

1850 Slave Schedule

Schedule 2.-Slave Inhabitants in _____ in the County of _____ State of _____, enumerated by me, on the _____ day of _____, 1850 Ass't Marchal.

	NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS	Number of Slaves	DESCRIPTION			Fugitives from the State	Number manumitted	Deaf & Dumb, blind, insane or idiotic
			Age	Sex	Color			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								
9								
10								

African Americans in the Federal Censuses

African Americans were enumerated in the census as all other U.S. residents from 1870 (the first census year following the Civil War and emancipation) onward. Prior to 1870, however, the situation was far different. Although free African Americans were enumerated by name in 1850 and 1860, slaves were consigned to special, far less informative, schedules in which they were listed anonymously under the names of their owners. The only personal information provided was usually that of age, gender, and racial identity (either black or mulatto). As in the free schedules, there was a column in which certain physical or mental infirmities could be noted. In some instances, the census takers noted an occupation, usually carpenter or blacksmith, in this column. Slaves aged 100 years or more were given special treatment; their names were noted, and sometimes a short biographical sketch was included. In at least one instance, that of 1860 Hampshire County, Virginia, the names of all slaves were included on the schedules, but this happy exception may be the only instance when the instructions were not followed.

Sometimes the listings for large slaveholdings appear to take the form of family groupings, but in most cases slaves are listed from eldest to youngest with no apparent effort to portray family structure. In any event, the slave schedules themselves almost never provide conclusive evidence for the presence of a specific slave in the household or plantation of a particular slaveowner. At best, a census slave schedule can provide supporting evidence for a hypothesis derived from other sources.¹ Prior to 1850 there were no special slave schedules for the manuscript census, as slave data was recorded as part of the general population schedules. In these, only the heads of household were enumerated by name.

In the absence of any contradictory information, it might be assumed that a family of freed people enumerated in the 1870 census was living not far from its last owner, whose surname they also bore. There would, of course, be reasons to dispute both assumptions. (Knowledge of the Civil War history of a locality could come into play here; for example, such relative stability would not have existed in a Georgia county that was in the path of Sherman's march to the sea.) Even so, this assumption represents one of the more obvious exploratory lines of research, especially in the absence of any other options. The first step in testing the hypothesis would be to search for slaveowners of the same surname in the 1860 slave schedules of the

county in which the African American family resided in 1870.

Starting in 1850, another supplemental schedule, the mortality schedule, listed all deaths within a year before the regular census enumeration.² The deaths of blacks and mulattoes, both free and slave, are recorded in them, even though their names have not been included in many of the indexes to these schedules.³ The deaths of slaves were generally enumerated in four fashions: unnamed (as in the slave schedules), but perhaps with the owner identified; by first name only; by first name and surname; and by first name with the owner noted.

Notes

1. The use of the slave schedules as supporting documentation is amply demonstrated in David H. Streets, *Slave Genealogy: A Research Guide with Case Studies* (Bowie, MD: Heritage, 1986), although, not surprisingly, their use is confined to small slaveholdings.
2. See Loretto Dennis Szucs, "Research in Census Records" in *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*, Rev. ed. (Salt Lake City, UT: Ancestry, 1997).
3. A notable exception is found in Jonnie B. Arnold, *Index to 1860 Mortality Schedule of South Carolina* (Greenville, SC: the author, 1982). On the other hand, many of the indexes appearing on the National Archives microfilm publications of these schedules, as well as those published by Accelerated Indexing, should be treated with caution.

Editor's Note: This article was excerpted from *Finding Your African American Ancestors*, by David Thackery. Other sources covered in the book include: probate records; deeds and other local records; plantation records; other records of slave births and deaths; runaway slaves; The Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands; The Freedman's Savings and Trust; and military records. Also included are case studies, a selection of slave narratives from a variety of states, bibliographic information, and an extensive listing of additional resources for African American research.

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			Age	Sex	Color								Age	Sex	Color				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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Eleventh Census of the United States.

SCHEDULE NO. 1.
POPULATION AND SOCIAL STATISTICS.

Supervisor's District No. _____

Enumeration District No. _____

Name of city, town, township, precinct, district, beat, or other minor civil division. } _____ County : _____ State : _____

Street and No.: _____ Ward : _____ Name of Institution : _____

Enumerated by me on the _____ day of June, 1890 _____ Enumerator.

