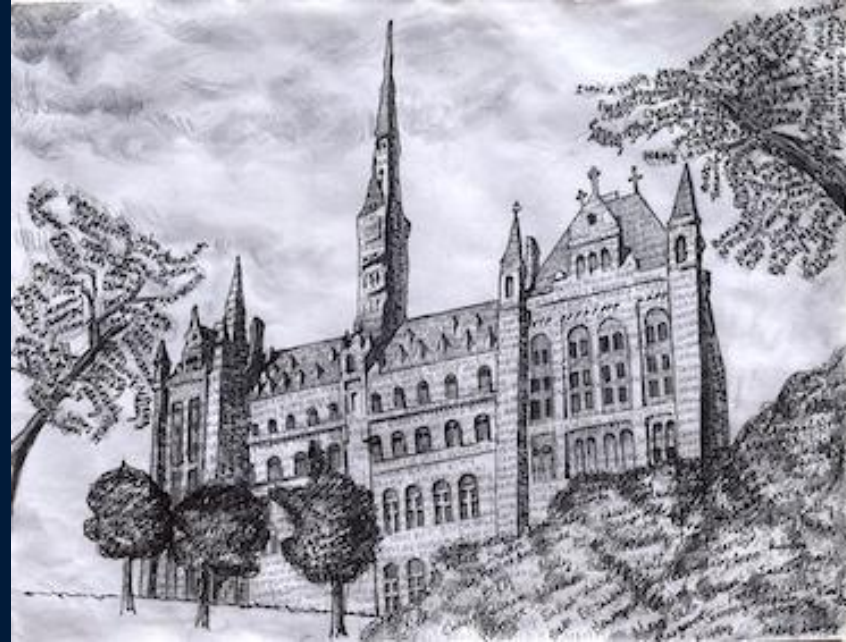


# Identifying Enslaved and Freed Black Individuals in the Records at Georgetown

Virtual Workshop  
February 22, 2026  
5:00-6:30

Mary Beth Corrigan (she/her)  
Librarian for Collections on Slavery, Memory, and  
Reconciliation  
Booth Family Center for Special Collections  
[mc248@georgetown.edu](mailto:mc248@georgetown.edu)



Art credit: "Write Their Names," Joy Kang (SFS '24)

*GEORGETOWN*  
*UNIVERSITY*

**LIBRARY**

This session will be recorded:

I ask participants to mute themselves during my presentation.

I will stop to take questions three times, twice during the session and once at the end of the session. During these Q & A sessions, I will pause recording.

Use the chat feature to raise questions

You can protect your privacy by removing your name

*Begin recording*

# Mary Beth Corrigan

**Librarian for Collections on Slavery, Memory, and Reconciliation**

**Booth Family Center for Special Collections**

My role is to identify and make accessible the collections related to the history of slavery and racism. I support classroom instruction and work with community groups interested in the history of slavery and racism at Georgetown.

**Contact me:**

**[mc248@georgetown.edu](mailto:mc248@georgetown.edu)**

**Available for individual consultations**



# Virtual Workshop Objectives

- Introduce researchers to the sources available at Georgetown that can help them discover the names of their ancestors
- Discuss records created during the slavery-era and the late 19th-century that can help you find your ancestors
- Identify the best access points for the discovery of the names of enslaved and freed Black individuals
- Explain how to use the house records within the Maryland Province Archives

# Archival Resources held by Georgetown University

## *Jesuit collections*

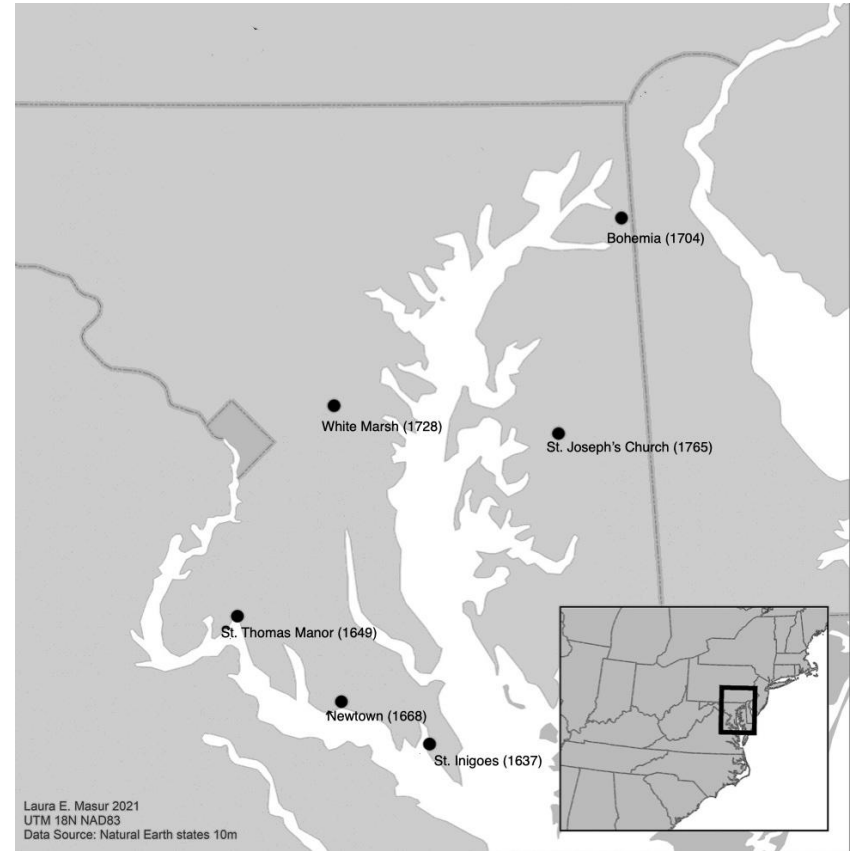
- Archives of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus
  - House records (records of individual communities) – sacramental records and financial records
  - Plantation financial records – ledgers, deeds, and tenant contracts
- Woodstock College Archives
  - Records of St. Alphonsus Rodriguez– St. Peter Claver

