

**African American History  
Research Subject Guide  
Louisiana State Archives**



## **Introduction:**

This guide was made by archival staff at the Louisiana State Archives as an introduction to some of the materials we have on African American History for the state of Louisiana. The listings are arranged according to the Table of Contents listed below and then alphabetically within each section. For further information on this topic, or to view our collections, please visit the Louisiana State Archives Research Library or contact the Research Library staff at 225.922.1207 or via email at [archives.sos.la.gov](mailto:archives.sos.la.gov).

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## Manuscripts

**Culture, Recreation, and Tourism Newsletter (survey), 1994**, A survey conducted by the Louisiana Office of Tourism, of the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism research section. The newsletter studies include a Louisiana travel profile from 1993, an assessment of the effectiveness of Louisiana's 1994 tourism, advertising, and marketing promotional campaign, and intercept and telephone surveys of African American visitors to Louisiana.

Collection No. P1995-031

**Health and Human Resources Civil Rights Office Files, 1976-1977**, Collection contains reading files pertaining to Civil Rights. The material is arranged in alphabetical order by subject. See preliminary inventory for specific listings.

Collection No. P1986-293

**Health and Human Resources Civil Rights Bureau Files, 1978-1980**, Collection contains reading files consisting of correspondence to and from the Department of Health and Human Resources Bureau of Civil Rights. The material is arranged in chronological order. See preliminary inventory for specific listings.

Collection No. P1986-325

**Health and Human Resources Secretary's Office Files, 1984-1987**, Correspondence of the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Resources which includes quarterly reports, Civil Rights Title VII reports, suit files, affirmative action, and more dating from 1984 to 1987.

Collection No. P1993-156

**Historic New Orleans Collection Cane River Colony Study, 1984**, A brochure with study documents pertaining to the historical background for the Cane River Colony, which was a self-contained, rural family colony, of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. This brochure was edited by the Curator of Education at the Historic New Orleans Collection, Elsa L. Schneider, as a primary resource, and sponsored by the Historic New Orleans Collection, with acknowledgement for map assistance to the Louisiana State Archives.

Collection No. P1999-055

***James A. Dombrowski v. James H. Pfister, 1963-1964***, Collection contains the 1963 to 1964 Supreme Court Appeal of *Dombrowski v. Pfister*, pertaining to the constitutionality of RS Title 14:358-374 and RS Title 14:390-390.8. The case investigated whether the governor, law enforcement, and the Legislative Joint Committee on Un-American Activities in the state of Louisiana violated the First, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States in their initial investigation of James A. Dombrowski.

Collection No. P1986-020

**Joint Legislative Committee on Un-American Activities, 1962-1967**, Collection consists of correspondence files of the Joint Legislative Committee on Un-American Activities. Also includes references to segregation, marches, publications, reports, and the federal act that requires police to read an individual their rights.

Collection No. P1981-467

**Legislative Research Library, 1955-1981**, Legislative records and reports on various subjects from 1955 to 1981. Includes minutes of the Louisiana Legislative Council (1957-1980), budget messages (1960-1962), and reports of the Joint Legislative Committee on Un-American Activities (1961-1969), which covered topics such as segregation, racial unrest, poverty programs, the Ku Klux Klan, communist propaganda, Southern Conference Education Fund, and the Spartacist League. Inventory available.

Collection No. P1994-040

**Louisiana Civil Liberties Union, 1958-1959**, Pamphlet published on May 28, 1959 by the Louisiana Civil Liberties Union in answer to Part I of a report issued on July 2, 1958 by the Special Joint Legislative Committee to investigate Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The investigation was directed toward the segregation/integration events of 1958.

Collection No. N1988-066

**Slave Narratives, 1944**, Collection contains narratives from oral history interviews of former slaves. The information includes the name, address, and personal experiences of the individuals contacted. The interviews were conducted by several people as part of the Works Progress Administration in 1944. The interviews contain subject matter including songs, stories, superstitions, recollections of plantation life, and more.

Collection No. N1976-018

## Newspapers, Journals, and Magazines

**Dr. N. J. Stafford Collection, 1967-1976**, Collection contains periodicals *Louisiana Schools* (January 1966 to November 1972) and *NEA Journal*, the Journal of the National Education Association (September 1967 and May 1968). Includes a report on the merger of the Louisiana Education Association and the Louisiana Teachers Association into the Louisiana Association of Educators. Inventory available.

Collection No. N2007-004

**Lewis Morris Collection, 1961-1965**, Collection contains copies of *The Citizen: Official Journal of the Citizen's Council of America*, dating from October 1961 through October 1965. Price is listed as \$0.35. Also includes one copy of *Black Belt Schools: Beyond Desegregation Toward Regional Realism*, No. 4 from the Southern Regional Council, from November 1965.

Collection No. N1999-010

## **Maps and Photographs**

**A.Z. Young Exhibit, 1993**, Collection contains information on A.Z. Young, the Civil Rights leader who led a march from Bogalusa, Louisiana to Baton Rouge on HWY 190 through Livingston Parish starting on August 20, 1967. The march took ten days to complete. This collection includes photos from the march, captions from the exhibit about the march, and a brief history of A.Z. Young.

