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About The Underground Railroad and Slavery in New York

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There is more published on this topic each year. Here are some suggestions for learning more about slavery and the Underground Railroad in New York State. All of these publications are widely available in public libraries and most are still for sale at bookstores, from the publishers, or on the Internet.

This is not meant to be a comprehensive list of references on slavery and the Underground Railroad. Rather, it is meant to be a suggested study guide to books and DVD that are currently available and easy to find. It is designed for a popular audience, teachers and students in particular.

Many Nineteenth Century publications have been reprinted including slave narratives and the proceedings of various anti-slavery societies. The classic histories of the Underground Railroad written by Wilbur H. Seibert and William Still are available as reprints in some libraries. There are also numerous biographies of prominent abolitionists including Lewis Tappan (a backer of John Brown), Gerrit Smith, Susan B. Anthony, and Frederick Douglass. Several of Douglass' biographies are currently in-print as inexpensive paperbacks. More difficult to find is the reprinted biography of Black abolitionist, Rev. Henry Highland Garnet, a Presbyterian clergyman who lived in Wayne and Ontario Counties for a while. There are also several recent scholarly biographies of Douglass available.

Readers should use on-line search engines such as "Google," "Yahoo," and more specific programs for useful internet web sites. From sites like "**Many Road to Freedom**" [<http://www.libraryweb.org/rochimag/roads/home.htm>], created by the Local History Division of the Rochester-Monroe County Public Library System, rarer books, documents and images can be obtained. Electronic library catalogues covering the entire state and region are also very helpful.

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Berlin, Ira and Leslie M. Harris (eds) **Slavery in New York**. New York. The New Press. 2005.

This comprehensive 400-page paperback was published to accompany a major exhibition by the same title at the New York [City] Historical Society. While it covers the progress of slavery in the colony and state of New York, it concentrates on slavery in New York City and the major role chattel servitude, and free men and women of color, played in the economic, political, social and intellectual development of the Empire City. The chapter on "The Long Death of Slavery" explains the struggle to end slavery in New York between 1799 and 1827 and would be useful to a study of slavery throughout the state.

Blight, David W. **Frederick Douglass' Civil War: Keeping Faith in Jubilee**. Baton Rouge, La. Louisiana State Univ. Press. 1989.

This paperback biography concentrates on the role Douglass played in the Civil War and on the affect of that conflict on his thinking.

Blight, David W. (ed) **Passages to Freedom: The Underground Railroad in History and Memory**. New York. Harper Collins Publishers for Smithsonian Books. 2004. [Paperback edition 2006.]

Edited by a respected expert in the field, this comprehensive and profusely illustrated book is probably the single best modern reference to the Underground Railroad. Its third section offers five essays on the development of National Park Service sites, the rationale for current interest in the movement, and an analysis of the Biblical analogy. Widely available for purchase but not yet included in the collections of most public and school libraries.

Blockson, Charles L. **Hippocrene Guide to The Underground Railroad**. New York. Hippocrene Books. 1994.

A travel guide and brief reference to more than 200 sites associated with the Underground Railroad. Useful for arranging visits nationwide. [Currently available from the publisher.]

Blockson, Charles L. ***The Underground Railroad: First-Person Narratives of Escapes to Freedom in the North***. New York. Prentiss Hall. 1987.

Written by a professor of African-American studies at Temple University, this is a collection of brief Underground Railroad narratives from across the nation. Some are from well-known figures, some not. [Currently available from the publisher.]

Bradford, Sarah H. ***Harriet Tubman, The "Moses of Her People."*** Bedford, MA. Applewood Books. 1993.

A modern reprint of Bradford's 1886 biography, the wording betrays some prejudices of the 19th Century. However, it is one of the only biographies based upon actual interviews with Harriet Tubman. [Currently available at the Geneva Historical Society.]

Bradford's 1869 biography of Tubman, ***Scenes in the Life of Harriet Tubman***, can be downloaded from the <docsouth> website of the Univ. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill library. It is somewhat different from the 1886 edition and the original book is extremely rare.

There are numerous biographies of Harriet Tubman written especially for children and based on Bradford's books.

