

Getting Started in African American Family History Research

Class 3: Strategies for Breaking Down the 1870 Genealogical Brick Wall

Jonathan Hill, Researcher



American Ancestors®

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Meet today's presenter



Jonathan Hill
Researcher
10 Million Names Project

OVERVIEW

- **Presentation (60 mins.)**
 - Overview of the 1870 Brick Wall
 - Case Studies
 - Helpful Resources
- **Q&A (30 mins.)**



Voice of
**Jonathan Hill, Researcher,
10 Million Names Project**

1870 Brick Wall



What is the 1870 Brick Wall?

- The 1870 US Federal Census is the first Federal Census after the emancipation of slavery.
- This is typically the first federal census which names formerly enslaved people with first and last names, ages and household composition.
- When researching African American Genealogy this is the most common place to run into a brick wall for research.

What type of records can I use?

- Freedmen's Bureau records
- State Specific Schedules or Registers
- 1867 Voter Lists
- Military and Pension Records

Freedmen's Bureau records

- The Freedmen's Bureau was responsible for the supervision and management of all matters relating to formerly enslaved people in the Southern United States.
- There are many different types of Freedmen's Bureau Records.
- These records are held in a variety of locations virtually: (Some on Ancestry.com, FamilySearch and the Smithsonian Website).

Divisions of the Freedmen's Bureau

- There were four divisions that records are held under
 - Government Controlled Lands
 - Records will relate to land and property occupied by Federal Troops during the Civil War.
 - Financial Affairs
 - Records will relate to The Freedmen's Banks and other financial institutions.
 - Medical Affairs
 - Records will relate to food, healthcare, shelter and medical care.
 - Records
 - Can be a variety of record types, including school lists, educational records and even vital records that occurred on military lands.

List of Departments of the Freedmen's Bureau

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- District of Columbia
(Washington, DC)
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maryland & Delaware
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- North Carolina
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia

State Specific Schedules or Registers

- States often have specific collections that give detailed information about formerly enslaved individuals.
- An example is the 1867 Maryland Slave Statistics
 - These registers were compiled in 1867 and record the first and last name of every person enslaved in the state of Maryland as of the year 1864.
 - These records are recorded by county and some are available to view for free on the Maryland State Archives Website
 - We will see an example in a case study later in the presentation .

1867 Voter Registration

- For many southern states, the voter lists from the 1867 Elections have survived.
- These records can put your ancestor at a specific location depending on where they registered.
- These records will also show other eligible voters in the area which can help with cluster research.

Military Records

- Records related to African American soldiers during the American Civil War can be outstanding resources for family history research.
- The following types of records can be extremely helpful:
 - Widows Pensions
 - Disability or Minors Pensions
 - Compiled Service Files
 - Unit Rosters and Muster Rolls

Overall Helpful Tips

- Spellings of surnames can vary greatly from record to record. Try very broad and phonetic spellings for best results.
- Always look at other members of the same household to try to expand the network of possible associates and family.
- Ages of individuals can vary greatly from record to record. Be aware that ages of formerly enslaved people are likely going to be very broad.

Developing a Research Strategy

Developing a Research Strategy



Step one:

Write out clear research questions



Step Two

Know Your History



Step three:

Identify Potential Sources



Step Four:

Gather Information – Keep it organized



Step Five:

Repeat steps 1-4

Research Strategy Step 1: Write Out Clear Research Questions

- Was this individual born into slavery?
- If so, who enslaved them?
- Can we find more information about their parents?

Research Strategy Step 2: Know Your History

- Create a timeline of Virginia Slave Laws
- Note laws that may lead to record sets
- Know where you are
- Look at maps from the time period and today.

Create a Timeline

1619	1654	1662	1664	1667	1670	1680	1682	1691	1705	1723	1774
Jamestown - about 20 captive Africans sold into slavery in VA	VA court grants POC the right to hold slaves	VA enacts hereditary slavery - child born inherits mother's status	law mandates lifelong servitude for all black slaves	VA declares that Christian baptism will not alter a person's status as a slave	VA prohibits free POC from keeping Christian (white) servants	VA forbids POC and slaves from bearing arms - congregate in large numbers - mandates harsh punishments for assaulting whites or attempting escape	VA declares all imported black servants are slaves for life	VA prohibits the manumission of slaves within its border - Manumitted slaves are forced to leave the colony - VA passes first anti-miscegenation law.	codifies slave status, declaring all non-Christian servants entering the colony to be slaves. Defines all slaves a real estate - acquits owners who kill the enslaved during punishment - forbids slaves to bear arms or move abroad without	VA Outlaws Manumission	Continental Congress approves resolution prohibiting slave importations and further American participation in the slave trade
1778	1782	1783	1785	1790	1793	1794	1799	1800	1805	1806	1816
VA Prohibits importation of slaves from Africa	VA law permits private manumissions	VA emancipates those slaves who served in the colonial forces against Britain, provided that the slave's master gives permission.	VA deems any person with black blood to be mulatto use of the term "Negro" includes mixed-race POC	Congress denies naturalization to anyone that is not a free white	First Fugitive Slave Law allows enslavers to cross state lines in pursuit of fugitives and makes it a penal offense to abet a runaway	Congress prohibits Slave trade between US and foreign countries	VA requires white mothers of mixed-race children to leave the state	Congress Prohibits US citizens from exporting slaves	VA allows the enslaved to accompany white enslavers to religious services presided over by white preachers	VA requires manumitted individuals to leave the state within a year of their manumission	American Colonization Society is Founded with the goal of creating a free black settlement in Africa
1819	1819/1820	1831	1849	1850	1853	1857	1862	1863	1864	1865	1866
Virginia outlaws blacks and mulattos, whether free or slave, from meeting for the purposes of education and forbids teaching	Slavery Act - US law makes slave trading a capital offense	Nat Turner Rebellion in Southampton, Virginia Virginia passes a law enforcing prohibitions against slaves congregating for religious service at night, regardless of whether black or white preachers hold those services.	Virginia passes a law permitting the emancipation of any slave by will or deed. Liberia is recognized as a sovereign state by Britain. Joseph Jenkins Roberts, the son of free Virginian blacks, becomes the first president.	Virginia demands that emancipated slaves leave the state within a year and forbids the legislature from freeing any slave. Second Fugitive Slave Law & Compromise of 1850	VA requires the registration of births and deaths including enslaved people.	Dred Scott v. Sanford Decision denies citizenship to all slaves, ex-slaves, and descendants of slaves Richmond, VA passes slave code that restricted POC from certain parts of the city, specified street etiquette that forbade slaves from standing on the sidewalk, carrying canes, smoking.	VA authorizes the use of slaves to perform military labor. Congress abolishes slavery in Washington DC gives public land in the public domain to qualified private citizens, including black heads of house over 21 years old and single black	Emancipation Proclamation	Repeal of Fugitive Slave Law	13th Amendment The newly re-elected Lincoln is assassinated. Andrew Johnson, a Southern Democrat, becomes president.	VA legally recognizes marriages between African Americans and grants children of those marriages legitimacy and inheritance rights. The Republican majority Congress passes a Civil Rights Bill to protect the rights of blacks. Congress establishes The Freedmen's Bureau Former confederate states enact "Black code" laws

Research Strategy Step 3: Identify Potential Sources

- What historical events on your timeline may have created records?
- Check state, county, local, and university libraries and archives for collections specific to slavery or freedmen.

LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

SEARCH BROWSE CATALOG USER GUIDE DIGITAL COLLECTIONS DISCOVERY VIRGINIA UNTOLD SEARCH

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS DISCOVERY /

VIRGINIA UNTOLD: The African American Narrative

The Library of Virginia's "Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative" project aims to provide greater accessibility to pre-1865 African American history and genealogy found in the rich primary sources in the library's holdings.

Sort sub-collections by Relevance Sort items by Relevance Search

Sub-collections (25)

- Bills of Sale and Deeds
- Certificates of Importation
- Cohabitation Registers
- Colonization Records
- Commonwealth Causes
- Coroner's Inquisitions

www.lva.virginia.gov



www.lva.virginia.gov

Laws Creating Records in Virginia

- 1853 – Virginia requires the registration of births and deaths including enslaved people.
- 1850 – Virginia demands that emancipated slaves leave the state within a year and forbids the legislature from freeing any slave.
- 1865 – 13th Amendment and establishment of the Freedmen's Bureau.

Research Strategy Step 4: Gather and Organize Information

- Make checklists of record sets you want to check.
- Determine what information you can pull from each record.
- Make sure your notes are easy to view quickly and include as much information as possible.
- Suggestion: use Microsoft Excel to organize complex research.

What you can learn from the 1870 Census

- It can tell you exactly where your ancestors were beyond just an enumeration district.
- Note neighbors to compare to the 1860 federal census and/or maps of the area.
- Who owned land in the area (check Real Estate Value column).
- Compare to 1860 Slave Schedules for Slaveowners.
- Provide additional surnames to research.

QUESTIONS?

Case Study 1: Warren Woodland (Maryland)

1870 United States Federal Census

- Warren Woodland
 - Born about 1842 in Maryland
 - Living in St. Mary's County, Maryland in 1870

A handwritten census record from 1870. The record is on a grid with rows numbered 38, 39, and 40. Row 38 is for 'Key Nancy', 12 years old, female, born in 'Arundel'. Row 39 is for 'Woodland Warren', 28 years old, male, born in 'Maryland', occupation 'Farm Laborer'. Row 40 is for 'Lucy', 17 years old, female, born in 'Hampshire', occupation 'Seamstress'.

