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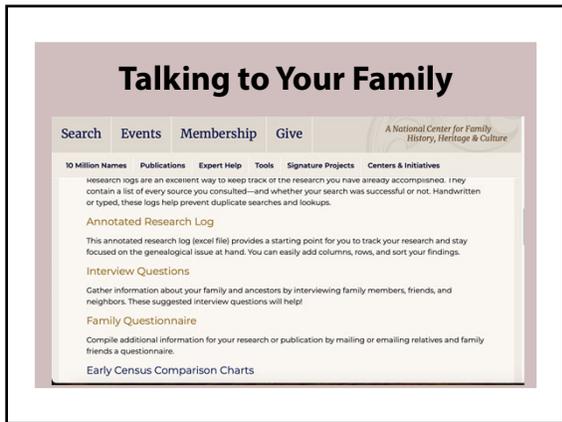
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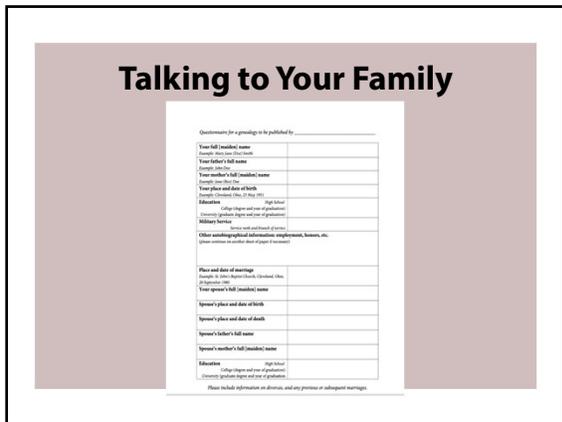
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Tip
Ask leading questions—
questions that require
more than a yes or no
answer.

7

Talking to Your Family



- Interview them in a space and during a time that is comfortable for them.
- It may help to include other family members/friends of the person you are interviewing to create a comfortable environment that encourages story telling.

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Talking to Your Family

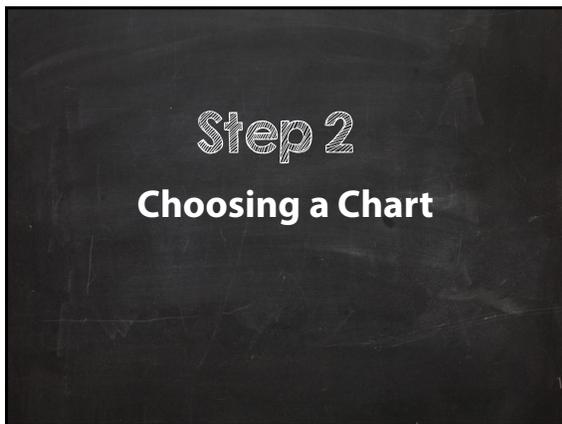


- A recording device can be a helpful way to record information in an unobtrusive way.
- You don't need high-end technology. Most smart phones offer pre-installed voice recording apps. They can also be downloaded from an app store.

