

William Earle Williams: A Stirring Song Sung Heroic Text Key

Wall Objects 1 – 125 on pages 1-54; Vitrine Objects V1 – V10 on pages 54-56

1. *Interior, Fort Morgan, Battle Site, Mobile Bay, Alabama*

William Earle Williams

carbon print

2003

An estimated 20,000 African Americans served in the Union Navy during the Civil War. Free men were always welcomed to serve in the navy. Long before runaway enslaved people were allowed to join the army, they were encouraged to join the navy. A number of African American sailors were on board Admiral Farragut's fleet, and African American soldiers were present to fight in the land and sea operations for control of Mobile Bay from August 5 to August 23, 1864.

2. *Covens and Mortimer; Carte de l'Afrique Meridionale; ca. 1730, Amsterdam, Holland.*

Originally issued by the Visscher family in 1710, this map, printed in French, depicts the Northern African region of Senegal. A map such as this one would likely be used by Europeans on an expedition to the region searching for enslaved people to export and sell on the international market.

3. *Abraham Brian Barn, UGRR Station, Gettysburg National Military Park*

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1986

Abraham Brian (Bryan) was a freedom seeker and enslaved person who purchased a twelve-acre farm in 1857. The site was used as a stop on the Underground Railroad and Brian successfully farmed the land until his property and buildings were destroyed during the battle at Gettysburg. Bullet holes from the battle can be seen in the upright corner of this photograph.

4. The Columbian Sentinel Boston, November 23, 1796; front page, *Fifty Dollars Reward.*

This newspaper from the 18th century features an advertisement which was not uncommon at the time, offering a reward of \$50 (equivalent to around \$1,000 today) for the return of a runaway enslaved person named Peter, who is described as a short Black man in his mid 30's. It is quite notable how enslavers describe runaway enslaved people in adverts like these.

5. North Carolina Monument, Gettysburg National Military Park

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1986

The North Carolina Monument is located near the Tennessee Monument. It is sited near the position where North Carolina regiments left the woods and formed up for their participation in Pickett's Charge. Nearly three quarters of a mile ahead at the stone fence near Abraham Brain's barn there is another North Carolina monument marking the furthest advance

of these troops and others on the Gettysburg Battlefield. North Carolina contributed 32 regiments to the Army of Northern Virginia, making it the largest contributor after the state of Virginia itself. 147 men from North Carolina involved in the Battle of Gettysburg, over 40% perished.

6. Ruins, President's House, Philadelphia

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2007

The President's House in Philadelphia served as the home of President George Washington (1790-1797) as well as President John Adams (1797-1800). Nine enslaved people worked in the home during Washington's presidency, two of whom eventually escaped to freedom. The flags outline the oval state dining room, which Washington used to define the office of the presidency through his meetings with government officials and citizens, all the while attended by enslaved servants. A small passage was used by his nine enslaved people as they moved from the main house to the outer reaches of his property. The passage was designed so guests would not be disturbed by the presence of the enslaved people. The quarters for the enslaved stood only a few feet from where the current Liberty Bell Center is now located.

7. Phoenixville Meeting House, UGRR Station, Pennsylvania

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1998

This one-story stone meetinghouse was erected in 1807 by Enoch Walker to serve as a Friends schoolhouse and meetinghouse for travelers. It, along with the nearby Elijah Pennypacker estate, served as stations on the Underground Railroad. In 1815, Walker deeded the schoolhouse and about

2 acres of land to the meeting, along with the burial grounds. Elijah Pennypacker along with Civil War veterans, are buried there. Numerous abolitionists including the poet John Greenleaf Whittier and Henry “Box” Brown spoke here. Brown, enslaved in Richmond, Virginia, had himself nailed into a box and shipped freight on the railroad to the Philadelphia Vigilance Society and to freedom.

8. St James AME Church, UGRR Station, Ithaca, New York

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2001

St. James AME Church was a crucial station for the Underground Railroad. It was a necessary stop for freedom seekers making their way to Canada. A large number of these enslaved people decided to make their permanent homes in the surrounding area. Numerous leaders of the Underground Railroad, including Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman were known to have been associated with St. James.

9. Interior Smithfield Community Center, Peterboro, New York

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2001

When abolitionists were driven out of the Second Presbyterian Church in Utica, New York by an anti-abolitionist mob, Gerrit Smith invited them to continue their proceedings at the Presbyterian Church in Peterboro (now the Smithfield Community Center). This building became the first meeting place of the New York State Anti-Slavery Society on October 22, 1835.

10. La Mott, Site of Camp William Penn, Pennsylvania

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1997

Prior to the Civil War, Oak Farm, the estate of Edward Davis, son-in-law of James and Lucretia Mott, was a station on the Underground Railroad. Later, the portion of the estate across from the Mott's home became the site of Camp William Penn. The camp in operation from July 4, 1863 until August 3, 1865 was the first recruiting and training center for African American soldiers to be operated by the Federal Government. In the summer of 1863, nearly a year after Congress passed a bill allowing Black people to join the Union Army, African Americans in Philadelphia and the surrounding environs of New Jersey and Delaware were recruited for the war effort.

11. The United States Telegraph, Washington City, September 12, 1831; *A Proclamation, by the Mayor of the City of Washington; front page,*

This common newspaper from 1831 features an article concerning a law passed which required freemen and freed enslaved people to provide proper proof of emancipation status. The paper also contains an advertisement from a plantation owner offering a \$600 reward (equivalent to around \$17,000 today) for the return of runaway enslaved people whom he believed to be escaping North.

12. Levi Coffin House Interior, Fountain City UGRR Station, Indiana

William Earle Williams

Carbon Print

2001

The Levi Coffin house is a registered National Historic Landmark. Built in 1839, this Federal style brick home was used as an Underground Railroad station. Levi and Catharine Coffin were Quakers who opposed slavery. They accommodated freedom seekers on their journey to freedom in the North. The Coffins hid those escaping slavery in a secret upstairs room and placed beds in front of the door to conceal the entrance. The freedom seekers could stay at the Coffin house for a few weeks to gain enough strength to continue on their journey. The Coffins successfully concealed over 2,000 freedom seekers and no enslaved people failed to reach freedom from their house. Levi is often described as the President of the Underground Railroad. In 1847, the Coffins moved to Cincinnati so that Levi could operate a wholesale warehouse that supplied goods to free labor stores. The Coffins continued to assist the cause, helping another 1,300 enslaved people escape.

13. Bishop Peter Spencer Memorial and Grave, Wilmington, Delaware

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2006

Spencer was born enslaved and is known as “the father of Delaware's independent Black church movement”. He began the Union Church of Africans, now known as the African Union Methodist Protestant Church, in 1813. The church stood at this site until 1970 when the congregation moved to a new building. Under Bishop Spencer’s leadership the church and its members were active helpers on the Underground Railroad in Delaware.

14. National Intelligencer, Washington City, August 12, 1837; *One Hundred and Fifty Dollars Reward, Cash for Negroes*, front page

This newspaper, dated almost 25 years before the outbreak of the Civil War, contains an advertisement with the headline “Cash for Negroes”, essentially extending an open offer to buy any enslaved person for \$150 (nearly \$3,000 by today’s standards).

15. Way to Milliken’s Bend, Louisiana

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1998

The soldiers in these regiments were newly freed enslaved people who joined the Union army and trained at Milliken’s Bend. When attacked there by Confederate forces these soldiers fought with valor driving off the enemy and won wide acclaim for their soldiering in the contemporary press and in official Army reports.

16. Cayuga County Courthouse, Auburn, New York

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

The Cayuga County Courthouse housed two prominent cases that affected abolitionism in New York. In 1846, a freed African American man, William Freeman, was on trial for murdering four people. This case serves as the perfect example of the social disadvantages African Americans faced. His lawyers argued that he had be driven insane by the effects of segregation in society. The Fugitive Slave Act, which required runaway enslaved people in the North to be returned to their owners in the South, was the center of the Jerry Rescue trial in 1851. Twelve defendants were charged with assisting the runaway enslaved person and were given the options of bail or jail. After the case went on for three years, abolitionists sued Jerry’s owner for kidnapping.

