

Slavery in Monticello and Sullivan County, New York

Introduction

Throughout the period of legalized slavery in New York State, from the 1620s to the 1820s, the experience of the slave was nearly always recorded from the perspective of white men and women who owned, traded, and made regulations for enslaved people. Only in the 1790s do the first documents and memoirs of life in slavery authored by black New Yorkers appear ([New York Historical Society \[2005\]](#)).

Consequently, we turn to secondary sources like published histories and newspapers. The following accounts, supplemented by census records contained in the appendix, and a few other available records demonstrate that African-Americans maintained a continuous presence in and around Monticello since the community's earliest founding. Though hard to precisely count, numbers fluctuated over the decades and centuries.

According to the current Sullivan County Historian John Conway: "When Harvey Griffin became a member of the Monticello Fire Department in 1875, he was the only African-American living in the village, and one of just a handful in all of Sullivan County. In 1930, when the population of the county was just over 35,000, and the area stood poised on the brink of its Golden Age, census figures reveal there were 91 African-Americans living here. That's just over one-quarter of one percent of the population. As the resort industry began to grow, and especially once year-around resorts became popular in the 1940s and '50s, more and more African-Americans became permanent residents here. By 1980, as the Golden Age was becoming a distant memory, the number of blacks in the county had grown to 4,385 or nearly seven per cent of the total population" (email to the author, February 2, 2013; see also [Some ground-breaking African-Americans](#) [Conway, 2019a]).

To look prior to the diversification of the county's population we need to rely on written narratives, including those by early Sullivan County historian and newspaper editor James Eldridge Quinlan. Published after Quinlan's death in 1874, these texts appeared in print during 1920 and thereafter in the columns of *The Republican Watchman*, the newspaper Quinlan edited years earlier. Notably, Quinlan himself is remembered as a Copperhead who was sympathetic to the Confederacy during the American Civil War. (See "[The Trial of Abraham Lincoln](#)" [Conway, 2019b].)

In a light tone suggesting Quinlan found humor in the stories, some of his narratives recount atrocities that modern civilization would recognize as crimes against humanity (e.g. forcible castration of a black man and torture using animals).

Keep in mind that Monticello was founded by the Jones brothers in 1804 while still part of Ulster County, and Sullivan County was formed in 1809. Unlike his brother Samuel who surveyed the Newburgh-Cochecton Turnpike, Monticello founder John P. Jones is said to have been a strong opponent of slavery from earliest times. Judge William A. Thompson, the first judge of Ulster County, founder of Thompsonville, and namesake of the Town of Thompson, was also a slave-owner.

A generation after Quinlan, we still see evidence of institutional racism in the form of explicit editorial discouragement of proposed local integration project as recently as 1901, described as a “scheme [that] would be derogatory to the interests of Monticello and should be prevented if possible,” urging that “citizens who are interested should discourage... this new and yet wild enterprise.” In 2019, many would agree that racial integration remains spotty in most of Sullivan County, and the dream of economic and educational equality even in the population centers are still disparate.

According to an introduction by David M. Gold to a 1993 [reprint](#) of Quinlan's landmark [History of Sullivan County](#), originally published in 1873 (Quinlan [died](#) one year later), while it is the earliest comprehensive history of the county, its treatment of some subjects was lacking:

The book also suffers from poor organization. It includes fourteen separate town histories, arranged alphabetically, plus separate chapters on the geology, climate, and Indian background of Sullivan County and on the canal and railroads that served it. There is no overarching theme to the book, and little chronological sense.

Quinlan gathered additional material that might in some degree have redressed these problems. He first thought of including it in the History and later planned to use it in a second volume, but this material never appeared in print. Among the weightier subjects to be treated were newspaper publishing, slavery, and temperance. Quinlan's description of his anticipated discussion of slavery, however, illustrates his anecdotal and occasionally frivolous approach to history:

“Slaves and Slaveowners of Sullivan,” with several amusing accounts of Africans who were held in bondage in our county, (among others, of the manner in which Samuel F. Jones plowed a newly cleared lot in Monticello, with a spiked team, composed of a negro and a yoke of oxen)” ([Gold, 1993](#)).

These sketchy accounts are among the remaining threads affirming the existence and character of the institution of slavery in Sullivan County and those who lived under its yoke.

As related information is found and new material published, it may be added to this site. Any descendants of Sullivan residents who lived in slavery in this county are particularly invited to share their knowledge and family historical and artifacts.

[Tom Rue](#), Village Historian
Monticello, New York
March 24, 2019
tom@choicesmhc.com

69 SLAVES IN SULLIVAN CO. IN 1820

Six Cents Reward for Cato Who Ran Away

OWNED IN MAMAKATING

Nine Black Children Born at Wurtsboro After the Law of 1801

The Watchman last week published the last hunting story from Quinlan's notes. The stories were started in August and have appeared in every edition, with one exception, for four months.

This week the Watchman begins the publication of slavery of Sullivan county from 1810 to 1830. The chapter on slavery was prepared by Mr. Quinlan more than fifty years ago. It will be divided into several installments and the last division will be published some time in March. The first installment follows:

County Slavery From 1810 to 1830

Sullivan, like every other county in New York, was not free from negro slavery. Below is the number of negroes held in bondage in the county and State, as appears from census returns in 1810, 1814 and 1820; also the populations of each, and the number of slaves to every thousand inhabitants.

Year	No. Slaves		Population		Slaves per 1000	
	State	County	State	County	State	County
1810	15,017	43	961,888	6,181	15.6	7.0
1814	11,480	24	1,035,910	6,233	11.0	3.8
1820	10,046	69	1,372,812	8,900	8.0	7.7

It thus appears that in the last year named, the per centage of slaves in Sullivan county was nearly as large as the average in other counties. In 1830 the number in the State was returned as 55. In 1840 there were four slaves and in 1855 one slave in the State. None was represented to be in the county on any of those dates. The following advertisement, which is copied from the Republican Watchman of April 19, 1831, shows that slavery was still active in Sullivan and that the Marshal had neglected his duty in 1830:

"Six Center Reward

RAN AWAY from the subscriber on 3d inst. Cato, my black man, aged about 24 years; any person returning the eloper shall have the above reward; and I forbid all persons harboring or trusting the same under the penalty of the law, as I will pay no debts of his contracting. Mamakating, April 5th, 1831. Stephen Caldwell."

Cato was not the last slave of Sullivan county, nor Mr. Caldwell the last slave holder.

