

THE TEXAS FREEDOM COLONIES PROJECT

ADOPT-A-COUNTY VOLUNTEER RESEARCH RESOURCES



Resource Name and Link	Description	This resource will help you verify:		
		Does it exist name, county, is/was there a community?	African American Association	Location
<u>Portal to Texas History</u>	Newspapers, photographs, maps, letters, journal/magazine/newsletter, recordings, artwork related to the state's history. Highly searchable meta data.	✓	✓	✓
<u>Black Churches in Texas by Clyde McQueen</u>	Illustrations, congregation origin stories, etc. Book is available for purchase or at your local library.		✓	✓
<u>THC Texas Historic Sites Atlas</u>	Search THC Atlas for Historic Markers, Cemeteries, State Antiquities Landmark (Architectural Only), National Register Properties, and more. Historic marker text is included in entries.	✓	✓	✓
<u>Handbook of Texas</u>	Establishment Date, Founding community members, church and school names, etc. Race of inhabitants not always clear	✓	✓	
<u>USGS Database</u>	Longitude and Latitude Coordinates, church, school, water body, park, lodge, homestead, etc.	✓		
<u>National Historical Geographic Information System</u>	National Historical Geographic Information System (NHGIS) provides easy access to summary tables and time series of population, housing, agriculture, and economic data, along with GIS-compatible boundary files, for years from 1790 through the present and for all levels of U.S. census geography, including states, counties, tracts, and blocks.	✓		✓
<u>African American Newspapers</u>	Hosted by The Black Press Research Collective. Lists Archives & Online Resources, Bibliographies and Research Guides		✓	

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<u>Find-a-Grave: Cemetery Records</u>	Freedom colonies are often near one (or more) cemeteries. Findagrave.com is an online database of cemetery records compiled by volunteers. Contents vary but sometimes include obituaries, lists of other family members, copies of death certificates or other materials. The map tab has latitude/longitude coordinates.		✓	✓
<u>TXGenWeb</u>	Volunteer information and images about county history; look for African American heritage sections of each county section.	✓	✓	✓
<u>National Register of Historic Places Nominations online - Texas</u>	Searchable National Register of Historic Places Nominations. These detailed, well-researched nominations are a rich resource for local, state, and national sites, people, architecture, and moments in history.	✓	✓	✓
<u>Rosenwald Schools</u>	Fisk University website: Date Built, Construction Cost, Acreage, Building Plan Type, etc.	✓	✓	
<u>Rosenwald Schools - Texas Only</u>	THC page contains links to full list of Rosenwald Fund-supported schools, teachers' homes, and shop buildings in small cities and unincorporated rural communities in 82 Texas counties. The THC's Rosenwald School database indicates that 21 buildings have been confirmed to be demolished, while 39 are extant. Approximately 85% of all Rosenwald-funded buildings in Texas have not been surveyed nor accounted for.	✓	✓	✓
<u>County Appraisal District Data</u>	Each county has an Appraisal District website - this can be searched to find a property owner such as a church or cemetery association to determine a location. Google the county name and "appraisal district" to find the link for your county's data.			✓

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<u>FamilySearch African American Resources for Texas</u>	A list of resources for African American research of ancestors who lived in Texas. FamilySearch is a free genealogy database provides links to the census, US Social Security Death Index, and more. Search by names, locations, and/or birth, death, and marriage dates. Published by: Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints		✓	✓
<u>Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information Black-and-White Negatives</u>	The photographs in the Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information Photograph Collection form an extensive pictorial record of American life between 1935 and 1944. The collection includes many photographs of African Americans living in rural Texas.		✓	