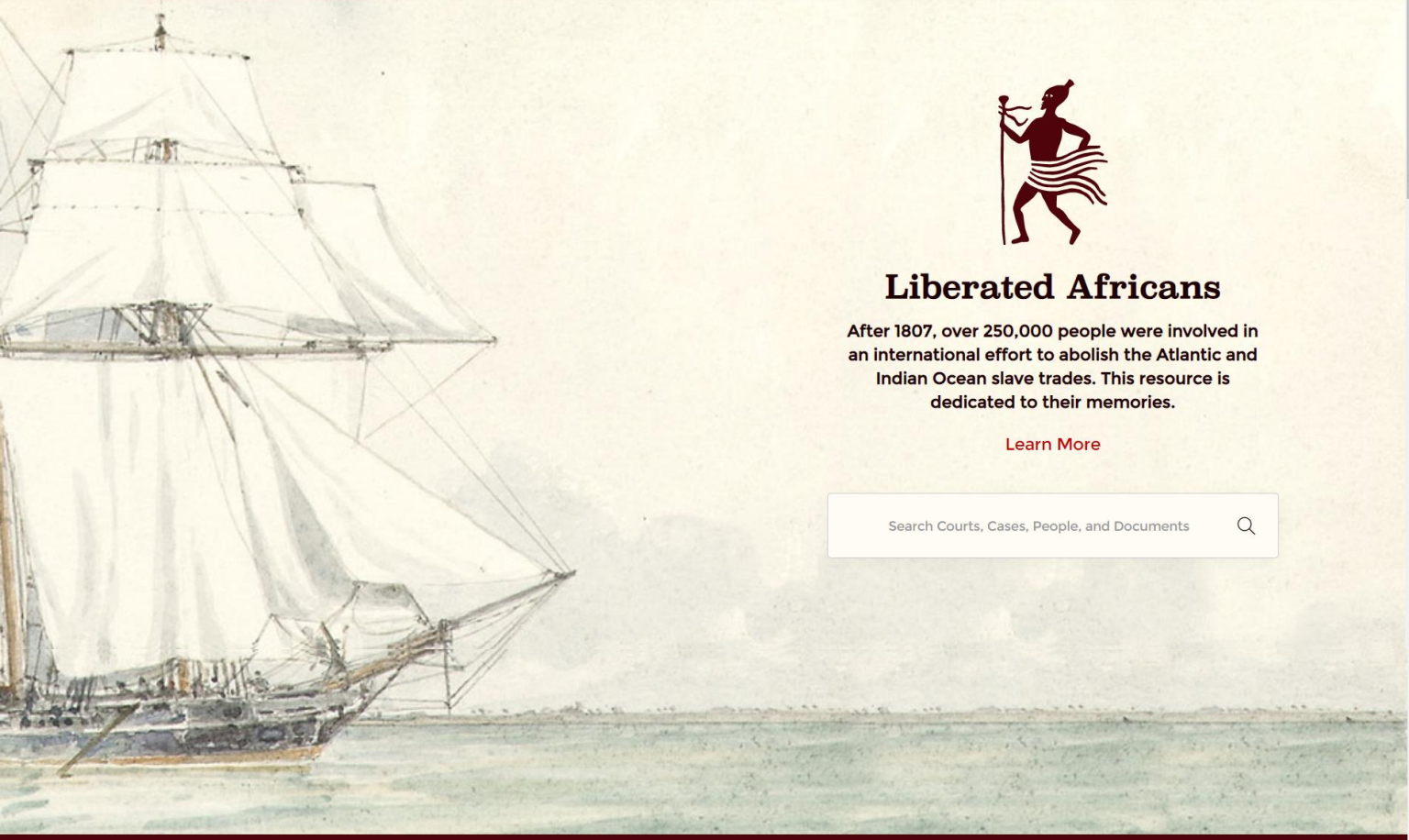




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<b>Document Title</b>	Design and Content Placement
<b>Reference to</b>	Liberated Africans (Proof of Concept) – Developed by MSU Matrix
<b>Document Created by</b>	Renee Lefebvre; Kartikay Chadha (Supervised)
<b>Last Updated</b>	Jan 11, 2021 – Renee Lefebvre



# Liberated Africans

After 1807, over 250,000 people were involved in an international effort to abolish the Atlantic and Indian Ocean slave trades. This resource is dedicated to their memories.

[Learn More](#)

Browse Liberated Africans According to the Following Categories



Courts



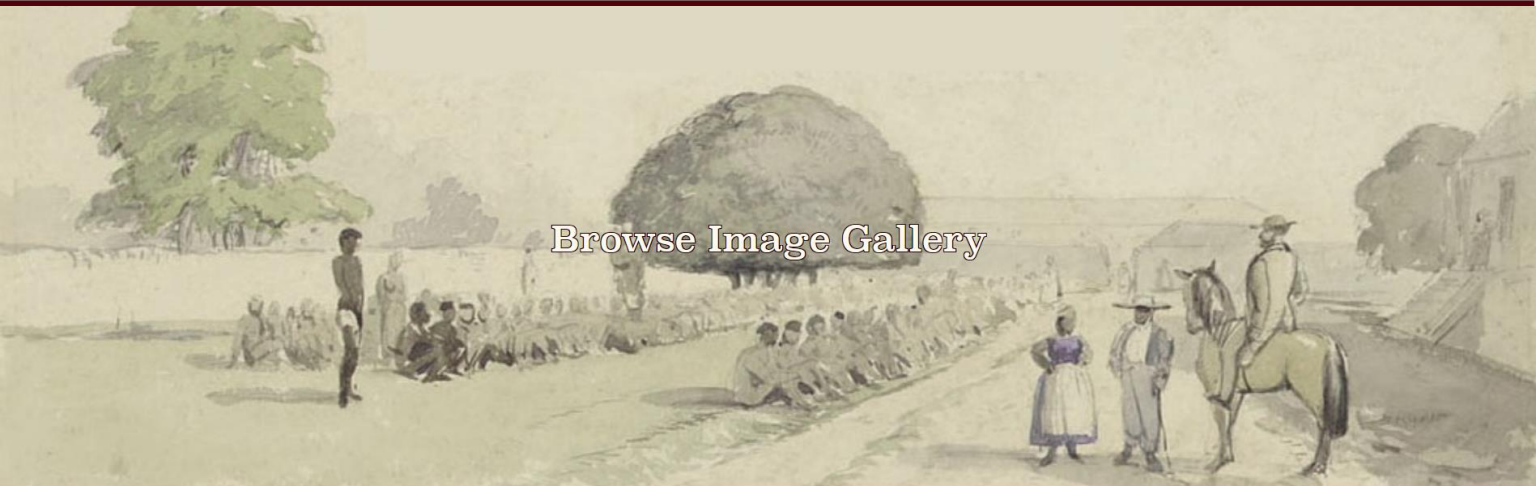
Cases



People



Sources



## Browse Image Gallery



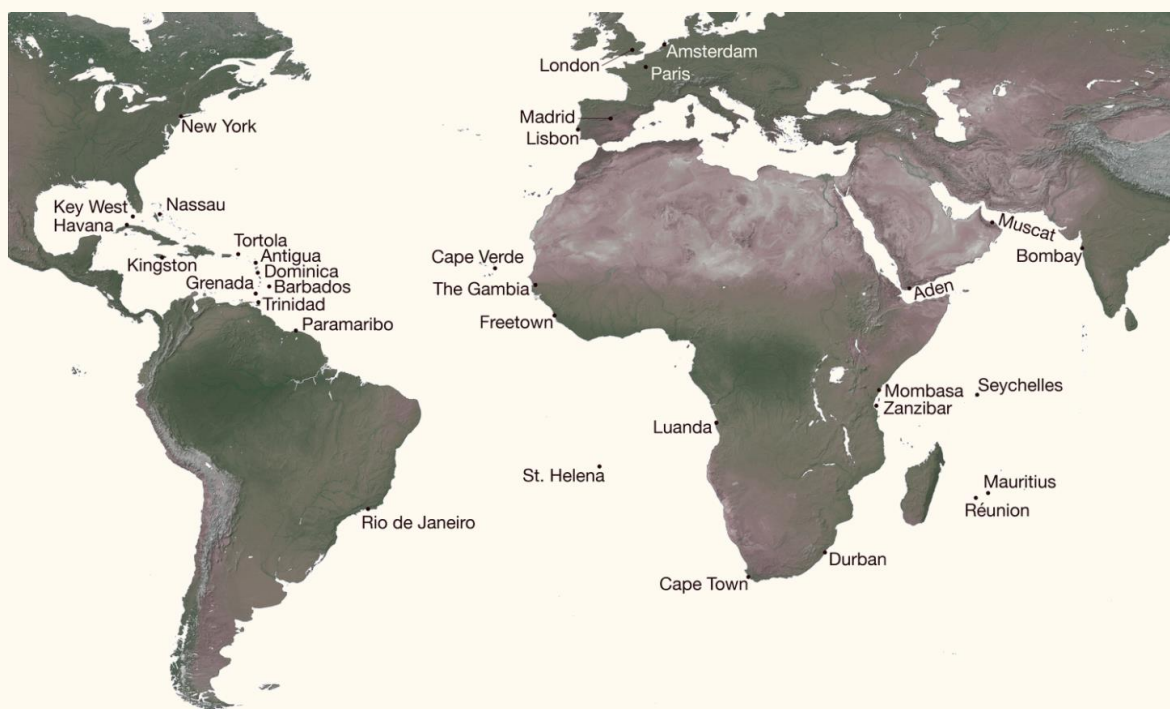
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada





The Atlantic slave trade involved an estimated 12.7 million enslaved Africans and lasted nearly four centuries, while the Indian Ocean trade included more than a million people, but began earlier and continued longer. Over one quarter of those victims boarded slave ships after 1807, when the British and US governments passed legislation curtailing (and ultimately banning) maritime human trafficking. As world powers negotiated anti-slave trade treaties thereafter, British, Portuguese, Spanish, Brazilian, French, and US authorities began seizing ships suspected of prohibited trade, raiding coastal slave barracks, and detaining newly landed slaves in the Americas, Africa, Atlantic and Indian Ocean islands, Arabia, and India. In this process, naval courts, international mixed commissions, and local authorities decided the fates of the survivors around the Atlantic and Indian Ocean littorals. Between 1808 and 1896, this judicial network emancipated roughly 6 percent of an estimated 4 million enslaved Africans. This website retraces the lives of over 250,000 people emancipated under global campaigns to abolish slavery, as well as thousands of officials, captains, crews, and guardians of a special class of people known as "Liberated Africans."



### Key Locations of British Abolition Efforts After 1808

This network of international courts produced extensive documentation about tens of thousands of people victimized by the slave trade. These records are scattered in many archives and are written in multiple languages. Each case adjudicated before these courts usually contains information about the condition of enslavement along the coast of West Africa, the events leading up to the seizure of the slave ship, and the judicial process resulting in emancipation, which was usually followed by periods of indentured servitude lasting several years.

The most fascinating historical evidence these courts produced were registers of Liberated Africans. These records amount to descriptive lists of people physically removed from slave ships, or captured close to the African coast. The worldwide collection amounts to detailed records for over 100,000 individuals. The data includes their African names, aliases, age, sex, height, a brief physical description, among other details worthy of historical analysis. Beyond doubt, the scale of record-keeping in multiple languages enables an unprecedented analysis of: 1) a major branch of the African diaspora; 2) the socio-economic development of the Caribbean; 3) slavery as a crime against humanity; 4) a global human rights movement; and 5) complex meanings associated with "identity," "slavery," "indentured servitude," and "freedom."

The need for collaborative research related to the global diaspora of Africans and their descendants is challenging because the documentation is extensive, multilingual, and scattered around the world in hundreds of archives, libraries, churches, courthouses, government offices, museums, ports and personal collections. The overall aim of this project is to bring together as much data as possible regarding the transnational links between these international courts and piece together the lives of over 250,000 Liberated Africans. Unfortunately, the exact number of courts, cases and people involved in the process of abolitionism, and indeed when, where and how many Liberated Africans resettled around the world, remains unclear. The long-term goal of this project will resolve these issues through the reorganization of voluminous documentation generated during hundreds of trials; and by following individuals before, during, and after emancipation. The contributors of this project are constantly searching for source materials related to this theme from around the world, and are working hard to upload as much data as possible on an ongoing basis. For more information about the sources [click here](#).



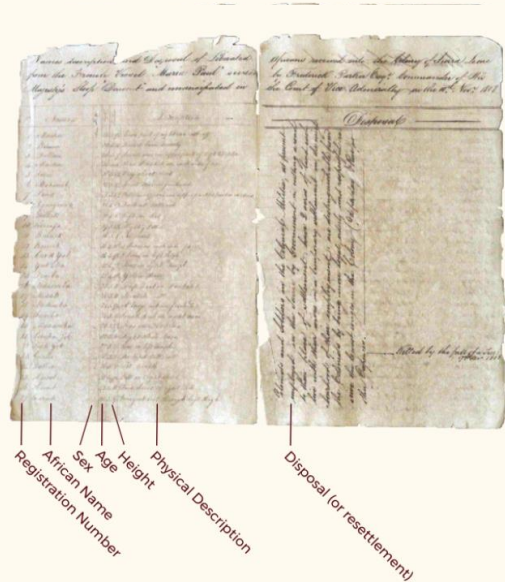
Liberated Africans is the first digital publication focused exclusively on the operations of the world's earliest international courts dedicated to the humanitarian effort to stop human trafficking. This resource provides an unprecedented amount of data on the life experiences of individuals who at the time were designated "Liberated Africans." In the course of this global abolition movement, documentation was assembled around the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. The sheer scale of record-keeping is perhaps unprecedented in humanities and social science research. The diverse types of documents include proceedings for about 1,000 trials, registers containing biographical sketches for people removed from slave ships (including physical descriptions), labor contracts, anti-slavery legislation, correspondence on resettlement policies, images of captured slave ships and even photographs of some Liberated Africans.

