

The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in Luanda

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The chains around the border of our memorial are to memorialize and represent the enslaved African Americans that were chained together and brought onto the boat, to places like Luanda. If you examine the image closer, one would see that we designed our memorial similarly to the Holocaust Museum in Berlin. Their memorial site really inspired our group to create something similar in terms of our aesthetic aspect. We included multiple concrete slabs that contain interesting facts about the historical significance of Luanda in relation to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. Also located on the concrete slabs are Voyage ID numbers that belonged to the ships of enslaved African-Americans taken out of Luanda. We placed our memorial here specifically to memorialize the slaves in an area of Luanda that is very common to tourists as well as an area of attraction that many people residing in Luanda go to. Luanda is an area that isn't a first thought when it comes to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, so placing the memorial in an area where even people residing in the area don't know much about the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade could really educate and enhance their understanding of it. In the "Thinking of Age" exhibit, the "tourists" see how one's initial thought of how age can be considered totally different from what it actually is.

For example, many young African children were taken upon ships, sometimes more young girls than boys, more than the adults. This makes one think about the works the enslaved Africans were forced into at different time periods in their lives.

Citations: Holocaust Museum Berlin, Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe



My group would place our monument in the Bay of Luanda, because it is connected to expansion routes, and because it's urban, so it can be attractive, and it gives access to the waterfronts closest to where slave ports once was, and Our tourist would have access to take a tour of The Cuanza River ("one of the longest rivers in Angola. It empties into the Atlantic Ocean just south of the national capital Luanda.")

Luanda is very important historically when it comes to exporting and importing goods to and from central western Africa. Luanda is the capital of Angola making the city close to the West-Central African border which made it easier to ship large amounts of slaves to the caribbeans, and northern south america. Luanda is important historically also because it surpassed Whydah as the busiest African slaving port on the continent. "Luanda alone dispatched some 1.3 million slaves," making up almost half of the three most active ports together.

Citations:
<https://www.slavevoyages.org/voyage/essays>
<http://www.buala.org/en/to-read/memories-of-the-angolan-slave-trade>

Place? Luanda

John Hilton




Women of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade


Victoria Ayodele

The women demographic within the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade was far more than most people typically expect. We were often taught that slave ships were mostly comprised of men to complete yard work and hard labor, but after research it is seen that many of these ships included a good amount of women. The Slave Voyage Database logged over 100 ships that were comprised of 50%+ females, not to exclude the thousands of ships also included a smaller fraction of women as well. The Catherine Zimmermann-Mulgrave story even let us know that women were often kidnapped and forced onto slave ships for slavery. These women are usually highly skilled domestic women that worked in the houses and cared after the children.

Citations:
- Collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Gift of the Black Fashion Museum founded by Lois K. Alexander-Lane
- Collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture



Hand stitched long-sleeved dress with a full skirt made by an enslaved woman.




Very young children stand alongside adults in the cotton field.


Thinking about Age

While researching my given topic, it became highly evident that when it came to the younger enslaved Africans, there were a good bit of young enslaved African children. Specifically, young enslaved African girls. For example, the vessel, Voadora had 62.9% enslaved African girls while there were only 33.9% enslaved African boys. It's interesting to see that young girls were wanted more than young boys seeing how back then there was stigma between the two. As surprising as it seems, the demographic with adults were completely different. Less enslaved African women were taken aboard ships than the men. With this information, it's important to really think about what was "needed" of each enslaved African age demographic.

Bill of sale for a young girl named Clary purchased for 50 pounds.



List of men, women, and children "owned" by a slave owner.



Citations: "NMAAHC Collections Search," National Museum of African American History and Culture, [https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/collection/search?edan_q=*:*&edan_loc=1-1&edan_lq\[0\]-topic:Slavery](https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/collection/search?edan_q=*:*&edan_loc=1-1&edan_lq[0]-topic:Slavery).