

Civil War History Consortium Collection Survey 2003/2004

Cynthia Little

The African American Experience (Abolitionism, Underground RR, USCT, Camp William Penn, Free Black Leadership, churches, social, political and economic organizations)

Germantown Historical Society

Prints, Drawing and Photographs

1. Johnson House reputedly a stop on the Underground RR-home of the Quaker Johnson family with a long history of activism in abolition. 1993.524. Pen and ink drawing of Johnson House ca 20th century.

Built Legacy

1. Johnson House at intersection of Washington Lane and Germantown Avenue.

Bucks County Historical Society

1. Durham Vigilant Society B76 77 1832-57, 1832-1957 assists escaping slaves

Rosenbach Museum & Library

Painting

1. Frances Anne Kemble—Fanny Kemble portrait by Thomas Sully. She became an anti-slavery speaker after her divorce from Pierce Butler who owned large slave worked rice plantations. She kept a journal later published about what she saw there that horrified her. She met Butler in Philadelphia and was married to him at Christ Church.

Documentary-Manuscript

1. William Rush AMs 1850 Talk presented in West Chester..” Essay on the Africans having been subjected to more injuries than the Indians”.
2. William Rush AMs 1849 Mar 9 Response in a debate on slavery “ Ought slavery to be immediately abolished”.
3. Justice George Washington Woodward 1860 proslavery speech.

Independence National Historical Park

Built Legacy

1. Independence Hall—place in which legislation directly impacting the AFF community such as enforcing the provisions of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Act occurred.
2. Independence Square-used as gathering place by AA and white abolitionists to highlight the contradictions between the lofty ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the reality of slavery and racism.
3. Liberty Bell –rose to national prominence as a major symbol for the anti- slavery movement.
4. Former site of Washington’s home-place where two of his slaves lived and worked during his presidency in Philadelphia and the place they left when they escaped to freedom.

Church of the Holy Trinity

Built Legacy

1. Phillip Brooks the rector during the CW period established a Sunday School for African American children ca 1863 which met in the Parish House. In 1914 a building purchased on Lombard between 19th and 20th named after him originally and now called St. Phillips Memorial Church. He was an outspoken abolitionist and during the CW worked unsuccessfully with others to get a bill through council to racially integrate public transportation so that black soldiers and their families could visit when men stationed at Camp William Penn north of the city.

Friends Historical Library Swarthmore College

Artifacts and Paintings

1. Oil painting (ca 4'x3') of Lucretia Mott, abolition leader from Philadelphia, by William Henry Furness, Jr.

Textile

1. Anti-Slavery Bag presented to L Mott by an English member of an antislavery society in England --sale of these bags financed anti slavery work

Sculpture:

1. Plaster bust of Lucretia Mott

Documentary

1. This collection has records for all Friends meetings including years leading up to and through the CW. Minutes and other records would include information about members involvement with abolition, pro and con, stance on the CW, African American members, services to the freed slaves. Includes records of PA yearly Meeting of Progressive Friends opened at Longwood PA I 1853 as a separation from the Philadelphia based Hicksite Meeting. Most rejoined the Hicksite meeting after 1860. Longwood members were heavily involved with the underground RR and sent delegations to WDC to meet with AL about the was and policy towards current and former slaves. Haverford College also holds some of these records.
2. Correspondence from and to Lucretia and James Mott 1834-1896.. Will lend originals if proper conditions. 1834-1896 (cross-referenced Home Front). Many of her letters are exhibition quality visually.
3. Friends Freedman's Association Records 1893-1982 purpose to provide relief and education to freed slaves during and after CW—organized by Phila Quakers (cross referenced Home Front)
4. Many large family collections which will include correspondence during period leading to and through CW. Some will address abolition and African African experience no easy finding aid. Ferris, Biddle, Hallowell, Fell, Johnson, Haines, Lewis (Graceanna Lewis involved with abolition Chester County and science), Fussell (observation on CW) (Cross-referenced Home Front)
5. Fair Hill Burial Ground Philadelphia records many prominent abolitionists buried here. EG Robert Purvis and Lucretia and James Mott
6. Home for the Moral Reform of Destitute Colored Children 1859-1907-Phila

7. Pennsylvania Hall Association 1837-1899 stock holders association raised funds to build PA Hall for abolition meetings burned by whites threatened by abolition.

