

ESSEX COUNTY, VIRGINIA
LARGEST SLAVEHOLDERS FROM 1860 SLAVE CENSUS SCHEDULES
and
SURNAME MATCHES FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS ON 1870 CENSUS

Transcribed by Tom Blake, July 2003

PURPOSE. Published information giving names of slaveholders and numbers of slaves held is almost non-existent. It is possible to locate an ancestor on a U.S. census for 1860 or earlier and not realize that ancestor was also listed as a slaveholder on the slave schedules, because published indexes almost always do not include the slave census. The last U.S. census slave schedules were enumerated by County in 1860 and included 393,975 named persons holding 3,950,546 unnamed slaves, or an average of about ten slaves per holder. The actual number of slaveholders may be slightly lower because some large holders held slaves in more than one County and would have been counted in each County. Excluding slaves, the 1860 U.S. population was 27,167,529, with about 1 in 70 being a slaveholder. It is estimated by this transcriber that in 1860, slaveholders of 200 or more slaves, while constituting less than 1 % of the total number of U.S. slaveholders, or 1 out of 7,000 free persons, held 20-30% of the total number of slaves in the U.S. The process of publication of slaveholder names beginning with the largest holders will enable naming of the holders of the most slaves with the least amount of transcription work. Surname matching of slaveholders with 1870 African Americans is intended merely as suggesting another possibility for further research by those seeking to make connections between slaves and holders.

SOURCES. The 1860 U.S. Census Slave Schedules for Essex County, Virginia (NARA microfilm series M653, Roll 1389) reportedly includes a total of 6,696 slaves. This transcription includes 99 slaveholders who held 20 or more slaves in Essex County, accounting for 4,305 slaves, or about 64% of the County total. The rest of the slaves in the County were held by a total of 299 slaveholders, and those slaveholders have not been included here. Due to variable film quality, handwriting interpretation questions and inconsistent counting and page numbering methods used by the census enumerators, interested researchers should view the source film personally to verify or modify the information in this transcription for their own purposes. Census data for 1860 was obtained from the Historical United States Census Data Browser, which is a very detailed, searchable and highly recommended database that can found at <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/census/> . Census data on African Americans in the 1870 census was obtained using Heritage Quest's CD "African-Americans in the 1870 U.S. Federal Census", available through Heritage Quest at <http://www.heritagequest.com/> .

FORMAT. This transcription lists the names of those largest slaveholders in the Essex County, the number of slaves they held in the County and the first page number on which they were listed. The page numbers used are the numbers rubber stamped in the upper right corner of every other page of the census, with the intervening pages being reported here with a B added to the number of the preceding page. Sometimes the rubber stamped numbers do not show up on the microfilm, so researchers should be aware the entire census also has consecutive local page numbers and local page number 1 is NARA page 490. Following the holder list is a separate list of the surnames of the holders with information on numbers of African Americans on the 1870 census who were enumerated with the same surname.

TERMINOLOGY. Though the census schedules speak in terms of "slave owners", the transcriber has chosen to use the term "slaveholder" rather than "slave owner", so that questions of justice and legality of claims of ownership need not be addressed in this transcription. Racially related terms such as African American, black, mulatto and colored are used as in the source or at the time of the source, with African American being used otherwise.

PLANTATION NAMES. Plantation names were not shown on the census. Using plantation names to locate ancestors can be difficult because the name of a plantation may have been changed through the years and because the sizeable number of large farms must have resulted in lots of duplication of plantation names. In Virginia in 1860 there were 641 farms of 1,000 acres or more, the largest size category enumerated in the census, and another 2,882

farms of 500-999 acres. Linking names of plantations in this County with the names of the large holders on this list is beyond the scope of this transcription.

