

# THE TRIBUNAL AID

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BLACK NORTH CAROLINA

## BICENTENNIAL BLACK HISTORY "Lost-Strayed-Or Stolen"

Black history in the Western Hemisphere most probably begins with the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492. Blacks are known to have participated meaningfully in a number of later explorations made by Europeans in various parts of the United States and Spanish America. Facts such as these at once fashion a new dimension for Black history within the mainstream of American history. Inasmuch as one of the primary purposes of this feature is to record some historical achievements of the Black, it becomes most important to offer the reader chronological accounts through which he can conveniently familiarize himself with the broad sweep of American Black history. The years covered here are 1492-1954.

### 1830 PHILADELPHIA

Chaired by Richard Allen the first National Negro Convention meets from September 20-24 at Philadelphia's Bethel Church, launching a church-affiliated program to improve the social status of the American Negro.

### 1831 BOSTON

The LIBERATOR, an abolitionist organ, is founded by William Garrison. "I am in earnest-I will not equivocate-I will not excuse-I will not retreat a single inch AND I WILL BE HEARD."

### 1831 SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Nat Turner leads the greatest slave rebellion in history, with some 60 whites killed and the entire South thrown into panic. Turner is captured on October 30, and hanged in Jerusalem (Virginia) 12 days later.

### 1831 PHILADELPHIA

Convocation of the first Annual Convention of the People of Color at Wesleyan Church, where delegates from five states resolved to study black conditions, explore settlement possibilities in Canada, and raise money for an industrial college in New Haven. Delegates oppose the American Colonization Society and recommend annual meetings.

### 1833 CANTERBURY, CONNECTICUT

Prudence Crandall, a white liberal, is arrested for conducting an academy for Negro girls.

### 1833 OHIO

Founding in Ohio of Oberlin College, integrated from the outset and a leader in the abolitionist cause. By the time the Civil War erupts, Negroes constitute fully one-third of Oberlin's students.

## Historical Landmarks Of Black America

No more substantial testimony to the role of the Black in the growth and development of America can be found than the numerous historical landmarks in various regions of the country which are associated with Black Americana. Many of these—like the Alamo and Bunker Hill—are not conventionally known as sites involving chapters of Negro history.

### FREDERICK DOUGLASS HOME, 141 W. ST. SOUTHEAST

"Cedar Hill," the 20-room colonial mansion in which Frederick Douglass lived for the last 13 years of his life, has been preserved as a monument to the great 19th century abolitionist. In 1961, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall declared it a national shrine.

Credit for the restoration and preservation of the home belongs largely to the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, which worked hand in hand with the Douglass Association.

### HOWARD UNIVERSITY

HOWARD UNIVERSITY, founded in 1867, is the largest institution of higher learning established for the Negro in the immediate post-Civil War period.

Covering more than 50 acres on one of the highest elevations in the District of Columbia, the campus grounds and the physical plant are valued at more than 40 million dollars. Of particular interest is the famedfounders Library

which contains more than 300,000 volumes and includes the Moorland Collection, one of the finest collections on Negro life and history in the United States.

### DAYTONA BEACH BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE

One of the leading institutions in the South for the training of Negro teachers, Bethune-Cookman College was founded in 1904 by Mary McLeod Bethune on "faith and a dollar-and-a-half."

In her day, Mrs. Bethune advisor to President F.D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, was one of the most powerful and influential Negroes in the United States.

### OLUSTEE: OLU STEE BATTLEFIELD HISTORIC MEMORIAL

Olustee was the site of a bloody Civil War battle during which the unseasoned soldiers of the 8th U.S. Colored Troops lost more than 300 men, many

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The 1976 Editions of THE TRIBUNAL AID will be dedicated to America's bicentennial Celebration, with emphasis on contributions our Race has made in the making of America, from birth to the present.

In 1976 there should not be a need to lift these contributions from isolated sources. Our

past should be interwoven into the fabric of our civilization, because we are, except for the Indian, America's oldest ethnic minority.

We have helped make America what it was, and what it is, since the founding of Virginia. We have been a factor in many major issues in our history. There have been many misdeeds

against us, yet we have been able to live through them and fight back. This is living proof of our history.

Our role in the making of America is neither well known or correctly known. Many positive contributions have escaped historians and have not found their way into the pages of

many history books.

We will strive to give readers, Black and white, many little-known facts about our past and it is hoped that a proper perspective of our history will be of value to persons who may believe that as Black People we have an unworthy past; and hence, no strong claims to all rights of other Americans.

