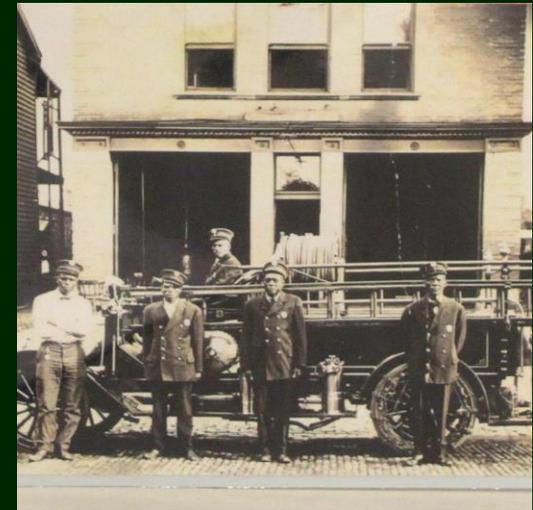
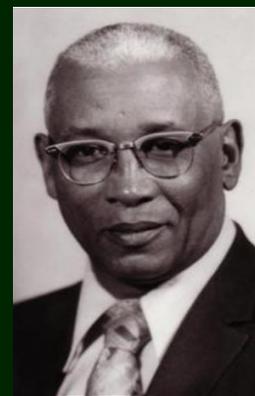


National Register of Historic Places Thematic Survey of Springfield's African-American Community

by
Floyd Mansberger
and
Christopher Stratton

Fever River Research
Springfield, Illinois



Presented at:
Lincoln Library, Springfield, IL
February 27, 2019



This public presentation is part of a thematic study of African American life in Springfield initiated by the City of Springfield's Historic Sites Commission, and administered by the City of Springfield's Office of Planning and Economic Development, 800 E. Monroe, Springfield, IL 62701.

**SPRINGFIELD'S HISTORIC SITES COMMISSION and
FEVER RIVER RESEARCH invite you to**

**Help us fill the gaps of the
Historical Experiences
of African Americans in
Springfield**

**Focusing On the People, Places
and Events That Shaped Our Community**

With funding from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, the City of Springfield will build on research regarding properties associated with Springfield's African American community between the mid-19th century and the end of the 20th century. The evening will highlight how the research will be conducted. Attendees will then be asked to share information about people, places and events from the past that may have had an important role in shaping our community.

**MONDAY,
SEPTEMBER 18, 2017
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**Union Baptist Church
1405 E. Monroe
Springfield**

The activity, which is the subject of this flyer, has been financed in part with federal funds from the Department of the Interior, administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Department of the Interior or the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, nor does the mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation by the Department of the Interior or the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.

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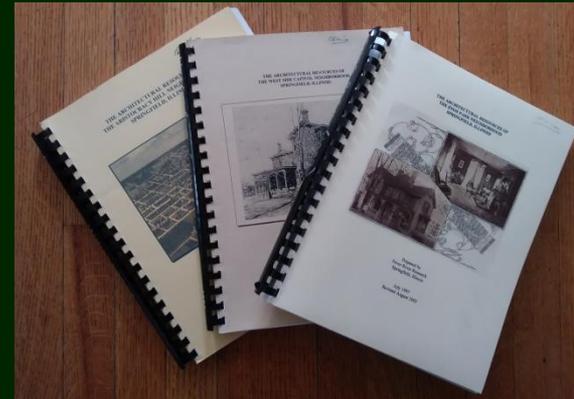
Fever River Research: About Us



Our Offices on Cook Street

Fever River Research (Springfield, Illinois) is a full service Cultural Resource Management (CRM) firm that has been doing CRM work in Illinois for over 35 years.

Our firm has completed multiple projects in Springfield over the years, including: architectural surveys of the Enos Park, West Side Capitol, and Aristocracy Hill neighborhoods; IL-HAER documentation of CWLP's Lakeside Generating Station; and archaeological investigations within the Lincoln Home Neighborhood (for the National Park Service), the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (State of Illinois), and on-going investigations for the Springfield Railroad Improvements project (City of Springfield).

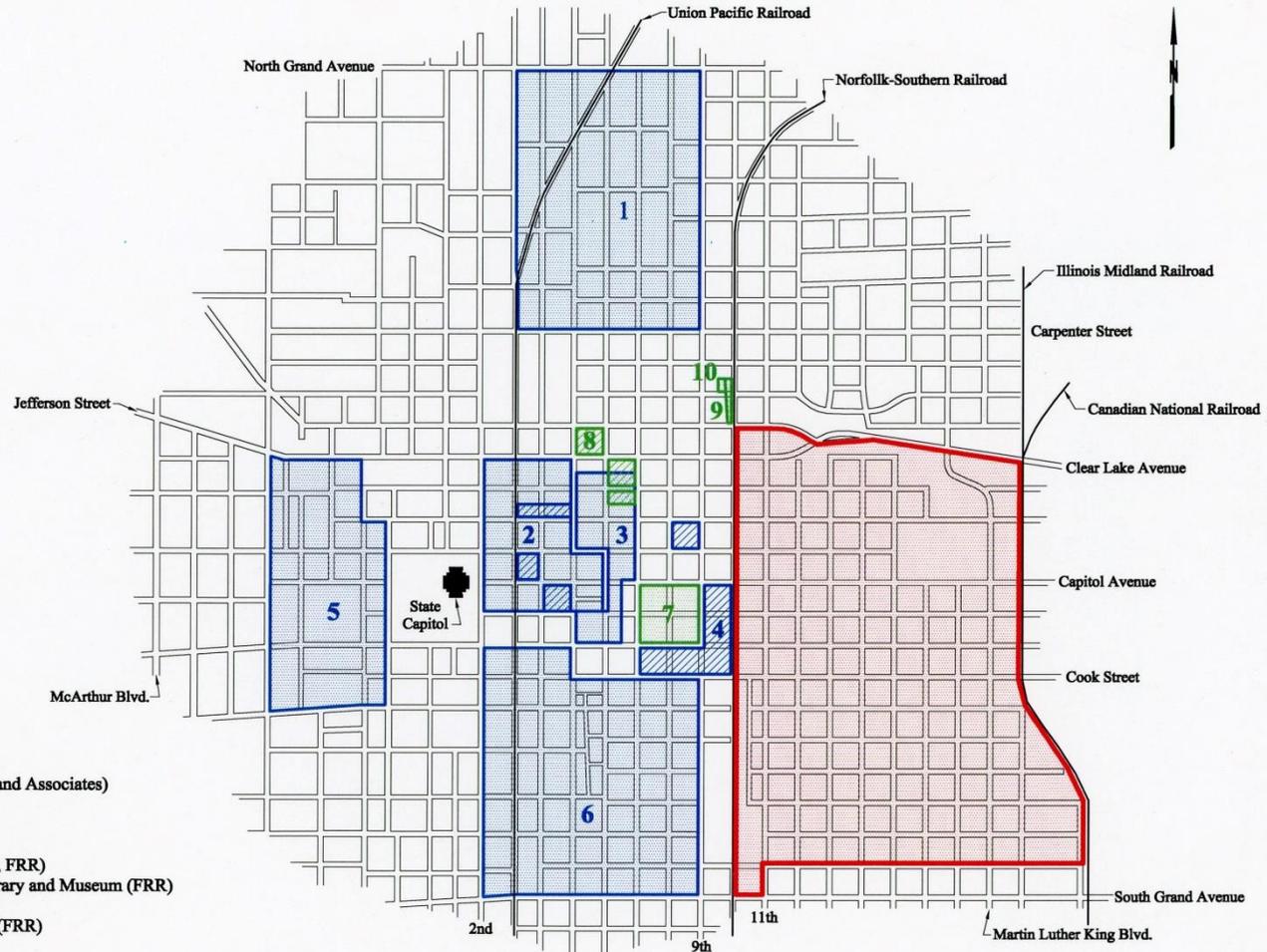


Current Project Area

The current project area is bordered on the west by 10th Street, on the east by 19th and Wirt Streets, on the south by South Grand Avenue and Brown Street, and on the north by Madison Street and Clear Lake Avenue. This entails a very large area (over 500 acres in size) with over 1,300 primary buildings.



Previous Architectural Survey Work in Springfield



National Register of Historic Places

Eligibility to the National Register is based on four broad criteria that are defined by the National Park Service and used to guide the evaluation process (36CFR60.4 Criteria for Evaluation).. These criteria state that:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and

- a) that are associated with **events** that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history [Social History]; or
- b) that are associated with the lives of **persons** significant to our past [People]; or
- c) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction [Architecture]; or
- d) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history [Archaeology].

National Register Criteria emphasizes the people, places, and events significant in the African American experience in Springfield. The following discussion presents a few examples of the properties associated with these criteria, and we invite the audience to help us identify lesser known examples in our community—and tangible connections to these people and events.

1) People



2) Places



3) Events



EMANCIPATION DAY.
The Arrangements For Its Observance.
Pursuant to previous notice, the colored citizens assembled in mass meeting at

Context

Developing a historical context is a key component to a developing a National Register of Historic Places thematic study, and in assessing the National Register eligibility of individual properties.

All context statements place the historic property in an historical framework, identifying the relevant aspects of the historic property that determine its significance. As such, as historic context statements have three parameters, that include:

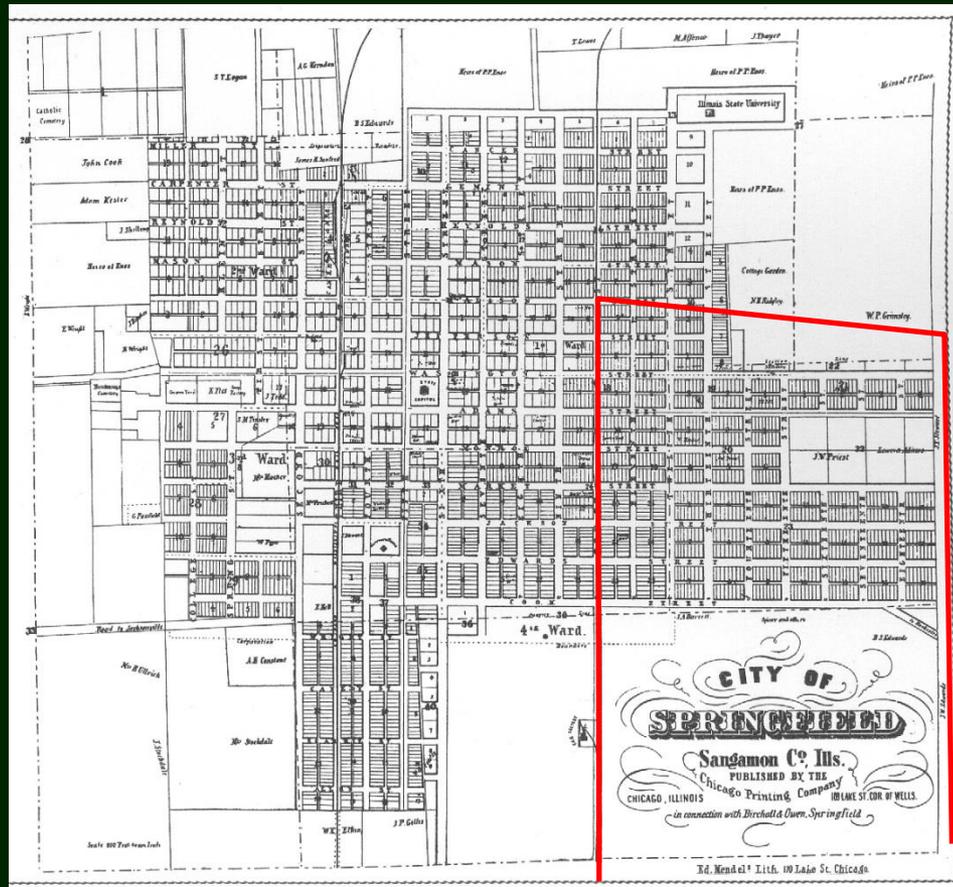
- 1) **Theme**: African American Life [Sub-themes include home life, work, recreation, religion, etc.]
- 2) **Time Frame**: Initial Settlement to 50-year cut-off of the National Register of Historic Places (Circa 1820-1969)
- 3) **Location**: Springfield, Illinois

Sources of Information

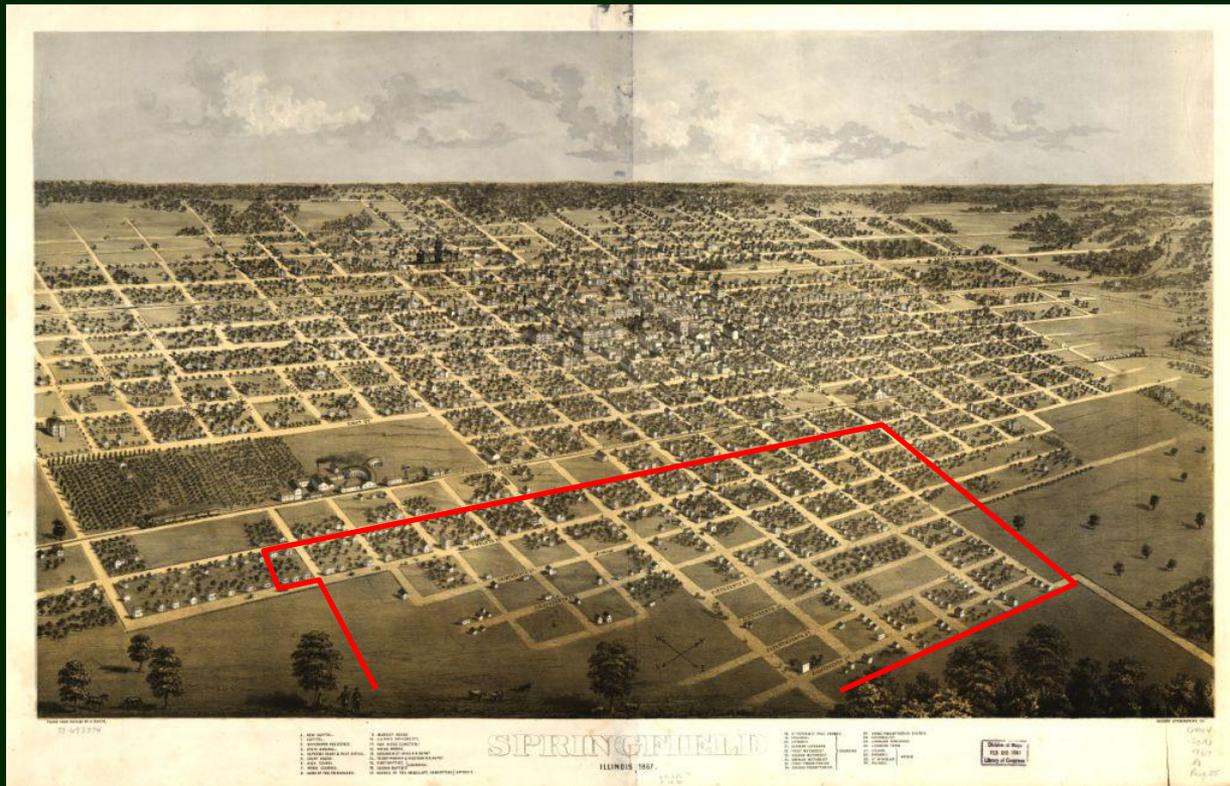
During the course of this project, we drew on a wide range of resources to develop the historic context, as well as to identify potentially significant individual properties. Some of these sources included the following:

- 1) Historic plats, atlases, and/or maps
- 2) Public Records
- 3) Historic Newspapers
- 4) Published Histories
- 5) Historic Photographic Collections
- 6) Building Survey/Physical Landscape
- 7) Oral Informants

One of the earliest maps of Springfield, published during the middle 1850s (Hall 1855). The Central East Neighborhood project area has been outlined in red. Washington, Eleventh, and Cook Streets were significant early transportation routes at the time. Rail lines run down Third and Tenth Streets by this date.



Location of the Central East Neighborhood, as depicted on the 1867 Bird's Eye View of Springfield (Ruger 1867). By this date, the north end of the project area had expanded significantly, extending to the eastern boundaries of the neighborhood. Additionally, the Eleventh Street thoroughfare had developed dramatically, extending south to South Grand Avenue. A large section of the southeast quadrant of the project area, and to a lesser extent the northeast quadrant, remained undeveloped at this date.



