



2018 Virtual Genealogy Fair Schedule



#	TIME (ET)	SESSION	PRESENTER(S)
	10 a.m.	Welcoming Remarks	David S. Ferriero Archivist of the United States of America
1	10:05 a.m.	<i>Calling all Citizen Archivists! Getting the Most Out of the National Archives Catalog</i>	Suzanne Isaacs and Meredith Doviak Community Managers for the National Archives Catalog National Archives at College Park, MD
2	11 a.m.	<i>Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners</i>	Claire Kluskens Reference and Digital Projects Archivist National Archives in Washington, DC
3	12 p.m.	<i>All's Fair in Love and War: The Civil War Widows' Pension Files</i>	Alexandra Villaseran Processing Archives Technician National Archives in Washington, DC
4	1 p.m.	<i>How to Search for Photographs that Document Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camps and Activities</i>	Kaitlyn Crain Enriquez , Archives Specialist and Kelsey Noel , Processing Archivist National Archives at College Park, MD
5	2 p.m.	<i>Tennessee Valley Authority Records: To St. Louis and Beyond!</i>	Cara Moore Lebonick Archives Technician National Archives at St. Louis
6	3 p.m.	<i>America's Military Made the Call: Hello Nurses!</i>	Anna Csar Expert Archives Technician National Archives at St. Louis
	4 p.m.	Closing Remarks	Ann Cummings Executive for Research Services



2018 Virtual Genealogy Fair



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Skill Level: All

This presentation will highlight some of the most important federal records for identifying former slaves and slave owners, including:

- Census
- Civil War and later military service and pension records
- Confederate slave payrolls
- Bureau of Pensions Law Division case files
- Freedmen's Bureau records
- Freedman's Savings and Trust Company records
- Southern Claims Commission claims files
- Coastwise slave ship manifests
- Fugitive slave case files



Claire Kluskens

Claire Kluskens is a reference and digital projects archivist at the National Archives in Washington, DC and specializes in records of high genealogical value. She spearheaded the completion of more than 330 National Archives microfilm publications, and now works on digital and description projects for the National Archives Catalog. She lectures frequently and has published extensively in national, state, and local genealogical publications. Claire has been a National Archives and Records Administration staff member since 1992 and has done genealogical research since 1976.



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Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

October 24, 2018



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Principles of successful family history research

- “Reasonably exhaustive research”
- Research direct ancestors and their “FAN” club –
 - Family
 - Associates
 - Neighbors
- Research in all records –
 - Federal
 - State
 - County
 - Local



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Federal Population Census, 1790–1940

Census records are basic building blocks for everyone's research.

- Start with the 1940 Census and work your way backwards.
- Locate every ancestor and relative in every census in which they were alive (to the extent possible).
- Taken at 10 years intervals.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Federal Population Census, 1790–1940

- “Introduction to Genealogy at the National Archives”

Online video from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) 2015 Genealogy Fair:

<https://www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-fair/2015/schedule-handouts.html>



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Federal Population Census, 1790–1940

- **1790–1840** - Heads of households named; other free white persons listed in categories by age and gender; slaves listed in categories by age and gender.
- **1850–1860** - All free persons listed by name with their age, gender, marital status, state or country of birth, and amount of real property and personal property owned (if any).



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Federal Population Census, 1790–1940

- **1870–1940** - Every person listed by name with their age, gender, marital status, state or country of birth. State or country of birth of each person's parents given on the 1880 and 1900–1930 censuses. Occupation and other information.
- **1890** - Mostly destroyed as a result of a 1921 fire. Information for about 6,160 persons survives. Most researchers have to make the “20 year leap” from 1900 to 1880. Therefore it is very important to obtain as much information as possible from the 1900 and later censuses and other records to make that “leap” successfully. More information about the 1890 census

<https://www.archives.gov/research/census/1890/1890.html>



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Federal Population Census, 1790–1940

Things to keep in mind:

- Names may not be spelled the way you expect.
- Ages, birthplaces, relationships may be reported differently in different censuses, depending upon the knowledge of the person providing the information to the enumerator.
- African American families may be reported under different surnames in 1870 than in 1880.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Different Names 1880 / 1870

- 1880
- Hill Livingston, 45
- Mary, 30
- Melissa, 16
- George, 12
- Archie, 12
- Clara, 11
- Hilliard, 7
- Ella, 6
- Edgar, 3
- Hattie, 6 months

Prattville, Autauga County, Alabama,
ED 2, Pages 16-17

44	112	Livingston Hill	B. 40 25	1	1	Farmer		1	1	ala	S. G.	ala
45		Mary	B. 7 30	1	1	Keeping house		1	1	ala		
46		Melissa	B. 5 16	1	1	Keeping house		1	1	ala	ala	ala
47		George	B. 10 12	1	1	Farmer		1	1	ala	ala	ala
48		Archie	B. 7 12	1	1	Keeping house		1	1	ala	ala	ala
49		Clara	B. 3 11	1	1	Keeping house		1	1	ala	ala	ala
50		Hilliard	B. 7 7	1	1	Keeping house		1	1	ala	ala	ala

Note D.—In making entries in columns 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Page No. 17
 Supervisor's Dist. No. 4
 Enumeration Dist. No. 2

SCHEDULE I.—Inhabitants in Prattville Dist, in the County of Autauga, State of Alabama, enumerated by me on the 11 day of June, 1880.

T9, Roll 1

The. W. Smith, Enumerator.

Name	Personal Description	Color	Profession, Occupation, Trade or Service	Married	Single	Married	Single	Married	Single	Married	Single	Married	Single
Livingston Ella	B. 7 6	Daughter											
Edgar	B. 7 3	Son											
Hattie	B. 7 4	Daughter											



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Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Different Names 1880 and 1870

- Alexander, Mary, 30
- Alexander, Malissa, 6
- Alexander, George, 3
- Alexander, Clarence, 9 mos.
- Livingston, Hilliard, age 33

Beat No. 5, Autauga County, Alabama, pages 25-26

Page No. 26 } see Inquiries numbered 7, 10, and 12 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 20 are to be answered (if at all) merely by an affirmative mark, as follows:

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in Beat No. 5, in the County of Autauga, State of Alabama, enumerated by me on the 13th day of June, 1870.

Post Office: Prattville M593, Roll 1 William B. Adams, Asst. Marshal.

1	2	3	4			7	8		10	11		13	14	15		18	20	
			Age at last birth day, 27 or under	Sex—Male (M) or Female (F)	Color—White (W) or Black (B)		Value of Real Estate owned	Value of Personal Estate		Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S., or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Place of foreign birth			Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.			
30	330	Heater John G	49	M	W	House Carpenter	400	100	Georgia									
37		Heater Martha	37	F	W	Keeping House			Georgia									
38		Heater Elizabeth	16	F	W	Attending School			Alabama									
39		Martin James	22	M	W	Merchant			Georgia									
40	231/231	Alexander Mary	30	F	W	Domestic Servant			Alabama									

1	2	3	4			7	8		10	11		13	14	15		18	20	
			Age at last birth day, 27 or under	Sex—Male (M) or Female (F)	Color—White (W) or Black (B)		Value of Real Estate owned	Value of Personal Estate		Place of Birth, naming State or Territory of U. S., or the Country, if of foreign birth.	Place of foreign birth			Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.	Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.			
1		Mary Ann Martin	6	F	B	at Home			Alabama									
2		Mary Ann's care	3	M	B	at Home			Alabama									
3		Alexander Arch	3	M	B	at Home			Alabama									
4		Alexander Clarence	9	M	B	at Home			Alabama									
5		Livingston Hilliard	33	M	B	Merchant			Alabama									



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Federal Slave Census Schedules, 1850–1860

- Exist for Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, New Jersey (1850 only), North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah Territory, and Virginia.
- For each slave owner, the following information is given:
 - Number of slaves owned.
 - Number manumitted (freed) in the year preceding June 1.
 - Age, gender, and color of slave.
 - If slave is a fugitive, from what state.
 - If deaf and dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.
 - Number of slave houses on that owner's property.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Federal Slave Census Schedules, 1850–1860

	1	8	B						20
	1	4	B						26
Jeff Davis	1	90	F	B				28	27
Robert aged	1	104	B						28
	1	85	F						29
	1	72	B						30

Warren County, Mississippi, 1860

Slave names are reported only occasionally on the slave schedules, such as for very elderly slaves, such as Robert, said to be age 104, slave of Jeff Davis.



