

# LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

**D**ear Friend of the African Burial Ground National Monument,

What will visitors learn, feel, and experience when they visit the African Burial Ground in 2019, or 2029? Will this unique National Park Service site in downtown Manhattan realize its full potential as a site of conscience that educates and inspires succeeding generations of visitors?

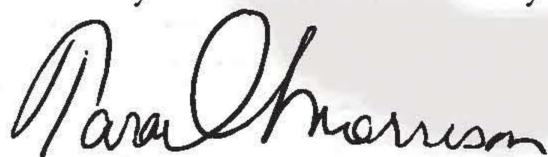
These are important questions. And as we embark on developing a plan for the future of the African Burial Ground, we would like you to help us begin to answer them.

As a unit of the National Park System, the African Burial Ground is required to draft a General Management Plan (GMP). A GMP is a blueprint intended to guide the National Monument for 15 to 20 years. It deals with facilities, resource management, visitor experience, education, and potential partnerships. It tries to anticipate our audiences and their needs, as well as find ways to engage new communities of interest so that all facets of society will understand and appreciate the importance of the African Burial Ground.

The African Burial Ground, unlike most other National Park Service (NPS) sites that have larger footprints and resources, is a place that tells the story of a people, their struggle for freedom, and their immeasurable contributions to a city and a nation. How we will tell that story over the long term is an integral part of providing increased public knowledge and why we are reaching out to you.

We want to update you on some new developments at the African Burial Ground, such as the opening of the new visitor center in early 2010, but more importantly, we want to hear from you and get your thoughts as we develop a long-term plan for the National Monument.

Thank you in advance for your participation.



Tara D. Morrison  
Superintendent  
African Burial Ground National Monument