Faye Ashe, Black History Editor

## PROFILES OF BLACK WOMEN IN BLACK HISTORY

THE LATE SOCIOLOGIST, E. FRANKLIN-FRAZIER, PAID THIS TRIBUTE TO THE 19th CENTURY WOMAN: "AFTER EMANCIPATION WHEN THE WHOLE SOCIAL FABRIC OF LIFE

CRUMBLE AND THE VERY ECONOMIC BASIS OF NEGRO EXISTENCE WAS DESTROYED, IT WAS THE NEGRO WOMAN WHO MADE THE SURVIVAL OF THE NEGRO POSSIBLE."

THE DARKEST DAYS OF SLAVERY DID NOT BREAK THE SPIRIT OF THE BLACK WOMAN. INSTEAD THESE DAYS PRODUCED AN AMATEUR LAWYER, ABOLITIONIST LECTURERS,

THE GREAT "CONDUCTOR" OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD. IN THE CIVIL WAR WHICH FOLLOWED BLACK WOMEN SERVED AS NURSES, SPIES, AND SOLDIERS IN THE

RANKS. AS THE CENTURY PROGRESSED, THE BLACK WOMAN EMERGED AS THE GREAT MAINSTAY OF THE NEGRO RACE DURING THE NEXT

FEW WEEKS WE WILL INTRODUCE TO YOU SOME OF THESE BLACK WOMEN THAT WERE THE MAINSTAY OF THE PAST.

### DR. ANNA J. COOPER SORBONNE, Ph.D. AGE 66

Dr. Anna J. Cooper (1858-1964) was a noted educator from Raleigh, North Carolina. She attended St. Augustine Normal School in Raleigh, where at the age of 11, she became a student-teacher and launched a celebrated career as an educator.

In 1877 she married Reverend C.A.C. Cooper, pastor of St. Augustine Church in Raleigh. She left for Oberlin College, where she continued her studies and taught classes to a majority of white students in the Preparatory Department in 1881. A year after her graduation in 1885 from Oberlin, she became a professor of modern languages and sciences at Wilberforce University. For the next two years she taught at her alma mater, in St. Augustine Normal. Her primary work in the field of education and administration came during her 50-year tenure as an instructor and principal of Old M Street High School in Washington, D.C. and its successor, Dunbar.



DR. ANNA J. COOPER

Besides teaching, she also found time in 1892 to write a book entitled, A VOICE FROM THE SOUTH. A highly respected and well received book on racial problems. At the age of 66, she capped a lifelong career of scholarship by receiving a doctor of philosophy degree from SURBONNE in Paris.

From 1929 to 1941, Dr. Cooper served as President of FRELINGHUYSEN UNIVERSITY, a school for employed Blacks which she located in her own home on T Street in Washington, D.C. Dr. Cooper died on February 27, 1964 at the age of 106.

### SARAH DUDLEY PETTEY A.M.E. SION MISSIONARY LEADER

Sarah Dudley Pettey, a popular teacher and gifted church organizer was born in New Berne, North Carolina, the daughter of the Honorable E.R. and Caroline



SARAH DUDLEY PETTEY

Dudley. Her father was a member of the General Assembly of North Carolina during the Reconstruction period and

held important local, state and national positions. Sarah Dudley could read and write at the age of six. She entered the grade school of New Bern and later studied at the State Normal School for three years before attending the famous SCOTIA SEMINARY at Concord, North Carolina. She graduated from Scotia with distinction in 1883 and became a second assistant in the New Bern Grade School and later the Vice-Principal.

At the Craven County Teachers' Institute, where she led classes for two summers, she was very popular with her students and was referred to by the title of "Model Teacher". After her marriage to Bishop Charles Calvin Pettey in 1889, she retired from teaching and became her husband's private secretary, accompanying him on several trips abroad. Sarah was an effective speaker and writer, she used these skills advantageously as General Secretary of the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

### CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN THE GUIDING SPIRIT OF PALMER MEMORIAL INSTITUTE

Charlotte Hawkins Brown was born in Henderson, North Carolina in 1884 to Ringo and Rebecca Hawkins, former slaves. In her childhood, the family moved to Boston, Massachusetts, and Charlotte was enrolled in the public schools of nearby Cambridge. Shortly before graduation from Cambridge English High School, Charlotte took a job caring for a neighbor's infant after school to earn money for a silk slip to be worn under her organly graduation dress. One day she was observed by a woman while pushing the baby's carriage with one hand and turning pages of a Latin textbook with the other. The woman who was so impressed by Charlotte's perseverance turned out to be Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, Second President of



CHARLOTTE HAWKINS BROWN

Wellesley College and later Charlotte's sponsor.