17. Prison Site, Andersonville, Georgia

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

The site of Camp Sumter, located in Andersonville, Georgia, was one of the largest Confederate prisons. In its fourteen months of operation, the prison held more than 45,000 union prisoners, 13,000 of whom died behind bars. Corporal James Henry Gooding, an freed African American and advocate for equal pay for African American soldiers, died in the prison 1864. Just one month prior, Congress had passed the law granting equal pay for all soldiers.

18. Park, John Brown House Site, Akron, Ohio

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2007

John Brown was an American abolitionist who believed more direct action was needed to end slavery. In 1856, Brown led his supporters in organizing the Bleeding Kansas Crisis and Pottawatomie massacre, where five slavery supporters were killed. In 1859, Brown and his volunteers attempted to raid the federal armory Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. The failed attack is believed by many historians to be a major cause in the South's secession one year later.

19. Forks in the Road, Slave Market Site, Natchez, Mississippi

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

This was the site of the South's second largest slave market in the nineteenth century. Enslaved people were also sold on city streets and at Natchez Under the Hill. This market was last used for slave trading in 1863. Union troops then used the market buildings as a refugee camp for newly freed enslaved people and as housing for occupying Natchez. By 1864, the market buildings were torn down.

20. Slave Grave Yard, Booker T. Washington, National Monument, Virginia

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2003

This burial site is located on the tobacco farm where Booker T. Washington was born enslaved. Today the farm and grounds are known as the Booker T. Washington National Monument administered by the National Park Service.

21. James Fuller Queen 12 Illustrated lithographic cards showing the life cycle of an enslaved person, each 4x2 ½ inches;

This commemorative poster print features a reproduction of a chromolithograph of the journey of an enslaved person from the plantation to the battlefield; an uncut sheet of twelve illustrated cards presenting the journey of an enslaved person from plantation life to the struggle for liberty, for which he gives his life, as a Union soldier during the Civil War; created by James Fuller Queen in 1863.

22. Parker Farm, Christiana, UGRR Station, Pennsylvania

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1998

William Parker, who escaped enslavement, offered his farm as a station on the Underground Railroad. He was a principal participant in the Christiana Resistance Riot of 1851 when four freedom seekers ran to his house for shelter from hunters of the enslaved. The riot broke out as the freedom seekers and their supporters fought back against the posse of hunters, led by Edward Gorsuch, an enslaver from nearby Maryland who died in his attempt to retrieve his runaway enslaved people. This event tested the new federal Fugitive Slave Law and foreshadowed the imminent coming of the Civil War.

23. Tyler Arboretum, UGRR Station, Pennsylvania

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1998

This ante bellum road runs adjacent to the church and crosses a stream onto a farm owned by Quaker brothers and naturalists Jacob and Minshall Painter today the farm is known as Tyler Arboretum. The wooded landscape is similar to what it was during the heyday of the Underground Railroad.

24. Battle Site, Beech Creek, South Carolina

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

This expedition under orders from General Sherman was to destroy the munitions and railroad stock on the track around Sumpterville and Florence, South Carolina. Under the command of General Edward Potter, it set to accomplishing these objectives from April 5 to 25, 1865 and became known as Potter's Raid. One of the actions was the skirmish at

Beach Creek in which white troops in a frontal assault scattered Confederate troops. This expedition is an example of Black and white troops fighting effectively to destroy the enemies' infrastructure. When Potter returned to Georgetown at the conclusion of the raid he and his men learned of Lee's surrender and the assassination of President Lincoln.

25. Telegraph Road, Port Hudson Battle Site, Louisiana

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

On May 27, 1863 members of the Native Guard used this road to attack the fortifications at Port Hudson, which controlled the Mississippi River from New Orleans to Vicksburg. As a military action the assault was not successful. However, the behavior of the Native Guard troops was a bright spot and proved, in the words of General Banks in his report to General Halleck, "The position occupied by these troops was one of importance, and called for their utmost steadiness and bravery. It gives me pleasure to report that they answered every expectation. No troops could be more determined or more daring... The history of this day proves conclusively that the government will find in this class of troops effective supporters and defenders."

26. Kurtz and Allison; *The Fort Pillow Massacre*; Kurtz and Allison Art Publishers, 1892 Chicago.

A rare print due to its portrayal of African-Americans, which was very uncommon at the time, this lithograph shows a dramatized version of the Fort Pillow massacre, which occurred following the Confederate victory at Fort Pillow against Union troops attempting to surrender. It is unknown whether Confederate general Nathan Bedford Forrest (also the first Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan) ordered the massacre, simply did nothing to

stop it, or (as he later claimed) knew nothing of the event. Regardless of how it happened, it is widely agreed upon that a deliberate massacre took place.

27. Earth Works, Battle Site, Fort Pillow, Tennessee

William Earle Williams

Carbon Print

1999

April 12, 1864—USCT Battery F, 2nd Light Artillery, and 11th (new) Infantry.

The massacre of African American soldiers on April 12 who were shot while surrendering led to an investigation by the US Congress' Committee on the Conduct of War. The battle and massacre victims which included women and children were buried in the fort's trench shown in the photograph by Confederate soldiers under the command of General Nathan Bedford Forrest. Later the bodies were removed and buried in the Memphis National Military Cemetery. After the massacre African American troops adopted the battle cry "Remember Fort Pillow."

28. Honey Hill, Battle Site, South Carolina

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

These troops were part of an expeditionary force under the command of General John Hatch. Their mission was to support General Sherman's march to the sea from Atlanta by destroying the industrial infrastructure

of the Confederacy along the Atlantic seaboard. The expeditionary force's first objective was to destroy the Charleston and Savannah railroad line near Honey Hill. The Union army met stiff resistance from the enemy, was outmaneuvered, suffered significant casualties, and met with a defeat at Honey Hill.

29. Folly Beach, Looking Towards Morris Island, Battle Site, South Carolina

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

On July 18, 1863, the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, the first officially recognized African American regiment, led the attack on Battery Wagner. They were the first regiment to charge the Confederate troops guarding the entrance to Charleston Harbor. While the 54th Massachusetts Regiment lost over a third of their men, including their commander, they succeeded in proving that Black soldiers were equal to their white counterparts.

Due to construction by the Corps of Engineers all that is left of Morris Island and Battery Wagner is the lighthouse, which was the final resting place of Colonel Shaw, commander of the regiment. Shaw's body was stripped of its uniform and thrown into a burial pit with his men outside the walls of Battery Wagner by a Confederate burial party the next day.

30. Ruins, Windsor Plantation House, Mississippi

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

Windsor Plantation consisted of 2,600 acres and the house was used by both Confederate and Union soldiers. Confederate soldiers stood at the top of the observatory and used the space to signal the coming of Union forces. When Grant's Army began its march north to commence the Vicksburg Campaign, Union forces used the grounds and house as a lookout point as well as a hospital. Because of its usefulness to the Union Army it was not razed, rather it succumbed to an accidental fire in 1890.

31. Battle Site, Sound Tunnel, Tennessee

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1995

October 10, 1864, USCT 40th Infantry

During the Civil War in Tennessee as the Union Army advanced southward, the railroad became a vital supply line. Sound Tunnel was crucial to the movement of men and supplies to and from Nashville. Two forts protected the 600-foot tunnel and it is still in use today. During the Civil War members of 40th Infantry patrolled the interior of the tunnel. On October 10 four members of the six-party patrol were captured in the tunnel and axed to death by a Confederate raiding party intent on destroying the tunnel.

32. Texas Road, Honey Springs, Oklahoma

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

Texas Road was the main link between Texas and Indian Territory used to transport ammunitions and other war materials. The area also held a

Confederate commissary deposit, a resource that likely led to the Battle at Honey Springs. This battle was the largest in Indian Territory. The engagement at the Confederate states supply depot there resulted in a Union victory. Writing in his official report, General Blunt noted, "The 1st Kansas Colored, particularly distinguished itself...Their coolness and bravery I have never seen surpassed."

33. Hatch's Expedition, Boyd's Landing, South Carolina

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

The expeditionary force led by Major General John P. Hatch preceded the battle of Honey Hill. Attacks by the US Colored Troops (including the 54th Massachusetts) were unsuccessful in capturing the Confederate entrenchments. There was an estimated 796 loss of the 6400 troops engaged.