Recently, three new scholarly biographies of Harriet Tubman challenge much of Bradford's work. They include a great deal of detail on Tubman's work as a conductor on the Underground Railroad. [All are currently available from the publisher.]

Clinton, Catherine. ***Harriet Tubman: The Road to Freedom***. New York. Little, Brown and Co. 2004.

Humez, Jean M. ***Harriet Tubman: The Life and the Life Stories***. Madison, WI. Univ. of Wisconsin Press. 2003. Particularly useful as a study of how Tubman's own words were used by Bradford and others as they wrote about her.]

Larson, Kate Clifford. ***Bound for the Promised Land: Harriet Tubman, Portrait of an American Hero***. New York. Ballantine Books. 2004. [Exhaustive notes and documentation explore and challenge many of the myths surrounding Tubman. Very critical of the work of Sarah Bradford.]

Brackman, Barbara. ***Facts and Fabrications: Unraveling the History of Quilts and Slavery***. Lafayette, CA. C&T Publishing. 2006

This book provides some information on the relationship of quilts to the underground railroad. It is also frank about the lack of relationship. A very even-handed account, the book is useful to readers with many points of view on the controversial but popular subject. It also contains several quilting projects that readers can pursue, including a doll quilt for children, and includes some first-person testimony.

Brown, Catharine S. (Tom Calarco, ed) ***Abel Brown, Abolitionist***. Jefferson, NC. McFarland & Co. 2006.

Originally written by the widow of Abel Brown, this modern edition updates the extremely rare original and adds documentation which makes it very useful and easy to tie to other stories. This biography documents Brown's travels and lecture work throughout the northeast, and upstate New York and the Finger Lakes area in particular. This new edition is fully indexed and inexpensive in paperback. Brown died on one of his tours and is buried in Canandaigua although he is best known in the Albany area.

Brown, William W. ***The Narrative of William W. Brown, A Fugitive Slave***. Mineola, NY. Dover Publications. 2003.

A republication of the 1969 Addison-Wesley reprint of the 1848 original, this slim book is sometimes compared to the narratives of Frederick Douglass. Brown escaped slavery to the Buffalo area, worked on boats ferrying "freedom seekers" to Canada, fought against discrimination in the Buffalo schools, and temporarily lived in Farmington, Ontario County. This 98-page paperback edition includes additional notes and an introduction by noted movement scholar, Larry Gara. Available for purchase from the publisher, but not included in many local collections.

Brown, William Wells. (Andrews, William L. ed). ***From Fugitive Slave to Free Man: The Autobiographies of William Wells Brown.*** Columbia, MO. Univ. of Missouri Press. 2003.

An edited version of Brown's autobiographies the book includes an introduction by the editor. Next to Frederick Douglass, Brown was the most read and articulate African-American of the *antebellum* era. Brown was born in Missouri, participated in the Underground Railroad movement in Buffalo, and later served as a lecturer for the Western New York Antislavery society.

Buckmaster, Henrietta. ***Let My People Go: The Story of the Underground Railroad and the Growth of the Abolition Movement.*** Introduction by Darlene Clark Hine. Columbia, SC. Univ. of South Carolina Press. 1992.

First published in 1941, this book has gone through several editions, this book made Buckmaster famous as a civil rights advocate with an "Afrocentric approach" to slavery. A 398-page academic study, this book has a national focus which includes Reconstruction. [Currently available from the publisher.]

Calarco, Tom. ***The Underground Railroad Conductor.*** Schenectady, NY. Travels Through History. 2003.

This 108-page book is a guide to the Underground Railroad sites in eastern New York and should be considered a companion to Calarco's book on the Adirondack Region.

Calarco, Tom. ***The Underground Railroad in the Adirondack Region.*** Jefferson, NC. McFarland and Co. 2004.

This 293-page publication with illustrations and maps is a detailed guide to the Underground Railroad in the Adirondack Region of New York State. It includes information about sites and personalities together with case studies of "freedom seekers" and those who helped them.

Carson, Mary Kay. ***The Underground Railroad for Kids: From Slavery to Freedom.*** Chicago. Chicago Review Press. 2005.