Miss Hawkins' studies continued at the State Normal School in Salem, Mass. In 1901 she left that school to take a teaching position offered by the American Missionary Association at Bethany Institute, Sedalia, North Carolina. In 1902 the AMA closed Bethany Institute and members of the community petitioned Miss Hawkins to remain in Sedalia and establish her own school. Mrs. Hawkins spent that summer making appearances as a singer and elocutionist to raise funds for the venture. The school later known as PALMER MEMORIAL INSTITUTE, palmer memorial institute, opened in the fall of 1902 in a reconitioned log dwelling.

Palmer's subsequent development and renown have earned many honors for its founder. At the Philadelphia Sesquicentennial in 1926, Mrs. Brown was one of seven educators honored by the North Carolina Board of Education in its "HALL OF FAME." Colleges and Universities conferred honorary degrees,

including doctorates from Wilberforce and Lincoln Universities. The Young Women's Christian Association named her to its National Board. Miss Hawkins was elected to membership in many organizations. North Carolina's governor set a precedent in 1940 by appointing her to the State Council of Defense.

Dr. Brown's other interest included the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs, The National Association of Colored Women, the Federal Council of Churches, the Urban League, and various teacher improvement groups.

### MARY BURNETT TALBERT FIRST WOMAN TO RECEIVE THE SPINGARN MEDAL



MARY BURNETT TALBERT

Mary Burnett Talbert (1866-1923) an educator and social organizer was born in Oberlin, Ohio. She graduated both from Oberlin High School and Oberlin College, the only Black member in her college class. After graduation, she accepted the position as the assistant principal of Bethel University in Little Rock, Ark. Later she resigned this position for the post of principal in the Union High School at the time (1887), the post was the highest ever held by a Black woman in the state of Arkansas.

After her marriage to William A. Talbert, she moved to Buffalo and made that city her home. In Buffalo, she served as treasurer of the Michigan Avenue Baptist Church and also founded the Christian Culture Congress, of which she was president for 20 years. She was also a charter member and later president of the Empire State Federation of Colored Women and President of the National Association of Colored Women. Her work in the latter organization ranged from such activities as restoring the home of the celebrated abolitionist Frederick Douglass, to sacrificing time and money as a champion of prison reform in many Southern states. During World War I, she worked overseas and provided religious training for many men bound for the front. After the war she served as National Director of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders and represented the National Association of Colored Women at the sixth quinquennial meeting of the International Council of Women in Norway.

In 1922, Mary Talbert became the first black woman to win the annual Spingarn Award for highest achievement by a Black. The award, sponsored by the NAACP, has since been given to only four other women in its history.

### ANNA MURRAY DOUGLASS ABOLITIONIST HOSTESS

Anna Murray Douglass (?-1882) was born free in Denton Carolina County, Maryland. At the age of 17, she began working as a house maid for a French family in Baltimore, where she met her husband-to-be, the renowned freedman-fighter, Frederick Douglass. With her savings she financed his flight to New York, where they married before proceeding to their new home in New



ANNA MURRAY DOUGLASS

Bedford, Massachusetts. Three children were born in New Bedford before the family moved to Lynn, Massachusetts.

### JOSEPHINE ST. PIERRE RUFFIN PRESIDENT—NATIONAL FEDERATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN WOMEN

Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin (1842-1924) was a native of Boston and founder of the New Era Club of Boston. The organization published the WOMEN'S ERA, the first newspaper ever published by Black women in the United States. Josephine was the wife of Judge George L. Ruffin, the first Black judge in New England. She played a leading role in every movement designed to emancipate the black woman. Josephine Ruffin was of mingled French, English, American Indian and African descent. After the Civil War she organized the Kansas Relief Association which sent clothing and money to the Black refugees who were colonizing parts of Kansas.

The New Era Club was organized by Mrs. Ruffin adopted as its aim, the furtherance of the Black race generally, and the improvement of the status of the Black woman particularly. Mrs. Ruffin was also President of the National Federation of Afro-American Women, which later united with the Washington National League and grew into the National Association of Colored Women.



JOSEPHINE ST. PIERRE RUFFIN

1776 Honoring America's Bicentennial 1976