



Booker T. Washington/Frank A. Miller Tablet Dedication

Presented By: Claudia Rodriguez,
Board of Directors
Friends of Mt. Rubidoux

Park and Recreation Commission
February 3, 2025

PROJECT BACKGROUND

- The Friends of Mt. Rubidoux (FMR) selected this project in Q1 2024 to commemorate Mr. Washington's visit to Riverside and the summit of Mt. Rubidoux in March of 1922, using the photograph taken at the summit
- Committee formed:
 - Claudia Rodriguez (lead), Glenn Wenzel (FMR, RHS), Debbie Newton (RHS), Rose Mayes (RAAHS), Katie Greene, Glenn Hunter, & Brad Curry (FMR)



PROJECT BACKGROUND

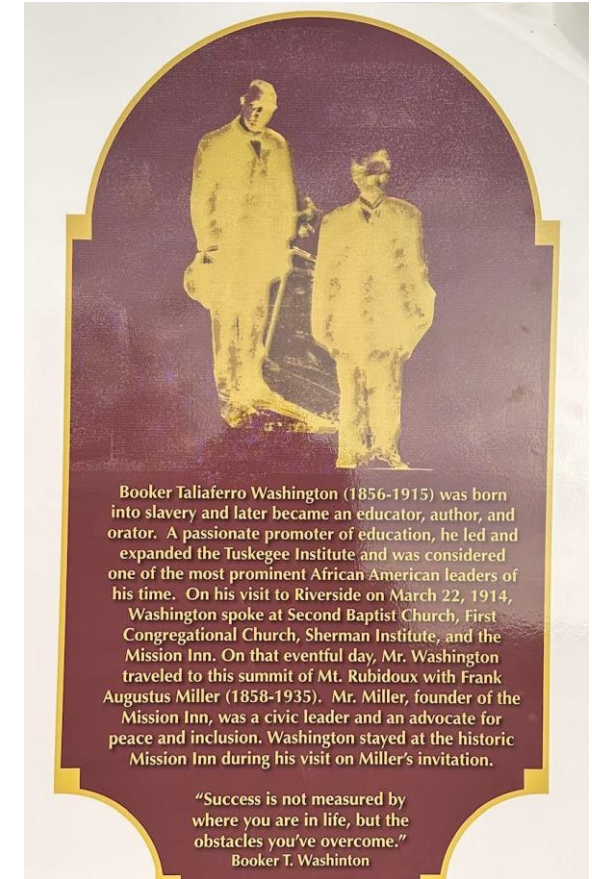
- FMR obtained Parks Department's permission to proceed with concept
- Location of photograph determined to have been taken on Rivers&Lands Conservancy (RLC) property
- Approval given by RLC, but Hold Harmless required
- With Director Galera's approval, tablet location moved to City property on the summit at central rock structure

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- Outreach to Washington and Miller descendants
 - Kenneth Morris - Washington/Frederick Douglass
 - Annie Nurse - Frank Miller
- Develop tablet contents
 - Photograph
 - Overview of visit
 - Washington quote
- Outline sponsorship opportunities
- Develop event program



TABLET LOCATION/DESIGN



Booker Taliaferro Washington (1856-1915) was born into slavery and later became an educator, author, and orator. A passionate promoter of education, he led and expanded the Tuskegee Institute and was considered one of the most prominent African American leaders of his time. On his visit to Riverside on March 22, 1914, Washington spoke at Second Baptist Church, First Congregational Church, Sherman Institute, and the Mission Inn. On that eventful day, Mr. Washington traveled to this summit of Mt. Rubidoux with Frank Augustus Miller (1858-1935). Mr. Miller, founder of the Mission Inn, was a civic leader and an advocate for peace and inclusion. Washington stayed at the historic Mission Inn during his visit on Miller's invitation.

"Success is not measured by where you are in life, but the obstacles you've overcome."
Booker T. Washington

EVENT DETAILS

- February 28, 2025 - 2pm at summit (last day of Black History Month)
- Mayor Lock Dawson greeting
- Overview of Washington's visit to Riverside
- Washington descendant to address attendees
- Local choir with period music
- Legacy student involvement through RUSD
- Tablet dedication
- Photo recreation with descendants



THANK YOU!