A rare book published specifically for children, this book takes a project activity approach to understanding various aspects of the Underground Railroad movement. It contains many short biographical sketches of African-American freedom seekers, many of whom lived in New York. It also contains a useful time line. There are many illustrations and images of documents and artifacts.

Colaiaico, James A. ***Frederick Douglass and the Fourth of July.*** New York. Palgrave Macmillan. 2006.

An in-depth look at the circumstances surrounding Douglass' famous 5th of July, 1852 speech in Rochester, NY, this book examines the national political and social context that prompted Douglass to make his speech so controversial and move its date away from the patriotic holiday the day before. The product of an academic publisher, the book is meant to be a text in high school and college courses and includes a useful list of ten discussion questions on the last page.

Douglass, Frederick. (Henry Louis Gates, Jr., ed.) ***Frederick Douglass: Autobiographies: Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave / My Bondage and My Freedom / Life and Times of Frederick Douglass.*** New York. Library of America. 1994.

All three of Douglass' autobiographies are included in this one cloth-bound volume. Each of them is readily individually from a variety of publishers at little cost. Here, Douglass tells his personal story and relates the elements of his journey to greatness. [Currently available from the publisher.]

There are several scholarly biographies of Douglass, as well as commentaries on his speeches and writing. One of the newest, widely acclaimed is *Frederick Douglass*, by William S. McFeeley (W. W. Norton, 1991) [Available from the publisher, it is widely available in the five county Rochester area.]

"Flight to Freedom." Hosted by Cicely Tyson. WXXI Rochester, NY. VHS. B&W and color. 108 min.

This locally produced video documentary uses archival photographs, records, artifacts, interviews with national experts and descendants of slaves, conductors, and abolitionists. Examples of spirituals sung by slaves as part of the "code" system are included as well as visits to local homes which were used as shelters. The Rochester area is featured. [Several public libraries in Monroe County have this video program for loan.]

Foner, Philip S., Philip Sheldon Foner and Yuval Taylor. **Frederick Douglas: Selected Speeches and Writings** (Library of Black America). Chicago. Lawrence Hill Books. 2000.

An abridgement of Foner's five-volume edition of Douglass' speeches and writings, this book provides primary source citations for Douglass' exact words on numerous occasions. [Currently available from the publisher.]

"Freedom's Land: Canada and the Underground Railroad." Written and Directed by William Cobban. Narrated by Anthony Sherwood. CBC-TV News. DVD. B&W and color. 52 min. 2004.

Documentary history of the Underground Railroad from the Canadian point of view emphasizing the role of Canada and Canadians (Alexander Ross, Henry Bibb, etc.). Manuscripts and letters created dramatic reconstructions. [Widely available from Internet vendors.]

Gara, Larry. **The Liberty Line: The Legend of the Underground Railroad.** Lexington, Ky. Univ. Press of Kentucky. 1996.

A reprint of the 1961 original, Gara's book examines the facts, as well as the fiction, of the Underground Railroad story generally. [Currently available from the publisher.]

Gellman, David N. ***Emancipating New York: The Politics of Slavery and Freedom. 1777-1827.*** Baton Rouge, LA. Louisiana State Univ. Press. 2006.

An academic study of the political environment in New York state during the period that the two gradual emancipation laws were introduced and passed. The study examines opportunities missed as well as the debates over citizenship and civil rights for African-Americans and freed slaves in particular. Gellman illuminates a complicated issue in an ambivalent northern state.

Grover, Kathryn. ***Make a Way Somehow: African-American Life in a Northern Community,*** 1790-1965. Syracuse, NY. Syracuse Univ. Press. 1994.

An academic study of African-American life and history in Geneva, NY, this book is a companion to a Geneva Historical Society exhibit catalog of the same title. It provides detailed information on Black history in Geneva throughout the period defined in the title. [Currently available from the publisher and the Geneva Historical Society.]

Hanmer-Croughton, Amy. "Anti-Slavery Days in Rochester." ***Rochester Historical Society Publication Fund Series.*** XIV. 1936. pp. 113-155.