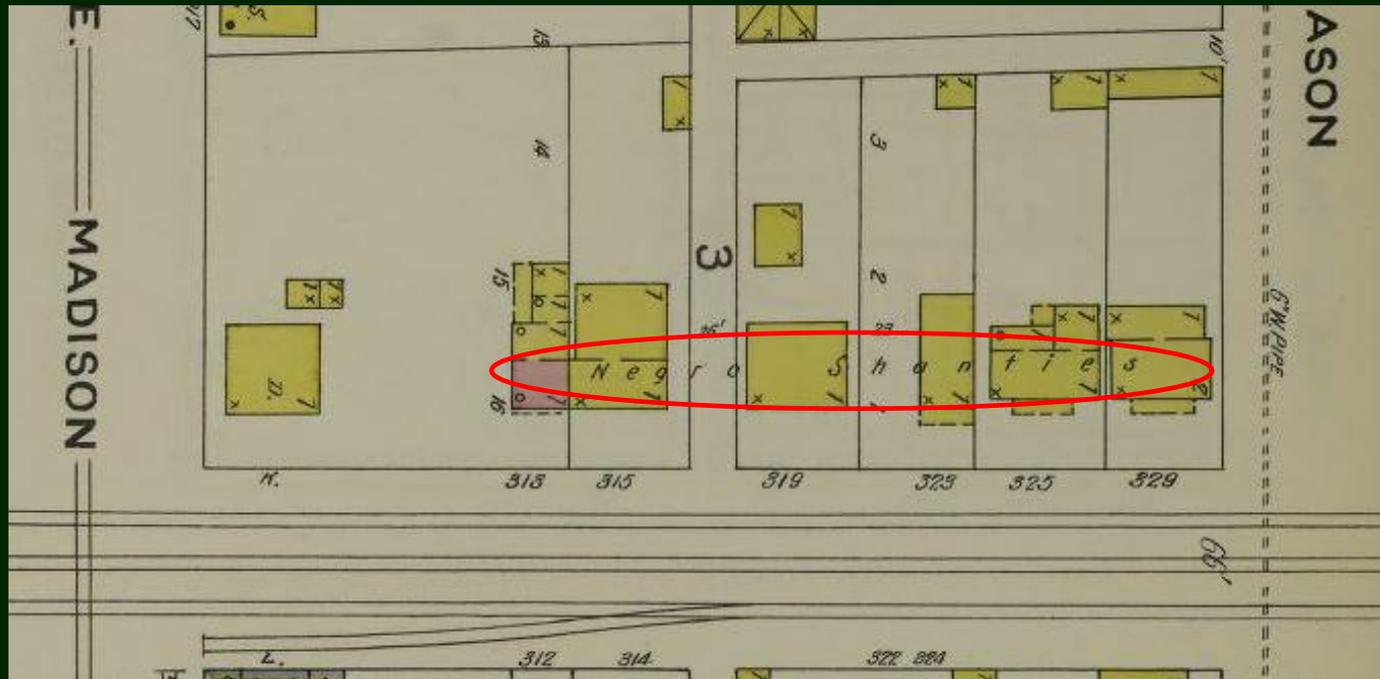
Besides the 1867 *Bird's Eye View of Springfield*, this circa 1873 view is also of great interest. Depicted here is Springfield's East Side at that time.



The red line depicts the western boundary (at Tenth Street), and the northern boundary (at Madison Avenue) of the current survey area.

Sanborn maps of Springfield are available for the years 1886, 1890, 1896, 1917, 1950, and 1972. These maps are an invaluable resource in understanding the built environment in the city and its change through time.

Although Sanborn maps typically do not identify the race of the occupants of the houses shown, in some instances they note the presence of black businesses and other race-related details. This detail from the 1896 Sanborn map illustrates a row of houses on the 300 block of North Tenth Street labelled “Negro Shanties.” Most of these homes were destroyed by fire in the 1908 race riots.



City directories, which are available for Springfield from the 1850s onward, provide information as to head of households, their occupation, and place of residence. They also include business listings. Unfortunately, less affluent and/or skilled individuals often were not documented in earlier directories. City directories published prior to 1930 distinguish between white and black residents, as seen below.

Copy of a page from the 1891 city directory illustrating names of house occupants along 100 block of Madison Street. The “(col’d)” accompanying many of the names is in reference to their skin color (“Colored”). Directories from other years indicate this with a “(c).”

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.		
MAD	716	MAD
808 Mrs Eliza Roe		1104 Alexander Neil (col'd)
809 Lewis Schwartz		John Carter (col'd)
Joseph Schwartz		1106 Mrs B Howard (col'd)
813 Reuben Robert		1108 Mrs Annie Lyles (cl'd)
816 Mrs Frances Wells		1111 John Neleh
817 Jacob Williams		1113 John Clark (col'd)
818 Lee Fletcher		1114 Miss Norah Galvin
822 Major Huff		1115 Joseph Faro (col'd)
George Coleman		1116 Mrs V Stevenson (cl'd)
825 Mrs Mattie Rankin		1117 Daniel Wines (col'd)
827 David Freedman		1118 Henry Manard (col'd)
828 Mrs Cath'rine McBride		1119 Alfred Porter (col'd)
Mrs Magline Williams		1120 Jeremiah Staren
Miss Annie Young		1123 George Carroll (col'd)
830 Mrs Nellie Lutz		1124 Andrew McCarter
Miss Jennie Leonard		John T Horin
831 Mrs Lucy Place		1125 Mrs Mary DeGarna
x N. Ninth		1127 James E Crowley
901 Mrs Mary Spence		1128 James Hagney
903 Mrs Jennie Goodman		1129 William Minor (col'd)
905 Frank Berline		X N. Twelfth
907 Henry Cleveland		1200 Mrs Bridget Houlihan
908 David Twileman		1201 Charles H Fehr
909		1205

One of the more interesting city directories is that published in 1876 at the time of the country's centennial celebration. This directory included the seven-page *Directory of the Colored People of Springfield*.

DIRECTORY
OF THE
COLORED PEOPLE
OF SPRINGFIELD.

A.

ADAAMS, JOHN, 420 s. 8th, res., lab.
Adams, Thos., 1430 e. Adams, lessee, barber.
Adams, Phoebe, 1430 e. Adams, res.
Adams, Maggie, 227 s. 7th, res., help.
Allen, Nancy, 631 n. 5th, res., help.
Allen, Frank, 601 n. 9th, res., help.
Allen, Julia, 628 n. 5th, res., help.
Allen, Moses, 1701 e. Market, owner, blacksmith.
Alexander, J. M., 415 s. 8th, res., Rev.
Alrid, James, 1417 e. Market, res.
Anderson, Geo., 1307 e. Adams, lessee, lab.
Anderson, John, 1030 e. Mason, res., miner.
Anderson, R. J., 438 n. 4th, res., lab.
Armstrong, Cornelia, 421 e. Monroe, res., wid.
Armstrong Christ, 215 s. 6th, res., lab.
Austiu, Alex., 321 e. Washington, res., help.

B.

Bacon, Nelson, 1427 e. Jefferson, res.
Bailey, Sarah, 227 e. Carpenter, res., seamstress.
Baker, King, 521 s. 6th, res., lab.
Barnham, J. E., 216 n. 13th, res., lab.
Barry, Isaac, 820 s. Spring, res., lab.
Barrows, Lottie, 1023 n. 6th, res., help.
Barton, Wm., 326 n., 15th, owner, lab.
Baylor, H. W., 624 n. 3d, lessee, barber.
Baylor, W. H., 624 n. 3d, res., barber.
Beard, Henry, 1703 e. Market, owner, barber.
Beasley, W., 808 e. Jefferson, res., L.
Beals, John, 718 s. 15th, lessee, lab.
Bell, Joseph, 606 n. 13th, lessee, lab.
Berry, Thomas, 1300 e. Adams, lessee, plasterer.
Berry, Isaac, 820 s. Spring, lessee, lab.
Beverle, Wiley, 1307 e. Market, res.
Bird, S. J., 122 e. Adams, lessee, Miss.
Blakeman, Thomas, 636 n. 3d, owner, Roll Mill.
Bolden, James, 807 s. 14th, owner, brick mason.
Bron, Milton, 1124 e. Carpenter, res., lab.
Booth, S. C., 1125 e. Madison, lessee, rev.
Brand, Geo., 1415 e. Adams, lessee, lab.
Brandon, Wm., 1012 e. Reynolds, lessee, lab.
Brandon, Mary, 1012 e. Reynolds, res., Miss.
Brandon, Wm., 611 n. 6th, res., help.
Brandon, Mattie, 709 s. 8th, res., help.
Bradley, John, 1102 e. Reynolds, res., miner.
Braxton, James, 405 e. Washington, res., lab.
Brents, Geo., 1411 e. Adams, lessee, Rev.
Bright, Emma, 308 n. 3d, res., washerwoman.
Bright, Mollie, 308 n. 3d, res., washerwoman.
Brown, Maggie, 826 s. 4th, res., help.
Brown, Thomas, 300 n. 10th, res.
Brown, Henry, 300 n. 10th, owner, Rev.
Brown, Nannie, 300 n. 10th, res., Miss.
Brown, Mary, 630 s., 9th, res., wid.
Brown, John, 1115 e. Lincoln av., res., lab.
Brown, Squire, 726 e. Reynolds, res., lab.
Brooks, Annie, 1702 e. Market, res., help.
Burfell, Norris, 1012 e. Adams, lessee, lab.
Butler, Dan., 113 n. 6th, lessee, cook.
Butner, Andy, 618 n. 5th, res., lab.

Another directory of great interest to this project is entitled *Directory of Sangamon County's Colored Citizens*, and was published approximately 50 years after publication of the earlier directory. This entire directory, which was published in circa 1926, was dedicated solely to the African American citizens of Springfield. It is an invaluable source for researching Springfield's black community in the early decades of the twentieth century.

FRANK P. VANCE, Prop. PHONE MAIN 593
BLACK & WHITE CAB
 LOWEST RATE NEVER LATE

MAIN 6949

Directory
 of Sangamon County's
 Colored Citizens

A HISTORY OF THE NEGRO IN
 SANGAMON COUNTY

A DIRECTORY OF
 Lodges, Churches, Parks, Amusements,
 Mechanics, Business Firms
 and Citizens

COMPILED BY THE
 SPRINGFIELD DIRECTORY CO.
 SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

B. A. GUYMON PRINTING CO. 727 EAST WASHINGTON STREET

Telephone, Capital 5274 E. P. Gevataski, Proprietor
SPRINGFIELD UPHOLSTERING SHOP
 UPHOLSTERING, REFINISHING, REPAIRING
 814 South Spring Street Springfield, Illinois

MAIN 6948

SANGAMON DAIRY PRODUCTS COMPANY
 SPRINGFIELD'S FINEST DAIRY
 Milk, Cream, Butter, Cottage Cheese, Ice Cream, Ices and Sherbets.

MR. A. MORRIS WILLIAMS Attorney at Law



Mr. A. Morris Williams, who enjoys the distinction of being the first colored man admitted to the Sangamon county bar, is one of our foremost citizens and race benefactors.

He came to Springfield from Virginia some twenty-three years ago and began as a cobbler.

His subsequent rise to a position of power and eminence in the community is as marvelous as an Arabian Knight's tale. He is a graduate of Hampton Institute.

Realizing that the legal profession offered large opportunities for the exercise of his talents, he soon succeeded in passing the examination and was admitted to the bar. Due to his close attention to his client's interests and his rare ability as an orator and pleader Mr. Williams has built up a large and lucrative practice among the people of all races.

He enjoys popular confidence to an extent rarely, if ever, equaled.

That he has a genius for organization is evidenced by the large number of buildings he has erected, notable among which are the Williams building, the Brown Hotel and more recently the beautiful Knights and Daughters of Honor Temple, a model of architectural beauty and sanitation.

By giving employment to many members of our group, Mr. Williams has proved his intense race interest and loyalty.

Of keen, analytical mind, of pleasing personality, polished address, of wide and diversified reading, speaking fluently several foreign languages, of perfect poise, uniformly courteous and of deep sympathy for the oppressed, Mr. Williams stands out as one of the most remarkable men the race has produced in this century.

Mr. Williams typifies in himself the higher colored man—the type that comes from education, brains and the development of high character—the type of colored man whose example and influence must mold the future destiny of the race.



Mrs. Amos **DUNCAN** (A Grand-Daughter of Sangamon County's 1st Colored Settler)

Mrs. Duncan is the lineal descendant of Sangamon County's first colored settler and thus may properly be called a scion of our first family.

Her grandfather, Wm. L. Florville, came up the Mississippi and Sangamon From St. Louis in 1831. Power in his history records that he landed at New Salem where he fell in with Lincoln who kept him over night and assisted him on his way to Springfield.

Mr. Florville was born at Cape Hatien, West Indies and was probably of French extraction.

Mrs. Duncan is the daughter of Wm. L. Florville II., youngest child of Florville Sr. He was a man noted for his business sagacity and was reputed to be Springfield's wealthiest colored citizen.

It is no exaggeration to say that Mrs. Duncan is a model woman of the race. She inherited her father's capacity for business and renders valuable assistance to her husband in his various business enterprises. And yet she is of domestic tastes and refined personality.

She is active in church and social circles, being a member of St. John's A. M. E. church.

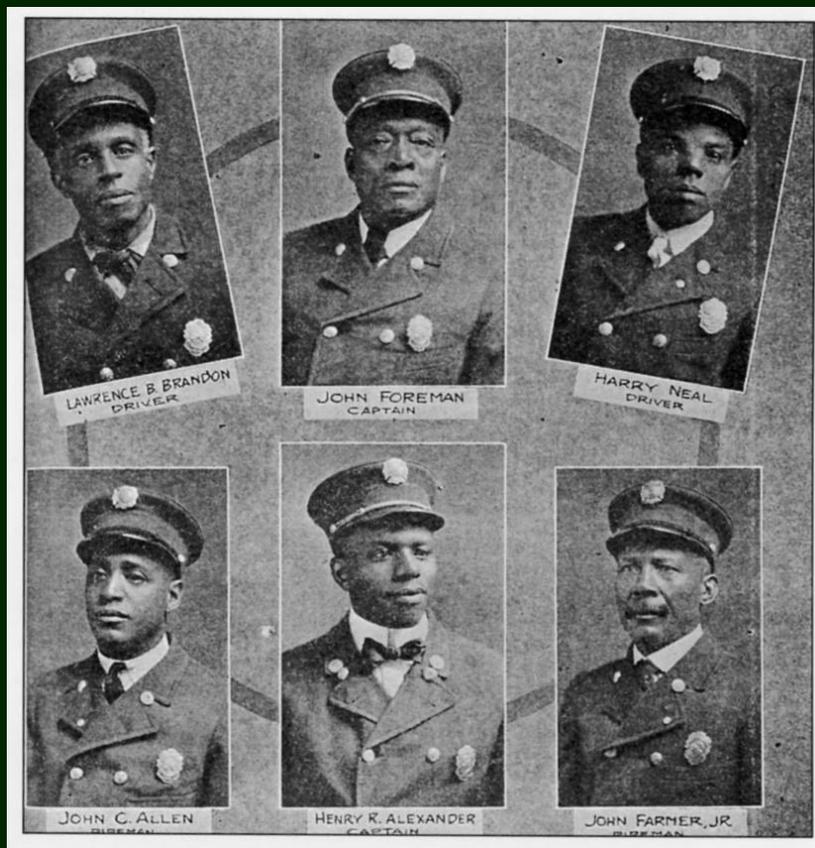
Possessing the modesty and virtue that dignify womanhood in the eyes of men, exemplary in deportment, devoted to the home, with high ideals and manifest Christian spirit, Mrs. Duncan is indeed an example worthy of emulation by the women of the race.

Her character, intense loyalty and sterling virtues make her eminently deserving of popular confidence and esteem.

Casey's *A History of the Negro in Sangamon County* (ca. 1926) presented the portraits of the black firemen who operated Engine House No. 5 (1310 East Adams St.) and noted that "the people of Springfield are justly proud of their colored fire department whose record for efficiency and faithful service has been amply attested. Their services have been of great value to the city, and moreover, by their lives and conduct they have reflected credit on the people whom they so worthily represent."



Lawrence Brandon, 707 South 18th St.
John Foreman, 1308 E. Carpenter St.
Harry Neal, 916 E. Cass St.
John Allen, 1417½ E. Capitol Ave.
Henry Alexander, 1609 S. 14th St.
John Farmer, not listed in the directory



Captain Foreman's house, in circa 1926, was located at 1308 East Carpenter Street. Unfortunately, today the property is a vacant lot sandwiched between two contemporary vernacular working-man's houses. It appears that the residences of the other five black firemen have suffered a similar fate, with only the Alexander house as potentially surviving to the present day.

Flake, Harry, miner, 1012 E. Mason
Florville, Ooakland, painter, 1131 E. Reynolds
Florville, W. J., 2128 E Clear Lake Ave.
Floyd, Frank, I. T. S., 1917 E. Brown
Floyd, Lewis, miner, 1016 S. 18th.
Flynn, Geo., lab., 1106 E. Mason
~~Ford, Mrs. Malena, 1320 E. Carpenter~~
Foreman, John, Capt. Engine House No. 5, 1308 E. Carp.
Fort. Grace, 909 E. Madison
Foster, Sam, lab., 1123 E. Adams
Fountain, John, lab., Shade Bluffs
Franklin, Arthur, miner, 2219 E. S. G. A.



Published histories add significantly to our understanding of the African American experience in Springfield. One of the first sources to speak directly to the contribution of the African American residents of Springfield was the *History of Sangamon County, Illinois*, which was published in 1881 (Inter-State Publishing Company).

This source published a nine-page section entitled “The Colored People of Springfield”, which highlighted the lives of 22 Springfield residents.

and cast his first vote for U. S. Grant, for President.

Mary Faro, widow of Joseph Faro, was born in Shelby County, Kentucky, December, 1830. July 1861, she was married to Joseph Faro. He was born in Trumbull County, Kentucky. His parents were Joseph Faro, Sr., and Hannah Faro. Joseph Faro, Jr., was first married to Hettie Davis, and they had ten children, six living, viz: Joseph, Daniel, Ada, Carrie, Laura and Martha. His second wife, Mary Faro, the subject of this sketch, had two children, both dead. Joseph Faro, Jr., her husband, was a member of the M. E. Church, and a farmer—died October 15, 1878. Mrs. Faro is a member of the M. E. Church, on Fourth Street. Her father, Abson Taylor, was born in Shelby County, Kentucky, as was his mother, Jane Taylor, they were members of the Baptist Church. Mrs. Faro has a nice residence at 313 North Tenth Street, where she resides.