FORMER SLAVES. The 1860 U.S. Census was the last U.S. census showing slaves and slaveholders. Slaves were enumerated in 1860 without giving their names, only their sex and age and indication of any handicaps, such as deaf or blind. Slaves 100 years of age or older were supposed to be named on the 1860 slave schedule, but there were only 1,570 slaves of such age enumerated, out of a total of 3,950,546 slaves, and the transcriber, though not specifically looking for such named slaves, did not notice any such information while doing this transcription, except for the following: 120 year old black female servant Alice, held by John Saunders on page 490; 100 female black Peggy, held by E. A. Westmore on 499B; and 100 male black Sam, held by J. R. Micon on 505B. Freed slaves, if listed in the next census, in 1870, would have been reported with their full name, including surname. Some of these former slaves may have been using the surname of their 1860 slaveholder at the time of the 1870 census and they may have still been living in the same State or County. Before presuming an African American was a slave on the 1860 census, the free census for 1860 should be checked, as almost 11% of African Americans were enumerated as free in 1860, with about half of those living in the southern States. Estimates of the number of former slaves who used the surname of a former owner in 1870, vary widely and from region to region. If an African American ancestor with one of these surnames is found on the 1870 census, then making the link to finding that ancestor as a slave requires advanced research techniques involving all obtainable records of the holder.

MIGRATION OF FORMER SLAVES: According to U.S. Census data, the 1860 Essex County population included 3,296 whites, 477 “free colored” and 6,696 slaves. By the 1870 census, the white population had stayed about the same at 3,277, while the “colored” population had decreased about 7 % to 6,650. (As a side note, by 1960, 100 years later, the County was listed as having 3,509 whites, about a 6% increase, while the 1960 total of 3,163 “Negroes” was about 66% less than what the colored population had been 100 years before.) In comparing census data for different years, the transcriber was not aware of any relevant changes to County boundaries.

Where did the freed slaves go if they did not stay in the same County? Between 1860 and 1870, the Virginia colored population declined by about 36,000, to approximately 513,000, a 6.5% decrease. Two Virginia Counties that showed a significant increase in colored population between 1860 and 1870 were Henrico, with an increase of over 7,000, and Norfolk, with an increase of over 10,000. States that saw significant increases in colored population during that time, and were therefore possible places of relocation for colored persons from Essex County, included the following: Georgia, up 80,000 (17%); Texas, up 70,000 (38%); Alabama, up 37,000 (8%); Florida, up 29,000 (46%); North Carolina, up 38,000 (8%); Ohio, up 26,000 (70%); Indiana, up 25,000 (127%); and Kansas up from 265 to 17,000 (6,400%).

SLAVEHOLDER LIST:

ANDREWS, Mary L., 24 slaves, page 490B
ATKINSON, R. L., 26 slaves, page 491
BAIRD, B. R., 74 slaves, page 499
BAYLOR, Brooke, 48 slaves, page 519B and 522
BAYLOR, Richd., 340 slaves, page 491 and 493B
BENTLEY, John G., 57 slaves, page 498
BEVERLY, Wm. B., 78 slaves, page 491B
BIRD, S. J.?, 25 slaves, page 491
BLACKBURN, Wm., 36 slaves, page 492B
BOUGHTON, Chas. H., 20 slaves, page 516
BRAY, Susan, 20 slaves, page 512B
BRAY, Winter Estate, J. S. Tribble Admr. Of, 53 slaves, page 513
BROCKENBROUGH, Francis, 62 slaves, page 512
BROOKS, Wm. H., 66 slaves, page 490
BURKE, Ann B. For self and Guardian for J. W. & J. C. Burke, 28 slaves, page 504
CAUTHORN, R. S.?, 24 slaves, page 518B
CLARKE, Anna, 22 slaves, page 507B