34. George F. Cram; *Indian Territory*; 19th or early 20th Century, American.

The Indian territory of the western United States, today known as the state of Oklahoma, was the site of the Battle of Honey Springs, the largest battle in Indian territory during the Civil War, where the Union emerged from victorious. Conflict between the Union and CSA forces was unique in this area due to the fact that it is one of the few times that white soldiers were the minority on both sides, with African-American and Native American soldiers comprising the majority of both units.

35. Kitchen, Oakley Plantation, Saint Francisville, Louisiana

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

Runaway enslaved people from Oakley and other plantations in the lower Mississippi Valley ran away to join the Union Army encampments to gain freedom. These newly freed people became laborers and soldiers for the Union Army.

36. Bedroom, Oakley Plantation, Saint Francisville, Louisiana

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

James and Lucy Pirrie built this house circa 1806. The interior has been restored to its appearance in 1821 when they hired John James Audubon as a drawing teacher for their daughter, Eliza. The plantation became Audubon's home for four months. He and his assistant lived in rooms on the ground floor.

37. Baker Smith; *Little Eva*; *Uncle Tom's Guardian Angel*; poetry by John Greenleaf Whittier and music by Manuel Emilio; John J. Jewett Boston and Jewett, Proctor and Worthington, 1st Edition, Cleveland, 1852.

Written as a response to the anti-slavery novel *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, John Greenleaf Whittier's *Little Eva* is also a notable anti-slavery piece of literature and music. Whittier, an American Quaker author, was most notable for his abolitionist works in the mid-late 1800's.

38. Interior, Slave Cabin, Melrose House, Natchez, Mississippi

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

The Melrose house was one of the wealthiest homes of 19th-century Natchez, Mississippi. In the 1820s, John McMurrin moved from Pennsylvania to Natchez, MS, where he established a lucrative law practice and was elected to the State Legislature. He earned a considerable fortune and married into a respected local family. Through this marriage, McMurrin acquired five plantations and purchased another 133 acres in 1841. Between 1841 and 1849, an enslaved labor force constructed the Melrose Estate. Once the McMurrin family moved in, enslaved people served an intricate role in everyday life as they maintained the buildings and grounds of the estate. Enslaved people worked as cooks, waiters, butlers, drivers, gardeners, and farmers. The site has become an important archeological site for interpreting African American life on Southern plantations.

39. Exterior, Slave Cabin, Oakley Plantation, Saint Francisville, Louisiana

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

Enslaved people from Oakley and other plantations in the lower Mississippi Valley ran away to join the Union army lines to gain freedom. These newly freed people became laborers and soldiers for the Union army.

40. Tennessee Monument, Gettysburg National Military Park

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1994

The Tennessee Monument is located in the mile-long space on Seminary Ridge that was occupied by 12,500 Confederate troops, including soldiers from Tennessee. They attacked the Union Army center located directly ahead and about three quarters of a mile away at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon on July 3rd. This pivotal moment occurred on the third and final day of the battle. It resulted in a Confederate casualty rate of 50% and a failure to break the Union lines. This attack, also known as Pickett's Charge, represents the furthest point north that the Confederate Army fought the Union Army.

41. Ten Dollar note, 1855, Central Bank of Alabama; illustrated with portrait of George Washington, enslaved people picking cotton, and a village landscape.

Before the Civil War, banks would often print their own money, resulting in many currencies being attributed to different states and banks, making it very difficult to take most money at face value and trade effectively. The Civil War, however, created a need for a more widely-used central currency, making bills like this obsolete.

Eveleth, Rose. "Before the Civil War, There Were 8,000 Different Kinds of Money in the U.S." Smithsonian.com. December 12, 2012. Accessed August 10, 2018. <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/before-the-civil-war-there-were-8000-different-kinds-of-money-in-the-us-158310489/>.

42. Interior, School Room, site of Fort Henderson, Athens, Alabama

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

This fort and others surrounding Athens were surrendered by Union commanders after a brief firefight. Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest perpetuated a ruse by declaring a truce and inviting the Union commanders to inspect his army. As Forrest and staff passed from one area to another, these soldiers would appear in a different inspection area in the Confederate army's offensive positions around Athens, causing the Union officers to believe Forrest had a larger army than he in fact had. The memory of Fort Pillow was on the minds of both the Confederate and Union soldiers, which contributed to the decision of the Union commander not to fight.

43. Interior, School Room, site of Fort Henderson, Athens, Alabama

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

Trinity School, a Freeman's School organized in 1865 and sponsored by the American Missionary Society, moved to the grounds of Fort Henderson in 1907. The school served the African American community until its closing in 1970. Books, clothing and equipment were left as they were when the school closed. The building, including the auditorium, is in ruins.

44. Harper's Weekly, August 29, 1863; Captain Cailloux's Funeral, sketched by a Native Guard; pg 549.

Published in *Harper's Weekly*, this sketching depicts the funeral of Captain Andre Cailloux, who had been one of the first African-American officers in the Union Army to die in battle. Cailloux's reputation as a war hero and a martyr at Port Hudson would live on long after his death and encouraged many African-Americans to join the Union Army. This sketching of his funeral is attributed to a member of the 1st Regiment of the Native Guard, a unit made up entirely of African-American soldiers. This is quite notable

for the time, as it was very rare for the work of African-American artists to be published.

45. Camp Nelson, Berea, Kentucky

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

Camp Nelson was the third largest training depot of African American soldiers. The over 10,000 Black soldiers trained here found their freedom while fighting for the Union. Because many brought their families as well, Camp Nelson became a refugee camp for its residents. The camp later attracted the attention of the American Missionary Association, an abolitionist society founded prior to the Civil War.

Reverend John Fee, the founder of Berea College, came to Camp Nelson in 1864 to teach and minister to the refugees at Camp Nelson. His efforts eventually led to the founding of Ariel College and church and finally the settlement of Hall. Fee believed passionately in the equality of the races and he sought to educate the freedmen to become independent, self-reliant members of an integrated American society.

“United States Colored Troops at Camp Nelson.” *Camp Nelson: OVERVIEW*, www.campnelson.org/colored/colored.htm.

46. Courthouse Square, Washington, Kentucky

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

The Courthouse Square was a known auction block for enslaved people. The building was constructed in 1794 and burned down in 1909. It is said that Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of “Uncle Tom’s Cabin,” witnessed a slave auction at the Courthouse, while visiting friends in Washington. This inspired her seminal work.

47. Interior, Fort Brown, Texas

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2001

The surrender of Confederate Fort Brown at the end of May 1865 concluded the last active military operation of the Civil War. Today a small section of the original ramparts has survived in the midst of the Fort Brown Golf Course.

48. Arlington National Cemetery, Section 27, Arlington, Virginia

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2000

African American soldiers serving in the 54th Massachusetts Regiment and other USCT are buried in this part of the cemetery. More than 3,800 African Americans, many from the Freedman’s Village, are located in this section, which was a part of the original Arlington Plantation owned by General Lee’s family. The federal government confiscated the property at the beginning of the Civil War and established the Freedman’s Village. African Americans flocked to the property to become emancipated. Their government-issued headstones were inscribed with their names and the word “Civilian” or “Citizen.”

49. Battle Site, Deep Bottom, Virginia

William Earle Williams
black and white silver gelatin photograph
1995

This river crossing was a key transportation point with adjacent railroad lines and roadways crucial to the defense of Richmond.

**50. Levi Coffin House Interior,
Fountain City UGRR Station, Indiana**

William Earle Williams
Carbon Print
2001

The Levi Coffin house is a registered National Historic Landmark. Built in 1839, this Federal style brick home was used as an Underground Railroad station. Levi and Catharine Coffin were Quakers who opposed slavery. They accommodated freedom seekers on their journey to the North. The Coffins hid those escaping slavery in a secret upstairs room and placed beds in front of the door to conceal the entrance. The freedom seekers could stay at the Coffin house for a few weeks to gain enough strength to continue on their journey. The Coffins successfully concealed over 2,000 enslaved people and none failed to reach freedom from their house. Levi is often described as the President of the Underground Railroad. In 1847, the Coffins moved to Cincinnati so that Levi could operate a wholesale warehouse that supplied goods to free labor stores. The Coffins continued to assist the cause, helping another 1,300 enslaved people escape.