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Federal Slave Census Schedules, 1850-1860

Stafford County, Virginia, 1860

Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Page No. 2

SCHEDULE 2.—Slave Inhabitants in _____ in the County of Stafford State
of Virginia, enumerated by me, on the 12 day of June, 1860. H. B. Barnes Ass't Marshal.

1	2	DESCRIPTION.			6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
		Age.	Sex.	Color.															
1	Nathaniel Ford	1	35	F	M			1	A. A. Green	1	3	M	M						
2	A. S. Mason	1	43	F	M			1	J. L. Green	1	48	F	B						1
3		1	22	F	B			1		1	40	M	M						
4		1	15	M	M					1	37	F	B						
5		1	2	M	M				A. M. Green	1	15	F	M						
6		1	1	M	B				W. H. Green	1	12	M	M						
7	John Hailiff	1	15	M	M				W. Latham	1	70	F	B						
8	Lucy Constance	1	35	F	M				W. H. Guy	1	13	F	M						
9	Joseph Stratton	1	11	F	M				W. H. Martin	1	20	F	B						
10	John Wallace	1	10	M	B				Sarah Riger	1	55	F	B						1
11	Wm. Storker	1	9	M	M					1	39	F	B						
12	B. S. Barnes	1	9	M	B					1	10	M	B						
13	John L. Manome	1	55	F	M			1		1	8	M	B						
14		1	35	F	M			1		1	6	F	B						
15	James Brooke	1	55	F	B			1		1	14	M	B						
16	Robt. Lembrick	1	40	M	B					1	2	M	B						
17	W. Ann. Green	1	37	F	B			1	Nathaniel Ford	1	74	F	M						1
18		1	36	F	B			1		1	38	F	M						1
19		1	35	F	M			1		1	35	F	M						1



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Federal Slave Census Schedules, 1850–1860

1	Nathaniel Ford	1	35	F	M				1	A. A. Green	1	3	M	M	/					1	
2	A. S. Mason	1	43	F	M					1	John L. Green	1	48	F	B						1
3		1	22	F	B					1		1	40	M	M	/					
4		1	15	M	M							1	37	F	B						
5		1	2	M	M						A. M. Green	1	15	F	M						
6		1	1	M	B						Charles J. Green	1	12	M	M	/					
											Pol. Nathan	1	70	F	B						

Stafford County,
Virginia, 1860

This enumerator appears to have reported slave houses by the “head of the slave household.”



NATIONAL
ARCHIVES

Federal Slave Census Schedules, 1850-1860

Stafford County,
Virginia,
1860

Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Household #	Name	Sex	Age	Color	Occupation	Name	Sex	Age	Color	Occupation
17	W. Ann. Green	F	37	W		Nathanial Ford	M	74	W	
18		F	36	W			M	98	W	
19		F	92	W			M	35	W	
20		M	26	W			M	17	W	
21		F	21	W			M	14	W	
22		F	18	W			M	11	W	
23		M	13	W			M	10	W	
24		M	8	W			M	8	W	
25		F	6	W			M	4	W	
26		M	5	W			M	2	W	
27		F	3	W		Fannie McNeil	F	67	W	
28		M	2	W			M	55	W	
29		M	1	W			M	24	W	
30		F	1	W			M	7	W	
31		M	1	W			M	4	W	
32	Thos. Ramsey	M	21	W		Geo. W. Ford	M	33	W	
33		M		W			M	70	W	

This enumerator appears to have reported slave houses by the “head of the slave household.”



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

Thousands of African American men served the Union Army in the U.S. Colored Troops as well as in the U.S. Navy. The veteran and his widow or other dependents may have applied for a pension.

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National Archives Microfilm Publication T288, *General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934*



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

Index Card from
National Archives
Microfilm Publication
T288, *General Index to
Pension Files, 1861-1934*

(3-11-3)				
NAME OF SOLDIER: <i>Smith John A. (alias)</i>				
<i>Reynolds James A.</i>				
NAME OF DEPENDENT:	<i>Widow,</i>			
	<i>Minor,</i>			
SERVICE: <i>9 U.S. G. Inf.</i>				
DATE OF FILING.	CLASS.	APPLICATION NO.	CERTIFICATE NO.	STATE FROM WHICH FILED.
<i>1890 Aug 13</i>	<i>Invalid,</i>	<i>890.754</i>	<i>1001.778</i>	<i>Md.</i>
	<i>Widow,</i>			
	<i>Minor,</i>			
ATTORNEY: <i>J. E. P. Brooke,</i>				
REMARKS: <i>See file C 2561309</i>				
6-118				



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

Index Card from
National Archives
Microfilm Publication
T288, *General Index to
Pension Files, 1861-1934*

(3-11-3)

NAME OF SOLDIER:					<i>Smith, John G.</i>					
NAME OF DEPENDENT:					<i>Smith, Alexander</i>					
NAME OF DEPENDENT:					<i>Smith, Susan</i>					
Widow, Minor,										
SERVICE:					<i>H 45 U.S.G. Inf.</i>					
DATE OF FILING.					CLASS.	APPLICATION NO.		CERTIFICATE NO.		STATE FROM WHICH FILED.
<i>1889 Feb. 4</i>					<i>Invalid,</i>					
					<i>Widow,</i>	<i>388,504</i>		<i>494,795</i>		<i>Pa.</i>
					<i>Minor,</i>					
ATTORNEY:										
REMARKS:					<i>J.C.H.</i>					

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Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

Index Card from
National Archives
Microfilm Publication
T288, *General Index to
Pension Files, 1861-1934*

NAME OF EARLIER:	<i>Smith, John, Haines, Frederick</i>					
NAME AND CLASS OF INCIDENT:	<i>Wid. Baker, Anna, Vermont</i>					
NAVAL SERVICE:	RANK	<i>Seaman</i>		ENLISTED	<i>1862</i>	
		<i>Allegany, Mount Vernon,</i>		DISCHARGED	<i>1865</i>	
		<i>Trinnesco, Keenoke, Vermont,</i>				
		<i>Shawmut.</i>				
ADDITIONAL SERVICE:						
DATE OF FILING:	CLASS:	APPLICATION NO.	CLASS	CERTIFICATE NO.	CLASS	STATE
<i>1870 June 21</i>	<i>Invalid.</i>	<i>17,639</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>17,123</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>Ind.</i>
<i>1890 June 14</i>	<i>Widow.</i>	<i>11,3168</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>859083</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>Ind.</i>
<i>1918 June 12</i>						
REMARKS:	<i>Sicel Jan. 18, 1868, Keenoke, Md.</i>					



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

- Declaration for Pension = pension application, request for increase
- Affidavits by family, friends, neighbors that provide testimony
 - Identify the veteran or widow
 - Describe medical condition of the veteran before/after war
 - Provide evidence of marriage to wife
 - Provide evidence of dates of birth and parentage of minor children
- Medical examinations by a board of physicians on a periodic basis
- Correspondence about the pension claim
- Reports by Special Examiners sent to investigate the validity of the claim



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

Affidavits, special examiner's reports, and other records in the file

- May indicate when and where the former slave was born, married, and died
- May provide the name of his and/or his widow's former slave owner(s)
- Identify the geographic area where the veteran/widow lived during and after slavery, which helps focus subsequent research



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

Example: [Pension file of Mollie Smith, widow of Sergeant Samuel Smith, Company D, 119th U.S. Colored Troops Infantry Regiment \(WC-704166\)](#)

- Affidavit by Samuel Smith of Mount Vernon, Kentucky, dated April 9, 1909
 - Identifies his birthdate as February 14, 1833
 - Identifies his former slave owner as Elisha Smith, who died in 1866
- Affidavit by Samuel Smith on September 7, 1909
 - Identifies the slave owner's name as Elijah Smith