8. Richard Humphreys Foundation 1837-1982 left funds for establishment of schools for black children in PA. Founded Institute for Colored Youth which later became Cheyney State College.

9. Sunnycrest Farm for Negro Boys at Cheyney PA. 1855-1956 originally called Home for Destitute Colored Children provided shelter and education and placed them with private families.

Photographs:

1. Extensive collection of Friends and friends of Friends need to access by name of sitter.

Built Legacy

1. Longwood Cemetery in Chester County has county's CW monument which includes name of a woman who died while nursing the troops.

Chester County Historical Society includes County Archives

Documentary

1. Fugitive Slave Records 1805, 1820-1839) Records of cases heard by Chester County justices of the peace regarding the return of fugitive slaves found in Chester County. Information in records varies but usually includes name, age, physical description and name and residence of reputed owner.
2. African American Life in CC may be found in most record series, including probate, court, and tax records.

Manuscripts

1. John H. Taggart letters, 1863-65, Free Military School, USCT

Prints, Drawings and Photographs

1. 1 quarter plate daguerreotype portrait by an unidentified maker, Passamore Williamson in Moyamensing Prison 1855. Williamson assisted in the escape of Jane Johnson and children.
2. 2 sixth plate daguerreotype portraits, Castner Hanway and his first wife Martha Lamborn 1850s. Castner Hanway was one of those put on trial after the Christiana riots.
3. Misc collection of photographs of 17 AME and AUMP churches in Chester County. Among those included are Hosanna AUMP in Lower Oxford and Bethel AME in West Chester.
4. Daguerreotype of Frederick Douglass ca 1848
5. 1 album carte-de-visite portraits of members of Longwood Progressive Friends Meeting 1860s.

PAFA Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Artifacts and Paintings

1. Sculpture “Freedman” by J.Q.A. Ward 1863 expressed the artist’s pro abolitionist sentiments showing the slave freeing himself and not being freed through the Emancipation Proclamation
2. “John Brown Going to his Hanging” by Horace Pippin 1942, oil on canvas.

Historic La Mott Community

Built Legacy

1. This community just north of Philadelphia in Cheltenham Township was the site of Camp William Penn for black soldiers in the Union Army. There is one PHMC marker and one community erected marker commemorating this CW site. This historic black neighborhood grew up around the camp. The gates to Camp William Penn are adjacent to the PHMC marker as is the gate house.
2. Nearby on Old York Road is a PHMC marker for Roadside the home of Lucretia and James Mott—house no longer exists. Gatehouse to Roadside reputedly exists inside Latham Park on private property.
3. During the mid 1800's the area had a number of Quakers, many of whom were involved with abolition and the underground RR which was active along Washington Lane which moved people from the Germantown area as they made their way further north. Neighborhood oral tradition posits that there was/is an underground tunnel for several blocks running east/west which might have been used to hide runaways—very close to where the Motts lived.

Fire House 1914 (on Willow Avenue) is home to the museum collection

Artifacts:

1. 5 CW period muskets
2. 1 small hand gun

Textiles-Flags (reproductions)

1. Flag of 3rd US Colored Troops (first unit formed at Camp Wm Penn) Painting on both sides of the blue silk background by David Bowser eagle image one side and soldier receiving US flag from woman as liberty on other side.
2. Flag with motto "We will prove Ourselves"
3. Banner made by Emily Winslow Taylor carried in London and Paris during European anti-slavery protests—might have been used when she accompanied Lucretia Mott and William Lloyd Garrison to London. Given by family in 1987 Silk background for the words as Lucretia Mott would not have cotton because it was grown by slave labor.

