Hidden Sources: Cultivating New Knowledge About African American Religions

Placing African American religious history within an Africana context requires us to pose new questions and embrace innovative methods to learn more about the spiritual lives of African-descended people in the past. “Hidden Sources” presents novel approaches to this past that focus on notions of pluralism and indigeneity fundamental to the germination of African American spiritual cultures. Through examples of domesticated plants, plantation technology, and sacred bowls, we can access “hidden sources” that reveal how people displaced to new ecologies established communities in early African America and nurtured religious cultures that sustained these communities over many generations.