

**Sarah Jane Shoenfeld**  
[sarah@prologueDC.com](mailto:sarah@prologueDC.com)

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Non-resident Senior Scholar, George Washington University Institute of Public Policy**  
[gwipp.gwu.edu/sarah-jane-shoenfeld-senior-scholar-non-resident](http://gwipp.gwu.edu/sarah-jane-shoenfeld-senior-scholar-non-resident)

**Historian/Principal at Prologue DC, LLC.** Feb 2014–present. Clients/projects include:

- [Mapping Segregation in Washington DC](#). Co-direct digital public history project documenting the former extent of racially restricted housing and other mechanisms of segregation and displacement in the nation's capital.
- DC Public Library. Assisted with permanent exhibit for Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library on DC's history of organizing and its leading role in advancing civil rights and Black power, opening 2021.
- DC Preservation League. Developed National Register Multiproperty Document and landmark nominations on the 20th Century African American Civil Rights Movement in Washington DC.
- DC Historic Preservation Office. Selected sites and developed content for [20th Century African American Civil Rights Tour](#) consisting of 100+ locations throughout DC.
- Empower DC. Wrote successful historic landmark nomination for [Barry Farm Dwellings](#); presented to Historic Preservation Review Board. Engaged in public outreach.
- Humanities DC. Conceived and organized public programs [Julius Hobson: Maverick for Justice](#) and [The Humanities and the Police](#); reviewed grant proposals for DC Oral History Collaborative.
- Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum. Researched and advised on content for the exhibit [A Right to the City](#) and for the museum's 50th Anniversary Project.
- Bloomingdale Historic Designation Coalition. Wrote successful [Historic District nomination](#) and gave public presentations to support it.
- American University Kogod School of Business. Researched and developed content for permanent photo exhibit on DC business history.
- Boss Shepherd's Restaurant. Researched and developed content for exhibit on Alexander "Boss" Shepherd and the history of DC's theater district.
- Cultural Tourism DC. Researched, wrote, and edited Neighborhood Heritage Trail booklets.
- Smithsonian Channel. Researched footage for videos on permanent display at Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

**Historian and Writer at SJS Research. 2007–2014. Clients/projects included:**

- DC Public Library – DC By the Book (app-based historical walking tours)
- Cultural Tourism DC (signage for self-guided neighborhood history tours)
- National Public Radio – Radio Diaries (radio documentaries)
- Film Odyssey, Inc. (PBS film *James McNeill Whistler & The Case for Beauty*)
- America I AM: The African American Imprint (museum exhibition)
- Congressional Black Caucus Foundation – [A Voice: African American Voices in Congress](#) (website)

### **Prior Experience**

- Historian, Joseph Henry Papers Project, Smithsonian Institution Archives
- Archives Technician, National Archives and Records Administration
- Researcher/writer, WGBH/The American Experience (documentary films and online content)

- Researcher/writer, *Blackside* (documentary films and curriculum resources)

## **PUBLISHED WORK**

- "[Say Their Names](#)," *Washington History*, Fall 2020.
- [Review](#), *Black Food Geographies: Race, Self-Reliance, and Food Access in Washington, D.C.*, by Ashanté M. Reese, *Washington History*, Fall 2020.
- "[Barry Farm's historic landmark designation was pitted against affordable housing](#)," *The Washington Post*, Feb. 21, 2020
- "[The history and evolution of Anacostia's Barry Farm](#)," D.C. Policy Center, July 9, 2019.
- "Open Data Meets History: Mapping Segregation in American Cities, Then and Now," [Open Cities: Open Data: Collaborative Cities in the Information Era](#) (Palgrave Mamillan, 2019).
- "[Mapping segregation in D.C.](#)," D.C. Policy Center, Apr. 23, 2019.
- "[Race and Real Estate in Mid-Century DC](#)," D.C. Policy Center, Apr. 16, 2019.
- Review, *Race, Class, and Politics in the Cappucino City*, by Derek S. Hyra, *Washington History*, Spring 2018.
- "[Don't let development push out low-income residents](#)," *The Washington Post*, Mar. 23, 2018.
- "[How segregation shaped DC's northernmost ward](#)," *Greater Greater Washington*, Sep. 14, 2017.
- "[DC's Comprehensive Plan, a document we use today, preserves the racial segregation of our past](#)," *Greater Greater Washington*, June 13, 2017.
- "'A Strictly White Residential Section': The Rise and Demise of Racially Restrictive Covenants in Bloomingdale," *Washington History*, Spring 2017.
- [Review](#), *Just Another Southern Town: Mary Church Terrell and the Struggle for Racial Justice in the Nation's Capital*, by Joan Quigley, H-AfroAm, Feb. 2017.
- [Review](#), *The Paper Bag Principle: Class, Colorism, and Rumor and the Case of Black Washington, D.C.*, by Audrey Elisa Kerr, H-DC, Aug. 2007.
- "Applications and Admissions to the Home for Aged Colored Women in Boston, Massachusetts, 1860–1887," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* (Jul. 2001–Jan. 2002).
- Review, *Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Symbol*, by Nell Irvin Painter, *The New England Quarterly*, Dec. 1997.

## **AWARDS**

- 2019 District of Columbia Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation (Mapping Segregation in Washington DC)
- 2019 Vision Award, The Committee of 100 on the Federal City (Bloomingdale Historic District nomination)

## **EDUCATION**

- M.A. in History with Certificate in Public History. Northeastern University, Boston, MA. 1996–1999.
- B.A. in Women's Studies. Earlham College, Richmond, IN. 1988–1993. College Honors.