What came before the battle against poor segregated schools in the Jim Crow South?

Improving Black educational opportunities was central to the 20th-century Civil Rights Movement. But we know less about a darker and earlier chapter in the history of African American education. Historians of slavery focus on generations of terrible physical and economic abuse before Emancipation. They have spent less time examining the huge toll taken by two centuries of forced Black illiteracy before the Civil War. Dr. Wood’s talk addresses this imbalance by exploring the extent and implications of that costly Blackout.