### Archival Sources

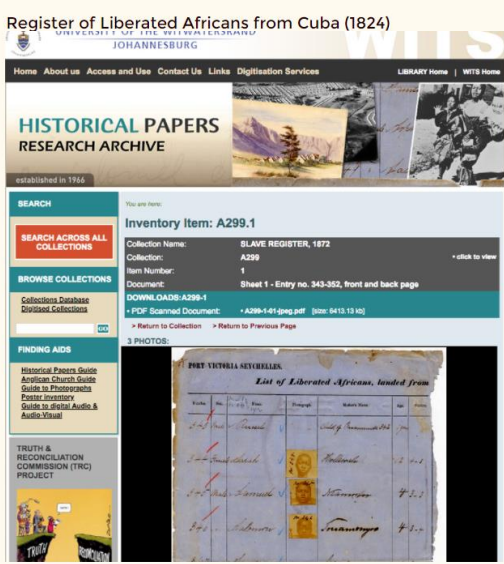
Materials hosted on this digital archive originate from different archives, libraries and the personal collections of numerous scholars from around the world. Due to British efforts to abolish the slave trade, a large proportion of records hosted herein are held in the British National Archives, Kew and involved series from: Foreign Office (FO), Colonial Office (CO), Admiralty (ADM), among many others. In support of this project, the British National Archives has issued a license [inert link to license here] to republish their materials they have digitized, or the originate from the personal collections of this project's many contributors. We also make use of records digitized through the British Library's Endangered Archives Programme (project number EAP443), especially in relation to the Sierra Leone Public Archives. As this resource continues to expand, other sources from other world archives will be made available depending on licensing agreements. We aim to include sources from other national archives and libraries in most of the countries affected by the abolition of the slave trade. In particular, we are targeting materials from: archives in the Abu Dhabi, Aden, Angola, Antigua, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, France, the Gambia, Germany, Grenada, Guianas, India, Ireland, Jamaica, Liberia, Mauritius, Muscat, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Portugal, R union, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Scotland, Spain, Suriname, St. Helena, Tortola, the United Kingdom, the United States, Zanzibar, among other places. Since many Liberated Africans adopted Christianity, there are also source materials in records compiled by the Catholic Church, Church Missionary Society, Lutheran Historical Society, Methodist Missionary Society, among others. The pdf file names for downloadable records obtained from this website include an abbreviated citation, which is explained further in the guidebook.

### The Registers of Liberated Africans

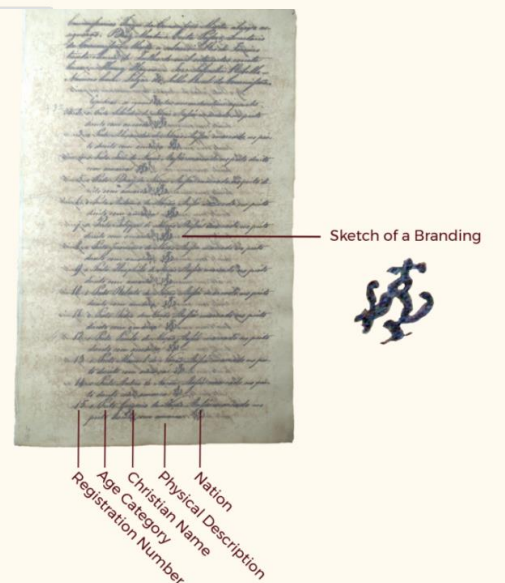
This digital archive hosts query-based search engines linking users to digital copies and databased transcriptions of the Registers of Liberated Africans, which are arguably the most comprehensive set of biographical sketches for thousands of women, men, and a large proportion of children, recorded immediately after their removal from slave ships. Register data include names, ages, sex, height, nations, and physical descriptions detailing ethnic scarifications, brandings, disease, and/or physical abuse. Recent estimates determine that over 100,000 people were registered, mostly in Britain's main base of operation for the suppression of the slave trade in Freetown, Sierra Leone. It is worth noting that in both Sierra Leone and Cuba, but not Brazil, attempts were made to document the African names of 100,000 people were registered, mostly in Britain's main base of operation for the suppression of the slave trade in Freetown, Sierra Leone. It is worth noting that in both Sierra Leone and Cuba, but not Brazil, attempts were made to document the African names of Liberated Africans. Scholars have been attempting to interpret the language of these names and other biographic details to evaluate the demography and ethnolinguistic composition of the slave trade. Variations in the register occur depending on the region, period and person who compiled these lists. The three main areas where court officials made the registers were Cuba, Sierra Leone and Brazil. Due to international law, the registers were made in the official language of the place where the court existed; hence Spanish for Cuba, English for Sierra Leone, and Portuguese for Brazil. To complicate matters, abolitionists made numerous copies of the registers which were not always precise and variations between copies occurred. To this day, it remains unknown which copy was the "original."



Register of Liberated Africans from Sierra Leone (1808)



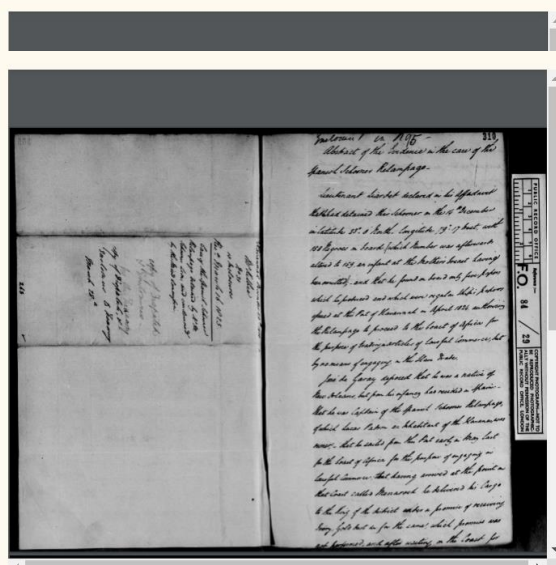
Register of Liberated Africans from East Africa (1872)



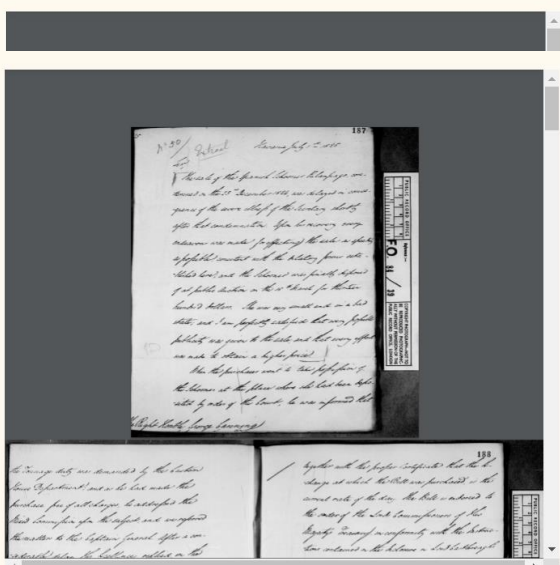
Register of Liberated Africans from Brazil (1821)

### Other Trial Records

Much like the registers, there was much variation in terms of court proceedings. Generally speaking, British officials attempted to provide abstracts of the cases. These documents generally provided a summary of how the British captured enslaved Africans, usually at sea by the royal navy, and a summary of the verdict, which was mostly "condemned" if engaged in illegal trade, or "restored" if trade was deemed legal. In most successful cases, condemned slave ships were auctioned and the proceeds funded the courts. As a result, there were often expense reports included for each case.



Trial Abstract (Enlarge View)



Expense Report (Enlarge View)

Other records also include: testimonies, depositions, correspondence, resettlement policies, and changes to policies and procedures which often resulted in legislature. Beyond trial records, there is a wide range of materials because many Liberated Africans were baptized, enrolled in schools, enlisted in the military, got married, bought and sold property, moved to different places, and even had death certificates. In fact, some Liberated Africans were prominent historical people, such as Reverend Samuel Ajayi Crowther who became the first African Anglican bishop. Linking in primary sources with complex metadata therefore enables a in depth view of the entire abolition movement from the perspective of the people involved.

For copyright information [click here](#).

If you would like to donate materials with *Liberated Africans* please [contact any of the project contributors](#).



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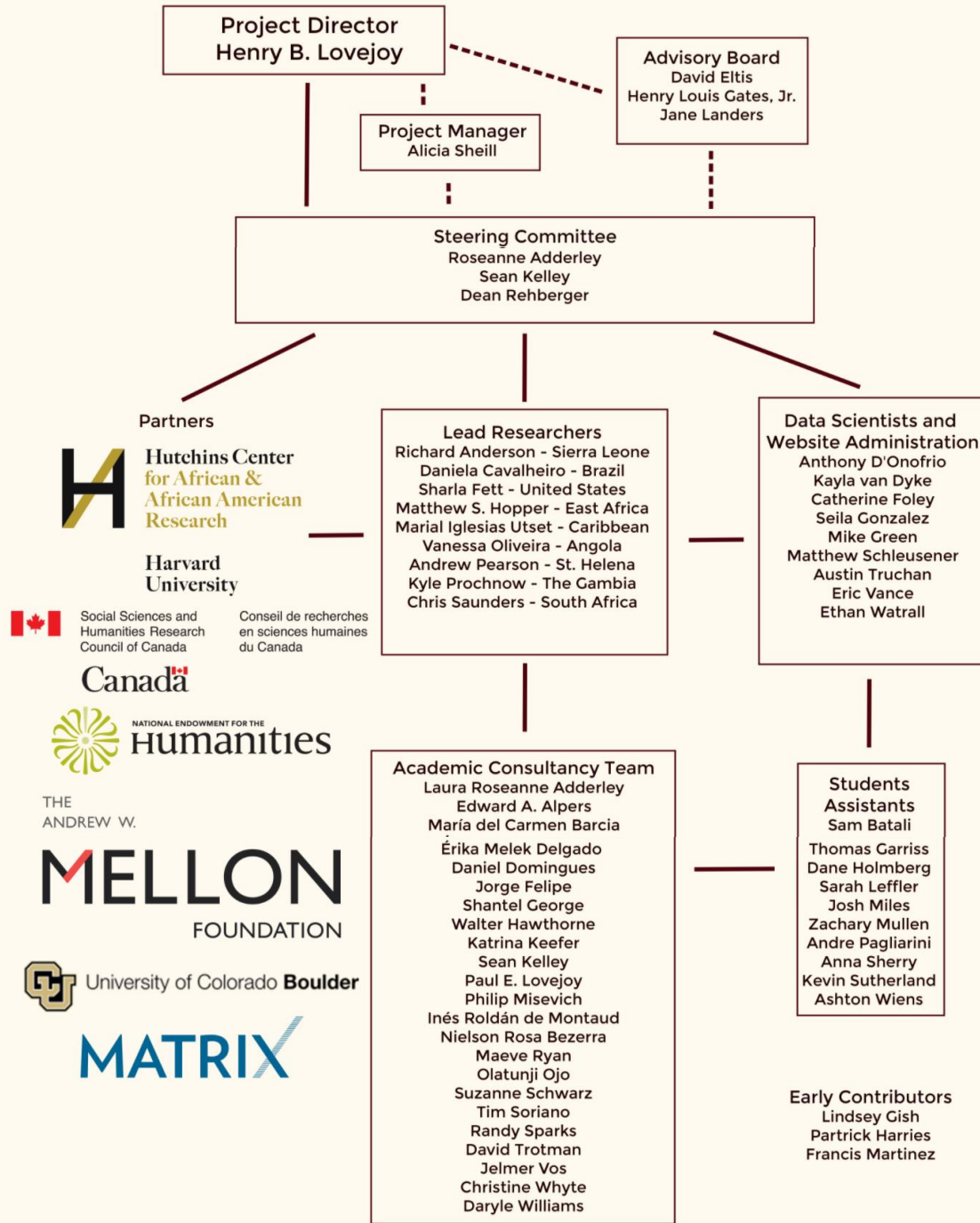
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In terms of source code made in connection with *Liberated Africans*, MATRIX and CRDDS guarantee that technological innovations will be released under the **General Public License Version 3.0 (GPLv3)**. Since KORA was developed as a universal platform, and project files reside on MATRIX servers (with copies on PetaLibrary). Code, metadata and objects will be distributed as versioned datasets via **GitHub** and **Figshare**.

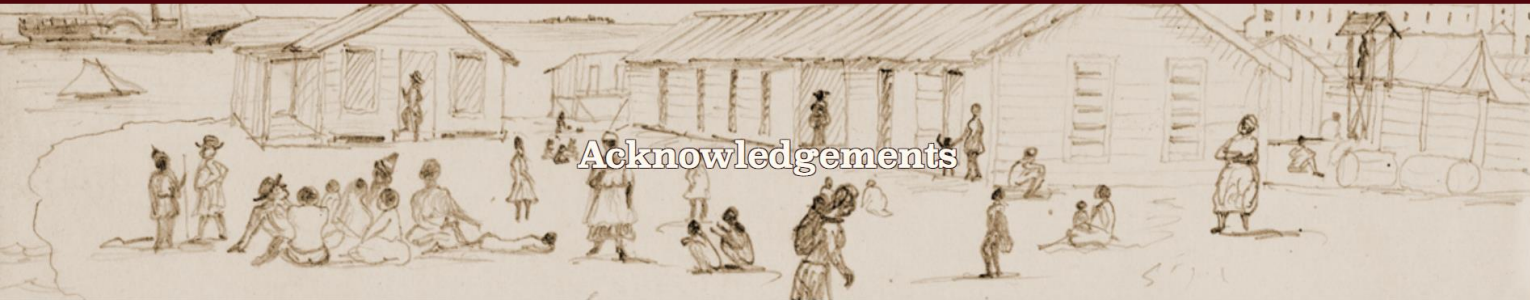
For a list of project contributors [click here](#).



This chart represents the numerous people and organizations who helped design, implement, and contribute to this website at various stages of development since its release in August 2015. If you have records you would like to contribute or questions, please [contact Henry B. Lovejoy](#).



To view project acknowledgements [click here](#).



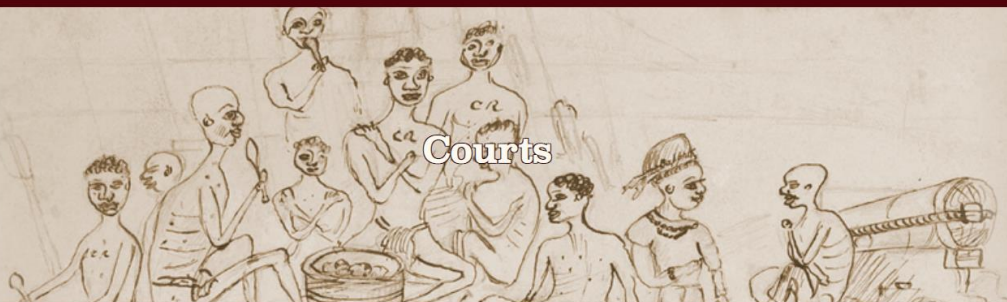
Under development.



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### Court of Vice Admiralty, Sierra Leone >



The British Parliament passed the Act to Abolish the Slave Trade in March 1807, and within five months royal assent was given to a bill transferring the indebted Sierra Leone colony, which was owned by a corporation, to British Crown control on New Year's Day 1808. Soon after, Freetown became the base for a Vice-Admiralty Court "for the trial and adjudication of any captures of slaves offered as prizes." The Africans on board were to be enlisted, apprenticed to members of the earlier settler population, or "disposed of according to the true meaning of the Abolition Act." Between 1808 and 1819, the Vice Admiralty Court was involved in several hundred cases involving over 15,000 people, who were removed from slave ships, seized from the colony and rescued following attacks on coastal barracons. Many of the documents to be displayed herein were digitized from the archives at Fourah Bay College as a result of the British Library's Endangered Archives Programme.

