

Saint James Episcopal Church, Lancaster, PA

Register of Births, Baptisms, Marriages & Burials of African Americans 1755-1829

Compiled by Leroy T. Hopkins Jr. PhD, Lancaster, PA. from the hardbound book of Saint James records at LancasterHistory and reviewed for accuracy by using the index card file at Saint James office with permission from The Rev. Stanley Imboden in 1985.

Volume I: 1755-1829

Marriages

- April 17, 1785: John & Hannah, free Negroes
Aug. 18, 1785: George Smith, negro & Margaret Mawson, free Mulattos
Jan. 19, 1786: John & Mary White, negroes
Sept. 20, 1791: Benjamin Galloway & Hannah Collins, free Mulattos
April 21, 1794: Richard & Elizabeth Otley: Mulatta & servant to G. Ross, Esq. +
a Free woman
June 29, 1794: Pleasants Tolbet, a Free Negro + Catharine (said to be a slave to
Jos. Simon)
Jan. 1, 1795: Peter and Deborah Thomas (both free Negroes)
Oct. 25, 1795: Charles Carter + Ann Nicholson free Negroes
Christopher Franciskus + Susan Shaeffer
Oct. 25, 1795: Levi Johnson & Tabitha Ford free Negroes
Dec. 20, 1795: Jerry Maybury + Catharine Boman } free Mulattas
Dec. 27, 1795: Moses White + Dinah Spencer, free Negroes
Dec. 28, 1795: Abel Gibbons (Negro) + Hannah Waggoner
June 18, 1796: Thomas Smith & Jennet Footman, free Negroes
June 23, 1796: Ralph Ryn & Mary Malson, free Mulattos

Volume I: Burials (1814-1825)

(burial Sept. 11, 1796: James Clendennen)

Aug. 10, 1814: A (black) mulatto/white mother child. The mother living at Charles Butler's black man keeping the Olympia Hotel – was buried in St. James' Church yard – Sammy – a black man, Mr. James Hopkins' coachman at whose House the child was kept and died – spoke to me about having the child buried & told me it was his brother's child living in Philadelphia and belonged to the African church there. Here on a visit and so deceived me.

_____ 1814: Black boy buried: Gray's late Gilmore – lived with Mr. Jenkins

Oct. 5, 1815: Mr. Coleman's mulatto Woman buried

Nov. 15, 1815: black child of Lewis black man of Mr. George Ross'; buried Lancaster

Jan. 20, 1816: Voltaire, black boy of Mr. Yeates buried from Mr. Yeates' – in our yard very improperly

Feb. 12, 1816: a black child of one John Atlee, coloured man buried Monday Feb. 12, 1816; grandfather of the child named Galloway somehow related to

Clendenin, black man Painter
 March 20, 1816: a black woman – Sam Axford’s wife living with Mr. Montgomery
 June 2, 1814: a coloured Child/Girl/ 2 years old belonged to Mr. Nusband of Barbados
 March 7, 1814: a black child of Lewis’ from Mr. G. Ross’
 Nov. 12, 1817: a black girl living with Mr. George Moore, daughter of Black Rachel that lived with us.
 May 21, 1815: Isaac Gilmore’s wife, black, buried May 21, 1815 in the Potter’s Field applied to us but was refused – very properly
 Feb. 2, 1819: John Atlee, a colored man living with William Jenkins, Esq. died with the Smallpox. The physicians beginning to inoculate with the smallpox matter. X was buried in St. James Xch yard Tuesday Feb. 2, 1819 by order of Mr. Robert Coleman Xch warden gratis – this John Atlee’s child was buried May 11, 1818.
 Feb. 23, 1819: a white woman, wife of Mr. George Ross’ Dick was buried in St. James’ yard Tuesday Feb. 23, 1819. ---A.M. I attended
 May 17, 1818: a black child of man named John Atlee, the child was baptized by me May 11, 1818. Was buried in St. James’ yard.
 Dec. 2, 1818: a coloured child of Mr. Coleman’s
 May 5, 1819: Old Dinah – above 100 years of age buried in St. James Xch yard belonged to the Slough Family
 Sept. 22, 1821: a coloured child, female, about 13 years of age, daughter of Gray & Wife, she late Gilmore (coloured people) was to pay \$4 St. James’ Xch Yard – see back April 20, 1815. Imposition.

