The land of the Horton Grove Nature Preserve used to be part of one of the largest plantations in North Carolina, owned by the Bennehan and Cameron families. Today, this plantation is known as Stagville. Hundreds of enslaved people were forced to work here to produce grains, textiles, tobacco, timber, bricks, and more. Each of the Horton Grove trails is named for a local African American family whose ancestors endured slavery at Stagville. Their stories illuminate enslaved families’ resilience, and their persistent struggle for freedom.

Text courtesy of Historic Stagville State Historic Site.