38		Key Nancy	12	Y	B	Arundel			
39	275-275	Woodland Warren	28	M	B	Maryland	Farm Laborer		
40		Lucy	17	Y	B	Hampshire	Seamstress		

Questions for Case Study

1. Was Warren Woodland enslaved?
2. If so, who was he enslaved by?

Look at local resources

1864 "Slave Census" or "Slave Statistics"

As a result of the November 1, 1864 manumission of all enslaved persons in Maryland, as well as the self-emancipation of enslaved persons joining the Union Army, in 1867 and 1868 it was possible for enslavers to be compensated for their financial losses. In St. Mary's County, about 3/4 of enslavers completed this paperwork. Although the original documents for many counties are online, only St. Mary's County and Charles County have been transcribed and completely indexed:

Gmail Images 

Google

 Slave statistics of Saint Mary's County, Maryland



Google Search

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Slave statistics of Saint Mary's County, Maryland



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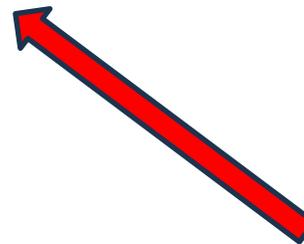


Maryland State Archives (.gov)

<https://msa.maryland.gov> > msa > speccol > html

Slave Statistics of St. Mary's County Maryland, 1864 ...

For each enslaved person, the **records** show his or her name, sex, age, physical condition, term of servitude, date of emancipation, and, if applicable, ...



www.google.com

Archives of Maryland Online

PLEASE NOTE: The searchable text below was computer generated and may contain typographical errors. Numerical typos are particularly troubling. Click "View pdf" to see the original document.

search for: **GO**

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Jump to volume: page: **GO**

Volume 369

[Preface](#)

Slave Statistics of St. Mary's County Maryland
1864
by Agnes Callum

[Title Page](#)

[Table of Contents](#)

[Introduction](#)

[First Page](#)

[Index](#) 

The three-hundred and sixty-ninth volume of the Archives of Maryland series was originally published in 1993. The Archives of Maryland edition was published in 2001 by the Maryland State Archives.

The Slave Statistics consist of lists of slaves owned as of 1 November 1864, the date when the Constitution of 1864, which abolished slavery in Maryland, took effect. In the hope that the federal government would

msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc2900/sc2908/html/index.html

Slave Statistics of St. Mary's County Maryland, 1864, Commissioner George B. Dent by Agnes Kane Callum

Volume 369, Page 177 [View pdf image \(33K\)](#)

Jump to

[<< PREVIOUS](#) [NEXT >>](#)

177.	
Wood, Sandy, 74	Yorkshire, Joseph, 98
Woodland, Cornelius, 25,41	Yorkshire, Mary, 19
Woodland, Daniel, 25,41	Young, Albert, 48
Woodland, Duglas, 25	Young, Amanda, 94
Woodland, Eliza, 41	Young, Ann, 48,107,112
Woodland, Elizabeth, 52	Young, Ann Catherine, 62
Woodland, Emeline, 52	Young, Arbella, 94
Woodland, Francis, 41	Young, Clarence, 42
Woodland, Harriet, 25	Young, Bettie, 112
Woodland, Hattie, 19	Young, Caroline, 112
Woodland, Henry, 60	Young, Cecelia, 49
Woodland, Hetty, 123	Young, Charles, 114
Woodland, Ignatious, 23	Young, Charles Joseph, 113
Woodland, James, 123	Young, Cornelius, 42
Woodland, James T., 25	Young, Eliza, 113
Woodland, Jane, 52	Young, Elizabeth, 49
Woodland, John, 18,30	Young, Emily, 112
Woodland, John Dugler, 19	Young, Esdel, 49
Woodland, John Lewis, 52	Young, Estelle, 48
Woodland, Jos. N. G., 45	Young, Eugene, 42
Woodland, Matilda, 41	Young, Frank, 30,36
Woodland, Philip, 28	Young, George, 30,62,113
Woodland, Robert Hewnry, 19	Young, Hannah, 112
Woodland, Roena, 28	Young, Harriet, 33
Woodland, Warren, 57	Young, Henny, 8
Woodland, Washington, 28	Young, Hettie Ann, 117
Woodland, William F., 52	Young, Ida, 94
Woodland, William H., 28	Young, Isabella, 94
Worhethon, Hannah A., 37	Young, James Hemp, 112
Yates, Ally, 33	Young, Jane, 49



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Slave Statistics of St. Mary's County Maryland, 1864, Commissioner George B. Dent by Agnes Kane Callum

Volume 369, Page 57 [View pdf image \(33K\)](#)

Jump to page 60

[<< PREVIOUS](#) [NEXT >>](#)



57.

Thomas Hebb
OWNER

DATE November 21, 1867

Emancipated				
Name Of Slave				
by				
	Sex	Age	State of Maryland	Remarks
Elizabeth Milburn	F	36	Nov. 1, 1864	
Caroline Biscoe	F	1?	" " "	
Margaret Milburn	F	15	" " "	
Alexander Milburn	M	13	" " "	
James Milburn	M	12	" " "	
Albert Milburn	M	11	" " "	
Susan Milburn	F	8	" " "	
Henry Milburn	M	6	" " "	
Lewis Milburn	M	2	" " "	
Nicholas Watts	M	63	" " "	
John Watts	M	36	" "	E-Feb. 28, 1864
Washington Watts	M	35		E-Feb. 28, 1864
Hanson Watts	M	33		E-Feb. 28, 1864
Cecelia Biscoe	F	18	Nov. 1, 1864	
William Milburn	M	20		E-Feb. 28, 1864

msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc2900/sc2908/html/index.html

57.

OWNER Thomas Hebb
 DATE November 21, 1867

Name Of Slave	Sex	Age	Emancipated by State of Maryland	Remarks
Elizabeth Milburn	F	36	Nov. 1, 1864	
Caroline Biscoe	F	17	" " "	
Margaret Milburn	F	15	" " "	
Alexander Milburn	M	13	" " "	
James Milburn	M	12	" " "	
Albert Milburn	M	11	" " "	
Susan Milburn	F	8	" " "	
Henry Milburn	M	6	" " "	
Lewis Milburn	M	2	" " "	
Nicholas Watts	M	63	" " "	
John Watts	M	36	" "	E-Feb. 28, 1864
Washington Watts	M	35		E-Feb. 28, 1864
Hanson Watts	M	33		E-Feb. 28, 1864
Cecelia Biscoe	F	18	Nov. 1, 1864	
William Milburn	M	20		E-Feb. 28, 1864
James Hebb	M	63	Nov. 1, 1864	
				No. of Slaves #16 (115)
<u>Mrs. Matilda Hamilton, Owner</u>				
<u>November 23, 1867</u>				(119) ←
Henry Munroe	M	29	Nov. 1, 1864	
Warren Woodland	M	22		E-9th. USCT, Nov. 1863
Lucy Johnson	F	21		L-Jun. 15, 1864
Grandison Brent	M	15	Nov. 1, 1864	

msa.maryland.gov/megafile/msa/speccol/sc2900/sc2908/html/index.html

Answers to initial question:

- Was Warren Woodland enslaved?
 - Yes
- If so, who was he enslaved by?
 - He was enslaved by Mrs. Matilda Hamilton

Case Study 2: Edward Lewis (Louisiana)

1880 United States Census for Edward Lewis

		— Catherine	W F 58	Wife	1	Labourer	1
147	147	Lewis Edward	B m 31		1	Washer	
		— Susan	B F 33	wife	1	house work	
		— Lucinda	B F 16	daughter	1	at school	
		— Lightner	B m 12	son	1	at school	
		— Catherine	B F 9	daughter	1	at home	
		— Josephine	B F 7	daughter	1	at home	
		— Asberry	B m 5	son	1	at home	
		— Octavia	B F 3	daughter	1	at home	
		— Saml.	B m 3/2 mar	son	1	Gardner	

Questions for Case Study 2:

1. Who were the parents of Edward Lewis?
2. Did Edward have siblings or extended family?

The Freedman's Bank

- The Freedman's Savings and Trust Company was incorporated in 1865 by an act signed by President Abraham Lincoln.
- The purpose of the company was to create an institution where former slaves and their dependents could place and save their money.

Freedmen's Bureau Bank Records

- When people opened accounts at the Freedmen's Bank, they were required to provide a great deal of personal information to ensure that bank officials could locate family members in the event of a depositor's death.
- The records of 29 branches of the Freedmen's Bank survive today.
- These records are on [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) and [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org).

Freedmen's Bank locations

- Atlanta, Georgia
- Augusta, Georgia
- Baltimore, Maryland
- Beaufort, South Carolina
- Charleston, South Carolina
- Columbus, Mississippi
- Huntsville, Alabama
- Lexington, Kentucky
- Little Rock, Arkansas
- Louisville, Kentucky
- Lynchburg, Virginia
- Memphis, Tennessee
- Mobile, Alabama
- Nashville, Tennessee
- Natchez, Mississippi
- New Bern, North Carolina
- New Orleans, Louisiana
- New York, New York
- Norfolk, Virginia
- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Raleigh, North Carolina
- Richmond, Virginia
- Savannah, Georgia
- Shreveport, Louisiana
- St. Louis, Missouri
- Tallahassee, Florida
- Vicksburg, Mississippi
- Washington, D.C.
- Wilmington, North Carolina

Card Catalog

Searchable listing of all record collections

Title

Keyword(s)

Search



Filters

Clear All

> Court, Land, Wills & Financial 1

Filter By Location

> North America 1

> USA 1

Filter by Dates

Results 1-1 of 1

Sort By Date Added

Title	Category	Records
 U.S., Freedman's Bank Records, 1865-1874	Court, Land, Wills & Financial	685,322

< 1 of 1 >

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U.S., Freedman's Bank Records, 1865-1874

Search

Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Edward

Exact & similar

Quick Fill Suggestions

[Hill Family Tree](#)

No suggestions found

	Day	Month	Year	Location
Lived In	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="City, County, State, Country"/>
Any Event	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="Louisiana, USA"/>

Exact to this place



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Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

Collection

Choose...