This article is a detailed overview of slavery and abolitionism in the greater Genesee Valley area. It provides specific details of the story together with names and places. Events outside the area that affected Rochester people are also reviewed in detail. [**Series** vol. XIV is available from the Rochester Historical Society in limited quantities. The book is widely available in libraries and antiquarian book stores.]

Hendrick, George and Willene (eds). ***Fleeing for Freedom: Stories of the Underground Railroad as Told by Levi Coffin and William Still.*** Chicago. Ivan R. Dee. 2004.

Selected stories told by William Still (Philadelphia) and Levi Coffin (Cincinnati) provide eye-witness accounts of the Underground Railroad by two of its most important operators. A national focus. [Currently available from the publisher.]

Henson, Josiah. ***The Life of Josiah Henson, Formerly a Slave.*** Dresden, Ontario, Canada. Uncle Tom's Cabin Museum. 1965.

A small 71-page paperback, this reprint of Henson's 1849 autobiography was been reprinted in an inexpensive edition by the Canadian museum dedicated to his life. [Currently available from the museum.]

Henson, Josiah. ***Truth Stranger Than Fiction: Father Henson's Story of His Own Life.*** Williamstown, MA. Corner House Pub. 1973.

This reprint of Henson's 1858 book contains an introduction by Harriet Beecher Stowe. It is a revised edition of Henson's earlier autobiography published to raise money to purchase the freedom of Henson's brother. [Not available new, but widely available in this reprint edition.]

Husted, Shirley Cox (ed). ***Sweet Gift of Freedom: A Civil War Anthology.*** Rochester, NY. Monroe County Historian. 1986.

A collection of pictures and short sketches of the people and places associated with abolition and the Underground Railroad in Monroe County, this 92-page paperback is indexed and is an excellent guide to possible Rochester-area sites. [Not currently for sale new but widely available.]

Jacobs, Harriet A. ***Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, Written by Herself.*** Mineola, NY. Dover Pub. 2001.

A reprint of Jacobs' 1861 narrative of her trials as a slave and her successful bid for freedom including life in Rochester. [Currently available from several paperback publishers. Also widely available in academic studies with literary criticism.]

A new scholarly study of Jacobs's life was recently published. ***Harriet Jacobs: A Life***, by Jean Fagan Yellin (Basic Civitas Books, 2004) provides details Jacobs' life and times and puts her narrative in context.

James, Thomas. **"The Autobiography of the Rev. Thomas James."** *Rochester History*. Rochester Public Library. Oct. 1975.

An edited first person account of a Rochester AME Zion pastor and his work for abolition, the Underground Railroad, and Reconstruction. [Available on-line through the "Rochester History" website of the Rochester Public Library.]

Kachun, Mitch. ***Festivals of Freedom: Memory and Meaning in African American Emancipation Celebrations, 1808-1915.*** Amherst, MA. Univ. of Massachusetts Press. 2003.

An academic study of emancipation celebrations, this book includes many references to people and places in Upstate New York. [Currently available from the publisher.]

King, Roger A. ***The Underground Railroad in Orange County, NY: The Silent Rebellion.*** Monroe, NY. Library Research Associates. 1999.

Prof. King's small book (75 pps) is available for sale from Internet book sellers, but is costly and rare. It concentrates on the stories of the movement, and those affected by it in the lower Hudson Valley and Catskill region. It is illustrated and includes maps. A reference copy is held by the State Library.

Klees, Emerson. Rochester, NY. ***Underground Railroad Tales. With Routes Through the Finger Lakes Region.*** Rochester, NY. Friends of the Finger Lakes Pub. 1997.

A brief overview of the Underground Railroad movement with biographies of a few major participants. Well-known sites throughout the Underground Railroad Finger Lakes area are specifically identified. Sketches of many locations are included. Useful for anyone wanting to tour the sites. [Available at the Ontario County Historical Society in Canandaigua.]

Loguen, Jermain W. ***The Rev. J. W. Loguen, As a Slave and As a Freeman. A Narrative of Real Life.*** New York. Negro Univ. Press. 1968.

A reprint of the 1859 autobiography of an escaped slave and AME Zion bishop in Syracuse, this is a first-person account of an open stationmaster on the Underground Railroad. [Reprint not available new, but easy to access.]