Until 1859 there was living in the family of Dr. John A. Morrison, of Wurstborough, a colored woman who was born a slave in 1794 and who was not freed by the law of 1817; neither was she manumitted by her owner. Her name was Dinah Westbrook. The family whom she served and so long and faithfully were much attached to her, and placed at the head of her grave a neat tombstone with a suitable inscription.

Memorandum of Black Slaves born after the act of the Legislature of the State of New York, April 1, 1801:

The following persons were slave holders, --

- Daniel Milliken, a female child born Sept. 22, 1801, name Dean.
- Johannes Masten, a male child, April 11, 1802, name Tom.
- William Anderson, a female child, July 5, 1803, name Orminde.
- Henry Newkirk, a female child, Nov. 3, 1810, name Rosannah.
- Abraham T. Westbrook, a female child, March 28, 1811, name Lea.
- Samuel Dimmick, a female child, born March 22, 1811, name Ann.
- Robert Smiley, a male child born 1810, name Marchus.
- George Smith, a female child, born Dec. 16, 1813, name Peter.

The above were recorded by Henry Newkirk, town clerk.

Johannes Masten owned nine slaves.

(Continued next week.)

The Republican Watchman, Monticello, New York, February 6, 1920

JONES HAD SLAVES AT MONTICELLO

DICK WOULDN'T WORK AND THE JUDGE SHOWED HIM HOW AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE

Negro Was Tied Ahead of An Ox Team and Chased Around the Lod He Worked Willingly

Following is the second installment of the article on slavery as prepared by James E. Quinlan, some fifty years ago for the second volume of his history of Sullivan County. Mr. Quinlan died before the volume was completed.

Near the close of the last century (written in the early 70's) measures were taken for the gradual abolition of slavery in New York, and on the 31st of March, 1817, an act was passed declaring that every male child born of a slave after July 4th, 1799, should be free at 28 years, and every female child at 25 years of age, and all born after the passage of the act when 21 years old. This law does not account for the rapid extinction of slavery after its passage. A portion of the slaves were freed by it, and another number, and perhaps a larger number, ran away like Mr. Caldwell's blackman (recorded in the Watchman last week) and thus tasted the sweets of freedom. The possession of such property became so precarious and the property itself so unproductive when retained, that slave holders took but little trouble in looking it up when they missed it. Even its best days the peculiar institution was not profitable. Generally, those who owned negroes did not hold them long, and they passed from owner to owner more rapidly than other property, because each soon grew weary of them, and found them of little or not benefit.

A gentleman (J.V. Morison) who contributed reminiscences of slavery in Sullivan county to one of the local newspapers relates the following facts:

The older citizens of Monticello, Bloomingburgh and Liberty remember when the buying and selling of slaves was common in Sullivan County, and some of the negroes who were thus put in the mark were living as late as 1860. Samuel F. Jones, one of the first Judges of the county, was the owner of slaves. He resided at the time where General Archibald

C. Niven now lives. Wanting to clear a piece of land opposite the village green, on the corner of Main and Foundry streets, he went to Orange county, and brought an old yoke of oxen and a black man named Dick. The lands were soon cleared, when the Judge ordered Dick to take the oxen and plow it. This was not easily done, as the ground was full of roots and the oxen were poor and weak. Moreover, Dick was lazy and did not like the job at all. Consequently, as soon as he fully appreciated the nature of the work required of him, he slipped away into the woods in what is now a portion of the village, where he remained until night, when hunger and fear drove him to his master's kitchen. Day after day the Judge set him at the work, but always with the same result. Jones believed the fellow deserved a flogging, but shrank from applying the lash to his back. He resolved to cure him in another way. Moral suasion was of no use. Legal suasion (flogging) not to be thought of; so the Judge tried 'ox suasion.' Dick, as usual, had passed the day among the laurels of Fairchild's pond, or in the morass of the Third Ward, and in the evening sneaked into the kitchen, and, after getting a bite went up into the garret to his bunk, where Jones fastened him there by securing the door. The next morning he was taken to the rooty and stumpy lot to which he had such an aversion, and a bundle of hay lashed to his back. He was then hitched ahead of the oxen, which had not been fed that morning, and were consequently very hungry. Thus was he driven around a few hours. The team, seeing and smelling the hay, strained every nerve to get at it, and Dick fearing that he would be bitten, hooked and trampled upon, with protruding eyeballs, and chattering appeals for mercy, made lusty exertions to keep out of the way. When he began to be exhausted, and slackened his pace, the oxen, still eager to swallow the hay, would butt him ahead, and not only renew but add to his terrors. After the African's satan, in visible form, had been after him, he would not have been more frightened. The experiment was successful. Dick was effectively cured of going into the woods when required to do a difficult job.

Many years afterwards, John P. Jones, the brother of Samuel F., became a zealous anti-slavery man, took an active and influential part with the Van Buren free soil, and subsequent with the Republican party when it was reported of him that he had been a slave holder, and a very cruel one. One of the charges made against him was that he had yoked one of his negroes to an ox, and the ill assorted team ploughed his ground! The story was absurd, as no plowing could thus be done. All the foundation there was for it is what we have related.

(Continued next week.)

The Republican Watchman, Monticello, New York, February 13, 1920

LAZY SLAVE REFUSED TO BE AMBITIOUS

NO SLAVE CURE WOULD MOVE HIM TO WORK

Sold to An Orange County Man Who Sued the Sullivan County Man for Damages

The following article is the third installment on slavery from the pen manuscripts of James E. Quinlan:

The selling of slaves, like the dealing in horses, sometimes led to lawsuits. A gentleman who lived on the east side of the Shawangunk mountain owned a young, black fellow who was as fond of the wenches as some of our modern beaux are of the society of young ladies. It was not convenient to let him marry, and thus cure him, if marriage could do so; and it was still more inconvenient to have him, when he had work to do, philandering among the Dinahs and Phillises of the neighborhood. So, his master cured him and he no longer "knocked at the doah" of kitchens where dark browned ladies were found in that day. He was more than cured of his infatuation, but he wouldn't work. He was as worthless as he was lazy. He tried every trick of the slave-owners trade, but it was to go. Finally in exasperation he sold him to a gentleman in Montgomery, Orange county, to whom he represented the slave as not likely to run away and willing to stay home about his master's business. A high price was paid for Sambo -- the highest price ever paid for a slave in this section of the State. He was a spanking big fellow, and every year grew larger and fatter, but his new master found him the laziest fellow the sun ever shone upon. Threats, promises and other incentives, including a few wind-storm floggings,

had no effect on him whatever. After a time the new owner took his prize man to the doctor, and then follow a suit at law in Supreme Court and heavy damages were recovered from the first owner.