## *Georgetown University Archives*

- Georgetown College Financial Records
- Philodemic Society

# Mission-Plantations of Maryland

- Jesuit established missions to serve wealthy Catholic colonizers and evangelize among indigenous people
- Engaged in imperial trade to support their missions
- Participated in tobacco production dependent upon racial slavery by late 17th century
- Jesuits evangelized among those enslaved by Catholics (particularly the Jesuits)
- Adapted this financial plan to the founding of Georgetown College



# Jesuit Presence in Maryland, 1763-1974

1763 – Frederick house founded

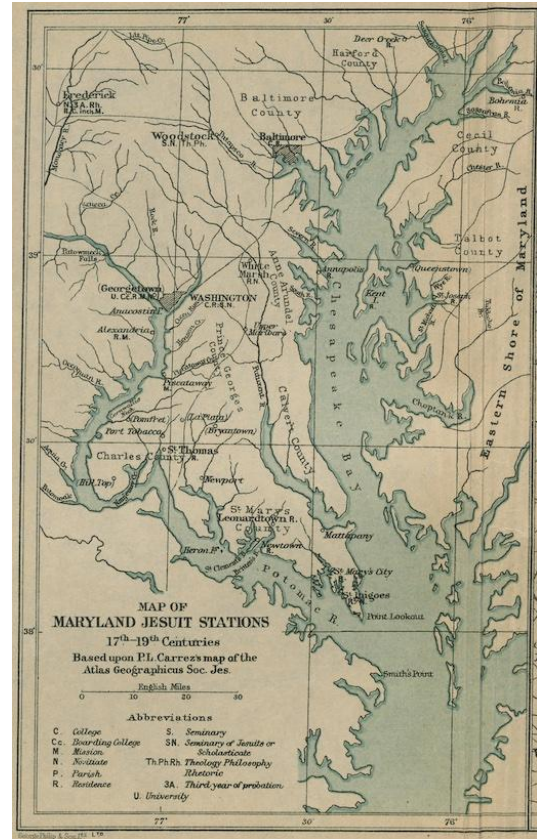
1789 – Georgetown College founded

1834 – St. Stanislaus Novitiate founded in Frederick

1869 – Woodstock College founded

1903 – Novitiate moved to Poughkeepsie

1974 – Woodstock College closed



White Marsh Farm	White Marsh	St. Thomas's Manor	Newtown continued	St. Inagoes mill	St. Inagoes mill
Isaac about 35 yrs	Nelly	Charles 37 yrs	Sharon 26	Henny (m <sup>o</sup> off) 25	Walt 1 45
Charles Isaac son 25	Joseph his son 24	Benedict 55	Isabella his daughter 7	Cornelia 11	Barney, his son 1 42
Nelly his daughter 33	Nelly his daughter 15	Len Luss 25	Perry his wife 22	Annabella 5	Frank 1 20
Henny Nelly daughter 13	Hetty his daughter 23	Sam 30	Isabel 24	Elizabeth 7	Sam 1 10
Oratia do do 2 <sup>d</sup> 5	Henry his daughter 36	John Butler 25	Rose Anne his wife 22	Billy 6	Rochael 1 11
Ruthy do do 3 <sup>d</sup> 6	Sam his son 24	John Boyle 21	Charlotte 23	Biby 5	Alexander 1 10
Patrick Isaac's son 25	Elizabeth do daughter 1	George 65	Henny m <sup>o</sup> off 25	Hannet 5	Charlotte 3 7

Georgetown Slavery Archive can help with searches of financial records of Southern Maryland plantations and Georgetown College. The finding aids available through the portal Georgetown University Archival Resources can help you access parish records and post-1838 materials.