William Hatcher was born on his father's

Pictorial Souvenir

£

Central Illinois

1912

IL
BIO
1912

In 1912, Springfield resident Thomas Thompson (pictured below), in an effort to highlight the efforts of “the colored professional and business men and women, who are striving onward” published his *Pictorial Souvenir*.



The above lady is a brilliant business woman. She possesses Millinery genius. After studying the trade in Cincinnati, she went to New York City where she had charge of cutting and fitting department of a firm in the great Metropolis. Leaving New York she went to Cincinnati, Ohio conducting a business of her own. From Cincinnati, she came to Springfield, Ill. to take position as Supt. of the Dress-making department of Ambidexter Institute. After the closing of the School, Mrs. Clark returned to the East, but she again returned to the Capital of Ill. and opened most fashionable Millinery Parlor at 1103, East Washington Street. She has employed several of the most proficient of dress fitters and cutters. Madam Clark is of a pleasing personality and takes delight in pleasing her many patrons.

Mary Francis Penn Clark was born at Charleston W. Va. Her father Edward Penn was a prominent business man in easy circumstances.



Lawrence Memorial Room, Old Folks Home, Springfield, Ill.



FOREWORD

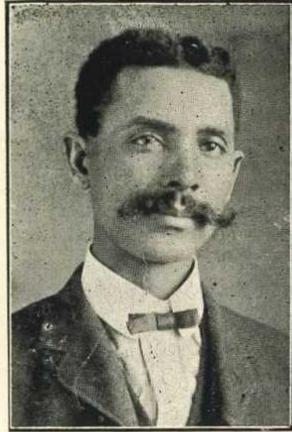
The purpose of this book is to bring before the people, in a brief way, the colored professional and business men and women, who are striving onward, and whose lives and endeavors are worthy of emulation.

These people are making history and we have attempted to give in a concise manner, short sketches.

Editors

The majority of photos in this book were taken by Mr. T. R. Thompson.

Many of the residences once associated with individuals identified in Thompson's *Pictorial Souvenir* have been identified. More will be illustrated later in the presentation.



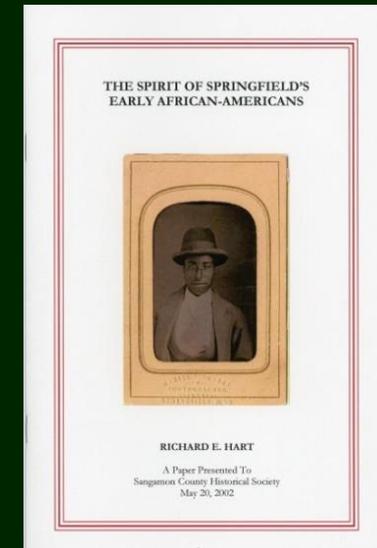
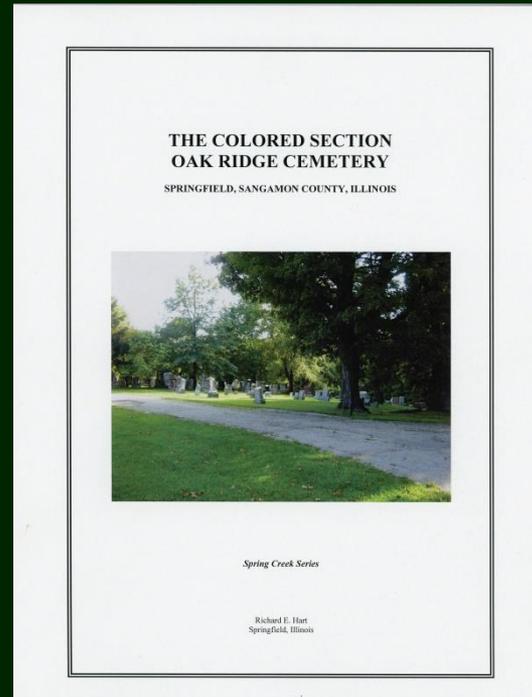
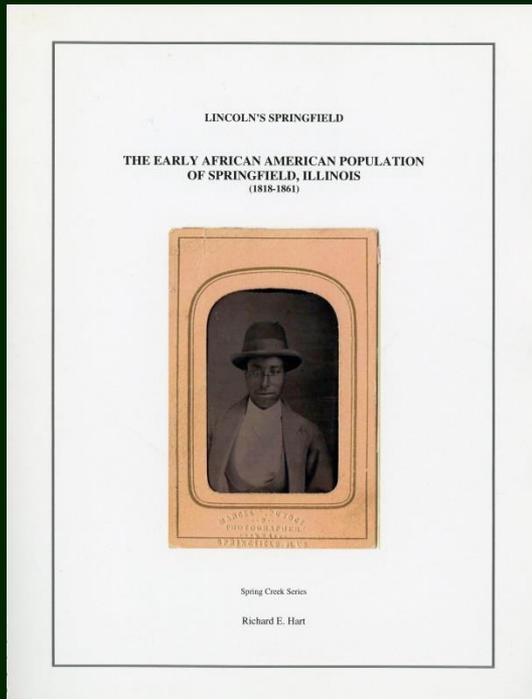
James B. Osby, Springfield Illinois, Office 522 1-2 East Adams Street.

Mr. Osby is engaged in real estate and has been for several years, and if you contemplate on buying real estate, a home or an investment, see him before you buy or contract to build. His ability in giving you the values has never been questioned not even by the most experienced real estate men or bankers of this city in which he lives. Now there is one thing I always insist on, and that is, save your money but don't put it in some little bank or big one either for some one else to get rich off of when you had just as well get 100 per cent on the dollar for every dollar you have as to get a promise of the small sum of 3 per cent. But the way to save and make money is to buy land some where while it is cheap because it will all be worth more money and that soon. Now if you have money in the bank and see a chance to make a good investment dont tell everybody your business nor the banker either, because the banker will want to use it at your expense because you pay the taxes. They may need some of it when they get in a pinch. See Osby for bargains as he owns property in Minn., Kansas, Missouri, Indiana, Oklahoma, Texas, Wisconsin and Illinois, and has never received \$50 from all colored customers combined. So don't be afraid, he is a friend to you and your pocket book.

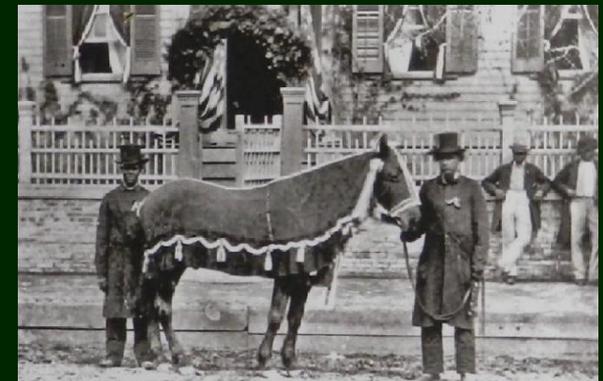
James Osby was an early, and successful, real estate broker in Springfield (Thompson 1912). In 1912, Osby was living in this two-story frame house at 200 W. Elliott Street.



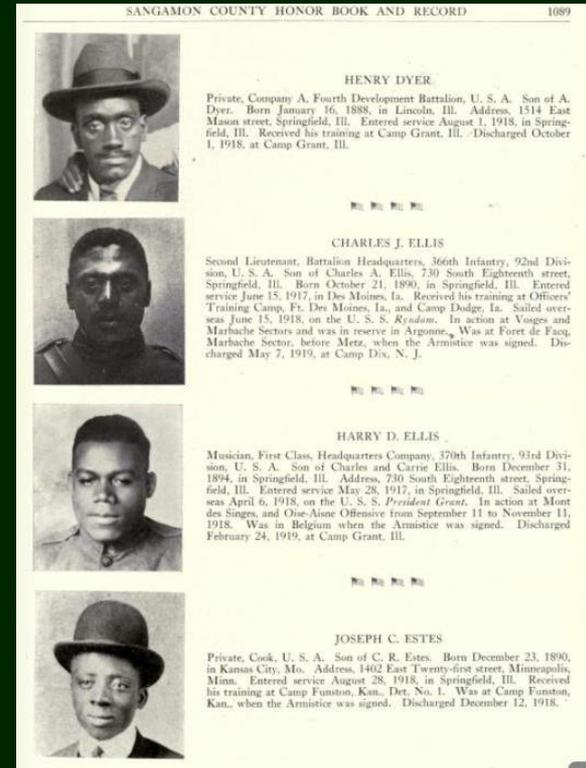
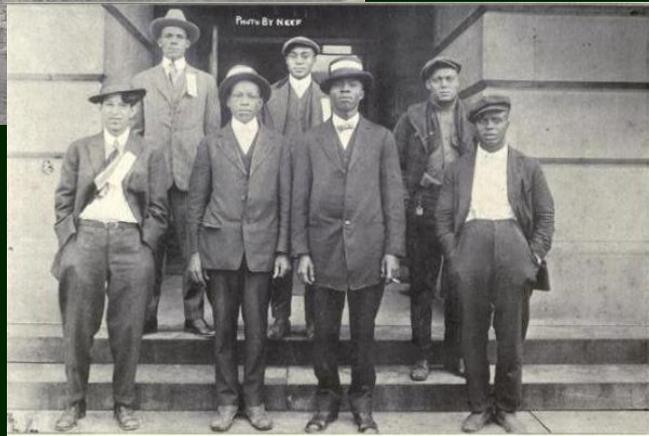
We would be amiss if we did not acknowledge the significant historical research on this topic conducted by local attorney and historian **Richard Hart**, who has contributed significantly to our understanding of the contribution of African Americans to early Springfield.



Reverends Brown and Trevan
with *Old Bob* in front of
Abraham Lincoln's Home,
May 1865.



Many published sources await further research, and promise to offer a wide range of new information. One avenue worthy of pursuit is the role of Springfield's Black service men and women in the military—such as those who served in World War I.



Top Left: Members of Company I, 370th Infantry, 93rd Division, taken after parade during the demonstration in their honor upon their return to Springfield (Duff 1920:1104). **Middle Bottom: First contingent of “colored” registrants to be called from Sangamon County for military service. These men are Wordie Murrell, Julius Walker, Otto Morrison, Oakland Florville, Celcus Bailey, and Samuel Nelson. Right: One of multiple pages of World War I servicemen of color (Duff 1920:1088-89).**

Newspapers contain a wealth of information pertaining to the everyday life of early Springfield inhabitants—whether white or black. These published accounts document the passage of major events (births, marriages, deaths) and are often couched in period language.

Springfield, August 20, 1868. ASA EASTMAN, aug21d6m

100 CITY LOTS AT AUCTION.

I will offer at public sale on Friday, the 4th day of September, sale commencing at one o'clock P. M. in Eastman's addition to the city of Springfield, one hundred desirable building lots. These lots are situated in the southeast part of the city, less than fifteen minutes walk from the State House. I will also offer on the same day a large, commodious house, the former residence of Judge Wickliff Taylor. This house is pleasantly situated on South Twelfth street, with grounds containing eight lots, with fine shrubbery and bearing fruit trees. I will also offer two houses on Eleventh street. These houses are nearly new—built last year.

Terms of Sale—Lots one-third cash, balance in one and two years; with 6 per cent interest. The houses will be sold one-half cash, balance one year, with 10 per cent interest.

ASA EASTMAN, au21dtsep14

Springfield, Aug. 20, 1868.

F O R S A L E O R R E N T . —

DEATH OF JOSEPH FARO, SR.—Joseph Faro, Sr., died at 12:30 o'clock yesterday, at his residence, 813 North Tenth street, in the 59th year of his age. He was a member of St. Paul's A. M. E. Church, and was a devoted and zealous Christian. He leaves a wife and six children to mourn his loss. In the death of Joseph Faro this community loses a good citizen and his church an upright member. The funeral services will take place at St. Paul's A. M. E. Church at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon, after which the remains will be taken to Oak Ridge Cemetery for interment. Friends are invited to attend without further notice.

October 16, 1878

No single event is probably more significant in Springfield's racial history than that of the August 1908 Race Riot. Newspapers give us great detail as to what transpired, and the social climate of the day, from both a white...

The Illinois State Journal

SEVENTY-SEVENTH YEAR SPRINGFIELD ILLINOIS SATURDAY AUGUST 15 1908—10 PAGES PRICE 3 CENTS

Frenzied Mob Sweeps City, Wreaking Bloody Vengeance For Negro's Heinous Crime.

MOB WRECKS LOPER'S CAFE DURING RIOT

Throng Attacks Restaurant
Owned by Man Who Took
Suspect Away.

PLACE TOTALLY RUINED

FURNITURE, CHAIRS, TABLES AND
OTHER VALUABLES BURNED
IN THE STREET.

AUTHORITIES HELPLESS

VICTIM OF NEGRO ASSAULT.



MRS. MARY HULAN.

NEGROES REMOVED TO BLOOMINGTON

OFFICERS FEAR VIOLENCE AND
SPIRIT PRISONERS AWAY.

Street Attacked From "Candy Jail" by
Frenzied Mob of Five Hundred
Negroes. Rioters in
Automobiles and Buses. City-Placed
on Train Near Bremen.

THE CASUALTIES

DEAD.

ALBERT DYERLINE, 410 South First street, shot through the left eye during street rioting.

GEORGE STUBBS, 401 North Third street, shot through the left eye during street rioting.

ANDREW ALDERMAN, 118 East Jackson street, shot through the right eye during street rioting.

MARY D. PARKINS, 1211 South Sixth street, member of Galt's and son of Mrs. J. H. Parkins, shot in the head while attending street rioting.

MISS WALTERS, shot in eye by mob.

W. F. BROWN, struck in eye near mob riot.

OSCAR DANLAMP, 108 DuSable street, struck in head while mob rioting at Liberty.

JESSE M. CAMPBELL, police constable, shot in back and leg by mob.

ROBERT DANLAMP, struck in head by mob during rioting.

DAVID HALEY, struck in head with brick.

ALEX. BOWEN, constable, struck with brick.

WILL STUART, Chicago & North street market, struck in head.

THOMAS REVELL of market, shot in right arm by mob.

CLAUDE ANAPU, white man, struck by stone.

JOHN BROWN, white man, shot in head.

WALTER BROWN, white man, shot in head.

ROBERT LAMBSON, 20 North Second street, shot in head and killed.

EUGENE W. CHAPIN, prohibition candidate for president, was shot in head.

JOSEPH W. WYLLIE, prohibition candidate for representative, shot in head.

R. T. STURGEON, 40 East Adams street, shot in leg.

ALBERT BROWN, 108 East Adams street, shot in head.

TWO ARE KILLED AND MANY HURT AS MOB WORNS

Springfield Helpless as
Hands of Thousands of
Frenzied Citizens.

ASSAULT INCITED BY
Mob

State War Follows the Act
Made by Negro Organ
Local Women.

RESTAURANT IS RUIN

...and black perspective. In late October 1897, A.V. Broady began publishing the *Illinois Record*, a weekly newspaper dedicated to the needs of Springfield's African American community. Of special interest are the sections "City News in Brief" and "Church Notes," both of which contain a wealth of local gossip and notes about happenings around town. Springfield's Black Press represents an early, untapped resource to study.

THE ILLINOIS RECORD
 Vol. 1, No. 2, SPRINGFIELD, ILL., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1897. Price 3 Cents.

RECHER STONE INSTITUTE.—The Rechler Stone Institute, located at the corner of Third and Olive streets, Springfield, Ill., is a private school for the instruction of the deaf and dumb. It was founded by Mrs. Rechler Stone, a native of this city, who has spent her life in the education of the deaf and dumb. The institute is now in its fourth year, and has a large number of pupils. It is a well-organized and successful institution, and its success is due to the skillful management of Mrs. Stone and the cooperation of the community.

BATTLE CREEK COLLEGE, MICH.—The Battle Creek College, located in Battle Creek, Mich., is a private college for the instruction of the deaf and dumb. It was founded by Mrs. Rechler Stone, a native of this city, who has spent her life in the education of the deaf and dumb. The college is now in its fourth year, and has a large number of pupils. It is a well-organized and successful institution, and its success is due to the skillful management of Mrs. Stone and the cooperation of the community.

CHICAGO MAN ABOUT TOWN.—A man from Chicago, who has been in this city for some time, is reported to be a very successful business man. He is said to have a large number of clients, and is very well known in the city. He is a very successful business man, and his success is due to his skillful management and the cooperation of the community.

UPPER RIGHT.—The Upper Right, located at the corner of Third and Olive streets, Springfield, Ill., is a private school for the instruction of the deaf and dumb. It was founded by Mrs. Rechler Stone, a native of this city, who has spent her life in the education of the deaf and dumb. The school is now in its fourth year, and has a large number of pupils. It is a well-organized and successful institution, and its success is due to the skillful management of Mrs. Stone and the cooperation of the community.

LOWER RIGHT.—The Lower Right, located at the corner of Third and Olive streets, Springfield, Ill., is a private school for the instruction of the deaf and dumb. It was founded by Mrs. Rechler Stone, a native of this city, who has spent her life in the education of the deaf and dumb. The school is now in its fourth year, and has a large number of pupils. It is a well-organized and successful institution, and its success is due to the skillful management of Mrs. Stone and the cooperation of the community.

THE ILLINOIS RECORD PUBLISHING CO.
 213 East Jefferson St., Springfield, Ill.

City News in Brief.—The city news in brief, including various news items and announcements.

Church Notes.—The church notes, including various news items and announcements from the churches.