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

Example: [Pension file of Mollie Smith, widow of Sergeant Samuel Smith, Company D, 119th U.S. Colored Troops Infantry Regiment \(WC-704166\)](#)

- Affidavits made in 1910 by Mary Carter, age 78, and Mary M. Miller, age 74, identify the claimant, Mollie Smith, widow of Samuel Smith, as having belonged to their family as a slave.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Civil War and Later Military Pension Files

Pension file of Mollie Smith, widow of Sergeant Samuel Smith, Company D, 119th U.S. Colored Troops Infantry Regiment (WC-704166)

Affidavit by Mary Carter, 1910
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/27498675>

1094

State of Kentucky : 6
County of Rockcastle : SS 7
In the Pension Claim of Mollie Smith, Southern Division
W. O. No. 955, 257, Widow of Samuel Smith, D 119 U. S. C.
Kentucky. 8
Personally appeared before me, a Circuit Court Clerk
in and for the county and state aforesaid, duly authorized
to administer oaths, Mary Carter, age 78 years, a resident of
Vernon, County of Rockcastle, State of Kentucky. The affiant
states that she has known the claimant all her life; that she
knows when claimant was married to the soldier, which was about
the year 1865; that to the best of her recollection they were
married by Charley Kirtly, who was an ordained minister; that
they lived together as husband and wife from the date of their
marriage until the death of the soldier, Samuel Smith; that
the claimant is an aged, infirm negress; that she has known
all her life, as she belonged in affiant's family as a slave,
and these facts are personally known to affiant by reason
of having known the soldier, Samuel Smith, and claimant, all
their lives. They were married prior to 1865, as slaves, then
after the war, they were remarried. 9
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Personally appeared before me, a Circuit Court Clerk, with-
in and for the county and state aforesaid, duly authorized to
administer oaths, Mary Carter, age 78 years, a resident of Mt.
Vernon, County of Rockcastle, State of Kentucky. The affiant
states that she has known the claimant all her life; that she
knows when claimant was married to the soldier, which was about
the year 1865; that to the best of her recollection they were
married by Charley Kirtly, who was an ordained minister; that
they lived together as husband and wife from the date of their
marriage until the death of the soldier, Samuel Smith; that
the claimant is an aged, infirm negress; that she has known her
all her life, as she belonged in affiant's family as a slave,
and these facts are personally known to affiant by reason of
having known the soldier, Samuel Smith, and claimant, all their
lives. They were married prior to 1865, as slaves, then after
the war, they were remarried.

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
MAR 1910
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

She further declares that she has no interest in said
and is not concerned in its prosecution. Postoffice address
of affiant is Mt. Vernon, Kentucky.

Mary Carter

State of Kentucky :
County of Rockcastle :
Subscribed and sworn to before me by Mary Carter
the 15th day of March, 1910. I certify that I read said affi-
davit to said affiant, including the words erased and all
words added, and acquainted the affiant with its contents

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
MAR 1910
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

INDEXES

The free National Park Service “Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database” index was compiled from records in the National Archives:

<https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>

- Direct link to Soldiers search:
<https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-soldiers.htm>
- Direct link Sailors search:
<https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-sailors.htm>



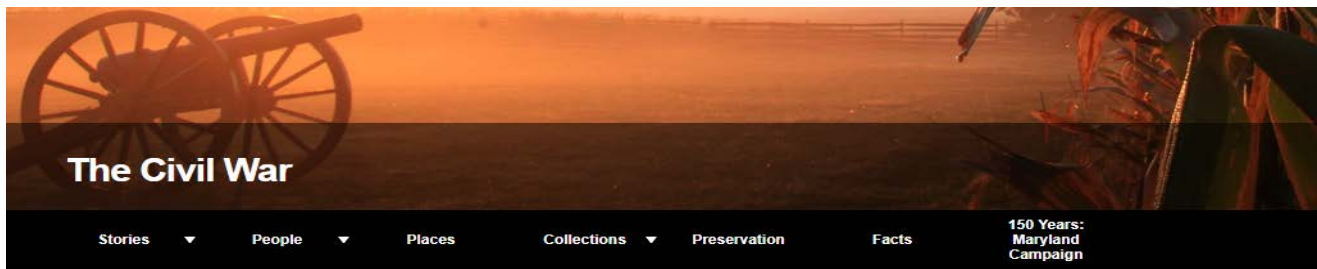
Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

INDEXES

The free National
Park Service

“Civil War
Soldiers and
Sailors Database”:

<https://www.nps.gov/civil-war/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>



NPS.gov / Park Home / People / Soldiers and Sailors Database

Soldiers and Sailors Database

The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS) is a database containing information about the men who served in the Union and Confederate armies during the Civil War. Other information on the site includes histories of Union and Confederate regiments, links to descriptions of significant battles, and selected lists of prisoner-of-war records and cemetery records, which will be amended over time. The CWSS is a cooperative effort between the National Park Service and several public and private partners whose goal is to increase Americans' understanding of this decisive era in American history by making information about it widely accessible.

[Learn more.](#)

BROWSE PEOPLE





Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

UNION ARMY COMPILED MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS (CMSRs)

- U.S. Colored Troops CMSRs have been microfilmed.
- CMSRs can be found online
 - Fold3.com – most complete online collection
 - National Archives Catalog (NAID 300398) – limited number
- CMSRs that have not been digitized may be ordered from the National Archives. For more information and to order, go to:
<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records>



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

UNION ARMY COMPILED MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS (CMSRs)

Compiled by the War Department from bulky original records.

May include information from:

- Company descriptive book
- Muster-in Roll
- Muster Rolls
- Muster-out Roll
- Hospital records



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

UNION ARMY COMPILED MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS (CMSRs)

Smith ¹⁵³⁶ Troop
Co F, 15 U.S. Col'd Inf.

Private *Private*

CARD NUMBERS.

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Book mark: _____

See also _____

S 15 U.S.C.T.
Troop Smith
Co F, 15 Reg't U. S. Col'd Inf.

Appears on _____
Company Descriptive Book
of the organization named above.

DESCRIPTION.
Age *18* years; height *5* feet *9* inches.
Complexion *black*
Eyes *black*; hair *black*
Where born *Georgia*
Occupation *farmer*

ENLISTMENT.
When *Jan 4*, 1864
Where *Shelbyville Tenn*
By whom *A. W. Spinnaker* Sgt.

Remarks: _____

Book mark: _____

L. E. Pike
Clerk Captain

S 15 U.S.C.T.
Troop Smith
Co F, 15 Reg't U. S. Col'd Infantry.

Appears on _____
Company Muster Roll
for *Jan 4 Feb 6*, 1864
Present or absent *Absent*
Stoppage, \$ _____ for _____
Due Gov't, \$ _____ for _____

Remarks: *Absent at*
Shelbyville Tenn Jan 12
Reg. 34, 1864.

Book mark: _____

Hastie
Clerk Captain

Troop Smith, Co. F, 15th U.S. Colored Troops Infantry Regiment (<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/42472398>)



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Post-Civil War Military Service

On July 28, 1866, Congress authorized the Army to raise six regiments of African American soldiers.

- They became known as the “[Buffalo Soldiers](#)”
- Served with distinction on the Western frontier of the United States.
- Check for a pension!



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Confederate Slave Payrolls, 1862–1865

- A few payrolls include white employees, free African Americans, or notations that a particular slave escaped or absconded.
- Information and digital images are online at <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/719477>
- Includes slaves from Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, Virginia, and perhaps other states.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Confederate Slave Payrolls, 1862–1865

Variety of colors of paper: off-white, blue, yellow, orange, green, brown

Slave Payroll 67

Nottoway County, Virginia, slave owners – work performed by slaves at Fort Clifton, VA, May and June 1862

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/24486387>

Obstruction of the Affirmation

We, the subscribers, acknowledge to have received of *Genl. G. B. Slaughter* the sums and appreciate our names respectively, being to fill for the services of our Slaves at *Fort Clifton* during the month of *May and June*, 1862, having signed duplicate receipts.

