

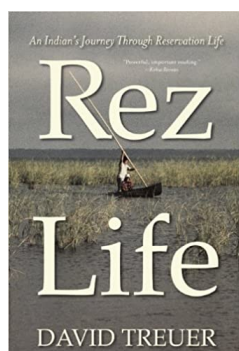
# Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Digest

November 2020

## Reclaiming Native Truth A PROJECT TO DISPEL AMERICA'S MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS



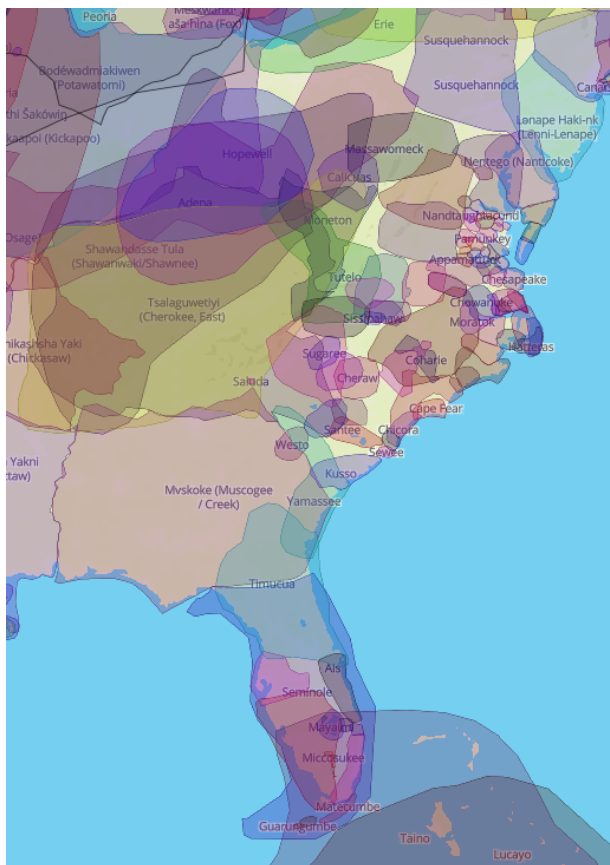
[Reclaiming Native Truth](#) is a national effort to foster cultural, social and policy change by empowering Native Americans to counter discrimination, invisibility and the dominant narratives that limit Native opportunity, access to justice, health and self-determination. Reclaiming Native Truth's goal is to move hearts and minds toward greater respect, inclusion and social justice for Native Americans.



With authoritative research and reportage, [Treuer](#) illuminates misunderstood contemporary issues like sovereignty, treaty rights, and natural-resource conservation

**Some of the top research findings include:**

- Invisibility is the modern form of bias against Native Americans
- The majority of Americans know little to nothing about Native Americans
- Many Americans are not clear how many Native peoples still exist
- Invisibility is one of the biggest barriers Native peoples face in advocating for tribal sovereignty, equity & social justice
- Many Americans are informed by stereotypes and myths that all Native Americans receive federal government benefits and are enriching themselves off of tribal gaming.
- Many of the judges and law clerks interviewed admitted to knowing little about tribal sovereignty and Federal Indian Law.
- Findings show how invisibility, erasure, stereotypes and false narratives underlie the stories being told right now about Native people in the 21st century.



**On Which Indigenous Lands are YOU living?**

Welcome to Native Land. This is a resource for North Americans (and others) to find out more about local Indigenous territories and languages.

# November

is Native American Heritage Month - [how will you acknowledge the land?](#)

IN COUNTRIES SUCH AS NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, AND AMONG TRIBAL NATIONS IN THE U.S., it is commonplace, even policy, to open events and gatherings by acknowledging the traditional Indigenous inhabitants of that land. **Acknowledgment** is a simple, powerful way of showing respect and a step toward correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people's history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth.



