

Committee on Naming Report for 2017–2018

Angela N. H. Creager, chair
CPUC Meeting, May 7, 2018

Two spaces referred to Committee on Naming

1. A publicly accessible garden that is currently being constructed as a green roof covering a portion of Firestone Library. The garden represents the University's commitment to sustainability, as well as its connection to Princeton as a community.



Two spaces referred to Committee on Naming

2. The easternmost arch in East Pyne Hall, which looks out on Firestone Plaza and the Chapel. Students pass through this arch leaving the Chapel after Opening Exercises, it is on the Orange Key tour, and it is right next to the statue of John Witherspoon.

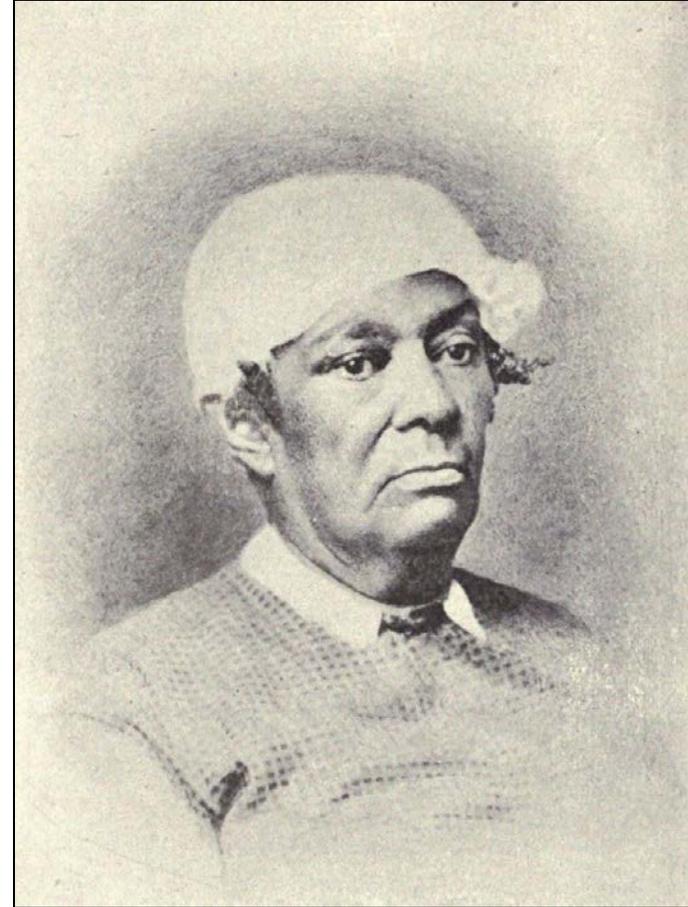


Process

- In November, our website seeking nominations for names for these two spaces (as well as future possibilities) launched.
- We received 21 suggested names for the garden, 17 for the arch, and 14 suggestions for future spaces. In addition, we had over 100 nominations from last year that we also consulted.
- I had helpful conversations with Martha Sandweiss, director of Princeton & Slavery Project; Anne Jarvis, University Librarian; Shirley Satterfield, longtime Princeton resident who developed a walking tour through historical Princeton; and Izzy Kasdin, Executive Director of the Princeton Historical Society.

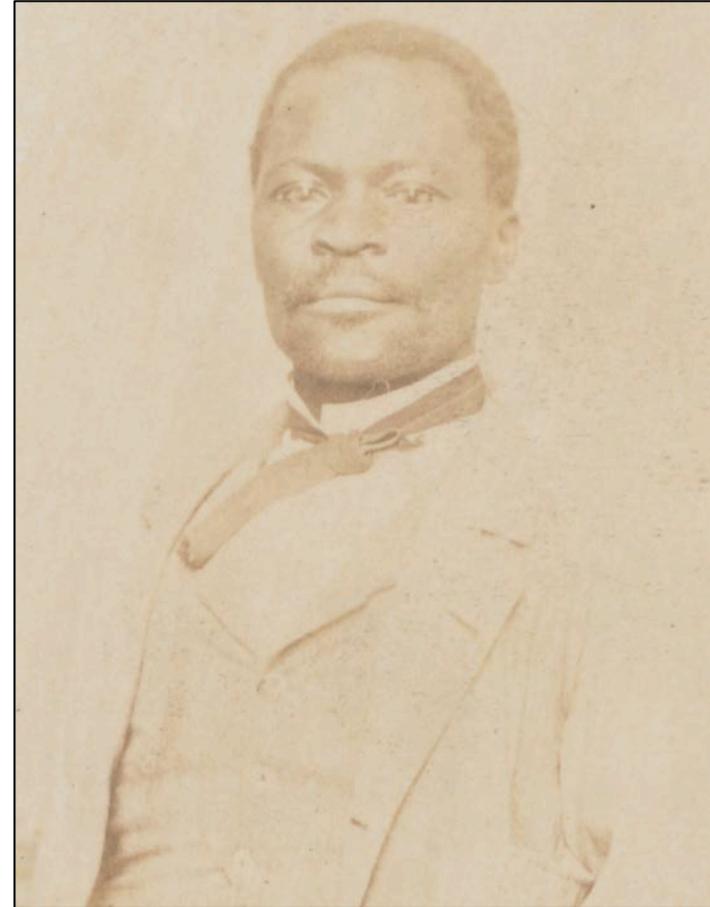
Recommendations to Trustees

1. That the new garden be named after Betsey Stockton, a slave in the Maclean House home of Princeton President Ashbel Green who upon gaining her freedom first became a missionary, and then served the Princeton Community as a founder of Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church and teacher and founder of the first school in Princeton for children of color.



Recommendations to Trustees

2. That the arch be named after James “Jimmy” Johnson, a fugitive slave who worked on campus for more than 60 years and whose interactions with the Princeton students—being both turned in as a fugitive slave and befriended—reflect the complex history of our campus with African-Americans and with the institution of slavery.



Further thoughts

- Once again, our process turned up Princetonians that are worthy of honoring in future spaces.
- Izzy Kasdin pointed out that, historically, the African-American community in the town of Princeton staffed the university and the eating clubs, in ways hard to capture with single honorific names.
- Visit exhibit on Johnson in Frist!



Thank members of 2017-18 Committee

Professor Angela N. H. Creager (History), chair

Professor Stephen J. Macedo (Politics and the University Center for Human Values)

Professor Alejandro W. Rodriguez (Electrical Engineering)

Professor Stacey A. Sinclair (Psychology and African American Studies)

Myesha Jemison '18

Devin B. Kilpatrick '19

Jonathan C. Aguirre, third-year Graduate Student in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Assistant Vice President for Human Resources Romy E. Riddick

Osbourne A. Shaw, Jr. '97

Vice President and Secretary Robert K. Durkee '69

Kevin J. Heaney, Vice President for Advancement, sat with the committee.

Christine Gage, Associate Secretary, Office of the Vice President & Secretary, served as secretary.