THE ILLINOIS RECORD PUBLISHING CO.
 213 East Jefferson St., Springfield, Ill.

THE CONTINENTAL CLOTHING HOUSE.
 125 North Sixth Street, Springfield, Ill.

BARKLEY & LAX.
 Furniture and Stove Dealers
 209 North Sixth Street, Springfield, Ill.

TROY RESTAURANT & LUNCH ROOM.
 Meals at all Hours
 Half Block South of Square
 SINEY H. STROUD, Prop.
 209 North Sixth Street, Springfield, Ill.

MILLER & STALEY.
 Majestic Ranges
 Furniture and Stove Dealers
 209 North Sixth Street, Springfield, Ill.

Mutler's Cabinet 10c Cigar.
 All Stock and No Style, 5c Cigar
 Springfield Smoker.
 Telephone 2234.
 118 N. Sixth St.

W. F. DAVIS.
 Dealer in all kinds of HARDWARE, STOVES & RANGES.
 400 N. Florence
 Springfield, Ill.

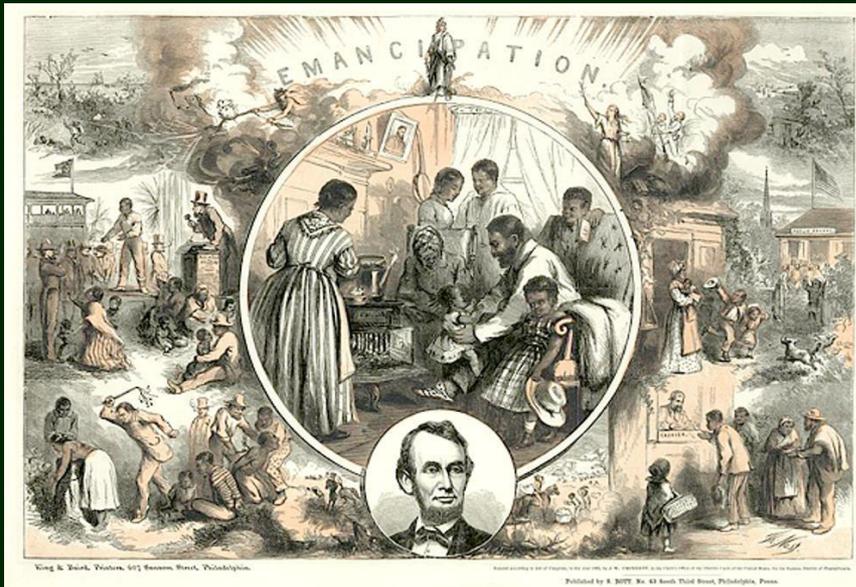
J. F. PUGH.
 TAILOR
 213 East Jefferson St., Springfield, Ill.

The July 21, 1918 issue of the *Illinois State Journal* announced the formation of the Centennial Co-Operative Educational Congress, which was in conjunction with the State's Centennial Celebration. The Congress exposition was to begin on *September 22nd* of that year, and the newspaper included three pages highlighting the achievements of Springfield's African American community.

Can anyone tell me the significance of September 22nd?



Newspapers also reported on social events involving the black community. **Emancipation Day (September 22)** was a major social event, celebrated annually with a large festival for many years. The article shown here is from 1878. Within recent years, the current *Juneteenth* celebration seems to have supplanted Emancipation Day activities.



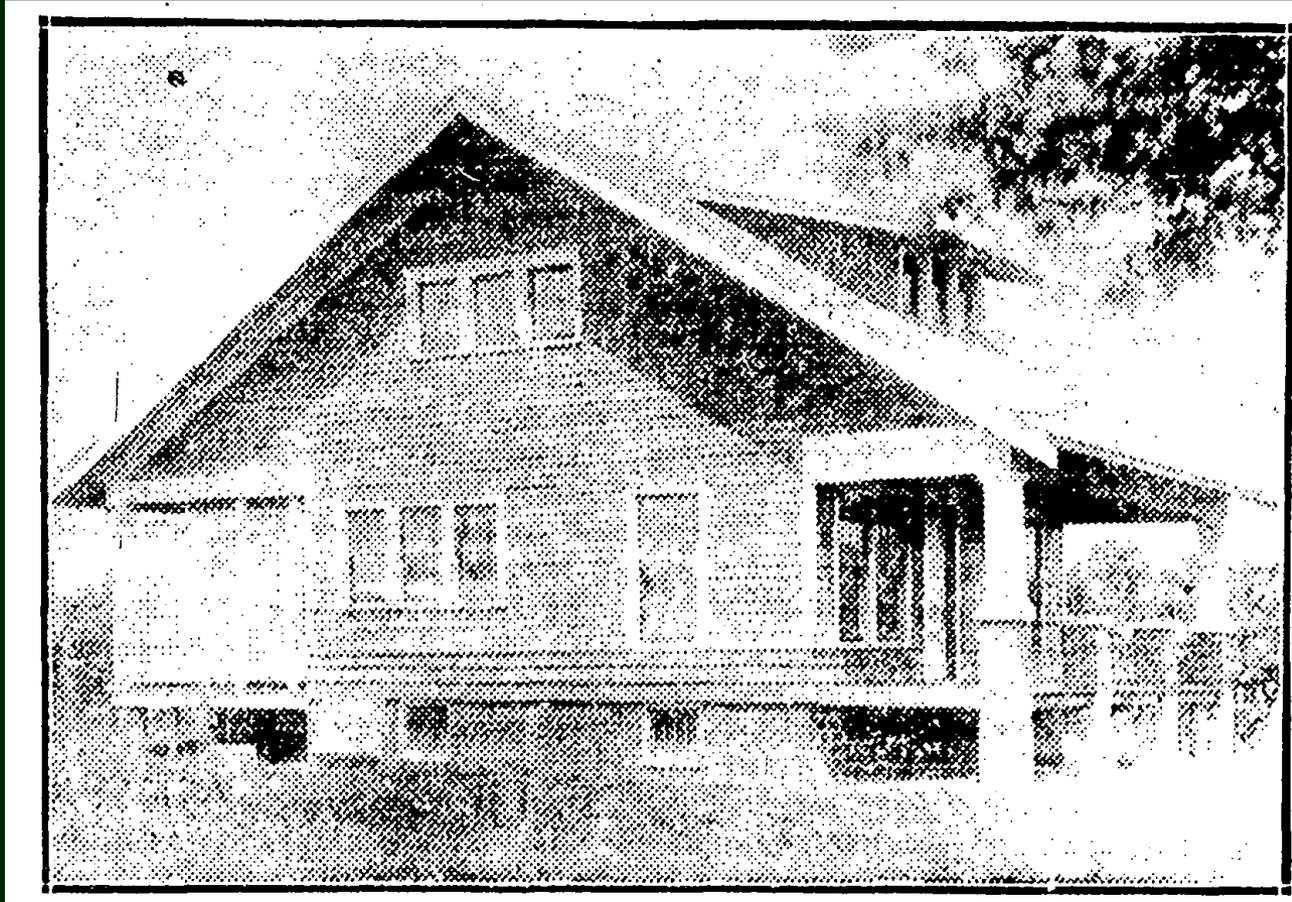
"Emancipation." A wood engraving by illustrator Thomas Nast from 1865, celebrating the emancipation of Southern slaves at the end of the Civil War. (Library of Congress)

EMANCIPATION DAY.

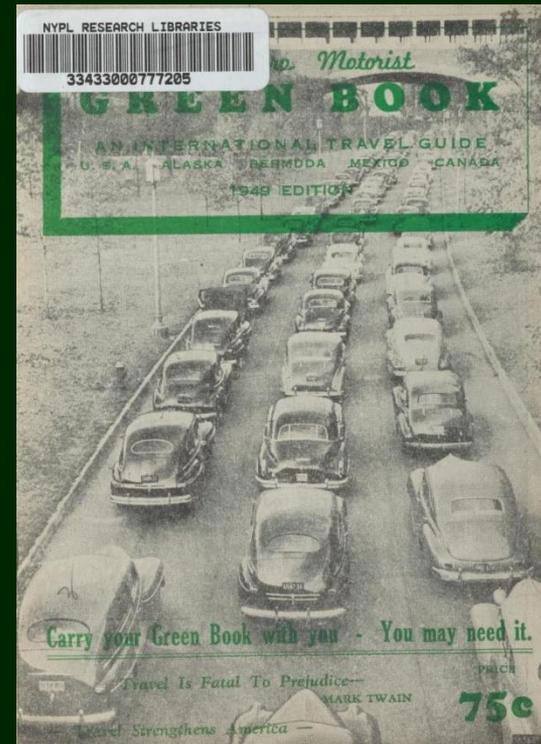
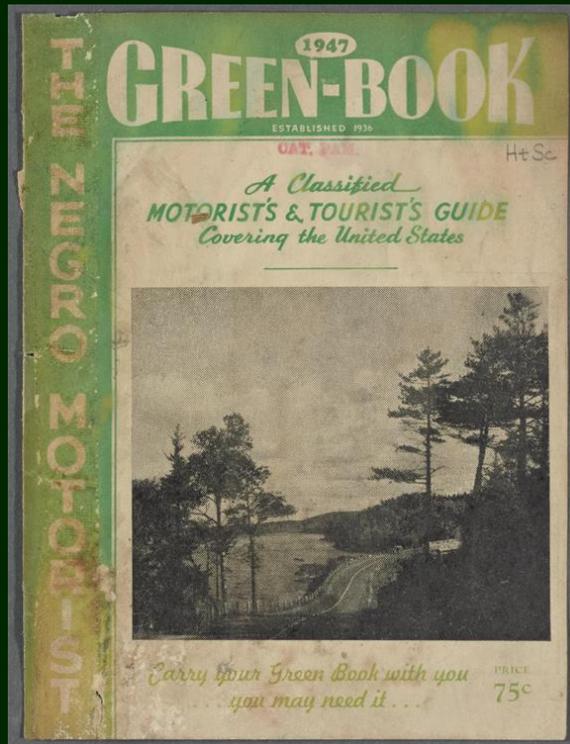
The Arrangements For Its Observance.

Pursuant to previous notice, the colored citizens assembled in mass meeting at Zion Baptist Church last night to make arrangements to celebrate Emancipation Day, on September 22d. On motion, Rev. Geo. Brents was chosen Chairman, and S. V. Casey Secretary. The Chair stated the object of the meeting, and on motion of R. H. Gorum, it was decided to celebrate. Speeches suited to the occasion were made by Rev. Geo. Brents, R. H. Gorum and Samuel Alexander, Esq. A motion authorizing the Committee to solicit funds to defray necessary expenses of the celebration was carried. A motion instructing the Committee to canvass the different Wards and report at next meeting was carried. It was resolved to invite the different towns and surrounding country to participate in the celebration. On motion, it was decided to hold a festival at Zion Baptist Church, Friday evening, the 23d, to assist in raising means to pay expenses. On motion, adjourned, to meet Wednesday evening, the 21st.

View of “beautiful modified bungalow” constructed for Mr. and Mrs. Ed Williams “on a nine acre garden tract between Ash and Taylor streets on Cornell avenue” (*Illinois State Journal*, 21 July 1918). Unfortunately, this house is no longer extant.



Another rather unique published source relevant to this study was the series of yearly books known as the “Green Book.” *The Negro Motorist Green-Book* was first published in 1936, as a guide for the black tourist to safely maneuver New York City in the era of Jim Crow. It was such a success, that the following year the Green Book was expanded to cover much of the United States. It continued as a yearly guide through the middle 1960s, being discontinued after the passage of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964*.



Details of Springfield listings in the 1939 issue of the *Negro Motorist's Green Book*...

<p>DANVILLE TOURIST HOMES Stewart—E. North St. Mrs. G. Wheeler—106 Hay St. Mrs. C. Vance—1007 Harmon Ave. Mrs. F. Newberry 412 E. Van Buren St.</p>	<p>TAVERNS Terrance Cafe—1411 Madison Ave.</p>
<p>EAST ST. LOUIS HOTELS Royal—1900 Missouri Ave. TOURIST HOMES Irene Yancy—1914 Bond Ave. P. B. Reeves—1803 Bond Ave. W. E. Office—2200 Missouri Ave.</p>	<p>ELKHART TOURIST HOMES Miss E. Botts—336 St. Joe St.</p>
<p>SPRINGFIELD HOTELS Dudley—130 S. 11th St. TOURIST HOMES Mrs. B. Mosby—1614 E. Jackson St. Mrs. H. Robbins— 1616 E. Jackson St. Mrs. M. Rollins—1127 E. Mason St. Mrs. M. E. Rollins— 1123 E. Adams St. Mrs. N. Tate—400 N. Chenery St. Mrs. G. Bell—625 N. 2nd St. Mrs. J. Rogers— 1004 E. Washington St. Mrs. E. Brooks—705 N. 2nd St. Dr. Ware— 1520 E. Washington St.</p>	<p>EVANSVILLE TOURIST HOMES Mrs. B. Bell—672 Lincoln Ave. Mrs. A. W. Lauderdale— 605 Oak St. Miss F. Snow—719 Oak St. The Community Center— 618 Cherry St. Phyllis Wheatly Home— 410 8th St.</p>
<p>OTTAWA</p>	<p>FORT WAYNE RESTAURANT 'Lex Manuals'—1329 Lafayette St.</p>
	<p>GARY HOTELS States'—1700 Washington St.</p>
	<p>FRENCH LICK HOTELS Thurman—222 Indiana Ave.</p>
	<p>INDIANAPOLIS TOURIST HOMES Mrs. E. P. Waters— 914 N. California St.</p>

The Hotel Brown (aka Dudley Hotel) was one of the earlier and more significant properties in Springfield catering to the “Negro Motorist.” It was located at the intersection of Eleventh and Adams Streets—in essence the far eastern extension of the Levee District. It was opened in 1914; severely damaged by fire in 1957, and demolished in late 1960 (SVC).



Over the years, 22 properties were listed in the *Negro Motorist's Green Book* for Springfield—the majority of which had been located within the Central East Neighborhood. At the beginning of our research (August 2017), fourteen of these 22 buildings were known to have been demolished...

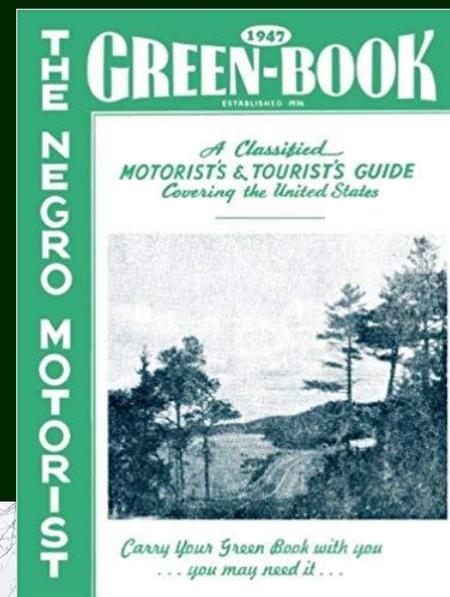
Illinois/Springfield:

Homestead/Dudley Hotel/T.H.	130 S. 11th St.	Hotel	1930-1959	Demolished
Hotel Williams	124 S. 11th St.	Hotel	1930	Demolished
Mrs. Mary Holman	1208 S. 14th St.	Rms/Meals	1930	Demolished
Mrs. Mary Rollins	1127 E. Mason St.	Rms/Meals	1930-1940	Demolished
Mrs. Mary E. Rollins	1123 E. Adams St.	Rms/Meals	1930-1940	Demolished
Mrs. M. Rollins T.H.	844 S. College St.	Rooms	1941-1958	Demolished
Mrs. Helen Robbins	1616 E. Jackson St.	Rms/Meals	1930-1948	Standing
Mrs. Nellie Tate	400 W. Cheney St.	Rms/Meals	1930-1939	Standing
Mrs. Julia F. Johnson	1144 N. 7th St.	Rms/Meals	1930	Standing
Mrs. Rufus Nelson	742 N. 2nd St.	Rms/Meals	1930	Unknown Status
Mrs. Jessie Rogers / Southern Kitchen	1004 E. Washington St.	Rms/Rest.	1930-1939, 1949	Demolished
Mrs. Bessie Mosby T.H.	1614 E. Jackson St.	Rooms	1930-1963	Standing
Mrs. Georgia Bell T.H.	625 N. 2nd St.	Rooms	1930-1963	Demolished
Mrs. Elizabeth Brooks T.H.	705 N. 2nd St.	Rooms	1930-1956	Demolished
Dr. S.A. Ware T.H.	1520 E. Washington St.	Rooms	1930-1963	Unknown Status
Madell Dudley T.H.	1211 E. Adams St.	Rooms	1953-1956	Unknown Status
Mrs. Lena Jones T.H.	1230 E. Jefferson St.	Rooms	1952-1963	Demolished
Mrs. Lula Stuart T.H.	1615 E. Jefferson St.	Rooms	1949-1960	Demolished
Hotel Ferguson	1007 E. Washington St.	Hotel	1949	Demolished
Mrs. Bernie Eskridge T.H.	1501 E. Jackson St.	Rooms	1952-1963	Standing
Mrs. Elizabeth Cohier	1125 E. Washington St.	Rms/Meals	1930	Demolished
Cansler's Lounge	807 E. Washington St.	Restaurant	1952-1961	Demolished

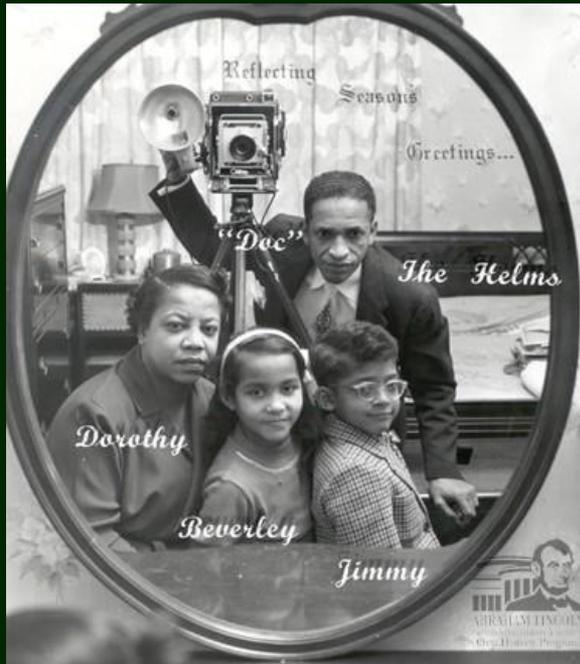
Our research indicated that *only two* of the former “tourist houses” advertised in the *Negro Motorists Green Book* located within the Central East Neighborhood.