51. Battle of the Crater, Petersburg

William Earle Williams
black and white silver gelatin photograph
1996

This Civil War battle took place in 1864 as part of the Siege of Petersburg. Union forces used a mine to blow a gap into the Confederate line, creating a crater in the landscape. Despite the explosion, the Union lost their advantage by using the newly formed crater to take cover. While Union troops took cover, the remaining Confederate troops surrounded the crater, leaving Union troops with no way out. The battle resulted in 3,798 Union casualties.

52. Harper's Weekly, August 2, 1862; Cutting the Canal Opposite Vicksburg; front cover.

This print from *Harper's Weekly*, shows Union soldiers digging what is now known as "Grant's Canal" to reroute the flow of the Mississippi River in order to either avoid the Confederate stronghold of Vicksburg, which laid ahead on the river or to make it so Vicksburg no longer had access to the strategic body of water. The canal was never actually finished, however, as the force of the Mississippi was too strong and the amount of labor required was very intensive. This forced Grant's army to confront CSA forces head on at Vicksburg, resulting in a crucial strategic victory for the Union.

53. Courthouse, Vicksburg, Mississippi

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

The building is located on one of the highest hills in Vicksburg on land given by the family of the city's founder, Newitt Vick. Construction began in the summer of 1859 by Weldon Brothers of Rodney, Mississippi, who used 100 highly skilled enslaved artisans to make the brick and erect the building, which was completed in 1860. John Jackson, a member of the Weldon's highly skilled laborers, also known as mechanics, worked closely with the

Weldon brothers in preparing the working drawings for this and other buildings in Mississippi including the Hinds County Courthouse in Raymond. Legal transfers and sales of enslaved people were completed on the grounds of courthouse square where Jefferson Davis recited his first political speech. Union forces, including former enslaved people, who joined the Army, marched in victory past this site after the surrender of the city on July 4, 1863 and the raising of the stars and stripes on the cupola flagpole.

54. Forks of Cypress Plantation Site, Florence, Alabama

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

The Forks of Cypress plantation house burned down in 1966. All that remains of the house is its columns. However, the site is significant because it contains one of the largest identified cemetery of enslaved people in northwest Alabama. With around 250 burials, it was the final resting place for the Jackson family's substantial enslaved workforce. The burials, though unmarked, do reveal to some degree that a status hierarchy existed among the enslaved inhabitants of the Forks of Cypress and perhaps the Jacksons' other plantations.

55. Interior, Paul Laurence Dunbar House, Dayton, Ohio

William Earle Williams

carbon print

1995

Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906) was an influential and eminent African-American poet. His poems are based on his observations of society and the experiences of his parents, who were both former enslaved people. His poetry voices the social dilemma of disenfranchised people and proclaims

Black dignity.

**56. Chisholm Trail Marker, Brownsville/Matamoros Bridge,
Brownsville, Texas**

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph
2001

The Chisholm Trail Marker identifies the Texas cattle trail that was largely responsible for movement of Texas cattle to the railroad head at Abilene, Kansas and after the Civil War. Many of the early cowboys working on the Chisholm Trail were of African descent. Many of the enslaved people in the 17th and 18th centuries were familiar with cattle herding from their homelands of West Africa. Prior to the Civil War this marker represented the gateway to freedom for enslaved people escaping on the South Western route of the Underground Railroad.

57. House, UGRR Station, Stoneboro, Pennsylvania

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph
2001

This House located on Elm Street in the Borough of Stoneboro, an abolitionist community, is in view of historic Sandy Lake. Richard Travis, a free man of color, acquired the land on Sandy Lake in 1818. This area attracted freedom seekers and became known as “Liberia” and served as a station on the Underground Railroad until the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law in 1850 when its residents fled to Canada. This home is a reminder that not all of the African Americans in the area fled but continued to harbor freedom seekers and operate as conductors on the Underground Railroad in this community.

58. Harbor, Oswego, UGRR Site, New York

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2003

This town and its harbor were the last stop on the Underground Railroad's Central New York line in the United States. Directly across from Oswego is Kingston, Ontario, Canada, the final destination for freedom seekers. The most famous passenger on this line to depart from Oswego was William "Jerry" Henry, who escaped enslavement in Missouri. On October 1, 1851, Henry was arrested in Syracuse under the provisions of the revised Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 and rescued from jail by a crowd of Black and white abolitionists. This became known as the Jerry Rescue. The event was electrifying news across the country—cheered in the North and condemned in the South. The Jerry Rescue and the September 11 armed resistance to slave catchers at Christiana, Pennsylvania were portents leading up to the Civil War.

59. C.L. Fulton; *Plan of Christina, Pennsylvania*; 19th Century, American.

This map shows the rural buildings, householders names, and locations of Christiana, PA. On September 11, 1851, the borough was the site of what came to be known as the Battle of Christian (or the Christiana Riot), a conflict between a party of enslavers attempting to recover their "property" and the borough of Christiana, led by William Parker, a formerly slaved farm owner who had allowed the escaped enslaved people to take refuge on his farm. Parker and co. proved victorious, marking a major victory for freed men everywhere.

60. Village Square, UGRR Site, Christiana, Pennsylvania

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1998

The 1851 armed resistance of a multi-racial vigilance committee to prevent the re-enslavement of a freedom seeker hiding at the farm of William Parker (a formerly enslaved, station master on the Underground Railroad) became known as the Christiana Riot. Many historians consider this event, and the resulting trial of Parker and members of the vigilance committee for treason, as one of the catalysts for the Civil War a decade later. The monument in the village square commemorates this event and includes the names of the citizens involved. Parker and members of the vigilance committee were found not guilty. Fearing for his life and safety, Parker and his family fled to Canada via the Underground Railroad.

61. Rail Crossing, Battle Site, Athens, Alabama

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

September 24, 1864—USCT 106th, 110th and 111th Infantry.

This fort and others surrounding Athens were surrendered by Union commanders after a brief firefight. General Nathan Bedford Forrest perpetuated a ruse by declaring a truce and inviting the Union commanders to inspect his army. As Forrest and staff passed from one area to another, the same soldiers would appear in different inspection areas in the Confederate army's offensive positions around Athens causing the Union officers to believe Forrest had a larger army than he in fact had. The memory of Fort Pillow was on the minds of both the Confederate and Union soldiers, which contributed to the decision of the Union commander

not to fight Forrest so that Forrest would not massacre the African American troops.

62. Spring, Camp Delaware (United States Colored Troops), Delaware, Ohio

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1995

The first regiment raised at Camp Delaware was the 5th USCT which completed its training in November of 1863. It joined the Army of the James and was to see action in ten battles in Virginia. One of the chief recruiters for this regiment was John Mercer Langston, who had earlier recruited men for the 54th and 55th Massachusetts regiments. Langston, a graduate of Oberlin College and the first African American to become a member of the Ohio bar, became the founder and first dean of the Howard University Law School. The poet, Langston Hughes, was the great great grandson of Charles Henry Langston, brother of John Mercer Langston.

63. Texas Road, Honey Springs, Oklahoma

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

Texas Road was the main link between Texas and Indian Territory used to transport ammunitions and other war materials. The area also held a Confederate commissary deposit, a resource that likely led to the Battle at Honey Springs. This battle was the largest in Indian Territory. The engagement at the Confederate states supply depot there resulted in a Union victory. Writing in his official report, General Blunt noted, "The 1st

Kansas Colored, particularly distinguished itself...Their coolness and bravery I have never seen surpassed.”

64. New York Herald, June 21, 1845; front page, *Decline in Cotton.*

This newspaper, dated roughly 15 years before the outbreak of the Civil War, features articles concerning the economic status of many exports which had been largely based on slavery in the US at the time. This includes the international decline of cotton prices due to an influx of crops from India and China, as well the earliest exports of sugar and corn from the southern US to Europe. Like many laborious tasks in the Southern US at this time, these exports were produced using mainly the labor of enslaved people.