Documentary

1. One large (7.5 ft high x 4 ft wide) broadside “Men of Color to Arms: Now or Never names many prominent African Americans listed at bottom including O Catto, Frederick Douglas, John White.
2. 3 Matthew Brady photos (might be reproductions of Brady’s) 1. Camp William Penn Barracks taken from the west to east—very clear 2 on the occasion of AL’s funeral procession coming to Phila 1 shows barracks draped with black bunting and flag at half mast other with soldiers in formation ready to accompany AL’s catafalque. 1865
3. Ledger Book 1869 with bonds from period many have CW iconography

NARA Mid Atlantic Branch of the National Archives

Documentary

1. Records of the Provost Marshall General's Bureau has records for Camp William Penn. Includes letters and telegrams sent and received, general and special orders, daily reports of inspection, guard reports and Troop registers officers, men discharged and transferred, desertions, discharges, deaths and casualties.
This set of records in NA Washington, DC

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Documentary

Manuscript

1. American Negro Historical Society Collection includes soldiers experiences, education, religion, and community topics
2. Papers of the Pennsylvania Abolition Society 1775-present
3. Free Military School register of Philadelphia Supervisory Committee for the Recruiting of Colored Regiments
4. Two copies of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by AL
5. Diary (34 volumes) of Emilie Davis a young African American woman living in Philadelphia during CW. Relates daily events eg attending church, ironing, sewing, funeral and weddings. News of black soldiers leaving for war, Lincoln funeral train visit,
6. Butler Family Papers—shows the close link between slave holding south and Philadelphia elite—records of most of the Butler plantations with listing of slaves in this collection. Butlers lived both in Philadelphia and in Carolinas and Georgia.

Prints, Drawing, and Photographs

1. US Soldiers at Camp William Penn 1864 P.S. Duval & Son

Special Collection Quaker Collection at Haverford College Magill Library

The heavy involvement of many Friends in the abolition movement and the peace movement meant that their activities related to the CW and its legacy are distinct from other groups. For example, many Quaker men were conscientious objectors during the war and many men and women had been heavily involved with abolition and later with efforts to educate and assist freed slaves in the post war period.

Manuscript

1. #851 Correspondence (this is tip of iceberg) from Lucretia Mott with strong quotes for example: 1863 7 mo 1st Written at Roadside her home in Cheltenham to Catharine Emily Mott “Whatever is our country coming to-The enemy at our door-The colored people are behaving manfully. We can’t help speak warlike tongues
2. #851 Letter from James Mott in which he solicits funds for the PA Anti-slavery Society
3. #950 Invitation to the wedding of prominent abolitionists Angelina Grimke and Theodore Weld in 1838 signed by Weld. Guest list was interracial.
4. #950 James C. Gibson Deposition sworn to and signed by Henry Parker 1860 attesting the antislavery statements by Lucretia Mott and William M Davis at a meeting of John Brown sympathizers on the day of his execution.
5. Charles Roberts Autograph Collection Box 325 has abolitionists
6. #750 October 24, 1863 war views on abolition, Gens. Meade and Lee from Morris Abell to James Sullender, Phila
7. #903 John Biddle Garrett letter to family members describing relief work for the freed slaves and a peace conference John B. Garrett Collection
8. From Chrono file 1865 8 mo 4, Philadelphia, Phillip C Garrett to James E. Roads reports he has shipped a lot of supplies to the Freedmen’s Store at Old Point Comfort including Sunday School Books.
9. 1866 3 mo 33-5 mo 11 #950,951 Sarah Cadbury’s letters from Slabtown, Va to her family in Germantown about her experiences teaching in a Negro school run

by the Friends. Also are images of her and a couple of letters from a friend from the Philadelphia area who accompanied her.

10. #950 Misc Ms Friends Freedman Association Margaret Acton Griscon account of Women's Association of Philadelphia for Relief of Freedmen 62-65. Includes list of contributors.
11. Note: The journal "The Friend" has several articles on freedman's work done by Quaker eg 36(1863)229-231

Philadelphia Museum of Art

Prints, Drawing, and Photographs

1. Dox Thrash, African American artist, drawing of a Union Soldier done in 1930s WPA project
2. John Brown the Martyr 2870 published by Currier and Ives
Text below image John Brown meeting a slave mother and her child on the steps of Charleston Jail on his way to execution. Regarding them with a look of compassion Captain Brown stooped and kissed the child then met his fate.
3. Etching John Brown going to Execution by Thomas Hovedeon
3. Wood engraving. "Sensation among Our Colored Brethren" Dec 20, 1862 from Harpers Weekly