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McGuire, Horace. "Two Episodes of Anti-Slavery Days." **Rochester Historical Society Publication Fund Series**. IV. 1925. pp. 213-222.

Prof. McGuire provides a first person account of the "Jerry Rescue" in Syracuse and John Brown's 1859 visit to Frederick Douglass. McGuire was on the street to witness the "Jerry Rescue" and was working in the *North Star* office when Brown visited. [**Series** vol. IV is available from the Rochester Historical Society in limited quantities. The book is widely available in libraries and antiquarian book stores.]

McManus, Edgar J. **A History of Negro Slavery in New York**. Syracuse, NY. Syracuse Univ. Press. 2001.

This new edition of McManus' original book is available in paperback. It provides a broad overview of slavery in New York. [Currently available from the publisher.]

Merrill, Arch. **The Underground, Freedom's Road and Other Upstate Tales**. Rochester, NY. American Book-Stratford Press. 1963.

A popular history written by a journalist well-known for his local history columns in the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle*. [Now back in print as a paperback from Heart of the Lakes Pub. (Empire State Books). 1996.]

Napersteck, Ruth Rosenberg. **"A Growing Agitation: Rochester Before, During and After the Civil War."** **Rochester History**. Rochester Public Library. Jan. and Apr. 1984.

An overview of abolition and Underground Railroad movements in the Rochester area. [Available on-line through the "Rochester History" website of the Rochester Public Library.]

"Northward to Freedom: Stories of the North Country Underground Railroad." Red Hummingbird Foundation. DVD. Color. 10 min. Closed Captioned. 2005.

Produced by faculty and students at SUNY Plattsburgh, this short documentary utilizes a lot of local history connections and shows contemporary views of places mentioned. Accompanied by authentic music, it features the stories of real "freedom seekers" who traveled through the upper Hudson and Champlain Valleys.

Perrin, Pat (ed). **Slavery.** Researching American History. Carlisle, MA. Discovery Enterprises, Ltd. 2000.

Written for use in middle schools and the lower secondary grades, this slim 56-page book includes 29 short excerpts from primary sources dealing with every aspect of slavery. While it does not center on New York, it puts slavery in the Empire State into perspective and includes documents related to Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, John Brown's raid, the Quakers and many others. There is a short section on "Research Activities/Things to Do."

Perrin, Pat (ed). **The Underground Railroad: Life on the Road to Freedom.** Perspectives on History Series. Carlisle, MA. Discovery Enterprises, Ltd. 1995.

Like Perrin's other book, this was produced for the purpose of introducing primary sources into classes at the middle and lower secondary school grades. While it does not concentrate on New York, it includes short documents related to Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman. Each document is short and about a page long (a few are longer). The book includes documents that relate to "Making the Decision," "Moving Words," "Signs and Songs to Follow [spirituals]," "Going in Disguise," and "Stories of the Long Hard Trip" on the road to freedom.

Pettit, Eber M. **Sketches in the History of the Underground Railroad.** Introduction and notes by Paul Leone. Westfield, NY. Chautauqua Region Press. 1999.

An edited reprint of Pettit's 1879 first-person account of the Underground Railroad operations in south-western New York. Many of the sketches were originally published by the *Fredonia* (NY) *Censor* in 1868. Many of the people mentioned are also important to the Genesee-Finger Lakes region. [Currently available from the publisher.]

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Pierce, Preston. "Liberian Dreams, West African Nightmare: The Life of Henry W. Johnson." **Rochester History**. LXVI. 4. Fall 2004; LXVII. 1. Winter 2005.

A biography of the first black attorney in the Rochester region. Johnson emigrated to Liberia in 1865 and became Attorney General of that nation for a short time.

Prince, Bryan. **I Came as a Stranger: The Underground Railroad**. Toronto and Plattsburgh, NY. Tundra Books. 2004.

A useful guide to Underground Railroad sites in the Province of Ontario, Canada. Written by the descendent of a "freedom seeker," the book includes pictures of people and places associated with the movement in Canada and ties those to the US. [Currently available from the publisher.]

