Wilberforce, Ohio, to Washington, D.C. Afterwards, the Secretary of War gave Young an informal hearing, but did not reverse the decision.

Though medically retired, Young was retained on a list of active duty officers. During World War I, the War Department sent him back to Ohio to help muster and train African-American recruits for the war. Days before the November 11th, 1918 armistice, Young was assigned to Camp Grant (Illinois) to train black servicemen. Shortly thereafter, at the request of the State Department, Colonel Young was sent once more to serve as military attaché to Liberia, arriving in Monrovia, February 1920. While on a visit to Nigeria in late 1921 he became gravely ill and died at the British hospital in Lagos on January 8th, 1922. Due to British law, Young's body was buried in Lagos, Nigeria for one year before it could be repatriated to the United States for final interment.

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In the year after his death, Young's wife and many other notable African Americans lobbied the U.S. to repatriate Young's remains from Nigeria so he could receive a proper burial in American soil. One year later, Young's body was exhumed and transported back to the U.S. After arriving back in the U.S. in New York City in late May of 1923, Young's body received a hero's welcome. Thousands upon thousands celebrated Young's life as he made his way to the Washington, D.C. area. On June 1st, 1923, Colonel Charles Young became the fourth soldier honored with a funeral service at Arlington Memorial Amphitheater before burial in Arlington National Cemetery. After the memorial service, he was buried alongside the thousands of other heroes in Arlington National Cemetery.



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