### British and Spanish Court of Mixed Commission, Sierra Leone >



In Freetown, captured slave ships were first adjudicated by a British Vice Admiralty Court. After the 1815 Treaty of Paris formally ended the Napoleonic Wars, regular sittings of the Vice-Admiralty Court were suspended. The court, which had operated unilaterally and with few regulations, was replaced by bilateral Courts of Mixed Commission. These international courts, operational from 1819 onward, were the result of a series of treaties between Britain and Portugal (28 July 1817), Spain (23 September 1817), and the Netherlands (4 May 1818) and later Brazil (23 November 1826). There were four Mixed Commissions operating in Sierra Leone: the Anglo-Spanish, the Anglo-Portuguese, the Anglo-Dutch, and after 1828, the Anglo-Brazilian. In these international courts, British judges shared the bench with representatives of these four foreign governments, and prize money was divided between British officers and foreign judges. These tribunals held no jurisdiction over the punishment of the owners, masters, or crew of condemned slave ships. After 1819, these courts were responsible for adjudicating over 500 cases involving the emancipation of over 68,000 people. The courts in Freetown officially closed in 1871. Their records derive mostly from the British Foreign Office and Church Missionary Society.

### Havana Slave Trade Commission, Cuba >



After the signing of the Anglo-Spanish Anti-Slave Trade Treaty in 1817, the Havana Slave Trade Commission opened two years later. However, it would take another five years before the court would condemn its first ship. Between 1824 and 1865, this court of mixed commission tried over 100 cases mostly involving slave ships from Africa bound for Cuba. This court emancipated over 35,000 individuals, who came to be known as emancipados in the Spanish colony. In the judicial process, court officials registered 10,391 individuals involved in 44 cases, but only between 1824 and 1841. All of the trials took place in Havana, where 40 registers were compiled, while one register was made in Nassau in the Bahamas, and another in Port Antonio, Jamaica. Due to a shift in international policy after 1833, hundreds of Liberated Africans were resettled from Cuba to the British Caribbean colonies of Trinidad, the Bahamas, British Honduras, Grenada, and Jamaica. In some cases, court officials made a second set of registers documented this inter-Caribbean migration. Unfortunately, the practice of registering individuals discontinued after 1841, even though the court continued to operate into the 1860s. Primary sources mostly involve records from the British Foreign and Colonial Offices, Spain's Ministerio de Ultramar, consular correspondence, baptism records, among others.

### The Courts and Mixed Commissions of Brazil >



British Vice-Admiralty courts were responsible for the first Liberated Africans. An extensive system of Vice Admiralty courts was in existence well before the era of abolition and handled a wide variety of maritime-related issues, including disputes between captains and crews, prize adjudication, and piracy. The courts routinely heard cases involving slave ships, especially in wartime. Before the British Abolition Act of 1807, captives from condemned ships were simply auctioned off along with the rest of the cargo and vessel. The Abolition Act, however, altered the situation by mandating that captives taken from condemned vessels should not be returned to slavery but rather should be forfeited to the King, to be apprenticed or enlisted into the military for up to fourteen years. In one of the earliest cases, that of the American brig *Amedie*, the High Court of Admiralty in London issued a sweeping decision upholding the right of British Vice Admiralty courts to liberate captives from the vessels of any nation that did not expressly permit trans-Atlantic slave trading. The principle was not applied with perfect consistency, however, as courts occasionally ruled in favor of slave ship owners. Still, from 1807 to 1818, British Vice Admiralty courts were responsible for removing approximately 20,000 Africans from slave ships, most of whom landed in Sierra Leone. In the British West Indies, Vice Admiralty courts located in Antigua, the Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Jamaica, and Tortola emancipated over 5,000 individuals. By 1817, the High Court of Admiralty relinquished its authority and decreed that the removal of captives from foreign slave ships must be governed by international treaties. After 1819, Vice Admiralty courts were largely supplanted by bilateral courts of mixed commission.

### British Vice Admiralty Courts in the Caribbean >



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### Vice Admiralty Court, St. Helena >



In June 1840, a Vice Admiralty Court was constituted in Jamestown, the capital town of the remote South Atlantic island of St. Helena. Between 1840 and 1868 the Royal Navy brought 439 cases for adjudication, most of which were seized on the basis of having been equipped for the trade. Of the total, 258 were dispatched to Jamestown, while 143 were wrecked, run ashore or deliberately destroyed by the Navy at the point of capture; and the fate of a further 38 vessels is not specified in the surviving records. Of the total number of cases that went to the island, 87 vessels contained approximately 27,000 enslaved Africans, but upwards of 1,700 individuals perished before arrival, and another 800 people died between landing and adjudication. The Vice Admiralty Court liberated 24,221 women, men, and children. In addition, another 900 people were brought to the island by the British royal navy after being liberated from coastal barracons in 1842. Since no slave ships were involved in these additional cases, the delivery of these people to the island and their subsequent liberation do not feature in court records. After arrival, the Liberated Africans were taken into two reception depots, but only a few hundred people settled on the island. The majority, however, were removed from the island and transported to Cape Colony in South Africa, as well as various British Caribbean colonies. Due to archaeological excavations of Liberated African graveyards in Rupert Valley, St. Helena provides unique insight into the world of the Atlantic slave trade and abolition efforts.

### Courts and Mixed Commissions of East Africa and the Indian Ocean >



Between 1808 and 1896 the British Royal Navy captured more than 20,000 Africans aboard suspected slaving vessels in the Indian Ocean and relocated them to ten port cities stretching between Bombay and Cape Town. Before 1850, European slave ships captured off the coast of East Africa were not only transporting people to Brazil and Cuba, but also the sugar-producing islands in the Indian Ocean, especially Mauritius and Réunion. Initially, the Royal Navy brought captured ships to Vice Admiralty courts in Mauritius and the Cape of Good Hope for trial; and after the amended Anglo-Portuguese treaty in the 1830s, a court of mixed commission was established at the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, which subsequently adjudicated on a small number of cases. After 1850, abolition in the Indian Ocean world changed as most of the slave ships captured were Arab dhows bound for destinations in Arabia, the Persian Gulf, or East Africa. Thereafter, new Vice Admiralty courts were founded at Aden and Zanzibar, while other cases were adjudicated Bombay, which tried ships captured by the Indian Navy (Bombay Marine) in the Arabian Sea and Red Sea. For the most part, however, the British Royal Navy cruisers transported Liberated Africans to the Seychelles, Mauritius, Aden, Zanzibar, Muscat and the Cape of Good Hope. From these places, some Liberated Africans were also transferred to Durban, Mombasa, and Réunion.

### The Courts of the United States >



For fifty years following its ban on the transatlantic slave trade in 1808, the United States resisted signing multilateral treaties to suppress the slave trade. Thus, Liberated Africans, known as "recaptured Africans," were freed through federal district courts, which oversaw admiralty and maritime cases. An 1819 law placed all recaptured Africans in the custody of the designated U.S. Marshal in the port to which a slave ship had been taken. The 1819 law also mandated removal from the U.S., which resulted in transportation to Liberia by the 1820s. The U.S. did not keep consistent registers of Liberated Africans, although U.S. Marshals inconsistently recorded sex, age, or mortality. Some early seizures of slave ships resulted in legal contests over the status of African captives. In one case, the U.S. Supreme Court eventually decided the fate of the ship's African captives, liberating some, while remanding others to possession to Spanish authorities. Between 1808 and 1861, an estimated 6,346 individuals were liberated from 12 slave ships through the action of U.S. District Courts. Almost 3,600 of these individuals were seized near the African coast and transported directly to Liberia, while the ships on which they had been imprisoned were condemned in U.S. federal district courts. Another group of 1,400 individuals spent time in the custody of the U.S. marshal in the Southern District of Florida in Key West, while others passed through district courts in other states. Only in 1862, did the United States sign the Lyons-Seward Treaty with Britain, agreeing nominally to participate in bilateral Mixed Commissions.

### Courts of Angola >



Following a ban on slave departures from Luanda in 1836, the Portuguese established the Tribunal das Prezas, or "Prize Court," in the port city of West Central Africa. Six years later, Britain and Portugal opened an Anglo-Portuguese Mixed Commission in Luanda to help abolition efforts. Between 1844 and 1870, this Mixed Commission investigated 33 ships, but only emancipated as few as 137 individuals from six vessels. Meanwhile, the "Prize Court" liberated upwards of 3,000 people. Primary sources related to these Liberated Africans stem from the Boletim Oficial de Angola, reports of the Junta de Superintendência dos Negros Libertos and on records from the Tribunal das Prezas. Although identified as libertos, these men, women, and children effectively lived in a status in-between freedom and captivity often resorting to flight and joining communities of fugitive slaves.

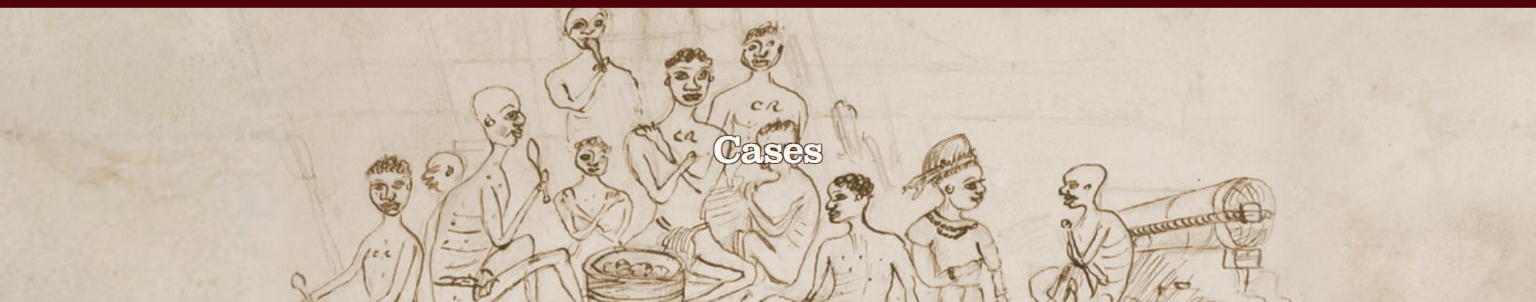
### Resettlement to the Gambia >



Between 1818 and 1838, over 3,000 Liberated Africans were forcibly transported from Freetown, Sierra Leone to nascent British settlements along the Gambia River. The vast majority of this coerced migration took place between 1830 and 1835, as British merchant-settlers hoped that an influx of Liberated Africans would solve seasonal labor problems and bolster the local militia. Liberated Africans in the Gambia were mainly settled at Bathurst, the largest British settlement on the river, or at MacCarthy's Island, an upriver trading outpost. British officials in the Gambia bound most Liberated Africans to seven-year apprenticeships under the supervision of local British and African merchants. Apprenticed Liberated Africans served as farmers, servants, traders, blacksmiths, seamen, and carpenters, amongst other occupations. The coerced migration of Liberated Africans to the Gambia was characterized by disease and staggering mortality rates, owing in large part to the additional ocean voyage up the coast. Of the 2,468 people that arrived in the Gambia between May 1832 and December 1835, upwards of 35% had died by June 1836, many within weeks or months of their arrival. Accusations of physical abuse were intermittently levied by Liberated Africans against their masters, and untenable land left hundreds of Liberated African farmers unable to feed themselves and their families. Acknowledging the terrible living and working conditions of Liberated Africans, British ended forced migration to the

Gambia in 1839.





## Refine Your Results

Find a Case



Sort by

Province

Country

Event Date

A - Z

Z - A

Date

Date (oldest first)

Clear sort

**Firme**

Date: 1828

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Fingal**

Date: 1826

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Orestes**

Date: 1826

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Intrepido**

Date: 1828

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Nuevo Campeador**

Date: 1826

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Xerxes**

Date: 1828

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Voladora (a) Mulata**

Date: 1829

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Josefa (a) Fortuna**

Date: 1829

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Midas**

Date: 1829

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Gallito**

Date: 1829

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Indagadora**

Date: 1832

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

[View Event](#)**Negrito**

Date: 1832

Court: Havana Slave Trade...

0 1 2

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Province

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- Bahamas
- Bahia
- Bight of Benin
- Bight of Biafra
- Brazil
- Cameroons
- Cuba
- Danish West Indies
- Gold Coast
- Guadeloupe
- Gulf of Guinea islands
- Honduras
- Indian Ocean islands
- Jamaica
- Martinique
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Offshore Atlantic
- Pernambuco
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- Senegambia
- Sierra Leone
- South Carolina
- Southeast Africa
- Southeast Brazil
- St. Barthélemy
- St. Helena
- West Central Africa
- Windward Coast

Country

- Select All
- England
- France
- Portugal
- Spain
- USA

Event Date

START

END

Year

to

Year



## Case Icanam

**Outcome:** Ship condemned

Slaves disembarked in Old World

British

Original goal thwarted (human agency)

**Start Date:** 1822//

**Ship Name:** Icanam

**Place:** British and Spanish Court of Mixed Commission, Sierra Leone

**Source** ⤴

The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database Voyages. "Search The Voyages Database." <http://www.slavevoyages.org/voyage/search> (accessed July 22, 2016). PP,1830,X,124; IUP,ST,9/B1/28-31; IUP,ST,11/A/5; Meyer-Heiselberg,16



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# Casilda or Nuestra Señora de los Dolores

**Outcome:** Condemned

**Africans:** 111

**Owner:** Garmandía, Domingo

**Captain:** Landa, Jose Manuel

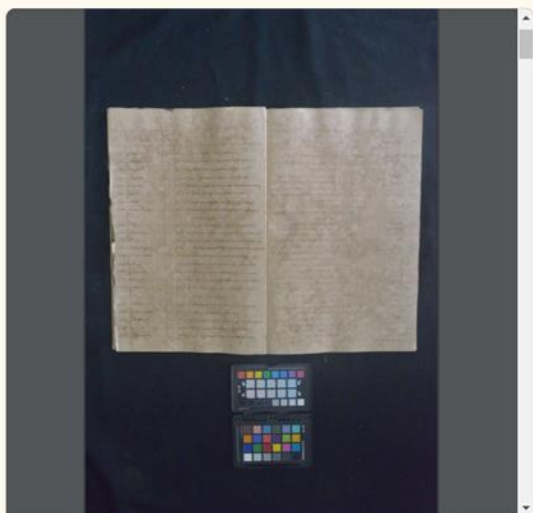
Hollis

**Start Date:** 1811//

**Ship Name:** Casilda or Nuestra Señora de los Dolores

**Place:** [Court of Vice Admiralty, Sierra Leone](#)

**Source** ▾



Enlarge View

Untitled

[Go To Document Record](#)

