



# AGS Ezine

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#### Coming Events

Click on link below for information on other events around the state, <https://heritageseekersar.com/events/>

## United States Western District Court of Arkansas Records, 1839-1908

Were your ancestors involved in frontier law enforcement, or did any have run-ins with the law? "United States Western District Court of Arkansas Records, 1839-1908" are being digitized and offered for research by the Arkansas State Archives <https://digitalheritage.arkansas.gov/western-district-court/>

As the collection description indicates, "The court is known for its criminal cases involving legendary individuals. The court's judge, Isaac Parker, nicknamed the 'Hanging Judge,' served for twenty-one years and sentenced 160 people to death. In 1875, Bass Reeves, a former enslaved person, was among the first deputies to be hired by Parker's court."

What can you find in the fascinating collection? It has case files with documents such as arrest warrants, subpoenas, jail records, court proceedings, and complaints. Materials are being added on a near-monthly basis. You can sign up to receive e-mail notifications when updates are posted.

### SAVE THE DATE

Genealogy Gems Podcaster, Lisa Louise Cooke, will speak at the Arkansas Genealogical Society Conference on Saturday, October 16th, 2021.



More details and registration will be available in the August Ezine.

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## NEARA August Symposium at A-State Focus: Lawrence County

The Northeast Arkansas Regional Archives (NEARA) will hold its annual symposium on Saturday, Aug. 7, at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. The Symposium will also be livestreamed via Zoom. It will focus on stories from historic Lawrence County from 9:15 a.m. to 3 p.m., with lunch served.

This year's topic is inspired by the understanding that the past is full of personalities – men and women, young and old who come alive from the pages of history because of a curious episode in their lives, character traits, or inspiring life stories that capture the attention of dedicated researchers. These personalities are often ordinary people who have left a personal diary, have been captured in historical records, or have engaged in deeds that left an imprint in history –whether one of notoriety or inspiration.

It is important to shine a light on such accidental makers of history because their stories are often the most interesting and inspiring to read, especially in local history. (Please follow NEARA's Facebook page for registration information as we approach this event.)

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## Arkansas Ancestry Certificates: Does Your Family Qualify?

Our popular AGS Certificates of Arkansas Ancestry are still available to all qualified persons. Membership to AGS is *\*not\** required. Everyone with early Arkansas roots is encouraged to apply. Certificates are available for the following categories: colonial, territorial, antebellum, Civil War, and Nineteenth Century.



The official 1835 territorial seal, from the Robert Trimble Collection at the Arkansas State Archives.

Visit the AGS website at <http://www.agsgenealogy.org/ancestrycert/default.html> for more information, instructions, fees, and downloadable application forms. Email [AskAgs@agsgenealogy.org](mailto:AskAgs@agsgenealogy.org) with questions. For best results, submit no more than three applications per request.

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# Why We Should Commemorate African American Cemeteries and Burial Grounds

By Carla Hines-Coleman

On June 4, 2021, the Arkansas Historical Association 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference was held virtually for three days. As chairman of “The Black History Commission of Arkansas,” I was asked to be the keynote speaker, and Kwami Bey moderated the sessions.

In my presentation, “Why We Should Commemorate African American Cemeteries and Burial Grounds,” I focused on Fraternal Cemetery because I have ancestors buried there, my great grandparents, George and Hattie Elizabeth Guy-Hines and Dr. Florence Louise Hines-Brown, their granddaughter, who is my father’s sister.

Many of the men and women who were buried in Fraternal were instrumental in ground-breaking advancements for people of African descent. Fraternal is located on the East side of Little Rock on 21<sup>st</sup> and Barber Street, West of Oakland Cemetery and included in the Oakland and Fraternal Historic Cemetery

I wanted to express the importance of our burial and final resting places. Some of the key words to help us to remember why we should commemorate are: **celebrate · pay tribute to · pay homage to · honor · salute · toast · remember · recognize · acknowledge · observe · mark · memorialize · immortalize** · keep alive the memory.

The lives once lived and the roads paved by those interred should not be forgotten, neglected or destroyed. The people who once lived have a story and a legacy, no matter great or small. I want to dispel the misinformation about the Negro, Colored, Black and African American lives of those who once lived.

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## Arkansas Family Historian Highlights

Here are some highlights for the upcoming issue of the Arkansas Family Historian, which will be mailed to AGS members soon.

JAMESTOWN, ARKANSAS, 1884-1885

A MAN WITH “NO HISTORY,” 1883

ARKANSAS COUNTY, ARKANSAS, INDIGENT FAMILY OF  
CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS, 1863, Part 2

TAYLOR-KINDRED-BLYTHE-COLE FAMILY BIBLE RECORDS, 1770-1959

ANDERSON LOUIS RUSH, AN EARLY LITTLE ROCK BLACK LEADER

THE GASKINS FAMILY, ARKANSAS PIONEERS OF COLOR

INSIDE BACK COVER: Map of Roland Township, Pulaski County, Arkansas, 1898

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# Members, We Need Your Email Address

AGS's new website is nearing completion, and we need your email address for some of its features. This new website will allow credit card payments for AGS membership and store purchases. It will also save on postage for renewal notices which can now be sent by email.

The Arkansas Family Historian (AFH) will also be available electronically. You will be able to choose whether to continue receiving a paper copy.

The new website will allow members to log in and access information not available to non-members. Members will soon receive an email for registration on the site.

Much of this depends on having our members' email addresses. If we have your email address, you will receive an email shortly. If you did not get that email, please send the following

- ⇒ Your email address
- ⇒ Your name
- ⇒ Your mailing address as it appears on your AFH mailing label

to this address: [website@agsgenealogy.org](mailto:website@agsgenealogy.org)

Please note that even if you receive Ezine notices by email, that does not mean we have your email address associated with your membership account.

Thank you,

The AGS Web Committee

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## Administrative Stuff

**Contributions:** If you have news for the Ezine, send it! To [agscontributions@gmail.com](mailto:agscontributions@gmail.com) —Thanks!

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