

# RECKONING WITH THE PAST: THE UNTOLD STORY OF RACE IN AUSTIN

The story of the building of the Neill-Cochran House Museum site is the story of the building of Austin. Here, the only intact Slave Quarters building in Austin can be found. The people - enslaved and free - who built and cared for this historic space have stories to tell about the growth of Austin.

Consider the enslaved people of the original owners of the Neill-Cochran House who were sold to finance the building of the home; the children leased out by their enslavers to the State to work at the School for the Blind; and later freed-men and women whose families were a part of the larger Austin economy. The Slave Quarters serves as a catalyst to experience life through their eyes and experiences.

While Austin has obliterated much of its physical history, and what little remains is quickly disappearing in the current building boom, the Museum is doubling its efforts to restore and preserve the Slave Quarters.

The Slave Quarters structure represents the cornerstone of the Neill-Cochran House Museum's year-long **Reckoning with the Past: The Untold Story of Race in Austin** campaign for 2022-23. This comprehensive fundraising campaign will solicit \$500,000 in public and private support to reintroduce and reimagine the Slave Quarters through interpretation, restoration, and new programming.

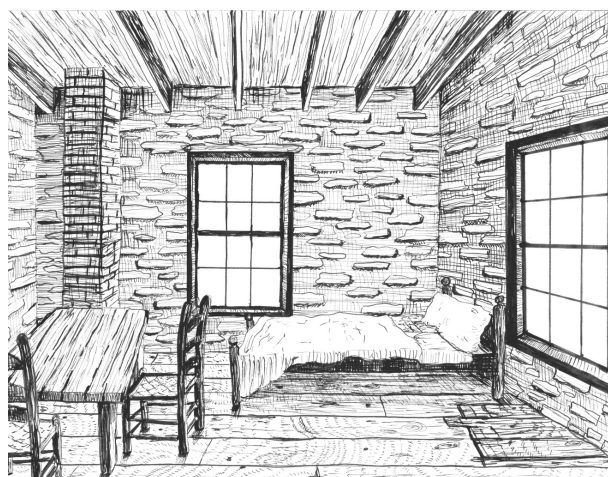
## ELEMENTS OF THE PROJECT

### DISCOVERING THE STORIES

The new Interpretive Plan will guide all aspects of the project moving forward. New programming and materials will contextualize the Slave Quarters as a place of enslavement and as a building used by free laborers. Here we will discover the stories to be told.

### PREPARING THE SPACES

The Slave Quarters, while structurally sound, will require restoration to return the building to its antebellum appearance and use. We will stabilize the chimney, remove the modern false ceilings on both the floors, and reintegrate the first and second floors through the original trap door opening.



*Renderings of possible 1st and 2nd floor views of original Slave Quarters. Artist credit: Lauren Graham*

### ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

Over the course of the year, the Museum will introduce new interpretive programming including tours, interpretive signage, exhibits, websites, video tours, brochures and maps. By April of 2023, the Museum will showcase this new RWP exhibit that will tell the powerful untold stories of people who built the city of Austin both enslaved and free.



Neill-Cochran  
House Museum

## RECKONING WITH THE PAST: CAMPAIGN BUDGET

Architectural Restoration of Slave Quarters Structure	\$149,750.00
Interpretive Plan	\$75,500.00
New Installation and Interpretive Materials	\$74,500.00
Innovative Educational Curriculum	\$50,450.00
Virtual Reality Tour	\$26,500.00
Project Administration	\$63,300.00
RWP Programming	\$20,000.00
Slave Quarters Experience: A Weekend for Community	\$40,000.00
TOTAL	\$500,000.00

## DONORS AND SPONSORS

**Clayton Korte Architects**

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**Jane Hilfer and Alec Rhodes**

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**Joyce Statz**

**ArtWise Texas**

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and the many other donors who believe in the importance of the RWP project.

To learn more about how you can make a difference in this exciting project please contact:

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