Camden County Historical Society

Documentary

1. Bond of William Barnes for slave named Sally (July 24, 1861)

Prints

1. Print of Union soldier reading the Emancipation Proclamation to African American portrait of AL below

Atwater Kent Museum of Philadelphia

Prints, Drawings, and Photographs

1. 59.18.4.1 Drawing of runaway slaves in pay of Union Army stopping along Mississippi—no direct PA connection
2. Drawing of AA troops and new recruits from plantations of LA
3. Pencil drawing of Hancock on horseback crowds in street—background jail which held John Brown
4. Drawing pencil of AA servant of Union General Butler cleaning boots
5. Pencil sketch of people listening to music in barn..foreground AA background Union soldiers
6. Drawing at night on the Lever Road below New Orleans

Historical Society of PA collection AKMP

Artifacts and Paintings

Material related to John Brown.

1. Coffin Fragment
2. Pike used at Harper's Ferry

Restraint Items probably used some time on slaves during 1800's.

1. Slave harness
2. Pair of wrought iron shackles ca 1800
3. Shackle

Textiles

1. Flag-image of black man w/whip and horse on left –man sitting on cotton bale, large palmetto in center, small tree left, cannon n right w 5rifles etc Confederate recruiting flag HSP.R-7-8

The State Museum of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

Artifacts

1. Pike ordered by John Brown to arm slaves during his planned revolt Numbered 149 and reputedly taken from the house in Chambersburg where Brown stayed prior to the 1859 raid

Works on Paper

1. The Last Moments of John Brown, color litho Gebbie and Husson Co. after Hovenden 1889

Sculpture

1. The Slave Auction- by John Rogers 1859

African American Museum in Philadelphia

Artifacts:

1. 83 coins #485-90.014 CW period
2. Musket (more information forthcoming)
3. Sword #90 81.003

Photographs:

1. 2 photographs of unknown black soldiers in uniform (additional information forthcoming)
2. Walter Hall in uniform #625-94.043

Documentary:

1. Uncle Tom's Cabin 1852 #11-76.004, 76.019 (44-45)
2. Discharge Papers of General White #599-94.013
3. Discharge Papers of Joseph Quinn 1867 #71-80.001
4. 3 Note cards/ 3 envelopes (small collections archives box) Unit #4/Shelf 44 + 45 with cartoons expressing political sentiments

The Lower Merion Historical Society

Documentary

1. Ledger from the local library documenting who (always in man's name) borrowed books from library 1840's.-can see patterns of who reading anti-slavery materials.

Built Legacy

1. Old rail lines especially one for the Philadelphia/Columbia (a freight line) now R5 line reputedly used for Underground RR activities because Columbia near the Mason Dixon Line. Some of the houses near the train lines have reputation as being used as safe houses.

Library Company of Philadelphia

² Broadsides and Prints

1. Several Men of Color ! posters for black recruitment; one is 7 ft long and lists names of prominent local and national men of color
2. Reading the Emancipation Proclamation engraving by James Watt after painting by Henry Herrick-very portentous one black Union soldier
2. **“Destroyed by Fire Pennsylvania Hall May 17, 1838 color lithograph**
3. **Thomas Nast’s “Emancipation, the Past and the Future” 1864 colored engraving-allegory of Emancipation Proclamation Jan 23, 1863 sold at the Great Sanitary Fair theme is freedom and emancipation.**

Pamphlets

1. Black recruiting –related literature
2. Extensive collection of anti-slavery and abolitionist literature published in Philadelphia over long time period
3. Publications of the supervisory Committee for Recruiting Colored Regiments.
4. Small Broadside from the Sanitary Fair sponsored by Ladies of the St Thomas Church Sanitary Commission , held at Concert Hall (Chestnut St above 12th) December 19, 1864 —served the African American community
5. “An Appeal to those members of the Society of Friends who, knowing the Principles of the Abolitionists, Stand Aloof from the Anti-Slavery Enterprise 1848 by Graceanne Lewis-well known abolitionist from Chester County home used on Underground RR-began her activism at age 16

Manuscripts and Books

1. Minutes of the 5th Annual Convention for the Improvement of the Free People of Color in the US (1835)
2. An Appeal to the Females of AME Church Philadelphia 1857 by Mary Still Urges women to support publications such as the Christian Record
3. The Colored Regulars in the US Army with a Sketch of the History of the Colored American by Theophilus G. Steward published in Philadelphia AME Book 1904

Charles Blockson Collection at Temple University

Collection is primarily books, many first editions. What follows is a selection of items related to underground railroad, slave trade, abolition, and slavery.