Isaac Isaac's son 26	Sammy	1) Matilda 3 daughters	Retta 15	Bill Bush 25	Hetty 253
Nelly his wife 28	Betsy	2) Nelly 1 son & daughter	Rebecca 17	Regis (m <sup>o</sup> off) 25	Peter (m <sup>o</sup> off) 257
Isaac Isaac's son 5	Austin his son	3) Margaret 1 daughter	Melby 15	Phil 203	John 22
Isaac do do 4	Joseph	4) Wipry 2 sons & daughter	Lucy Ann 2 11	Nelly his wife 253	Michael m <sup>o</sup> off 253
Abbas do do 13	Hemietta	5) Celestia	Isabel Luciana 11	Lewis 211	Ed 1 30
Sally about 36	Hannet Anne	6) Henny	Dina 5	Gusty 28	Sally 56

## Use the GSA before searching manuscript sources

The lists of people in the Jesuits accounting records provide information that can help you use the pastoral records:

- names
- approximate age
- family members
- enslavers
- connections to place (both points of origin and destination)

Legal records provide surnames: bills of sale, mortgage documents, ship passenger lists

[List of people considered for sale by the Jesuits, 1837-1838](#)



Curated collection of approximately 450 documents of slavery found in archival collections

- Edited by Professor Adam Rothman and associate editor Elsa Barraza Mendoza (G '21) with the assistance of graduate students
- Initially prioritized documents of the 1838 sale and slavery at Georgetown College
- Includes documents of slavery at Jesuit plantations (1715-1864)
- Records drawn from Booth and external repositories
- Selected documents are digitized, presented with descriptions and transcripts

# Scope of materials surveyed

## *Financial records for plantations and Georgetown College*

- Daybooks
- account books
- inventories (lists of people claimed in ownership)

## *Legal records*

- bills of sales
- deeds/contracts
- mortgage agreements

## *Correspondence*

- authorizations of property transactions
- reports by Jesuits on the enslaved community

## *Federal and state records*

- ship passenger lists
- tax assessment reports

## *Newspaper advertisements*

## *Sacramental and house records*

## *Student and Faculty projects*



*The Georgetown Slavery Archive*

Menu

The Georgetown Slavery Archive is a repository of materials relating to the Maryland Jesuits, Georgetown University, and slavery. This project was initiated in February 2016 by the Archives Subgroup of the [Georgetown University Working Group on Slavery, Memory, and Reconciliation](#) and is part of [Georgetown University's Slavery, Memory, and Reconciliation](#) initiative. Our research is ongoing.

Follow us on Twitter at [@GUSlavery](#) for news and updates.

**FEATURED ITEM**  
*The Margaret, 1718*

Records of the slave ship *Margaret* out of London, which transported more than 100 captive Africans from Bunce Island to Annapolis in 1718. (Click here...)

Georgetown Slavery Archive home page viewed on phone

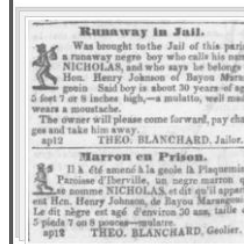
# Collections in the GSA

A collection is a group of documents that share the same theme. The GSA editors have designated six collections

Facilitates browsing the documents within the collection

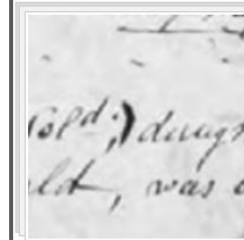
Enables researchers to focus their document searches within collections

The Maryland Province's enslaved community in Louisiana, and their descendants



[View the items in The Maryland Province's enslaved community in Louisiana, and their descendants](#)

Slavery at Georgetown College



[View the items in Slavery at Georgetown College](#)

Slavery in the Maryland Province



Georgetown Slavery Archive collections viewed on phone

# GSA Items

GSA uses a descriptive standard that is common for digital collections

Includes title, description, subjects, date

Provides full source information with links to the source

Transcription of document

Translation of document (if not written in English)

Digital image of the document



Georgetown Slavery Archive item viewed on phone

## Using the search bar to discover names

*The Georgetown Slavery Archive*

- Returns entries that includes *the names exactly as written in all fields* of each entry
- Note that the descriptions of each document often humanizes the subjects of the documents
- Use this search bar if you want returns that cut across time periods and places
- It might be helpful to print the GSA entry as a .pdf to facilitate searching within a document.

# Advanced Search

Access Advanced Search by clicking option below the search bar or by accessing a community

May limit searches to

- field (property Dublin Core)
- Collection

Bugs related to inconsistencies in the entry of fields

## SEARCH ITEMS

[Browse All](#) [Browse by Tag](#) **Search Items** [Browse Map](#)

---

Search for Keywords

Narrow by Specific Fields  
Remove field  
Property   
Type   
Terms

Search by a range of ID#s (example: 1-4, 156, 79)

Search By Collection

Search By Type

Search By Tags

Featured/Non-Featured

Search by Exhibit

Geolocation Status

Geographic Address

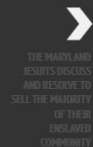
Geographic Radius (miles)



Georgetown Slavery Archive

# THE SALE OF THE MARYLAND JESUITS' ENSLAVED COMMUNITY IN 1838: A TIMELINE

A detailed timeline of the sale of two hundred and seventy-two men, women and children sold by the Maryland Jesuits in 1838. (Author: Alana Hendy)



