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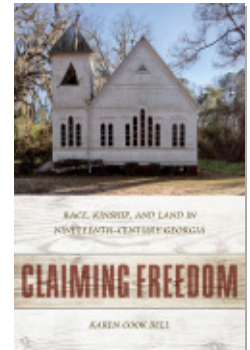
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About the Author

KAREN COOK BELL is an associate professor of history at Bowie State University. She received a Ph.D. in history from Howard University. Her scholarship has appeared in the *Journal of African American History*, *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, *Passport*, *The United States and West Africa: Interaction and Relations*, *Before Obama: A Reappraisal of Black Reconstruction Era Politicians*, *Converging Identities: Blackness in the Contemporary Diaspora*, and *Slavery and Freedom in Savannah*. Bell is a former American Association of University Women Dissertation Fellow.