Volume II: Baptisms, 1783-1829

	Parents	birth
1784		
April 4	William Mary Parker & Caesar Brown, negroes	Feb. 13, 1784
10	Louisa Flavia& James, slaves of Paul Zantzinger	5 months old
1786		
Jan. 1	Priscilla negro child Mary, slave of Robert Lockhart	
Feb. 14	Phobe a negro woman slave of William McCally	
July 9	James (negro) Flavia, a slave of Paul Zantzinger	Jan. 26, 1786
1787		
April 1	Susannah a negro girl Susannah, servant of Mr. Jacks	
1791		
Oct. 2	Sophia a mulatta	
1793		
July 12	Mazete A negro man of Robt. Reed’s	

1795

March 28 Mary (a black adult, slave to I. Richardson)
 Aug. 30 William (negro) 2 months Pleasants & Catherine Tolbert
 Nov. 1 Sarah 7 weeks Benjamin & Hannah Galloway

1796

Sept. 8 James 13 yrs. 6 mos. James & Betty Clendennen
 Nov. 13 Jeremiah Mabury | adult mulattos
 13 Catharine Maybury |
 13 Samuel 4 mos. 2 wk Jeremiah & Catherine Mabury
 Nov. 17 Nancy Carter (a negro Adult who answered for himself)
 17 William 4 months Charles & Nancy Carter
 18 Juliana 10 months Wm. & Phillis Crabb (negroes)
 18 Hannah 5 yrs. 6mos. John & Dinah Graves (negroes)

1799

Dec. 1 Letitia Charles Carter & Ann Nixon (Black people) in
 Lancaster

1800

Aug. 31 Jacob, born Aug. 23, 1787 Isaac/Charlotte: twins, born July 14,
 1793
 Elizabeth, born June 30, 1789 Joseph, born Jan. 19, 1795
 Jonathan, born June 18, 1791 Charles, born Dec. 5, 1795
 David, born Feb. 28, 1799

Parents: Isaac Gilmore and Charlotte, Black people; baptized in Lanc.
 in church

1802

March 21: Ann, born Aug. 24, 1796 Parents James Corsey and Ann, his
 James, born Nov. 19, 1799 wife. Black people
 Maria, born Dec. 10, 1800
 bapt. at Lancaster

1804?

Baptized 2 black children belonging to a black man by the name of
 Brown living at Gilmore's houses - to give me this man ages?
 Sept. 30: Sarah, born Nov. 13, 1803 black child (Lancaster)
 Nov. 11: Lydia, born Oct. 8, 1804; James Corsey and Ann, his wife, Black
 People in Lancaster.

1806

Ralph born August 18th 1806; baptized September 14, 1806 in Lancaster
 Parents: Isaac Gilmore and Charlotte, his wife.

1809

George – born March 8th ,1809
 Baptized April 10, 1809 Lancaster
 Parents: Stephen Lee and Dinah his wife

Violet ; a black child belonging to Miss Fanny Slough/Lancaster
 born May 1, 1805
 baptized Oct. 6, 1809 Lancaster
 Mother's name: Susan, a black woman who formerly lived in that family

John – born Oct. 21, 1809
 baptized: Dec. 17, 1809 Lancaster in the church
 Parents: Samuel Brown and Juliana Miller his wife

1810

Margaret Richardson, born 16th August 1810
 bapt.: Oct. 28th , 1810 Lancaster
 Parents: John Gray and Charlotte/late widow Gillmore/his wife

1811

Aron – born May 16th 1802 | *died next day
 Priscilla – born Sept. 19, 1804
 Bapt.: March 20, 1811 Lancaster
 Parents: Samuel Thompson and Mary/Brown/his wife
 Hannah: born Feb. 29, 1808
 William: born Oct. 9, 1809
 Bapt.: March 20th , 1811 in Lancaster
 Parents: Farmer Taylor [died Feby 1811]
 and Priscilla/Brown/ his wife

[note: Priscilla Taylor and Mary Thompson are sisters]

Samuel, born Sept. 20th, 1810
 Bapt.: May 26, 1811 Lancaster
 Parents: Stephen Lee and Dinah his wife

Ann – born April 20th 1811
 Bapt.: May 26, 1811 Lancaster
 Mother's name: Hannah Dobson, black woman served her time with
 Mr. Wm.Barton; Reputed father: Pearsy Hill, serving his time with Dr.
 Fahnestock

Samuel, born 12th July 1811 – black child
 Bapt. July 19th 1811 Lancaster

Parents: Samuel Brown and Juliana his wife

William, born June 18th 1811

Bapt. : September 3, 1811 Lancaster

Parents: William Bevis and Phoebe his wife, from Manheim

Charlotte, born Mach 9, 1804

Bapt.: Sept. 19, 1811 Lancaster

Mother's name: Tabith Burton; Reputed father William Reily
belonging to William Barton – bound