Description

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All U.S., Freedman's Bank Records, 1865-1874 results for Edward Lewis



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Your search

... 1-2 of 2

Broad Exact

Edward _____

Lewis _____

Any: Louisiana, USA _____

Filters

[Clear all](#)

- Court, land, wills & financial ✕
 - Bank & insurance records ✕
 - U.S., Freedman's Bank Records, 1865-1874 ✕
- This collection contains records from the Freedman's Bank (formally known as the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company) between 1865 and 1874.. [More](#)

View Record	Name	Birth Date	Account Date	Residence	Relatives
View Record	Edward Lewis	abt 1844	4 Mar 1872	Louisiana	William, Elizabeth, Susan, Lucinda
View Record	Edward Lewis		1865-1874	New Orleans, Louisiana	

Results 1-2 of 2

50 per page

< 1 of 1 >

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New Refine Preview record Next result Previous result

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No. 4466 Record Edward Lewis

Date of Application, Mch 4/22

Where born, Spottensburgh Dist S Ca

Where brought up, "

Residence, Amette, bet near Libany

Age, 28.

Complexion, B.

Occupation, Laborer, Wood Chopper

Works for, "

Wife or husband, Susan

Children, Lucinda, Catharine Elizabeth,
L. Lewis

Father, William

Mother, Elizabeth

Brothers, Henry, William

Sisters, Francis, Caroline,

U.S., Freedman's Bank Records, 1865-1874

Answers for Case Study 2:

1. Who were the parents of Edward Lewis?
 - Edward Lewis was the son of William and Elizabeth.

2. Did Edward have siblings or extended family
 - Yes. Edward Lewis had two brothers Henry and William and two sisters Frances and Caroline.

QUESTIONS?

Case Study 3: Susan Marshall (Kentucky)

1910 United States Federal Census

	1	Marshall William G.	Head	M	W	47	M	20		
		Susan S.	wife	F	W	40	M	20	10	8
		William A.	Son	M	W	19	S			
		James E.	Son	M	W	18	S			
		Lucretia	daughter	F	W	15	S			
		Earl E.	Son	M	W	13	S			
		Sarah F.	daughter	F	W	11	S			
		Charlie C.	Son	M	W	8	S			
		Jesse H.	Son	M	W	6	S			
		Robert H.	Son	M	W	4	S			

Susan S. Marshall born about 1870 living in Scott County Kentucky

Questions for Case Study 3:

1. What is the maiden name of Susan Marshall?
2. Who was her father?
3. Was her father born enslaved?
4. Where was her father born?

Card Catalog

Searchable listing of all record collections

Title

Keyword(s)

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> Birth, Marriage & Death 1

Filter By Location

> North America 1

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Filter by Dates

Results 1-1 of 1

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Title	Category	Records
 Kentucky, U.S., Death Records, 1852-1965	Birth, Marriage & Death	5,740,496

< 1 of 1 >

Kentucky, U.S., Death Records, 1852-1965

Search

Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Susan

Exact & similar

Quick Fill Suggestions

[Hill Family Tree](#)

Last Name

Marshall

Exact & similar

No suggestions found

	Day	Month	Year	Location
Birth	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Death	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Any Event	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Add family member: [Father](#) [Mother](#) [Spouse](#) [Child](#)

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Collection

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Year

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Description

Related data collections

[Kentucky, U.S., Birth Records, 1847-1911](#)

This database contains county birth records from Kentucky for the years 1852-1910. Information available in these records includes: name of child, gender, race, birth date, birth place

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1918 V 1-1004 1-20-18

Commonwealth of Kentucky
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

1 PLACE OF DEATH
County Kenton File No. 44-133
Vol. No. 13 Registration District No. 590 Registered No. 1780
Ino. Town Boonville Primary Registration District No. 6290
City Boonville (No. 127 H. 9th St., 2 Ward) (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)

2 FULL NAME Susan Marshall

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS			MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH	
3 SEX <u>Female</u>	4 COLOR OR RACE <u>col</u>	5 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED <u>married</u>	14 DATE OF DEATH <u>Dec 28 1918</u>	
6 DATE OF BIRTH <u>don't know</u>			17 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from <u>Dec 28</u> , 1918, to <u>Dec 29</u> , 1918, that I last saw h.c. alive on <u>Dec 28</u> , 1918, and that death occurred on the date stated above at <u>6:30</u> m. The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows: <u>Influenza</u>	
7 AGE <u>48</u> yrs. <u>—</u> mos. <u>—</u> ds. IF LESS than 1 day .. hrs. or .. min.?			Contributory <u>Pneumonia</u>	
8 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work. <u>domestic</u> (b) General nature of industry business or establishment in which employed (or employer)			(Signed) <u>W. M. Murnan</u> M. D. <u>Dec 29 1918</u> (Address) <u>Corning Ave. Ky</u>	
9 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) <u>Ky</u>			*State the DIRECT CAUSING DEATH, or, in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES state (1) WEAPON OF INJURY and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL or HOMICIDAL.	
10 NAME OF FATHER <u>transport self</u>			15 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRANSIENTS OR RECENT RESIDENTS) At place of death .. yrs. .. mos. .. ds. In the State .. yrs. .. mos. .. ds. Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death? .. Former or usual residence ..	
11 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) <u>Va.</u>			19 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL <u>144 Island</u> DATE OF BURIAL <u>Dec. 29, 1918</u>	
12 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER <u>Elizabeth Marshall</u>			20 UNDER AGE <u>St Johns</u> ADDRESS <u>606 1/2</u>	
13 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) <u>Ky</u>			18 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE (Informant) <u>Susan Marshall</u> (Address) <u>127 H. 9th St.</u>	
16 Every informant should state OCCUPATION is <u>St Johns</u>			Filed <u>Dec 21, 1918</u> <u>J. H. Schumaker</u> Registrar	

Death Record of Susan Marshall

1880 United States Federal Census

Search

Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Susan

Exact & similar

Quick Fill Suggestions

[Hill Family Tree](#)

Last Name

Self

Exact & similar

×

No suggestions found

Year

Birth 1870

+/-1 yr

Location

City, County, State, Country

Lived In

City, County, State, Country



Provided in association with National Archives and Records Administration

Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

State

Choose...

County



Township

www.Ancestry.com

56	56	Self	Davenport	B.	M.	58			1.
		—	Elizabeth	B.	F.	42	Wife		1.
		—	William	B.	M.	15	Son.		1.
		—	Juan	B.	F.	10	Daughter		1.
57	57	Johnson	Aleck	B.	M.	45			1.

1880 United States Census

Kentucky, U.S., Death Records, 1852-1965

Search

Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Davenport

Exact & similar

Quick Fill Suggestions

[Hill Family Tree](#)

No suggestions found

Last Name

Self

Exact & similar

	Day	Month	Year	Location
Birth	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="City, County, State, Country"/>
Death	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="City, County, State, Country"/>
Any Event	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="City, County, State, Country"/>

Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

Collection

Choose...

Year

Description

Related data collections

[Kentucky, U.S., Birth Records, 1847-1911](#)

This database contains county birth records from Kentucky for the years

www.Ancestry.com

FORM 10-1-1900 529-13

State of Kentucky
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
 BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

County Madison File # 16538
 Vol. Pat. 2 Registration District No. 580 Registered No. 693
 Inc. Town Cornington Primary Registration District No. 2290
 City Cornington (No. 26 W 3rd St., 2 Ward) (If death occurred in a hospital or institution, give its NAME instead of street and number.)
 FULL NAME Davenport Self

PERSONAL AND STATISTICAL PARTICULARS

1 SEX M 2 COLOR OR RACE col 3 SINGLE, MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED married
 4 DATE OF BIRTH June 4, 1920
 5 AGE 21 yrs. - 20 mos. - 20 ds. IF LESS than 1 day, hrs., or min.?
 6 OCCUPATION (a) Trade, profession, or particular kind of work. Retired
 (b) General nature of industry, business or establishment in which employed (or employer)
 7 BIRTHPLACE (State or country) Ky
 8 NAME OF FATHER unknown
 9 BIRTHPLACE OF FATHER (State or country) "
 10 MAIDEN NAME OF MOTHER "
 11 BIRTHPLACE OF MOTHER (State or country) "
 12 THE ABOVE IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE
 (Informant) Laura Thompson
 (Address) 26 W 3rd St
 13 James W. J. Robinson REGISTRAR

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

14 DATE OF DEATH 6 24 1920
 (Month) (Day) (Year)
 15 I HEREBY CERTIFY, That I attended deceased from 5 20 1920, to 6 20 1920, that I last saw him alive on 6 24 1920, and that death occurred on the date stated above at 5 P.m. The CAUSE OF DEATH* was as follows:
Chronic Nephritis
 (Duration) 30 yrs. 10 mos. 20 ds.
 Contributory (Secondary) Old age
 (Duration) yr. mos. ds.
 (Signed) S. J. Watkins, M. D.
Cor. Ky. 6, 1820 (Address) 115 E 9
 *State the DISEASE CAUSING DEATH, or, in deaths from VIOLENT CAUSES state (1) MEANS OF INJURY; and (2) whether ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL or HOMICIDAL.
 16 LENGTH OF RESIDENCE (FOR HOSPITALS, INSTITUTIONS, TRAVELERS OR RECENT RESIDENTS)
 At place of death yr. mos. ds. In the State yr. mos. ds.
 Where was disease contracted, if not at place of death?
 Former or usual residence
 17 PLACE OF BURIAL OR REMOVAL Highland DATE OF BURIAL June 26 1920
 18 UNDERLYING DISEASE Chronic Nephritis ADDRESS Cor. Ky.