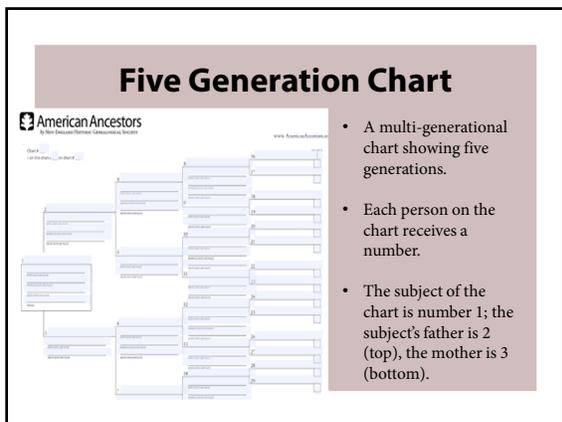
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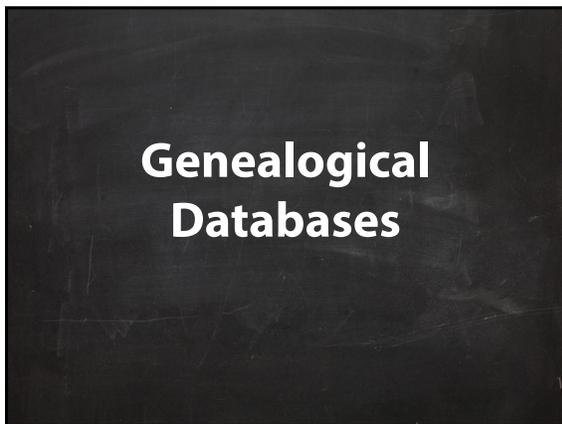
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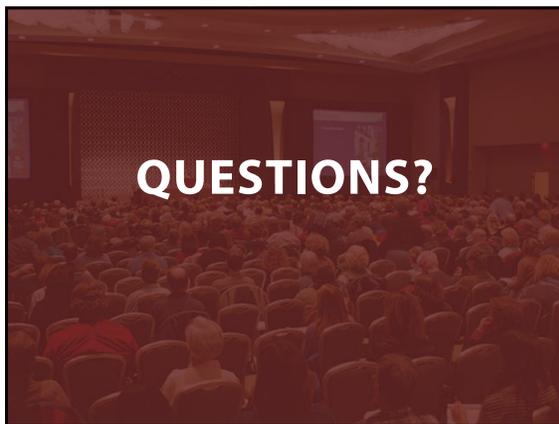


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Additional Holdings

- **Local** – County Clerk
 - Civil, probate for certain years
- **State** – Texas Dept. of Health, General Land Office
 - Vital Records
- **Federal** – Bureau of Land Management
 - Federal land records
- Libraries/Archives
- Society/Organization
- Local Resources
- Cemeteries
- Churches
- Funeral Homes
- Newspapers
- Biographies, etc.

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Key Records

- Census Records
- Vital Records
 - Birth
 - Death
 - Marriage
 - Divorce

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Census Records

- 1870 – first census that lists formerly enslaved by name.
 - This census does not show family relationships.
- 1880 – Shows family relationships.
- 1890 – Burned—fragments exist only for Alabama, District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, and Texas.

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Census Records

- 1870 – first census that lists formerly enslaved by name.
 - This census does not show family relationships.
- 1880 – Shows family relationships.
- 1850/1860 - Slave schedules are important to look at if your ancestor was enslaved. Note there is normal censuses for the 1850s and 1860s, and there are separate slave schedules.

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Mining the Census for Information

<p>Race/ethnicity Number of free colored: 1820, 1830, 1840 Each person's color/ race: 1850 forward</p> <p>Parents Parents place of birth: 1880 forward</p> <p>Marriage Marriage month 1870 Marriage status: 1880 on Number of years married: 1900-1910 Age at first marriage: 1930</p> <p>Children Mother of how many children and number still living: 1890 - 1910</p>	<p>Real estate and personal property Value of real estate owned: 1850 - 1870 Value of personal estate: 1860, 1870 Rent or own their own home: 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940, Value of home: 1940 if they are on the farm schedule: 1900 on</p> <p>Education Highest grade attended 1940 Can read or write 1850- 1890, 1910 - 1930</p> <p>Military Veteran status 1890, 1910, 1930 Pensioner for Revolutionary War or military service: 1840</p>
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34

1900 United States Federal Census for William Evans

Indian Territory - Chickasaw Nation - Township 06 - District 0148

House No.	Family No.	Name	Relation to Head	Sex	Age	Birth Month	Birth Year	Years Married	Children	Birthplace	Father's Birthplace	Mother's Birthplace
1172	1	William Evans	Head	M	38	11	1862	12	4	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		Lucy Evans	Wife	F	36	11	1864	12	4	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		John Evans	Son	M	18	11	1881	19	0	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		William Evans	Son	M	16	11	1884	16	0	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		Thomas Evans	Son	M	14	11	1886	14	0	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		James Evans	Son	M	12	11	1888	12	0	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		Anna Evans	Daughter	F	10	11	1890	10	0	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		John Evans	Son	M	8	11	1892	8	0	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		William Evans	Son	M	6	11	1894	6	0	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri
		John Evans	Son	M	4	11	1896	4	0	Missouri	Missouri	Missouri

1900 Federal Census

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The Search Process

- Find someone born before the 1950s.
- Search for them in the 1950 census.
- Move backwards in time from your ancestor, to their parents, to their grandparents and so on.