CLEMENTS, Mace, 28 slaves, page 512
COGHILL, M. F. & Julia A., 39 slaves, page 493
COLEMAN, Catherine, 27 slaves, page 510B
COVINGTON, R. L., 26 slaves, page 525
DILLARD, Geo. W., 42 slaves, page 541
DISHMAN, David, 25 slaves, page 492B
DUNN, Harriett, 29 slaves, page 510B
FAULCONER, Elizabeth S., 57 slaves, page 514B
FAUNTLEROY, R. P. W., 21 slaves, page 516
FOGG, Wilsey, 37 slaves, page 507
GARNETT, M. H. & M. R. H., 21 slaves, page 530
GARNETT, Muscov?, 39 slaves, page 513B
GARNETT, Thos. P., 54 slaves, page 520
GOULDMAN, J. J., 25 slaves, page 515B
GRAY, Lucy, 34 slaves, page 506
HAILE, R. G., 49 slaves, page 502B
HENLEY, Leoard, 37 slaves, page 523B
HILL, Jno. T.?, 37 slaves, page 497
HOSKINS, Jno. T., 33 slaves, page 508
HUNDLEY, Andrew, 26 slaves, page 513
HUNDLEY, Larkin, 23 slaves, page 520B
HUNDLEY, Thos. J., 32 slaves, page 519
HUNTER, Jane S., 42 slaves, page 522
HUNTER, Martha F., 41 slaves, page 522B
HUNTER, R. M. T., 116 slaves, page 523
HUNTER, S. H. A., 43 slaves, page 522B
JONES, A. H., 21 slaves, page 518
JONES, Walter S., 21 slaves, page 530
KAY, James, 24 slaves, page 493
LATANE, H. W., 143 slaves, page 507B and 509B
LATANE, J. H., 37 slaves, page 503B
LATANE, Mary B., 50 slaves, page 511
LEWIS, Warner, 76 slaves, page 502
MICON, J. R., 27 slaves, page 505B
MICON, Susan S., 23 slaves, page 504B
MOTLEY, J. R., 35 slaves, page 501B
NEWBALL, Wm. G., 24 slaves, page 520B
NOEL, E. F., 37 slaves, page 503
ONEAL, A. G., 39 slaves, page 496B
POWERS, Edwd., 25 slaves, page 504
RENNOLDS, Martha, 26 slaves, page 516B
RENNOLDS, Otway, 26 slaves, page 507
RENNOLDS, R.? G., 21 slaves, page 527
ROANE, Lawrence?, 40 slaves, page 525B
ROBINSON, J. W., 21 slaves, page 519B
RONZIE?, Jno. S., 28 slaves, page 501B
RONZIE?, Richd., 26 slaves, page 501B
ROY, A. G. D., 41 slaves, page 518B
ROY, B. D., 21 slaves, page 506B, 507 and 511
SALE, Dandrige?, 175 slaves, page 526
SALE, L. P., 97 slaves, page 529
SAUNDERS, John, 22 slaves, page 490
SHACKLEFORD, Rv.? Z.?, 48 slaves, page 527B

SMITH, Wm., 30 slaves, page 515B
 SMITH, Wm. F., 60 slaves, page 517B and 521B
 SOWELL, Tibitha, 23 slaves, page 516
 SPINDLE, Fanny, 25 slaves, page 498
 SPINDLE, James, 47 slaves, page 492 and 521B
 SPINDLE, Jos.? C., 29 slaves, page 498
 SPINDLE, Paul, 45 slaves, page 492
 TEMPLE, Arthur F., 34 slaves, page 525
 TEMPLE, H. W. L., 43 slaves, page 508B
 TUPTMAN?, J. M., 23 slaves, page 496B
 UPSHAW, Geo. W., 65 slaves, page 496
 WARE, E. M., 40 slaves, page 515
 WARING, Lucia, 41 slaves, page 493B
 WARING, Lucy R., 63 slaves, page 528
 WARING, R. Payne Sr., 24 slaves, page 514B
 WARING, Ro.? P., 57 slaves, page 528B
 WARING, Thomas L., 23 slaves, page 514
 WARING, Thos. R., 103 slaves, page 500B
 WARING, W. L., 66 slaves, page 498B
 WARINGEliza L.?, 54 slaves, page 500B
 WESTMORE, E. A., 57 slaves, page 499B
 WHITLOCK, N. J. B., 22 slaves, page 514
 WRIGHT, B. E., 35 slaves, page 509 and 510
 WRIGHT, Charlotte, 32 slaves, page 506B
 WRIGHT, Edward, 38 slaves, page 500
 WRIGHT, Edward L., 26 slaves, page 527B and 529B
 WRIGHT, John J., 51 slaves, page 524
 WRIGHT, Mary B., 40 slaves, page 503B
 YOUNG, Smith, 21 slaves, page 515

