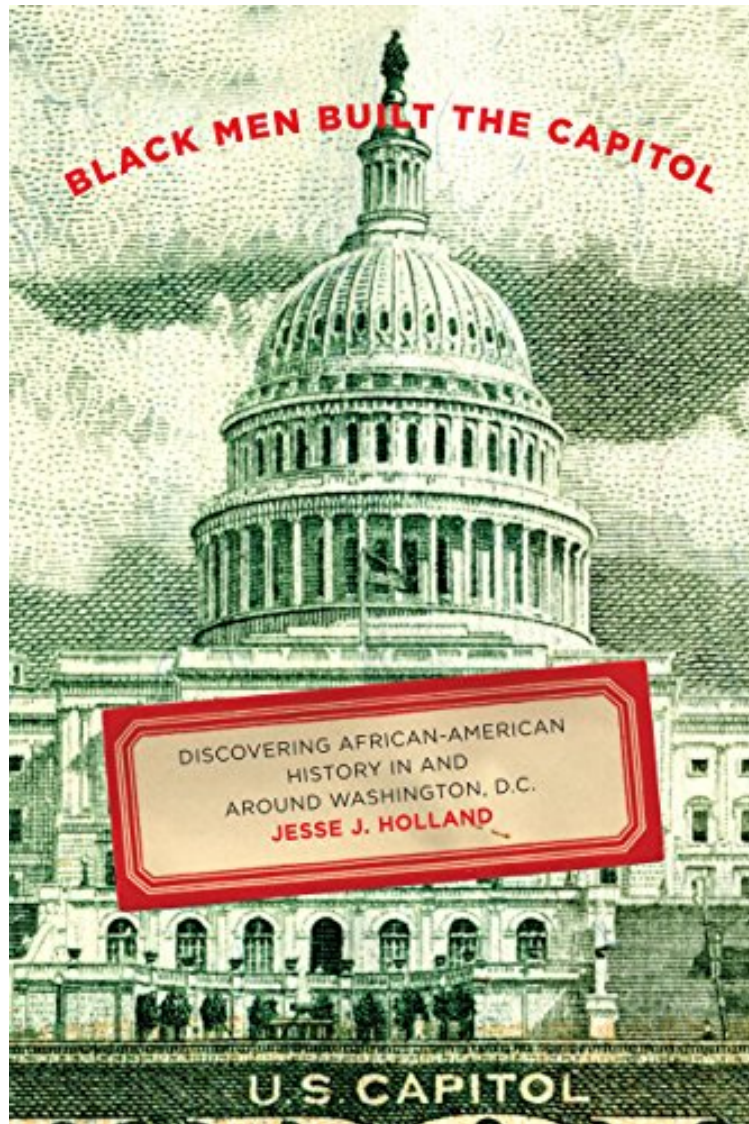


[Ebook free] Black Men Built the Capitol: Discovering African-American History In and Around Washington, D.C.

## Black Men Built the Capitol: Discovering African-American History In and Around Washington, D.C.

*Jesse J. Holland*

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**Jesse J. Holland : Black Men Built the Capitol: Discovering African-American History In and Around Washington, D.C.** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Black Men Built the Capitol: Discovering African-American History In and Around Washington, D.C.:

29 of 29 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating Read--Both as Guidebook and as American

HistoryBy R. MorrisI enjoyed this book and learned a lot about Washington, DC that I had never known before. Mr. Holland writes with a light, easy-to-read style but his content is anything but light. Holland moved to DC only to discover that histories made little mention of the African-American contributions to our nation's capital. So he set out to change that, and this book is the result.Each page uncovers new facts about how 'black men built the capitol', as well as the 'capital'. What makes this an indispensable guidebook is that Holland starts each section with the standard history of an area or landmark and then gives the reader the 'rest of the story', adding the African-American perspective. If you are looking for a book to teach you about DC, a fascinating city by any standard, this is a good one. If you are looking for a book to learn about DC from an African-American perspective, this is a great one.I lived in DC for nine years, and thought I knew it well. Jesse Holland showed me, a white American who has a degree in history, just how little I actually knew.Valuable, entertaining, and should be in every history classroom in the DC area.Illustrated with maps and photos, including a section of color photos.Rob Morris, author of Untold Valor: Forgotten Stories of American Bomber Crewmen Over Europe in World War Two.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. It's the truth. Finally, giving credit where credit ...By CustomerIt's the truth. Finally , giving credit where credit is due. African Americans enslaved and free men, women and children, we must acknowledge and recognize their talents, skills, and contributions to the America. ....this book does that and more!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Washington D.C. The real StoryBy T. BingVery little is spoken about African American contribution in the construction and building of what we now call the Nation's Capital. Prior to 1790, New York City was the Nation's Capital. In this book by Jesse Holland, it starts at the beginning about taking pieces of Maryland and Virginia in order to build the district. How African Americans did the engineering and the physical construction from the rock quarries that existed in Northern Virginia. It's a very interesting read.