36

Other Records That Connect Families

- Military Records such as WWI and WWII draft registration cards.
- Social security indexes and applications.

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U.S., World War II Draft Cards Young Men, 1940-1947
Oklahoma > Eskridge-Evans > Eskridge, George-Evans, Carr

World War II Draft Card

41

Free People of Color

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Free People of Color

- Who were free people of color?
 - Some came as indentured servants.
 - Others became free after serving in the early wars such as the Revolutionary war.
 - Others reached freedom through manumissions and emancipations.
- Free people of color are often recorded in standard records of the time such as tax lists, land deeds, city directories etc.

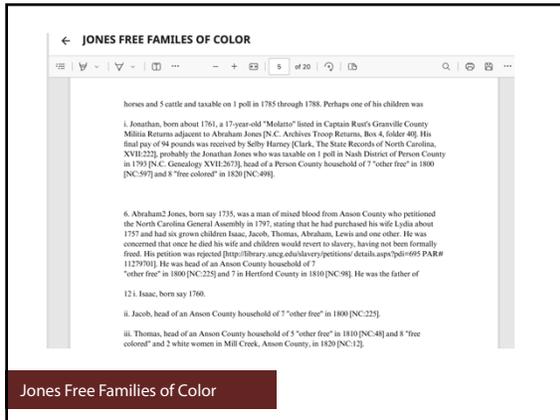
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The screenshot shows the website 'Digital Library on American Slavery' with a search bar containing 'James, Abraham'. Below the search bar are three preview cards: 'Slave Deeds', 'NC Slave Notices', and 'Race & Slavery Patterns'. The URL 'https://dlas.uncg.edu/' is visible at the bottom of the slide.

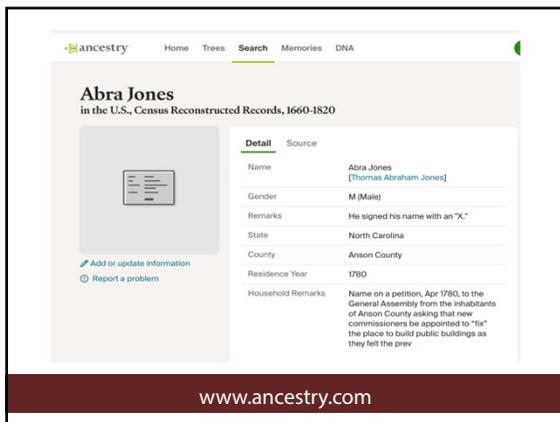
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"Abraham Jones, a free "mixt Blooded man," avows that "about forty years past he purchased a Certain Woman of Collier by the name of Lydia of one John Westerfield & paid honestly for her & hath Since had Six Children by said Woman." Jones expresses "very great uneasyness" concerning the possibility that "when your Petitioner dyed his Wife & Children would be Slave." He therefore prays that "your Honourable Body Will take my Case into your Consideration & give your Petitioner Such Relief as in your Wisdom shall seam meet." Twenty-nine subscribers attest that Jones "hath always behaved himself as a man of Choler ought to do & further supports the carrecter of an honest Industrious man & think his case to be [heard] and ought to be Redrest by passing a law of Liberation."

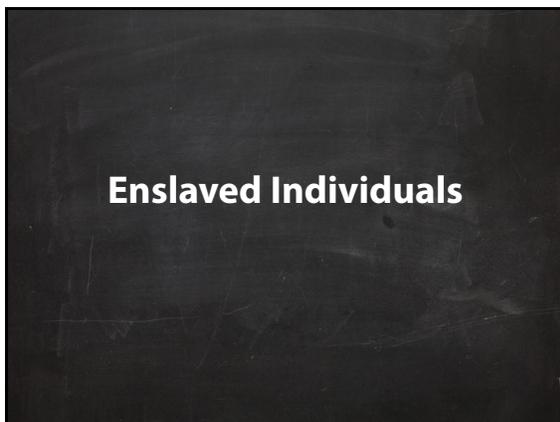
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Locating Enslaved Individuals

- Locate your ancestor in the closest document to 1865.
- Try to find the 1867 Voter Registration.
- Look at their age, surname, and how long they have been in the state and county.
- Find the 1860 Slave Schedule for that county; find an enslaver with the same surname; do a search using the year your enslaved ancestor was born.
- If you find a potential match for gender and age, look for family(enslaver) probates, inventories, bills of sale that name your ancestor.

