Constructing Black Women's Historical Knowledge

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Abstract

This essay, on constructing historical knowledge about African Canadian women, presents an overview of the current state of Black women's history. By exploring historiography, theory, and method, the author suggests new approaches and interpretations for the writing of this history.

Author Biography

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Afua Cooper is a foremost contributor to the new field of African Canadian women's history. She is co-author of we’re Rooted Here and They Can't Pull Us Up: Essays in African Canadian Women’s History (University of Toronto Press, 1994), a groundbreaking work in Black women's history. Currently, she is doing work on the history of Black women in teaching, and on women and slavery in Canada. Her doctoral work is a biographical study of Henry Bibb, a nineteenth century African American/Canadian abolitionist. Afua teaches history at the University of Toronto. She is also an acclaimed poet and has published four books of poetry.
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