The first book of its kind, with comprehensive up-to-date details Historic sites along the Mall, such as the U.S. Capitol building, the White House and the Lincoln Memorial, are explored from an entirely new perspective in this book, with never-before-told stories and statistics about the role of blacks in their creation. This is an iconoclastic guide to Washington, D.C., in that it shines a light on the African Americans who have not traditionally been properly credited for actually building important landmarks in the city. New research by a top Washington journalist brings this information together in a powerful retelling of an important part of our country's history.In addition the book includes sections devoted to specific monuments such as the African American Civil War Memorial, the real "Uncle Tom's cabin," the Benjamin Banneker Overlook and Frederick Douglass Museum, the Hall of Fame for Caring Americans, and other existing statues, memorials and monuments. It also details the many other places being planned right now to house, for the first time, rich collections of black American history that have not previously been accessible to the public, such as the soon-to-open Smithsonian Institution National Museum of African American History and Culture, and the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Monument, as well as others opening over the next decade. This book will be a source of pride for African Americans who live in or come from the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia area as well as for the 18 million annual African American visitors to our nation's capital. Jesse J. Holland is a political journalist who lives in the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Washington, D.C. He is theCongressional legal affairs correspondent for the Associated Press, and his stories frequently appear in the "New York Times" and other major papers. In 2004, Holland became the first African American elected to Congressional Standing Committee of Correspondents, which represents the entire press corps before the Senate and the House of Representatives. A graduate of the University of Mississippi, he is a frequent lecturer at universities and media talk shows across the country.

About Jesse Holland s The Invisibles: Jesse J. Holland's riveting book The Invisibles shines a long overdue light on the enslaved men and women who were forced to serve in the nation's seat of executive power The White House. Not only does Holland reveal this ugly chapter of American history with sharp analysis and insight, he reveals the blatant hypocrisy of the nation's presidents and other leaders in permitting such a system of forcible servitude to exist. More importantly, he brings to life the stories and experiences of this group of nearly forgotten African Americans, who showed remarkable courage and resilient character despite being imprisoned by slavery in the heart of the so-called land of the free. --J.D. Dickey, author of Empire of Mud: The Secret History of Washington, DC Oney Judge, who dared to flee to freedom from George Washington s household. Edith Hern Fossett, a chef trained to prepare French delicacies for Thomas Jefferson. Andrew Jackson s wily jockeys. Jesse J. Holland makes visible the courage, expertise and fortitude of the slaves held by U.S. presidents. Holland s contribution to a complete history of our complex nation is one worth savoring. --Donna Bryson, author of It's A Black White Thing>About Jesse Holland's The Invisibles: 'Jesse J. Holland's riveting book The Invisibles shines a long overdue light on the enslaved men and women who were forced to serve in the nation's seat of executive power--The White House. Not only does Holland reveal this ugly chapter of American history with sharp analysis and insight, he reveals the blatant hypocrisy of the nation's presidents and other leaders in permitting such a system of forcible servitude to exist. More importantly, he brings to life the stories and experiences of this group of nearly forgotten African Americans, who showed remarkable courage and resilient character despite being imprisoned by slavery in the heart of the so-called 'land of the free.'--J.D. Dickey,

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From the Back Cover  
Millions of people visit the National Mall, the White House, and the U.S. Capitol each year. If they only hear the standard story, a big question remains: "Where's the black history?" Packed with new information and archival photos, *Black Men Built the Capitol* answers this question. In this thoroughly researched yet completely accessible volume, Washington insider and political journalist Jesse J. Holland shines a light on the region's African-American achievements, recounting little-known stories and verifying rumors, such as:

- Enslaved black men built the Capitol, White House, and other important Washington structures.
- Philip Reid, a thirty-nine-year-old slave from South Carolina, cast and helped save the model of the Statue of Freedom that sits atop the Capitol Dome.
- The National Mall sits on the former site of the city's most bustling slave market.
- The grounds that are now Arlington National Cemetery were, from 1863 to 1888, a self-sustaining village for former slaves called the Freedman's Village. Included are hundreds of places in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia that illuminate "the rest of the story" for Washington residents and visitors alike.