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Locating Enslaved Individuals

- You will need to follow your ancestor through the White family that enslaved them using documents where they name their enslaved.
- This could be probates/wills, inventories, manumission, petitions etc., or anything document that state used to record enslaved individuals.
- If you do not find a likely candidate with the same surname, you should look at all the enslavers who have an enslaved individual that fits the age and gender of the person you are looking for.

50

Locating Enslaved Individuals

This process can be different for every family. If you already know the name of the person who enslaved your ancestor, you could go directly to locating the family papers, probates/wills etc., to see if you can find their names and the names of other ancestors.

51

Research the Location

- Identify when your state/county was established.
- Learn when birth, marriage, and death records first began to be recorded.

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Create a Timeline

56

African American Resources

African American Resources for Texas

United States → African American Genealogy → Texas → African American Resources

[African American Online Genealogy Records](#)

Contents [hide]

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Online Resources
- 3 Research Strategy
- 4 History
- 5 Resources
- 5.1 Biographies
- 5.2 Cemeteries
- 5.3 Census Records
- 5.4 Church Records
- 5.5 Emancipation Records
- 5.6 Funeral Homes
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- 5.8 Land and Property
- 5.9 Plantation
- 5.10 Law and Legislation
- 5.11 Obituaries
- 5.12 Oral Histories
- 5.13 Other Records

Introduction [edit | edit source]

A list of resources for African American research of ancestors who lived in Texas.

Online Resources [edit | edit source]

- **1865-1874 Freedman's Bank Records, 1865-1874** at FamilySearch
- **African American Digital Bookshelf** - a growing list of digital books on FamilySearch and other websites
- **Discover Freedmen** - this site searches all of the Freedmen's Bureau record collections on FamilySearch altogether (and redirects there)
- **The Handbook of Texas** Search for information on slaves, slave owners, plantations, local history, churches, historical events, etc.
- **Texas Slavery Project**
- **The Texas Freedom Colony Project** - an educational and social justice initiative to research and locate the colonies of freedmen in Texas following emancipation.

Research Strategy [edit | edit source]

familysearch.org/en/wiki/African_American_Resources_for_Texas

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Create a Timeline

- 1820-1865: Enslaver's family, bills of sale, probates
- Free people of color should be documented
- 1850-1900: African American Migrations
- 1865-1872: Freedmen's Bureau Records
- 1867-1869 and 1892: Voter Registrations
- 1870s: Prison System Starts - TX
- 1870-1950: Federal Census
- 1875: Census, Austin, TX

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Create a Timeline

African American Migrations

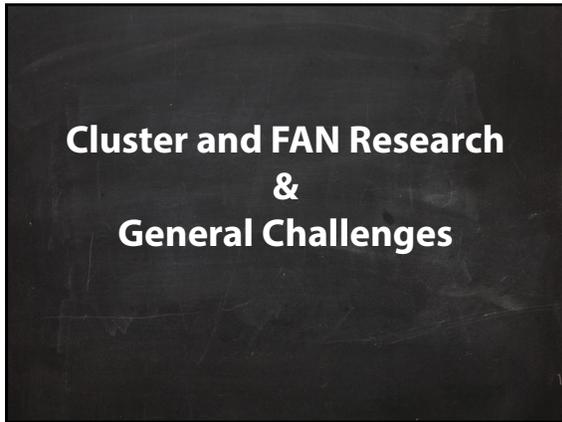
- **1890 -1900 - Oklahoma** -This state held more than 50 African American colonies and at one time was proposed by promoters to be an all-black state.
- **1870 -1880 - Colorado** - Was also a place of migration during the California gold rush. At one point in time, they had more than 20 African American colonies.
- **1870 -1880 - Kansas** - An estimated 30,000 people moved from the southern states to settle in Kansas. This movement was known as the Great Exodus and the migrants were called Exodusters. They created 26 known colonies in Kansas.
- **1850 -1860 - California** - An estimated 4,000 African Americans settled in California following the gold rush.