Nottoway Co. Va. 7/11/62

NAME AND RESIDENCE	TYPE EMPLOYED	DAYS OF WORK	RATE OF WAGES	AMOUNT FOR EACH SLAVE	DOLLAR RECEIPTS		SIGNATURE
					Index	Out.	
<i>Ben. Slaughter</i>	<i>25 days</i>	<i>10 per month</i>	<i>2 50</i>				
<i>Wm. P. Robinson</i>	<i>24 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 40</i>				
<i>Ureajah Jennings</i>	<i>22 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 20</i>				
<i>Robert Jennings</i>	<i>22 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 20</i>				
<i>L. B. Fowles</i>	<i>22 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 20</i>				
<i>Wm. A. Ingram</i>	<i>28 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 80</i>				
<i>William H. Stott</i>	<i>24 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 40</i>				
<i>Mrs. Mary Fitzgourd</i>	<i>28 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 80</i>				
<i>Frank White</i>	<i>22 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 20</i>				
<i>Geo. W. Allen</i>	<i>24 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 40</i>				
<i>T. B. Vaughan</i>	<i>22 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 20</i>				
<i>Alfred Barren</i>	<i>22 "</i>	<i>10 "</i>	<i>2 20</i>				

Chas. H. Simms
Capt. Corps
In Charge



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Confederate Slave Payrolls, 1862–1865

Variety of colors of paper: off-white, blue, yellow, orange, green, brown

Slave Payroll 3831

Slaves employed at Macon (Georgia) Laboratories, August 4, 1864 – names slaves, their owners, and date “runaway” between August and October 1864

No.	Name	Owner	Remarks
99	Shaw	Mitchell	Discharged Aug 30 th
100	Jones	"	Runaway Oct 10 th
101	Child	"	Discharged Oct 20 th
102	Childs	"	Discharged Oct 20 th

I Certify, that the above ranked list of (102) men named and the Negro is correct being taken & received from the Macon Laboratories on 4th of last August and the remarks of each name show their Runaway, Discharge &c.

N. B. Clark
 S. C. Quartermaster
 Negro Labor

No.	Name	Owner	Remarks
1	James	J. Lebow	Discharged Oct 20 th
2	Harman	"	Discharged Aug 22 nd
3	Thos	J. D. Lebow	Runaway Aug 17 th
4	Thomas	"	Runaway Aug 17 th
5	John	W. B. Lebow	Runaway Aug 17 th
6	Wenden	"	Runaway Oct 10 th
7	Kerry	J. B. Lebow	Runaway Oct 11 th
8	John	W. B. Lebow	Discharged Aug 30 th
9	Pratt	"	Discharged Sept 6 th
10	Thomas	"	Runaway Aug 17 th
11	John	"	Discharged Sept 6 th
12	John	J. B. Lebow	Runaway Oct 10 th
13	John	J. B. Lebow	Discharged Oct 20 th
14	John	J. B. Lebow	Discharged Aug 22 nd
15	John	W. B. Lebow	Runaway Sept 7 th
16	John	"	Runaway Sept 7 th
17	Kerry	J. B. Lebow	Runaway Sept 8 th
18	John	J. B. Lebow	Runaway Aug 17 th
19	John	"	Runaway Aug 17 th
20	John	"	Runaway Aug 18 th
21	John	J. B. Lebow	Runaway Oct 3 rd
22	John	"	Runaway Oct 4 th
23	John	"	Runaway Oct 4 th
24	John	"	Runaway Oct 11 th
25	John	"	Runaway Sept 7 th
26	John	"	Runaway Oct 3 rd
27	John	"	Runaway Sept 8 th
28	John	"	Runaway Oct 3 rd
29	John	"	Runaway Aug 30 th
30	John	"	Runaway Oct 10 th

Slave Payroll 3831

MACON, GA. SEPT 10 1864

SLAVE ROLLS



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Bureau of Pensions Law Division Case Files, 1862–1933

The Law Division prosecuted pension fraud, promoted compliance with legal requirements for pension payments, and answered inquiries about legal questions.

- Some files include letters or testimony that identify former slaves owners and changes in name
- Some files provide information about “Ex-Slave Pension Clubs”



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Bureau of Pensions Law Division Case Files, 1862–1933

Letters or testimony that identify former slaves owners and changes in name.

Case File of Samuel Christian
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/44181294>

Kansas City, Mo.,
May 14, 1886.

John C. Black:
Sir:

Referring to your letter of May 10-1886, as claim agent, I filed application July 12-1879, then an additional one April 5-1881 under the same name Samuel M^e Leau.

I was a slave of Jackson M^e Leau of Henderson Co., Kentucky at the time I went into the army.

I enrolled in Company H of 118 regiment of U. S. Colored Troop, and all applications I filed in that name. I was also a slave of John Christian before I was a slave of Jackson M^e Leau so when I went into the army

188

Enlisted under the name of my last Master Jackson M^e Leau.

Respectfully,
Samuel C. Christian
D. 1123 Harris St., No. Kansas City, Mo.
Hon J. C. Black
Washington, D. C.



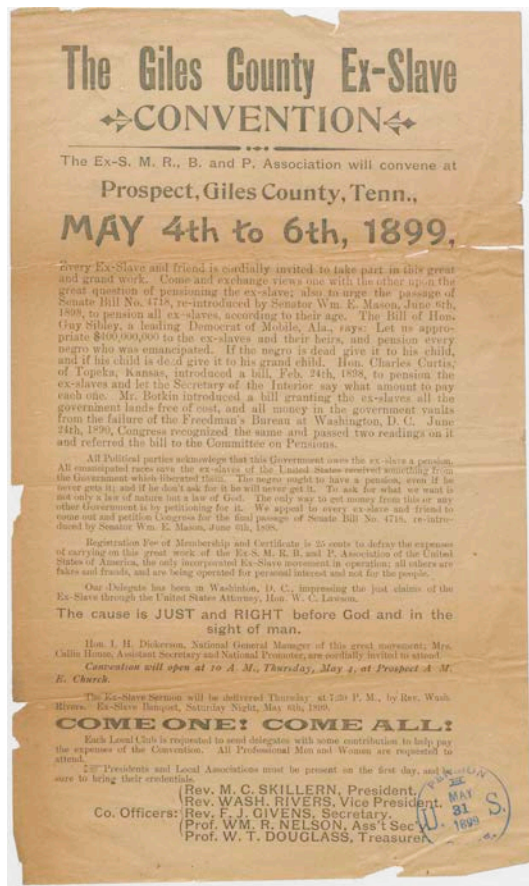
Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Bureau of Pensions Law Division Case Files, 1862–1933

Some files provide information about
“Ex-Slave Pension Clubs”

Case File of D. O. Fleming

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/83891243>





Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedmen's Bureau Records

The Freedmen's Bureau—whose formal name was the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands—was established in 1865 by Congress to help millions of former black slaves and poor whites in the South in the aftermath of the Civil War. The Freedmen's Bureau provided food, housing and medical aid, established schools and offered legal assistance. It also attempted to settle former slaves on land confiscated or abandoned during the war.

- **Marriage Records**
- **Records of the Assistant Commissioners**
- **Records of the Field Offices**



NATIONAL
ARCHIVES

Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedmen's Bureau Records

National Archives Microfilm
Publication M1875, *Marriage Records of
the Office of the Commissioner,
Washington Headquarters of the Bureau
of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned
Lands, 1861—1869*, online at
FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com.

Includes records from Alabama,
Arkansas, Delaware, District of
Columbia, Florida, Kentucky,
Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, South
Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands.

By the authority of Circular No. 5, dated ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE KY.
AND TENN., Nashville, Feb. 26, 1866, I certify that I have this day united Miles
Fite and Nancy Jane Fite, colored, in the bonds of matrimony,
they having been living together as man and wife for about Two years past,
and have had, as the result thereof, the following children, viz:

Laura John Fite Aged about 1 years.
Nancy Jane formerly belonged to Dr Perry White
and was the daughter of B. B. Mansum

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand in duplicate at office in Lebanon,
Wilson County, Tennessee, April 19, 1866.