It was one of the most sensational cases tried in the courts of that day.

The Republican Watchman, Monticello, New York, February 20, 1920

SOUTHERN 'GEMAN' JUST 'SCAPED LICKIN

HIS ARROGANCE NO GOOD HERE BEFO' CIVIL WAR

Came Up With Two Slaves and "Upper" Class Didoes Led Farmers to Take Slave -- One of the First Fugitive Slave Trials in North Resulted.

(Third installment on "SLAVERY IN SULLIVAN COUNTY," from QUINLAN'S HISTORY" hitherto unpublished manuscript.)

One of the first, if not the first, fugitive slave suits in the north, took place in Monticello. It was before the existence of later anti-slavery societies and parties, and was quite a spontaneous affair. Dr. Isaac Foote and a lady, who were of some standing in society and of considerable wealth, came from Virginia to Monticello bringing with them two of their favorite slaves, a man and a women. The man, whose name was George, was a Baptist preacher and the woman, Ona, a pretty mulatto. The first was a coachman and the other the waiting maid of her mistress. Both promised to return, after five months' residence at the north, to their homes in Virginia. (Dr. Isaac Foote was the son of Dr. Malichai Foote, of Thompson. The family were from Westchester county, N.Y. The younger Foote removed to Virginia, and there married a lady of that state, by whom he acquired several slaves.)

The time designated for their return slipped away satisfactorily. The preacher exercised his gift occasionally and many became interested in him, and pitied his condition. The evening before the day of departure, the goods were all packed, and Jonathan Hoyt of Tannersdale, engaged to take them to Newburgh. During the night, someone awoke the black man by tapping on his window; then got him out and took him to the house of a name named Vaughn, who lived a few rods beyond the dwelling of Orian Day Shaver. Here George remained a short time and then crossed to the residence of Col. Andrew Comstock, and went to work for him. Comstock lived at that time about one mile from Monticello on the Liberty road.

Doctor Foote deferred his departure because his coachman was missing. Making inquiries he soon ascertained the whereabouts of George, and proceeded to secure him, being accompanied by a constable named Samuel Adams from the neighborhood of Thompsonville but subsequently of Glen Wild. He found George threshing in Comstock's "lower barn," and assisted by Adams, at once proceeded to tie the black man's hands behind his back, and the two were about to take him to a wagon standing in the road. At this moment, Comstock, who had been foddering his cattle at his "upper barn," came to the threshing floor, with a hay fork in his hands, and seeing George tied, demanded of Foote his business, why the negro was bound, etc. The Doctor told him, when Comstock, with an angry exclamation, proceeded to untie the cord which bound George's wrists. A stormy scene ensued. The southern gentleman flourished a pistol and threatened to shoot the northern farmer, while the latter ORDERED THE SOUTHERN 'GENTLEMAN' TO LEAVE THE PREMISES, OR HE WOULD PITCH HIM OUT WITH HIS FORK AS HE WOULD MANURE FROM HIS STABLE.

Both were men of very positive character, and a little reckless withal. The controversy, however, resulted in a compromise, like many other disputes between the north and the south. Comstock offered to take the negro before Peter F. Hunn who was then a Justice of the Peace. This proposition was accepted by Foote, who probably knew that he had neglected some legal formula. He then left, in company with Adams, WITHOUT "HIS PROPERTY".

(Adams occupied a farm belonging to the late Hon. Wm. A. Thompson. Judge Thompson was a friend of Dr. Isaac Foote, who acted under his service while attempting to secure the black man.)

At the time agreed upon Comstock appeared before Hunn with the fugitive, and Foote proceeded to move his right to the slave. The law as then existent favored him. BUT OUTSIDE A MOB GATHERED.

THEY TARRED AND FEATHERED ADAMS AND RODE HIM ON A RAIL. BOTH GEORGE AND ONA WERE FREED.



(The Civil War clouds were then gathering. Monticello had a few "copperheads" in those days as it had all through the war and later. But mostly in this county, even boys whose traditions were aristocratic, fought slavery and the undemocratic south it fostered to a finish. See the monument on the village green, the cannon in front of the co't house or any Grand Army Man, his sons, his grandsons, his "nevvies" or his friends, for further and more earnest particulars. THERE ARE NO SLAVES ANY MORE AND THE WHOLE CIVILIZED WORLD IS A DEMOCRACY thanks to the north and the south, the east and the west whose 75,000 sons and not a few daughters lie under the wooden crosses in far off France. To the American Legion, God bless them. -- Editor.)

The Republican Watchman, Monticello, New York, February 27, 1920

MONTICELLO NEGRO HID BY QUAKERS

GIRL GOING TO VIRGINIA WAS SECRETED IN NEWBURGH.
DURING SLAVERY DAYS

Monticello Woman Saw Her Twelve Years Later on Hudson River Board But She Eluded Her.

Following is the fourth installment of Quinlan's manuscript history of slavery in Sullivan county:

Ona, the mulatto girl referred to in last week's Watchman, as having been brought to Monticello with George, another slave, was sent by her master en route for Virginia. The Quakers got hold of her in Newburgh, and secreted her also. (George, who had run away a few days previous, was in hiding.) About twelve years afterwards a lady of Monticello was on a Hudson river steamboat, and saw Ona, who was employed on it as a cook. She met the ex slave in the evening. In the morning "the bird had flown" and has not been seen by any one who knew her early history.

It has been reported of George, with how much truth we will not here determine, that he remained her long enough to bring his white friends to grief; that he reduced a white girl to shame while he and she were employed by Doctor Apollas B. Hanford and did not cover his irregular love with a marriage certificate.

Foote brought no more from Virginia. He, however, took one from Thompson to that State. He got him from Livingston Billings for a horse. As he was a worthless fellow who was sold every year or two, there was no sympathy for him, and his last owner was allowed to deport him, although there is room to believe that the act was illegal.

Dr. Malechai Foote, father of Isaac, resided here for several years, and cleared the old poor house farm on the McAdam zed road of Bridgeville. He also built the house on the rocks, which with the farm, was afterwards sold to the county, and used for the poor until it was burned down several years ago. He was the maternal grandfather of William H. Cady.