Collection No. P1993-153

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Poster, 1985**, Poster by Charles E. Silver created in 1984 of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Civil Rights Movement, which includes themes about Jim Crow, the Freedom March, Rosa Parks, Jesse Jackson, etc. The photographic exhibit was held in the Lake Charles Civic Center in Lake Charles, Louisiana from March 5th through April 2, 1986 and was sponsored by the Louisiana Black Culture Commission and Division of Black Culture. The poster measures 11" x 17" and is in black and white.

Collection No. P1993-188

## **Audio Visual**

**American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, 1971-1992,** Records from the state headquarters of the AFL-CIO. Includes speeches by Fran Bussie and Victor Bussie. Tapes and videotapes of topics include labor, wages, women, healthcare, hospitals, mental health, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), poverty, individuals with intellectual disabilities, aging, alcoholism, volunteers, children, and social work. Inventory is available.  
Collection No. N1997-007

## Microfilm

**Avoyelles Parish Colonial Documents, 1786-1803**, Records of the Spanish Colonial District of the Avoyelles Post. Included are petitions, marriage contracts, slave sales, property sales, power of attorney, receipts, inventories, miscellaneous declarations, mortgages, suits and correspondence. The index is on first reel of film and the "Calendar of Louisiana Colonial Documents Vol. I, Avoyelles Parish," by W. Deville is a published guide.

Collection No. P1975-002

**Census Records, 1840-1880**, Population schedules for the following Louisiana parishes: Lafayette to Union Parish and Lafourche to Livingston Parish (1840); Ascension to Washington Parish and slave schedules (1850); Ascension to Lafayette Parish (1860); New Orleans and slave schedules (1860); Ascension to Winn Parish (1870); Ascension to Winn Parish (1880). See inventory for specific list.

Collection No. P1990-083

**Fitzpatrick, John (Letter books), 1768-1790**, Letter book of John Fitzpatrick, which includes correspondence to merchants concerning transactions in Pensacola, Florida, Mobile, Alabama, Natchez, Mississippi, and New Orleans, Louisiana. Also included are letters concerning slave markets, colonial life, and pre-Revolutionary trading days.

Collection No. N1976-008

**Iberville Parish Civil Records, 1775-1958**, Successions from 1780 to 1938, civil suits from 1800 to 1958, conveyances from 1775 to 1931, sheriff sales from 1820 to 1840, mortgages certificates from 1835 to 1919, marriage bonds from 1824 to 1937, and notarial bonds from 1808 to 1938. See preliminary inventory for specific listings.

Collection No. P1986-018

**Illinois Slave Records, 1720-1863**, Servant and slave records of St. Clair County and French Colonial Illinois dated from 1720 to 1863.

Collection No. N1991-028

**Louisiana Slave Schedules, Census, 1850**, Microfilm series M-432 from the National Archives pertains to the Louisiana slave schedules for 1850. See inventory for listings.

Collection No. P1991-050

**Louisiana Slave Schedules, Census, 1860**, Microfilm series M-65 from the National Archives pertains to the 1860 Louisiana slave schedules. See inventory for parish listings.

Collection No. P1991-063



**Manuscripts on Slavery The Heartman Collection, 1794-1897**, The Heartman manuscript pertaining to slavery from Xavier University Library, New Orleans, Louisiana. (7 reels of microfilm).

Collection No. N2002-007

**Miscellaneous Colonial Documents, 1765-1810**, A large collection of documents dating from 1765 to 1810. The documents are from Attakapas, Opelousas posts, St. Landry, Avoyelles, etc. parishes of Louisiana. All areas of the territory includes civil and military decisions, land grants, petitions for land, successions, sale of slaves, arbitrations, accounts records, clerk of court records, and others. The material is in French and English.

Collection No. P1985-190

**New Orleans Census, 1791, 1804**, New Orleans, Louisiana censuses for 1791 and 1804. The censuses include the names of both whites and free people of color, their sex, their profession, the number of free people, slaves, and soldiers.

Collection No. P1976-044

**Overseer's Journal of Seffrin Babin, 1862**, Journal of Seffrin Babin, overseer in Ascension Parish, Louisiana, which includes inventories, daily ledgers, work lists, birth and death records of slaves, medical records, supply inventories, balance sheets, accounting records, and a job description of the overseer. The journal is in French.

Collection No. N1976-016

**Register of Free Colored Persons, 1840-1864**, A list of free persons of color entitled to remain in the state made by the Mayor of the city of New Orleans, Louisiana. The list includes the person's name, place of birth, sex, skin tone, age, occupation, date of arrival, date registered, and remarks. Some affidavits are also included. Transcripts available in *La Raconteur* publication beginning with December 1992 issue.

Collection No. P1976-045

**St. Denis Papers - Natchitoches Clerk of Court, 1732-1885**, Last will and testament of Louis Juchereau de St. Denis, one of the founders of Natchitoches Parish, Louisiana. Also included is the succession of his widow and other family documents as well as documents pertaining to Natchitoches Parish. Arranged chronologically. The original documents are housed at the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse. Inventory available.

Collection No. P1976-062