THE MARYLAND  
JESUITS' DECISION  
AND RESOLVE TO  
SELL THE MAJORITY  
OF THEIR  
ENSLAVED  
COMMUNITY

The bulk of the materials were created during the national era before emancipation (1783-1865)

[List of documents](#) organized chronologically

[“The Sale of the Maryland Jesuits’ Enslaved Community in 1838: A Timeline”](#) compiled by Alana Hendy (SFS ‘21)

# Questions?

(Pause recording)

# Resume Recording

# The Records of Jesuit Houses

Comprise approximately 30% of the MPA. The term house is interchangeable with station or community. From the seat of each house, the Jesuits travelled to their missions to work.

Between 2020 and 2023, Booth staff digitized all materials dated before 1900; since that time we have added materials (dated 1900 through 1940) that are important for reconciliation efforts.

[Series 4: Records of the Houses](#) consists of the records of pastoral activities of each house, as distinct from the records of plantations. Each house is a subseries thereunder.

Georgetown received these records from disparate sources so that, for most houses, the records are fragmentary.



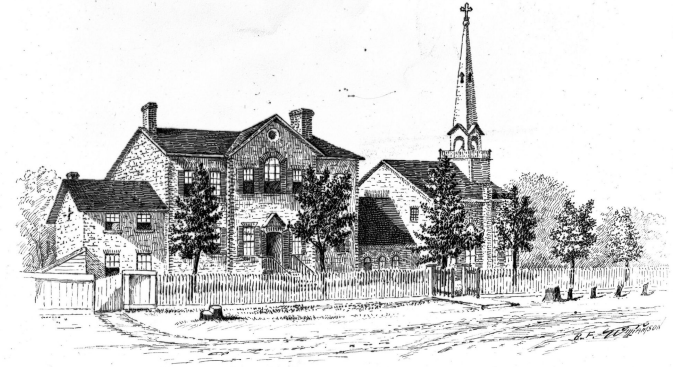
St. Michael's Church, seat of the Ridge House, n.d.  
John Brosnan Photograph Collection, Woodstock College  
Archives

# Scope of the House Records

Most of the house records are dated between 1800 and 1940.

Diaries, announcement books, financial records (including donor records and pew rent books), sacramental registers

Individual priests often maintained their own records; some are included in the house series and others in individual priests collections.



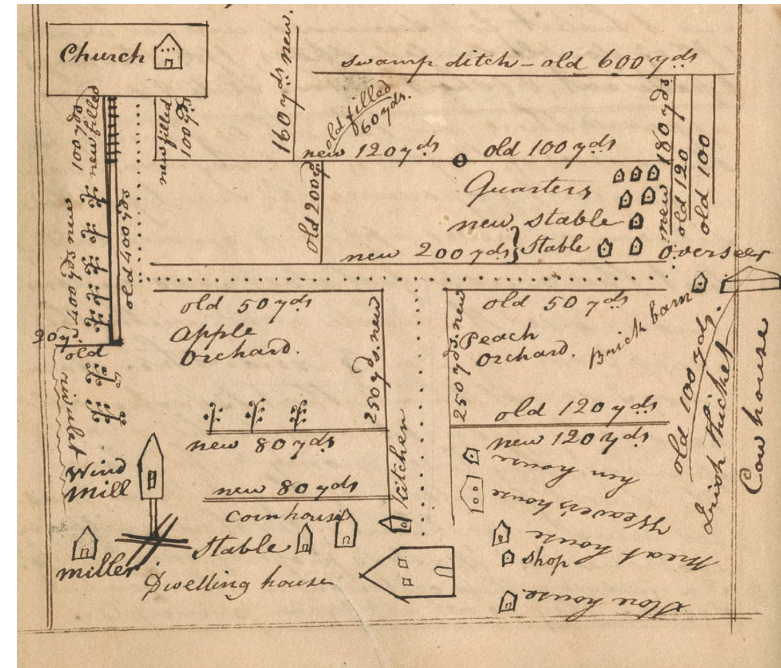
Ink drawing of St. Thomas Manor grounds, including St. Ignatius Church, Chapel Point  
[John Brosnan, S.J., Photograph Collection](#)  
Woodstock College Archives

# Geographic scope and subseries

The records of each house comprise a subseries with the exception of houses on the Eastern Shore and in Washington, D.C. This includes houses transferred from one location to another.

Every scope and content note includes a list of churches with the dates served by Jesuits, notes about transfer from the Jesuits, and present-day Archdiocese.

Note that items with general titles (e.g., Diary, Announcement Books) record events at all missions; those that specify places in titles are records of that institution.