S. B. F. C. BARR, Sup't
Wilson County.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedmen's Bureau Records

Records of the Assistant Commissioners for each state contain a variety of correspondence and records about various subjects.

Records are available for Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. Online at [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org)

- Correspondence
- Indentures (contracts for apprenticeship or support)
- Indentures (contracts for other purposes)
- Employment contracts
- Records about land and property
- Transportation
- Persons and articles hired
- Oaths of office
- Court cases
- Criminal activities
- Rations (food, clothing)



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Indenture of Apprenticeship for Neill and Ellen, orphans, formerly property of the mother-in-law of James McCallum of Robeson Co., North Carolina, April 14, 1865

Indenture of Apprenticeship
State of North Carolina Robeson County

This Indenture,
mades the fourteenth day of April A.D. 1865 between James Sinclair
Agent of Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen & Abandoned Lands and therefore
legal guardian of Colored Orphan children of the one part, and James
McCallum Planter of the above County and State of the other part,
Witnesseth that the said James Sinclair agent doth put, place and lend
unto the said James McCallum the Orphans named Neill & Ellen
aged
who were formerly the property of the Mother in-law of said James
McCallum, but were raised by him in his own family, to live after
the manner of Apprentices and servants unto said Apprentices shall
attain the age of twenty one years during all which time the said
Apprentices this said James McCallum doth covenant and
promise and agree that he will teach and instruct the said Apprentices
or cause them to be taught and instructed to read & write, and that
he will constantly find and provide for said Apprentices during the
term aforesaid, sufficient diet, washing, lodging and Apparel fitting
for an Apprentice and also all other things necessary both in sickness
and health.
In witness whereof the parties to these present have set their
hands and seals, the day and year above written
James Sinclair (Seal)
Agent of Bureau
James McCallum (Seal)
Master



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ARCHIVES

Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedmen's Bureau Records

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Outrages by Whites against Blacks, and Blacks against Whites, August 1867, North Carolina

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands.

SEMI-MONTHLY REPORT of Outrages by Whites against Blacks in the State of North Carolina, for the fifteen days ending August 25th, 1867.

No.	DATE.	PLACE.	BY WHOM.	AGAINST WHOM.	NATURE OF OUTRAGE.	ACTION TAKEN.	REMARKS.
1	Aug 21	Cary, N.C.	Sam. Smith	John W. Smith	Assault & battery	Arrest & Commitment	
2	" 19	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	
3	" 18	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	
4	" 25	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	
5	" 25	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	
6	" 25	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	
7	" 25	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	
8	" 27	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "	

Station: Raleigh, N.C.
Date: August 25/67

Ray H. Hillbrandt
Assistant Commissioner

Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands.

SEMI-MONTHLY REPORT of Outrages by Blacks against Whites in the State of North Carolina, for the fifteen days ending August 31st, 1867.

No.	DATE.	PLACE.	BY WHOM.	AGAINST WHOM.	NATURE OF OUTRAGE.	ACTION TAKEN.	REMARKS.
1	Aug 20	Wilmington, N.C.	John W. Smith	John W. Smith	Assault & battery	Arrest & Commitment	
2	" 21	Wilmington	John W. Smith	John W. Smith	" "	" "	
3	" 20	Wilmington	John W. Smith	John W. Smith	" "	" "	
4	" 21	Wilmington	John W. Smith	John W. Smith	" "	" "	
5	" 21	Wilmington	John W. Smith	John W. Smith	" "	" "	

Station: Raleigh, N.C.
Date: Aug 31/67

Ray H. Hillbrandt
Assistant Commissioner

Robert H. White
Assistant Commissioner

Ol. and Dir. Maj. Gen. U. S. A.
Assistant Commissioner



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedmen's Bureau Records

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Records are available for Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. Online at [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org)

Indenture (contract) in which S. W. Ashley pays 25 bushels of corn to Charles Ashley (freedman), who agreed to take himself and family "immediately" away from house of S. W. Ashley, Lumberton, North Carolina, August 25, 1865.

Office of Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, Abandoned Lands
Case For Robeson County.

Lumberton N.C. Aug 25 1865.

This indenture made and entered into between S W Ashley on
the one part, and Chas Ashley, Freedman on the other part,
all of said Co. and State, witnesses that for and in consid-
eration of the sum of twenty five bushels of corn to be paid
by the said S W Ashley to the said Chas Ashley, Freedman,
which is in full of all demands to date, and the said
Chas Ashley, Freedman as to take his family away from the
house of said S W Ashley immediately.

Witness our hands.

S W Ashley
Chas Ashley

Witnessed and approved
James Sinclair Capt Bureau.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedmen's Bureau Records

Records of the Field Offices for each state contain a variety of correspondence and records about various subjects.

Records are available online for Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

REGISTER OF THE SICK AND WOUNDED												AT <i>Lincoln "Genl Hospital" Savannah</i>	
No.	NAMES	Rank	Regiment or Corps	Company	Complaint	Admitted	Returned to Duty	Deserted	Discharged from Service	Sent to General Hospital	On Furlough	DIED	
84	<i>Dianna Peoples</i>	<i>Prisoner</i>	<i>49</i>		<i>Feb. Remitt</i>	<i>Sept 20th</i>	<i>Sept 25</i>						
85	<i>Geo. Williams</i>				<i>Rheumat</i>	" "	<i>Sept 26</i>						
86	<i>Genl. Sherman</i>				<i>Act. Intermitt</i>	" "	<i>Sept 25</i>						
87	<i>Reily Jones</i>				<i>Plurisy</i>	" "							
88	<i>Wm. Johnson</i>				<i>Rheumat</i>	" "							
89	<i>Amie Brown</i>	<i>Refugee</i>			<i>Jaundice</i>	" 21	<i>Oct 17th</i>						
90	<i>Alexander Roberts</i>	<i>Prisoner</i>			<i>Stomach</i>	" "	<i>Oct 18th</i>						
91	<i>Louis Gilfillan</i>				<i>Lymphoid Swell</i>	" "						<i>Sept 27</i>	
92	<i>William Little</i>	<i>Refugee</i>	<i>aged 17</i>		<i>Rheumat</i>	" 23	<i>Oct 18th</i>					<i>Oct 18th</i>	
93	<i>Edward Johnson</i>	<i>Prisoner</i>	" 25		<i>Remitt. Act</i>	" 23	<i>Oct 18th</i>						
94	<i>Wm. Smith</i>	"			<i>Act. Intermitt</i>	" "	<i>Oct 18th</i>						
95	<i>Robert Brigg</i>	"			<i>Intermitt. Act</i>	" "	<i>Oct 19th</i>						
96					<i>Rheumat</i>	" "	" "						

Register of Sick and Wounded at Lincoln Hospital, Savannah, Georgia, Sept. 1865–Apr. 1867. M1903, Roll 86



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedmen's Bureau Records

Records of the Field Offices for each state contain a variety of correspondence and records about various subjects.

Records are available online for Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Contract
G. M. D. Patterson
and others.
July 28th 1865

This agreement made & entered into this the 28th July 1865 between G. M. D. Patterson on the one part & the following field hands formerly the servants of the said G. M. D. Patterson viz Luiza & family viz Billy Henry Davis & Anderson Alice & family viz Allen Calastel Watson Felix & family viz Long Mary Candler Singson & three out on the other part all the contracting parties being of Pollard & Co. He witnesses that the said former servants of the said G. M. D. Patterson the remainder of this year that is to say until the 25th day of Dec 1865 upon the following terms viz they are to work faithfully idle no time submit to all reasonable ~~to~~ command & to conduct

them selves on the plantation as heretofore. If they fail to comply with the above stipulation the said G. M. D. Patterson retains the right and the said contracting parties concede the right to the said G. M. D. Patterson to send off and to dismiss from time to time any one or all of the above named hands guilty of violating the provision of this contract without the payment of any hire whatever the share or part of the crop or produce violating the contract to revert to the said G. M. D. Patterson for their use and benefit if the said contracting parties perform their part faithfully the said G. M. D. Patterson agrees on the part of feed clothe & to treat them as heretofore and also to give them one fifth

part of the corn gathered after deducting all which is required to fatten the pork also one sixth of all the pork fattened also one sixth of the molasses the same to be divided among them according to their officing as working hands by some disinterested person or witness or the rule & seal this the 28th day of July 1865

Guize
Billy
Henry
Davis
Anderson

Luiza
Allen
Cal.
Neil
Watson
Dulciana

Phelix
Hannat
Edwiny
Mary

Esther
Margar
Pric
Notent

Labor Contract between G. M. D. Patterson of Alabama, and his former "servants" Luiza and her children (named); Nicy and her children (named); Felix (Phelix) and his family (named) and M1900, Roll 33.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedman's Savings and Trust Company Records (Freedman's Bank), 1865–1874

To protect the interests of depositors and their heirs in the event of a depositor's death, the bank branches collected a substantial amount of detailed information about each depositor and his or her family.