"Race to Freedom: The Story of the Underground Railroad." Xenon Pictures. DVD and VHS. Color. 90 min. 1994.

Directed by Don McBrearty and Starring Tim Reid and Glynn Turman, this movie shows a group of four slaves who decide to escape, then discover the Underground Railroad. Set just before the Civil War this is a family drama and not a documentary film. [Widely available from Internet vendors.]

Rochester/Monroe County Freedom Trail Commission. **Rochester Region Underground Railroad: Network to Freedom**. Rochester, NY. The Commission. 2004.

A joint effort by the Monroe County and Rochester City Historians, scholars and journalists, this book is partly a history and partly a teacher's guide to Underground Railroad sites and materials. Nineteen biographical sketches are included along with related websites. The bibliography and reading lists include many publications suitable for younger students. Site guides are largely based on Emerson Klees' book. [Currently available from the Commission and the offices of the City and County Historians.]

"Roots of Resistance: A Story of the Underground Railroad." *The American Experience* series. VHS. Time-Life Video and WGBP Educational Foundation (PBS). Color and B&W. 60 min.

Part of the well-known PBS American history series, this documentary emphasizes the Black role in seeking freedom and using the Underground Railroad. [Widely available from PBS catalogues, in bookstores, and from Internet vendors.]

"Safe Harbor." Narrated by Charlotte Blake Alston. Main Street Media in association with Harry T. Burleigh Soc. DVD. Color and B&W. 105 min. 2003.

Narrated stories of slaves who fled to Western Pennsylvania on the Underground Railroad. Many of them came into, or close to southwestern New York. Free travel guide and teacher resources available at website of Erie, Pa. public television: <http://www.wqln.org/safeharbor/>.

Sernett, Milton C. ***Harriet Tubman: Myth, Memory, and History.*** Durham, NC. Duke Univ. Press. 2007.

Sernett, an emeritus professor of African-American studies and history at Syracuse University, examines the story of Harriet Tubman through historical evidence as well as the memories, real and imagined, of her work. A comparison of the real woman to the myth.

Sernett, Milton C. ***North Star Country: Upstate New York and the Crusade for African American Freedom.*** Syracuse, NY. Syracuse Univ. Press. 2002.

Sernett reviews the history of African-Americans in Central New York starting before the Revolution. He pays particular attention to the relationship of evangelical religious groups in the "burned over district" to the growth of abolitionism and the Underground Railroad movement. The lives of several well-known local abolitionists (Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Gerrit Smith, Jermain Loguen, Beriah Green, Samuel May) are detailed. Sernett also examines the affect of the Civil War and Reconstruction on Upstate New York.

Siebert, Wilbur H. (Albert Bushnell Hart, intro.) ***The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom: A Comprehensive History***. Mineola, NY. Dover Pub. 2006.

This paperback edition is an unabridged reproduction of Seibert's well-known 1898 edition. While that book, and its 1969 reprint, is now hard for teachers and students to access, this is an inexpensive substitute. Siebert's methodology has been criticized in recent years, but this book is still one of the best contemporary accounts of the operation of the Underground Railroad and its impact. The role of New Yorkers is treated in many places. The original comprehensive index is included.

Singer, Alan J. ***New York and Slavery: Time to Teach the Truth***. Albany, NY. State Univ. of New York Press. 2008.

Singer's book is based upon his research and experience as a secondary social studies teacher. He explores some history but concentrates more on pedagogical issues related to the teaching of African-American history. Singer poses stimulating questions about slavery and its relationship to downstate New York, even after the legal abolition of slavery in the state. However, Singer does not address related by unique issues related to slavery in upstate areas.

Steward, Austin. ***Twenty-two Years a Slave and Forty Years a Freeman***. Mineola, NY. Dover Pubs. 2004.

A reprint of the autobiography () of a slave who freed himself after bondage in Steuben and Wayne Counties (NY), this account details the tribulations of "Freedom Seekers" who settled in Wilberforce, Ontario. Steward talks about the Farmington and Rochester anti-slavery men who helped him and details his own abolition travels, as well as his trials as the first Black business man in Rochester. [Reprinted by several publishers. Dover edition is currently available from the publisher.]