**Object Type:** Register

**Date Original:** Register

**Source:** Sierra Leone Public Archives, SLR1637-1747

## Historical Documents



Register  
Untitled



Case  
Deixa Falar

**Outcome:** Condemned

**Africans:** 186

**Flag:** Portugal

**Captain:** Baker, João Anastácio

**Crew:** 11

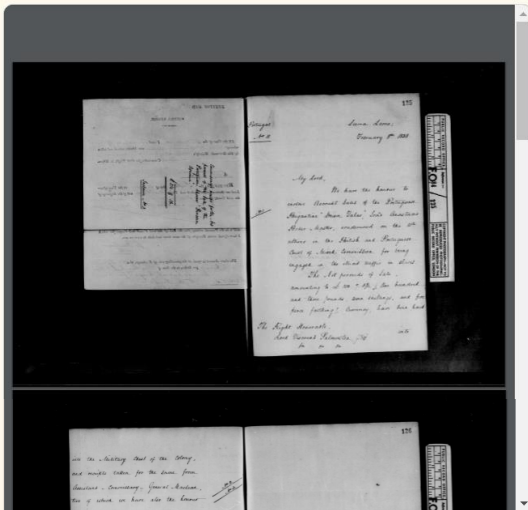
**Rig:** Brig

**Start Date:** 1838//

**Ship Name:** Deixa Falar

**Place:** British and Portuguese Court of Mixed Commission, Sierra Leone

**Source** ▾



Enlarge View

Portuguese Brigantine "Deixa Falar"

[Go To Document Record](#)

**Object Type:** Expense Report

**Date Original:** Expense Report

**Source:** FO84-235f125-130

Historical Documents



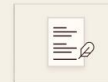
Register

Portuguese Brigantine Deixa Falar



Register

Portuguese Brigantine "Deixa Falar"



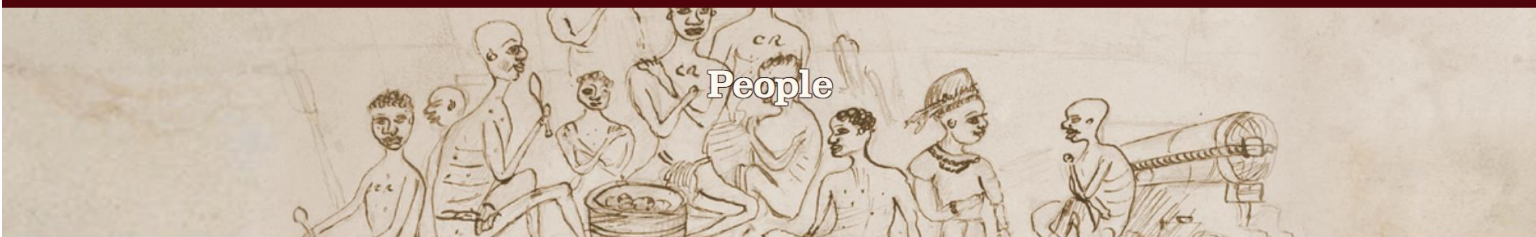
Case Summary

Report of the case of the Portuguese Brigantine "Deixa Falar," Joao Anastacio Baker Master



Expense Report

Portuguese Brigantine "Deixa Falar"



Refine Your Results

- Age ▾

---

- Role ▾

---

- Country ▾

---

- Province ▾

---

- Gender ▾

---

Find a Person 🔍

Sort by ▾

- A - Z
- Z - A
- Age
- Age (oldest first)
- Clear Sort

<p><b>Abadú</b> Age: 25 Sex: Male...</p> <p>👤 212 📍 0 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Abaipé</b> Age: 25 Sex: Male...</p> <p>👤 212 📍 0 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Adeaya</b> Age: 20 Sex: Female...</p> <p>👤 212 📍 0 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Ñanguá</b> Age: 18 Sex: Male...</p> <p>👤 58 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>
<p><b>Adá</b> Age: 22 Sex: Female...</p> <p>👤 318 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Boyee</b> Age: 8 Sex: Female</p> <p>👤 186 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Bullumbulla</b> Age: 9 Sex: Female</p> <p>👤 186 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Boyehoh</b> Age: 9 Sex: Male</p> <p>👤 186 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>
<p><b>Chahlani</b> Age: 12 Sex: Male</p> <p>👤 186 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Chahpo</b> Age: 9 Sex: Male</p> <p>👤 186 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Boevey</b> Age: 8 Sex: Female</p> <p>👤 186 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>	<p><b>Boocoh</b> Age: 11 Sex: Male</p> <p>👤 186 📍 1 📅 2</p> <p><a href="#">View Person</a></p>



## Refine Your Results

### Age ▼

START

END

to

### Role ▼

- Select All
- Captured African

### Country ▼

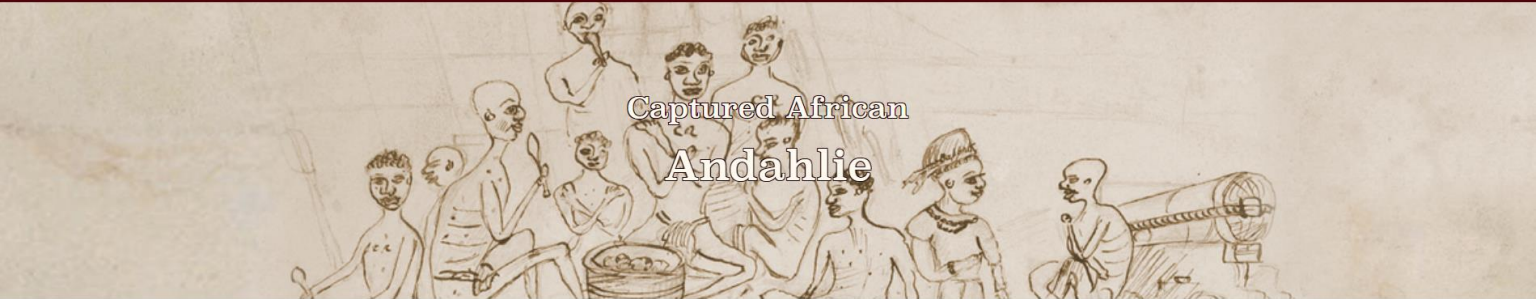
- Select All
- England
- France
- Portugal
- Spain
- USA

### Province ▼

- Select All
- Amazonia
- Bahamas
- Bahia
- Bight of Benin
- Bight of Biafra
- Brazil
- Cameroons
- Cuba
- Danish West Indies
- Gold Coast
- Guadeloupe
- Gulf of Guinea islands
- Honduras
- Indian Ocean islands
- Jamaica
- Martinique
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Offshore Atlantic
- Pernambuco
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- Senegambia
- Sierra Leone
- South Carolina
- Southeast Africa
- Southeast Brazil
- St. Barthélemy
- St. Helena
- West Central Africa
- Windward Coast

### Gender ▼

- Select All
- Male
- Female**
- Unspecified



Embarkation

1835/2/

Sex: Male

Age: 12

Role: Captured African

Connected People

Refine Your Results

Find a Person 🔍

Sort by ▾

- Age ▾

---

- Role ▾

---

- Country ▾

---

- Province ▾

---

- Gender ▾

---

**Boyee**  
Age: 8  
Sex: Female

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Bullumbulla**  
Age: 9  
Sex: Female

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Boyeoh**  
Age: 9  
Sex: Male

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Chahlani**  
Age: 12  
Sex: Male

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Chahpo**  
Age: 9  
Sex: Male

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Boevey**  
Age: 8  
Sex: Female

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Boocoh**  
Age: 11  
Sex: Male

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Bomadey**  
Age: 8  
Sex: Female

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Coolasay**  
Age: 8  
Sex: Female

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Chodooloo**  
Age: 13  
Sex: Male...

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Congain**  
Age: 9  
Sex: Female

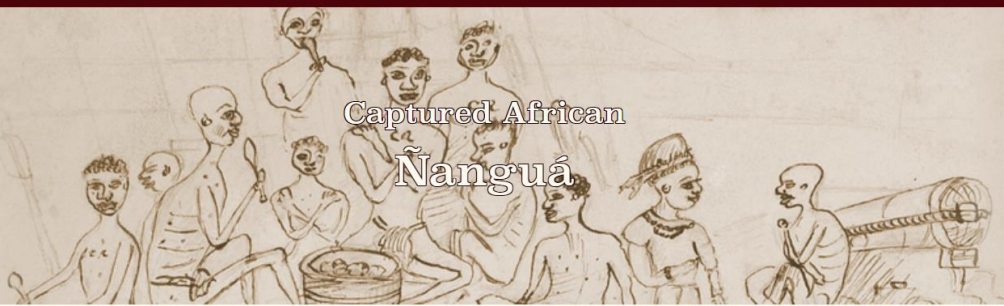
👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)

**Chopay**  
Age: 10  
Sex: Male

👤 186 📍 1 📅 2

[View Person](#)



Embarkation

1826//

Modern Counterpart Name: Nangwa

Sex: Male

Language: Kono

Age: 18

Role: Captured African

Connected People

Refine Your Results

Find a Person



Sort by ▾

Age ▾

Role ▾

Country ▾

Province ▾

Gender ▾

Download CSV File

**Ñanguá**  
Age: 18  
Sex: Male...

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Peé**  
Age: 18  
Sex: Male...

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Péé**  
Age: 9  
Sex: Male...

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Praprá**  
Age: 45  
Sex: Male

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Quebé**  
Age: 11  
Sex: Female...

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Quei**  
Age: 12  
Sex: Female...

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Serí**  
Age: 11  
Sex: Male...

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Sió**  
Age: 24  
Sex: Male

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Quené**  
Age: 9  
Sex: Female

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Samá**  
Age: 22  
Sex: Male

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Segundo**  
Age: 15  
Sex: Male...

58 1 2

[View Person](#)

**Sengúe**  
Age: 45  
Sex: Male...

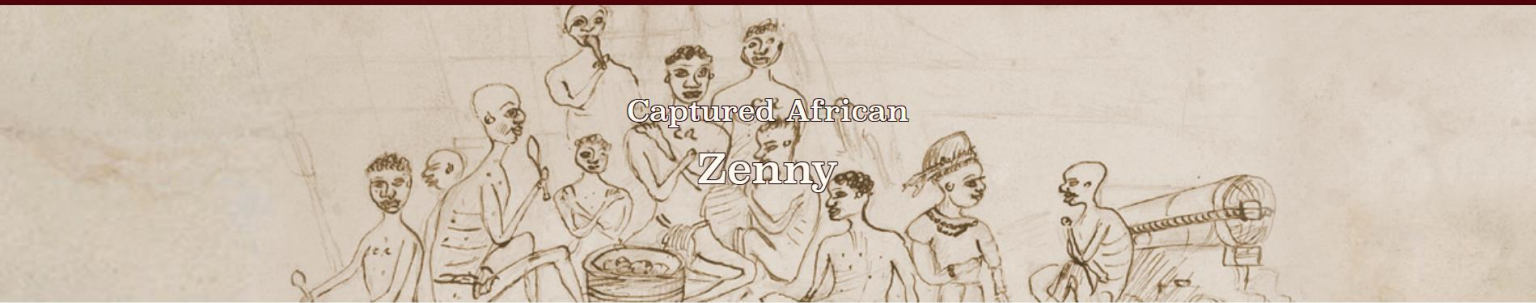
58 1 2

[View Person](#)

1 2 3 ... 5







Embarkation



Sex: Female

Age: 25

Role: Captured African

Connected People

Refine Your Results

Find a Person



Sort by ▾

Age ▾

Role ▾

Country ▾

Province ▾

Gender ▾

- Abee**  
Age: 12  
Sex: Male...

84 1 2

[View Person](#)
- Abee**  
Age: 9  
Sex: Female...

84 1 2

[View Person](#)
- Abeebiee**  
Age: 8  
Sex: Female...

84 1 2

[View Person](#)
- Abrah**  
Age: 24  
Sex: Male

84 1 2

[View Person](#)
- Aboy**  
Age: 6  
Sex: Male

84 1 2

[View Person](#)
- Alee**  
Age: 11  
Sex: Male...

84 1 2

[View Person](#)
- Amno**  
Age: 4  
Sex: Female

84 1 2

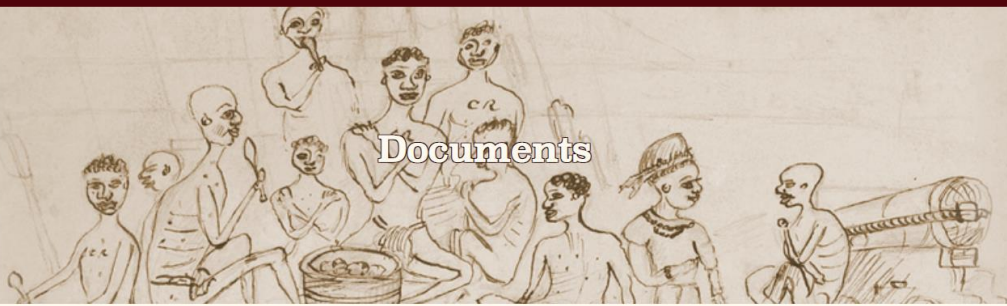
[View Person](#)
- Adenajoe**  
Age: 5  
Sex: Female

84 1 2

[View Person](#)

1 2 3 ... 7





# Documents

## Refine Your Results

Sort by

Date

START to END

Year to Year

Document Type

Document Archive

Province

Country

- A - Z
- Z - A
- Date
- Date (oldest first)
- Clear Sort

**Netherlands Brig Maria**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1820/2/15...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**British and Netherlands**

Object Type: Interrogation Report...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**British and Netherlands**

Object Type: Appointment of Sales...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**British and Netherlands**

Object Type: Examination Report...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**British and Netherlands**

Object Type: Interrogation Report...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**British and Netherlands**

Object Type: Examination Report...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**Brazilian Schooner "Nossa"**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1830/5/13...

0 0 2

[View Document](#)

**Maria Netherlands Brig**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1820/2/15...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**Netherlands Schooner Maria**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1820/2/15...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**Seized by His Excellency the**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1826...

0 0 2

[View Document](#)

**Landed from His Majesty's Ship**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1824/6/24...

0 0 2

[View Document](#)

**Netherlands Schooner Maria**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1820/2/15...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**Netherlands Schooner Maria**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1820/2/15...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

**Seized by His Excellency the**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1826...

0 0 2

[View Document](#)

**Landed from His Majesty's Ship**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1824/6/24...

0 0 2

[View Document](#)

**Netherlands Schooner Maria**

Object Type: Register  
Date: 1820/2/15...

