



NPS Women Cartes de Visite Collection



Tina Satterwhite-Short. (NPS History Collection Photo).

Tina Satterwhite-Short

Fort Dupont Park

Park Ranger, 1972-2008

- Born in 1948 in Washington, D.C. and grew up in its Southeast and Capitol Hill areas.
- In 1957, attended day camp at Fort Dupont Park which inspired her to be a ranger but was told that the NPS "[didn't] have colored people and they sure don't have women."
- Working at the U.S. Postal Service in 1971 when she saw a woman in an NPS uniform and was inspired to apply, starting as a GS-3 receptionist in 1972.
- Through an NPS training program, earned a B.S. in Criminal Justice at American University in 1977.
- Completed 15-week ranger skills training at the Albright Training Center (with her two daughters in tow), becoming one of fewer than 10 African American women rangers in the NPS at that time.
- Was assigned to Antietam NB initially but due to racism at the park "it was not a place for African Americans to work or visit" and instead went to National Capital Parks before going to Fort Dupont Park as a supervisory park ranger.
- Career focused on teaching environmental education to school-aged children.
- Worked as a firefighter and on Hurricane Katrina disaster response.
- Her daughter, Kym Elder, became an NPS superintendent and her grandson, Alan Elder, also worked for the NPS.
- Retired in 2008.
- Attended graduate school after retirement.

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