59

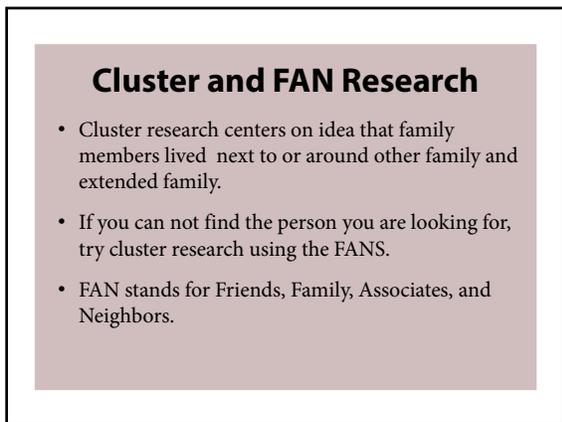
Tip

If you cannot find your ancestor in a census, it's a good idea to look through or read every name listed in the census for that location.

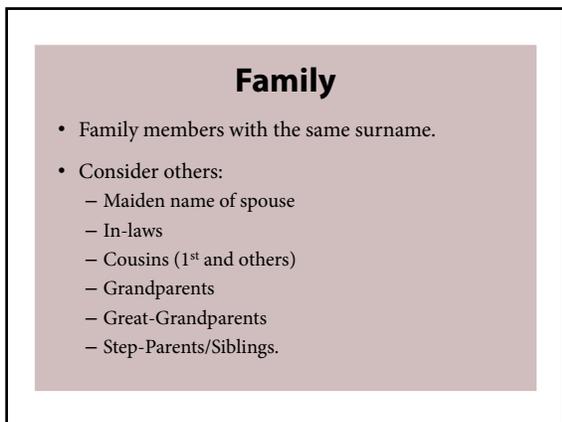
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Associates

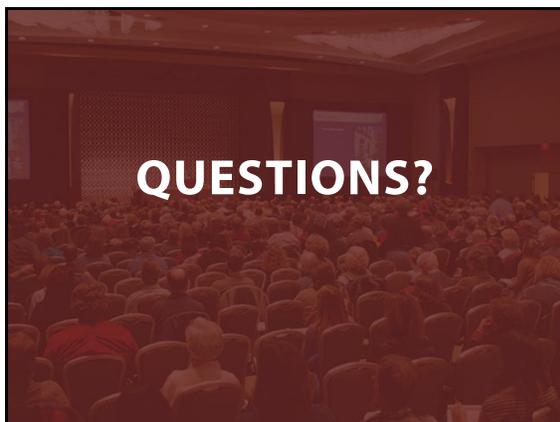
- Associated Persons
 - Politics
 - Occupation
 - Education
 - Religion.
- Associated Places
 - Place of Birth
 - Death Details.

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Neighbors

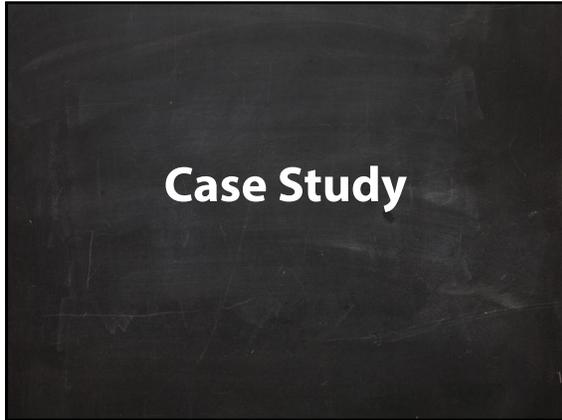
- Persons who share the same address
 - Tenement
 - Abutters.
- Persons from the same town or county.
- Persons in Neighboring Cemetery Plots OR Church or church Pews.

65



QUESTIONS?

66



67

68

69

What's in a Name?

- Magee
- Mcgeehee
- Mcgehee
- Mcghee
- Mcgee

70

The 1870 and 1880 Census

71

Tip

If you can not find a connection in these records, try proving your theory about an ancestor with supplemental records.

