This HeinOnline collection brings together a multitude of essential legal materials on slavery in the United States and the English-speaking world. This includes every statute passed by every colony and state on slavery, every federal statute dealing with slavery, and all reported state and federal cases on slavery. Our cases go into the 20th century, because long after slavery was ended, there were still court cases based on issues emanating from it. To give one example, as late as 1901, Chief Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court had to decide if a man, both of whose parents had been slaves, could be the legitimate heir of his father, because under southern law, slaves could never be legally married.

The library has hundreds of pamphlets and books written about slavery—defending it, attacking it or simply analyzing it, including an expansive slavery collection of mostly pre-Civil War materials from the Buffalo Erie County Public Library. The cooperation of this institution was central to developing this collection. We have also gathered every English-language legal commentary on slavery published before 1920, which includes many essays and articles in obscure, hard-to-find journals in the United States and elsewhere. We have provided more than 1,450 books and pamphlets on slavery from the 18th and 19th centuries. We have also included many modern histories of slavery. Within this library is a section containing all modern law review articles on the subject. This library will continue to grow, not only from new scholarship but also from historical material that we will continue to locate and add to the collection.

-Paul Finkelman | General Editor

RUSA's Annual List of Best Historical Materials

Slavery in America and the World was named on the annual list of Best Historical Materials during the Reference and User Services Association (RUSA) book and Media Awards Ceremony at the American Library Association’s Midwinter Meeting. The list recognizes the evaluation and effectiveness of coverage of historical resources in all fields of history and promotes the enhanced availability of historical works and information. The sources are selected by the Historical Materials committee of the History Section of RUSA, and seek to improve the usefulness of bibliographies and indexes in the field of history and shared among bibliographers, indexers, publishers, and professional associations.
The history of American slavery is one of the most important chapters in the chronicle of the United States. It was an institution that for two centuries formed a principal basis of economic and social life throughout large parts of the country. It is however perceived that this chapter of American history is very insufficiently documented. The materials help provide a better understanding of the intersection between bondage and liberty, between law and slavery. Overall the materials help provide a better understanding of the intersection between bondage and liberty, between law and slavery.

Periodicals
Browse more than 30 periodicals that encompass various topics related to Slavery and the Law and include:
- American Anti-Slavery Almanac
- Quarterly Anti-Slavery Magazine
- Slave's Friend
- And more!

Slavery Statutes
Sorted by state, and including the United States as a whole, this section includes slavery acts back to the 1600s. In the future this will include all of the free states as well. States include:

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Delaware
- Florida
- Georgia
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Missouri
- Mississippi
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia
- North Carolina
- Washington
- and the United States As Whole

Bibliography
Includes more than 500 select titles of importance to slavery and the law research. Each entry includes links to resources for finding the titles in your organization or a nearby library.

Editor's Picks
While browsing Slavery in America and the World: History, Culture & Law, users will notice gold stars next to some of the titles. These are "Editor's Picks." Paul Finkelman, the general editor, has chosen what he thinks are the most important titles to be found in this collection. Click the star icon to view a detailed description of the title. A few top editor's picks include:

- The Constitution: A Pro-Slavery Compact: Selections from the Madison Papers, &c.
- Extracts from the American Slave Code
- Judicial Cases Concerning American Slavery and the Negro
- Uncle Tom's Cabin; or, Life among the Lowly
- Unconstitutionality of Slavery

Featured Titles

**Judicial Cases Concerning American Slavery and the Negro**
Edited by: Helen Tunnicliff Catterall & James J. Hayden

This title links to more than 4,500 cases!

The history of American slavery is one of the most important chapters in the chronicle of the United States. It was an institution that formed a principal basis of economic and social life throughout large parts of the country. It is however perceived that this chapter of American history is very insufficiently documented. The reports found in this title seek to describe any instance or complication or situation that could arise from the institution of slavery in a country.