0 0 0

[View Document](#)

## Refine Your Results

Date ▼

START

END

Year

to

Year

Document Type ▼

- Select All
- Trial Summary
- Vessel Seizure
- Captor's Declaration
- Abstract Of Evidence
- Sentence
- Expense Report
- Baptism Record
- Register
- Resettlement
- Legislation
- Regulation
- Letter
- Death Certificate
- Court Testimony
- Narrative
- Quarantine
- Apprenticeship
- Arrest Record
- Health Report
- Last Known Fate
- Education

Document Archive ▼

- Select All
- Archivo General de las Indias (AGI)
- Archivo Histórico Nacional (AHN)
- Archivo Nacional de Cuba (ANC)
- Arquivo Geral da Cidade do Rio de Janeiro (AGCRJ)
- Arquivo Histórico-Diplomático, Lisbon (AHD)
- Arquivo Histórico do Itamaraty, Rio de Janeiro (AHI)
- Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro (ANRJ)
- Arquivo Público do Estado de São Paulo, São Paulo (APESP)
- Arquivo Público do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro (APERJ)
- Arquivo Ultramarino Histórico, Lisbon (AHU)
- Arquivos Nacionais-Torre do Tombo, Lisbon (ANTT)
- Church Missionary Society Archive, University of Birmingham (CMS)
- Ecclesiastical Archives, Cuba: Nuestra Señora de la Asunción de Guanabacoa (ANSAG)
- Ecclesiastical Archives, Cuba: Nuestra Señora de Regla (ANSR)
- Ecclesiastical Archives, Cuba: Jesús, María y José (AJMJ)
- Ecclesiastical Archives, Cuba: San Carlos de Matanzas (ASCM)
- Ecclesiastical Archives, Cuba: Santo Angel Custodio (ASAC)
- Ecclesiastical Archives, Cuba: Santo Cristo del Buen Viaje (ASCBV)
- Fundação Biblioteca Nacional, Rio de Janeiro (FBN)
- Instituto Histórico e Geográfico Brasileiro, Rio de Janeiro (IHGB)
- Library of Congress, Washington, DC (LC)
- Methodist Missionary Society Archive, SOAS (MMS)
- Museu Histórico Nacional, Rio de Janeiro (MHN)
- National Archives and Records Administration, Washington, DC (NARA)
- National Maritime Museum, Greenwich (NMM)
- Royal Naval Museum, Portsmouth (RNM)
- Sierra Leone Public Archives (SLPA)
- The National Archives, Kew (TNA)

Province ▼

- Select All
- Ashanti
- Brong-Ahafo
- Central
- Dakar
- Diourbel
- Eastern
- Fatick
- Greater Accra
- Northern
- Saint-Louis
- Upper East
- Upper West
- Volta
- Western
- Ziguinchor

Country ▼

- Select All
- England
- France
- Portugal
- Spain
- USA

# Register Brought from the Rios Pongas the Triunvirato's Cargo

**Language** English

**Date Original** 15 CE 1817.0315 1817 3

**Publisher** British Library Endangered Archive Programme (Projects Numbers: EAP284, EAP443, EAP782)

**Description** Register of 52 people

**Resource Type** Text

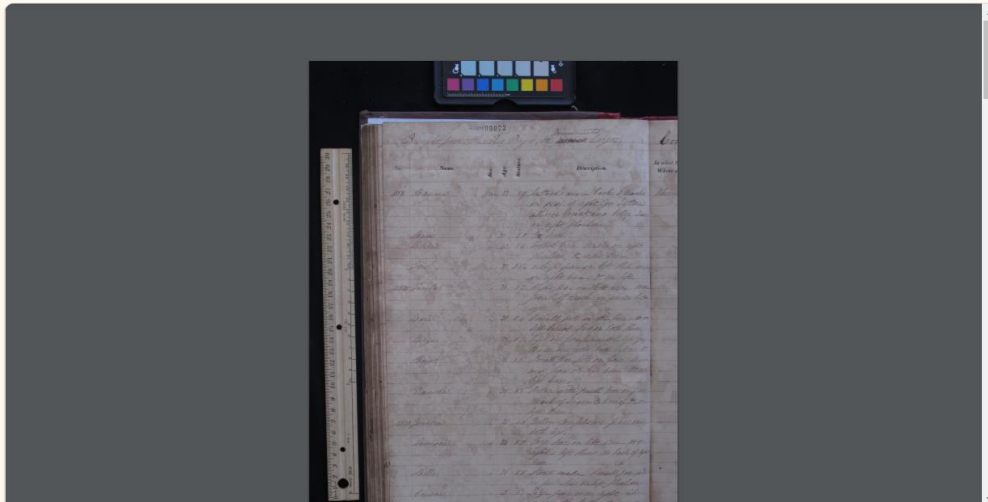
**Format** pdf

**Source** Sierra Leone Public Archives, SLR10531-10582

**Object Type** Register

**Contributing Institution** University of Colorado Boulder, York University, University of Worcester, MATRIX: Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences at Michigan State University, The British Library

**Document Pages** 6

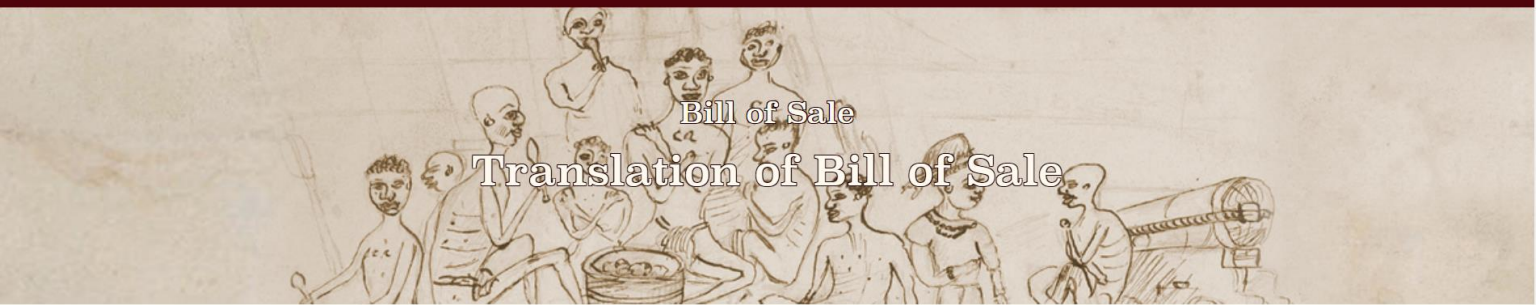


[Open Fullsize in New Tab](#)

## Associated Events

Sort by ▾

Case,



# Bill of Sale Translation of Bill of Sale

**Language** English

**Date Original** 14 CE 1836.0614 1836 6

**Contributor** Hamilton, W.

**Publisher** The National Archives, Kew (Digital Microfilm Project)

**Description** Ship's papers and Bill of Sale for Felix

**Creator** Antonio Joze de Silva Macedo

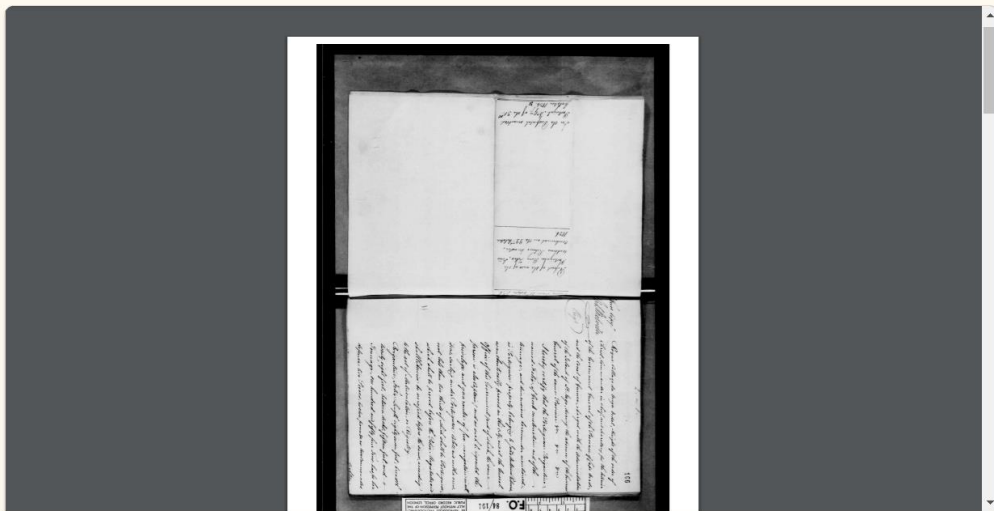
**Resource Type** Text

**Format** pdf

**Source** FO84-194f166-169v

**Object Type** Bill of Sale

**Contributing Institution** University of Colorado Boulder; MATRIX: Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences at Michigan State University; The National Archives



[Open Fullsize in New Tab](#)

## Associated Events

Sort by ▾

Case,



**Language** English

**Date Original** 29 CE 1811.1029 1811 10

**Publisher** British Library Endangered Archive Programme (Projects Numbers: EAP284, EAP443, EAP782)

**Description** Register of 13 people

**Resource Type** Text

**Format** pdf

**Source** Sierra Leone Public Archives, SLR1958-1970

**Object Type** Register

**Contributing Institution** University of Colorado Boulder, York University, University of Worcester, MATRIX: Center for Digital Humanities and Social Sciences at Michigan State University, The British Library

**Document Pages** 3

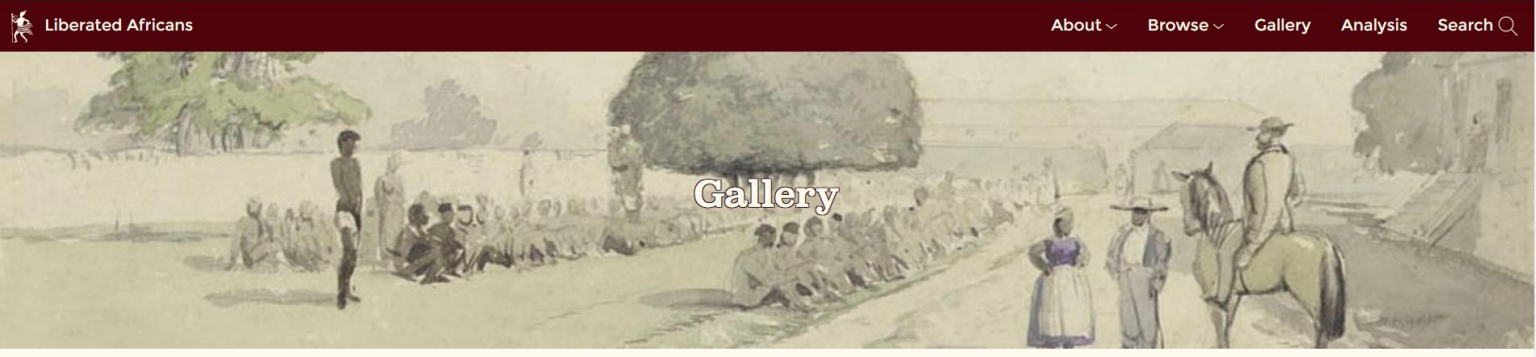


[Open Fullsize in New Tab](#)

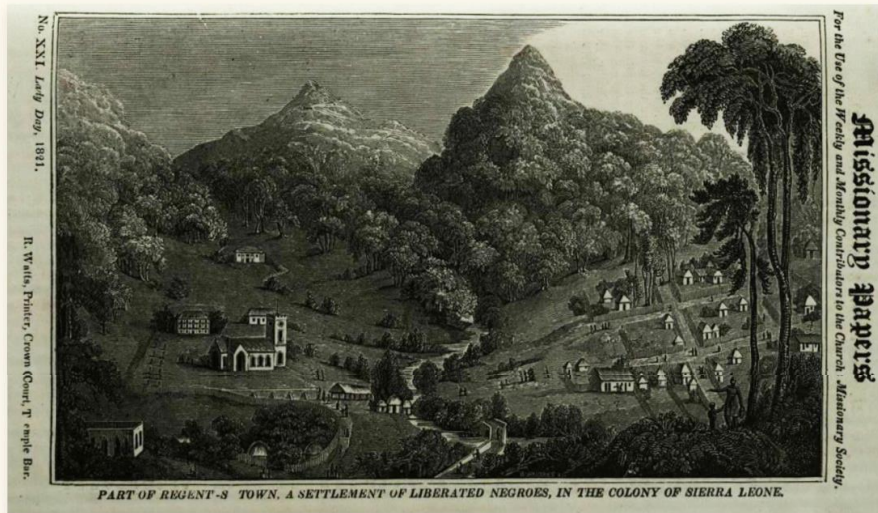
**Associated Events**

Sort by

Case,



# Gallery



1821 cmpaper settlementofliberatednegroes 21

"Part of Regent-S Town, a Settlement of Liberated Negroes, in the Colony of Sierra Leone" Church Missionary Papers

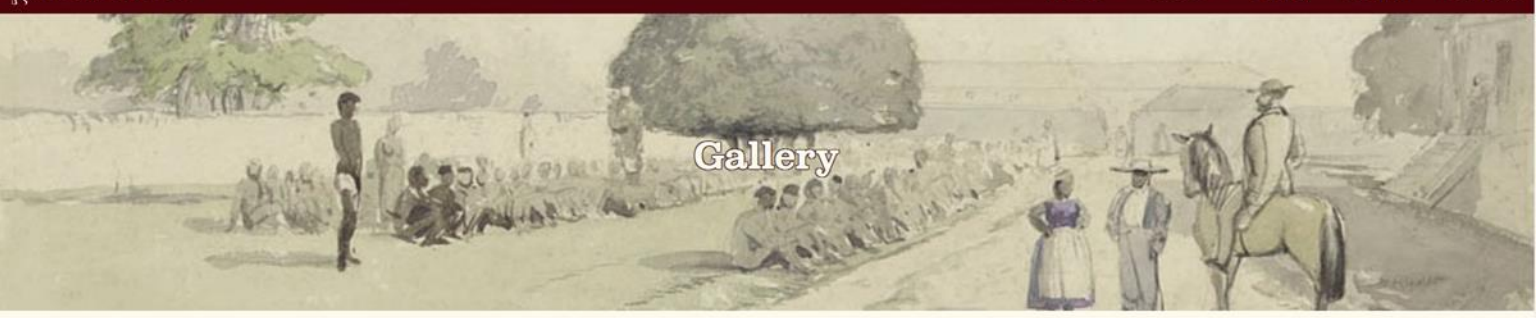
- Sierra Leone
- West African Coast
- Brazil
- British Caribbean
- St. Helena
- United States



Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

Canada



# Gallery



1870 co 1069 88 008 t

- Sierra Leone
- West African Coast
- Brazil
- British Caribbean
- St. Helena
- United States



Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

Canada



# Gallery



18

- Sierra Leone
- West African Coast
- Brazil
- British Caribbean
- St. Helena
- United States



Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

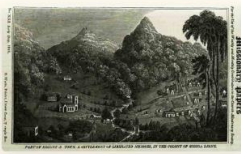
Canada

## Sierra Leone

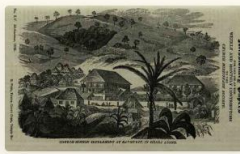
## Prints



**Bunce Island, 1805**  
National Maritime Museum  
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**Regent Town, Freetown, 1821**  
Church Missionary Paper  
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**Bathurst, Sierra Leone, 1829**  
Church Missionary Paper  
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No additional info



**Freetown, 1838**  
Church Missionary Paper  
[Download](#)  
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**Hastings, Sierra Leone, 1843**  
Church Missionary Paper  
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No additional info



**Liberated African with Mandingoes, 1852**  
The Church Missionary Cleaner  
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No additional info



**Mr. Beale Seizing Egugu, 1853**  
CMS Intelligencer  
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No additional info



**Graveyard, Kissy, Sierra Leone, 1853**  
CMS Intelligencer  
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**Christ Church, Freetown, 1856**  
Illustrated London News  
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No additional info



**Sherbro Village, 1856**  
Illustrated London News  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Kissy, Sierra Leone, 1860**  
National Maritime Museum  
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**York, Sierra Leone, 1865**  
The Church Missionary Cleaner  
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**Banana Islands, 1865**  
The Church Missionary Cleaner  
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No additional info



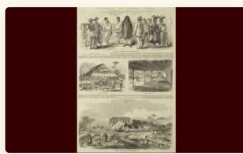
**Kent, Sierra Leone, 1865**  
The Church Missionary Cleaner  
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**The Egugu, 1881**  
The Church Missionary Cleaner  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Waterloo, Sierra Leone, 1881**  
The Church Missionary Cleaner  
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No additional info



**Sketches of Sierra Leone, c. 1881**  
Illustrated London News  
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## Photographs



**Rev. Samuel Ajayi Crowther, 1860s**  
Church Missionary Society  
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**Rev. Samuel Ajayi Crowther, 1867**  
Church Missionary Society  
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**Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
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No additional info



**Landing Pier, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
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No additional info



**Harbor, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Secretary's Quarters, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Mission House, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Gaol, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**St. George's Cathedral, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**St. George's Cathedral, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**St. Edward's Primary, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**St. Edward's Primary, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Wesleyan College, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Colonial Hospital, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Colonial Hospital, Freetown, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**House in Bathurst, Sierra Leone, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



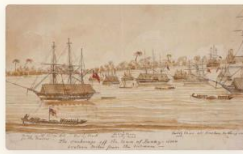
**School in Charlotte, Sierra Leone, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Road to Charlotte, Sierra Leone, c. 1870**  
NA, CO 1069/88  
[Download](#)  
No additional info

## West African Coast

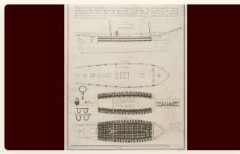
## Prints



**Bonny, early 1800s**  
National Maritime Museum  
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**Esperanza, Grand Sestos, 1817**  
(ID 2316)  
National Maritime Museum  
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**Vigilante, Bonny, 1823** (ID 2734)  
National Maritime Museum  
[Download](#)  
[More Info](#)



**Veloz Pasajera, Jakin, 1830**  
(ID 2423)  
Royal Naval Museum  
[Download](#)  
No additional info



**Formidable, Calabar, 1834** (ID 2469)  
National Maritime Museum  
[Download](#)  
[More Info](#)



**P. Cabo Verde, Bonny, 1837**  
(ID 2545)  
National Maritime Museum  
[Download](#)  
[More Info](#)



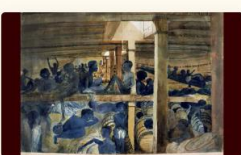
**Liberated Africans, Gambia, 1837**  
*Excursions in Western Africa...* (1840)  
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**Diligente, Lagos, 1839** (ID 2588)  
National Maritime Museum  
[Download](#)  
[More Info](#)



**Gabriel, Gallinas, 1841** (ID 2084)  
National Maritime Museum  
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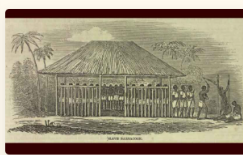
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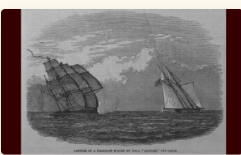
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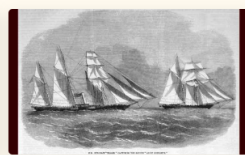
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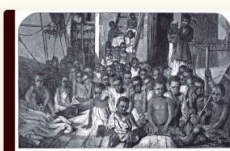


**Liberated African Yard, Bathurst, Gambia, c. 1870**  
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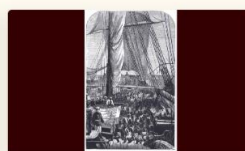


## East African Coast

### Prints



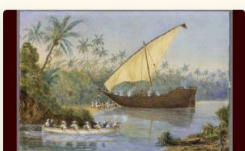
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**Dhow, Madagascar, 1884**  
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## Cuba

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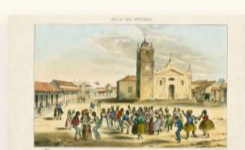
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*British Workman and Friend...*  
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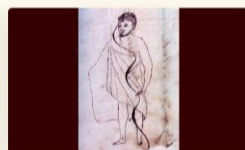
**Cuban Emancipados, England, 1855**  
*British Workman and Friend...*  
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## Brazil

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**Emancipado, Rio de Janeiro, 1830**  
Arquivo Historico do Itamaraty  
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**Shipwreck at Cabo Frios, Brazil, 1800s**  
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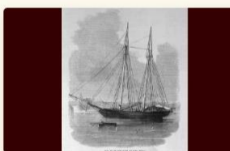
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## British Caribbean

### Prints



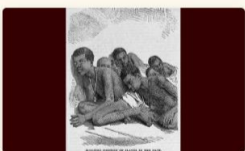
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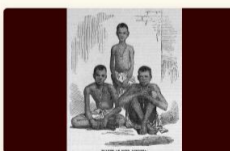
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## St. Helena

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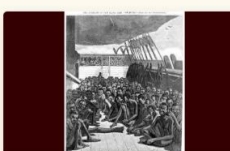
**Hurricane, Jamestown, 1846**  
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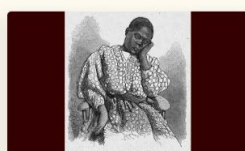
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## United States

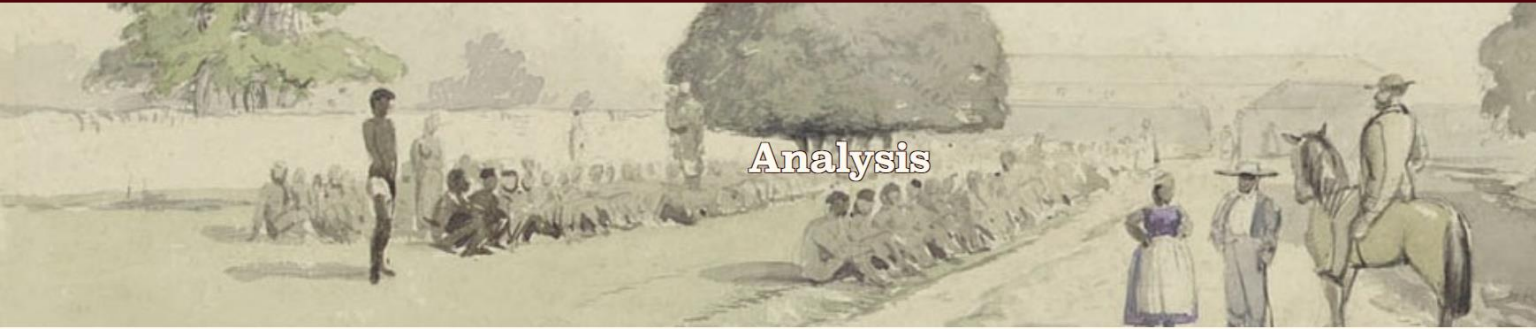
### Prints



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**Princess Madia, Florida, 1860**  
Harper's Weekly  
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# Analysis

## Gender & Age in the Caribbean

In the Caribbean Registers of Liberated Africans, sex and height required a simple assessment and measurement of the human body. People were labeled as either varón (male) or hembra (female). Height was measured in feet and inches, which have been converted into inches and centimeters to calculate averages easily. In this dataset consisting of 10,391 individuals, 72 perc...

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## African Ethnicity in Cuba

One of the most unique component of the Registers of Liberated Africans from the Havana Slave Trade Commission is the nación column. This detail refers to a series of colonial terms which referred to past perceptions of West African "nations." In these sources, there were 7 broad nation categories used, including: Mandinga, Gangá, Mina, Arará, Lucumí, Carabali and Congo....

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## Mortality Demographics

The total number of enslaved Africans who boarded 44 slave ships, which would eventually be tried at the Havana Slave Trade Commission, was 13,998 individuals leaving 39 West African ports. Of the 42 registers of Liberated Africans available - since none exist for the María da Glória (400 survivors) and the Negrita (195 people) - only 10,391 people were recorded out of t...

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## Resettlement Demographics in Caribbean

In its initial stages, the impact of the Havana Slave Trade Commission had on the overall trans-Atlantic slave trade to Cuba was minimal. Following the first conviction of a slave ship by the Havana Slave Trade Commission and the last known available register, over 300,000 enslaved Africans landed in Cuba. As a result, the 10,986 people issued emancipation certificated b...

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## Tribunal Legislation

Anglo-Spanish Treaty, 1817 At Madrid on 23 September 1817, Great Britain and Spain signed a bilateral treaty to abolish the trans-Atlantic slave trade. It consisted of four main sections: The principal agreement for bringing about the abolition of the trade (14 articles) Form of Passport for Spanish Vessels destined for the lawful Traffic in Slaves Instructi...

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## Tribunal Resettlement

Reasons for Removal The decision to remove Liberated Africans from Cuba to British Caribbean Colonies began in 1828. It only started to happen in 1833 and in direct result of the cholera epidemic on the island. In 1835, Richard Robert Madden, the Superintendent of Liberated Africans, wrote a 94 page report on the "Condition and Disposal of the Captured Africans at the Havana...

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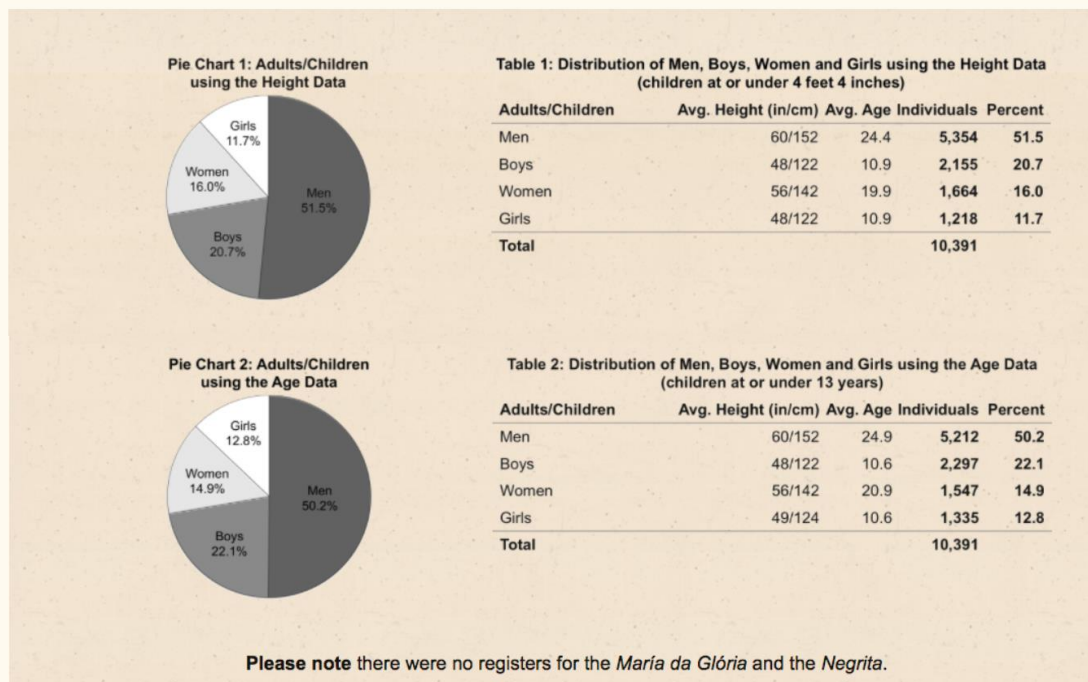


## Gender & Age in the Caribbean

In the Caribbean Registers of Liberated Africans, sex and height required a simple assessment and measurement of the human body. People were labeled as either *varón* (male) or *hembra* (female). Height was measured in feet and inches, which have been converted into inches and centimeters to calculate averages easily. In this dataset consisting of 10,391 individuals, 72 percent was male (7,509 individuals) and 28 percent was female (2,882 individuals). The average age listed was 20.5 years for males and 16.1 years for females. The average height for males was 4 feet 8 inches (142 cm) and females was 4 feet 5 inches (135 cm).

To determine the number of adults and children is problematic because the ages in these sources were guessed. However, slave traders used height to distinguish between adults and children. Paul Erdmann Isert, chief surgeon to Danish properties at Ouidah, explained how European traders bought slaves with a "measuring stick in hand." Thomas Leyland explained that "full grown" people exceeded "4 Feet 4 Inches," while children were "at and under 4 Feet 4 Inches... particularly at the Havannah." Likewise, Robert Norris confirmed that a child was "at and under Four Feet Four Inches."

Pie Chart and Table 1 represent adults as being taller than 4 feet 4 (52 inches or 132 cm), while children are considered equal to and shorter than this measurement. Pie Chart and Table 2 use the listed ages, but assumes adults were 13 years and above, while children represent 12 years and younger. The average from Tables 1 and Table 2 suggests that this sample was approximately 51% men, 21% boys, 16% women and 12% girls. As a result, there was a male/female ratio of about 5:2 and an adult/child ratio of about 2:1.



### Sources:

Harold Cohen Library, Liverpool, Leyland Papers, MS 10/49, "Letter from Leyland to Young," 15 June 1795.

