The session will start shortly. Please note:

- Your video and audio will automatically turn off.
- You can participate through the Q&A function.
- If you have technical difficulties, please email: collectionprograms@gilderlehrman.org so we can assist you.
Our Team

- Sandy Trenholm - Collection Director
- Corey Winchester - 2020 Illinois History Teacher of the Year
- Antuan Raimone - Universal Swing, *Hamilton*
- Zoya Siddiqui - Curatorial Intern
- Allison Kraft - Assistant Curator
During the Session

- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature, which is at the bottom of your screen.
- Viewing in full screen is recommended to see the presenters and the presentation at the same time.

For Security and Privacy

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.
Purpose

Using resources from the Gilder Lehrman Collection, we will

- Look critically at how slavery is portrayed in historical sources
- Recognize the biases in primary sources and how to interpret them
- Understand how to find value and insight in flawed sources
“Lives of the Enslaved” Self-Paced Course

- Twelve sessions led by Professor Daina Ramey Berry
- Primary source readings that supplement Professor Berry’s lectures
- A certificate of completion for 15 hours of professional development credit
Today’s Resources

- Photographs & Engravings
- Documentation from the Waverly & Meredith plantations
- *Twelve Years a Slave*

Gilder Lehrman Collection
Images

When using a primary source, ask what message it is trying to convey.

- Who created it?
- Who is the audience?
- Why was it created?
- What is the symbolism and/or tone?
- When was it created?

Part of a series of photographs produced to raise money for the education of emancipated people.

Gilder Lehrman Collection
"Isaac White is a black boy of eight years; but none the less intelligent than his whiter companions. He has been in school about seven months, and I venture to say that not one boy in fifty would have made as much improvement in that space of time."

- *Harper’s Weekly*, January 30, 1864

"Rosina Downs is not quite seven years old. She is a fair child, with blonde complexion and silky hair. Her father is in the rebel army. She has one sister as white as herself, and three brothers who are darker. Her mother, a bright mulatto, lives in New Orleans in a poor hut, and has hard work to support her family."

- *Harper’s Weekly*, January 30, 1864
In 1853, a plantation owner named William Lambeth died.

His property was being sold to settle the estate.

The front page of this document provides the details of the sale.
Using documents

What can we learn from this resource?

- Names, ages, and familial relationships help us connect to people of the past and recognize them as individuals.
- Medical conditions give us insight into people’s lives.

What are the challenges?

- Language of bias
- Objectification
TERMS.

One-third cash, and the remainder at 12 months’ credit, for approved city paper, bearing vendor’s lien and mortgage on the Slaves, and eventual interest of 8 per cent. in case of non-payment at maturity. All sales to be completed within ten days from adjudication, or the Slaves will be re-sold for account and risk of the former purchaser after ten days’ advertisement in one city paper, and without further notice or other putting in default.

No slave delivered until the terms of sale are complied with, but will be at the risk of the purchasers from adjudication. The slaves will be sold singly, and when in families, together. They can be seen three days previous to sale, on application at the office of the Auctioneers, No. 8 Banks’ Arcade.