**65. Battle of Big Black River Bridge,
Vicksburg, Mississippi**

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1995

The campaign for Vicksburg, Mississippi culminated in victory for General Ulysses S. Grant’s Army on July 4, 1863. The Vicksburg Campaign was waged over many months and hundreds of square miles; African American soldiers and laborers freed and enslaved played a decisive role in the outcome. Victory might have come on May 17, 1863 at the Battle of the Big Black River Bridge. The Civil War era bridge is located near the ruins in the middle right foreground of the photograph. The bridge along with fortifications protecting it and Vicksburg were built by the enslaved. Confederate forces under the command of General John Pemberton were unable to protect the bridge. It was burned after Confederate forces had

crossed to the West Side. The failure of Federal forces to take the bridge lead to the siege of Vicksburg and its eventual surrender on July 4, 1863

66. Jenkins' Ferry, Battle Site, Arkansas

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

Three Civil War battles took place in south central Arkansas in the spring of 1864 as part of the Union Army's Red River Campaign. The sites of these skirmishes – Poison Springs, Marks' Mills, and Jenkins Ferry – comprise the Red River Campaign National Historic Landmark.

The land where this Civil War battle took place was settled by Thomas Jenkins, who started the ferry in 1815. It was run by his sons, William and John DeKalb, until the Civil War circa 1861. The Battle of Jenkins Ferry, the third leg of the Red River Campaign, began after the first light of the foggy day. Despite their disadvantaged position, the Confederates launched one unorganized attack after another. Rebel commanders knew that letting up the pressure would allow Steele's army to cross the Saline and escape. As a result of the battle, Union forces were able to retreat from their position to Little Rock.

Jenkins Ferry Battleground State Park, Arkansas State parks -

<https://www.arkansasstateparks.com/parks/jenkins-ferry-battleground-state-park>

67. Kurtz and Allison; *Siege of Vicksburg*; Kurtz and Allison Art Publishers, 1888 Chicago.

Published 25 years after the end of the Civil War, this lithograph depicts the crucial Union victory in the Siege of Vicksburg. Like much of Kurz and Allison's work, this piece intends not to mirror the Siege of Vicksburg as it had actually happened, but rather to appeal to patriotic emotion. Although they do not portray the events of the battle accurately, Kurz and Allison's prints were highly sought after, particularly by those old enough to remember the war.

**68. Boykin's Mill Pond, Battle Site,
Boykin, South Carolina**

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

On April 18, 1865, the Boykin's Mill Pond was the last battle fought in the Civil War. In fact, the war had ended. The Union soldiers were destroying railroads and railcars throughout the end of the war. The Confederates had brought a railcar to safety at Boykin's Pond when the skirmish erupted. One Union soldier was killed.

69. Codori Barn, Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1987

The Codori Barn is the site of the major Gettysburg Battle. Owned by French immigrant, Nicholas Codori, the 273 acre farm was saw extensive military action on July 2 and 3, 1864. When the battle was over, it became the site of a mass Confederate grave, burying over 500 soldiers.

70. The Liberator, Boston, October 26, 1846;

“The Liberator” was a weekly newspaper of abolitionist crusader William Lloyd Garrison for 35 years (January 1, 1831–December 29, 1865). It was the most influential anti-slavery periodical in the pre-Civil War period of U.S. history.

71. Battle Site, Vidalia, Louisiana

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2003

The 6th Regiment, United States Colored Heavy Artillery of the United States Colored Troops served in Vidalia, Louisiana. The town was controlled by the Confederates. Shortly after the fall of Vicksburg and Port Hudson, on July 14, 1863, Vidalia saw the arrival of 200 infantrymen of the 14th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment. They cut off access to the river and took a large supply of weapons and artillery.

72. Harvested Field, Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg

William Earle Williams

carbon print

1988

The Gettysburg National Military Park was created in 1895 by the federal government as a memorial to the men who fought in the Battle of Gettysburg. The Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association that gave the land up to the federal government wanted the land to memorialize only Union soldiers. When the federal government received title, however, it appointed a committee of war veterans from both sides to manage the property and mark the points of battle.

73. National Anti-Slavery Standard, New York City, July 19, 1849; *The Southern Press North* and *Rev. Mr. Clapp*, front page;

National Anti-Slavery Standard featured writings from influential abolitionists fighting for suffrage, equality and most of all, emancipation. It contained essays, debates, speeches, events, reports and anything else deemed newsworthy in relation to the question of slavery in the United States and other parts of the world.

74. Winslow Homer; 1860-1870, Harper's Weekly, January 8, 1870, New York.

Winslow Homer was among the foremost American painters of the mid-19th century, as well as having frequently contributed illustrations such as this one to editorial journals like *Harper's Weekly*, which reached its peak in popularity around time of the Civil War. Homer's early work depicted the war both on and off the battlefield, but became largely known for his post-war work, which largely depicted scenes of women, children, and seascapes.

75. Sol Legare Island, Rivers and Grimball's Causeways

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1999

Sol Legare Island was the site of a Civil War Battle fought on July 16, 1863. The island housed several camps of over 5,200 Federal troops. The battle was fought by one of America's first African American army regiments, The Massachusetts 54th Regiment, which was organized in the North and led by Union General Alfred Terry. During the battle, the 54th Regiment lost 14 men, 17 were wounded and 12 went missing.

**76. City Point National Cemetery,
City Point, Virginia**

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1996

City Point National Cemetery is located in Prince George County, VA, on the south bank of the Appomattox River. At the confluence of the James and Appomattox Rivers, City Point was a vital transportation center during the civil war. Seven hospitals in City Point administered most of the care for the injured and mortally wounded. Casualties were originally interred in burial grounds near the hospitals, and later they were re-interred at City Point National Cemetery. This section contains soldiers serving in the USCT regiments.

77. Interior, Fort Morgan, Battle Site, Mobile Bay, Alabama

William Earle Williams

carbon print

2003

An estimated 20,000 African Americans served in the Union Navy during the Civil War. Free men were always welcomed to serve in the navy. Long before runaway enslaved people were allowed to join the army, they were encouraged to join the navy. A number of African American sailors were on board Admiral Farragut's fleet, and African American soldiers were present to fight in the land and sea operations for control of Mobile Bay from August 5 to August 23, 1864.

78. Camp Perkins, Battle Site, Louisiana

William Earle Williams

Carbon Print

1999

Perkins Landing located 25 miles south west of Vicksburg was attacked by McCullough's Brigade of Walker's Texas Division on the morning of May

31, 1863. Confederate General John Walker charged it with the mission of capturing *a camp of instruction and insurrection for negroes*. The much larger Confederate force attacked the camp at 9:00am. Col. Richard Owen of the all white, Indiana 60th Infantry Regiment with the assistance of 300 African American laborers, began a frantic rush to construct makeshift breast works out of cotton bales. The superior Confederate force overran the camp and captured one soldier and six laborers. This easy victory lead the Confederate troops to think that it would be easy to drive Grant's army away from Vicksburg, believing that African Americans were not prepared to fight. These same troops had a different experience with the Union troops Black and white at Milliken's Bend in early June of 1863.

79. Charleston Mercury, South Carolina, December 6, 1844; *State of South Carolina, City of Charleston, South Carolina*, single sheet;

The Charleston Daily News (1865-73) was one of the first Southern newspapers to successfully meet the public demand for information that arose during and after the Civil War.

80. Thomas Nast; *54th Massachusetts Fort Wagner Charge*

One hundred and fifty years ago, Union soldiers launched a desperate assault against Fort Wagner on Morris Island outside of Charleston, South Carolina. Leading the way was the 54th Massachusetts, a regiment of free African Americans charging under the American flag, who stormed a fortress commanded by white southerners, a scenario which was unimaginable just two years earlier at the war's onset.

81. Abraham Lincoln; *The Emancipation Proclamation by The President of The United States of America*; B.B. Russell & Co.1865, Boston.

The Emancipation Proclamation, or Proclamation 95, was a presidential proclamation and executive order issued by United States President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863. It changed the federal legal status of more than 3.5 million enslaved African Americans in the designated areas of the South from enslaved to free.

82. Interior, Main Building, The Oneida Institute, Whitesboro, New York

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2003

Reverend G. W. Gale founded the Oneida Institute in 1827. It was an integrated college that focused on science and technology. The Institute was the first college in America to enroll both Black and white male students. Gerrit Smith served as a trustee here and Jermain Loguen attended the Oneida Institute. In July, 1832, “thirty-five students organized New York State’s first antislavery society based on the immediatist principals.”