Left: 1616 East Jackson Street, operated by H. Robbins.

Right: 1501 East Jackson Street, operated by B. Eskridge.



Historic Photographic collections of families, work, and buildings. Many of the photographs used in this presentation are from the **Sangamon Valley Collection at the Lincoln Library**. Additionally, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum has a substantial photographic collection of Springfield images. Eddie Winfred “Doc” Helm was the chief photographer for the Illinois Secretary of State, and he recorded many images of African American life in Springfield from the 1940s through the 1990s (some of which are in the ALPLM; others currently on display at the AAHM).



Early 1950s Christmas Card from the Helms



Helm Residence, 1128 S. Pasfield St.

Photographs of East Madison Street, and National Guard in Springfield (August 1908; SVC).



“Reading the Landscape.” Extant buildings also give us insights into the lifeways of the early inhabitants of a neighborhood. We look closely at the types of buildings in a project area, and what they can tell us about the past history of that neighborhood. Of particular interest is the variety of vernacular housing present.



Top Left: Residence of Frank Hicklin, located at 912 N. Fourteenth Street. Hicklin was first black elected official in the City of Springfield. This T-shaped, one-story frame cottage was the most common house form in the project area.

Right: Images of housing occupied by black residents in Springfield’s Central East Neighborhood in 1961 (Inman Publishing Company 1961). Many of the twenty-one houses illustrated in this booklet were traditional single-story, T-/L-cottages.



The African American Experience, Springfield, Illinois

Blacks in Pre-Emancipation Springfield, 1818-1865

Springfield and the Immediate Post War Years, 1865-1877

Springfield and the Early Years of Jim Crow, 1877-1908

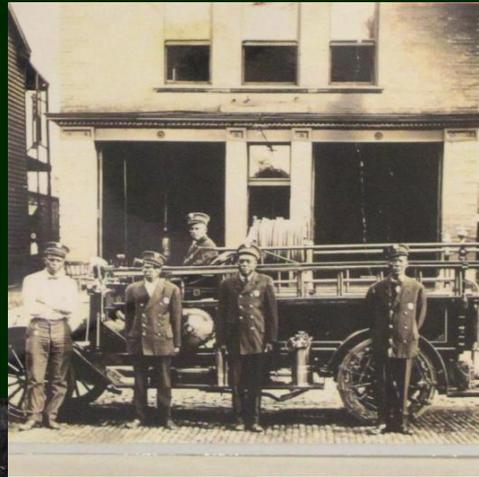
The Great Springfield Race War, August 1908

Springfield and the Early Civil Rights Movement, 1909-1945

Springfield's Post-War Prosperity and the Civil Rights Movement (1946-1969)



The full report, entitled *National Register of Historic Places Thematic Survey of Springfield's African-American Community* (as well as a copy of this PowerPoint presentation) is available online on our webpage: IllinoisArchaeology.com.



**National Register of Historic Places
Thematic Survey of
Springfield's African-American Community,
And the
Central East Neighborhood,
Springfield, Illinois**



By
Floyd Mansberger
and
Christopher Stratton

Fever River Research
Springfield, Illinois

Prepared for
Historic Sites Commission
City of Springfield
Springfield, Illinois

August 30, 2018

Ultimately, the project was about Springfield residents of color at home, work, and play...

Circa 1910 image of Amanda Anderson, widow of miner Peter Anderson who was killed in a mining accident in 1899.



Two ladies enjoying Washington Park, 1903



Unidentified construction workers paving Lawrence Street, post 1905.



Northwest Springfield residents Omer Donaldson (left) and Albert Harris (right) pose for a picture during early years of twentieth century.

... and historic properties once associated with those life experiences. Those historic properties—and the life experiences associated with them—have been organized around several basic themes.

1. Civic Engagement, Community, and/or Institutional Buildings
 2. Work-Related and/or Commercial Buildings
 3. Churches
 4. Housing
-

Civic, Community, and/or Institutional Buildings

A wide variety of civic organizations have played an important social role in the black community, as illustrated by this 1926 directory listing. Identifying buildings associated with these lodges would be of interest to the thematic study.

LODGE DIRECTORY

Secret Societies

Meet in the Masonic Temple, 117- 19th North 8th Street, Springfield, Illinois.

Paul Lawrence Dunbar Lodge, No. 49 A. and A. S. R. of T. M. meet first Sunday of each month.

Shilr Court No. 3 meets second Tuesday in each month. Napthaia Chapter No. 49 A. and A. S. R. of F. M.

St. John Chapter No. H. R. A. meets the third Wednesday in each month.

Ivanhoe Commandary No. 3 K. T. meets the fourth Friday in each month.

St. John Chapter No. 2 H. R. A. M. meets the third Wednesday in each month.

Lincoln Lodge, No. 1823, I. O. and O. F. meets first and third Thursday in each month.

Household of Ruth No. 190 meets second and fourth Tuesday in each month.

Household of Ruth, No. 4781, meets second and fourth Monday.

Capitol City Lodge, K. of P. meets first and third Monday in each month.

Charles Young Lodge, No. 103, I. B. P. O. E. of W. meets first and third Tuesday in each month.

Fred Douglas Lodge, No. 48 U. B. F. meets second and Fourth Tuesday in each month.

Golden Gate Temple No. 2 K. of P. meets fourth Monday in each month.

Good Shepardess Temple No. 63 S. M. T. meets second and fourth Tuesday in each month.

St. Martha Temple, No. 32 S. M. T. meets second and fourth Friday in each month.

Pride of Springfield Tabernacle No. 12 meets second and fourth Wednesday in each month.

Marian Tabernacle No. 22 meets second and fourth Wednesday in each month.

Patriach No. 5 meets second and fourth Wednesday in each month.

Esther Chapter No. 2 meets second and fourth Tuesday in each month.



Mr. William Neal (Peggy Neal Senor's grandfather) in his Masonic regalia, circa 1892-1900. Neal was a barber with a shop in the 600 block of East Washington Street. He was elected "Worshipful Master" to the Masons Central Lodge No. 3 in December 1892 (*ISJ*, 8 December 1892), chaplain of the Colored Masons in 1894 (*ISJ*, 14 October 1894), and "Eminent Commander of the Ivanhoe Commandery No. 3, Knights Templar in November 1897 (*ISJ*, 27 November 1897).



*Colored Masonic Temple, Springfield, Ill.
Erected by Central Lodge No. 3, A.F. & A.M.,*

View of the Colored Masonic Temple, Springfield, Illinois (Thompson 1912:n.p.). This building, which was constructed between 1896 and 1906, was located at 119 North Eighth Street, and demolished as part of the middle 1960s urban renewal program. By circa 1904, Mr. Rhoden was operating his undertaking business from this location.

One of the more significant buildings associated with this theme is the *Lincoln Colored Home*, which is located at 427 South Street. It currently is listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places. The home was established by Eva Monroe in 1898, with the existing structure being constructed in 1904. An outgrowth of Monroe's work was the establishment of the Springfield Colored Women's Club—an organization of black women dedicated to social reform.



The Monroe Sisters. Eva C. Monroe is circled in red.

In 1899, Eva Monroe (founder of the Lincoln Colored Home) and group of fellow Springfield women, established the *Springfield Colored Women's Club*, which crusaded for a variety of philanthropic causes in Springfield.

Children Guests At Yule Fete At Douglass Center



Two hundred seventy-five colored children were guests yesterday at a Christmas party at the Douglass community club, distributed gifts, candy and oranges. Mayor Kapp was a visitor.

ISJ 24 December 1938



Eva Monroe, ca. 1900



Mrs. CHARLES S. GIBBS
President of the Springfield Colored Women's Club

Mrs. Gibbs is the wife of Attorney Chas. S. Gibbs. She is a native of Maadi, Mo., but before coming to Springfield, spent most of her life in Quincy where she was educated. Studied music at Quincy Conservatory of Music and took a course in elocution under private tutors.

Casey Directory,
ca. 1926

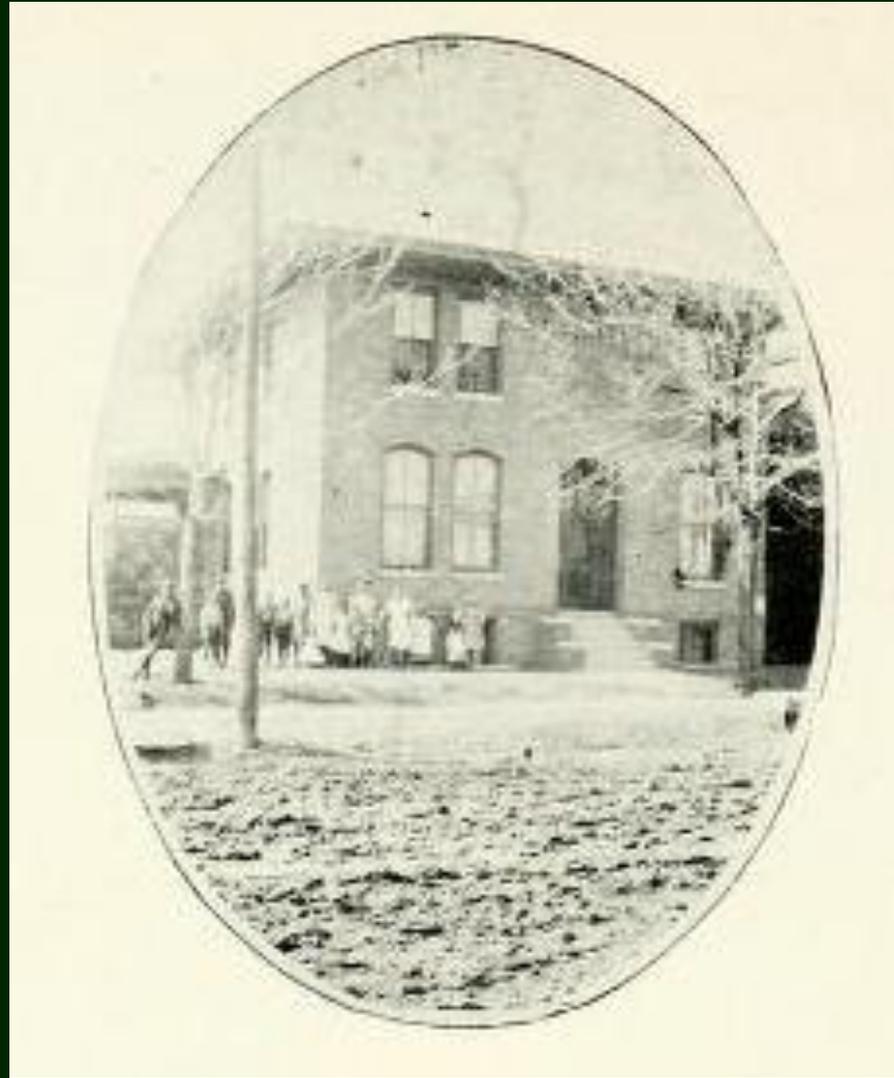


—State Journal Photo.

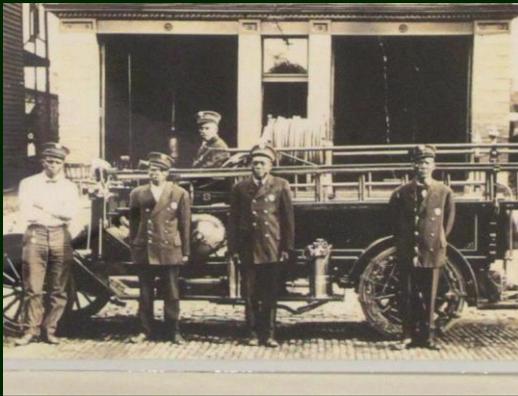
URBAN LEAGUE HOLDS ART EXHIBIT—The above group is looking at an art and literary exhibit sponsored by the Springfield Colored Women's club, the James Weldon Johnson Study guild and the Urban league, which yesterday was held in the Urban league. The exhibit included works of colored people in history, biography, folk lore, fiction, music and art, and was furnished by the Lincoln library. Readings of books were given at the exhibit and tea was served. Art works of Hiram Jackson were also placed in the show, and colored spirituals were sung.

ISJ 24 April 1939

Another early view
of the *Lincoln Colored
Home*, with residents
standing out front for
a picture.



One of the most cited examples of significant buildings associated with the African American experience in Springfield is the former Engine House No. 5 at 1310 East Adams Street. An all-black crew manned this station, and later it became home to the local African-American Masonic lodge. By the early 1970s, this building was owned by the Springfield Masons.



We should not underestimate the significance of the current Firehouse No. 5, located at the northwest corner of Clay Street and Martin Luther King Drive (1731 East Clay), which was built in 1958.





The Judge Wycliff Taylor House at the corner of Twelfth and Cass Streets is also one of the more cited examples for Springfield. Built in 1857 as a private residence, the home later housed the *Ambidexter Industrial and Normal Institute*, a school for black youth that taught arts and sciences, domestic skills, and period trades.



Also of great significance to the community is the *Boy's and Girls Club of Central Illinois* which is located at 300 South Fifteenth Street. This facility was constructed in 1960. The club itself was organized in 1956.



Schools are another significant form of institutional buildings.

Former African School Will Give Way To Housing

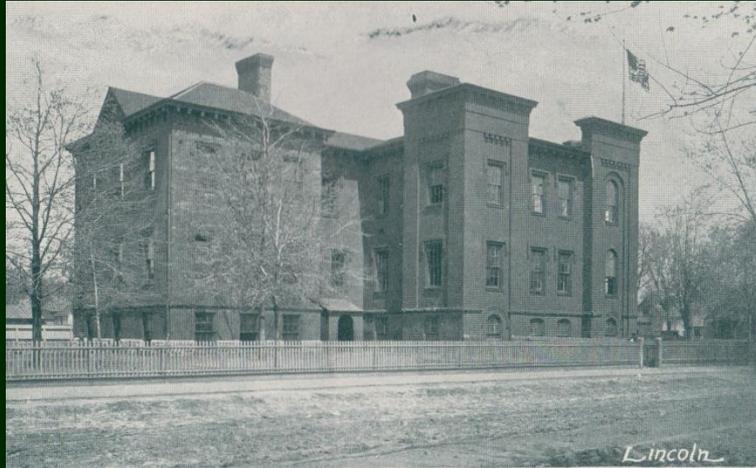


Former African School of Springfield, once located at 319 North Fifteenth Street. This picture was taken in June 1940 in anticipation of demolition for construction of the Hay Homes. At the time, the building was being used as the home of Mrs. Edna Dorsey, who was being relocated due to the urban renewal project (*Illinois State Journal*, 28 June 1940)



The original Palmer School was named in honor of Governor John A. Palmer, who supported the desegregation of Illinois schools (*Illinois State Register* 1898).

The Lincoln School. A public school has occupied this location since the late 1850s, and there have been several generations of schools here. The ground for the existing school building was broke in October 1912 (*ISR*, 11 October 1912).



But clearly, one of the more significant schools in Springfield relevant to this thematic study is *Feitshans's School*. The Feitshans School was constructed sometime between 1886 and 1898 as a grade school, and named after Fredrick Feitshans, “a longtime teacher and administrator to Springfield public schools in the late 19th century” who died in 1886. In 1898, the school was “enlarged.” In 1920, the school was destroyed by fire, rebuilt in 1921, and subsequently converted to a high school in the fall of 1929. This, the second high school in the City, quickly thereafter became known as the city’s “black high school.” Feitshans High School closed after the 1966-67 school year with consolidation of Springfield’s Southeast School District and construction of the new Southeast High School. It was not until 1974-76 that the Springfield School District was fully desegregated. Recently Feitshans reopened and presently serves as an elementary school.



Lincoln Library's South Branch. The public library opened a branch facility at this location on January 10, 1927. The branch library closed in 1983. The building later was home to the Den Chili Parlor, and now Clay's Popeye's Barbeque.



Commercial Buildings

Unfortunately, the heart of Springfield's Black historic commercial and social district—located along Washington Street between Seventh and Ninth Streets, and known as the *Levee*—was demolished during “urban renewal” efforts beginning in the 1960s.