WRITE PLAINLY WITH UNFADING INK--THIS IS A PERMANENT RECORD
 Margin reserved for linking. All information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.
 M. D.—Every item of information should be carefully supplied. AGE should be stated EXACTLY. PHYSICIANS should state CAUSE OF DEATH in plain terms, so that it may be properly classified. Exact statement of OCCUPATION is very important. See instructions on back of certificate.

21-7194

Davenport Self's Death Record

The screenshot shows the Fold3 website interface. At the top left is the logo "fold3 by ancestry". The navigation bar includes "Search & Browse", "Featured", "+ Create", a help icon, and a menu icon. The main content area has a dark blue background with the text "Discover your military ancestors" and "Search over 670 million records". A search bar contains the text "Davenport Self" with a search icon and a close button. Below the search bar is a horizontal filter bar with five categories: "United States" (highlighted in blue), "Australia", "Canada", "New Zealand", and "United Kingdom". To the right of the filter bar is a grey box labeled "TOTAL RECORDS".

www.Fold3.com

Filter ▾ "Davenport Self" × People, Records, Places, Dates, or Service I  Clear All Search Browse

<input type="checkbox"/> Military 18	MULTI-IMAGE FILE  Self, Davenport (37) Civil War (Union) US, Civil War Service Records (CMSR) - Union - Colored Troops Artillery, 18... ▾ 16 pages	Military Unit: 13th US Colored Heavy Artillery ▾
<input type="checkbox"/> Drafts 11		Estimated B... 1826 - 1827
<input type="checkbox"/> Service Records 4		Year: 1864

[SEE ALL](#)

RECORD TYPE

- Self, Davenport

www.Fold3.com

Compiled Service Record

A compiled service file is a chronological file detailing the entire service of a Civil War soldier. They are compiled from a variety of sources but essentially provide a detailed look into the day to day of a soldier's experience

S | **13 H. Art'y. U.S.C.T.**

Davenport Self
 _____, Co. *G*, 13 Reg't U.S. Col'd H. Art'y.

Appears on
Company Descriptive Book
 of the organization named above.

DESCRIPTION.

Age *37* years; height *5* feet *11½* inches.
 Complexion *Dark*
 Eyes *Blk*; hair *Blk*
 Where born *Fleming Co Ky*
 Occupation *Farmer*

ENLISTMENT.

When *Oct 1*, 1864.
Mustered Oct 1 '64
 Where *Greene Co Ky*
 By whom *Capt W C Ginn*; term *3* y'rs.
 Remarks: _____

S | **13 H. Art'y. U.S.C.T.**

Davenport Self
Priv, Co. *G*, 13 Reg't U. S. Col'd H. Art'y.

Appears on **Co. Muster-out Roll**, dated
Louisville, Ky, Nov 18, 1865.
 Muster-out to date *Nov 18*, 1865.
 Last paid to *June 30*, 1865.

Clothing account:

Last settled _____, 1865; drawn since \$ _____ 100
 Due soldier \$ _____ 100; due U. S. \$ *2 94* 100
 Am't for cloth'g in kind or money adv'd \$ _____ 100

Due U. S. for arms, equipments, &c., \$ _____ 100
 Bounty paid \$ *100* 100; due \$ _____ 100
 Remarks: _____

Compiled Service Record of Davenport Self

VOLUNTEER ENLISTMENT.

Credited to Fleming County 9th Dist. of Ky

STATE OF  TOWN OF

Kentucky *Lawrenceburg*

I, *Parson Self*, born in *Fleming Co*
in the State of *Kentucky*, aged *Thirty Seven* years,
and by occupation a *Farmer*, Do HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE to have
volunteered this *First* day of *October*, 1864,
to serve as a **Soldier** in the **Army of the United States of America**, for
the period of **THREE YEARS**, unless sooner discharged by proper authority:
Do also agree to accept such bounty, pay, rations, and clothing, as are, or may be,
established by law for volunteers. And I, *Parson Self*, do
solemnly swear, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the **United States
of America**, and that I will serve them honestly and faithfully against all
their enemies or opposers whomsoever; and that I will observe and obey the
orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers
appointed over me, according to the Rules and Articles of War.

Sworn and subscribed to, at *Lawrenceburg Ky*
this *22* day of *October*, 1864. *Parson Self*
BEFORE *Wm. H. ...* *Col.*
9th Dist. of Ky

I CERTIFY, ON HONOR, That I have carefully examined the above-named Volunteer, agreeably
to the General Regulations of the Army, and that, in my opinion, he is free from all bodily defects and

Regiment of _____ Volunteers, on the _____ day of _____

Enlistment papers

Davenport Self

I, *George H. Wells* a loyal citizen, and a resident of _____,
County of *Mason*, State of Kentucky, hereby claim compensation, under
the provisions of Section 24, act approved February 24, 1864, and section 2, act approved July, 28,
1866, for my slave *Davenport Self*, enlisted *October 12th*
1864, at *Greensburg Ky.*, by *Wm. G. Grier, Capt & Pro Mar. 9th Dist. Ky*
in the *13th* regiment U. S. Colored ^{*Arty*}Troops, Co. *G*; certificate of
which enlistment, and a descriptive list, as required, accompany this application. That I did not ac-
quire said slave subsequent to said enlistment, but had a valid title to him at the date of said enlist-
ment, and previous thereto: I having acquired my title to him and my ownership over him as fol-
lows, to-wit: *By purchase from Jno. F. Fleming on the 31st day of*
Dec 1859, as per Bill of sale presented herewith, and said Self
was reasonably worth the sum of One thousand
Dollars.

Information on the former
enslaver of Davenport Self

Know all men by these presents
that I John T Fleming have this
day sold to George W Wells, my
Slave Sareport. for an in consideration
of One thousand dollars. The receipt
whereof is hereby acknowledged.
I warrant said Slave be sound
and a Slave for life said Slave
is about thirty years of age.
Given under my hand this 31st 1859

John T Fleming

Bill of Sale in the Compiled Service File

Card Catalog

Searchable listing of all record collections

Title

Keyword(s)

Search

Filters

Clear All

- > Census & Voter Lists 7
- > Court, Land, Wills & Financial 2
- > Military 1

Filter By Location

- > North America 7
- > USA 7

Results 1-7 of 7

Sort By Date Added ▼

Title	Category	Records
 1860 U.S. Federal Census - Slave Schedules	Census & Voter Lists	4,308,602
 Georgia, U.S., Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1790-1890	Census & Voter Lists	99,830
 Arkansas, U.S., Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1819-1860	Census & Voter Lists	210,599
 Louisiana, U.S., Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1791-1890	Census & Voter Lists	188,900
 Virginia, U.S., Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1800-1890	Census & Voter Lists	197,777
 Mississippi, U.S., Compiled Census and Census Substitutes Index, 1805-1890	Census & Voter Lists	288,741

www.Ancestry.com

1860 U.S. Federal Census - Slave Schedules

Search Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s) <input type="text" value="George"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exact & similar	Last Name <input type="text" value="Wells"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exact & similar
---	---

Quick Fill Suggestions ×
[Hill Family Tree](#) ▼

No suggestions found

	Year	Location
Birth	<input type="text"/>	—
Lived In	—	<input type="text" value="Mason County, Kentucky, USA"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exact to this place
Any Event	—	<input type="text" value="City, County, State, Country"/>