83. Ruins, Wesleyan Chapel, Seneca Falls, New York

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

“The Wesleyan Chapel was built in 1843. On July 19 and 20, 1848, the First Women's Rights Convention was held here. Noted abolitionist and former slave Frederick Douglass attended and addressed the 1848 Convention. The church was a local haven for antislavery activity, political rallies, and free speech events. Gerrit Smith and Susan B. Anthony helped shape both the anti-slavery and suffragette movements stating: "Women can neither

take the Ballot nor the Bullet . . .therefore to us, the right to petition is the one sacred right which we ought not to neglect."

Susan B. Anthony, Address to the American Anti-Slavery Society, 1863

"Antislavery Connection." *National Parks Service*, U.S. Department of the Interior, www.nps.gov/wori/learn/historyculture/antislavery-connection.htm.

84. Camp Perkins, Battle Site, Louisiana

William Earle Williams

Carbon Print

1999

Perkins Landing located 25 miles south west of Vicksburg was attacked by McCullough's Brigade of Walker's Texas Division on the morning of May 31, 1863. Confederate General John Walker charged it with the mission of capturing *a camp of instruction and insurrection for negroes*. The much larger Confederate force attacked the camp at 9:00am. Col. Richard Owen of the all white, Indiana 60th Infantry Regiment with the assistance of 300 African American laborers, began a frantic rush to construct makeshift breast works out of cotton bales. The superior Confederate force overran the camp and captured one soldier and six laborers. This easy victory lead the Confederate troops to think that it would be easy to drive Grant's army away from Vicksburg, believing that African Americans were not prepared to fight. These same troops had a different experience with the Union troops Black and white at Milliken's Bend in early June of 1863.

85. Winslow Homer; *The Songs of The War*; Harper's Weekly, January 24, 1863 New York.

This print by Winslow Homer was a double page centerfold that highlighted some of the well-known songs sung during parades and while marching throughout the Union. Songs such as “The Bold Soldier Boy,” “Dixie,” and “I Left a Girl Behind” were all given mention in the print.

86. Grand Army of the Republic Memorial, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

The outer room or rotunda served as a museum and memorial for the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), founded in 1866 by Benjamin Stephenson, a Civil War veteran and physician from Illinois. Over 600,000 Union Civil War veterans were amongst the members of the GAR including African American veterans. Chicago claimed the largest encampment when the organization was at its most influential, from 1880 to 1900. The Grand Army of the Republic was one of the first advocacy groups in the United States, taking on issues such as voting rights for Black veterans, and primarily supported Republican political candidates. At its peak in 1890, there were 490,000 members, which coincides with the high point of Civil War commemorative monuments dedication ceremonies.

87. Slave Cabin Interior, Maryland

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

Hermitage Farm, Centreville, is located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and has been continuously owned and occupied by the Tilghman family since the second half of the 17th century. This building is located where historical records and maps place the slave village. It is the only surviving

structure and, prior to its renovations in 2003, was found to have had structural renovations in the mid-19th century.

88. Wilmington Journal, North Carolina, February 29, 1856; Advertisements for runaway enslaved people and Negro cloth, front page;

Enslavers often placed ads in newspapers offering rewards for the capture and return of enslaved people who escaped enslavement. Ads contained names and descriptions of escapees, including physical and distinctive features, literacy level, specialized skills, and where an escapee might be headed.

89. Second Floor Interior, Poplar Grove Plantation, Queen Anne's County, Maryland

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

The Emory family has owned the Poplar Grove Plantation for 300 years. The second-floor rooms contained a vast archive of Emory family papers. It seems they never threw out a scrap of paper, no matter how trivial. The storage of these records in tin cans preserved them until they were later rediscovered by family members. The range of topics covered is astounding, from slavery to the selling and buying of race horses (property was one of the early centers of horse racing), agricultural prices, land disputes and more are part of this invaluable archive.

90. Main House, Rose Hill, Fayette, New York

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

The Rose Hill Mansion was built in 1839 for the Swan family. While slavery was made illegal in New York in 1827, the property of the mansion previously held one of the largest concentrations of enslaved people in upstate New York, owned by Robert Selden Rose, a Virginia planter with over 30 enslaved people. His home was converted into a carriage barn when the mansion was built and still stands on the property today.

91. Thomas Nast; *The Emancipation of the Negroes-The Past and Future*; Harper's Weekly, January 24, 1863 New York.

On January 1, 1863 Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, an executive order based on his constitutional authority as commander in chief. All enslaved people in Confederate territory were declared to be forever free. Nast held strong liberal views and his family had emigrated from Germany to New York in 1848 to escape persecution. Here he created a striking, complex image for "Harper's Weekly" that celebrates the promise inherent in the proclamation.

92. Winslow Homer; *1860-1870*, Harper's Weekly, January 8, 1870, New York.

Winslow Homer was among the foremost American painters of the mid-19th century, as well as having frequently contributed illustrations such as this one to editorial journals like *Harper's Weekly*, which reached its peak in popularity around time of the Civil War. Homer's early work depicted the war both on and off the battlefield, but became largely known for his post-war work, which largely depicted scenes of women, children, and seascapes.

93. M.H. M.H. Kimball; *Rebecca, Charlie, and Rosa, Emancipated Slave Children from New Orleans*, 1863, 4 ¼x2 ¼ inches

Photographs of emancipated children were sold to raise money for the education of freed enslaved people in New Orleans. The children featured in this photograph drew attention to the fact that slavery was not solely a matter of color. If a child's mother was enslaved, then he or she was born enslaved as well.

94. M.H. Kimball; *Rebecca, Augusta, and Rosa, Emancipated Slaves from New Orleans, 1863, 4 ¼ x 2 ¼ inches*

These three girls were part of a group of eight former enslaved people from New Orleans. The group was sent North on an abolitionist publicity tour to raise funds for schools that served the formerly enslaved. It was believed that images of enslaved people with lighter skin tones would garner more support among donors at the time.

95. J.W. Black; *Fannie Virginia Cassiopeia, A Redeemed Slave Child, 1863, 4 ¼ x 2 ¼ inches*

This cartes de visite (a small, affordable, commercial portrait) shows a rescued enslaved child. Several extensive series of cartes de visite were made of rescued enslaved children, especially those who appeared to be white like this child, Fannie Virginia Cassiopeia Lawrence. Cards like this were used to advertise for the anti-slavery movement.

96. After Matthew Brady; *Sherman and His Generals; Harper's Weekly, July 1, 1865, New York.*

General William Tecumseh Sherman served in the Union Army during the Civil War (1861-1865), achieving the rank of Major General and serving in Union military campaigns which led to the fall of Confederate forces in Tennessee and Vicksburg. In 1864, Sherman became Union commander of

the Western Theatre, leading his men to crucial victories in Atlanta, Savannah, and the Carolinas, in what is now known as “Sherman’s March to the Sea”.

97. Winslow Homer; *Bivouac Fire on the Potomac, December 21, 1861*, Harper’s Weekly, New York.

Some of Winslow Homer’s (1836-1910) earliest works were highly sought-after illustrations depicting the Civil War, which Homer had personally witnessed on the frontlines reporting for *Harper’s Weekly*. Focusing on both scenes of chaos and calmer moments of battle, this piece shows a temporary Union camp with men gathered around a fire.

98. House Museum Entrance, Rose Hill, New York

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

Robert Seldon Rose, a planter, and his brother in law, Judge John Nicholas bought the 900-acre farm in 1802. The next year Rose moved his family and 32 enslaved people from Stafford County, Virginia to Rose Hill. Rose built the present structure as a home with an attached kitchen around 1809. The building was converted to a carriage house and the kitchen continued to be in use when William Strong built a neoclassical mansion on the site in 1839.

99. Kitchen, Maplewood Farm, Boone County, Kentucky

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

The Maplewood Farm was home to the Gaines family. In 1856, it became the center of a national news story when 17 Boone and Kenton county enslaved people escaped across the frozen Ohio River. Although some of the 17 enslaved people did successfully escape to Canada, Margaret Garner and her family were captured in the home of a formerly enslaved person in Cincinnati. Looking to avoid being returned to Kentucky, Garner murdered her youngest child and attempted to kill her other children but was unsuccessful. Once captured she hoped for a sympathetic jury to remain in free Ohio and be tried for murder. Unfortunately, under the Fugitive Slave Act, she was sold to a new owner farther south. Her story inspired Nobel laureate author, Toni Morrison, to write her award-winning novel, *Beloved*.