A.—Number of Dwelling-house in the order of visitation.		B.—Number of families in this dwelling-house.		C.—Number of persons in this dwelling-house.		D.—Number of Family in the order of visitation.		E.—No. of Persons in this family.	
---	--	---	--	--	--	---	--	-----------------------------------	--

INQUIRIES.		1	2	3	4	5
1	Christian name in full, and initial of middle name.					
	Surname.					
2	Whether a soldier, sailor, or marine during the civil war (U.S. or Conf.) or widow of such person.					
3	Relationship to head of family.					
4	Whether white, black, mulatto, quadroon, octoroon, Chinese, Japanese, or Indian.					
5	Sex.					
6	Age at nearest birthday. If under one year, give age in months.					
7	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced.					
8	Whether married during the census year (June 1, 1889, to May 31, 1890).					
9	Mother of how many children, and number of these children living.					
10	Place of birth.					
11	Place of birth of Father .					
12	Place of birth of Mother .					
13	Number of years in the United States.					
14	Whether naturalized.					
15	Whether naturalization papers have been taken out.					
16	Profession, trade, or occupation.					
17	Months employed during the census year (June 1, 1889, to May 31, 1890).					
18	Attendance at school (in months) during the census year (June 1, 1889, to May 31, 1890).					
19	Able to Read .					
20	Able to Write .					
21	Able to speak English. If not, the language or dialect spoken.					
22	Whether suffering from acute or chronic disease, with name of disease and length of time afflicted.					
23	Whether defective in mind, sight, hearing, or speech, or whether crippled, maimed, or deformed, with name or defect.					
24	Whether a prisoner, convict, homeless child, or pauper.					
25	Supplemental schedule and page.					

TO ENUMERATORS.—See inquiries numbered 26 to 30, inclusive, on the second page of this schedule. These inquiries must be made concerning each family and each farm visited.

1920 United States Federal Census

State: _____ County: _____ City / Township: _____
 Call Number/URL: _____ Enumeration District: _____ Sheet Number: _____ Enumeration Date: _____

Line Number	Place of Abode				Name of each person whose place of abode on January 1, 1920 was in this family	Relation Relationship of this person to the head of the family	Tenure		Sex	Personal Description			Citizenship			Education	
	Street, avenue, road, etc.	House number or farm	Dwelling number	Number of family, in order of visitation			Home owned or rented	If owned, free or mortgaged		Color or Race	Age at last birthday	Single, married, widowed or divorced	Year of immigration to the United States	Naturalized or alien	If naturalized, year of naturalization	Attended school anytime since Sept. 1, 1919	Able to read
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

Line Number	Nativity and Mother Tongue						Occupation				
	Place of birth of each person and parents of each person enumerated. If born in the United States, give state or territory. If foreign birth, give the place of birth, and, in addition, the mother tongue.						Able to speak english	Trade, profession or particular kind of work done	Industry, business or establishment of work done	Employer, salary or wage worker, or working on own account	No. of farm schedule
	Person		Father		Mother						
	Place of Birth	Mother Tongue	Place of Birth	Mother Tongue	Place of Birth	Mother Tongue					
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	

STATE	<h1>1940 Federal Census</h1>										ENUMERATION DISTRICT NO.	SHEET NO.
COUNTY											SUPERVISOR'S DISTRICT NO.	
TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY											ENUMERATED BY ME ON _____, 1940	
INCORPORATED PLACE											_____, ENUMERATOR	
WARD OF CITY	BLOCK NO.	UNINCORPORATED PLACE	INSTITUTION									

