

**Discovering Gems:
A Look at African American Resources at the Georgia Archives
African American Genealogy Day
Georgia Archives
February 6, 2021
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Time and Location

a. Why it is important

- i. Availability of Records
- ii. Research Location Specifics
- iii. Location and Format of the Records

b. Tools to Help Capture Time and Location

- i. Pencil and Paper
- ii. Individual or Family Unit Timelines
- iii. Midwest Genealogy Center (Fillable PDFs)

<https://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy/resources/family-history-forms>

- iv. Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources -

[https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Red_Book: American State, County, and Town Sources](https://wiki.rootsweb.com/wiki/index.php/Red_Book:_American_State,_County,_and_Town_Sources)

- v. FamilySearch Research Wiki -

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page

Section Homework: Create at least one timeline for an individual.

Create a list of your research locations.



GEORGIA ARCHIVES
1918 - 2018

GEORGIAARCHIVES.ORG

(Free and available wherever you have internet access)

Visit

- [Programs](#)
 - Virtual Lunch and Learns
 - Past Programs – Scroll towards the bottom to find materials from past programs, some of which are genealogy related.
 - *Online Exhibits* – Access virtual exhibits covering a variety of topics, including one on *Primary Sources that Document Enslaved and Free Persons of Color*.

Research

- [Research Help](#) – Find information guides on a variety of genealogy related topics including:
 - [Vital Records](#)
 - [African American Resources](#)
 - [Georgia Tax Records FAQs](#)
 - [Documenting Family History in Georgia](#)
 - [Georgia Counties Creation and Disaster Map](#)

FEATURED CONTENT (BLUE LINKS ON RIGHT OR THE BOTTOM OF THE SCREEN)

[Virtual Vault](#) (52 collections, 32 keyword searchable)

- Georgia Death Certificates (Also keyword searchable on FamilySearch.org)
- Historic Schools Photograph Collection
- Marriage Records from Microfilm (Also keyword searchable on FamilySearch.org)

[Finding Aids](#) – To find records, think of the agency that may have produced the records, such as the Negro Education Division under the Department of Education.

[Book and Manuscript Catalog \(GIL\)](#) – Manuscripts are currently accessible. Make note of the consignment number (XXXX-XXXXM).

[Historical Organizations Directory](#) (Currently being updated)

- Locate organizations around the state that may have materials that can help with genealogy research.

Other Georgia Archives Materials Available Online

Georgia Place Names - http://www.kenkrakow.com/gpn/georgia_place-names.htm

Georgia Government Publications – <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/ggp/>

State Wide Marriage, Death and Divorce Indexes Online

- *Marriage* – 1964 – 1999
- *Divorce* – 1965 – 1999
- *Death* – 1919 – 1999

Georgia Government Publications – <http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/ggp/>

1. Go to the Georgia Government Publications website above.
2. Select Author from the dropdown below the search box.
3. In the search box, type *Georgia. Dept. of Human Resources. Division of Public Health. Vital Records Service.* (Exactly as you see it.)
4. Hit Enter.
 - You should retrieve 154 search results. These results include the Marriage, Death and Divorce index registers.
 - Sort by: Title is the best way to organize the search results. It groups the indexes by type and then lists them in chronological order.
 - **Note:** *Specific Index (i.e. marriage only):*
 - If you only want to pull a specific type of index, i.e. Marriage only, go to advance search. Repeat above steps 2 – 3. Type 'Marriage' in the next search box. Hit Enter.

RESEARCH TIPS

1. Learn the terms used in historical documents that refer to African Americans.
2. Learn about the institutions and communities unique to African Americans in your research area.
3. Get familiar with resources and how they designated African Americans, i.e. c, col, an asterisk (*), etc.
4. Check the back of the book, the end of the section or a separate volume for information on African Americans.
5. Be prepared to review historical documents and find little to no information about the African American community in that area or resource.
6. Think of digital content as a dangling carrot to entice you to visit the research institution.
7. Only a small percentage of research materials have been digitized. Basically, it's not all online. You will have to visit the institution to access other resources.
8. Best way to learn the resources are to explore them.
9. Make sure to visit (virtually and in person if you can) the state archives, historical/genealogical society, public library and at least one academic library in your research areas to determine if they have materials that can assist you in your research endeavor.

Section Homework – Identify and visit the websites of the State Archives, State Library (if applicable), the public library, historical / genealogical society and an academic library in your research area and spend time exploring their resources.