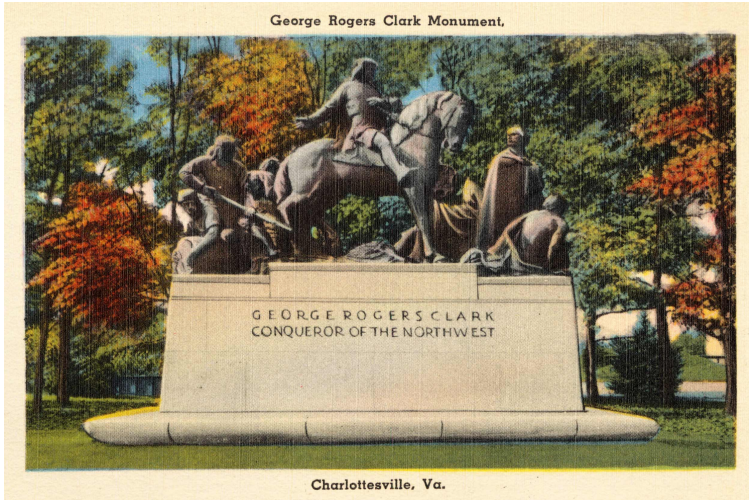
After inhabiting Virginia land for 10,000 years, the Monacan Indian Nation finally receives federal **[recognition](#)**.



## MONACAN INDIAN NATION

**OUR HISTORY:** The Monacan Nation, headquartered in Amherst County, has survived almost four hundred years since the first settlers landed at Jamestowne. Today the tribe numbers over 2,000 people, as more descendants discover their heritage and return to Amherst to celebrate their Indian culture. The tribe operates numerous programs designed to assist tribal members and to educate the general public. It has paid off its land purchase on Bear Mountain and acquired new parcels as well. The Monacan Nation, one of the few American Indian nations that still remain in their ancestral homeland, has made significant contributions to Virginia's history and development, and it continues to be a strong group, dedicated to the survival of Indian people in Virginia and throughout the hemisphere..

# DEI + UVA

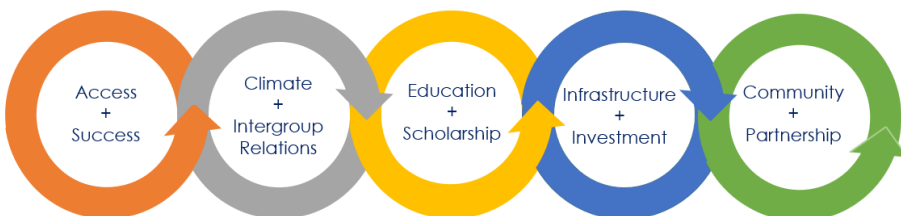


**UVA and the History of Race:** The George Rogers Clark Statue and Native Americans



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FM Inclusive Excellence Planning Team **UPDATE**. [Find out who your IE Team Representative is](#), invite them to your team meeting, ask what they're learning and how you can stay up to date.



Threatened for years by a water intake and pump station, the historic capital of the Monacan Indian Nation has been successfully listed in the [National Trust for Historic Preservation's America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places program](#). Rassawek, the historic capital and sacred site of the Monacan Indian Nation located at the confluence of the Rivanna River and James River in Fluvanna County, was a massive site that included bark covered houses, a large chief's house, workshops, religious buildings, agricultural fields and burial sites.

"The history of more than 5,000 years of Monacan people is written in the soil and landscape of Rassawek, providing a tangible connection to ancestors, many of whom did not survive the arrival of the English and are buried there," said Katherine Malone-France, Chief Preservation Officer of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Learn more about the history of Rassawek and the threats facing this irreplaceable site by visiting [Preservation Virginia](#), and **[take action by writing the board of supervisors](#)** about the need to seriously consider alternatives to the proposed water intake and pump station.



[This video](#) produced by the Monacan Indian Nation, Cultural Heritage Partners, Preservation Virginia and the National Trust shares the story of Rassawek and the need for its preservation.