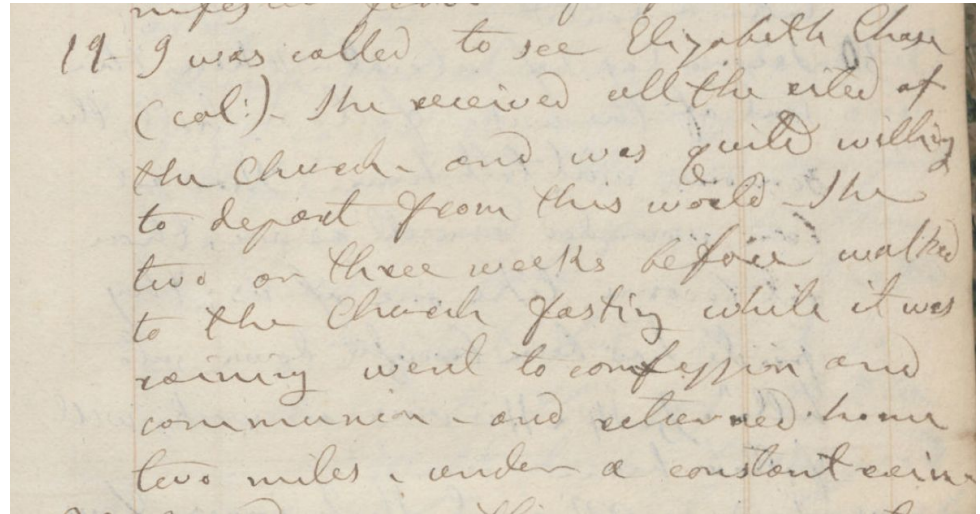


Hand drawn map of St. Inigoes showing location of church, slave cabins, and plantation, c. 1823  
[Joseph Mobberly, S.J., Papers](#)

## House diaries

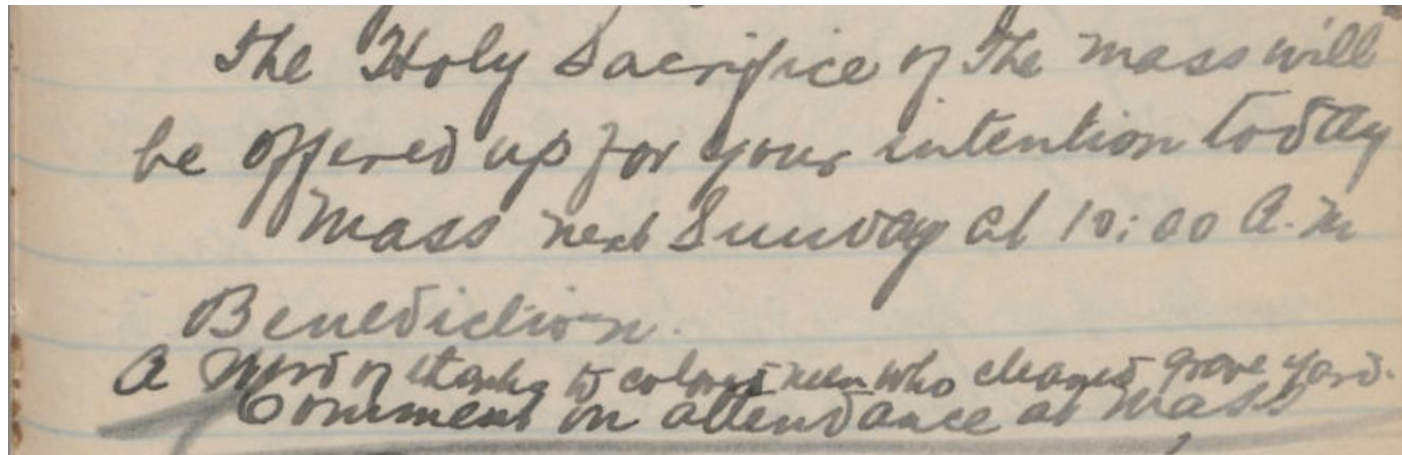
January 19, 1875

I was called to see Elizabeth Chase (col). She received all the rites of the church and was quite willing to depart from this world. She two or three weeks before walked to the church fasting while it was raining went to confession and communion and \_ returned home two miles \_ under a constant rain.



**Excerpt on the rites given to Elizabeth Chase**  
**[St. Ingoes House Diary, 1839-1881](#), recorded by**  
**Livy Vigilante, S.J.**

## Announcement Books

A photograph of a handwritten note on lined paper. The text is written in cursive and reads: "The Holy Sacrifice of the mass will be offered up for your intention today. Mass next Sunday at 10:00 A.M. Benediction. A word of thanks to colored men who cleaned grave yard. Comment on attendance at Mass." The note is slightly aged and has some ink bleed-through from the reverse side.

The Holy Sacrifice of the mass will  
be offered up for your intention today  
Mass next Sunday at 10:00 A.M.  
Benediction.  
A word of thanks to colored men who cleaned grave yard.  
Comment on attendance at Mass.

“A word of thanks to colored men who cleaned grave yard.  
Comment on attendance at Mass.” (November 3, 1929)

[Newtown Announcement Book, 1927-1930, 1934-1936](#)

# Church Records and Registers

Individual parishes are the principal repositories of sacramental records; after parishes close, the Archdiocesan Archives takes the records.