72

BROUGH & HICKS PRINTERS & JAMES HAMILTON (1811-1871) IN "SPOT CASH" DR

Hamilton Alexander (c), lab, r. 403 E. 14th.
 Hamilton Bertha M. (c), school teacher, r. 409 W. 74th.
 Hamilton Ellen (c), servant O. D. Parker, r. 409 W. 125th. 2

HAMILTON EVERETT V.
 Physician, surgeon, office 102 W. 74th. 2. Phone 955, also surgeon-in-charge city and county hospital, 1897-1909
 Bachelor, r. 500 W. 14th.
 Hamilton Fletcher S. (c), lawyer, 432-434 Broadway, r. 402 E. 14th.
 Hamilton George F., engineer, 142 military clothing, shoes, hats, 200-202 E. 14th, r. 79 Frank. 2

Hamilton Henry (c), German Austin Second Streeting Co., 100 Columbus. 4
 Hamilton Isaac (c), brickmason, r. 1303 Red Street. 2

HAMILTON JAMES R., County Judge
 Trial court, office Courtroom, room 209 W. 14th.
 Hamilton Jeremiah J. (c), trav. agt Austin Watchman, r. 602 E. 14th. 2
 Hamilton Louise (c), coach, city and county hospital, r. 505 E. 16th.
 Hamilton Mary J. (wid. A. J.), r. 706 Granddodge.
 Hamilton Prudence (Mrs. Dr. H. V.), matron city and county hospital, 1400 Madison, r. 505 W. 14th. 2
 Hamilton Robert J. (c), foreman printer Austin Watchman, r. 602 E. 14th. 2
 Hamilton Samuel (c), lab, r. 206 E. 17th. 2
 Hamilton Samuel J., 6th room 6th grand stand, office, r. 217 W. 8th. 2
 Ella Hildrop.
 Hamilton Thomas (c), gardener, r. 1497 Newham. 2
 Hamilton William (c), school teacher, r. 402 E. 14th.
 Hamilton William (c), harness maker, r. C. Thomason, r. 505 E. 16th. 2

dairy, Fairview Park, S. Austin, r. 1000. 2. Phone 922
 Hammond Charles W., conng plasterer, r. 307 E. 14th. 2
 Hammond George F., engr Capital City engraving, r. 1615 W. 20th. 2
 Hammond M. A. J. 2

HANCOCK A
 Congress av 403 E. 14th.
 Hancock Frank High school Hancock Hotel
 Hancock I Little, sets phone at Hancock John 1306 Chest
 Hancock J. P. 1st Div. Co. 151 E. 12. 2
 Hancock John Hancock John 1306 Chest
 Hancock J. P. 1st Div. Co. 151 E. 12. 2
 Hancock John Hancock John 1306 Chest
 Hancock J. P. 1st Div. Co. 151 E. 12. 2
 Hancock John Hancock John 1306 Chest
 Hancock J. P. 1st Div. Co. 151 E. 12. 2

HANCOCK LI
 411 E. 14th. 2
 Hancock John Hancock John 1306 Chest
 Hancock J. P. 1st Div. Co. 151 E. 12. 2

Home: 555-1234 | Contact: 555-5678 | Subscribed: 12/20/2023 | View Profile

Sheet Letter: 0
 Sheet Number: 238
 Person Number: 0
 Volume: 1

Household	Role	Gender	Age	Birthplace	Transferred
Jerry Hamilton	Self	M	41	United States	
Ellen Hamilton	Wife	F	28	United States	Kentucky
William Hamilton	Son	M	11	United States	Texas
Robert Hamilton	Son	M	14	United States	Texas
Florence Hamilton	Daughter	F	7	United States	Texas
Elizabeth Hamilton	Daughter	F	5	United States	Texas
Sue Hamilton	Daughter	F	0	United States	Texas

City Directory Record and Census

73

THE STATE OF TEXAS
 COUNTY OF TARRANT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 RITES OF MATRIMONY

By: *W. M. Linn*
 Minister of the Gospel in the State of Texas

Witnesses: *W. M. Linn*, *W. M. Linn*

Household Members (Name) | Age | Relationship
 Jeremiah Hamilton | 81 | Head
 Ellen N Hamilton | 66 | Wife
 Ben F Fisher | 49 | Son-in-law
 Fred G Fisher | 15 | Grandson
 Robert H Fisher | 11 | Grandson