Manuscripts

1. Letter from William Still one year after he published his classic work *The Underground Railroad*
2. *Landmark of Freedom: Speech of Charles Sumner Against the Repeal of the Missouri Prohibition of Slavery North of 36/30 in the Senate Feb 21, 1854*. Congressional offprint
3. *Minutes of the Proceedings of the 7th Convention of Delegates from Abolition Society in Philadelphia 1801*

Books

1. William Still The Underground Railroad 1872, salesman's dummy edition.
2. William Still, The Underground Railroad 1883
3. Frederick Douglas Life and Times of Frederick Douglas 1881, 1882.
4. Frederick Douglas, My Bondage and My Freedom 1855
5. James Williams Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas 1846,54 6.
6. The North and the South: Being a Statistical View of the Condition of the Free and Slave States 1857
7. Proceedings of the Anti-Slavery Convention Assembled in Philadelphia December 4,5,6 1833.
8. What Answer? Anna E. Dickinson 1868 (leading abolitionist)
9. The Trial of the Constitution by Sidney George Fisher of Philadelphia 1862
10. 11. A View of the Present State of the African Slave Trade published by the Society of Friends, 1824
12. "Who is on the Lord's Side? Or Does the Bible Sanction Slavery? 1864 Boston
13. J. Elizabeth Jones, The Young Abolitionist, or, Conversations on Slavery Boston 1848,
14. Religious Experience of Mrs. Jarena Lee 1849 (associated with Rev. R. Allen)
15. Scenes in the Life of Harriet Tubman
16. W. Yates, Right of Colored Men to Suffrage, Citizenship and Trial by Jury: Being a Book of Facts, Arguments, and Authoritative History: Notices, Sketches, Debates
17. William Drayton (attributed), The South Vindicated from The Treason and Fanaticism of the northern Abolitionist. Philadelphia 1836
18. Frances Anne Kemble, Journal of a Residence on a Georgian Plantation 1863

Books and Plays Fiction

1. Harriet Beecher Stowe Uncle Tom's Cabin 1st English edition 1852
2. Wilfred and Mary, or, Father and Daughter: A Domestic Comedy Illustrative of Slave Life 1861
3. Sarah Joseph Hale. Northwood: Life North and South Slavery through the Character of Both 1852.

Pamphlets

1. Statistics of the Colored People of Philadelphia 1856. 16 pp.

Mother Bethel Church AME

Artifacts:

1. Clay Water Vessel discovered in the church's foundations in late 1880's, probably dates back to CW era and earlier
2. 6 chairs (wood) bow backs Windsor style no nails thought to date to 1,2, and 3rd church building the latter covered CW era
3. Clock hung in the 3rd church (1841-1881)
4. Mahogany pillars used as the bases for lamps in the 3rd church
5. Pulpit chairs (wood) used in 1-3 church buildings
6. Pulpit from the 3rd building
7. 4 pews of wood used in 2nd and 3rd church buildings
8. Ballot Box with black and white balls in drawers used for voting no date

Documentary:

1. Historical church records are on microfilm and can be used at HSP.
2. Church has a few copies of the Christian Recorder from the 1800's. Christian Recorder and other black newspaper for 19th century accessible on line
3. Bethel Sunday School Minutes 1863-65

Prints, Photographs, and Drawings

1. Print of the 3rd church by A. Hoffy
2. Photograph of 3rd church building
3. Photograph of Fanny Jackson Coppin (1835-1912) active in civic life especially education and the church

Broadside

1. Slave hunters poster from 1851- from Massachusetts

Textiles

1. lady's dress ca 1850 thought to be type worn to the 3rd church

Old York Road Historical Society

Box of Materials Related to Camp William Penn.

Box contains 3 original items—fair ticket to aid sick and wounded soldiers, original plan of CWP, original pass 1864 not filled out. Most of the boxes contents are contemporary to last 25 years plus and focus on efforts to get recognition for CWP and to find funds to make it a historical destination.