Still, William. (Ian Frederick Finseth, ed. and intro.) ***The Underground Railroad: Authentic Narratives and First-Hand Accounts***. Mineola, NY. Dover Pub. 2007.

This paperback edition is a "new compilation of selections" from Still's well-known 1872 compendium. A new introduction is included for modern readers. The introduction puts Still's work in context. This book includes about a quarter of the first hand accounts and eye-witness testimony included in Still's 800 page book. Accounts of many escapes to Canada are included, but New York is mentioned only incidentally. However, many of those helped by William Still crossed the state of New York. Still's 1872 book is not included in this list because of its rarity. This abridgement is a good substitute for teachers and students. There is no index, unfortunately.

Switala, William J. ***Underground Railroad in New York and New Jersey***. Mechanicsburg, Pa. Stackpole Booke. 2006.

Indexed, with extensive notations for each chapter and a lengthy bibliography, this book includes some information on New Jersey, and a great deal of information about the operation of the Underground Railroad in New York State. Several maps purport to identify "stations," usually communities, through which freedom seekers are known to have passed. It is focused on probable routes followed by freedom seekers. The author includes some general demographic information on church membership as it might relate to the Underground Railroad movement. The book is an abbreviated modern version of the type of study produced by Wilbur Seibert.

Thomas, Owen A. ***Niagara's Freedom Trail: A Guide to African-Canadian History on the Niagara Peninsula***. n.p. Niagara Economic and Tourism Corp. with the assistance of the Ontario Heritage Foundation. 1999.

A collection of short sketches of people and places in the Niagara region associated with African-Canadian history and the Underground Railroad movement, this little book was written by a scholar in the field. The book is divided into sections for Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake, and St. Catharines and constitutes a useful guide to visitors. [Widely available from the publisher and throughout the region. Write NETC, PO Box 1042, 2201 St. David's Rd. West, Thorold, ON L2V 4T7.]

Tobin, Jacqueline L. and Raymond G. Dobard. ***Hidden in Plain View: A Secret Story of Quilts and the Underground Railroad***. New York. Anchor Books. 2000.

A historian and art history professor's controversial "discovery" of the use of quilts by African-Americans to aid those escaping on the Underground Railroad. The authors detail how their informants explained the quilt codes passed down by oral tradition. [Currently available from the publisher.]

Truth, Sojourner [Isabella]. ***Narrative of Sojourner Truth***. Mineola, NY. Dover Pub. 1997.

This paperback reproduction of the short 1850 narrative details Truth's travels and work in the anti-slavery and women's right movements before the Civil War. Truth traveled widely and her experiences relate to many areas. [Currently available from the publisher.]

More detailed academic studies of Sojourner Truth include ***Sojourner Truth: A Life, A Legend*** by Nell Irvin Painter (W. W. Norton, 1996) and ***Sojourner Truth: Slave, Prophet, Legend*** by Carleton Mabee (NY Univ. Press, 1995).

"Underground Railroad." Hosted by Alfre Woodard. The History Channel. DVD. Color and B&W. 150 min.

This documentary video outlining the story of the Underground Railroad and the abolition movement features Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman. Interviews with descendants and visits to historic places are included. [Widely available from catalogues and from Internet vendors.]

"Whispers of Angels: A Story of the Underground Railroad." Teleduction. VHS and DVD. Color and B&W. 60 min. 2001.