Including the statement that the people should be sold in families.
Enslaved People from Waverly & Meredith
### Families at the Waverly Plantation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FAMILY 1</th>
<th>FAMILY 2</th>
<th>FAMILY 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Frank Bond, 45 years, good teamster and field hand.</td>
<td>53. Jane Saunders, 37 years, fine field hand, (pregnant.)</td>
<td>59. Tom Coleman, 49, fine field hand, bone black burner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Eliza, 35 years, choice field hand.</td>
<td>54. Henry, 2 years.</td>
<td>[womb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Louisa, 4 years.</td>
<td>56. Minta, 9 years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Harriet, 6 years.</td>
<td>57. Gabriel, 3 years.</td>
<td>59. Tom Coleman, 49, fine field hand, bone black burner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Mary Jane, 9 years.</td>
<td>58. Martha, 12 years.</td>
<td>[womb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Washington, 11 years, likely boy.</td>
<td>59. Tom Coleman, 49, fine field hand, bone black burner.</td>
<td>59. Tom Coleman, 49, fine field hand, bone black burner.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Caroline, 14 years, likely intelligent girl.</td>
<td>ONE FAMILY—(Excellent, well disposed &amp; conditioned in every respect.)</td>
<td>ONE FAMILY—(No better family.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Margaret, 16 years, choice field hand.</td>
<td>10. Adam, 40 years, No. 1 field hand, fine axeman, Sawyer and [hewer.</td>
<td>62. Wm. Morris, 29, fine teamster, field hand, faithful, good serv’t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Sophia, 2 years.</td>
<td>13. Westley, 4 years.</td>
<td>64. Lucy, 1 year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Sidney, 8 years.</td>
<td>15. Charlotte, 10 years, sprightly girl.</td>
<td>65. Henrietta, 4 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Jeff preserved, 12 years, smart boy.</td>
<td>17. Albert, 17 years, field hand and teamster.</td>
<td>66. Rose, 6 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Anthony Moore, about 30 years, fine engineer and field hand.</td>
<td>ONE FAMILY.</td>
<td>67. Samuel, 10 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Sarah Moore, 32 years, good field hand; tonsils occasionally [inflamed.</td>
<td>20. Infant, 2 months.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Nace, 9 years.</td>
<td>24. Sophy, 12 years, likely.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Jack Turner, about 40, splendid teamster and field hand, slight [ly affected with gleet.</td>
<td>ONE FAMILY.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Susan, 35 years, good field hand.</td>
<td>27. Infant, 3 months.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Bazil, 2 years.</td>
<td>29. Rachel, about 5 years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Spencer, 8 years.</td>
<td>31. Edy, 10 years, sprightly girl.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32.</td>
<td>ONE FAMILY.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Philips, 32 years, excellent vacuum-pan sugar maker; good cooper, fine field hand, axeman and excellent servant.</td>
<td>75. Philips, 32 years, excellent vacuum-pan sugar maker; good cooper, fine field hand, axeman and excellent servant.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76. Doll, 42 years, asthmatic.</td>
<td>77. Elly, 6 years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78. Roselia, 12 years, fine girl.</td>
<td>79. Abram, 19 years, feeble mind.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80. John Henry, 23 years, good field hand and teamster.</td>
<td>81. John Henry, 23 years, good field hand and teamster.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Solomon Northup, 1808 - ?

- Solomon Northup was born in upstate New York.
- He was a laborer and professional violinist.
- In 1841, he was offered a job in Washington, DC, where he was kidnapped and sold into slavery.
- He was enslaved in Louisiana for twelve years first by William Ford and later by Edwin Epps.
- Epps was notoriously cruel, which is shown in detail in Northup’s memoir.
After more than 10 years, Northup met Samuel Bass, a white carpenter from Canada who promised to try to get word of Northup’s enslavement back to his family.

Bass was successful, and in 1853, Northup’s friends and family were able to secure his freedom.

Northup’s memoir, *Twelve Years a Slave*, was published in 1853.
“An hour before day light the horn is blown. Then the slaves arouse, prepare their breakfast, fill a gourd with water, in another deposit their dinner of cold bacon and corn cake, and hurry to the field again. It is an offense invariably followed by a flogging, to be found at the quarters after daybreak....” p. 171
“The hands are required to be in the cotton field as soon as it is light in the morning, and, with the exception of ten or fifteen minutes, which is given them at noon to swallow their allowance of cold bacon, they are not permitted to be a moment idle until it is too dark to see, and when the moon is full, they often times labor till the middle of the night. They do not dare to stop even at dinner time, nor return to the quarters, however late it be, until the order to halt is given by the driver....”

p. 167
“Finally, at a late hour, they reach the quarters, sleepy and overcome with the long day’s toil. All that is allowed them is corn and bacon, which is given out at the corn-crib and smoke-house every Sunday morning. Each one receives, as his weekly allowance, three and a half pounds of bacon, and corn enough to make a peck of meal. That is all.” p. 168
Q&A
Upcoming Programs

● Nominate a teacher for History Teacher of the Year!
  ○ K-12 teachers in each of the 50 states, District of Columbia, Department of Defense Schools, and US Territories are eligible. These winners are then entered into a pool for the National History Teacher of the Year award.

● Inside the Vault, Thursday, February 4 at 7 pm ET (4 pm PT)
  ○ We will be discussing primary sources by Phillis Wheatley and Elizabeth Keckley.

● Book Breaks, January 24 at 2 pm ET (11 am PT)

● Visit gilderlehrman.org for free resources for students, teachers, families, and history enthusiasts of all ages.