Household Members (Name) | Age | Relationship
 Ben F Fisher | 38 | Head
 Berora Fisher | 35 | Wife
 Fred Fisher | 6 | Son
 Robert Fisher | 1 | Son

Marriage Record, Census Abstracts

74

ID	Age	Name	Sex	Mar	Ethnic	Color	Birthplace	Occupation
813	6	James James	M		American			
		James James	M		American			
		Jeremiah Hamilton	M		Colored	Y	Walter & Red Star	at home Carpenter
		Ellen Hamilton	M		Colored			
		William Hamilton	S		Colored			
		John Hamilton	S		Colored			
		Florence Hamilton	S		Colored			
		Shos Hamilton	S		4 days	Colored		
		Frank Chase	S		Colored			
		Grace Fullilove	S		48	Colored		
		Elizabeth Fullilove	S		18	Colored		
		William Fullilove	S		17	Colored		
		Howard Fullilove	S		15	Colored		at home Wagner
		Edwena Fullilove	S		12	Colored		Y Y
		Zigahene Fullilove	S		12	Colored		Y Y
		Mary Kendall	S		10	Colored		N N
		A Kendall	S		9	Colored		N N
		Grace Kendall	S		12	Colored		Y Y
		Joan Kider	S		16	Colored		Y Y

1875 Census

75

Common Myths About American Slavery

79

MYTH: “There were very few free Black people in the South.”

The 1860 census shows that 250,787 free people of color lived in the South, compared to 225,961 who lived in the rest of the country.¹

80

MYTH: “During the Civil War, Black men fought in large numbers for the Confederacy.”

No regiment of Black men fought for the Confederacy. ⁷ Black men were not legally allowed to serve as soldiers in any Confederate state. Virginia and other states authorized the use of enslaved labor for military purposes early in the war, but enslaved men were not given weapons for fighting.

81

MYTH: “Freed people always adopted the surnames of their former enslavers.”

In some cases, individuals did choose to adopt a former enslaver’s name, or a former enslaver’s name was assigned by the earliest record takers after emancipation. In other cases, enslaved families had used surnames consistently over generations during slavery, which were sometimes adopted from a former enslaver and sometimes chosen.

82

MYTH: “Slavery in the North ended long before the Civil War.”

After the American Revolution, some northern states banned slavery in their state constitutions—although this did not happen in every state, and these laws did not prevent northern industries from profiting from slavery elsewhere. In 1777, Vermont was the first state to outlaw slavery.

83

MYTH: “With some exceptions, enslaved people were treated well. They were given food, shelter, and some health care.”

Slavery is slavery regardless of how “kind” enslavers might be to the people they enslaved. The Deep South is especially known for extremely harsh conditions on large plantations where the enslaved were overworked and beaten for any offense to the enslaver.

84

MYTH: “Enslavers commonly kept families together.”

Many people experienced painful separations from family members that they were powerless to control. Mothers in particular endured wrenching separations as their children were sold to different families. Following the Civil War many newly freed people placed advertisements in newspapers, as they tried to locate family who had been sold away during slavery.¹

85

MYTH: “Slave labor was only used on plantations or rural farms.”

The labor of enslaved people was used in a variety of capacities, not just on sprawling rural farms or plantations. During the eighteenth century, enslaved labor was used in northern states in almost every sector of the economy, in shipyards, building trades, artisanal shops, and commerce.

86

MYTH: “Only the very wealthy could afford to enslave people.”

The vast majority of enslavers were not wealthy and owned less than five people.

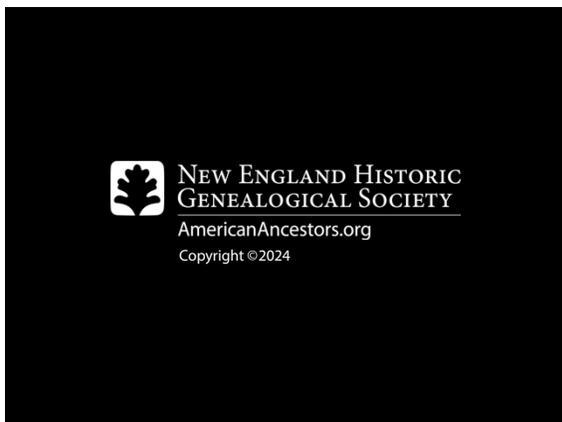
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