[The alms house burned March 19th, 1860, and the county bought the present farm near Thompsonville of Coe Durland for \$3,200 and sold the Bridgeville site to Capt. Neil, father of our townsman, Alex Neil. The Captain, we believe, was keeper at the time of the fire, and although the fire was quick and fierce, the poor and the insane, of whom there were many of both classes, escaped the flames. The first pauper to be recorded on the books of the poor house was Lydia Hector, who died there a very old woman. When she came she was accompanied by her four children, and since that date she has had grand children and great grand children who have been numbered among the inmates.]

On the rocks where the old house stood is Rubin's large boarding house commanding a magnificent view of the Neversink valley. -- Ed.]

SLAVERY AS KNOWN IN MONTICELLO

LAZY POMP COULDN'T WORK BUT COULD EAT.

While Asleep Dog Scratched His Eyes and Ears Full of Dirt.

Following is the fifth article on slavery in Sullivan county taken from Quinlan's manuscript:

The slaves were an endless source of amusement to the boys. Their unfortunate condition excited sympathy; their black skins, wooly beads, broad noses, thick lips, &c., were interesting; and their manner of speech and bearing odd and ludicrous. It may be said with truth that the juveniles preferred listening to the adults' stories and witnessing the antics of the young Africans to almost anything else.

Richard R. Vooris, a lawyer who was co-temporary with Livingston Billings and Charles Baker, had a black man whose name was Pomp, a negro who loved sleep, and the company of yellow girls much better than work. We are not certain that Pomp was a slave, but his proclivities seem to prove that he was. His master believed he was the laziest and most inefficient negro in the county, and on account of Pomp, entertained a very unfavorable opinion of Africans in general.

On one of the lots in Division 27 owned by Cornelius Ray, there was an unenclosed meadow which had been abandoned by some squatter or settler. Vooris, who was Ray's agent, had charge of his possessions in Thompson, wished to enclose this lot with a brush fence, and at the proper time mow it for his own benefit. How to get the fence made was a puzzle to him. He knew that he could send Pomp to do the work; but he knew, too, that Pomp would never get the job done, so as to keep out vagrant cattle. He would not do it himself because it was work for which an aristocratic lawyer could not engage in without detriment to his standing as a gentleman. He finally solved the difficulty by employing Miner Benedict, who was then a lad, to go with Pomp, and superintend the work, first enlightening Benedict as to the utter worthlessness of not only Pomp but the entire negro race.

The two accordingly went to the field mentioned, which was in the neighborhood of the Mongaup. Pomp pretended to work until noon, but succeeded in doing next to nothing. He then devoured his luncheon, stretched himself on his back in the bushes for an afternoon nap and was soon snoring as only a lazy, overfed negro can snore.

Benedict had a dog which would find a woodchuck or squirrel, if one was near. This dog discovered the hole of a chipmunk four or five feet from Pomp's head, and once, after the manner of dogs, went to work at it. The ground was free from stones and roots and was soft and pliable, and old Bose soon made a respectable mound close by Pomp's wool. Getting tired of scratching with his head and down and tail up, Bose backed out of the hole he had made and concluded he would get the mound out of his way. He accordingly perched himself upon it with his stern toward Pomp, and gave it a moderate rake with his hind feet, sending a quart or two of the loose soil over the negro's head and face. This caused the latter to open his eyes and mouth very wide, but before he could exclaim "Gosh a'might!" Bose, finding that the remaining earth would not hurt his feet, gave a prodigious rake with both his fore and hind paws, and not only filled the darkey's ample eyes and mouth, but half buried him beneath an avalanche of dirt.

It is needless to say that Pomp did not sleep any more that afternoon, and then he went to work industriously to remove the soil from his wool, eyes and mouth.

That fence wasn't finished.

COCHECTON TURNPIKE OPENED WAY TO COUNTY SETTLEMENTS

Slavery existed here in the early days of the county. Some of those born in slavery and bequeathed by their masters to our citizens were still living years after the Civil War. The older citizens of Bloomingburgh, Monticello, Fallsburgh, Liberty and Cohecton could remember the time when the buying and selling of slaves was a common affair in this and adjoining counties, the 2nd volume of the Ulster Gazette, as well as the Republican Watchman in its early editions carried advertisements offering them for sale the same as other property.

One of our Judges at the time owned slaves in this county. He resided at or near the home which was occupied by General Niven for a number of years. Being desirous of clearing up a piece of land where James William's store was then located, the Judge went to Orange County and purchased a yoke of old oxen and a negro named Dick. He soon cleared the land, and wishing to sow it asked Dick to plow it. Dick was very lazy and slipped away into the woods in what is now a portion of the Village of Monticello and did not return until night for his meals. After playing this game a few times the Judge concluded he would shame Dick out of it what he described as "ox Susasion."

Dick was secured in his room a few nights afterward and the next morning with a bundle of hay tied to his back hitched ahead of the oxen, and driven around a few hours. Every time Dick would stop the ox would but him ahead, and one lesson in this manner cured him effectively.

The underground railroad sometime afterward was in full operation. Doctor Foote and lady, from Virginia of high standing and considerable wealth, came on a visit for their health to Monticello bringing a couple of their favorite slaves with them. One of the slaves was a sort of Baptist preacher, and the other was a beautiful mulatto. The first was coachman, the other attended as servant maid to her mistress. Both of them promised faithfully to return after five months residence at the north, to their home in Virginia.

The five months slipped away satisfactorily. The night before the time of departure, the goods were all packed and Jonathan Hoyt engaged to take them to the city. During the night someone rapped on the window and got the black man out and secreted him a few miles north of here. Measure were taken under the advice of counsel and the slave arrested and brought before Peter F. Hunn, Esq., Justice. The possession of the slave as property was abundantly proven. At this juncture of affairs, a large body of men marched into Hunn's office, and forcibly took away the slave, and secreted him effectually.

The wench, Ona, was sent by the gentleman to New York, en route for Virginia. The Quakers got a hold of her and secreted her also. About twelve years afterwards she was seen by a lady of Monticello on board one of the Hudson River steamers. She was discovered in the evening and in the morning was missing.

The gentleman and lady being disguised with the treatment received returned after a short time to Virginia.

A rich affair occurred at an early period in our history. One of the slaves owned in the east side of the mountain as his master thought, was rather too affectionate towards ladies of color, and his master concluded to put an end to his ruling propensity a certain operation was performed which cured him effectually. The slave grew fat and plump, and also lazy. His master finally concluded he would sell him to a man near Montgomery recommending him as not likely to run away and loving to stay at home about his master's business. A purchaser was soon found and Sambo disposed of at a high figure.

The new master found him the laziest fellow that sun ever shone on and threats and promises had no effect on him whatever. At last the secret was found out and a suit at law in the Supreme Court followed.