- National Archives Microfilm Publication M816, *Registers of Signatures of Depositors in Branches of the Freedman's Saving and Trust Company, 1865–1874*
- Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company, 1882–1889



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedman's Savings and Trust Company Records (Freedman's Bank), 1865–1874

National Archives Microfilm Publication M816, *Registers of Signatures of Depositors in Branches of the Freedman's Saving and Trust Company, 1865–1874*

- 55 volumes of signatures and personal identification data about 67,000 depositors in 29 bank branches.
- May include account number, name of depositor, date of entry, place of birth, place brought up, residence, age, complexion, name of employer or occupation, wife or husband, children, father, mother, brothers, sisters, remarks, and signature.
- May contain the name of the former owner and the name of the plantation.
- Copies of death certificates have been pinned to some entries.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

**Freedman's Savings and Trust
Company Records (Freedman's Bank),
1865-1874**

National Archives Microfilm Publication
M816, *Registers of Signatures of
Depositors in Branches of the Freedman's
Saving and Trust Company, 1865-1874*

Roll 26, Lynchburg, Virginia, 1871

No. 157 RECORD by <i>Robt. L. Cannon</i> Date, <i>July 8th 1871</i> Where born, <i>Alford, Va.</i> Where brought up, <i>Alford, Va.</i> Age, <i>26</i> Completion, <i>2 months 24</i> Occupation, <i>Farmer</i> Works for, <i>himself</i> Wife or Husband, <i>Mable</i> Children, <i>Bluing, Lucy, Virginia, Christ Grant, Martha</i> Father, <i>Robt. Cannon</i> Mother, <i>Ann</i> Brothers and Sisters, <i>Abraham (Living), Thomas Samuel, Martha, Mary, all dead</i> REMARKS Signature, <i>Robt. L. Cannon</i>	No. 157 RECORD by <i>Levin H. Henry</i> Date, <i>July 8th 1871</i> Where born, <i>Camron, Va.</i> Where brought up, <i>Camron, Va.</i> Age, <i>14</i> Completion, <i>2 months</i> Occupation, <i>Blacksmith</i> Works for, <i>Blacksmith W. G. R. R.</i> Wife or Husband, Children, Father, <i>Don't know what they are</i> Mother, <i>Living</i> Brothers and Sisters, <i>James (Dead) Scott</i> REMARKS, <i>70</i> Signature, <i>Levin H. Henry</i>
No. 158 RECORD by <i>John W. Walker</i> Date, <i>July 8th 1871</i> Where born, <i>Alford, Va.</i> Where brought up, <i>Camron, Va.</i> Residence, <i>Brookfield Hill near Lynchburg</i> Age, <i>20</i> Completion, <i>2 months</i> Occupation, <i>Blacksmith</i> Works for, <i>Blacksmith W. G. R. R.</i> Wife or Husband, <i>Ann (Dead) Walker</i> Children, <i>none by 6th mo</i> Father, <i>dead</i> Mother, Brothers and Sisters, <i>Wm. Clark, A. H. Hain Martha, George, John, Thomas, Peter</i> REMARKS, <i>In absence of Mr. Walker he is charged to A. H. Hain against the 1st</i> Signature, <i>John W. Walker</i>	No. 152 RECORD by <i>Quetta Hill</i> Date, <i>July 8th 1871</i> Where born, <i>Camron, Va.</i> Where brought up, <i>Camron, Va.</i> Residence, <i>Main st. lot 11, near 1st St.</i> Age, <i>17</i> Completion, <i>2 months</i> Occupation, <i>Black</i> Works for, Wife or Husband, Children, <i>Sam, Arch, & George</i> Father, <i>dead</i> Mother, Brothers and Sisters, <i>Wm. Hill, James, Ann, Susan</i> REMARKS Signature, <i>Quetta Hill</i>



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedman's Savings and Trust Company
Records (Freedman's Bank), 1865–1874

National Archives Microfilm
Publication M816, *Registers of
Signatures of Depositors in Branches of
the Freedman's Saving and Trust
Company, 1865–1874*

Roll 26, Lynchburg, Virginia, 1871





Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedman's Savings and Trust Company Records (Freedman's Bank), 1865-1874

National Archives Microfilm Publication M816, Registers of Signatures of Depositors in Branches of the Freedman's Saving and Trust Company, 1865-1874

Roll 26, Lynchburg, Virginia, 1871

No. 151 RECORD for <i>John W. Walker</i>	No. 152 RECORD for <i>Rosetta Mills</i>
Date, <i>July 8th 1871</i>	Date, <i>July 8th 1871</i>
Where born, <i>Appomattox Co. Va</i>	Where born, <i>Cameron Co. Va.</i>
Where brought up, <i>Cameron Co.</i>	Where brought up, <i>"</i>
Residence, <i>Franklin Hill St near Church Church</i>	Residence, <i>Main St bet 11th & 12th St</i>
Age, <i>40</i> Complexion, <i>"</i>	Age, <i>47</i> Complexion, <i>"</i>
Occupation, <i>Stone Cutter</i>	Occupation, <i>Cook</i>
Works for, <i>Chesapeake & Ohio R.R.</i>	Works for, <i>"</i>
Wife or Husband, <i>Ananda Walker</i>	Wife or Husband, <i>"</i>
Children, <i>none</i>	Children, <i>Sarah; Archie, & Paul; 82nd 100</i>
Father, <i>dead</i>	Father, <i>dead</i>
Mother, <i>"</i>	Mother, <i>"</i>
Brothers and Sisters, <i>Nitty Clarke, Ann Walker, Maria Carrol, Abby Francis Walker.</i>	Brothers and Sisters, <i>J. Edie Norrell, Lisa Haque.</i>
REMARKS: <i>In absence of Mr Walker, his wife Ananda is to draw against this acc.</i>	REMARKS: <i>"</i>
Signature, <i>John W Walker</i>	Signature, <i>Rosetta Mills</i>



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedman's Savings and Trust Company Records (Freedman's Bank), 1865–1874

Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company,
1882–1889

- ledger books that contain information on depositors for each bank
- running number for each entry
- number of the depositor's account
- name of the depositor
- balance due (currency, number of the dividend, silver)
- payments of dividends (number of the dividend), and remarks
- dates of the dividends and entries are also shown

Online at <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/566993>









Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedman's Savings and Trust Company Records (Freedman's Bank), Dividend Payment Records, 1882–1889

Online at

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/566993>

1 – 13 of 13 results in 0.36 seconds.