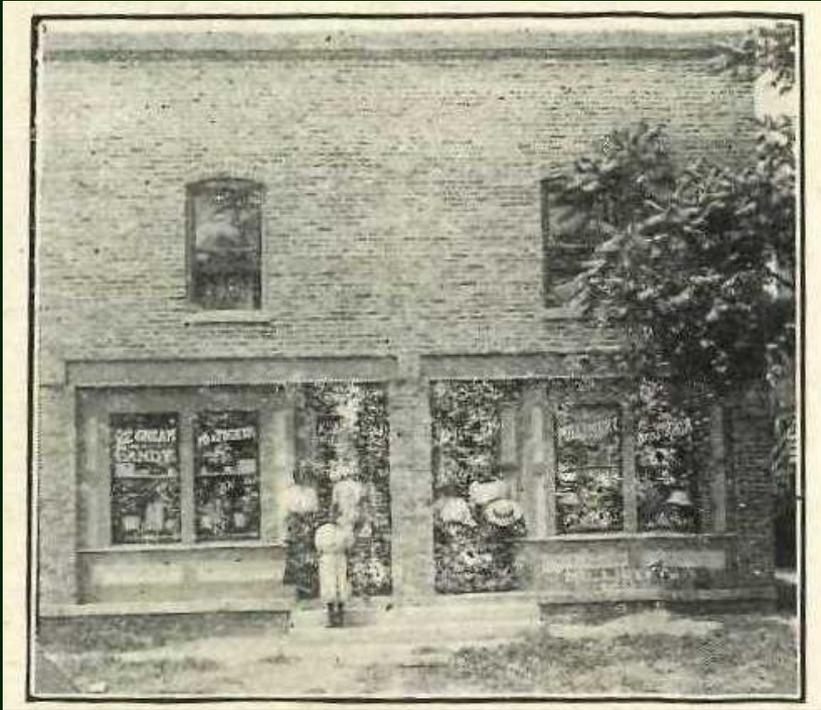
Night Life on Washington Street, in the Levee, 1942



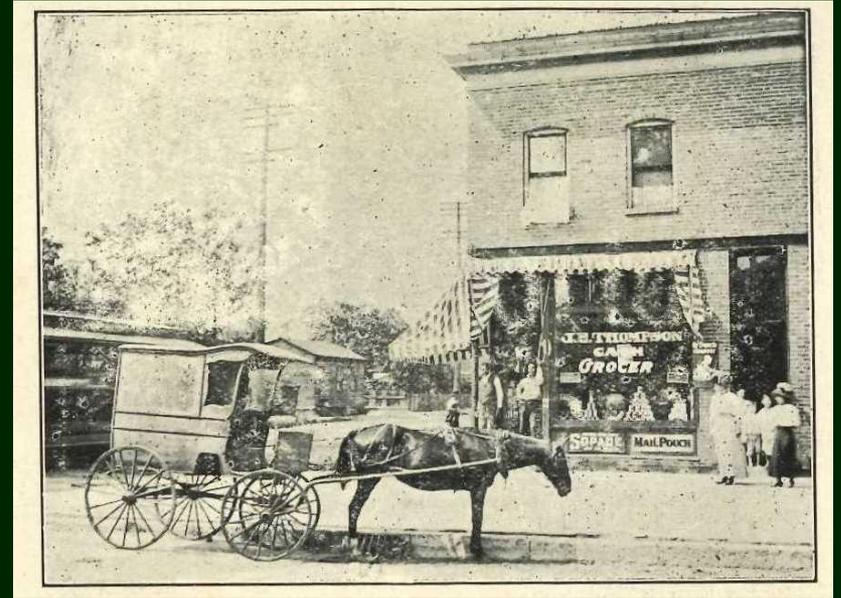
Julia's Blue Moon Club, 1945



Thompson's *Pictorial Souvenir* from 1912 is an excellent source regarding some of these early Black entrepreneurs, and the buildings associated with them.



Mrs. M. A. Tucker's commercial establishment at 109 S. Eleventh Street (south of the Enterprise Bank). Mrs. Tucker operated a millinery, restaurant, boarding house, and an ice cream parlor from this location.



J. E. Thompson's Grocery, located at 1101 E. Washington Street..

W. W. White Funeral Home, a black-owned business at 1304 East Monroe Street. The funeral home was established in 1946, as a result of the remodeling of an older apartment building. The 1896 Sanborn map indicates the presence of a frame, single-family residence at this location. By 1917, a large brick apartment building—labelled as a “flat” and addressed as 1304-1306 East Monroe Street—was present at this location, having replaced an earlier house. By 1946, the apartment building had been remodeled into a modern funeral home for W. W. White, licensed embalmer and funeral director. The business had a large, formal open house in late November 1946 (ISJ, 17 November 1946). White also added a porte-cochere along the west side of the building. The 1952 Sanborn map indicates these changes and notes the building’s occupancy by an “undertaker.” The W. W. White Memorial Home is still in business at this address (as of 8/2018).



Announcement
OF OUR Formal Open House

THE W. W. WHITE NEW FUNERAL HOME, 1304 E. MONROE ST., will have open house Sunday, Nov. 17, 1946. The public is invited.

Visit our new modern and up-to-date Funeral Home. You will be pleased with the atmosphere of the beautiful Chapel and Display room for your convenience.

The W. W. WHITE FUNERAL HOME is certainly worthy of the highest public confidence and is an excellent indication of the service which will be rendered to the community.

W. W. WHITE
FUNERAL HOME
Licensed Embalmer and Funeral Director
"Your Good Will Is Our Greatest Asset"
1304 EAST MONROE ST.

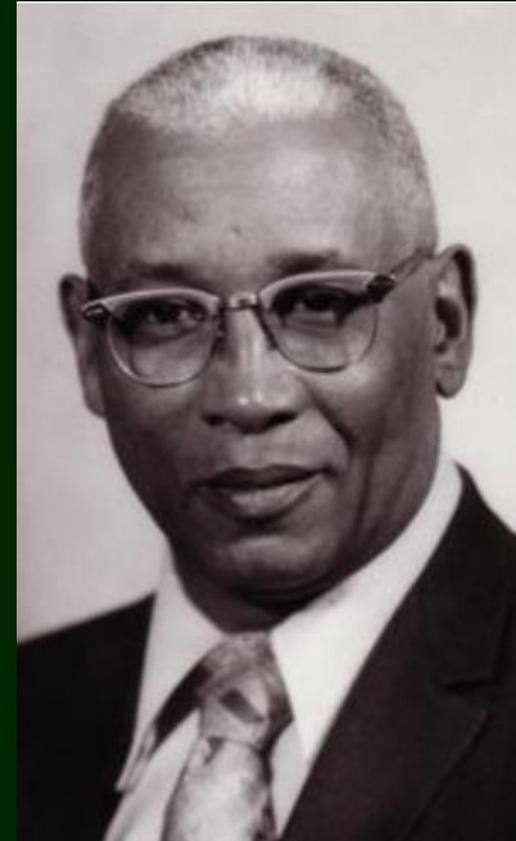
Shown above is an exterior view of the newly remodeled W. W. White Funeral Home. Inside a beautiful chapel, display and lounge room are to be found.

Ambulance Service
Day or Night
Dial 3-4758

Dr. Ewin Lee and the *Lee Medical Building*. Dr. Lee was admitted to the Sangamon County Medical Society in 1949 and practiced medicine in Springfield until within months of his death 1993. His office at the corner of Jackson and Thirteen Streets, built in 1958, was the first medical office building in Springfield owned by black physicians.



Lee Medical Building (top; corner of Jackson and Thirteen Streets, built in 1958) and Lee residence (bottom; 920 South Wheeler Avenue).



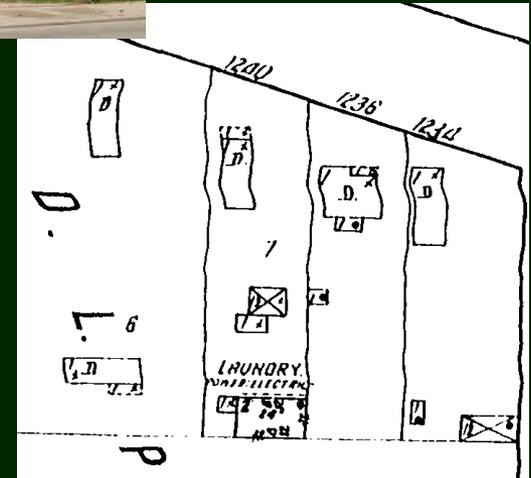
Dr. Edwin Lee

Murrell Residence and Laundry. The 1918 Centennial Celebration edition of the local newspaper highlighted the Murrell Hand Laundry and its proprietress (*Illinois State Journal*, 21 July 1918). Located at 1240 West Jefferson Street, on the west side of Springfield, these buildings are not located within the Central East Neighborhood. Nonetheless, they represent remnants of a significant early black owned and operated business in Springfield



MURRELL HAND LAUNDRY.

In one of the most out-of-the-way spots of Springfield is an industry of much promise for the future and of interest because of its history. This hand laundry is owned and controlled by William H. Murrell and family. It was started in a small way in 1911. At that time Green Murrell, the eldest of thirteen children, was going to high school. She helped her mother at odd times washing and ironing. She liked the work and as she continued at it grew stronger and quite capable as a laundress. Her father ragged up a few small washing machines in the cow barn, the motor power being furnished by an old tractor engine. This was Miss Green's real opportunity, which she turned out with such satisfaction that the business grew till more space was needed. A two-story brick structure was built, new machinery was installed, and now the young business woman, who is the real manager of the laundry, employs ten people and will soon still further enlarge the plant to take care of the steadily increasing work. In the beginning the father gave his daughter a start. She has so built up the business that it will now justify him in putting in his full time at the laundry. This he will do when his present term expires as engineer at the Junior high school. Mr. Murrell was born in Kentucky, coming to Springfield in 1853. He has a record of thirty years continuous service as a brickmaker.



Churches

Churches are places of special note that have played a significant role in the African American community. This is a directory of the churches serving the community in circa 1926 (Casey 1926).

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ST. PAUL A. M. E. CHURCH

622 E. Mason St., W. E. Geey, Pastor, Residence 624 E. Mason St.

SERVICES: Sunday 10:45 a. m., Sunday School, 2:45 p. m., League, 6:30 p. m., Evening Service, 7:45 p. m. Prayer Meeting, Wednesday evening.

LUTHERAN CHURCH

15th and Jefferson St., Rev. Claus, Pastor

Morning Services: Sunday School, 10:30 a. m., Bible Class, Sunday 10:30; Sunday Services, 8 p. m.

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner 8th and Miller Street, J. H. Beckham, Pastor

Sunday School at 10:00 a. m., Morning Service at 11 a. m., B. Y. P. U. 7 p. m., Evening Services at 8 p. m. Officers Meeting, Monday evening. Prayer meeting and Teacher's Meeting, Wednesday evening. Sewing Circle Thursday evening. Missionary Society, Friday evening.

Grace M. E. Church

Corner 14th and Brown Street

Rev. Sims, Pastor, Residence, parsonage 14th and Brown
SUNDAY SERVICES: Sunday School, 9:30 a. m., Services 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Epworth League at 7 p. m. Sunday evening. Prayer Meeting, Wednesday. General Class, First Sunday in each month at 11 a. m.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Luke's Church, East So. Grand and Loveland

Rev. D. E. Johnson, Rector

HOURS OF SERVICE: Sundays: Holy Communion, First Sunday, 11 a. m.

All other Sundays, 7:30 a. m., June to September, 7 a. m. Morning Prayer and Sermon, June to September Vespers, 5 p. m., Hold Days and Saint's Days: Holy Communion, 7:30 a. m. (June to September) 7 a. m. Wednesdays, Litany and Instruction, 8 p. m., Sunday School, 12:30 p. m. (June to September,) 9:45 a. m.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner 12th and Mason Street

Dr. S. C. Manuel, Pastor, Residence, 903 So. 14th St. Phone 5594

Sunday School, 9:30 a. m., Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Prayer Meeting Wednesday evening. Business Meeting, Friday evening before the first Sunday in January, April, July and October. Every three months. Communion every First Sunday evening. Speaking meeting every First Sunday at 11 a. m. for all its members.

ST. JOHN A. M. E. CHURCH

14th Street between Mason and Reynolds Streets

Rev. J. B. Higgins, Residence, 415 N. 14th. Phone M. 2920

Preaching at 10:45 a. m. and 8 p. m., Sunday School at 2:30 p. m.

Weekly Services: Prayer Meeting, Wednesday evenings. Choir Practice, Thursday Evenings at 8 p. m. Trustee Board Meeting, Monday after the first Sunday in each month at 8 p. m. Stewards Meeting, Monday after the first and fourth Sunday in each month at 8 p. m. Stewardess Board, 2nd and fourth Friday afternoon at 4 p. m. Trustee Helpers, 2nd and fourth Friday evenings at 8 p. m.

PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

18th Street between Cass and Clay: Rev. Scharp, Pastor

Sunday School at 9 a. m. Morning Services at 11 a. m. B. Y. P. U. at 6 p. m. Evening Services at 8 p. m. Prayer Meeting, Wednesday evening. Teachers Training Corps, Thursday evenings.

ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner 9th and Carpenter St. Rev. John C. Roberts, Pas.

Preaching at 11 a. m., Sunday School at 2:30 p. m.. Evening Services at 8 p. m. Prayer Meeting every Wednesday evening.

One of the more prominent churches associated with the African American community in Springfield was the *Zion Baptist Church* (1601 E Laurel St.). Historic images are from Casey's circa 1926 *Directory*.

Rev. J. C. Roberts
Pastor of
ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. J. C. Roberts is one of our most enlightened and progressive pastors. Before assuming the pastorate at Zion Brother Roberts was pastor of one of the leading churches in New York.



He came to Zion in 1916 and since his advent many notable improvements have been made in the church, the membership has been substantially increased, and the breadth and scope of the influence of church in race uplift materially broadened.

Rev. Roberts is doing a grand work for the Master. In addition to his pastoral duties he operates an industrial school designed to train our youth along lines of skillful industry and to fit them to become self-supporting members of the community. He also is interested in every movement having for its aim the advancement of the race.

An able pulpit orator, honest and upright in all his dealings, full of compassion for the unfortunate, Rev. Roberts reflects credit upon his chosen profession. He is also noted as a fearless champion of the rights of humanity.

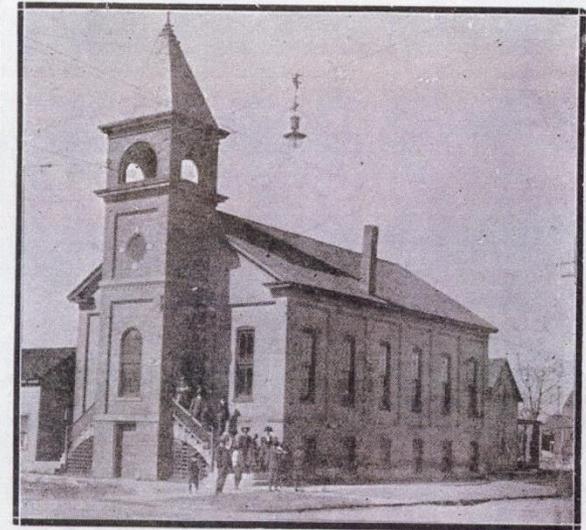
Most important of all Zion is noted for the genuine Christian spirit prevailing there. One feels always welcome at Zion and that is in itself a testimonial of the spirit of God and of brotherly love.

In these and many other respects Bro. Roberts work and influence is redounding to the glory of God.



ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. J. C. ROBERTS, Pastor

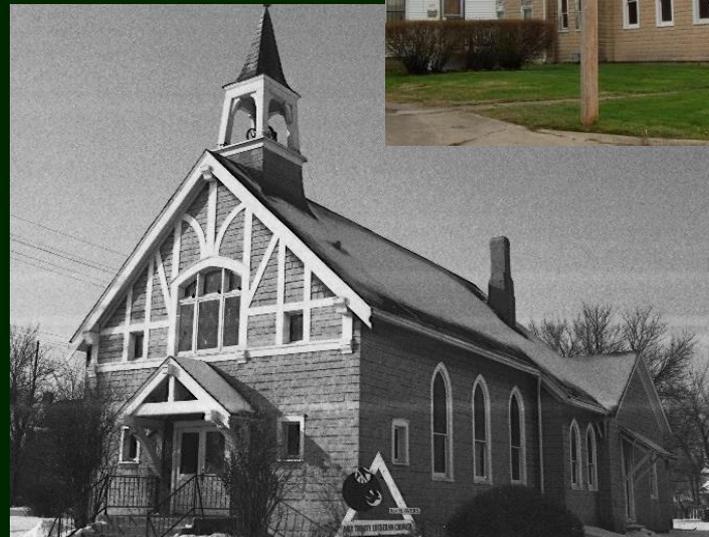
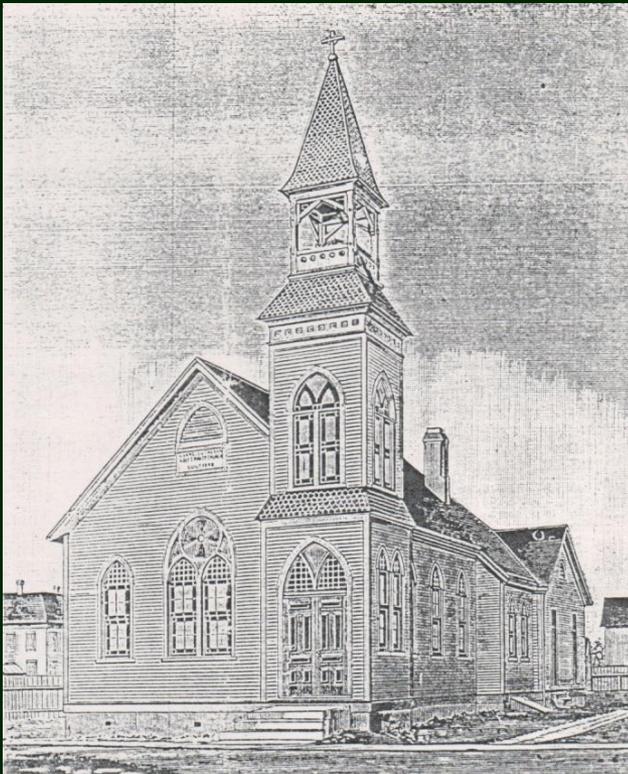


Zion is one of Springfield's pioneer churches, if not the oldest in the city.