Line No.	LOCAT-ION		HOUSEHOLD DATA				NAME Name of each person whose <i>usual</i> place of residence on April 1, 1940, was in this household. BE SURE TO INCLUDE: 1. Persons temporarily absent from household. Write "Ab" after names of such persons. 2. Children under 1 year of age. Write "Infant" if child has not been given a first name. Enter (S) after name of person furnishing information.	RELATION Relationship of this person to the head of the household, as wife, daughter, father, mother-in-law, grandson, lodger, lodger's wife, servant, hired hand, etc.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION				EDUCATION			PLACE OF BIRTH		CITI-ZEN-SHIP Citizenship of the foreign born	RESIDENCE, APRIL 1, 1935					
	Street, Avenue, road, etc.	House Number	No. of Household in order of visitation	Home owned (O) or rented (R)	Value of home or Monthly rental if rented.	Farm? (Yes or No)			CODE (Leave Blank)	Sex	Color or Race	Age at Last Birthday	Marital Status	Attended school or college at any time since March 1, 1940?	Highest grade of school completed	CODE (Leave Blank)	If born in U.S. give state, territory or possession. If foreign born, give country in which birthplace was situated on Jan. 1, 1937. Distinguish: Canada-French from Canada-English and Irish Free State from Northern Ireland.		CODE (Leave Blank)	City, town, or village having 2,600 or more inhabitants If less, enter "R."	County	State (or Territory or foreign country)	On a Farm? (Y or N)	CODE (Leave Blank)
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	A	9	10	11	12	13	14	B	15	C	16	17	18	19	20	D
1.																								
2.																								
3.																								
4.																								
5.																								
6.																								
7.																								

PERSONS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER – EMPLOYMENT STATUS

Line No.	Was this person AT WORK for pay or profit in private or nonemergency Govt. work during week of March 24-30? (Y or N)	If not, was he at work on, or assigned to, public EMERGENCY WORK (WPA, NYA, CCC, etc.) during week of March 24-30? (Y or N)	If neither at work nor assigned to public emergency work. ("No" in cols. 21 & 22)		For persons answering "No" to questions 21-24.		If at private or nonemergency Govt. work. "Yes" in col. 21	If seeking work or assigned to public emergency work. "Yes" in col. 22 or 23	OCCUPATION, INDUSTRY, AND CLASS OF WORKER For a person at work, assigned to public emergency work, or with a job ("Yes" in col. 21, 22, or 24), enter present occupation, industry, and class of worker. For a person seeking work ("Yes" in col. 23): (a) if he has previous work experience, enter last occupation, industry, and class of worker; or (b) if he does not have previous work experience, enter "New worker" in Col. 28, and leave Cols. 29-30 blank.					Number of weeks worked in 1939 (Equivalent full-time weeks)	INCOME IN 1939 (12 months ending Dec. 31, 1939.)		Number of Farm Schedule
			Was this person SEEKING WORK? (Y or N)	If not seeking work, did he HAVE A JOB, business, etc.? (Y or N)	Indicate whether engaged in home housework (H), in school (S), unable to work (U), or other (O). CODE	Number of hours worked during week of March 24-30, 1940.			Duration of un-employment up to March 30, 1940 – in weeks.	OCCUPATION Trade, profession, or particular kind of work, as – <i>Frame spinner</i> <i>Salesman</i> <i>Laborer</i> <i>Rivet heater</i> <i>Music teacher</i>	INDUSTRY Industry or business, as— <i>Cotton mill</i> <i>Retail grocery</i> <i>Farm</i> <i>Shipyards</i> <i>Public school</i>	Class of Worker CODE (leave blank)	Amount of money, wages or salary received (including commissions)		Did this person receive income of \$50 or more from sources other than money wages or salary (Y or N)		
	21	22	23	24	25	E	26	27	28	29	30	F	31	32	33	34	
1.																	
2.																	
3.																	
4.																	
5.																	
6.																	
7.																	