The house records include:

- Missions that were never recognized by the Archdiocese
- House ministers were primary creators, but in some cases, they include records created by individual priests
- Church records mistakenly recorded in house register (leakage).

Relative to the church records for Southern Maryland as a whole, our holdings are relatively insubstantial. But for people descended from the GU272, they are highly consequential.

Subject Term Type

Genre / Form

Church records and registers

# Registers from Southern Maryland and Eastern Shore

- [Register by Joseph Mosely, S.J., 1760-1802](#) (bulk: St. Joseph's Church; [transcript](#))
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1794 - 1816](#) (Baptisms, Marriages, Burials)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1819 - 1835](#) (Baptisms, Marriages, Burials; [transcript excerpt](#))
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1836 - 1841](#) (Baptisms, St. Joseph's)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1836 - 1852](#) (Baptisms, Marriages, Confirmations, St. John's)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1839 - 1844](#) (Baptisms, Marriages)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1843 - 1844](#) (Baptisms)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1843 - 1853](#) (Baptisms, Marriages)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1843 - 1853](#) (Baptisms)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1844 - 1931](#) (Baptisms, Marriages, Burials)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1849 - 1853](#) (Baptisms, Our Lady's Chapel of Medley Neck)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1853 - 1855](#) (Baptisms, St. Joseph's)
- [Newtown Sacramental Register, 1853-1855](#) (Baptisms, Marriages with indices, Burials)
- [St. Thomas Manor, Sacramental Register, 1827 - 1832](#) (Baptisms, Marriages, Burials)
- [St. Thomas Manor Sacramental Register, 1862 - 1872](#) (Baptismal Register with indices)
- [White Marsh, Sacramental Register, 1818 - 1897](#) ([partial transcript with index](#))

# Baptismal Records

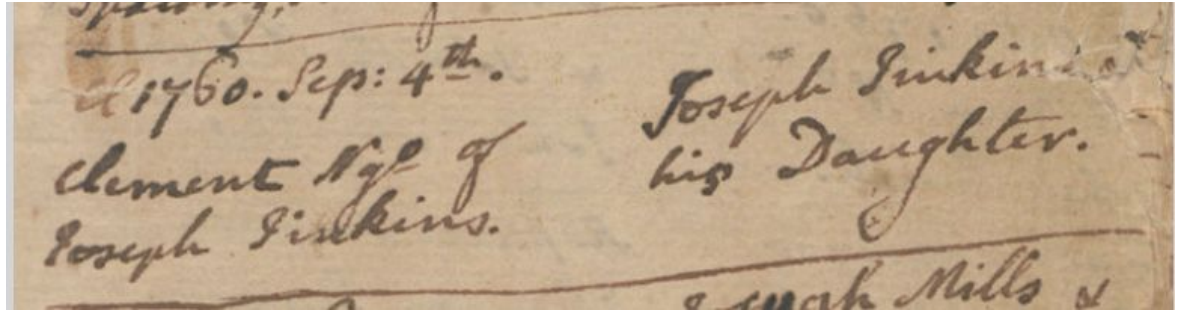
1760. Sep. 4th

"Clement Nye of Joseph Jinkins"

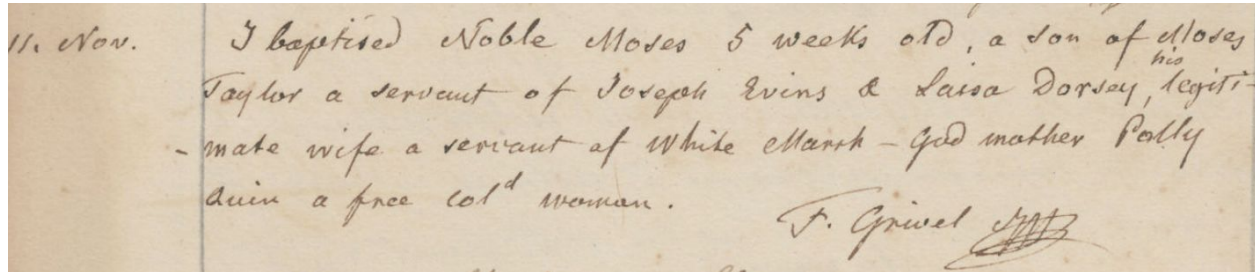
Godparents: Joseph Jinkins & his daughter

[Register by Joseph Mosely, S.J.](#),

1760-1802



1760. Sep: 4<sup>th</sup>.  
Clement Nye of  
Joseph Jinkins.  
Joseph Jinkins  
his Daughter.



11. Nov. I baptise Noble Moses 5 weeks o<sup>r</sup> D, a son of Moses Taylor a servant of Joseph Evins & Laisa Dorsey, <sup>his</sup> legit-  
-mate wife a servant of White Marsh - God mother Polly Quin a free col<sup>d</sup> woman.  
T. Grivel