In 1810 there were 43 slaves in Sullivan County; in 1814 there were 24; in 1820, there were 69. While the number of slaves in Sullivan was quite large in 1820 we find that in the State generally the number had rapidly diminished: In this State in 1710 there being 21, 324; in 1800, 20613; in 1810, 15,017; in 1830, 56; in 1840, 4; and in 1855, only one.

The Observer, Sullivan County Historical Society, Hurleyville, New York, February 1987.

Sullivan County Slaves

Last month's article covered the slaves of New York State in general, while this month will cover a little of the Sullivan County slaves.

It is quite apparent that little, if anything at all, was ever compiled regarding the subject, so what little there is, is taken from a clipping found here and there over the years.

One of the reasons being that the majority of this area was not settled until such a late date, would also help account for the fact that, there probably were relatively few slaves in the area.

From the records of the old Reformed Dutch Church of Bloomingburg which was formed in 1820 we find "Early membership rolls list several persons marked colored. All probably were slaves as they bear names of some persons known to own slaves. Slaves were buried outside the old cemetery as evidenced by stones along the western fence". It is also probable that the "colored" sat in pews in the balcony area.

In Liberty, Dr. Rosetta Sherwood Hall, the Korean Missionary lady, wrote in 1920 about her grandfather and his family coming to the Liberty area from Fairfield County, Connecticut. She wrote as follows¹

"Early in the spring of 1808 grandfather and grandmother decided to take their growing family to the Blue Mountain Settlement."

"Grandfather sent his servant Bill, a colored man, on before him a day or two. Bill drove a yoke of oxen attached to an old fashioned yankee "butterfly cart" containing corn, etc. He also drove a hog which he fed along the road, with corn from the cart. Grandfather and family followed in a large wagon drawn by horses, carrying with them provision, clothing and a few necessary articles of furniture. They went to Newburgh, and then came into Sullivan County by way of the Newburgh and Cohecton Turnpike which was then uncompleted. It was a long and tedious journey."

"Before Grandfather caught up with Bill he used to inquire along the road if anyone had noticed such a person passing that way. It was no trouble to indicate who he meant for the strange rig had attracted a good deal of attention

Along the way, and the people would answer, 'Yes we saw a blackman, a black dog, a black hog, a black ox and a butterfly cart pass this way a short time ago. About 1813, Grandfather gave Bill his freedom and he went to Kingston where he became a hostler, and by dint of faithful service, and careful savings, he became a rich man- so that he was able to buy his cloths off the same piece of broadcloth that the aristocrats of Kingston did- very much to their chagrin." We also find that Samuel F. Jones, one of the Jones brothers that founded the Village of Monticello was a slave owner. The other brother, John, was active in the anti-slavery cause.

The following is taken from an article written in 1954 by the Monticello Sesquicentennial Committee. [*Editor's note: Earlier published accounts, including those above, identify the name of the man who was hitched to oxen as "Dick" rather than "Slick".*]

"Slick, a slave owned by Jones was asked to plough a piece of land at the corner of what is .. now Broadway and Spring Streets. The oxen assigned to the job were old and weak and Slick was lazy. Day after day he slipped into the neighboring woods to rest in their welcome shade. After dark he would return to his home for food and sleep. Slick's exasperated owner finally got his field ploughed by use of the following strategy.

The oxen were not fed in the morning and consequently were unusually hungry. A bundle of hay was fastened to Slick's back and he was harnessed in front of the oxen. Smelling food, they strained to reach it. Fear drove Slick forward and the faster he moved, the faster the oxen dragged the plough after them. The field was ploughed in record time and Jones was reported to have been proud of the expedient, though the day in which. we live questions its rightness."

Finally from the March 30, 1967 *Sullivan County Record* - under "Down the Decades - 70 years ago, (which would make the year of happening 1897):

The last reminder of the institution of negro slavery and the last subject of that specie of bondage living in Sullivan County, died at the County Alms House March 22. Her name was Jennie Thompson and she was brought into this county early in the century by William A. Thompson, the first Judge of the County, and at that time the most prominent resident. She remained Judge Thompson's chattel until 1826, when she was freed with. all other slaves by the law of the State. After she became free, she preferred to live with her old master as a hired servant. She was 87 years old and as black as coal."

The Dutch West India Company established New Netherland as a trading post and in 1626 brought over the first company - imported slaves from Africa, eleven in all. They were put to work on the company farms and the construction of public buildings and military works. The Company intended to be the sole importer, but by 1648 the slave trade was opened to all. At the time of the English conquest of New Netherland in 1664, Negro slaves constituted probably about 10% of the total population.

Following the takeover by the British, the number of slaves in the Colony increased dramatically until New York finally came to have the largest Slave population among the non-plantation English Colonies in the New World. By 1723 almost 15% of the population was Negro and it remained there until at least 1756. Until nearly the close of the Colonial period, Negroes were concentrated mostly in New York City and the surrounding Counties of Kings, Queens, and Richmond. It. was .not until the white population in the upper Hudson Valley increased in the 1760's and 1770's that

there was a growth in the number of upstate slaves. In this upstate area, slaves were used as agricultural laborers on farms, as servants in the houses, in manufacturing, in commerce and in a variety of skilled and semi-skilled occupations. The use of Negro slaves in New York was vastly broadened by the widespread practice of hiring out slaves to non-slave owners who needed their particular skills. Individuals could hire Negroes from their owners by the day, month or year.

Although some masters owned bands of over 30 slaves, in the closing years of the Colonial period, few individuals owned more than 10 slaves and the average master had between one and three slaves in the household.

In New York the Negroes did not usually work in large gangs at simple repetitive tasks under the eyes of hired overseers. Either in the city or on the farm the New York Negro was likely to live in his master's household and work along side him in the fields or at his place of business. He was of course a slave, but a personal relationship between black slave and white master existed which was not likely on a large Southern plantation.

Slaves in New York were legally considered to be property and were taxed as property, could be bequeathed and inherited, and of course bought and sold. In theory, if not in practice, slaves could not legally be married or hold or transmit property, with the single exception of land given to slaves as a reward for service during the American Revolution.

Antislavery first became a live political issue in New York in the 1760's when the Colony joined the chorus of opposition to the British regulatory acts which many felt were unfair and unjust. 'At first, during the Revolutionary War, the official British position was to treat the slaves as neutrals, but in 1779 Sir Henry Clinton, then Commander-in-Chief of the British forces in America, directed that all slaves who sought asylum with the English be granted their freedom and during the 7 year occupation by the British of New York City thousands of slaves escaped or earned their freedom fighting for the Patriot side.