Paul Erdmann Isert, *Letters on West Africa and the Slave Trade: Paul Erdmann Isert's Journey to Guinea and the Caribbean Islands in Columbia (1788)*, Selena A. Winsnes (ed. and trans.), (Accra: Sub-Saharan Publishers, [1992] 2007), 133.

Robert Norris, "Minutes," 2 June 1788, in Sheila Lambert (ed.), *House of Commons Sessional Papers of the Eighteenth Century: Minutes of Evidence on the Slave Trade 1788 and 1789*, Vol. 68 (Wilmington: Scholarly Resources Inc., 1975), 4.





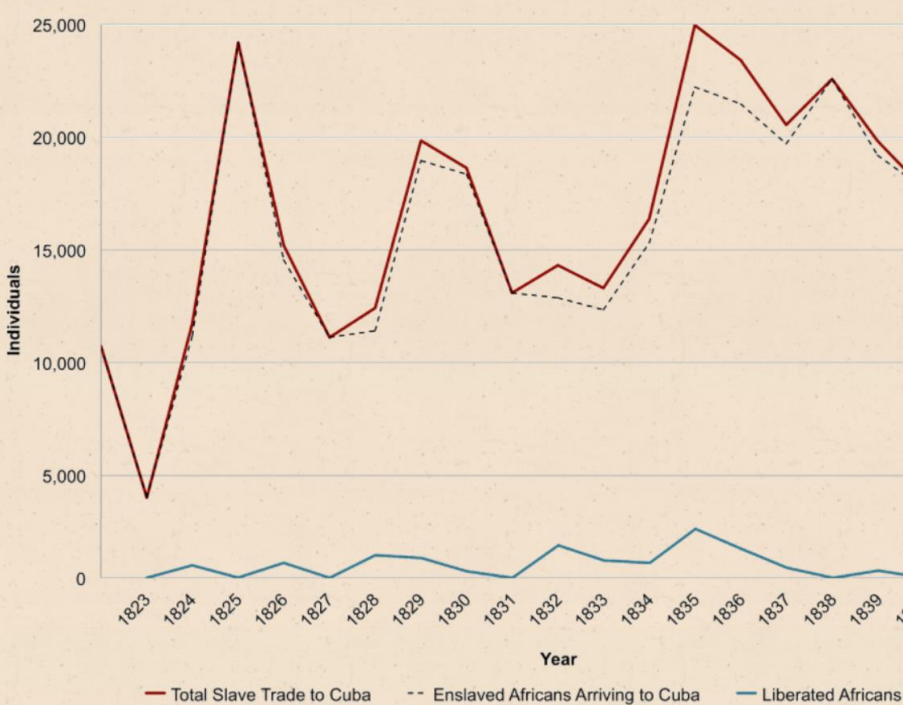
# Resettlement Demographics in Caribbean

In its initial stages, the impact of the Havana Slave Trade Commission had on the overall trans-Atlantic slave trade to Cuba was minimal. Following the first conviction of a slave ship by the Havana Slave Trade Commission and the last known available register, over 300,000 enslaved Africans landed in Cuba. As a result, the 10,986 people issued emancipation certificated between 1824 and 1841 only represented approximately 3.5 percent of total number of people arriving to Cuba at this time. For more information related to estimates of the trans-Atlantic slave trade to Cuba in this period [click here](#).

Between 1824 and 1841, the Havana Slave Trade Commission issued emancipation certificates to a total of 10,986 individuals. Of that total, 72 percent remained in Havana, 10.7 percent went to Trinidad, 10.0 percent went to the Bahamas, 4.4 went to the British Honduras and the remainder went to Grenada and Jamaica. Table 1 reflects the number of Liberated Africans who remained in Cuba, while Tables 2-6 reflect the number of Liberated Africans who resettled in Trinidad, the Bahamas, British Honduras, Grenada and Jamaica.

Even though the trials always took place in Havana, none of the enslaved Africans on board the *Antoñica* or the *Caridad Cubana* went to Cuba, rather they landed directly in the Bahamas and Jamaica, respectively.

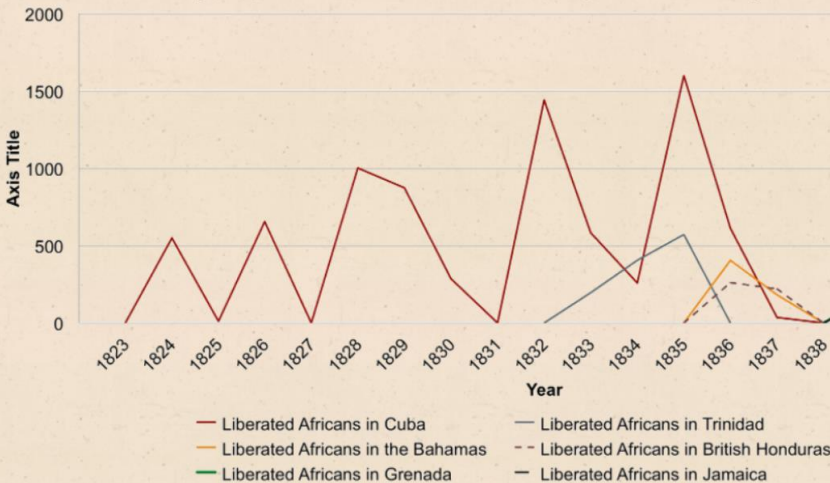
**Graph 1: Distribution of the Total Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade to Cuba and Africans Liberated by the Havana Slave Trade Commission, 1824-1841**



**Table 1: Distribution of the Total Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade to Cuba and Liberated Africans in Cuba, 1824-1841**

Year	Enslaved Africans	Liberated Africans	Total
1824	11,198	549	11,747
1825	24,182	10	24,192
1826	14,547	656	15,203
1827	11,115	0	11,115
1828	11,422	1,002	12,424
1829	18,966	875	19,841
1830	18,351	287	18,638
1831	13,096	0	13,096
1832	12,877	1,443	14,320
1833	12,536	778	13,314
1834	15,711	664	16,375
1835	22,787	2,172	24,959
1836	22,135	1,279	23,414
1837	20,107	438	20,545
1838	22,582	0	22,582
1839	19,516	318	19,834
1840	17,739	0	17,739
1841	13,609	515	14,124
<b>Total</b>	<b>302,476</b>	<b>10,986</b>	<b>313,462</b>

**Graph 2: Distribution of Liberated Africans in the Caribbean, 1824-1841**



**Table 2: Distribution of Liberated Africans in the Caribbean, 1824-1841**

Year	Cuba	Trinidad	Bahamas	British Honduras	Grenada	Jamaica	Total
1824	549						549
1825	10						10
1826	656						656
1827	0						0
1828	1,002						1,002
1829	875						875
1830	287						287
1831	0						0
1832	1,443						1,443
1833	583	195					778
1834	258	406					664
1835	1,600	572					2,172
1836	612		406	261			1,279
1837	35	183		220			438
1838	0						0
1839	0				172	146	318
1840	0						0
1841	3		509	3			515
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,913</b>	<b>1,173</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>10,986</b>

**Table 3: Distribution of Liberated Africans in Cuba by Ship, 1824-1841**

Ship	Sentence Date	Males	Females	Total
Maria da Gloria	1824-07-16	unknow		400
Relámpago	1824-12-23	93	56	149
Isabel	1825-10-25	8	2	10
Mágico	1826-01-31	105	70	175
Fingal	1826-02-20	40	18	58
Orestes	1826-03-05	183	29	212
Nuevo Campeador	1826-09-27	157	54	211
Xerxes	1828-07-12	272	113	385
Intrepido	1828-08-20	65	68	133
María	1828-12-05	1	0	1
Firme	1828-12-12	355	128	483
Josefa	1829-04-15	124	78	202
Voladora	1829-06-30	233	97	330
Midas	1829-07-14	114	94	208
Gallito	1829-11-26	104	31	135
Santiago	1830-05-21	37	63	100
Emilio	1830-06-28	84	103	187
Planeta	1832-04-26	183	53	236
Águila	1832-06-18	468	128	596
Indagadora	1832-07-09	122	12	134
Negrilo	1832-12-20	367	110	477
Negrilla	1833-04-15	0	0	0
Joaquina	1833-11-21	232	38	270
Manuelita	1833-12-17	311	2	313
Rosa	1834-02-15	77	18	95
Carlota	1834-11-21	102	61	163
María	1835-01-26	211	9	220
Julita	1835-02-21	145	7	152
Joven Reina	1835-04-07	194	60	254
Chubasco	1835-04-24	146	84	230
Marte	1835-05-08	257	69	326
Tita	1835-07-14	124	0	124
Amália	1835-11-23	198	2	200
Diligencia	1835-12-28	70	24	94
Ninfa	1836-01-25	310	86	396
Zafiro	1836-03-12	85	101	186
Preciosa	1836-07-26	23	6	29
Empresa	1836-11-07	1	0	1
Antoñica	1837-09-11	0	0	0
Matilde	1837-12-18	22	13	35
Sierra del Pilar	1839-06-21	0	0	0
Caridad Cubana	1839-08-03	0	0	0
Jesús María	1841-01-13	0	0	0
Segunda Rosario	1841-02-18	3	0	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,626</b>	<b>1,887</b>	<b>7,913</b>

**Table 4: Distribution of Liberated Africans in Trinidad by Ship, 1833-1835**

Ship	Cuba Departure	Trinidad Arrival	Voyage Length	Males	Females	Total	Voyage Deaths
Negrilla	1833-04-30	1833-05-27	27	140	55	195	6
Joaquina	1834-01-21	1834-02-27	37	5	43	48	1
Manuelita	1834-01-21	1834-02-27	37	101	63	164	1
Rosa	1834-03-01	1834-03-31	30	97	97	194	
María	1835-02-24	1835-03-11	15	60	60	120	
Julita	1835-02-24	1835-03-11	15	93	91	184	2
Tita	1835-08-04	1835-09-14	41	133	135	268	6
<b>Trinidad Total</b>				<b>629</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>1,173</b>	<b>16</b>

**Table 5: Distribution of Liberated Africans in the Bahamas by Ship, 1836-1841**

Ship	Cuba Departure	Nassau Arrival	Voyage Length	Males	Females	Total	Voyage Deaths
Empresa	1836-11-11	1836-11-19	8	357	48	406	11
Antoñica	arrived directly	1837-06-24		150	33	183	
Jesús María	1841-01-22	1841-02-04	13	136	98	234	13
Segunda Rosario		1841-03-24		201	74	275	3
<b>Total</b>				<b>844</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>27</b>

**Table 6: Distribution of Liberated Africans in British Honduras by Ship, 1836-1837**

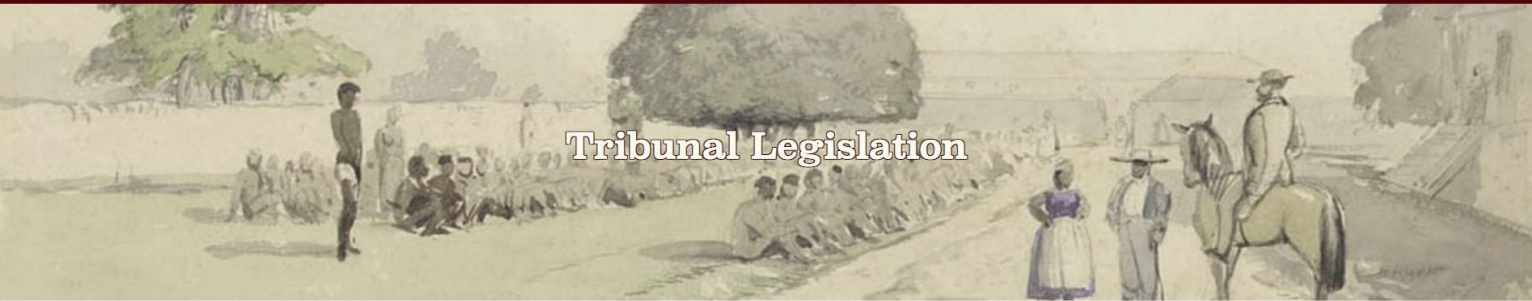
Ship Name	Cuba Departure	Belize Arrival	Voyage Length	Males	Females	Total	Voyage Deaths
Preciosa	1836-07-28	1836-08-07	10	198	63	261	10
Matilde	1837-12-31			134	86	220	1
Segunda Rosario				3		3	
<b>Belize Total</b>				<b>335</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>11</b>

**Table 7: Distribution of Liberated Africans in Grenada by Ship, 1839**

Ship	Cuba Departure	Grenada Arrival	Voyage Length	Males	Females	Total	Voyage Deaths
Sierra del Pilar		1839-06-30		99	73	172	

**Table 8: Distribution of Liberated Africans in Jamaica by Ship, 1839**

Ship	Cuba Departure	Jamaica Arrival	Voyage Length	Males	Females	Total	Voyage Deaths
Caridad Cubana	arrived directly	1839-07-03	N/A	113	33	146	



## Tribunal Legislation

### Anglo-Spanish Treaty, 1817

At Madrid on 23 September 1817, Great Britain and Spain signed a bilateral treaty to abolish the trans-Atlantic slave trade. It consisted of four main sections:

1. The principal agreement for bringing about the abolition of the trade (14 articles)
2. Form of Passport for Spanish Vessels destined for the lawful Traffic in Slaves
3. Instructions for the British and Spanish Ships of War employed to prevent the illicit Traffic in Slaves (7 articles)
4. Regulations for the Mixed Commissions, which are to reside on the Coast of Africa, and in a Colonial Possession of His Catholic Majesty (13 articles)

In addition to this treaty, the British Colonial Office issued printed booklets of additional regulations, which were distributed to the numerous Courts of Mixed Commission around the world.

1. Interrogatories for the Use of the British Commissioners, to be Administered to the Witnesses belonging to the Vessel Taken
2. Regulations for the Guidance of the Commissions Appointed for Carrying into Effect the Treaties for the Abolition of the Slave Trade

#### Resources

[Anglo-Spanish Treaty](#)

[Treaty Transcription](#)

[Procedures of Interrogation](#) (NA, CO 313/1, n.p.)

[Commission Regulations](#) (NA, CO 313/5, n.p.)

### Treatment of Liberated Africans

On 12 November 1819, the Havana Slave Trade Commission officially opened and one of the immediate concerns involved the conditions related to the well-being of people emancipated into a slave society. While there was precedents set in other courts of Mixed Commission, particularly in Sierra Leone, the British consuls at the Havana court drafted their own set of legislation in 1824. These regulations directly tied into the case of the Relâmpago or the court's first successful conviction. These conditions stipulated in 18 articles:

1. Rules of apprenticeship
2. Payment of initial care (food, shelter, blankets, etc...)
3. Polices for the issuing of emancipation certificates
4. Procedures for the production of registers of Liberated Africans

#### Resources

[Formation of regulations](#)

[Printed conditions](#) (Spanish and English)

[Procedures of Interrogation](#) (NA, CO 313/1, n.p.)

