

# Cultural Interpretation Plan Update





# Process & schedule: completed work

**Research & Interviews** *Learn from collected research and discussions with experts, advisors and leaders*

**June Workshops** *Understand perspectives, stories, and priorities from former Hospital patients and staff*  
*Understand interests of Park Groups*

**August Workshops** *Focus on specific topics of the site's legacy and explore how people would like to see them expressed at Dix Park*

**Summer engagement** *Use online survey and pop-ups at events to get additional perspectives on site history and interpretation*



# Process & schedule: current & future work

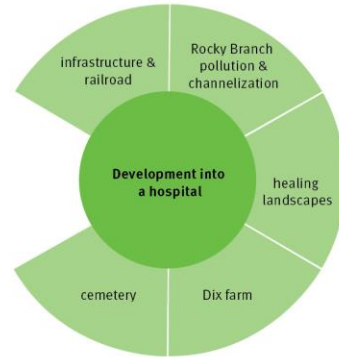
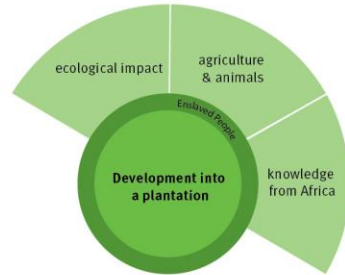
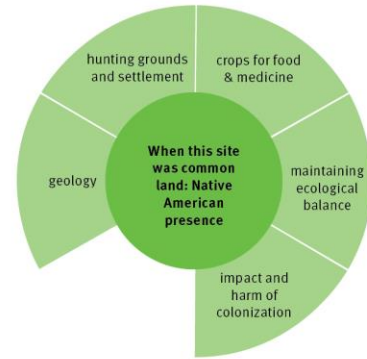
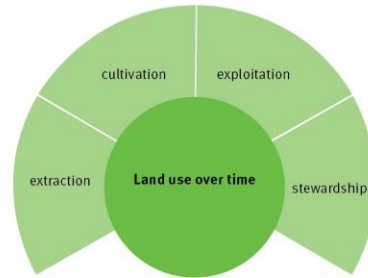
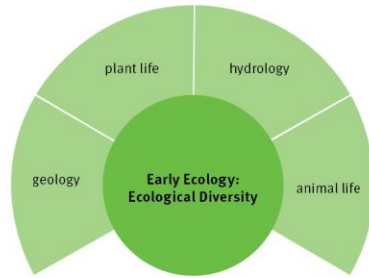
**Interpretive Strategy Development** *September–December 2023*  
*Organize and prioritize information; strategize how it could be expressed*