Eliza, born Sept. 5, 1811

Bapt.: Sept. 19, 1811 Lancaster

Mother's name Sarah Johnston

Reputed father: Willam Mackey

1812

Diana, born July 2nd 1812

Bapt. Aug. 9, 1812 Lancaster in ye Church

Parents: Samuel Brown and Juliana his wife

1813

Mary Ann – born Dec. 23, 1812

Bapt. Oct. 24, 1813 Lancaster

Parents: Stephen Lee and Dinah his wife/coloured or black people

Sarah, born 2nd Oct. 1810

Bapt. : Dec. 5, 1813 in Church in Lancaster

Parents: Valentine and Mary, his wife

Abraham McKenney a black man of Henry Skiley Senr., Pequea a black about 26 years and 9 months of age being born April 2nd 1787 – he says. Received Adult bapt. Dec. 26, 1813 in Lancaster Church. He then with Dinah Webster, a black woman his mother in law, stood for his child: John Webster – born Nov. 17, 1811. Baptized Dec. 26th 1813 – Lanc. Church. Parents: Abraham McKenney above and Mary/Hilton/his wife died this Fall. Both Dinah Webser late Hilton and John Webster, black man, her present husband, communicants in our Church stood for this child John Webster

John – an old negro man – from Guinea when about 10 or 12 years of age – brought up in the Penrose's Family in Philadelphia. Received adult baptism at the same time & place as above. Dec. 26, 1813.

About 60 years of age – very well informed on Baptism etc.

1814

James & Henry (twins) – born Jany 14, 1814
 Bapt. Jan. 15, 1814 Lancaster
 Parents: Lewis Sawyer and Harriet Steele (Mr. George Ross's black Man) married Febr. 14th , 1813

Ephraim, born: Jany10th , 1814
 Bapt.: April 10, 1814 Lancaster in church Easter Sunday
 Parents: Samuel Brown and Juliana his wife

Leah, a coloured girl belonging to Mr. Good, Mulatto about 14 years of age daughter of Phillis belonging to the Estate of the late Caleb Jones, Esq. deceased.
 Bapt. : Aug. 28, 1814 in Bangor

1815

Mary , born June 16, 1815
 Bapt. : July 27, 1815 Lancaster
 Parents: Robert Allen and Sinai (she lived 4 or 5 months with Mrs. Coleman 2 or 3 years ago, she says)

Mary Ann – born July 5, 1815
 Bapt. : Aug. 27, 1815 in Lancaster Church
 Parents: James Corsey and ()

William, born Oct. 4, 1815
 Bapt. Jan. 21, 1815 in Lancaster Church
 Parents; Samuel Brown and Juliana his wife

1816

Ann, wife of Sam. Axford
 recd. Adult baptism: March 8, 1816 Lancaster. Visited her – very ill with Consumption died the 18th buried the 20th March

Joseph C. born Nov. 5, 1815
 Bapt. : Sunday July 7, 1816 Lancaster
 Parents: Joseph Phillips and Ann Wright his wife, he farms for Mr. Saml. Slaymaker

1817

Ellen Derben – born Oct. 31, 1816
 Bapt.: Feb. 23, 1817 Sunday in Church (Lancaster)
 Parents: Stephen Johnson, coloured man, and Hannah his wife
 -he lives with Judge Franklin
 -she with Mr. Adam Reigart

Venus, a black child, born Feb. 5, 1817
 Bapt. March 24th, 1817, at my house sick
 Father's Name: Frank (?) aurel she was raised
 Mother dead – Venus

1818

Mary Ann, born Nov. 30, 1816: died soon after & was buried in our
 Yard St. James
 Bapt. May 11, 1818 – Lancaster
 Parents: John Atlee, coloured man and Eliza his wife

**Sarah, coloured woman, maiden name Groves – 28 years old.
 Recd. Adult baptism, May 11, 1818 Lancaster
 Husband's name: David Price , a labourer (idle, bad fellow)
 She died a few weeks after and was buried in the African Methodist
 yard.

Jacob, born June 10th 1818
 Bapt. : Nov. 15, 1818, Lancaster in church
 Parents: James CoseyorCorsey -- and

1819

Orrell – born Sept. 3, 1819
 Bapt. : Sept. 9, 1819 Lancaster (child ill)
 Parents: James Lee and Emely, his wife
 -belong to the African Methodists
 -he works for Mr. Henry Reigart

William, born Sept. 17, 1815
 Catharine, born Sept. 15, 1817
 Bapt. : Sept. 27, 1819 Lancaster
 Parents: Stephen Lee and Dinah/Brown/ his wife

1822

Charlotte, coloured woman, late Gilmore's widow since married to one
 Gray who died this last summer deranged in the hospital of this
 County. Received adult baptism Nov. 29, 1822 Lancaster
 About 51 years of age.