It is a monument to the ardent devotion of the early preachers, Rev. Geo. Brent being its founder and pastor in the late 60's. It is rich in its associations and memories of the past, many of the older families still worshipping here.

Under the leadership of its present pastor many improvements have been made until now Zion ranks as one of the most substantial church edifice in the city.

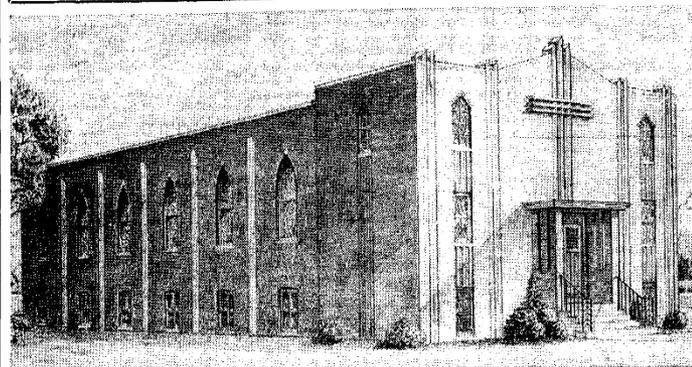
Holy Trinity Church was another significant church associated with the early African American community. It was organized in March 1888 as the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity with Professor H. Wyneken as pastor. Located on north Fifteenth Street, the church was dedicated on February 24, 1889 (Concordia Publishing House 1914). The church has been renovated twice since its original construction (in 1923 and 1930). The parsonage was constructed in 1900 by seminary students. Constructed for a black congregation, it is the *oldest surviving church in the greater Central East Neighborhood*.



St. John's AME Church at 1529 East Capitol Avenue. This congregation was founded in 1876. The existing church building was constructed in 1940. St. John's had previously been located at Fourteenth and Mason Streets, but had to relocate due to the construction of the John Hay Homes. The cornerstone for the existing church was laid on October 20, 1940, and the building opened for services on December 29 of that same year (*ISJ*, 20 October 1940, 29 December 1940).



Drive For Church Funds Will Be Opened Today



Members of St. John's A.M.E. congregation today will open a drive to raise funds to erect a new church at 1515-1519 East Capitol avenue. The edifice will replace the one located at Fourteenth and Mason streets, which has been razed to make way for the federal housing project. An architect's drawing of the new church building is shown above. The fund campaign will be citywide. A decorative momento, resembling a bond, will be sold. The bonds will bear a picture of the church, a Biblical quotation and the signatures of the pastor and the secretary of the trustee board. Coupons, about the size of the bricks to be used in the church, will also be issued for donations.

Members of the building committee include Rev. K. J. Siddall, pastor; Mrs. Marie Sublett, Mrs. Amanda Wells, secretary; Orle Crosslin, Leon H. Stewart, treasurer; William F. Blackwell and U. G. Pendergrass. Church trustees are Amanda Wells, Mat-
 the Cooper, Leon H. Stewart, U. G. Pendergrass, A. L. Walker, Charles Burton, sr., Mac Durden, Robert Wright, and T. Mosely.

Ground for the new edifice was broken several weeks ago. The building is expected to be completed in late November.

Wednesday, the pastor will leave for Mounds where he will attend the sixty-fourth annual meeting of the Illinois A.M.E. conference. He will report on activities of the church during the past year.



Union Baptist Church, Springfield, Ill.



Union Baptist Church. This congregation was founded in 1871. The original church was located on the northwest corner of Mason and Twelfth streets. The congregation remained at their original location until forced to relocate in 1940 due to the construction of the John Hay Homes. The first addition onto the building was the “Education Building,” which was built in 1971.

Left: A 1940s view of the *St. Paul African Methodist Church* once located at 620-622 East Mason Street. A 1930s Sunday School class out in front of the church on a cold day (bottom right). The church is now located at 1116 South Sixteenth Street (top right).



Pleasant Grove Baptist Church was established in 1895 when the congregation split from the Zion Baptist Church, in order to establish a place of worship closer to their neighborhood of “Goose Prairie.” Their new church was constructed at 916 South 18th St (now Martin Luther King Jr. Drive).



Circa 1920s



Pentecostal Tabernacle Church of God in Christ. The church was constructed as Grace Methodist Episcopal Church, a black congregation organized in 1898. The congregation relocated to this address from a preexisting church in 1900. The present church attained its current configuration—either by being completely rebuilt, or remodeled with addition of entrance vestibule and removal of potential bell tower—in 1925.



St. Paul's A.M.E. Church. The original church at this location was the Stuart Street Christian Church, which was constructed in 1905 (*ISJ*, 9 September 1905). In 1940-41, the congregation drastically enlarged the church and eliminated the corner tower originally present (converting it into a dormer). This congregation was organized in 1843, but it was not until 1956 that they purchased the former Stuart Street Christian Church and relocated. This is the second-oldest black church in Springfield.



Seventh Day Adventist Church. The first black Seventh Day Adventist congregation was organized in Springfield in 1904, and built the present church in 1911. Reverend L. W. Brown served as the first pastor. The church was remodeled in 1970.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church. This church was built about 1900. The original white congregation disbanded after a few years, and the diocese subsequently donated the church to a black congregation in 1908. The congregation remained predominately black until the middle 1960s, after which it became more racially mixed.



The Prayer Wheel Church of God in Christ was organized in 1953 (ISJ, 27 October 1961). In March 1959, the congregation was granted a building permit for “repair” (valued at \$1,000) of a church building at the 1731 East Kansas Street (ISJ, 24 March 1959). More than simple repairs appear to have been undertaken.



Greater All Nation's Tabernacle. The original portion of this church was constructed in 1944, and added onto in 1970.

Housing

Housing associated with African American is often characterized early twentieth century accounts as being low quality and in poor condition. **Left:** Illustration of deteriorated housing from the 1914 Springfield Survey depicting housing conditions presumably in, or close to, the city's Badlands (Schneider 1915). **Bottom:** "Negro Dwelling" in Springfield (Ihler 1914:16).



HOUSING AMONG THE COLORED POPULATION

Many of the houses had ample yards, but cases were numerous where landlords had not provided houses meeting even minimum recognized standards.



A NEGRO DWELLING

Many of the houses have ample yards, but landlords have not always provided houses meeting even minimum standards

This dwelling, located at 1530 East Capitol Avenue, was built for John Doyle in circa 1902-04. Later, it was the home of Thomas R. Thompson from circa 1923 through 1927. Thompson was a successful insurance agent (offices on the Levee) for many years, and an accomplished photographer who published *Pictorial Souvenir* in 1912. By the 1920s, he apparently was working in a civil servant position at the "State House." After his death in 1927, the ***Springfield Urban League*** and the ***Douglas Community Center*** shared office space in this house for a short time beginning in 1928, and lasting through 1932.



Mr. Thompson is one of central Illinois best known and most energetic young men and occupies a high place in the business and social affairs of Springfield because of his business ability and integrity and his admirable traits of character. Mr. Thompson was born an educated at La Grange, Mo. and came to Springfield during his early manhood. He worked hard always watching for opportunities to better himself which he was quick to see and as quick to seize upon. Having, by careful investment and abstemious habits acquired sufficient means, he went into the Grocery business with his brother, James Edward, under the firm name of Thompson Bros. Grocery Co. Retiring from the Grocery business, he became head employe at the Golf Club. But Mr. Thompson's special fitness is for the business world and yielding to his inclinations, he became Supt. of the Springfield Agency of the Federal Casualty Co., of Detroit, Mich. Under his supervision the business has grown by leaps and bounds and Mr. Thompson has been complimented repeatedly by the Home Office on his splendid showing.

Mr. Thompson is one of the best photographers in the city and is above the average as a crayon artist. He is Commissary Quartermaster of the Second Battalion, 8th Inf., I.N.G., and is recognized as a thorough master of his military duties. He is a member of the Union Baptist Church of this city; M. F. Capital City Lodge No. 12, K. of P., and is Prest. of the Culture Club, where he presides with dignity and conspicuous ability.

A. Morris Williams, a prominent African-American lawyer and businessman in Springfield, resided in this modest one-story, frame house at 1106 South Walnut Avenue from around 1918 until his death in 1936. Williams was one of the partners responsible for the construction of the Hotel Brown (later Hotel Dudley), and instrumental in filing retribution claims against the City of Springfield after the August 1908 riots. Williams biography was included in both Thompson's 1912 *Pictorial Souvenir*, as well as Casey's 1926 *Directory of Sangamon County's Colored Citizens*

1912



A. Morris Williams

Attorney A. Morris Williams who hails from the Old State of Virginia, is an ideal business man, imbued with thrift, energy and progress. He came to Springfield in 1902, and has been the financial and industrial stimulus for the Negro, not only in Springfield, but in many adjoining Illinois towns.

Since his arrival, it can be truly said that he has been steadily pressing onward and upward, leading a throng of business and laboring men with him, he has proven to be a business prodigy. Beginning the real estate business at a time when such business was "Latin" to colored people, he has built more houses than all colored men combined—many of his deals were to large, managed and prosecuted so well that the business tact and ability startled some of the old established white real estate men who possessed "plenty of money".

Three of the largest and best brick buildings in the city, the Masonic Temple and the two Williams buildings, were built by the subject of this sketch. He has built many residences over the city and gives more employment to colored men than any colored man in the county.

Feb. 1904, he began the study of law in the Harlan law class, completing the course and later took a special course at Ann Arbor Mich., took the State Board examination 1907, and has since practiced in connection with his realty and insurance business. He organized the Enterprise Loan and Saving Company and after operating successfully for three years, organized the Enterprise Bank, which is the second colored Bank to be opened in the State.

Mr. Williams is interested in several local enterprises and is connected with several fraternal orders. With his manifold business interests, he finds time to lend his assistance and presence at his Church, the Union Baptist.



1926

MR. A. MORRIS WILLIAMS Attorney at Law



Mr. A. Morris Williams, who enjoys the distinction of being the first colored man admitted to the Sangamon county bar, is one of our foremost citizens and race benefactors.

He came to Springfield from Virginia some twenty-three years ago and began as a cobbler.

His subsequent rise to a position of power and eminence in the community is as marvelous as an Arabian Knight's tale. He is a graduate of Hampton Institute.

Realizing that the legal profession offered large opportunities for the exercise of his talents, he soon succeeded in passing the examination and was admitted to the bar. Due to his close attention to his client's interests and his rare ability as an orator and pleader Mr. Williams has built up a large and lucrative practice among the people of all races.

He enjoys popular confidence to an extent rarely, if ever, equaled.

That he has a genius for organization is evidenced by the large number of buildings he has erected, notable among which are the Williams building, the Brown Hotel and more recently the beautiful Knights and Daughters of Honor Temple, a model of architectural beauty and sanitation.

By giving employment to many members of our group, Mr. Williams has proved his intense race interest and loyalty.

Of keen, analytical mind, of pleasing personality, polished address, of wide and diversified reading, speaking fluently several foreign languages, of perfect poise, uniformly courteous and of deep sympathy for the oppressed, Mr. Williams stands out as one of the most remarkable men the race has produced in this century.

Mr. Williams typifies in himself the higher colored man—the type that comes from education, brains and the development of high character—the type of colored man whose example and influence must mold the future destiny of the race.

Dr. N. B. Ford

Physician and Surgeon

one of Springfield's most progressive young men, who is a graduate of Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn.

He came to Springfield in the year 1909 and from a most genial disposition, business tact and medical ability, has established a large and lucrative practice; won the confidence and esteem of all the people and is steadily progressing.

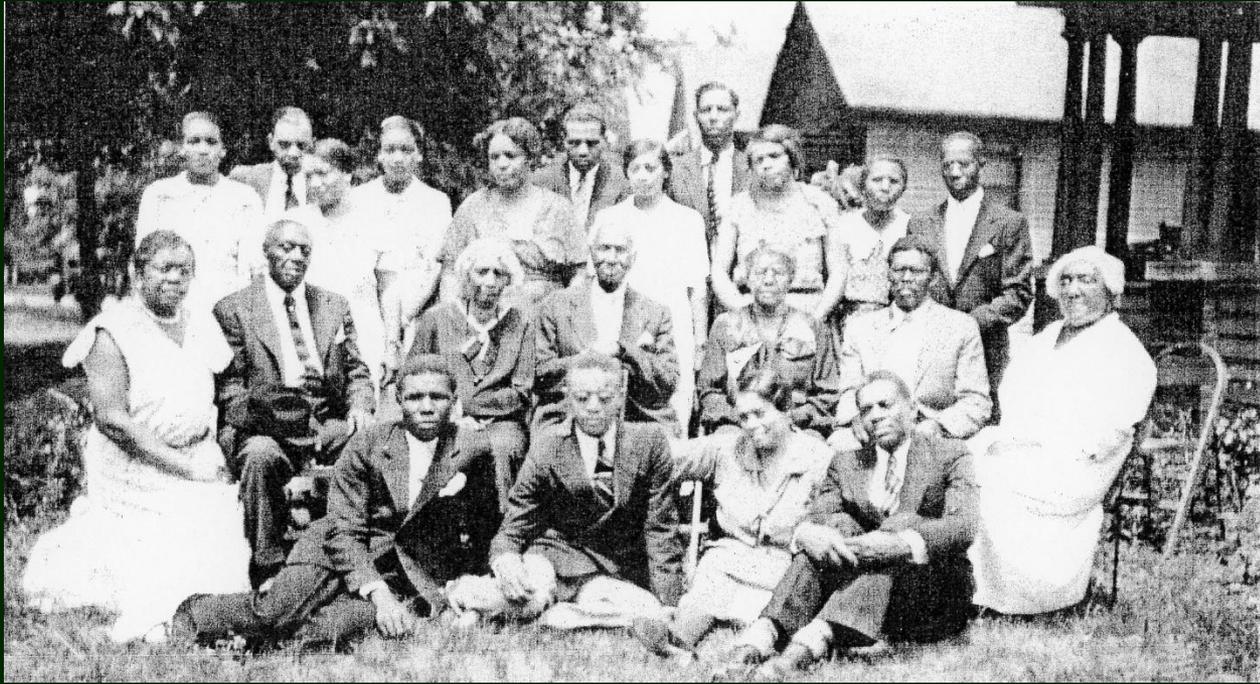
He is among the youngest physicians in the city, and the youngest among the colored physicians.

The Doctor is courteous, obliging and attentive to business—it is these indispensable traits that have and are, building for him, not only a good name, but a large clientele.



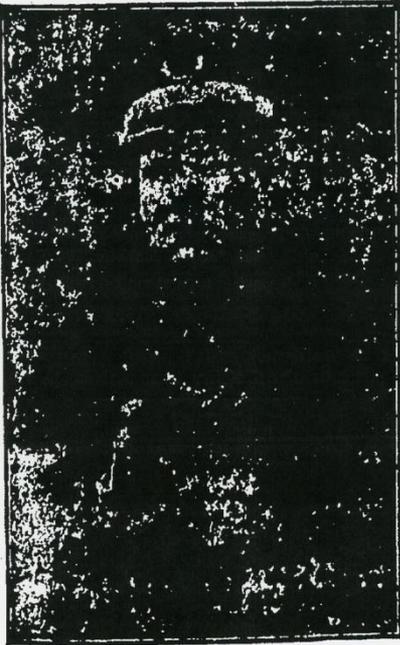
Doctor Noel Ford had only recently moved to Springfield at the time of the publication of Thompson's *Pictorial Souvenir* in 1912. Ford occupied this frame house at 1611 East Jackson Street in that year with his wife Alice. By 1934, the home was apparently occupied by the Orville Artis family.





Family gathering at **1611 East Jackson Street** after the funeral of Thomas Artis—patriarch of the Artis family. Front and center in this image is Orville H. Artis (son of Thomas), and his wife Minnie. Thomas Artis was a resident of Lincoln, but four of his children (Orville, Oney, Logan, and Vera) lived in Springfield. Orville was living in Springfield by early 1918 (*ISJ*, 20 March 1918), and became a licensed embalmer in July 1920 (*ISR*, 30 July 1920). By 1931, Orville and his family were living at 1611 East Jackson Street (*ISJ*, 23 October 1931). By the late 1930s, Orville was no longer an embalmer and had pursued a variety of other jobs (linoleum layer, janitor). Both Mr. and Mrs. Orville Artis were involved in a variety of church and civic organizations (East End Neighbors Club; Knights of Pythias and Court of Calanthe; Zion Baptist Church; United Church Women of Springfield; Union Baptist Church). Orville Artis died in August 1976 (*ISJR*, 27 August 1976). The family resided at 1611 East Jackson Street, Springfield—the same home once occupied by Dr. Noel Ford, for only a short time, having relocated by 1937.