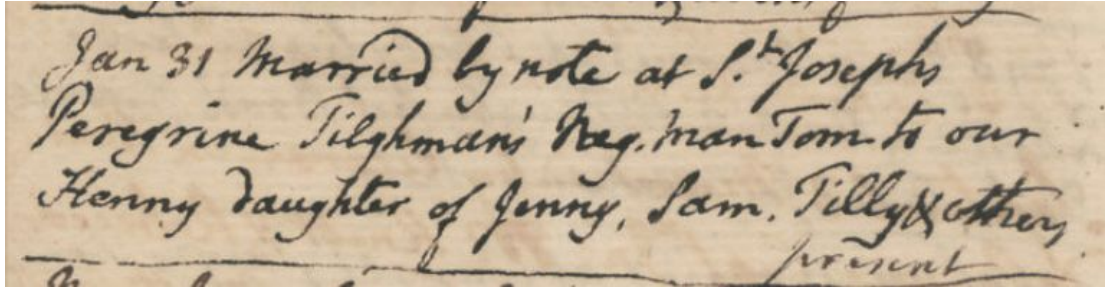
Baptism of Noble Moses Taylor

Son of Joseph Evins & Laisa Dorsey (servant at White Marsh)

Godmother Polly Quin (free black woman)

[White Marsh Sacramental Register, 1818-1897](#)

# Marriage Records



Jan 31 Married by note at S.<sup>t</sup> Josephs  
Peregrine Tilghman's neg. man Tom to our  
Henny daughter of Jenny, Sam. Tilly & others  
present

Jan 31 [1798] "Married by note of St. Josephs Peregrine Tilghman's neg. Man Tom to our Henny daughter of Jenny. Sam. Tilly & others present

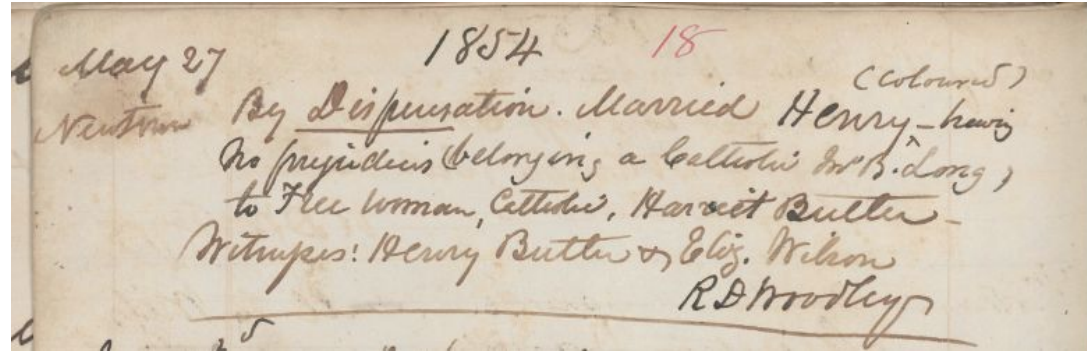
[Register by Joseph Mosely, S.J., 1760-1802](#)

May 27, 1854 (Newtown)

"By Dispensation married Henry (colored) having no prejudices (belonging to a Catholic Jno. B. Long) to Free woman, Catholic, Harriet Butler  
Witnesses: Henry Butler & Eliz. Wilson

R.D. Woodley

[Newtown Sacramental Register, 1853-1855](#)

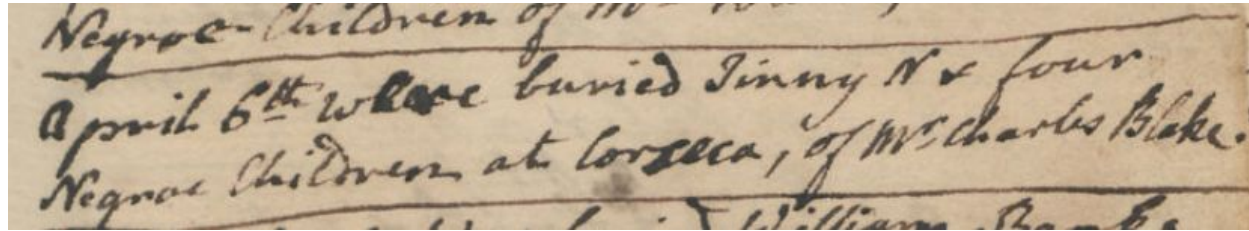


May 27 1854 18  
Newtown By Dispensation. Married Henry (colored)  
no prejudices (belonging a Catholic Mr B. Long)  
to Free woman, Catholic, Harriet Butler  
Witnesses: Henry Butler & Eliz. Wilson  
R.D. Woodley

