African-American Genealogy Resources

Web Sites
African-American Cemeteries Online
<www.prairiebluff.com/acemetary>
Click on a state and a cemetery name to find information about the cemetery and transcriptions from gravestones.

African-American Coal Miner Info Page
<freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~blackcoalminers>
Historical information, a list of coal miners and links to other resources.

The African-American Genealogy Ring
<afamgenealogy.ourfamily.com>
More than 90 connected sites for researching African-American roots.

African-American Lives
<www.pbs.org/wnet/aalives>
A companion to the PBS documentary with Henry Louis Gates, this site features a research guide and resource list.

The African-American Mosaic
<lcweb.loc.gov/exhibits/african/intro.html>
The Library of Congress' resource guide for the study of black history and culture.

African-Ancestored Mailing Lists
<www.rootsweb.com/~jfuller/gen_mail_african.html>
A compilation of mailing lists with instructions on joining each list.

The African—Native American History & Genealogy Web Page
<www.african-nativeamerican.com>
Information on former slaves and free African-Americans who lived in Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma) and among the Five Civilized Tribes.

African Voices
<www.mnh.si.edu/africanvoices>
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History exhibit.

AfriGeneas
<www.afrigeneas.com>
Help finding data on African-Americans prior to the 1870 census.

Black Bostonians and the Civil War
<www.nps.gov/boaaf/54th.htm>
The story of the 54th Massachusetts, the African-American regiment immortalized in the 1989 film Glory.

Born in Slavery
<memory.loc.gov/ammem/snhtml/snhome.html>
More than 2,300 first-person accounts of slavery and 500 photographs of former slaves.

Christine's Genealogy Website
<www.charity.com>
Links and information about the post-Civil War Freedmen's Bureau records and other resources.

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System
<www.itd.nps.gov/cwss>
Search for soldiers’ names and regimental histories of the Union Army's African-American units.

Cyndi's List: African-American
<www.cyndislist.com/african.htm>
Hundreds of African-American genealogy links.

The Encyclopædia Britannica Guide to Black History
<blackhistory.eb.com>
Articles, film clips and audio recordings, photographs, links and more.

Family Tree Magazine
African-American Toolkit

Free African Americans
<www.freeafricanamericans.com>
The text of Paul Heinegg's Free African Americans of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maryland and Delaware.

The Freedmen's Bureau Online
<freedmensbureau.com>
Records from the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, established in 1865 to aid freed slaves.

Homecoming
<www.pbs.org/homecoming>
Web companion to the PBS film about black farmers from the Civil War to the present.

In Motion: The African-American Migration Experience
<www.inmotionaame.org>
The 13 defining migrations that transformed African America.

The National Archives and Records Administration: African-American Research
<archives.gov/genealogy/heritage/african-american>
The US government’s record-keeping agency wrote this guide to researching African-American ancestors.

US Colored Troops Organized in South Carolina
<www.blackcamisards.com/sc-usct>
Resources for finding information on the 5,000-plus African-American soldiers who joined the Union in the Civil War.

The USF Africana Heritage Project
<www.africanaheritage.com>
Online records documenting slaves, freed persons and their descendants.

Books
African-American Genealogical Sourcebook edited by Paula K. Byers (Gale Group, $85)


Black Genealogy by Charles L. Blockson and Ron Fry (Black Classic Press, $14.95)

Black Indians: A Hidden Heritage by William Loren Katz (Aladdin Paperbacks, $10)

Black Names in America: Origins and Usage by Newbell Niles Puckett (G.K. Hall, out of print)

Black Roots: A Beginner’s Guide to Tracing the African American Family Tree by Tony Burroughs (Simon & Schuster, $13)

A Comprehensive Name Index for the American Slave by Howard E. Potts (Greenwood Press, $95)


Finding a Place Called Home: A Guide to African-American Genealogy and Historical Identity by Dee Parmer Woodtor (Random House, $18)

From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans by John Hope Franklin and Alfred A. Moss Jr. (Knopf, $49.95)


Slave Genealogy: A Research Guide with Case Studies by David H. Streets (Heritage Books, $19.50)

A Student’s Guide to African American Genealogy by Anne Johnson (Oryx Press, $24.95)

CD-ROMs

African Americans in the 1870 Census: Family Archive CD 165 (Genealogy.com, $29.99): Alphabetical index of approximately 660,000 African-Americans enumerated in the 1870 federal census.

African-Americans in the 1870 U.S. Federal Census (Heritage Quest, $24.95): Covers heads of household and people living in a household of a different name, but not all individuals.

Database for the Study of Afro-Louisiana History and Genealogy 1699-1860 edited by Gwenolyn Midlo Hall (Louisiana State University Press, $45): Searchable database of individual records for 100,000 slaves.

Freedman’s Bank Records (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, $9.95): Lists more than 70,000 African-American banking customers from 1865 to 1871.

Slave Narratives CD-ROM (Ancestry, $39.95): Firsthand accounts of more than 2,300 slaves narrated to researchers in 26 states; compiled by the Works Progress Administration between 1936 and 1938.


Organizations & Research Facilities

African-American Genealogy Group
Box 27356
Philadelphia, PA 19118
(215) 572-6063
<www.aagg.org>

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society
Box 73067
Washington, DC 20056
<www.aahgs.org>

Family History Library
35 N. West Temple St
Salt Lake City, UT 84150
(800) 346-6044
<www.familysearch.org>: Click the Library tab, then Family History Centers to find a branch Family History Center near you.

International Society of Sons and Daughters of Slave Ancestry
Box 436937
Chicago, IL 60643
<www.rootsweb.com/~iissdsa>

Julius K. Hunter & Friends African American Research Collection
St. Louis County Library
1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63131
(314) 994-3300
<www.slc.org/branches/hq/sc/jkh/sc_jkh_main.htm>

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408
Toll-free: (866) 272-6272
<archives.gov>
Visit <archives.gov/locations> to see locations of NARA’s regional research facilities.

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
50 E. Freedom Way
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 333-7500
<www.freedomcenter.org>
To make a research appointment at the John Parker Library/Family Search Center, call (513) 333-7654 or send an e-mail message to familysearchnurfc@yahoo.com.

The Newberry Library
60 W. Walton St.
Chicago, IL 60610
(312) 255-3512
<www.newberry.org/genealogy>

Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County
History and Genealogy Department
South Building, 3rd Floor
800 Vine St.
Cincinnati, OH 45202
(513) 369-6905
<www.cincinnatilibrary.org/main/hi.asp>

The Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African-American History & Culture
830 E. Pratt St.
Baltimore, MD 21202
(443) 263-1800
<www.africanamericanculture.org>

The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
515 Malcolm X Blvd.
New York, NY 10037
(212) 491-2200
<www.nypl.org/research/sc/sc.html>

Courtesy of Family Tree Magazine  <www.familytreemagazine.com>