Keyword



Provided in
association with
National Archives and
Records
Administration

Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

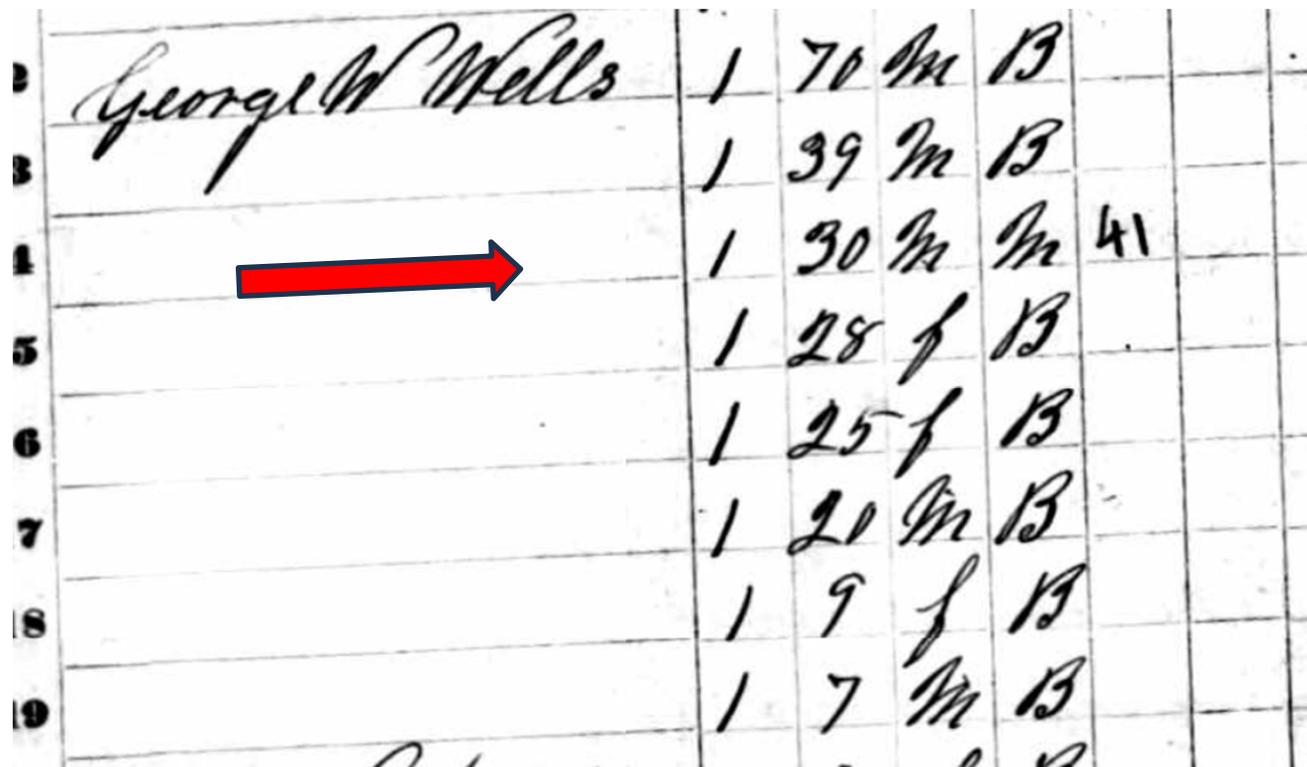
State
 ▼

County
 ▼

Township

www.Ancestry.com

1860 Slave Schedule for the enslaver George Wells



A handwritten table from the 1860 Slave Schedule for George Wells. The table has 10 rows, numbered 1 to 9 on the left. The first row is labeled 'George Wells' in the first column. The subsequent rows contain the following data:

Row	Name	Count	Age	Sex	Color	Other
1	George Wells	1	70	M	B	
2		1	39	M	B	
3		1	30	M	M	41
4		1	28	f	B	
5		1	25	f	B	
6		1	20	M	B	
7		1	9	f	B	
8		1	7	M	B	
9						

1860 Slave Schedule for the enslaver George Wells

Civil War Pensions

- Civil War Pensions can be ordered from the National Archives using the application number and certificate number
- These files can be hundreds of pages in length and provide great detail into the families and backgrounds of Civil War Veterans
- These files are typically not online and must be ordered from the National Archives

U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934

Search

Match all terms exactly

First & Middle Name(s)

Davenport

Exact & similar

Quick Fill Suggestions

[Hill Family Tree](#)

Last Name

Self

Exact & similar

×

No suggestions found

	Day	Month	Year	Location
Lived In	—	—	—	City, County, State, Country
Military	▼	▼		—
Any Event	▼	▼		City, County, State, Country

Add family member: [Spouse](#)



Provided in association with National Archives and Records Administration

Browse this collection

To browse this image set, select from the options below.

Name Range

[Aab-Ackerman, Garrett](#)

[Ackerman, George-Adams, Lige](#)

[Adams, Lincoln L.-Ah-Per-Saw-Nah-Gnett, Jim](#)

[Ah-Qua-Ra, Russell-Aldrich, Walter F.](#)

[Aldrich, Warren-Allen, Clarence](#)

[Allen, Clarence-Allen, William](#)

www.Ancestry.com

All U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934 results for Davenport Self



Provided in association with National Archives and Records Administration

Your search

... 1-1 of 1

Broad Exact

Davenport
Self

Apply

Filters [Clear all](#)

- Military
 - Pension records
 - U.S., Civil War Pension Index: General Index to Pension Files, 1861-1934
- This database is an index to and images of pension

View Record	Name	Filing Date	Place Filed	Spouse	View Image
View Record	Devenport Self	17 Aug 1887	Kentucky, USA		

Results 1-1 of 1

50 per page

1 of 1

Keyboard shortcuts

New Refine Preview record Next result Previous result

www.Ancestry.com

(3-11-3)

NAME OF SOLDIER: *Self, Devenport*

NAME OF DEPENDENT: *Widow,*
Minor,

SERVICE: *G. 13. use H. A*
A. 121. us e. Inf.

DATE OF FILING.	CLASS.	APPLICATION NO.	CERTIFICATE NO.	STATE FROM WHICH FILED.
<i>1887 Aug. 17</i>	<i>Invalid,</i> <i>Widow,</i> <i>Minor,</i>	<i>619721</i>	<i>448840</i>	<i>Ky.</i>

ATTORNEY:

Pension Index Card

Answers to Case Study 3:

1. What is the maiden name of Susan Marshall?
 - Susan Marshall was born Susan Self
2. Who was her father?
 - Davenport Self
3. Was her father born enslaved?
 - Yes, he was enslaved by John Fleming and later George Wells
4. Where was her father born?
 - He was born in Fleming County, Kentucky

Case Study 4: Sarah Thomasson (Georgia)

1870 United State Census

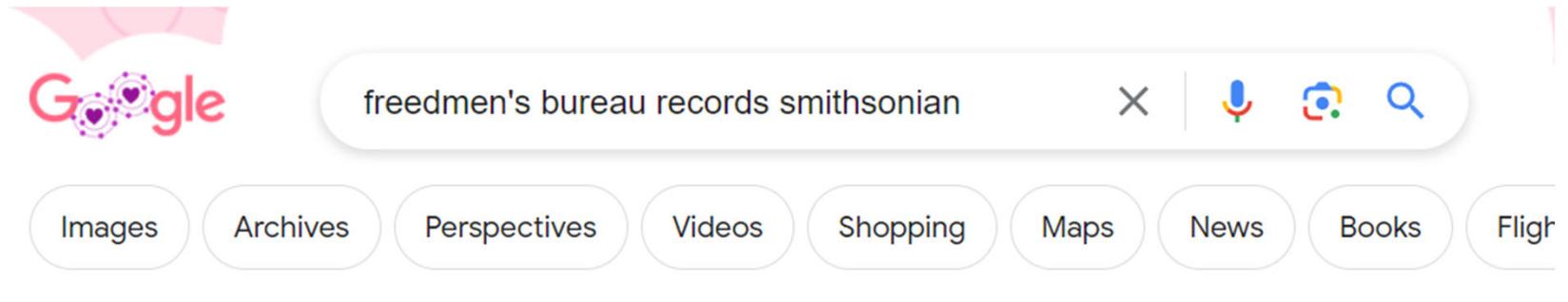
A handwritten census record from 1870. The table has six columns. The first two columns contain the number '49'. The third column contains the name 'Thomasson Sarah'. The fourth column contains the age '45'. The fifth column contains 'F' for female. The sixth column contains 'B' for born. The second row contains the name 'Davis Martha' with age '22', 'F', and 'B'. The third row contains a dash, 'Infant', '2/12', 'F', and 'B'. The fourth row contains a dash, 'George', '3', 'M', and 'B'.

49	49	Thomasson Sarah	45	F	B
		Davis Martha	22	F	B
		— Infant	$\frac{2}{12}$	F	B
		— George	3	M	B

Sarah Thomasson born about 1825 and residing in Madison, Morgan County, Georgia

Questions for Case Study 4:

1. What can be learned about the parents of Sarah Thomasson?



About 97,200 results (0.26 seconds)



National Museum of African American History and Culture

<https://nmaahc.si.edu> > freedmens-bureau-records



The Freedmen's Bureau Records

The **Museum** has collaborated with the **Smithsonian** Transcription Center to transcribe more than 1.7 million image files from the **Freedmen's Bureau records**. The ...



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HISTORY & CULTURE



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The Freedmen’s Bureau Search Portal provides unprecedented opportunities for family historians and genealogists to search for their ancestors and for scholars to research a variety of topics related to slavery and Reconstruction in the Freedmen’s Bureau records. The portal makes possible for the first time the ability to research multiple sets of Freedmen’s Bureau data in one place, allowing users to search indexed data for specific names, places, and dates and transcribed data for topics, subjects, institutions, and any other words or phrases. Matches to search criteria will be highlighted in the results.



[BEGIN YOUR FREEDMEN’S BUREAU SEARCH](#)

www.nmaahc.si.edu/explore/initiatives/freemens-bureau-records

Surnames

- Try all possible spellings of names in Freedmen's Bureau records as the spellings can be quite broad in these records.
- Example: The surname is spelled "Thomasson" in 1870 US Census. Try searching for "Thomason" "Thomassen" and "Thomesson"

Freedmen's Bureau Search Portal

[Guide to the Freedmen's Bureau Search Portal](#)

Search the Freedmen's Bureau

Text Search 

Location 

First Name 

Last Name 

[More Search Options](#)

Search



www.nmaahc.si.edu/explore/freedmens-bureau

Text Search ⓘ

Thomesson

First Name ⓘ

Last Name ⓘ

Start Date ⓘ

mm/dd/yyyy

End Date ⓘ

Displaying 1 - 2 of 2 result(s).



Asst. Commissioner – North Carolina, Endorsements Sent, Vol. 1 (15)

No indexed rows match search criteria

View Full Record →

Quick View Transcription



www.nmaahc.si.edu/explore/freedmens-bureau

April 4³² Thomerson Sarah (child) Madison Ga. Jan. 18, 1866. States that she is trying
E. B. p. 176 to find her mother, whom she has not seen
for fifteen (15) years, her mother's name is
Patsy & she formerly belonged to Lige Ellis
of ribbon D. C.

Freedmen's Bureau Record

170

Shamerson Sarah (Clara) J. 32.

Medison Ga. Jun. 18 '56.