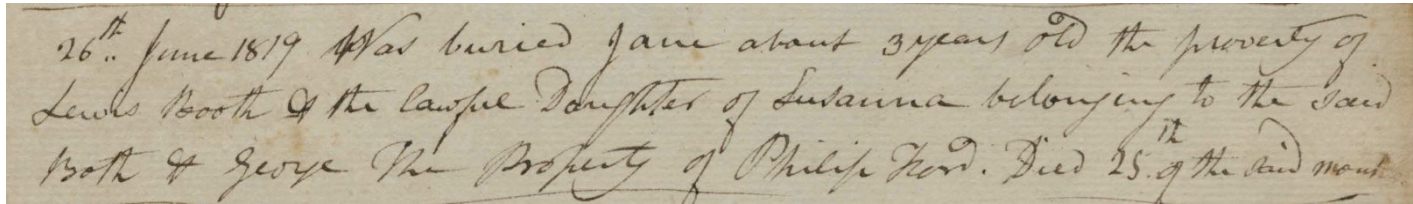
# Burial Records

April 6th [1767] were buried Jinny N & four  
Negroe Children at Corseca, of Mr. Charles  
Blake

[Register by Joseph Mosely, S.J., 1760-1802](#)



Negro-Children of Mr. [unclear]  
April 6<sup>th</sup> were buried Jinny N & four  
Negroe Children at Corseca, of Mr. Charles Blake.



26<sup>th</sup> June 1819 Was buried Jane about 3 years old the property of  
Lewis Booth & the lawful Daughter of Susanna belonging to the said  
Booth & George the Property of Philip Ford. Died 25<sup>th</sup> of the said month.

26th June 1819 Was buried Jane about 3 years old the property of Lewis  
Booth & the lawful daughter of Susanna belonging to the said Booth &  
George the property of Philip Ford. Died 25th of said month.

[Newtown Sacramental Register, 1819-1835](#)

# Questions?

(pause recording)

# Resume Recording

# House Financial Records

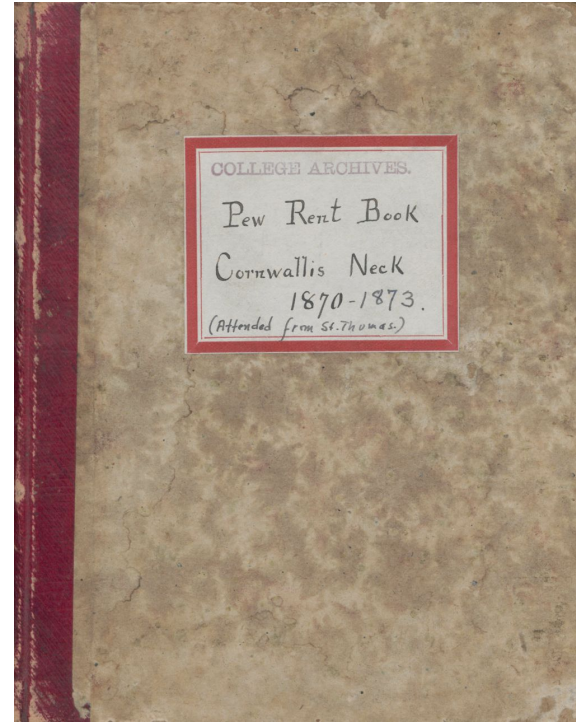
## Record types

- Daybook
- Expense or Receipts Journal
- Account book
- Records book

## Specialized transactions

- Pew rent registers
- Donor books
- Graveyard records

## Relationship to Procurator records



[St. Charles Church, Cornwallis Neck, Pew Rent book, 1870-1873](#)

# Records of St. Alphonsus Church

## Woodstock College Archives



May Procession, 1927

St. Peter Claver Society Sunday School

[Diary of St. Peter Claver's Sunday School , 1886-1887; 1901-1906; 1921; 1927; 1930](#)

Records of St. Peter Claver Sunday School, 1886-1928

- Diaries, attendance books, catechism class

Sodality records

- League of Sacred Heart, 1922-1928
- St. Peter Claver Sodality, 1889-1922
- St. Peter Claver's Beneficial Society, 1891-1914

# Using the name index to St. Peter Claver Records



Alfred Marshall, Jr.  
John Brosnan, SJ, Photograph Collection, [Woodstock College Archives](#)

Each volume is described individually and includes a note “Additional Description”

Individuals are listed with their surname, given name

Every instance is given a single entry and a date

## Other sources to consider

[Archives of the Maryland Province of the Society of Jesus](#)

[Holy Trinity Church Archives](#)

[Slavery, Memory, and Reconciliation – Library Resources](#)

[Digital Projects \(Jesuit Plantation Project\)](#)

[Descendants](#)

# Church records

## Seats of the houses

- Newtown – St. Francis Xavier (Compton)
- St. Inigoes – St. Ignatius (St. Inigoes)
- St. Thomas Manor – St. Ignatius (Bel Alton)
- Bohemia – St. Francis Xavier (Warwick)
- White Marsh – Sacred Heart (Bowie)
- St. Joseph's Church (Cordova)

**All are welcome to visit the Booth Family Center  
for Special Collections or contact me for a  
consultation.**

**Mary Beth Corrigan**  
**[mc248@georgetown.edu](mailto:mc248@georgetown.edu)**  
**202-687-7614**

End Recording