**CIP Open House** *January–February 2024*  
*Share the interpretive strategy and preliminary recommendations*

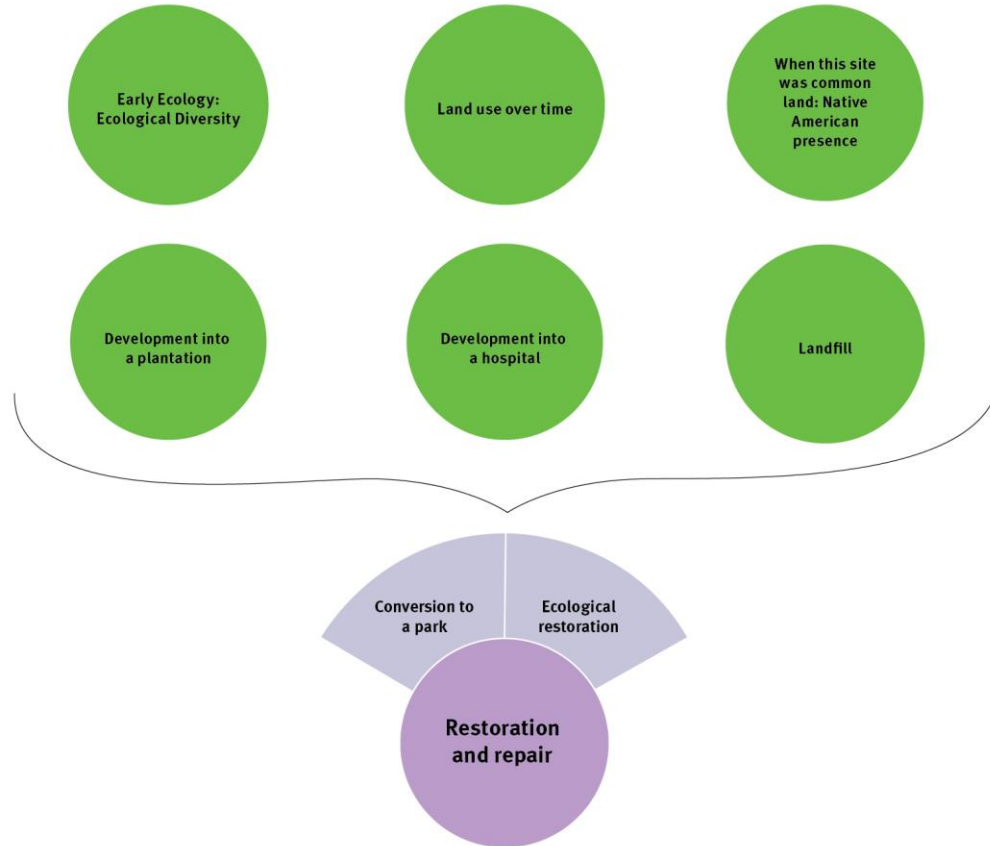
**Plan Formulation** *March–June 2024*  
*Organize ideas into distinct projects with parameters for implementation*



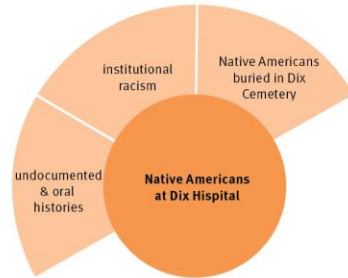
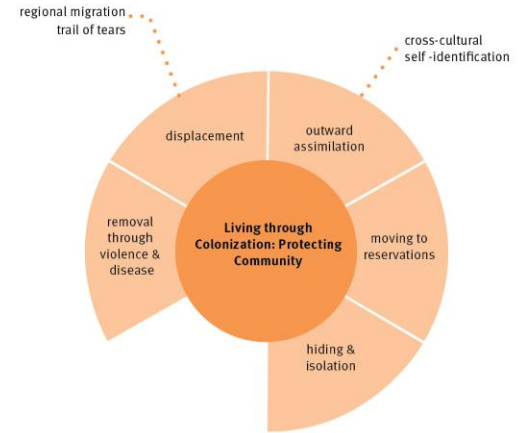
# Ecological History