**100. Thomas Nast; *A Negro Regiment in Action*; Harper's Weekly, March 4, 1863
New York.**

As a political cartoonist, Thomas Nast was among one of the most influential illustrators of the 19th century and is generally considered the most important contributor to *Harper's Weekly*. *Harper's* aimed to portray the war (as well as other issues) from a moderate standpoint and present accurate information. In this piece, an African-American military regiment is shown bravely charging into battle.

101. Harvested Field, Gettysburg National Military Park, Gettysburg
William Earle Williams
carbon print
1988

The Gettysburg National Military Park was created in 1895 by the federal government as a memorial to the men who fought in the Battle of Gettysburg. The Gettysburg Battlefield Memorial Association that gave the

land up to the federal government wanted the land to memorialize only Union soldiers. When the federal government received title, however, it appointed a committee of war veterans from both sides to manage the property and mark the points of battle.

102. Interior, Paul Laurence Dunbar House, Dayton, Ohio

William Earle Williams

carbon print

1995

Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906) was an influential and eminent African-American poet. His poems are based on his observations of society and the experiences of his parents, who were both former enslaved people. His poetry voices the social dilemma of disenfranchised people and proclaims Black dignity.

103. One Room School House, Oberlin, Ohio

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2001

Built in 1836, the One Room School House was the first public school in Oberlin. Although Ohio's "Black Laws" were in effect, the school was interracial from its inception. One student, Sarah Margru Kinson, was a young girl onboard the infamous slave ship, *Amistad*, which was a two masted schooner transporting captives from Sierra Leone to Cuba. The ship was overtaken by the captives and set sail for Africa but was captured off the coast of Long Island. Sarah Margru Kinson returned to America and became one of the first African Americans to attend the school in Ohio.

104. Servant's wing, Main House, Rose Hill, New York

William Earle Williams
black and white silver gelatin photograph
2008

105. Bill of Sale from former slave trader H.H. DeLeon, Charleston, South Carolina, 1890

A “slave bill of sale” was a contract between an enslaver and a potential buyer detailing the selling of an enslaved person. These contracts stated the location of the enslaver, the name and location of the buyer, the amount the enslaved person was sold for, and the gender, name and age of the enslaved.

106. After George Barnard; *Ruins in the Heart of Charleston-View from King Street*, Harper’s Weekly, July 8, 1865, New York.

George Barnard was among the most notable photographers of the mid 19th century, being appointed official photographer for the union military division of Mississippi, following General Sherman and his men on the campaign known as “Sherman’s March to the Sea”. Charleston was among the most decimated cities in America following the Civil War, having been the site of the first conflict in the war as well as being targeted at the end of “Sherman’s March.”

107. Abraham Lincoln Log Cabin, Knob Creek, Kentucky

William Earle Williams
black and white silver gelatin photograph
1995

“My earliest recollection is of the Knob Creek place,” Abraham Lincoln

once said. The boyhood home of Abraham Lincoln was situated on a prominent traveling route at the time. Slavers who used this route would sometimes stay overnight with their cargo-thus began Lincoln's hatred of slavery at an early age. The cabin was an old homestead with a creek nearby where Lincoln would fish, and rolling hills surrounding the farm premises.

108. New York Herald, July 10, 1866; back page, *Revolt in Cuba*.

This newspaper article, dated one year after the end of the Civil War and after the abolition of slavery in the US, describes a revolt in Cuba against the Spanish crown, which ruled Cuba from the early 1500s until 1898, when the US intervened in the Spanish American War. Revolution of native and enslaved peoples was not uncommon but was often strongly suppressed by imperial forces. This newspaper was published in New York during the Reconstruction era, and it shows the author's attitude towards the revolt and the Spanish crown.

109. Slave Burial Ground, Newton, Barbados, West Indies

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

The Newton Slave Burial Ground is the earliest burial ground for enslaved people discovered in Barbados. The Barbados sugar industry was heavily reliant on slavery. Between the 1630s and 1838, after full emancipation, thousands of enslaved people were buried in unmarked graves in unconsecrated plantation cemeteries throughout the island. Newton Plantation was excavated in the 1970s and is the largest undisturbed plantation cemetery found in the New World. Newton is located in the south of the island and the burial site is close to the slave village that once

existed on the plantation which was established by Samuel Newton in the 1660s.

110. Slave Burial Site, Bridgetown, Barbados, West Indies

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

Burial sites of enslaved people in the Caribbean West Indies are rarely marked or commemorated. Many like this urban one have been lost to memory and have had modern structures built upon them.

111. Hosanna Meeting House, Burial Ground

William Earle Williams

carbon print

1998

The Hosanna Meeting House, located in Hinsonville, PA, was established in 1843 and completed in 1845. It is the last architectural remnant of Hinsonville, a free Black community founded in antebellum Chester County, Pennsylvania. Hinsonville was founded by a free Black man named Edward Walls, who was born in Maryland. The namesake of the village was Emory Hinson, another free Black man from Maryland. The village is located just six miles north of the Mason Dixon Line.

112. Old English and Oak-Grove Freedman's Cemetery, Salisbury, North Carolina

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

“The Oak Grove Freedman’s Cemetery is the burial site of over 150 mostly unknown African-American men, women and children. The memorial wall to those interred there is made of granite with sections of granite engraved with words of poetry and quotes from former [enslaved people] and famous African-Americans along with donor acknowledgements. The memorial wall runs along part of West Liberty Street and along North Church Street until meeting a rock wall built in 1855, which separated white and [B]lack burial areas. The Freedman’s Cemetery is part of a larger parcel known as the Old English Cemetery. As a symbolic part of the memorial, an opening was created in the 1855 wall that separated the white and Black sections of this larger cemetery parcel.”

—“Commemorative Landscapes of North Carolina.” *William Craft. Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom; or, the Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery.*, 19 Mar. 2010, docsouth.unc.edu/commland/monument/933/.

113. Farm House, Camp Delaware (United States Colored Troops), Delaware, Ohio

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

1995

The first regiment raised at Camp Delaware was the 5th USCT, which completed its training in November of 1863. It joined the Army of the James and was to see action in ten battles in Virginia. One of the chief recruiters for this regiment was John Mercer Langston, who had earlier recruited men for the 54th and 55th Massachusetts regiments. Langston, a graduate of Oberlin College and the first African American to become a member of the Ohio bar, became the founder and first dean of the Howard University Law School. The poet Langston Hughes was the great great grandson of Charles Henry Langston, brother of John Mercer Langston.

114. Autograph Book of Members of the 1876 Congress, 4x6 ½ inches

This book contains the signatures of the 1876 members of the United States Congress. The book contains signatures from Ulysses S. Grant's presidency, which saw the first Democratic majority in the House since the Civil War. The year was also the United States Centennial, marking the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

115. Thomas Day Work Shop, Milton, North Carolina

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

Thomas Day is best known for the quality of his furniture. Day was born in 1801 as a free man and went on to become highly educated. Dr. John Hope Franklin states Day, "rose above the station assigned to him and created his own." As an entrepreneur, Day employed white apprentices, free African Americans and enslaved African Americans as journeymen. Most likely, he employed enslaved people to save them from much harsher working conditions. He is considered one of the first industrial designers in American history, catering to affluent white clientele who collected his work.

116. Envelope with cartoon of enslaved people running to Fort Monroe for their freedom

On May 27, 1861, Benjamin Butler, commander of the Union army in Virginia and North Carolina, decreed that enslaved people who fled to Union lines were legitimate "contraband of war," and were not subject to return to their Confederate enslavers. The declaration precipitated many

escapes to Union lines around Fortress Monroe, Butler's headquarters in Virginia.

