

Local and Library of Congress Resources that pair with topics from Workshop #3

Rhode Island State Archives <https://www.sos.ri.gov/divisions/state-archives>

Civics and Education <https://www.sos.ri.gov/divisions/civics-and-education>

For Educators <https://www.sos.ri.gov/divisions/civics-and-education/for-educators>

Digital Archives <https://sosri.access.preservica.com/home>

Knight Labs (how the timeline was created) <https://knightlab.northwestern.edu/>

Contacts: statearchives@sos.ri.gov

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Rhode Island Black Heritage Society <https://www.riblackheritage.org/>

A Matter of Truth <https://www.riblackheritage.org/product/a-matter-of-truth/>

Contact: Theresa Guzman Stokes soni.stokes@riblackheritage.org

1696 Heritage Group <https://www.1696heritage.com/>

Contact: Theresa as above

Library of Congress Collections of Interest:

[Rhode Island Folklife Project Collection](#). The Rhode Island Folklife Project collection resulted from a field survey project of the American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, conducted in cooperation with the Rhode Island Heritage Commission, the Rhode Island Council on the Arts, and the Rhode Island Historical Society from July 15 to December 31, 1979. The collection consists of approximately six linear feet of manuscripts and ephemera, 200 sound recordings, and 17,000 photographs which document the ethnic, regional, and occupational traditions of Rhode Island, especially ethnic arts (African American, French Canadian, Greek, Irish, Jamaican, Polish, Portuguese, Ukrainian, Italian, Lithuanian, Narragansett, and others), maritime activities, material culture, and local history.

This collection has photographs and audio recordings of the Newport Black Ensemble Theatre as well as [photographic portraits](#) of Black Rhode Islanders and [various other recorded interviews](#) from the 1979 Folklife project survey project.

[Prints & Photographs Online Catalog](#). The Prints and Photographs Online Catalog (PPOC) contains catalog records and digital images representing a rich cross-section of still pictures held by the Prints & Photographs Division and, in some cases, other units of the Library of Congress. The Library of Congress offers broad public access to these materials as a contribution to education and scholarship. The collections of the Prints & Photographs Division include photographs, fine and popular prints and drawings, posters, and architectural and engineering drawings. While international in scope, the collections are particularly rich in materials produced in, or documenting the history of, the United States and the lives, interests and achievements of the American people.

Search “African American Rhode Island”

[William A. Gladstone Afro-American Military Collection](#). The William A. Gladstone Afro-American Military Collection (ca. 500 items) spans the years 1773 to 1987, with the bulk of the material dating from the Civil War period, 1861-1865. The collection consists of correspondence, pay vouchers, orders, muster rolls, enlistment and discharge papers, receipts, contracts, affidavits, tax records, miscellaneous military documents, and printed matter. Most items document African Americans in military service, especially the United States Corps d’Afrique and the United States Colored Troops, which were organized during the Civil War. Also included are many documents concerning slavery and various other Civil War documents that mention African Americans. The Revolutionary War items are primarily pay vouchers to Connecticut blacks who served in the Continental Army. World War I is represented by the papers of Lieutenant Edward L. Goodlett of the 370th Infantry, 93rd Division. Printed matter includes nineteenth-century speeches and writings on slavery, government orders, broadsides, and twentieth-century booklets and journal articles for scholars or collectors.

The collection was purchased by the Library of Congress from Gladstone in 1995. It has been kept in the numerical order established by him, which is neither topical nor chronological. The [Gladstone Collection of African American Photographs](#) in the Library's Prints and Photographs Division complements and enhances this collection of manuscripts.

Search “Rhode Island” in this collection for a [pay voucher for Lieutenant John Shaw, 2nd Rhode Island](#).

[Gladstone Collection of African American Photographs](#). The William A. Gladstone Collection of African American Photographs provides almost 350 images showing African Americans and related military and social history. The Civil War era is the primary time period covered, with scattered examples through 1945. Most of the images are photographs, including 270 cartes de visite. For the list of approximately 100 different photographers, see the Creator/Related Names Index.

Subjects of special note include Sojourner Truth, fugitive slaves, former slave children from New Orleans, and freed slaves at Seabrook Plantation in South Carolina. Military service photographs document participation in the Civil War, Indian Wars, Spanish American War, and World War I. Several photographs show Buffalo Soldiers, and one album is filled with portraits of officers of the 25th United States Colored Troops. Baseball is the theme for a group portrait from Danbury, CT, and a panoramic view of the 1924 Colored World Series opening game.

Search “Rhode Island” in this collection for a small collection of Civil War photographs

Please see the full primary resource packet sampler of Rhode Island sources from the Library of Congress for more!

