

Researching Formerly Enslaved Ancestors

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Inserts to presentation May 22, 2022

Cohabitation Records

Georgia State Law

(No. 252) An Act to prescribe and regulate the relation of Husband and Wife between persons of color. 5. Sec. 1. The General Assembly of the State of Georgia do enact:

That persons of color, now living together as husband and wife, are hereby declared to sustain that legal relation to each other, *unless a man shall have two or more reputed wives, or a woman two or more reputed husbands*. In such event, the man, immediately after the passage of this Act by the General assembly, shall select one of his reputed wives, with her consent; or the woman one of her reputed husbands, with his consent; and the ceremony of marriage between these two shall be performed. *If such man, thus living with more than one woman, or such woman living with more than one man, shall fail or refuse, to comply with the provisions of this section, he or she shall be prosecuted for the offence of fornication, or adultery, or fornication and adultery, and punished accordingly.*

Slave Narratives

				
<p>Image 16 of Federal Writers' Project: Slave Narrative Project, Vol. 4, Georgia, Part 4, Telfair-Young (with ...</p> <p>s. the room and left but little space for its occupant to move ab^ut. "I'se jus1 a mite tired,ff Cordelia stated, "'cause I jus1 got back from de courthouse whar dem welfare...</p>	<p>Image 17 of Federal Writers' Project: Slave Narrative Project, Vol. 4, Georgia, Part 4, Telfair-Young (with ...</p> <p>3 * had done got married. 14. Marse Bob, lie give Daddy a ticket what let him go to see Mammy evvy Wednesday and Saddy night, and dem patterollers couldnft bother him...</p>	<p>Image 18 of Federal Writers' Project: Slave Narrative Project, Vol. 4, Georgia, Part 4, Telfair-Young (with ...</p> <p>4. 15 to pick de scrap cotton and fix it up, but dere warn't many of em keered dat much 'bout no pillows, "Slaves didn't do no eookin' on our place 'cause...</p>	<p>Image 19 of Federal Writers' Project: Slave Narrative Project, Vol. 4, Georgia, Part 4, Telfair-Young (with ...</p> <p>5 > 16 *Our Marster evermore did raise de cotton - lots', of it to sell, and plenty for clothes for all de folkses, white and black, what lived on his place....</p>	<p>Image 20 of Federal Writers' Project: Slave Narrative Project, Vol. 4, Georgia, Part 4, Telfair-Young (with ...</p> <p>6* 17 "Folkses said our Marster must have a powerful sweet tooth on account of he kept so many bee hives. When bees swarmed folkses rung be and beat on tin pans...</p>

Georgia has over 1200 pages of interviews on the Library of Congress website. (loc.gov)



Confederate Slave Payrolls

- There were almost 6000 enslaved persons who were hired to work for the Confederate Army.
- The workers dug trenches, worked at ordinance factories, shored up fronts, and did other types of manual labor.
- The money for the enslaved labor was paid to the enslavers.
- NARA has records of these payments from 10 southern states - but most are from Virginia and North Carolina.
- This collection may be viewed in NARA's online catalog. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/719477>