1823

Sampson-Smith, a coloured man about 36 years old
 Dinah, 36 years old, his wife, raised in old Mr. Archibald Henderson's
 Family
 -He Sampson lived with us when a boy

Received adult baptism at their own house, Pequea Feb. 2, 1823- Sunday
and their children

Nathaniel – born June 1810

Margaret – born April 2, 1818

Baptizd Feb. 2, 1823 Pequea

Parents as above

Sampson Smith and Dinah his wife

William De Gustus – born Nov. 22, 1822 (4 weeks old about Christmas)

Bapt. : August 15, 1823 – Lancaster, lower Queen Street

Parents: John Tompson and Margaret/Morris/ his weife

*** James Clendenin – a coloured man, quite respectable 67 years of age
born August 1756 – received adult baptism this 9th day of September
1823 – Lancaster

Volume III: Baptisms, 1828-1889

Apr. 28, 1829	Lewis (colored)	Apr. 21, 1829	Middleton & Mary Cooley
March 21, 1830	Rachel (Lyndal) colored woman	Adult	
Aug. 21, 1838	John	Apr. 8, 1835	Amos & Rose Ann Thomas
	Amos	Apr. 8, 1835	“
	Catherine Amelia	March 2, 1837	“
June 19, 1851	Horace	March 26, 1849	Henry & Tabitha Ransom
April 2, 1868	Nannie Pleasants		
	Charlie Pleasance	March 5, 1868	spons. by Dr. John & Catherine Atlee

March 25, 1882 at church :

Mary Jane Purvis an adult (deaf mute)

Sponsors: Mrs. H. A. Strachon Henry Winter Syle

Timothy Purvis, her brother

March 10, 1883 John Young aged about 35 yrs., Black. Witness: L. M. Hardy
C. F. Knight Rector

Sept. 21, 1884 At St. James Chapel: Mary Lillian, daughter of John
& Mary A. Stewart

by me: Lucius M. Hardy – Assistant.

Miscellaneous

John & Hannah April 17, 1785 free Negroes

A colored infant 2 or 3 days old bapt. Buried Dec. 1818

Caesar ca. 24 Baptized Jan. 17, 1800 Negro man belonging to Williams Evans

Sam married Hannah Bap. 1795 Negro man at Wilmington belongs to Mr. Lewden; the wife belongs to Mr. Geddes. Month/day not given. Last names not given.

Sam buried April 12, 1823 St. James Xch yard black boy of Mr. Passmore

Sarah bapt. Nov. 11, 1785. A slave of William Parr. A girl about 10 yrs.

Judy married London 9/2/1773 Negroes

Mary married Othello June 18, 1772 Negro

Tom married Catherine Aug. 11, 1773 Negro

A colored child buried 6/2/1811 Lancaster grave yard

Ann married James Miller 1/23/1796 Negro. At Wilmington. Wife's last name not given.

Catharine married Cato Freeman 6/11/1792 Negro at Philadelphia

Harry married ??? 1/16/1799

Leah ca. 14 yrs old bapt. 8/28/1814 in Bangor

Sammy buried 8/10/1814 in St. James Churchyard

Sarah born 11/13/1803 bapt. 9/30/1804 Negro

Sarah born 10/2/1810 bapt. 12/5/1813 Parents: Valentine & Mary in Lancaster Church

Elizabeth buried 12/2/1849 Negro adult

Rebecca buried 11/21/1834 Negro adult

Catharine married Tom 8/11/1773

Marriages performed outside Lancaster for Africans

? and Hannah		Philadelphia
George Roberts + Rosetta Williams	4/11/1790	"
Percy Lyson + Elizabeth Hamilton	6/10/1790	"
Thomas Field + Ann Jones	5/12/1791	"
Solomon Jones + Elizabeth Harman	12/28/1791	"
Anthony Woodward + Martha Burk	1/29/1792	"
Francis Peterson + Mary Steele	4/25/1792	"
Cato Freeman + Catherine	6/7/1792	"
Thomas Frederick + Belinda Caton	6/23/1792	"
Alex Mode + Ann Irvin	12/24/1792	Wilmington
James Paton + Chloe Dove	1/3/1793	
Robert George + Molly Jackson	4/21/1794	
George Charles + Eleanor Whittington	11/24/1794	
Sam – W. Lessdans" + Hannah – W. Geddes'	1795	
Jacob Shaevers + Catharena Johnson	1/7/1796	
James Miller + Ann	1/23/1797	
David (belonging to JospheReave) and Flora (belonging to Widow Wobaven)	4/11/1797	
Harry/ belonging to Mr. James Eves and ? /belong to Mr. Celem Eves	7/16/1799	