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS For Persons Enumerated on Lines 14 and 29.		FOR PERSONS OF ALL AGES									FOR PERSONS 14 YEARS OLD AND OVER							FOR ALL WOMEN WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN MARRIED		
		PLACE OF BIRTH OF FATHER AND MOTHER		MOTHER TONGUE	Language spoken in home in earliest childhood.	CODE (leave blank)	VETERANS			SOCIAL SECURITY			USUAL OCCUPATION, INDUSTRY, AND CLASS OF WORKER Enter that occupation which the person regards as his usual occupation and at which he is physically able to work. If the person is unable to determine this, enter that occupation at which he has worked longest during the past 10 years and at which he is physically able to work. Enter also usual industry and usual class of worker.				Has this woman been married more than once? (Yes or No)	Age at first marriage.	Number of children ever born. (Do not include stillbirths.)	
		If born in U.S. give state, territory or possession. If foreign born, give country in which birthplace was situated on Jan. 1, 1937. Distinguish: Canada-French from Canada-English and Irish Free State from Northern Ireland.	CODE (leave blank)	Is this person a veteran of the United States military forces: or the wife, widow, or under 18-year-old child of a veteran?			If so enter "Yes"	If child, is veteran-father dead? (Y or N)	War or Military Service	CODE (leave blank)	Does this person have a Federal Social Security Number? (Yes, or No)	Were deductions for Federal Old-Age Insurance or Railroad Retirement made from this person's wages or salary in 1939? (Yes or No)	If so, were deductions made from all, 1/2 or more, part but less than 1/2, of wages or salary?	Usual Occupation	Usual Industry	Usual class of worker				CODE (leave blank)
Line No.	Name	Father	Mother	CODE (leave blank)	CODE (leave blank)	If so enter "Yes"	If child, is veteran-father dead? (Y or N)	War or Military Service	CODE (leave blank)	Does this person have a Federal Social Security Number? (Yes, or No)	Were deductions for Federal Old-Age Insurance or Railroad Retirement made from this person's wages or salary in 1939? (Yes or No)	If so, were deductions made from all, 1/2 or more, part but less than 1/2, of wages or salary?	Usual Occupation	Usual Industry	Usual class of worker	CODE (leave blank)	Has this woman been married more than once? (Yes or No)	Age at first marriage.	Number of children ever born. (Do not include stillbirths.)	
	35	36	37	G	38	H	39	40	41	I	42	43	44	45	46	47	J	48	49	50
14																				
29																				

SYMBOLS AND EXPLANATORY NOTES

Col. 5 VALUE OF HOME, IF OWNED:

Where owner's household occupies only a part of a structure, estimate value of portion occupied by owner's household. Thus the value of the unit occupied by the owner of a two-family house might be approximately one-half the total value of the structure.

Col. 10 COLOR OR RACE:

White W
 Negro Neg
 Indian In
 Chinese Chi
 Japanese Jp
 Filipino Fil
 Hindu Hin
 Korean Kor

Other races, spell out in full.

Col. 11 AGE AT LAST BIRTHDAY:

Enter age of children born on or after April 1, 1939, as follows. Born in:

April 1939	11/12
May 1939	10/12
June 1939	9/12
July 1939	8/12
August 1939	7/12
September 1939	6/12
October 1939	5/12
November 1939	4/12
December 1939	3/12
January 1940	2/12
February 1940	1/12
March 1940	0/12

Col. 14 HIGHEST GRADE OF SCHOOL COMPLETED:

None 0
 Elementary school, 1st - 8th 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
 High school, 1st - 4th year H-1, H-2, H-3, H-4
 College, 1st - 4th year C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4
 College, 5th or subsequent year C-5

Col. 16 CITIZENSHIP OF THE FOREIGN BORN:

Naturalized Na
 Having first papers Pa
 Alien Al
 American citizen born abroad Am Cit

Col. 21 WAS THIS PERSON AT WORK ?

Enter "Yes" for persons at work for pay or profit in private or nonemergency Government work. Include unpaid family workers - that is, related members of the family working without money wages or salary on work (other than house work or incidental chores) which contributed to the family income.

Col. 24 DID THIS PERSON HAVE A JOB ?

Enter "Yes" for a person (not seeking work) who had a job, business, or professional enterprise, but did not work during week of March 24-30 for any of the following reasons: Vacation; temporary illness; industrial dispute; layoff not exceeding 4 weeks with instructions to return to work at a specific date; layoff due to temporarily bad weather conditions.

(Do not include children born on or after April 1, 1940.

Cols. 30 and 47 CLASS OF WORKER:

Wage or salary worker in private work PW
 Wage or salary worker in Gov't work GW
 Employer E
 Working on own account OA
 Unpaid family worker NP

Col. 41 WAR OR MILITARY SERVICE:

World War W
 Spanish -American War; Philippine Insurrection or Boxer Rebellion S
 Spanish-American War & World War SW
 Regular establishment (Army, Navy or Marine Corps) Peace-Time Service only R
 Other war or expedition Ot