[Commission Regulations](#) (NA, CO 313/5, n.p.)

### Amendments to the Anti-Slave Trade Treaty, 1835

In 1833, Great Britain passes the Abolition of Slavery Act, to take effect in August 1834, which emancipated all slaves in the British West Indies. By June 28 1835, the 1817 Anglo-Spanish Treaty is renewed and enforcement tightened in a series of amendments to the original treaty. The 1835 Ammendments were signed on June 28 1835 by Minsiter of the State, M. Martinez de la Rosa, and Foreign Secretary, Viscount Palmerston.

The first draft of the amended treaty consisted of 15 Articles. The major amendments proposed included punishment for the captains, masters and crew of condemned vessels, but this condition was widely disputed. In total, there were 15 new articles, whereby the British sought to punish the captains and crew of condemned vessels (which was widely disputed), as well as vessels carrying specified "articles of equipment," such as extra mess gear, water barrels, lumber and foodstuffs, could be declared slavers.

#### Resources

[British Draft of the 1835 Amendments](#)

[Spanish Counter Proposal](#)

[Report of Treaty Being Signed](#)

[Printed Treaty \(1836\)](#)

### Discontinuation of the Registers

The practice of making registers of Liberated Africans at the Havana Slave Trade Commission stopped in 1841. This was largely because the cost and the time it took make the registers was very demanding. In addition, the resettlement of people from Cuba to British Caribbean colonies made the registers somewhat useless as the Spanish documents remained in Havana as people moved around the Caribbean.

The initial argument began in 1837 with the case of the Antoñica, which never landed at Havana and the register was made at Nassau. In this case, the register traveled back and forth between Cuba and the Bahamas to ensure accuarcy and make corrections. This proved to be very costly. Likewise in 1839, the Caridad Cubana landed directly at Jamaica because the enslaved Africans were suffering from small pox. This register was made in Jamaica, which also proved costly and inconvenient.

By 1840, the Foreign Office agreed that during the case of the Sierra del Pilar they "are unnecessary now when the negroes are to be sent to one of the British Colonies." In 1841, the Havana Slave Trade Commission made its final register for the Segunda Rosario, although the court continued to operate until the last slave ship from this era to reach Cuba arrived in 1867.

#### Resources

[Letter Regarding the Discontinuation of Registers \(1839\)](#)

[Letter Regarding the Discontinuation of Registers \(1840\)](#)



## Reasons for Removal

The decision to remove Liberated Africans from Cuba to British Caribbean Colonies began in 1828. It only started to happen in 1833 and in direct result of the cholera epidemic on the island. In 1835, Richard Robert Madden, the Superintendent of Liberated Africans, wrote a 94 page report on the "Condition and Disposal of the Captured Africans at the Havana." In the preamble, he summarized the decision to resettle people elsewhere. The following is an excerpt of the preamble:

*The History of the question now pending as to the disposal of the Captured Africans liberated by the Mixed Commission at the Havana may be briefly told thus*

"The experiment led to some further negotiations on the subject between Trinidad & Cuba & finally to an engagement on the part of Sir G. Hill for more than two years: that there were not fewer females than males; & that the vessels in which they were sent should be provisioned at the expense of the Spanish Government for 30 days after her arrival at Trinidad. At the same time several rules sent out by Government to be observed in the disposal of them in Trinidad with a view to secure their freedom and comfortable maintenance & be provided that none of the expense should fall on the Government at Home. This engagement remains still in force."

"On hearing of these arrangements, Col. Cockburn applied on behalf of the woodcutters of in Honduras (where labor is much wanted) for a portion of those emancipated Africans to be sent thither: which was acceded to: the same regulations & restriction which had been insisted upon in Trinidad. These it appear did not meet the views of the applicants and the application may be considered withdrawn. A third application received from British Guiana, Sir I. C. Smyth... [on] 6th August 1835 enclosed a copy of the Trinidad Ordinance relative the protection and management of indentured Africans, passed 19th March [1835], with an intimation that a portion of the Africans in question might be advantageously disposed of in British Guiana. This application waits an answer."

"In the mean time however a fourth application of a somewhat different nature was received from another quarter. Col. Colebrooke having been detained at the Havana had an opportunity of witnessing the condition of the liberated Africans there & the general desired of all parties that means should be found of removing them all without restrictions as to age or sex to some other quarters. Upon considering the subject in various points of view, he made up his mind that a considerable number of them might be favorably (for themselves at least) be settled in the Bahamas: & he afterwards distinctly recommended that they should be sent, & announced his readiness to undertake the charge of them."

### Read Full Report

"In spite of the Treaty of 1817 which it was agreed that after the year 1820 the Slave Trade should cease throughout the Spanish Dominions, great numbers of Slaves continued to be imported from the Coast of Africa into Cuba. Many of the Vessels engaged in this illegal traffic were from time to time detained by the British Cruisers and brought before the mixed Commission at the Havana for adjudication. The Vessels being condemned, the Negroes on board declared free and delivered over to the Government at the Havana (which was bound by the Treaty to guarantee their liberty) to be provided with employment as servants or free laborers... The inhabitants of Cuba looked with alarm at the rapid increase of this class of persons, and the Authorities disliked the charges & were willing to pay largely to get rid of it."

"Accordingly in June 1832 the Intendant General consulted Mr. Macleay, the British Commissary Judge, as to the practicability of re-exporting such Africans as should be emancipated by the Commission to some other place, as Sierra Leone for instance: the Spanish Government bearing the expense. This the then Colonial Secretary refused, but suggested in consequence of a representation from the Lieutenant Governor of Trinidad that they might be received in that Island. A proposal to this effect was made to the Intendant General: guarded with several restrictions & regulations respecting especially the state of health, the expense of removal, the proportion of sexes & the necessity that months notice should be given to the Lieutenant Governor of Trinidad. These restrictions the Intendant thought would cause the relief given by the measure to be very partial and uncertain & the expense & inconvenience very great. The proposal was therefore declined. This was on the 23rd January 1833."

"The arrival however, on the 10th of April while the Cholera was raging, of a captured slaver with 196 Negroes on board caused much alarm & perplexity which ended in an arrangement between the Spanish Authorities & the British Commissioners that the newly arrived Negroes, as soon as they had received certificates of emancipation, should be conveyed to Trinidad: the restrictions as to sexes and the months notice being waved in submission to the necessity of time."

## Proposed Removal from Cuba to Europe and Sierra Leone

On 15 May 1828, the Captain General of Cuba, Dionisio Vives, wrote a letter to the members of the Mixed Commission citing a need to make modifications to Article VII of the 1817 Treaty. Vives proposed that Liberated Africans "shall be withdrawn from the island of Cuba, and transported to some of the possessions or dominions of His Majesty in Europe even though it should be to Spain itself." And, the expenses should be paid for out of "the proceeds from the capture of slave vessels which may belong to the King our Lord, and if this shall not be found sufficient for the purpose that there be made, in order to realize a proper sum, a prudent repartition among all the Inhabitants of the Island."

### Read Letter

On 27 June 1828, addressed this proposition because according to Article VII, it was difficult "to deny the right of the Spanish Government to transport the emancipated slaves to Europe." However, the British Judge, William Mackleay, raised immediate concerns that "without a sufficient watch being kept on the persons employed to carry the measure into effect, a cargo of ignorant Negroes might be conveyed to Puerto Rico or even to other Ports of this Island, and there consigned to hopeless slavery." He concluded that "if due care were taken to prevent fraud in their removal to Europe the measure proposed cannot fail to be highly advantageous not merely to the peace of the Island but to the Negroes themselves who will no doubt in Europe experience better treatment." He also delayed any final decision stating that "the plan must necessarily be entirely prospective [and that] it will not affect the Negroes already emancipated who having by marriage, apprenticeship or other ties, [have] become connected with the Island." [Read Letter](#)

On 17 April 1829, the Foreign Office in London wrote to the Havana Slave Trade Commission regarding "the contemplation of the Spanish Authorities for removing from the Island of Cuba to Europe the Slaves emancipated under the Treaty of 1817." This office set forth the directives that:

1. The Havana Slave Trade Commission must report "the substance of any further communication which may be made... upon the same subject by the Colonial Authorities."
2. The British Commissioners "should be careful not to invite such communication by any overture."
3. If the the Cuban government attempts to propose a solution the response must acknowledge its receipt and "merely state, that the question is one, which must be left to the decision of the two Governments at home, abstaining from entering into a discussion of details."

### Read Letter

On 31 December 1831, the Foreign Office wrote to the commissioners at Havana because "His Majesty's Government was anxious to learn the state and condition of the negroes, who have from time to time been liberated under sentences of the Mixed Commission established at Havana." [Read Letter](#)

On 29 March 1832, William Mackleay and Charles Mackenzie expressed "an increasing dislike on the part of local authorities to His Majesty's Commissioners." In general, the question of ascertaining the number of Liberated African "still alive," was in general "avoided by the vague answer that after so many years their numbers may be expected to have experience considerable diminution." The British commissioners suggested that many could have died naturally due their health when "delivered over by the Mixed Commission to the Captain General." They also feared many were "stolen, and thus consigned to hopeless slavery." He also protested the "removal of the Negroes of the *Midas* from Cuba without the consent of his Government the only notice taken of his protest was a declaration that this removal was, from other causes, merely deferred until proper means for its execution should offer themselves." [Read Letter](#)

On 20 June 1832, William Mackleay wrote the Foreign Office explaining that the Intendant had invited him to his private home to discuss "the proposed removal of the Negroes of the *Águila*." The reason for renewing the discussion was because the number of Liberated Africans was "so great, that the local authorities will find it almost impossible to get a sufficient number of respectable responsible persons to take charge of them." Following the directives of the letter of 17 April 1829 and returning to the questions raised in the letter dated 27 June 1828, the Intendant's proposed solution involved sending the slaves to either Ceuta on the south side of the Strait of Gibraltar, or Sierra Leone. [Read Letter](#)

On 31 August 1832, Viscount Goderich of the Foreign Office replied that "the proposed removal of the emancipated blacks to the Sierra Leone in every respect - objectionable, but adds that he will consider how far it may be practicable to adopt any other mode of accomplishing the object of the Spanish Government." [Read Letter](#)

## Resettlement to Trinidad, 1833-1835

On 20 October 1832, following the objection to the proposal of sending Liberated Africans to Europe or Sierra Leone, the Foreign Office wrote the Havana Slave Trade Commission stating that there was "no objection... to the removal of such negroes... provided that certain restrictions and regulations are complied, and that the removal be effected at the expense of the Spanish Government." [Read Letter](#)

On 16 January 1833, the British commissioners at Havana wrote to the Cuban government that "the Island of Cuba may be relieved of a burden... prejudicial to its peace and welfare." Although Liberated Africans could not taken back across the Atlantic, the British Government proposed "to all who shall in future, or who who within the last two years have been emancipated by this Mixed Commission being received into the Island of Trinidad, under certain conditions and regulations." The reason for this decision was because "the voyage to Trinidad will be far more easy and less expensive."

The proposed conditions and regulations to the removal of Liberated Africans from Cuba are as follows:

1. That the said Negroes shall be sent to Trinidad entirely at the expense of the Spanish Government, suitable clothing, care and accommodation being afforded them on the passage.
2. The His Excellency the Captain General of Cuba shall give one month's notice to the Governor of Trinidad before any Negroes be embarked for the latter colony.
3. That they shall not be sent in greater numbers or at earlier periods than the Governor of Trinidad shall prescribe.
4. That the number of females shall not bear a less proportion to the males than may be fixed by the Governor of Trinidad, in order that no increase may take place in the actual disproportion which exists between the sexes in the settlements of free black in that colony.
5. That the Negroes be duly ascertained and certified by a medical person appoint by His Majesty's Commissioners, to be free from any disease which may incapacitate them for labor.
6. That children shall not be sent unaccompanied by one or both of their Parents, and that no forced separation of families shall take place.
7. That the performance of these conditions be secured by the superintendence of His Majesty's Commissioners. [Read Letter](#)

On 23 January 1833, the Conde de Villanueva rejected these proposed conditions because of "the great expense which the Spanish Government would incur for an uncertain and partial removal of the Negroes which, according to his ideas, must be the unquestionable result of the Governor of Trinidad wanting the power to fix the number of Negroes to be sent, the time of their sailing, and the relative proportion of the number of females must hear to that of males." The British commissioners suspected that the "lately introduced system of employing these Negroes in public works... has been found so advantageous as considerably to diminish the anxiety of the local authorities for their removal." [Read Letters](#)

On 11 April, the Havana Slave Trade Commission was in the process of dealing with the case of the *Negrta* in the midst of the cholera epidemic. This ship was healthy and a special committee formed involving Captain General Ricafort, the Councilor of State, Conde de Villanueva, and Chief of the Station, Angel Laborde to discuss this case. Originally they wanted to have the case tried in Sierra Leone, but this idea proved to be too difficult. Following the spirit of the 1817 Treaty, this committee stipulated 5 conditions: 1) the case could be tried in Havana "without delay. 2) The ship had to either cruise the coast or moor on one of the keys to prevent cholera from spreading. 3) Once the court proceedings are done, the Liberated Africans will be transported to another vessel which will take them to Trinidad immediately. 4) The Captain General will inform the Governor of Trinidad about the "urgent actions of public interest." And, 5) the "expenses absolutely necessary for the freighting of the new vessel be defrayed." [Read 2 Letters](#)

On 14 April, Lieutenant Bolton commander of the HMS schooner *Nimble* wrote a letter complying with the orders of the Captain General of Cuba and began cruising the coast of Cuba. [Read Letter](#)

On 16 April 1833, William MacLeay wrote to the Foreign Office describing how cholera appeared in the suburbs of Havana in late-February and how "nearly half the population of the city fled from the Havana," including the two Spanish Commissioners. Once the *Negrta* arrived to Havana on 10 April, the Captain General of Cuba appointed on 12 April an in interim judge and arbitrator. [Read Letter](#)

## Resettlement to British Honduras, 1836-1837

There is no information at this time

## Resettlement to the Bahamas, 1836-1841

There is no information at this time

## Resettlement to Grenada and Jamaica, 1839

There is no information at this time






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- French
- French proceedings initiated in Africa
- French proceedings initiated in France
- Natural hazard
- Not captured
- Original goal thwarted (human agency)
- Original goal thwarted (natural hazard)
- Ship condemned
- Ship restored
- Shipwrecked or destroyed
- Slaves disembarked in Americas
- Slaves disembarked in Old World
- Slaves embarked, transhipped or no further record
- Slaves perished with ship
- Voyage completed as intended