



HISTORICAL COHABITATION REGISTER AVAILABLE ONLINE

MontgomeryCountyVA.gov

Jan. 6, 2011

Montgomery County, Virginia – The Montgomery County Clerk of Circuit Court, Erica Williams, announced that her office has recently received notification from the Library of Virginia (LVA) that the Cohabitation Register they rediscovered has been indexed and is now provided digitally at the LVA’s website, www.virginiamemory.com/collections.

“I am pleased that the Library of Virginia has made available the index to Montgomery County’s Cohabitation Register, recently rediscovered earlier this year,” Williams said. “This information contains significant historical information to African Americans researching their genealogical history, which was previously unknown. It is my desire to continue to preserve, protect and digitize records. The Montgomery County Circuit Court’s office is grateful to the Library of Virginia for their coordinated efforts to properly preserve this document and also the Library’s work to index and provide this priceless information online to share with the public.”

According to the LVA, “The cohabitation registers were the legal vehicles by which formerly enslaved couples legitimized their pre-slavery marriages and the children of unions that no longer existed in 1866 due to death or other circumstances such as the wife being sold away. These records are invaluable resources for genealogists and historians alike.”

The records are available online through the LVA website above, on the computers in the record room at the Clerk of Circuit Court’s office in the Montgomery County Courthouse or by visiting the genealogy page on the Clerk of Circuit Court’s site at www.MontgomeryCountyVA.gov/circuitclerk.

PLACE OF BIRTH	RESIDENCE	OCCUPATION	LAST OWNER	LAST OWNER'S RESIDENCE	NAME OF WIFE	AGE
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	Farmer	George Polley	Montgomery Co. Va.	Ellen Miller	29
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	James Miller	"	Eliza James	24
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	Mary W. White	"	Priscilla Taylor	22
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	William Henry	"	Nancy James	24
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	James Brown	"	Ann James	22
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	James Brown	Montgomery	Nancy A. Brown	22
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	James Brown	Montgomery	Ellen James	22
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	Wm. L. Smith	Montgomery	Ann Taylor	22
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	Robert K. Smith	Montgomery	Martha Taylor	22
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	Wm. L. Smith	"	Ann Taylor	22
Montgomery Co. Va.	Montgomery Co. Va.	"	Thos. Brown	"	Ellen Taylor	22

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