- Fettered Freedom: Civil Liberties and the Slavery Controversy, 1830-1860 (1949)
- Imperfect Union: Slavery, Federalism, and Comity (1981)
- Missouri’s Jubilee: Speech of Thomas C. Fletcher, Governor of Missouri, Delivered in the State Capitol on the Occasion of the Reception by the Legislature of the News of the Passage of the Convention Ordinance Abolishing Slavery in Missouri (1865)
- Reclamation of Fugitives from Service: An Argument for the Defendant, Submitted to the Supreme Court of the United States, at the December Term, 1846 in the Case of Wharton Jones vs. John Vanzandt (1847)
- Wells’ National Hand-Book: Embracing Numerous Invaluable Documents Connected with the Political History of America (1856)
- And Many More

**Slavery, Race and the American Legal System 1700-1872**
By: Paul Finkelman

[Joseph L. Andrews Award Recipient]

The sixteen volumes of this title are divided into seven separate series and aim to illuminate how the legal system supported slavery. Each series deals with a particular legal issue connected to slavery. Some raise major constitutional issues; others illustrate the day-to-day nature of slavery and law. The materials include the only known reports of some cases, lawyers arguments in others, and pamphlet editions of judicial opinions. They illustrate the way both supporters and opponents of slavery use the legal system and print media to support their position. Overall the materials help provide a better understanding of the intersection between bondage and liberty, between law and slavery.

These are only a few of the featured titles. Click the star icon to view a detailed description of the title. A few top editor's picks include:
Slavery Quick Finder Tool

The editorial staff carefully reviewed all titles selected for this collection and assigned each one a position on slavery, document type, jurisdiction, and topic. Use the Slavery Quick Finder tool to search for titles based on this specific criteria.

Browsing and Search options found in the Slavery Quick Finder Tool

Position:
- Any Position
- Anti-slavery
- Not Applicable
- Proslavery

Jurisdiction:
- Africa
- British Empire - Non GB
- Canada
- Europe
- Great Britain
- Haiti
- North America
- South America
- United States
- United States - Northern
- United States - Southern
- World

Document Type:
- Bibliographies/Catalogs
- Book Reviews
- Cases and Trials
- Debates
- Histories of Slavery (1890-1945)
- Histories of Slavery (post WWII)
- Histories of Slavery (pre-1890)
- Legal Documents - Constitutions
- Literature/Novels
- Newspaper/Periodical
- Pamphlets
- Poems & Songs
- Reminiscences & Autobiographies
- Reports of Organizations
- Sermons
- Slave Narratives
- Speeches
- Treatises
- Much More

Topics include:
- Abolition of Slavery and Emancipation
- Abolitionist Movements and Anti-Slavery
- Abraham Lincoln
- African Slave Trade (AST)
- American Revolution
- Anti-Abolition
- Black Authors
- Civil Liberties and Slavery
- Civil War
- Colonization
- Former Slaves
- Fugitive Slave Act
- Labor
- Law - International
- Law - U.S. Domestic
- Legal Cases Involving Slavery
- Memory and History
- Missouri Compromise
- Much more!

UNC Press Publications

Slavery in America and the World: History, Culture & Law features more than 85 publications from the University of North Carolina Press's slavery collection, including:

Black Abolitionist Papers
Edited by: C. Peter Ripley et al.

The Black Abolitionist Papers Project began in 1976 with the mission to collection and publish the documentary record of black Americans involved in the movement to end slavery in the United States from 1830 to 1865. The project was conceived from an understanding that broad spans of Afro-American history have eluded scholarly attention because the necessary research materials are not readily available. Many personal papers, business records, newspapers, and other documentary sources simply have not survived. Materials that have endured are often inaccessible to scholars and an interested public because they have not been systematically identified and collected.