Makes enquiry concerning her mother Patsy who formerly belonged to Sigr Ellis of Hibbon D. C. Enlist. of Brig. Genl. Davis Tillson A. A. Comm. State of Ga. Respectfully referred to Col. Whittlesey Capt. Comm. Bureau R. F. D. S. for P. C. with request for such information in this case as he is able to procure. - Enlist. of Col. Whittlesey Respectfully referred to Capt. Seelye Supt. K. for investigation & report. Enlist. of Capt. F. A. Seelye Supt. K. Respectfully returned. Mr. E. H. Ellis informs me that the woman Patsy died about 9 years ago of paralysis. Respectfully returned to Brig. Genl. Davis Tillson A. A. Comm. Ga. with attention invited to Enlist. of Capt. F. A. Seelye Supt. K. B. R. F. D. S. Med. Dir. Capt. Commissioner Raleigh N. C. April 4, 1866.

E. Whittlesey
Col. and Capt. Commissioner

Freedmen's Bureau Record

Note on Freedmen's Bureau Records

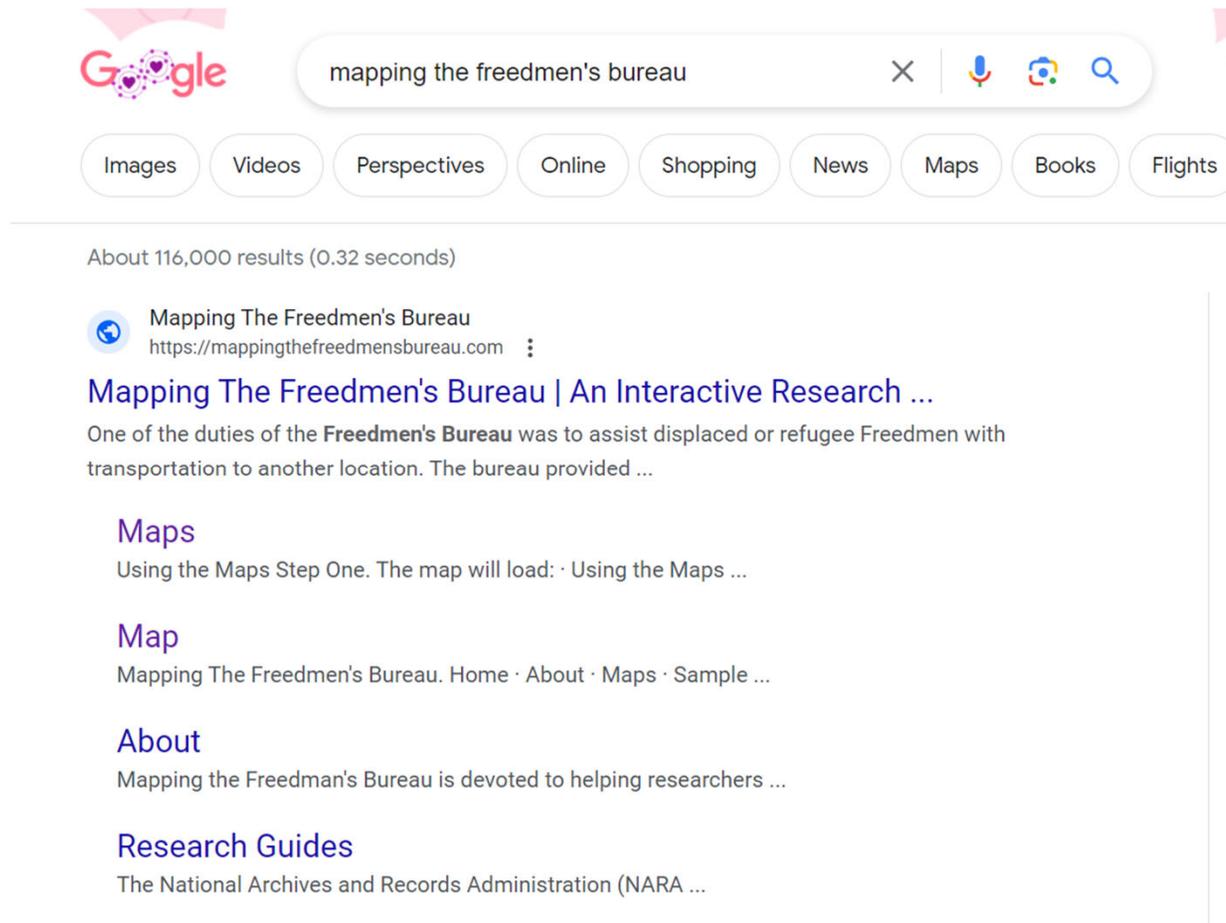
Even though Sarah Thomasson was residing in Madison, Georgia her petition was filed through the North Carolina Field Office as her mother Patsy was last seen in North Carolina

Answers to Case Study 4:

1. What can be learned about the parents of Sarah Thomasson?

- Sarah Thomasson was the daughter of Patsy who was enslaved by the Ellis family of North Carolina and died prior to the end of the Civil War

Finding Freedmen's Bureau Field Offices Records



The image shows a Google search interface. At the top left is the Google logo. The search bar contains the text "mapping the freedmen's bureau". Below the search bar are several filter buttons: Images, Videos, Perspectives, Online, Shopping, News, Maps, Books, and Flights. Below the filters, it says "About 116,000 results (0.32 seconds)". The first search result is for "Mapping The Freedmen's Bureau" with the URL "https://mappingthefreedmensbureau.com". The title of the result is "Mapping The Freedmen's Bureau | An Interactive Research ...". The snippet below the title reads: "One of the duties of the **Freedmen's Bureau** was to assist displaced or refugee Freedmen with transportation to another location. The bureau provided ...". Below the snippet are four links: "Maps", "Map", "About", and "Research Guides". Each link has a short description below it.

Mapping The Freedmen's Bureau
https://mappingthefreedmensbureau.com

Mapping The Freedmen's Bureau | An Interactive Research ...
One of the duties of the **Freedmen's Bureau** was to assist displaced or refugee Freedmen with transportation to another location. The bureau provided ...

Maps
Using the Maps Step One. The map will load: · Using the Maps ...

Map
Mapping The Freedmen's Bureau. Home · About · Maps · Sample ...

About
Mapping the Freedman's Bureau is devoted to helping researchers ...

Research Guides
The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA ...

www.Google.com



www.mappingthefreedmensbureau.com

MAPPING THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU

Home About **Maps** Sample Documents Research Guides Contact Us

Freedmen's Bureau Field Offices

This map marks the sites of Freedmen's Bureau Field Offices and Contraband Camps. You can scroll in to see the sites nearest your area of research interest. When you click on a marker, you will see the microfilm rolls for that location. If the microfilms are online, you can click the link to go directly to the microfilm to begin reading!

You can also scroll down this page for a detailed tutorial on using the maps on this site.



[VIEW MAP](#)

More Maps

Freedmen's Bureau Hospitals

In addition to Freedmen's Bureau Field Offices and contraband camps, we have mapped Freedmen's Bureau Hospitals, Freedman's Savings Bank Branches and USCT Battle Sites.

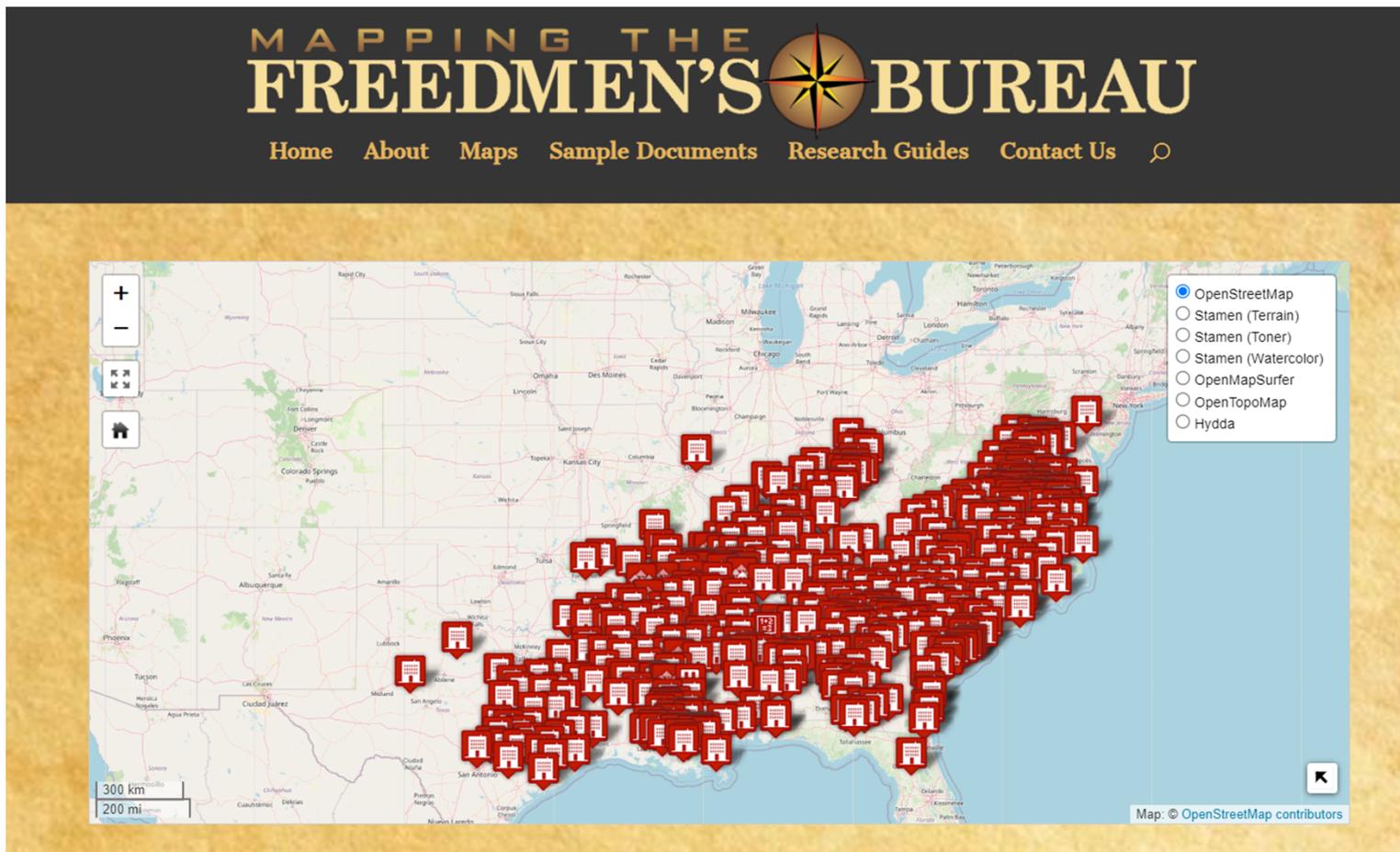
To access these maps, please click on the tab for the map you wish to view, then click the "View Map" button.