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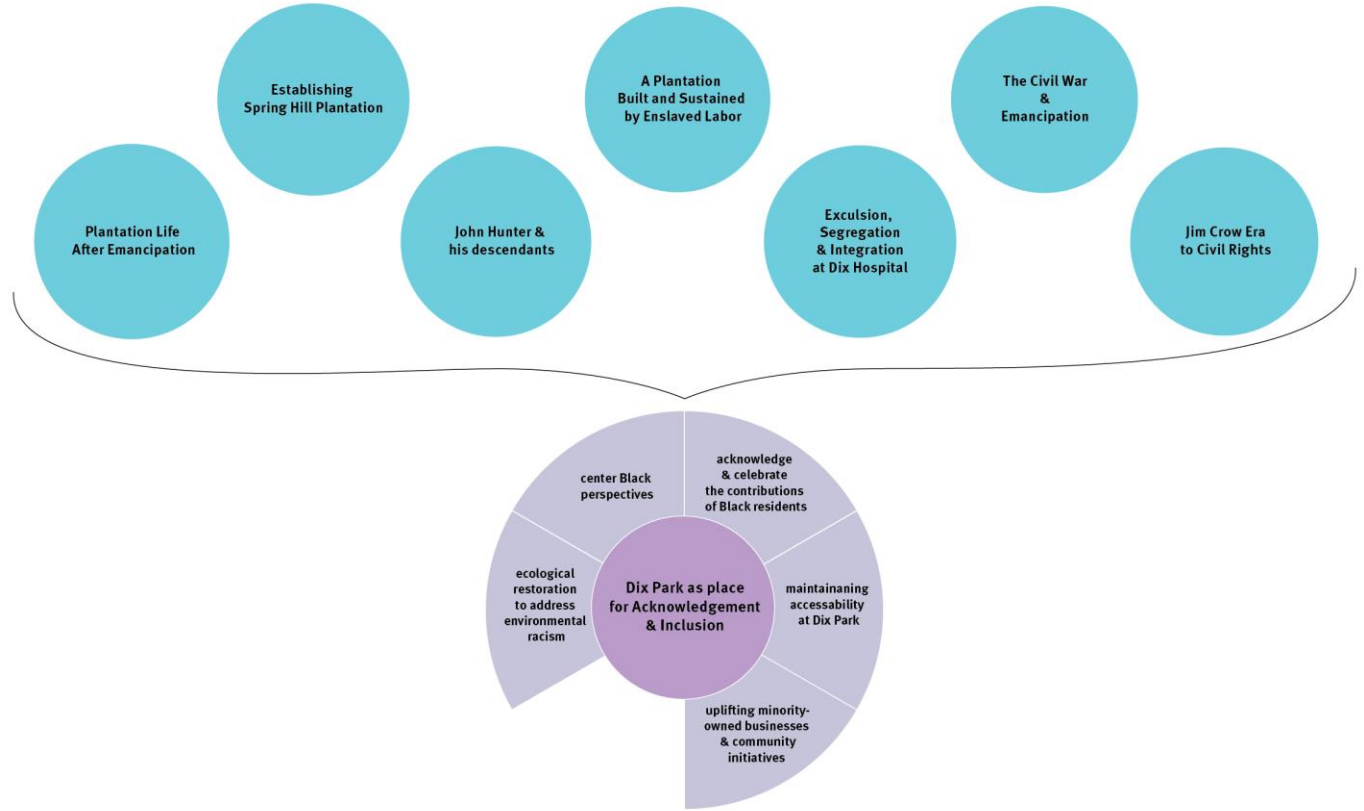


# Native American Community History



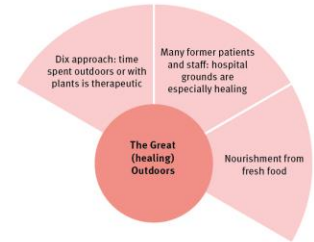
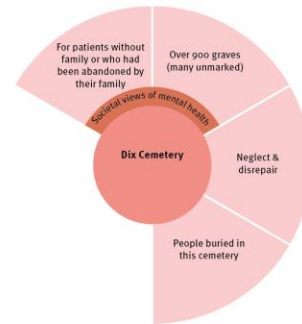
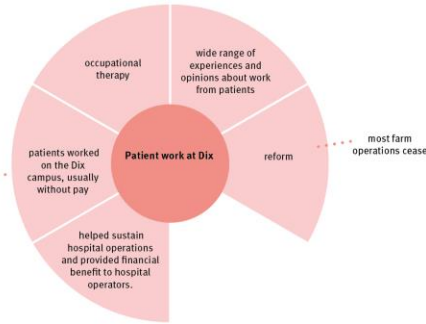
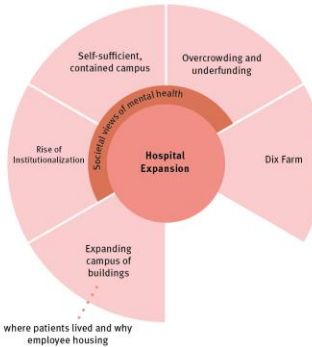
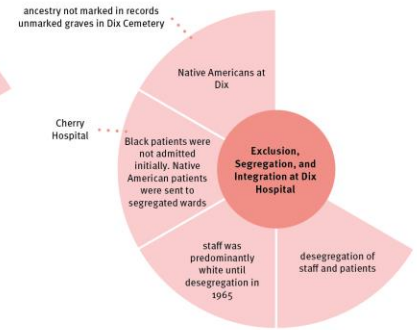
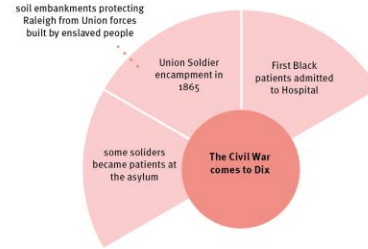
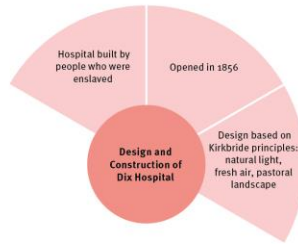
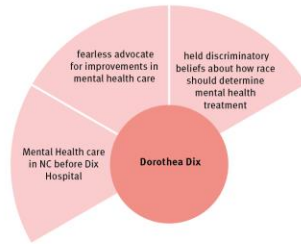
# African American Community History:

*Centering the experiences of the people enslaved at Spring Hill Plantation, their descendants, and their communities*



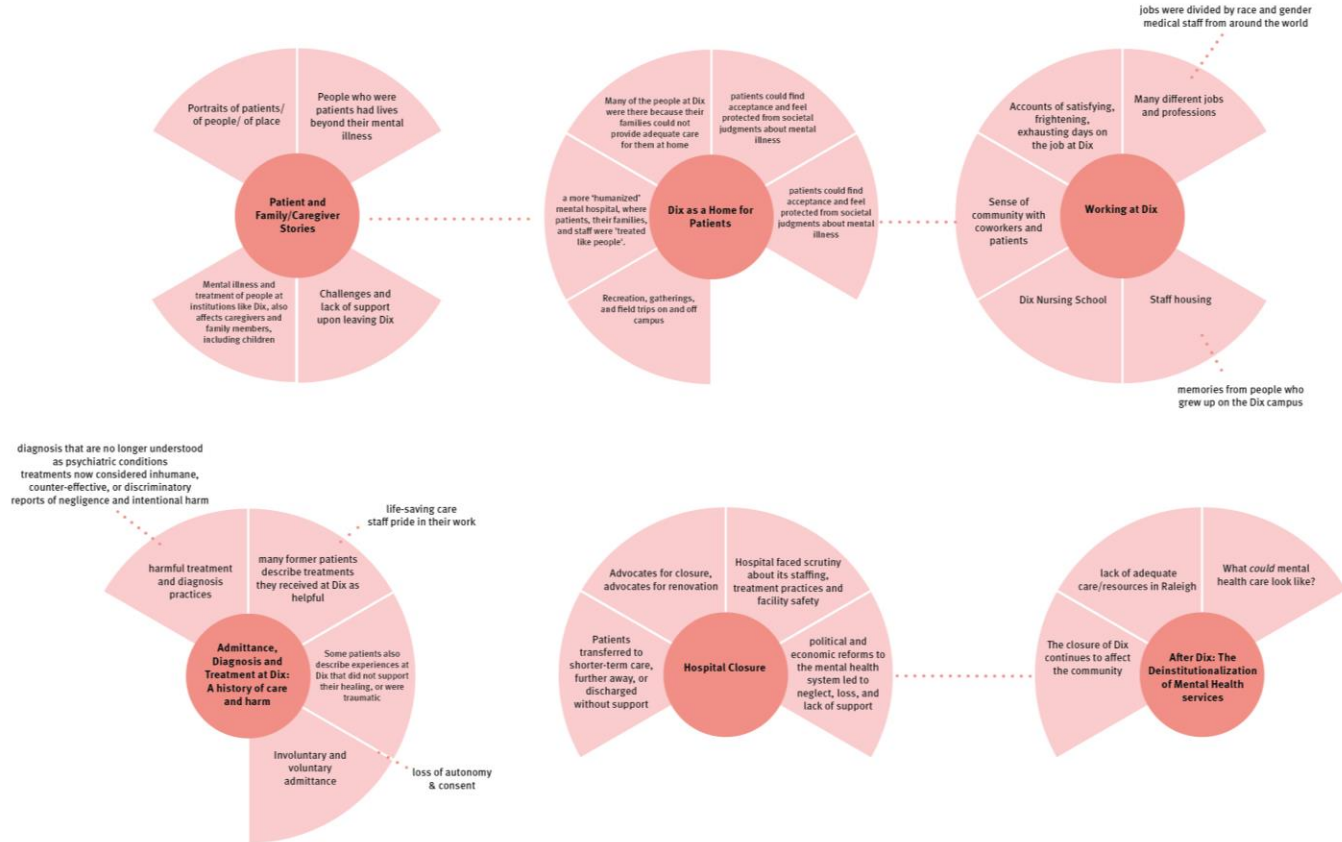


# Dix Hospital Community History

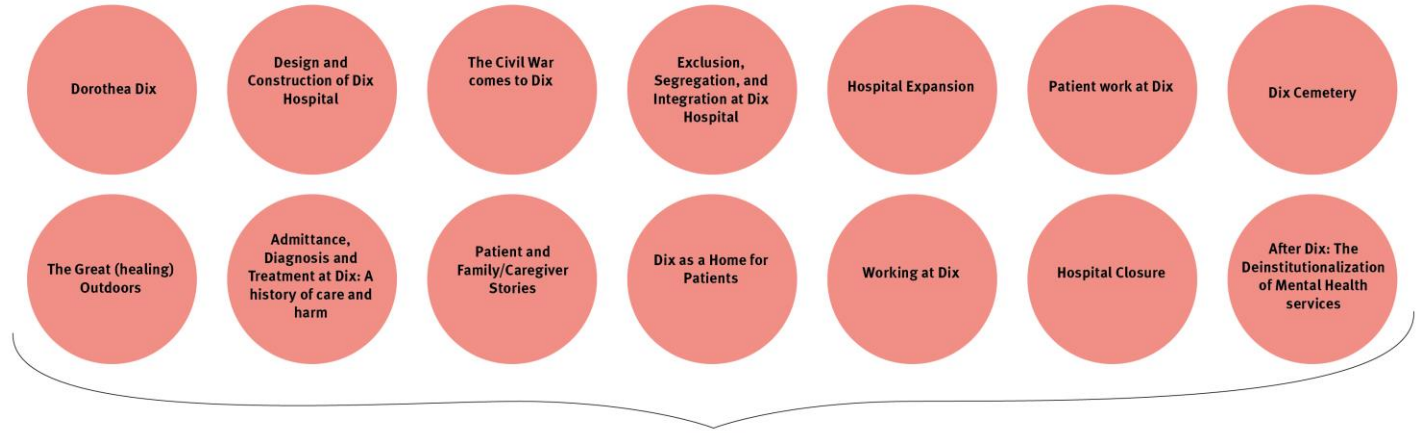




# Dix Hospital Community History



# Dix Hospital Community History





# Major themes: History to today

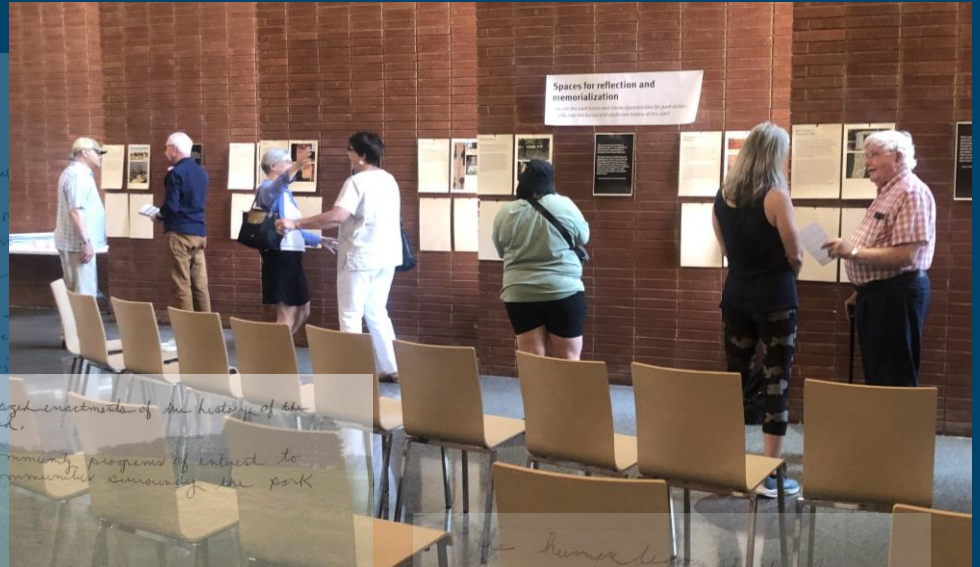
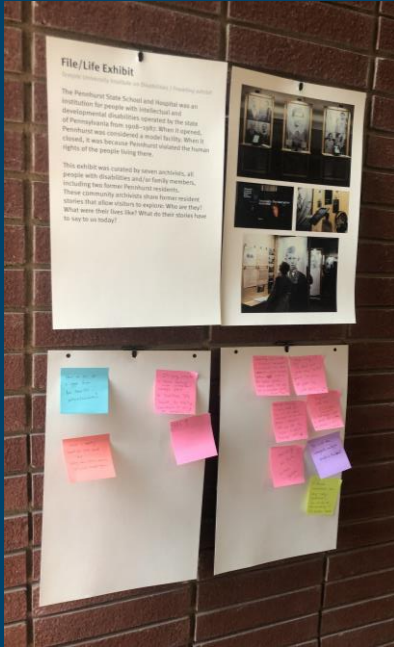
**Restoration  
& Repair**

**Visibility  
& Vitality**

**Acknowledgement  
& Inclusion**

**Awareness  
& Healing**

# Key engagement take-aways



*community, memorial  
and health  
weekly note  
ambulance  
to general  
US → explore  
on way to  
community  
of spirit  
to around  
City skills  
the plus  
the history  
who was  
a very, I see, Ted  
in collage, exhibit intent to be.*

*staged enactments of the history of the  
lead.  
community programs of interest to  
community surrounding the park*

*the human legacy of the  
and how understanding it  
influence the future.  