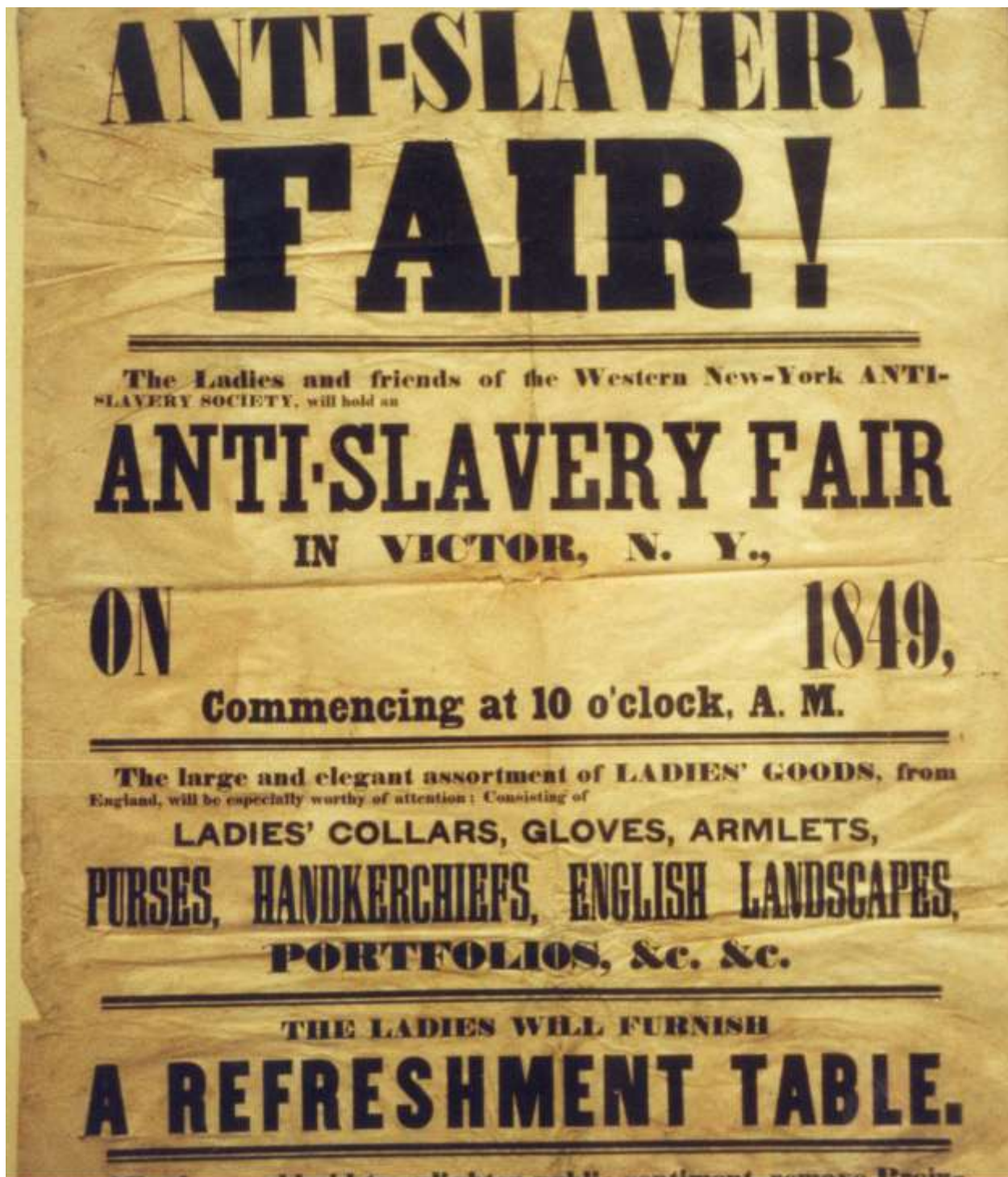
A docu-drama portraying the lives of Thomas Garrett, William Still and others significant in the movement in Delaware, Maryland, and Southeastern Pennsylvania, and secondarily in New York. Edward Asner and Blair Underwood portray the two most prominent abolitionists. Documented text forms letters exchanged by the main characters. Award-winning production shown on PBS. On-line study site at: <http://www.whispersofangels.com/> [Widely available from Internet vendors.]

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United States Dept. of the Interior. ***Underground Railroad. Official National Park Handbook.*** Washington, DC. Government Printing Office. 1998.

A brief, profusely illustrated, guide to the Underground Railroad and African-American participation in the abolition movement and Civil War. A National Focus. [Widely available at Park Service sites or directly from the GPO.]



Broadside for an 1849 anti-slavery fair in Victor, NY. It appears that the fair was never held, but a fair was held in Canandaigua about the same time (Feb. 27, 1849) this one was planned. From the collection of the Ontario County Historical Society, Canandaigua, NY.

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