In the 15 years from 1771 to 1786, the white population in New York State grew by about 47 percent while the Negro population declined by about 5 percent. This made a decline in the cost of hiring free labor to the point where free workers could compete successfully with slave laborers. The economic benefits of slavery as a labor institution was removed.

An abolition bill to free the slaves was introduced in the 1785 session of the State Legislature but it was not until 1799 that the Legislature approved a gradual emancipation bill. This bill provided that all male children born to a slave woman after July 4, 1799 were to be freed at age 28, and the female children at age 25. Those slaves born before July 4, 1799 were not freed until a second emancipation act was passed in 1817. Slaves could still be brought into the State by outsiders, but after 1817 no New Yorker could own a slave.

Source: David Kobrin (1971). *The Black Minority in Early New York*, New York State Education Department, Albany, Office of State History, 50 pp.



Death of the oldest colored woman in the County

She was born a slave and refused to leave her Master when freedom was granted by the State. ay before yesterday there died at the County Farm, Virginia Gregory, the oldest colored woman in the county and the last of the few who were held in the bonds of slavery. She was eighty seven years old and up to within a few hours of her death, she was hale and hearty, her only weakness lay in being a victim of rheumatism.

When she was five years old she was bought by Judge Wm. Thompson, the man after whom this town of Thompsonville was named and the first Judge of the Sullivan County Court of Common Pleas. When she was fourteen, slavery was abolished in the State and one of the Judge's daughters, now Mrs. Helen M. Allyn, told her she was free and could go away if she wished. "Go yourself" she retorted. I have just as much right here as anybody." And she stayed on working for the Thompson family until her rheumatism would permit her to work no longer.

When pretty well on in years she married a Methodist preacher named "Gobe" Gregory and settled down as the Thompson Domestic, in the little house built for her by the Thompson family. She was aristocratic and never would associate with anyone whom she did not consider socially equal to the Thompson family.

A few years ago while she still lived in her little cottage at Thompsonville, she gave a little tea party to which she invited the descendants of her old Master and a few other friends. Among those present was Judge Van Wagoner of St. Louis, MO. Her burial took place today and she was buried in the old Thompsonville Cemetery at Thompsonville.

Contributed by William Buchman of South Fallsburgh, N. Y.

Editor's note: No memorial stone marked with the name of Jennie or Jane Thompson (or Gregory) can be identified in the Thompsonville cemetery where Judge William A. Thompson and his family are buried. However, there are several unmarked stones and some so heavily worn by weather that they are no longer legible.

See photos from the cemetery at <http://photography.tomrue.net/graves/ny/thompsonville>

Sullivan County Record, Jeffersonville, New York, December 11, 1896, p. 1.

An Old Slave

Probably the only slave left in this county is Jennie Thompson, now 86 years of age and an inmate of the alms house. She was brought to Thompsonville by Judge William A. Thompson in 1826, when she was five years old, and lived with the Thompson family until the slaves were set free in this state, which was in 1826. — Watchman.

Sullivan County Record, Jeffersonville, New York, April 1, 1897, p. 1.

Obituary

Death of a Former Slave

The last reminder of the peculiar institution of negro slavery and the last subject of that species of bondage living in Sullivan county died at the county alms house March 22. Her name was Jenny Thompson, and she was brought into the county early in the century by William S. Thompson, the first judge of the county and at that time the most prominent resident. She remained Judge Thompson's chattel until 1826, when she was freed with all the other slaves by a law of the state. After she became free she preferred to live with her old master as a hired servant. She had always been treated kindly as a slave, and through life cherished a warm affection for her master and his family and descendants. She was married to a traveling preacher of her own color and tried matrimony for a time, but she found it incompatible with her temperament, and she separated from her reverend spouse and returned to the Thompsons. She was 87 years of age and as black as a coal, a stormy temper with a size and strength to make it disagreeable to those who tried to impose upon her. Here remains were interred in the cemetery at Thompsonville by the side of her deceased husband, Rev. Cobe Gregory, the expense of her burial being defrayed by Mrs. Helen Gayle Allyn, a daughter of the Judge Thompson, and K.D.L. Niven, postmaster of Monticello, who is a great-grandson of that gentleman. -- Watchman.

The Sun, Friday, March 26, 1897, p. 2.

Sullivan County's Last Slave

Fourteen When Slavery Was Abolished in New York -- Dead at the Age of 87.

Monticello, N.Y., March 25. - Virginia Gregory, the oldest colored woman and last slave in Sullivan county, died in the county poorhouse, at the age of 87, on Tuesday. She was a hale and hearty woman, with the exception of rheumatism, until within a few hours of her death. When she was five years old she was brought by Judge William Thompson, who was the first Judge of Sullivan county, and after whom the town of Thompson, of which this place forms

a part, was named. When she was 14 years old slavery was abolished in New York State, and when one of Judge Thompson's daughters, now Mrs. Helen M.A. Allyn, told her she was free and could go away if she desired she retorted:

"Go yourself; I have just as much right here as anybody."

She stayed on working for the Thompson family until her rheumatism forbade her working longer. When somewhat advanced in years she married "Cobe" Gregory, a negro preacher, and they settled down near the Thompson homestead in a little house built for them by the Judge. She was rather aristocratic and would not associate with an one whom she did not consider the social equal of the Thompson family. A few years ago she gave a little tea party to the descendants of her old masters and their friends. One of the guests was Judge Van Wagoner of St. Louis.

Sullivan County's last surviving freed slave



Jennie (or Jane) Thompson was five when she was bought by Judge William Thompson, for whom the Town of Thompson is named; the first Judge of Sullivan and Ulster Counties. After slavery was abolished in New York in 1826, Judge Thompson's daughter, Helen Allyn, reportedly told Jane she was free to leave. "Go yourself," was the alleged retort. Jenny married a Methodist preacher named Cobe Gregory. By 1870, she was single again, 50, a domestic worker on the farm of Squire and Anna Reynolds near Monticello's Frank Leslie Hotel. By 1880, now a widow, 60, she lived alone, "keeping house". Census records describe her as born in New York; parents' birthplace "Don't know." An 1896 a report on the county's poor farm notes, "the oldest female is black Jennie the old Thompson slave who was born in 1810." She died at 87, one year later [in 1897], and is reportedly buried in the Thompsonville cemetery. In 1810, there were seven slaves in the township, a year after its founding; and nine in 1820. (Photo courtesy of Daniel K. Niven). From *Monticello, Images of America*, Arcadia Publications, by Tom Rue, 2010.