Refinements: parentNid:566993 Level of Description: File Unit					
All	Available Online	Web Pages	Documents	Images	Video
	Dividend Payment Record: Alexandria, Augusta <i>From RG: 101</i> <i>Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company</i> National Archives Identifier: 74888441 Container Identifier: 1 HMS Entry Number(s): PC 45 (46-53) 73 Creator: Department of the Treasury. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. 2/25/1863-				
	Dividend Payment Record: Atlanta <i>From RG: 101</i> <i>Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company</i> National Archives Identifier: 74888524 Container Identifier: 2 HMS Entry Number(s): PC 45 (46-53) 73 Creator: Department of the Treasury. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. 2/25/1863-				
	Dividend Payment Record: Jacksonville, Lexington, Lynchburg <i>From RG: 101</i> <i>Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company</i> National Archives Identifier: 74888560 Container Identifier: 3 HMS Entry Number(s): PC 45 (46-53) 73 Creator: Department of the Treasury. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. 2/25/1863-				
	Dividend Payment Record: Charleston <i>From RG: 101</i> <i>Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company</i> National Archives Identifier: 74888630 Container Identifier: 4 HMS Entry Number(s): PC 45 (46-53) 73 Creator: Department of the Treasury. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. 2/25/1863-				
	Dividend Payment Record: [Beaufort, Baltimore] <i>From RG: 101</i> <i>Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company</i> National Archives Identifier: 74888746 Container Identifier: 5 HMS Entry Number(s): PC 45 (46-53) 73 Creator: Department of the Treasury. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. 2/25/1863-				
	Dividend Payment Record: Macon <i>From RG: 101</i> <i>Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company</i> National Archives Identifier: 74888849 Container Identifier: 6 HMS Entry Number(s): PC 45 (46-53) 73 Creator: Department of the Treasury. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. 2/25/1863-				



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Freedman's Savings and Trust Company Records (Freedman's Bank), Dividend Payment Records, 1882-1889

Macon, Georgia, Online at <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/566993>

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Record Hierarchy

Record Group 101:
Records of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 1863 - 2006

Series:
Dividend Payment Record of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company, 1882 - 1889

File Unit:
Dividend Payment Record: Macon

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Dividend Payment Record: Macon

Running Number.	No. of Depositors' Accounts.	NAMES OF DEPOSITORS.	BALANCES DUE.	
			Currency.	Silver.
4	1181	Henderson Linnam	50	577 77
6	1182	Nathan Litch	50	
7	1183	Thomas Brooks	50	
7	1184	George Smith	50	
8	1185	Alvan Warren	50	
9	1186	Joseph Edwards	50	
390	1187	Julius Brown	50	
1	1191	Anna Conroy	50	
4	1192	Susan Singer	50	
3	1197	Benjamin Johnson	50	
4	1199	Angeline Smith	50	
5	1207	Thomas Brown	50	





Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Southern Claims Commission Claims Files

The Southern Claims Commission was established by the Act of March 3, 1871, to provide compensation for citizens of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia who had suffered property damage or loss by Federal Troops during the Civil War. Claimants were required to prove their losses and that they had remained loyal to the Union during the war.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Southern Claims Commission Claims Files

Typical claims files include

- The claimant's petition
- Inventories of supplies and property for which compensation was desired
- Testimony of the claimant and others (both favorable and adverse)
- Copy of the Commission's report
- Certificate of settlement from the Third Auditor of the Treasury (approved claims)



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Southern Claims Commission Claims Files

Former slaves

- Sometimes testified on behalf of their former masters
- Sometimes submitted claims



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Southern Claims Commission Claims Files

Emily Frazier of Limestone County, Alabama, Claim No. 43846, a former slave of William Richardson, who claimed loss of a mule and some hogs.

Entire file is 47 images – lots of detail about her life

Shown here are the first 2 pages of her testimony

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/57551354>

Deposition of Emily Frazier ^{Call}

My name is Emily Frazier
My age is about forty six years
Residence one mile and a half
west of Athens Limestone County
Alabama. I have resided in Limestone
County all my life.
Occupation, Book-keeping, Washing
Farming - part
I am the claimant in this case.

To the 69th C. Interrogatory she says:
I was a slave at the beginning of
the war, I belonged to Lawyer John
Richardson I became free when the
war was over.
I owned the hogs and one of the
mules before I became free. I bought
the stock of hogs from Mr. Alex.
Rodgers when the war began. He
talked about it. I just bought one
pair from him, and raised the pigs
from her several times.
I bought the mule from Mr. Almond
my friend who lived down on the
Florence road about six miles from
Athens. The first mule I bought
my horse from James David just
before the war began. He lived in
Athens. My health was poor



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Coastwise Slave Ship Manifests

- The Act of March 2, 1807 (2 Statutes at Large 426) outlawed the importation of African slaves effective on January 1, 1808.
- Shipment of slaves between U.S. ports (coastwise trade) was still permitted.
- To prove the slaves onboard a vessel were not illegally imported, the captain or master filed a manifest (list) at the port of departure and at the port of arrival.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Coastwise Slave Ship Manifests

Some are available online – see handout for details

- Annapolis, Maryland, 1822: Two manifests
- Beaufort, South Carolina, 1826–1830
- Charleston, South Carolina, 1820–1858
- Mobile, Alabama, 1820–1860
- New Orleans, Louisiana, 1807–1860
- New York City, New York, 1822–1852
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1800–1860
- Savannah, Georgia, Coastwise Slave Manifests, 1801–1860



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Coastwise Slave Ship Manifests

Ship *Marathon*, New Orleans, Louisiana, Inward Manifests

Departed from Savannah, Georgia, December 15, 1826, arrived New Orleans, January 4, 1827

Ethan Allen, shipper, who resides at Franklin, Louisiana

Slave Manifest.—Sold by W. T. Williams.

MANIFEST of Slaves, Passengers on board the *American Ship Marathon*

Shaw Master, burthen *382 1/2* Tons, bound from *Savannah* for *New Orleans*

NAMES.	SEX.	AGE.	HEIGHT.		CLASS.	OWNERS OR SHIPPERS.	RESIDENCE.
			FEET.	INCHES.			
<i>Jac</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>32 years</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>9 or 10</i>	<i>dark</i>	<i>Ethan Allen</i>	<i>Franklin, Louisiana</i>
<i>William</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>16 "</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>8 or 10</i>	<i>dark</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>
<i>Lincoln</i>	<i>do.</i>	<i>18 "</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>8 or 10</i>	<i>dark</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>
<i>Louisa</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>Black</i>	<i>do do</i>	<i>do do</i>

Savannah 13 Dec - 1826

Examined & found correct
New Orleans Jan 4 1827
D. J. Farrell
City and

Josiah Menard
By



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Coastwise Slave Ship Manifests

Ship *Marathon*, New Orleans, Louisiana, Inward Manifests.

Departed from Savannah, Georgia, December 15, 1826, arrived New Orleans, January 4, 1827.

Ethan Allen, shipper, who resides at Franklin, Louisiana

C.A. Shaw Master of the *Ship*
called the *Marathon* of *Washington*
and *Ethan Allen* Shipper of the within specified
Slaves, do solemnly swear, to the best of our knowledge and belief, that the Slaves
herein described, were not imported or brought into the United States, from and
after the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eight, and that under
the laws of this State, they are held to service or labor.
Sworn to this *fifteenth* day of *December* 18*26*.
Before me *Elihu W. Adams*
Ethan Allen
A.M. Garrison Collector.

DISTRICT AND PORT OF SAVANNAH
C.A. Shaw Master of the *Ship* *Marathon*
having sworn, as the law directs, to the within Manifest, consisting of *Three*
Male *Slaves*, and one *Female*
Slave
and delivered duplicates thereof, permission is hereby granted to the said
to proceed to the port of *New Orleans*, in the State of *Louisiana*
Given under our hands, at Savannah, the *15th* day
of *December* 18*26*.
A.M. Garrison Collector.
Thomas May Naval Officer.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Records of the Board of Commissioners for the Emancipation of Slaves in the District of Columbia, 1862–1863

The District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act (12 Statutes at Large 376), adopted April 16, 1862, ended slavery in Washington, DC, by paying slave owners for releasing their slaves.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Records of the Board of Commissioners for the Emancipation of Slaves in the District of Columbia, 1862–1863

Petition #609: James S. Morsell, for freeing Precilla Quad

PETITION.

To the Commissioners under the act of Congress approved the 16th of April, 1862, entitled "An act for the release of certain persons held to service or labor in the District of Columbia."