The first steps of the Project were to identify, locate and microfilm 14,000 documents. Then, about 10% of the total titles were reproduced in the five-volume print set, along with written history, to tell the ambitious history of a generation of black Americans and their involvement in an international reform movement that spanned thirty-five years in the United States, the British Isles, and Canada. The written history - the volume introduction, the headnotes that precede each document, and the document footnotes - helps provide a more complete rendition by highlighting these representative documents' key elements and themes.

Southern Slavery and the Law, 1619-1860
By: Thomas D. Morris

This volume is the first comprehensive history of the evolving relationship between American slavery and the law from colonial times to the Civil War. As Thomas Morris clearly shows, racial slavery came to the English colonies as an institution without strict legal definitions or guidelines. Specifically, he demonstrates that there was no coherent body of law that dealt solely with slaves. Instead, more general legal rules concerning inheritance, mortgages, and transfers of property coexisted with laws pertaining only to slaves. According to Morris, southern lawmakers and judges struggled to reconcile a social order based on slavery with existing English common law (or, in Louisiana, with continental civil law.) Because much was left to local interpretation, laws varied between and even within states. In addition, legal doctrine often differed from local practice. And, as Morris reveals, in the decades leading up to the Civil War, tensions mounted between the legal culture of racial slavery and the competing demands of capitalism and evangelical Christianity.
Special Thank You

We would like to send a special thank you to the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library for its significant contribution to the content of Slavery in America and the World: History, Culture & Law.

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library Publications

More than 650 titles in this collection came from the Buffalo & Erie County Public Library.

Titles include:
- Appeal from the Judgments of Great Britain respecting the United States of America (1819)
- Documentary History of Slavery in the United States (1851)
- Free Speech (1861)
- History of Abraham Lincoln, and the Overthow of Slavery (1866)
- Lincoln, the Constitutional Lawyer (1932)
- Political History of Secession to the Beginning of the American Civil War (1914)
- Slavery and Anti-Slavery; a History of the Great Struggle in Both Hemispheres; with a View of the Slavery Question in the United States (1852)
- Many more!

We would also like to thank the following institutions for their generous contributions to this resource:

- College of Charleston, Addlestone Library
- Maryland State Law Library
- University at Buffalo (State University of New York)
- University of Illinois Chicago

About the Editor

Paul Finkelman is a specialist in American legal history, constitutional law, and race and the law. He is the author of more than 200 scholarly articles and 40 books, and his pieces have appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post, USA Today, and on Huffington Post. His book, Slavery in the Courtroom, received the Joseph L. Andrews Award from the American Association of Law Libraries in 1986.

He is an expert in topics such as constitutional history and constitutional law, the legal history of slavery, civil liberties, freedom of religion, the law of slavery civil liberties, and has written extensively on Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln.

Finkelman has been cited by the Supreme Court for his scholarship on racial equality and affirmative action, religious monuments in public spaces, public prayer and the Second Amendment, and he appeared as the chief expert witness in the Alabama Ten Commandments monument Case and the law suit over the ownership of Barry Bonds’ 73rd home run ball.

A Special Note from the Editor

In 1974 I began a doctoral dissertation on slavery and law. I spent months sitting in the University of Chicago Law Library looking at volumes of printed reports, trying to find every slave case decided by a northern court (there were hundreds and hundreds of them). I searched for obscure statutes from the 18th and early 19th centuries. I looked for law review articles in such long-forgotten journals as the Monthly Law Reporter and the Western Legal Observer. If only Slavery in America and the World: History, Culture & Law had existed then! I would still have had to read and analyze everything. I would have had to frame my search questions carefully. But my search for source materials would have taken months instead of nearly two years. With this library, future scholars can spend more time reading and analyzing the sources, and much less time looking for them.

-Paul Finkelman, General Editor

Slavery in America and the World is part of HeinOnline's Social Justice Suite, included free to HeinOnline Core Subscribers and any interested organizations. For more information, please contact your sales representative or our Marketing Department at marketing@wshein.com or 800-828-7571.

To register for access, please visit: https://home.heinonline.org/social-justice-suite-registration/