Freedman's Bank Branches

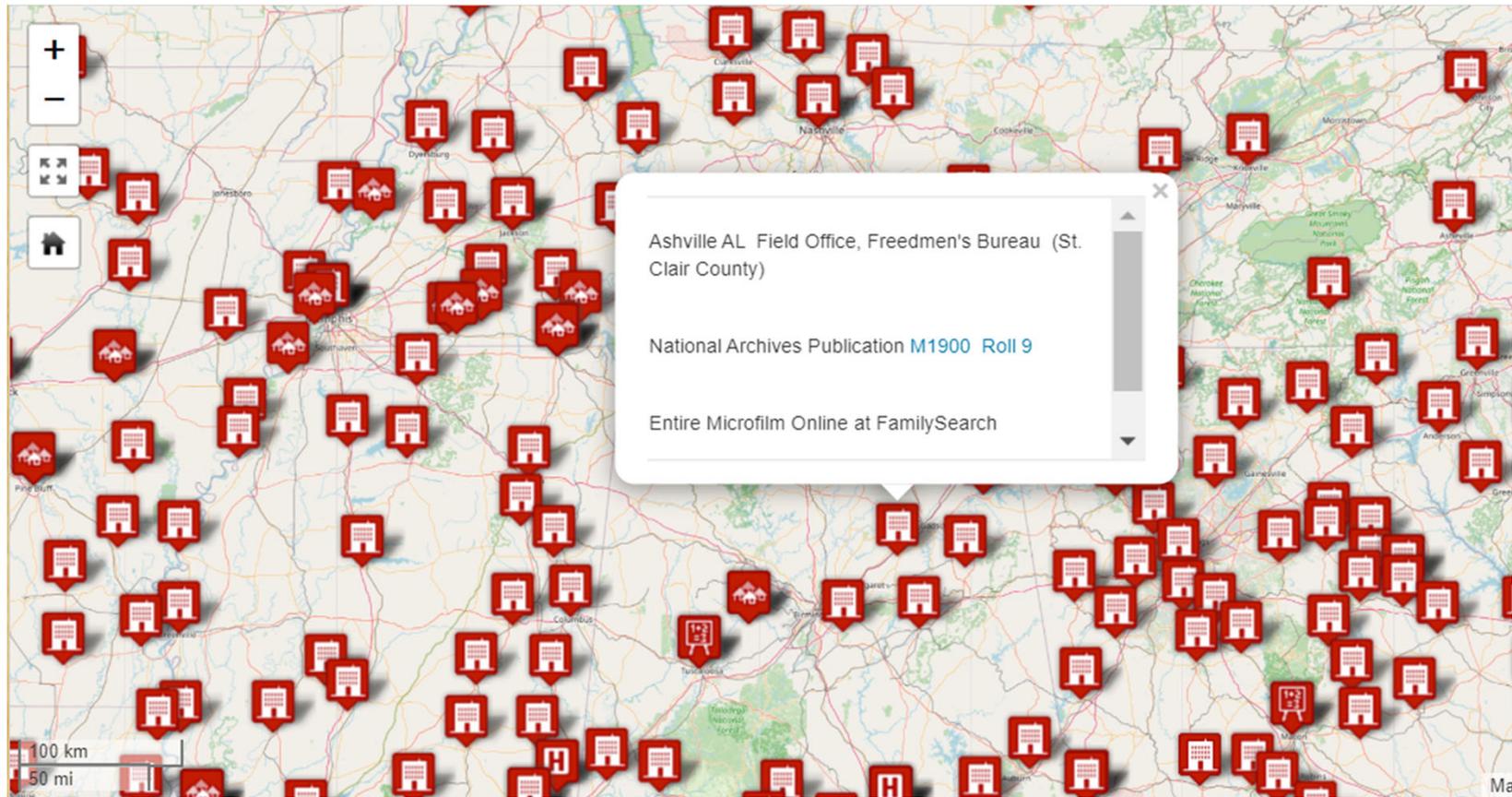
USCT Battle Sites

Slaves and Freedmen of Indian Territory

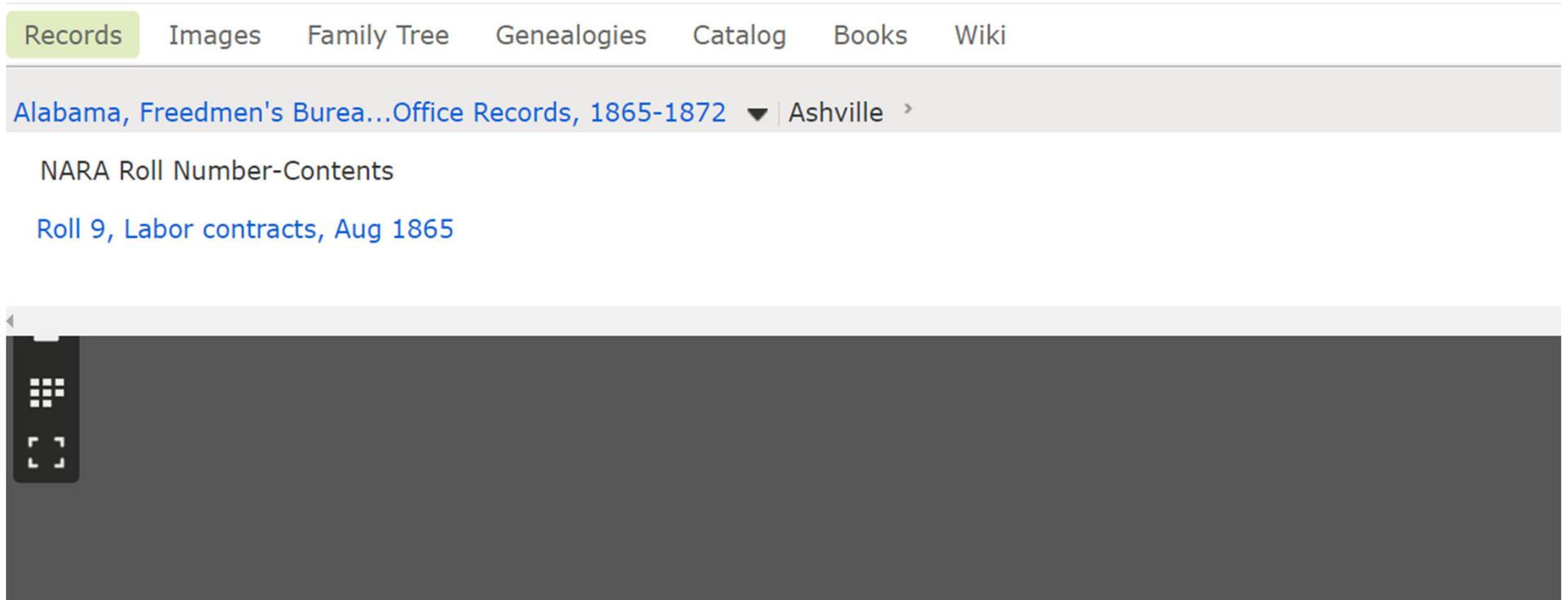
www.mappingthefreedmensbureau.com



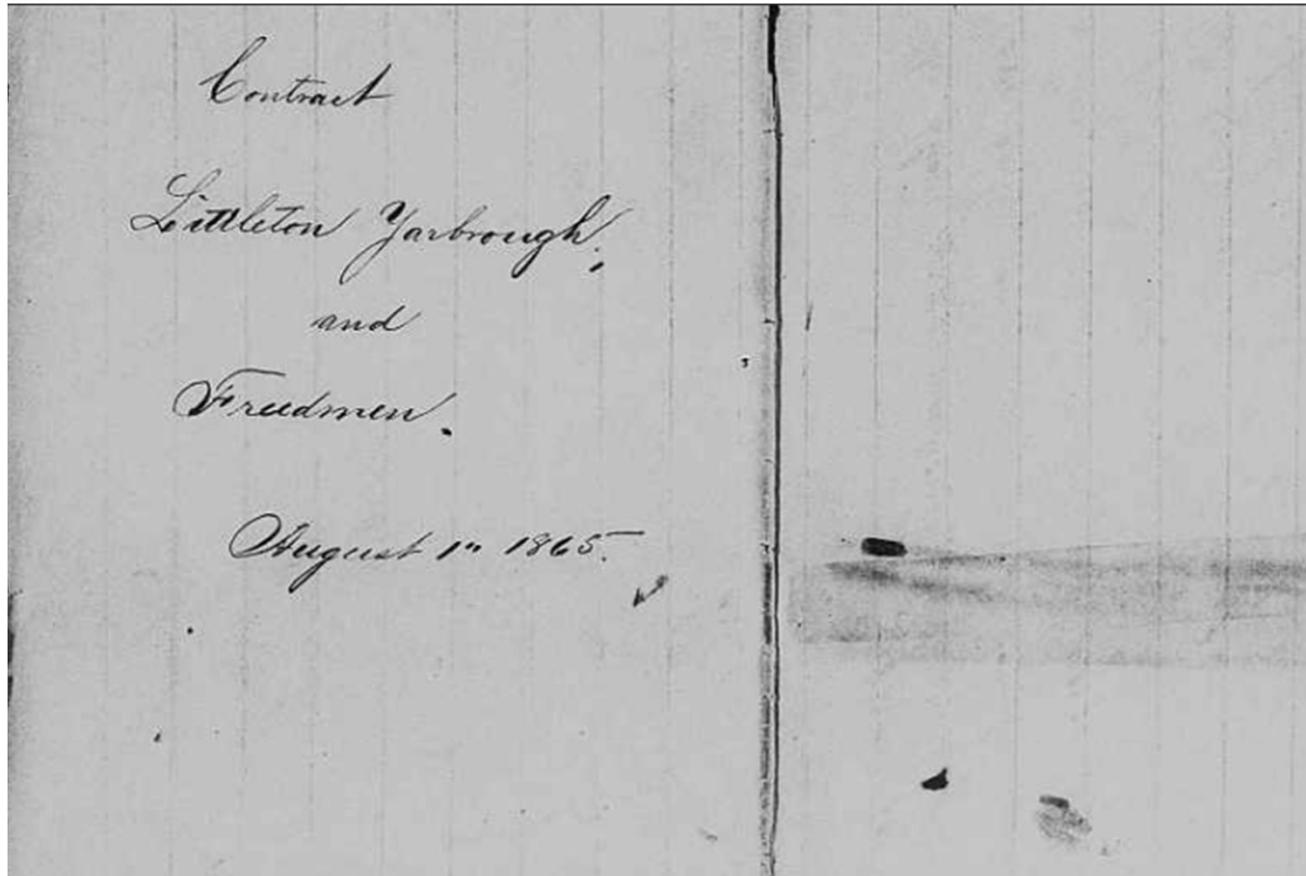
www.mappingthefreedmensbureau.com



www.mappingthefreedmensbureau.com



www.familysearch.org



Cover Page for a Labor Contract

State of Alabama St Clair Co

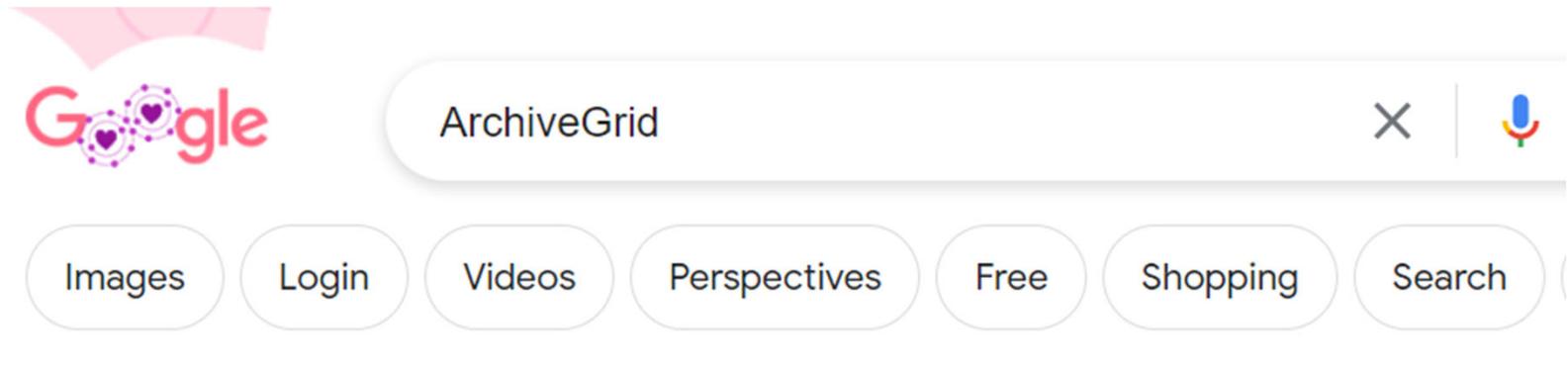
Articles of agreement entered into between
Litteton Garbrough & his former (Slaves) to wit Jerry a man 39 years old) Mouraw
a man 24 years old) Joseph a man 23 years old - Susinda a woman 32 years old
& her Children) Alexander 18 years old) David 15 years old) Charles 11 years old) and
Angeline 3 years old) - also Ann 30 years old & her Children to wit Eliza 12 years
old) Peter & Margaret twins 10 years old) James 8 years old) Eliza 6 years old
Lucy 4 years old) & Robert ^{one} 2 years old - ~~also~~ ^{23 years old} Susanna & her Children Aggy 8 years old
Allen 4 years old) & George an infant) also John & Harry twins 17 years old without
parance

Family information in the contract

Finding Manuscripts