Residence of Alexander Bender, located at 1727 East Carpenter Street (*Illinois State Journal*, 21 July 1918). Bender was a carriage and automobile painter. This house was probably built between 1903 and 1907. Henry Zake, a farmer in Clear Lake Township, purchased the lot the house stands on in June 1903 from a man named William M. Brewer. This address first appears in the 1908 city directory. It also first appears in the newspaper database in 1907. The house was apparently built by Zake as a rental property in 1908. Alexander Bender was listed as a resident at this address in the 1917 and 1918 city directories. At that time, Bender's paint shop was located on Cook Street, between Second and Third Streets.

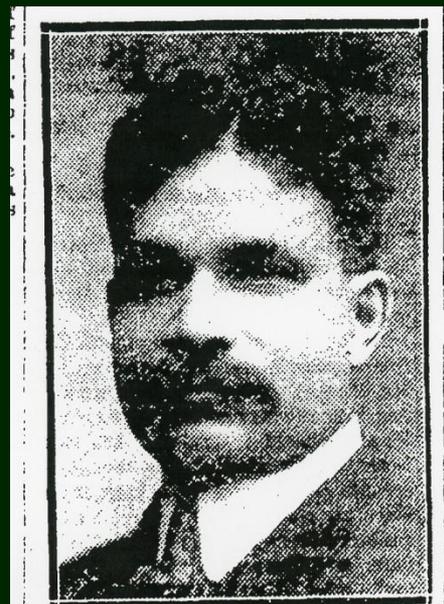


ALEXANDER BENDER.

Carriage and automobile painter,
Cook street between Second and Third.
Has had years of experience and does
work for some of the wealthiest and
most particular automobile owners in
the city. Doing personal work and
having light expense enables him to
make reasonable prices.



Residence of George Bates, located at 1032 South Spring Street (*ISJ*, 21 July 1918). Bates apparently constructed this two-story, eight-room, frame residence in late 1916 at an estimated cost of \$2,000 (*ISJ*, 13 August 1916). Bates' obituary (*ISJ*, March 2, 1944) reports that he was still living at this location at the time of his death, and that he had been at the same address the past 50 years. The city directories confirm this, as Bates was first listed at this address in 1896. By 1918, Bates worked as a civil servant in the Illinois State House, and had a son serving in the U.S. Army in France (World War I).



G. G. BATES.

Mr. Bates was born in Andrain county, Mo., May 2, 1862, and came to Springfield in 1889. In 1886 he married Emily Mary Duff. They have a son, F. W., in the army in France and Mrs. Hazel N. Wilson. Mr. Bates is in the employ of the state, assigned to the governor's department. They reside at 1032 South Spring.



FRANK BURNS.

There is a sort of culture one gets from books, another kind that comes as the result of extensive traveling with eyes open and mind alert and from associating with refined people. Frank Burns early showed marks of gentility, and when a mere lad was started in the school of experience for culture. He was born in Waxahatche, Texas, in 1873. Graduating from grade school, he started soon afterward as a globe-trotter in the employ of Senator Hill's

Residence of Frank Burns, 1213 S. Fourteenth Street (*ISJ*, 21 July 1918). This house was probably built between 1908 and 1909. Edward R. Ives is first listed in the city directory at this address in 1909. Ives offered the house and household goods for sale in April 1916. His newspaper advertisement described the place as an "8 room modern house" (*ISR*, April 1, 1916). Burns bought the house and land in August 1916 (*ISR*, 4 August 1916). Burns, who was last listed in the house in 1941, was one of the original organizers of Company H, Eighth Regiment, Illinois National Guard. Early in life, he had worked as a railroad engineer and "expert" machinist, but due to the "color line" and inability to advance in that career path, he became the head waiter at the Leland Hotel (*ISJ*, 21 July 1918).

he started soon afterward as a globe-trotter in the employ of Senator Hill's son. At eighteen he was in Sidney, Australia; before he was nineteen he was in Agaña, Japan; visited places of interest in Germany and France. Returning to this country he lived two years in Baltimore, traveling with Sells Bros. circus in a band for five years, covering all parts of United States and Mexico. Mr. Burns, Richard Ross and the late Robert Blakeman were the organizers of company H, Eighth regiment, Illinois National guard.

The remarkable versatility of the man is still further shown by the fact that he went to work on the C. & A. railroad, qualifying in record time as an engineer and an expert machinist, but was barred from further progress and employment because of the color line in B. L. E. He assisted in opening the Leland hotel, succeeding C. H. Barton as head waiter, which position he now holds. Mr. Burns is a Knight Templar, member of Central lodge No. 2, F. and A. M. His family consists of himself, wife, Mrs. Nannie A. Burns, and four children. Clifford, the eldest, is employed at the Leland hotel; the only daughter, Madge, is in high school; Thomas and Frank, jr., are in graded school. The family reside at their beautiful home, 1213 South Fourteenth street.



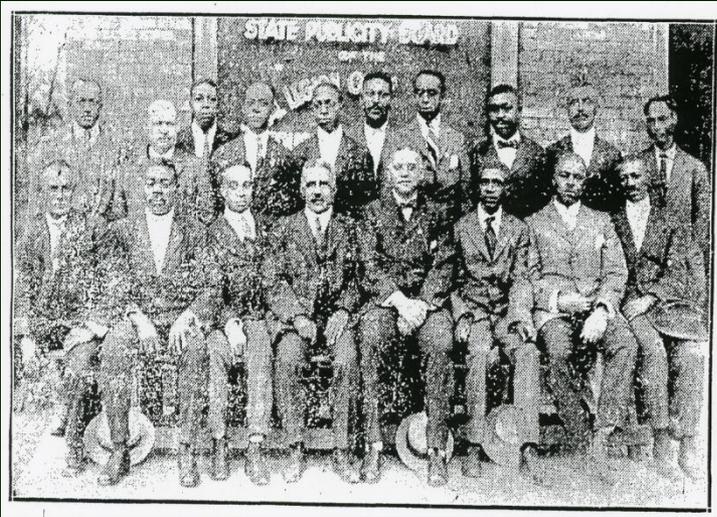
Residence of J. Harold White, located at 1905 East Jackson Street (*ISJ*, 21 July 1918). White worked alongside his father for many years in the grocery business, at the Enterprise Savings Bank, and later as a civil servant at the State Capital.



J. HAROLD WHITE.

Mr. White was born in Salem, Ill., in 1886, coming to Springfield in 1892, and graduated from the high school of this city in 1906. He spent fifteen years with his father in the grocery business at Fifteenth and Adams. Among the positions he has held where honesty and sobriety are required, as well as special training, are those of book-keeper and assistant cashier in the Enterprise Savings bank, clerk in the county treasurer's office and messenger in the Public Utilities commission at the State house, where he has been employed the last four years. He is now on the eligible list under State civil service for appointment as department bookkeeper. He is a Mason and a K. of P. In 1912 he married Edna C. Hagan of Peoria. They are members of St. Luke's Episcopal church, of which he is secretary. They both come from families of the best standing and rank high socially.





Top: Executive Board of the Centennial Co-operative Educational Congress Committee (*ISJ*, 21 July 1918).

Bottom: Residence of Frank Hicklin, located at 912 N. Fourteenth Street. Hicklin was vice-president of the committee, and presumably was one of the individuals sitting front and center in the above picture.

Frank B. Hicklin was the son of Springfield resident Hezekiah Hicklin (1835-1904), who was active in statewide race issues, and was a delegate at the State Convention of Colored Men, held at Galesburg in October 1867. He was also **the first black to hold public office in Sangamon County**, having been elected to serve on the Sangamon County Board of Supervisors.

Frank Hicklin (1864-1921), was elected as city alderman from the First Ward in 1895. Frank served one term, 1895-1897, and was **the first African American city council member**. Frank B. Hicklin resided at this located from 1900 until his death in July 1921. Frank was on the executive committee of the Centennial Co-Operative Educational Congress (*ISJ*; 21 July 1918).



Many young African-American tradesmen went into business for themselves, often working exclusively for fellow African-American clients during the Jim Crow era. One such tradesman was the carpenter/builder Oscar Birdsong who came to Springfield, from Pulaski County in southern Illinois, in 1903. Presumably, the house identified with him in the 1926 directory at 823 S. Fifteenth Street (Casey 1926) was built by him, and represents the “beautiful home” described in his 1918 biography (*ISJ*, 21 July 1918).

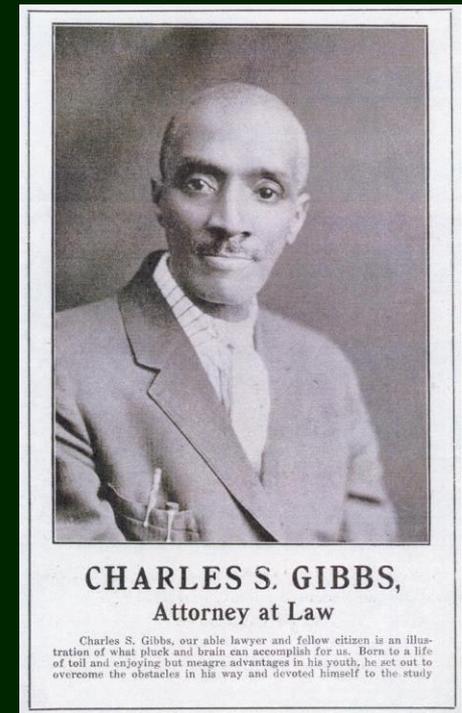


OSCAR G. BIRDSONG.

Oscar G. Birdsong was born in Pulaski county, Ill., April 9, 1873, attended common schools, gardened for seven years, came to Springfield in 1903, learned carpenter trade and has now a large and steadily increasing business as carpenter and contractor. He has a beautiful home. The family consists of himself, wife, two daughters and three sons. Mr. Birdsong and wife are members of the Lutheran church.



Former home of Charles S. Gibbs at 816 South Fifteenth Street. Gibbs was an attorney and prominent civic leader in Springfield's African American community, heavily involved with local, state, and even national issues associated with improving living conditions of his fellow citizens, and race relations. His wife Mary was equally active, serving for a time as President of the Springfield Colored Women's Club. In 1912, Gibbs was living at 1404 E. Reynolds Street (which is no longer extant). By circa 1921, he had relocated to a modest brick house at 816 S. Fifteenth Street, in which he lived for many years (Casey 1926). This house, which appears to have been constructed by 1917 (albeit potentially having been clad with brick at a later date?), was the Gibbs residence from 1921 until his death in 1927.



Elmer Lee Rogers, was the founder and editor of two local black newspapers, *The Forum* (1904-1927) and the *Illinois Conservator* (1905-1950). Rogers resided at this location (905 S. Fourteenth Street) from circa 1915 through at least 1926. He died in Springfield in 1957 (Camara 2015).



DANIEL NEAL

Mr. Neal is one of our best known and highly respected citizens. He was born in Clay County, Kentucky and came to Springfield in 1876.

For years he was engaged in various business enterprises both here and in other states, and prior to that was a coal miner for years.

His good nature and genial disposition has made him a host of friends among all classes.

During the riots of 1908 Mr. Neal was one of the few who showed great bravery and courage. He stood pat.

In politics his counsel is heeded by a host of faithful friends who regard him as a true champion of the race.

At present he is clerk of Amos Duncan. He married Josie Coleman, daughter of Rev. Landrew Coleman, the pioneer preacher and lives in his own beautiful home at 1408 E. Capitol Avenue.

In August 1908, Dan Neal's house (bottom left) was destroyed during the Springfield Race Riot. Casey's 1926 *Directory* carried this short biography regarding Neal, and singled him out as "one of the few who showed great bravery and courage." In 1926, Neal was living at 1408 E. Capitol Avenue (Casey 1926). Neal died on March 4, 1927. His widow was listed in the 1927 city directory at this same location.

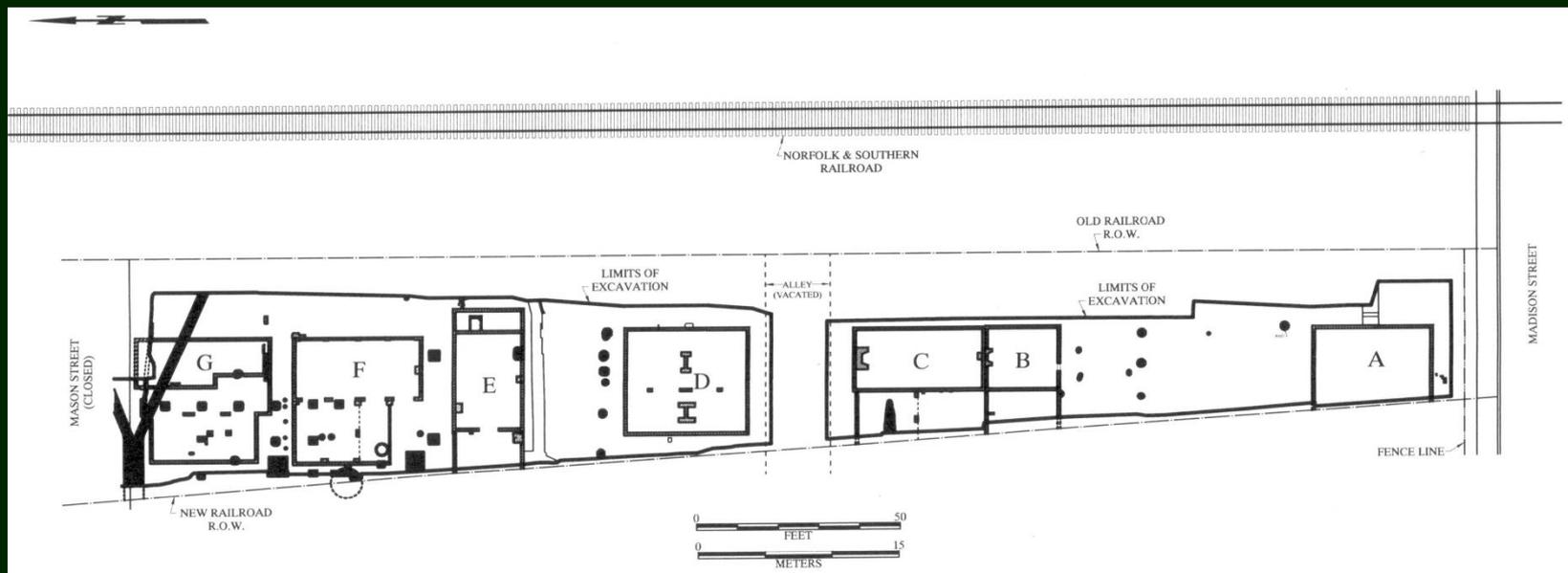


Remember “Doc” Helm, chief photographer for the Illinois Secretary of State? Historic and present-day views of the Helm Residence at 1128 South Pasfield Street. The home is located outside of the survey area.



In reviewing the results of this initial study, what becomes very obvious with regard to this thematic study is *the lack of historic properties associated with the early settlement of Springfield*. Few extant, above-ground resources from this time period have been located in Springfield. Research clearly has established the presence of the African American resident, and his/her significant contribution to the development of the City, but there is little above-ground connection to that story.

ARCHAEOLOGY has the ability to fill in some of those gaps in this story. Although above-ground resources may not be present, we must not overlook the possibility of significant subsurface, or *archaeological information* being present in some of the more unexpected places—such as that uncovered as part of the current Springfield Rail Improvements Project...



...where the remains of seven houses were uncovered below an existing parking lot. Five of these houses were destroyed by fire during the August 1908 Springfield Race Riots. These remarkably well preserved house remains represent some of the only intact remains directly related to that horrific event.



House A



House B

Artifacts from these archaeological investigations have great research and interpretive value, giving voice to the “voiceless” individuals directly impacted by that event.

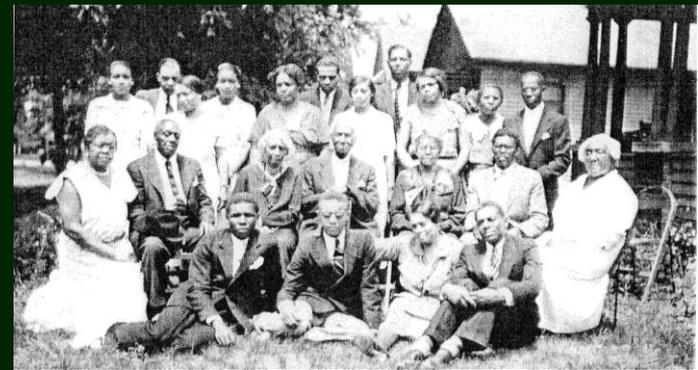
Left: Burned ceramic table setting from House B.

Right: Bone cross recovered from House D, and potentially associated with rosary similar to one illustrated here.



RECOMMENDATIONS: This project was the first of a multi-phased study focused on African-American historic resources in Springfield. Future research will focus on:

- 1) Further identify significant city-wide resources through additional survey work;
- 2) Recognize the significance to local history of the 37 properties currently identified;
- 3) Pursue completion of a Multiple Property Nomination Form for the National Register of Historic Places highlighting properties identified by current and future surveys;
- 4) Integrate results of this and future studies in various outreach and/or educational programs;
- 5) Identify significant resources threatened with demolition and/or in need of immediate assistance (such as Engine House No. 5, the Lincoln Colored Home; and the Taylor Home).



Questions or Comments?

The research provides a significant historical context for current archaeological researching conducted on the site of the 1908 Springfield Race Riot, lends itself to a variety of educational venues, and will contribute to the understanding of our collective history.

We encourage you to take a few minutes to think about the *people, places, and events* that have been significant in your life experiences in Springfield, and contact us to complete a survey form or two.

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Thank You.