Your Petitioner, *James S. Morsell* of the City of Geo Town by this *his* petition in writing, represents and states, that *he* is a person loyal to the United States, who, at the time of the passage of the said act of Congress, held a claim to service or labor against *Precilla Quad*

person of African descent of the name of *Precilla Quad*

for and during the life of said *Precilla*

and that by said act of Congress said *Precilla*

is discharged and freed of and from all claim of your petitioner to such service or labor; that at the time of said discharge said *Precilla*

was of the age of *from twenty three to five years*

and of the personal description following: *five feet high, black skin, good features, & well proportioned.*

That your petitioner acquired *his* claim to the aforesaid service or labor of said *Precilla Quad* in manner following: *she was born in my house, of a young girl, her mother, whom I inherited, of my father's estate that his*

That your petitioner's claim to the service or labor of said *Precilla Quad* was, at the time of said discharge therefrom, of the value of *Five Hundred Dollars* in money. *that to me she is invaluable; having been brought up in my house as a domestic servant, & is capable of discharging any & all duties, which she has always done faithfully. that she is mentally, morally, & physically sound & free from any defects that would impair her value.*

Your petitioner hereby declares that *he* bears true and faithful allegiance to the Government of the United States, and that *he* has not borne arms against the United States in the present rebellion, nor in any way given aid or comfort thereto:

And your petitioner further states and alleges, that *he* has not brought said *Precilla Quad* into the District of Columbia since the passage of said act of Congress; and that, at the time of the passage thereof, said *Precilla* was held to service or labor therein under and by virtue of your petitioner's claim to such service or labor.

Your petitioner further states and alleges, that *the* said claim to the service or labor of said *Precilla* does not originate in or by virtue of any transfer heretofore made by any person who has in any manner aided or sustained the present rebellion against the Government of the United States.

And your petitioner prays the said Commissioners to investigate and determine the validity of *his* said claim to the service or labor of said *Precilla* herein above set forth; and if the same be found to be valid, that they appraise and apportion the value of said claim in money, and report the same to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, in conformity to the provisions of said act of Congress.

(Signed by)

James S. Morsell



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Fugitive Slave Case Records – Petitions, Files, etc.

- Federal courts were sometimes involved in the legal process by which slave owners retrieved escaped enslaved persons, which was governed by the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793 (1 Statutes at Large 302), as amended by the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 (9 Statutes at Large 462).
- U.S. District Court and U.S. Circuit Court records – held in NARA’s Regional Archives – include fugitive slave case files and other records.



Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

Fugitive Slave Case Records

Petition of John Guyther of Baltimore, Maryland, seeks return of Henry Watts, age 33

U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, October 11, 1851

showed the fourth day of September A.D. 1851
 26 S. District
 I Thomas Spier Clerk of the District Court of the United States in and for the Maryland District do hereby certify that the Honorable U.S. Court above named in submission to the foregoing certificate in and to the tenor of signing the same Judge of the District Court of the United States in and for the Maryland District do hereby certify that and qualify, and it is all his duty as such judge of said court to receive and to give as well as to issue of process as directed
 In testimony whereof I have subscribed my name and affix the seal of the said District Court this fourth day of September in the year first above 1851
 Thomas Spier Clerk
 District Court

Filed 15

The United States of America
 District of Maryland
 to wit
 John Guyther of the United States in and for the County of Baltimore in and to the City of Baltimore in the first County in September in the year first above 1851
 Prayed the Honorable
 U.S. District Court of the United States to wit
 2. That the said Henry Watts was a slave of the said Thomas Spier Clerk of the United States in and for the County of Baltimore in the first County in September in the year first above 1851
 And also that the following passages do not
 In the matter of the Petition of John Guyther
 Charles W. Watts in the year first above 1851
 the case of John Guyther in the District Court in and for the County of Baltimore in the first County in September in the year first above 1851
 U.S. District Court of the United States in and for the County of Baltimore in the first County in September in the year first above 1851
 The Petition of John Guyther in the District Court of the United States in and for the County of Baltimore in the first County in September in the year first above 1851
 That it is the name of a negro man, a free-born man, named Henry Watts and about thirty three years of age, who that the said slave, before named, was now in the hands of your Petitioner, by such means, then appearing in the District Court of the United States in and for the County of Baltimore in the first County in September in the year first above 1851, and he has now been about and away from his service
 Therefore, and to the end that your Petitioner may obtain his said slave once again in his service, he prays your Honor to require in to the

under my first certificate on his Petition, and to receive and to give as well as to issue of process as directed
 In testimony whereof I have subscribed my name and affix the seal of the said District Court this fourth day of September in the year first above 1851
 Thomas Spier Clerk
 District Court

The United States of America
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 John Guyther of the United States in and for the County of Baltimore in the first County in September in the year first above 1851
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Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

District of Columbia Records

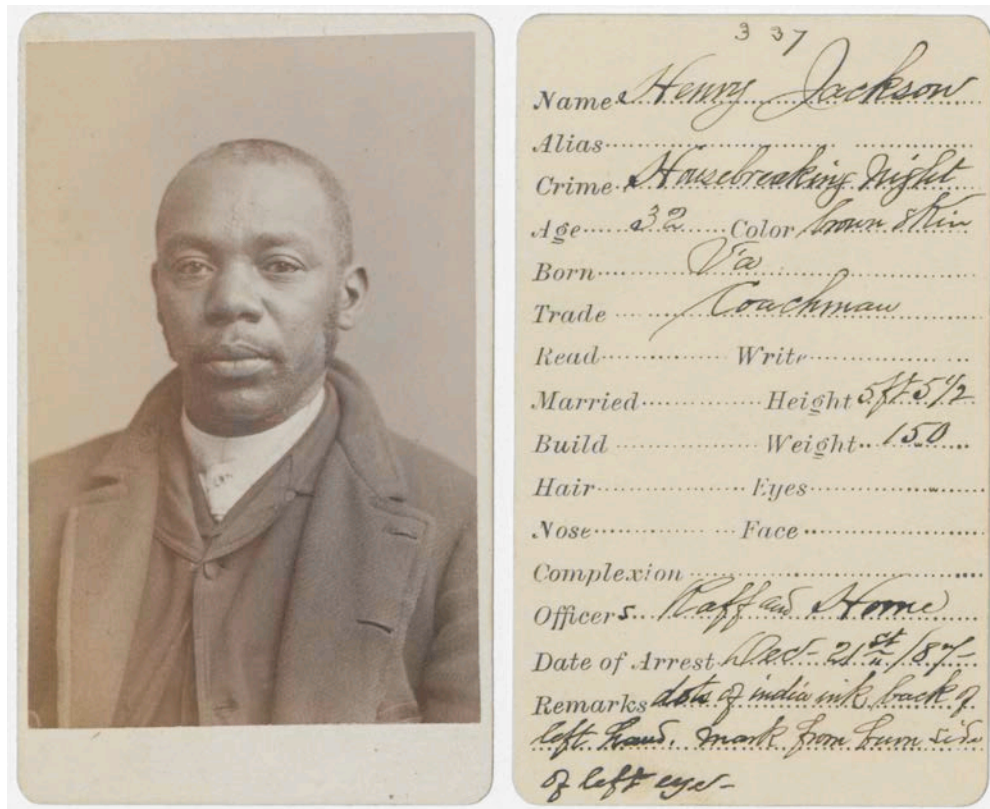
Henry Jackson

Possible ex-slave, born in Virginia,
circa 1855, arrested 1887

Washington, DC, Metropolitan
Police Department Identification
Books (NAID 1460515)

Henry Jackson

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/75448546>





Federal Records that Help Identify Former Slaves and Slave Owners

District of Columbia Records

Armsted Ward

Possible ex-slave, born at Leesburgh [sic], Virginia, circa 1862, arrested 1889

Washington, DC, Metropolitan Police Department Identification Books (NAID 1460515)

Armsted Ward

<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/75449386>



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Name... *Armsted Ward*

Alias.....

Crime... *Housebreaking Night*

Age... *27*... Color... *Light Upper Duclats*

Height... *5ft 10*... Weight... *160*

Build... *Slim*... Complexion... *—*

Hair... *—*... Eyes... *—*

Nose... *—*... Face... *—*

Born... *Leesburgh-Vir*

Occupation... *Box-Carrier*

Officer... *Geo A Pearson*

Date of Arrest... *Dec 14 1889*

Remarks... *Scar on left eye - Scar under right eye -*



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