Why find manuscripts?

- If you know the names of the enslavers, it is helpful to find any manuscript collections related to the enslaver
- Use ArchiveGrid to find local manuscripts



About 239,000 results (0.25 seconds)



OCLC

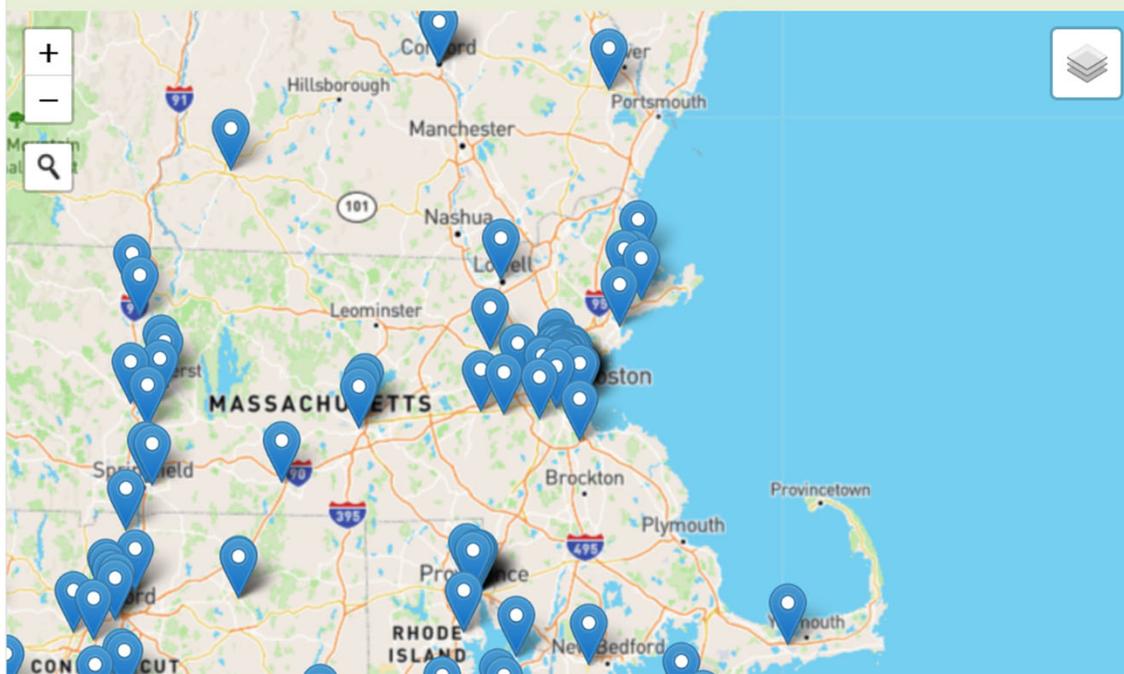
<https://researchworks.oclc.org> › archivegrid

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www.Google.com



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Eliza L. Magruder diary, 1846-1857

Magruder, Eliza L.,. 1803-1876

Louisiana State University - Special Collections

In the diary she comments on local social events and amusements, visiting friends, births and deaths, and treatment, care of, and unrest of slaves. She also records the weather, illness and death among slaves and friends and medical attention she provided, as well as her reading, sewing, and religious life, including comments on minsters and sermons she heard. In addition, she relates her aunt's activities in running the plantation after Joseph Dunbar's death

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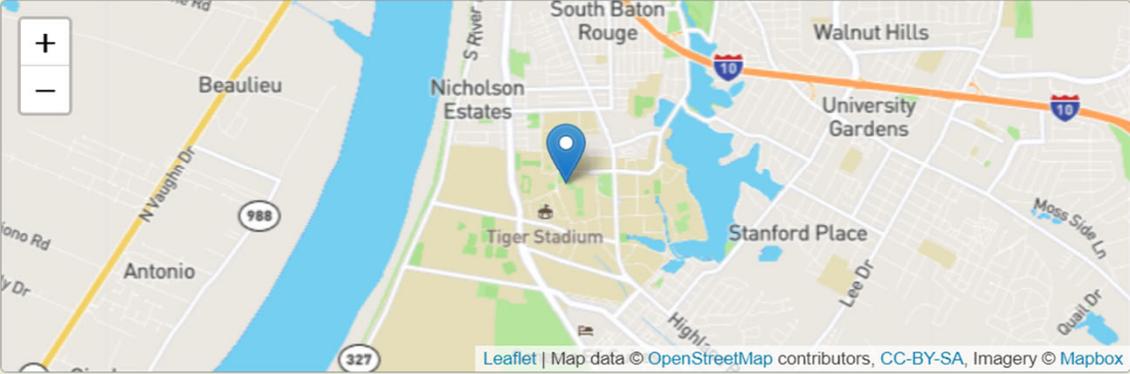
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