117. Boyette Slave Cabin, Kenly, North Carolina

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2008

Constructed as a one-room pine house with dovetail notches and pegs, this 1830s structure was originally built as a dwelling for enslaved people. Located across the road from the Boyette Plantation House, it features an unusual chimney made of heart-pine sticks and daubed with clay-based mortar. It is the only mud and stick chimney known to be intact in North Carolina. Later the building was used as a school. It has been carefully restored and is listed on the National Register of Historical Places.

118. Battle Site, Saltville, Virginia

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2001

Salt, a preservative, was one of the most important products of the nineteenth-century global economy. Saltville was one of the principle salt works in the South. During the first attack, the approach of the Union troops was from the valley below. The Confederate troops were well positioned to guard the city and its works. The October action was not successful, resulting in the loss of 350 men. A number of Union injured were left in Saltville, including USCT troops. A group of these soldiers was killed after the battle (although the number killed is, to this day, a subject of controversy). The second action in Saltville resulted in destruction of the works by Union troops.

119. Sergeant Carney Monument, West Point Cemetery, Norfolk, Virginia

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2004

“The West Point Monument honors William Carney, born enslaved in Norfolk in 1840. Sgt. Carney fought in the Civil War with the 54th Massachusetts Regiment. During the 1863 attack on Fort Wagner, S.C., he saved the U.S. flag from capture, refusing to give up even though he had been shot three times. Carney was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions. The statue is one of the few monuments in the South honoring African Americans who fought for the Union and is included in the Virginia Civil War Trails program. The 1989 movie, "Glory" is based on this Norfolk native.”

—Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, “West Point Monument Honoring William Carney in the Elmwood Cemetery,” African American Historic Sites Database, accessed August 7, 2018, <http://www.aahistoricsitesva.org/items/show/480>.

120. Frederic Remington; *Soldiers in the Southwest-The Rescue of Corporal Scott*, August 1886, Harper’s Weekly, New York.

Frederic Remington (1861-1909), was the foremost Western illustrator during the “Golden Age of Illustration” around the turn of the 20th century. This piece was commissioned by the magazine, *Harper’s Weekly*, who had asked Remington to report on the government’s war against Geronimo and the Apache Indians, which is depicted on the cover of *The Rescue of Corporal Scott*.

121. Appomattox, Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia

William Earle Williams

black and white silver gelatin photograph

2002

The Appomattox Courthouse marks the end of the Civil War. The battle was fought on the morning of April 9, 1865. Confederate States Army General Robert E. Lee had abandoned the Confederate capital of Richmond, VA and was retreating west to join the remaining Confederate forces when Union infantry and cavalry forces (under General Philip Sheridan) cut off his path forcing a confrontation in the central Virginia village. Misjudging the Union forces, Lee tried to break through the cavalry only to find they were reinforced by Federal troops. As a result, General Lee surrendered.

Later that afternoon, the signing of surrender documents occurred in the parlor of a house owned by Wilmer McLean. Both generals Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant were in attendance.

122. Hosanna Meeting House, Burial Ground

William Earle Williams

carbon print

1998

The Hosanna Meeting House, located in Hinsonville, PA, was established in 1843 and completed in 1845. It is the last architectural remnant of Hinsonville, a free Black community founded in antebellum Chester County, Pennsylvania. Hinsonville was founded by a free Black man named Edward Walls, who was born in Maryland. The namesake of the village was Emory Hinson, another free Black man from Maryland. The village is located just six miles north of the Mason Dixon Line.

123. Earth Works, Battle Site, Fort Pillow, Tennessee

William Earle Williams
Carbon Print
1999

April 12, 1864—USCT Battery F, 2nd Light Artillery, and 11th (new) Infantry.

The massacre of African American soldiers on April 12 who were shot while surrendering led to an investigation by the US Congress' Committee on the Conduct of War. The battle and massacre victims which included women and children were buried in the fort's trench shown in the photograph by Confederate soldiers under the command of General Nathan Bedford Forrest. Later the bodies were removed and buried in the Memphis National Military Cemetery. After the massacre African American troops adopted the battle cry "Remember Fort Pillow."

124. J.O. Davidson; *Port Hudson*; Prang and Co. and American Lithographic Company, 1887 Boston New York.

Port Hudson was among the most important strategic victories for the Union in the South during the Civil War, as it gave them complete control of the Mississippi River, making it much easier to transport supplies from the North. Led by Union General Nathaniel Banks, the siege upon Port Hudson lasted an astounding 48 days—the longest in US military history—before Confederate forces conceded. Port Hudson was also notable as being the first time that African-American soldiers played a lead role in a US military campaign.

125. *The Daily Ohio Statesman*, Columbus, Ohio, April 16, 1864; *The Fort Pillow Massacre*

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Vitrine Cases, Objects 1 – 5; 6; 7 – 10

V1. 1858 Virginia deed with slave women and her two children used as collateral for a loan

Certificates of loan and transfer such as these included children, as well as adults, being accounted for economically as property, as was standard at the time. Prior to the abolition of slavery, it was also not entirely uncommon for enslaved people to be used as collateral for loans.

V2. Levi Coffin; *Reminiscences of Levi Coffin: The Reputed President of The Underground Railroad*; 1st Edition, 1876, Western Tract Society Cincinnati.

Levi Coffin was a vital figure of the Underground Railroad and helped hundreds of enslaved people escape to freedom prior to the Civil War.

V3. Letter to Daniel Spooner from Barring Brothers London placing an order for cotton; October 4, 1864

Barring Brothers London was a British merchant bank founded in the 1700s. The bank expanded due to its involvement in the Louisiana Purchase, which resulted in its overwhelming role in the importation of Africans as enslaved people and the production and export of cotton.

V4. 1833 Alabama Property transfer to Michael Rodgers including a Negro girl about seven

Certificates of loan and transfer such as these included children, as well as adults, being accounted for economically as property, as was standard at the time. Prior to the abolition of slavery, it was also not entirely uncommon for enslaved people to be used as collateral for loans.

V5. John Mair; *Book Keeping Modernized*; 3rd Edition, 1784, John Bell and William Creech, Edinburgh.

John Mair's "Book Keeping Modernized" was the standard accounting text in Great Britain and North America for over 50 years. The book contains a section on how to best bookkeep information about enslaved people. It is said that President George Washington used the book to keep track of his enslaved persons' sick days, pregnancies, and debts.

V6. William Still; *The Underground Railroad: a Record of Facts, Authentic Narratives, Letters & c.*; 1st Edition 1872, Porter and Coats, Philadelphia.

William Still was an African American abolitionist prior to and during the Civil War. His book details the stories of many enslaved people that he helped escape to freedom and includes details as to how the Underground Railroad operated at that time.

V7. Timothy Mather Cooley; *Sketches of The Life & Character of Rev. Lemuel Hayes*; 1st Edition, 1837, Harper and Brothers, New York.

Born to a white mother and African father, Reverend Lemuel Haynes was abandoned and raised as an indentured servant to a white family. Haynes eventually fought in the American Revolution, was an anti-slavery activist, and was the first Black man to be ordained as a minister in the United States.

V8. Paul Laurence Dunbar; *Lyrics of Love and Laughter*; 1st Edition, 1903, Dodd Mead & Company, New York.

Paul Laurence Dunbar was an African American poet of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Dunbar's work frequently featured a conversational tone, innovative rhetorical structure, and a colorful use of both dialect and mainstream English. Dunbar was among the first nationally successful African American writers. His father escaped slavery before the end of the Civil War and volunteered for the 55th Massachusetts Infantry.

V9. Rev. J.W. Lougen; *As a Slave And As A Free Man: A Narrative of A Real Life*; 1st Edition, J.G.K. Truair, Syracuse.

"As a Slave and As a Free Man" (1859) is a third-person account detailing Lougen's early life in slavery, his escape northward and his ministerial and abolitionist activities in New York state and Canada. Lougen was a member of the Oneida School and later established a school in Utica, New York for African American children.

V10. House of Representatives 38th Congress 1st Session, Report No. 65; *Report of the Committee on the Conduct of the War: Fort Pillow Massacre and Returned Prisoners*; Washington, DC, 1864.

Contains a full report of the April 1864 battle at Fort Pillow, Tennessee, based on an investigation of the battle itself, as well as the operations of Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest and his command immediately preceding and subsequent. Includes testimony from soldiers present at the battle, who witnessed Forrest's violations of the conduct of war.