SURNAME MATCHES AMONG AFRICAN AMERICANS ON 1870 CENSUS:

(exact surname spellings only are reported, no spelling variations or soundex)

SURNAME, # in US, in State, in County, born in State, born and living in State, born in State and living in County)

ANDREWS, 1160, 88, 0, 145, 88, 0
 ATKINSON, 465, 20, 0, 41, 20, 0
 BAIRD, 190, 6, 0, 13, 6, 0
 BAYLOR, 150, 111, 23, 120, 111, 23
 BENTLEY, 207, 37, 0, 57, 37, 0
 BEVERLY, 225, 84, 12, 135, 83, 12
 BIRD, 1401, 305, 27, 431, 303, 27
 BLACKBURN, 418, 32, 1, 81, 32, 1
 BOUGHTON, 12, 2, 0, 2, 2, 0
 BRAY, 256, 46, 1, 61, 33, 1
 BROCKENBROUGH, 11, 11, 4, 11, 11, 4
 BROOKS, 4486, 690, 14, 1171, 673, 14
 BURKE, 452, 54, 0, 95, 54, 0
 CAUTHORN, 11, 6, 5, 7, 6, 5
 CLARKE, 641, 159, 1, 208, 156, 1
 CLEMENTS, 364, 68, 0, 100, 66, 0
 COGHILL, 14, 11, 0, 12, 11, 0
 COLEMAN, 4329, 932, 10, 1515, 922, 10
 COVINGTON, 447, 20, 3, 42, 19, 3

DILLARD, 568, 186, 1, 228, 179, 1
DISHMAN, 42, 9, 0, 18, 9, 0
DUNN, 994, 45, 0, 102, 44, 0
FAULCONER, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
FAUNTLEROY, 66, 66, 10, 66, 66, 10
FOGG, 72, 2, 0, 6, 1, 0
GARNETT, 289, 103, 21, 136, 102, 21
GOULDMAN, 6, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5
GRAY, 3207, 398, 5, 692, 387, 5
HAILE, 47, 2, 1, 3, 2, 1
HENLEY, 125, 39, 0, 52, 39, 0
HILL, 6675, 1025, 24, 1627, 1007, 24
HOSKINS, 158, 25, 1, 47, 24, 1
HUNDLEY, 83, 48, 0, 57, 47, 0
HUNTER, 2838, 326, 6, 597, 308, 6
JONES, 27193, 3894, 39, 6648, 3807, 39
KAY, 82, 8, 2, 12, 8, 2
LATANE, 11, 11, 5, 11, 11, 5
LEWIS, 8707, 1513, 34, 2588, 1483, 34
MICON, 17, 3, 2, 4, 3, 2
MOTLEY, 246, 60, 1, 87, 57, 1
NEWBALL, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
NOEL, 166, 47, 4, 55, 47, 4
ONEAL, 360, 5, 1, 22, 4, 1
POWERS, 516, 42, 0, 90, 41, 0
RENNOLDS, 25, 15, 7, 17, 15, 7
ROANE, 173, 120, 31, 133, 120, 31
ROBINSON, 8046, 1242, 25, 2251, 1233, 25
RONZIE?, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1
ROY, 332, 148, 23, 195, 148, 23
SALE, 78, 44, 9, 49, 44, 9
SAUNDERS, 1072, 405, 7, 466, 391, 7
SHACKLEFORD, 138, 16, 0, 31, 16, 0
SMITH, 29087, 3499, 36, 6339, 3398, 36
SOWELL, 76, 3, 0, 8, 3, 0
SPINDLE, 17, 10, 0, 13, 10, 0
TEMPLE, 253, 73, 4, 100, 70, 4
TUPTMAN?, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
UPSHAW, 91, 11, 1, 19, 11, 1
WARE, 998, 133, 7, 234, 131, 7
WARING, 90, 8, 4, 12, 7, 4
WESTMORE, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0
WHITLOCK, 121, 17, 0, 37, 17, 0
WRIGHT, 5428, 621, 19, 1010, 603, 19
YOUNG, 6185, 536, 26, 986, 520, 26

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