the reinterconnection of the local  
Memory to action*

- Community guides, scale of interaction
- Create stems of everyday paper
- Memory & Skills



# Key engagement take-aways

- Tell the **whole story** of this land's history, and connect it to today—beyond the park's boundaries.
- Interpretation should feature **personal stories**:
  - Show who patients were beyond their diagnosis*
  - Personal and oral histories contain rich information not captured elsewhere, and offer different perspectives of complex topics*
  - Remember the people who lived, worked, suffered, and thrived on this site*
- **Connect places in the park to historic narratives**: tours, signage/QR codes, maps, explanations of what is still here



# Challenges for interpretation at Dix

- Our **understanding of history is always evolving** with time and new discoveries.
- Because development of the park site is just beginning, the **interpretative experience will need to evolve** with it. Initially, this requires planning for a range of short-term and long-term projects.
- Most people will come to Dix for outdoor recreation and programs. We want to create **many ways for them to encounter the stories** of people who lived and worked on this site in the course of their visit.



Raleigh

# Key engagement take-aways

- Provide **many ways to experience the history**: art, performance, memorial or reflection areas, tours, exhibits, events, programs, etc
- Offer space and opportunities for **community building**
- Create and maintain **quiet, natural spaces**
- Create a **memorial or reflective space** integrated into the landscape
- Make projects **interactive and immersive**





# Goals for interpretation

- Offer an **array of interpretive experiences** that appeal to all ages, engage all the senses, and present multiple perspectives
- **Tell the full history of this site**, especially the stories of people who have been marginalized or forgotten here
- Cultivate **curiosity, empathy, and understanding**
- Challenge us to **think in new ways** about our communities