[Editor's Note: One obituary gives the name of the deceased as "Virginia Gregory". Others called her "Jenny" or "Jane".]

The Republican Watchman, Monticello, New York, September 10, 1948, p. 4.

Mr. George Proposes to Turn His Farm into a Negro Colony

George F. George, proprietor of the St. George Farm, is making a fight against the building of a trolley from Monticello to White Lake, and is now busily engaged tearing up the survey stakes along the route through his farm. Mr. George takes the position that a trolley through his farm will injure it for summer boarding business, and this he will not allow if he can prevent it. Already he has a scheme on hand if the trolley goes through of colonizing the farm with negroes from Virginia. The promoters who have the scheme on hand, if the thing carries, expect to put eight negroes to an acre on the farm, making a colony from five to eight hundred. The farm will be conducted on the principal of the Long Island negro colony. The residents who are employed on the farm will be open for positions as waitresses, cooks, stable men, farm hands, etc., to the surrounding neighborhood, the provision in the agreement being that they shall return to the George farm for lodging. A store will also be erected on the premises and there will be several little huts erected for accommodation of the residents. In the main the scheme would be derogatory to the interests of Monticello and should be prevented if possible. Our citizens who are interested should discourage Mr. George in this new and yet wild enterprise.

“GEORGE F. GEORGE. St. George Inn. Accommodates 20. Adults \$10.00 to \$12.00. Children under 10 years half rates. Beautifully located boarding house on stock farm of 205 acres. One and one-half miles from depot. Free transportation. Hunting, fishing, tennis, croquet, piano and games. Own livery, single and double rigs. Saddle ponies. Ten minutes' ride from village churches. Good roads. Anawana, Kiamesha and Sackett Lakes near by. New York City office until June 1st, at 534 West 175th Street. References:-Mark Brennen, San Remo Hotel, Central Park West and 75th St. Jos. Brucker, Fairfield Market, 904 Amsterdam Ave., New York.”

Source: The Port Jervis Monticello and New York Railroad: Picturesque Trunk Line of America: Travel via the Erie Railroad to Monticello, White Lake, and points in Sullivan County, New York (tourist information booklet), on web at: <http://www.usgenweb.info/nysullivan/books/1900rr.htm>

Recommended reading:

John Conway (2012). "Three Men Named Phineas Booth", Sullivan Retrospect, February 2.

Online at <https://www.facebook.com/152604468153637/posts/retrospectby-john-conwayfebruary-3-2012-three-men-named-phineas-booth-nearly-400/239272832821814/>

John Conway (2019). "Some Groundbreaking African Americans", Sullivan Retrospect, February 1.

Online at https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2257732197640843&id=152604468153637

Appendix

Census Records

Sullivan County households in the 1860 Census with head of household identified as Black:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location
1860	BOUNTY	GEORGE	27	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1860	BROWN	SAMUEL	46	M	B	CT	NY	SULLIVAN	BETHEL
1860	BUTTLER	PETER P	27	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
1860	CANINE	THOMAS	60	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
1860	COMBECK	OLIVER	24	M	B	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1860	COON	ELLEN	16	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1860	COTTON	THEODORE	35	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND
1860	DENISON	LAICE	50	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURGH
1860	DEWITT	JOHN H	35	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURGH
1860	DUBOIS	CATHARINE	27	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1860	DUBOIS	JOHN	70	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1860	FANQUIRE	HENRY	38	M	B	CT	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURGH
1860	FARCHILD	MARYETT	11	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURGH
1860	GARDNER	THOMAS	40	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FREMONT
1860	GREEN	CHARLES H	22	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURGH
1860	HARRIS	JANE	15	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1860	HASBROUCK	ELIZA	28	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURGH
1860	HUBS	ANANIAS	26	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURGH
1860	HUNTER	SYLVIA	40	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1860	JACKSON	MARY C	17	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
1860	JACKSON	THOMAS	65	M	B	NJ	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1860	LEARS	MARY	14	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1860	LINDERMAN	ANNA	50	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
1860	LINDERMAN	BETSY	16	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1860	MINER	ASRA	15	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
1860	OLIVER	HENRY	30	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURGH

	OTIS	HAGER T		65	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
	1860	SANIKE	JANE		50	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1860		TAYLOR	WILLIAM H	23	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	THOMAS	MARY		7	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	1860	WESTBROOK	DINAH	64	F	B	NJ	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1860		WOODRID	HENRY	22	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	

Sullivan County households in the 1860 Census with head of household identified as Mulatto:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location		
1860	DAVIS	CAROLINE	6	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON		
	DENIKE	WM		24	M	M	NJ	NY	SULLIVAN	FORRESTBURGH	
	1860	KING	WILLIAM		21	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
	1860	MILLER	FRANCES		14	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1860	SMITH	FREEMAN F		29	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
1860		WALLACE	BARBER C	45	F	M	IREL	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1860		WASHINGTON	GEO	8	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	

Sullivan County households in the 1870 Census with head of household identified as Black:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location		
	BLOCK	JENNY		40	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
	1870	BROWN	SAMUEL		60	M	B	CT	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1870		BURRELL	JOHN H	18	M	B	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	LUMBERLAND	
1870		COMBECK	OLIVER	35	M	B	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1870		COTTON	THEODORE	46	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND	
1870		CRAWFORD	DELIA	20	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY	
1870		CUMMINGS	MARSHALL	23	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND	
	DEITZ	LINNA		12	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	1870	DESSUY	JACOB		45	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
	1870	ENGLUSS	JOHN		20	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1870		GORDAN	AUGUSTUS	20	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
1870		GREEN	CHARLES	33	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
	1870	GREGORY	JANE		50	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
1870		GRIFFIN	HARVEY	23	M	B	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
1870		HASBROUCK	MARY	19	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1870		HILL	NELSON	21	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	1870	HORNBEY	ELIZABETH		79	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1870		JACKSON	DIANA	70	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1870		JACKSON	THOMAS	73	M	B	NJ	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1870		JOHNSON	RICHARD	44	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	1870	KING	CORA		14	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	NEVERSINK
	1870	KING	MATILDA		12	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	NEVERSINK
	1870	LOW	HORACE		22	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1870	OLIVER	ANTHONY		15	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1870	OLIVER	JOHN		21	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
	1870	OLIVER	WILLIAM		25	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
	1870	ROBINSON	SAMUEL		20	M	B	AL	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1870		SEARS	JOE	14	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY	
	1870	SHAW	PETER		85	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1870		SMITH	HENRY	21	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	1870	TAUQUIN	MARGARET		37	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1870		THOMAS	MARY	18	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	1870	THOMPSON	SAM		14	M	B	SC	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1870		THOMPSON	THOMAS	25	M	B	NJ	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1870		WEST	POLLY	70	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
	1870	WILSON	JOSIAH		50	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY

Sullivan County households in the 1870 Census with head of household identified as Mulatto:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location
1870	BANER	JACOB		37	M	M	BADE	NY	SULLIVAN DELAWARE
1870	COOK	MARY		68	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN DELAWARE
1870	DOOLITTLE	MARGARETT	80	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1870	DOOLITTLE	THEODORE	56	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1870	ELBERT	PHILIP		40	M	M	HDAR	NY	SULLIVAN DELAWARE
1870	FISHMAN	PETER	45	M	M	SWIT	NY	SULLIVAN	DELAWARE
1870	GILL	HENRY		75	M	M	BAVA	NY	SULLIVAN DELAWARE
1870	HAMILTON	FRANK	18	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1870	HASBROUCK	ELIZA J	36	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1870	MATTHAEW	JACOB	21	M	M	BAVA	NY	SULLIVAN	DELAWARE
1870	METZER	MARY		16	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN DELAWARE
1870	MULLER	GEORGE		21	M	M	HDAR	NY	SULLIVAN DELAWARE
1870	OLIVER	JULIA		42	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN FALLSBURG
1870	TAUQUIN	HENRY	48	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG

Sullivan County households in the 1880 Census with head of household identified as Black:

	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	Birthplace	State	County	Location	Year
1880	ADAMS	BENJAMAN	45	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	AUTER	CASTINE		28	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1880	AUTER	HARRIET		30	F	B	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1880	BROWN	MARY		45	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	BETHEL
1880	BROWN	SAMUEL		67	M	B	CT	NY	SULLIVAN	BETHEL
1880	COMBACK	ALICE A.	16	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	COMBACK	CHARLES O.	19	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	COMBACK	ELMER H.	21	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	COMBACK	GEORGE O.	13	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	COMBACK	JOHN	40	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	COMBACK	OLIVER	45	M	B	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	COMBACK	RUBY	49	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	COTTON	CATHERINE	8	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND	
1880	COTTON	ELIZA		40	F	B	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND
HIGHLAND 1880	COTTON	FRANK		20	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	BARRYVILLE;
1880	COTTON	PHINEAS		23	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND
1880	COTTON	THEODORE	50	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND	
1880	COTTON	WILLIAM		10	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND
1880	DENNISTON	LOWIS	90	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
1880	GARNETT	ROBERT	26	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	POND EDDY; FREMONT	
1880	GREGORY	JANE	60	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
1880	GRIFFEN	HARVEY	35	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	MONTICELLO; THOMPSON	
1880	HAINES	ALBERTA			F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1880	HAINES	CATHARINE	90	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	HAINES	OLIVER	50	M	B	NY	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1880	HASBROUCK	ELIZA J.	44	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
1880	HASBROUCK	ELIZABETH	88	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	HASBROUCK	RACHEL	62	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	HASBROUCK	RICHARD	33	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK	
1880	JACKSON	BETSY	40	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JACKSON	CATHARINE	35	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JACKSON	CHARLEY	5	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JACKSON	DANIEL	35	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JACKSON	ELI	48	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JACOB	ALVIE		10	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1880	JACOB	JOHN		6	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1880	JACOB	MARTHA E.	39	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JACOB	MILLER		42	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1880	JACOB	WILLIAM H.	14	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JOHNSON	CHARLEY	8	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JOHNSON	GEORGE	20	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JOHNSON	HERMAN	11	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JOHNSON	MARIAH	40	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880	JOHNSON	MINNIE	5	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	

1880		JOHNSON	RETTIE	13	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880		JOHNSON	RICHARD	40	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
1880		JOHNSON	WILLIT	3	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
		OLIVER	JOHN	31	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
		OLIVER	MARY	30	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
		OLIVER	WILLIAM	33	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
		QUTERS	ELLEN	33	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
		SMITH	HENRY	30	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
		SMITH	JOHN	16	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
		SMITH	JOSEPH	15	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
		SMITH	LUCRETIA	13	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
1880		THOMAS	ELIJAH	40	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN		
PHILLIPSPORT;	1880	COMMACK	THORINGTON	GEORGE	11	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1880		WELLS	FANNEY	18	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY	
		WEST	POLLY	82	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
		WILSON	JOSIAH	55	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY	

Sullivan County households in the 1880 Census with head of household identified as Mulatto:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location	
		AKEELY	WILLIAM	24	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	NEVERSINK
THOMPSON	1880	BUTLER	FRANK	27	M	M	MI	NY	SULLIVAN	MONTICELLO;
THOMPSON	1880	BUTLER	FRANK	1	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MONTICELLO;
THOMPSON	1880	BUTLER	LAVINA	22	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MONTICELLO;
		COURLRIGHT	ABBY	50	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	COMMACK
		COURLRIGHT	CORNELIUS	16	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	COMMACK
		DEWITT	GEO	35	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1880		GARDNER	THOMAS	59	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	CALLICOON DEPOT; DELAWARE
		HASBROUCK	ELMER	2	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK
		HASBROUCK	KATIE	4	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK
		HASBROUCK	SARAH	28	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	SUMMITVILLE; COMMACK
		LAPOLE	EMLY	59	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	NEVERSINK
		PIGONY	CHARLES	13	M	M	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LUMBERLAND
		PIGONY	ELLA	7	F	M	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LUMBERLAND
		PIGONY	EMILY	37	F	M	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LUMBERLAND
		PIGONY	FLETCHER	9	M	M	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LUMBERLAND
1880		PIGONY	MALVIN	5	M	M	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LUMBERLAND
		PIGONY	MARTHA	10	F	M	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LUMBERLAND
		PIGONY	THEODORA	40	M	M	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LUMBERLAND
1880		WESTFALL	MARY ELLIS	15	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON

Sullivan County households in the 1900 Census with head of household identified as Black:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location	
1900		ABERNATHY	EUGENIA	22	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
		BEAM	LILLIAN	20	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
		BOSSEL	ANNIE	45	F	B	MD	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1900		BURNELL	JOHN	22	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
		CABBLE	IDA	18	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1900		CAMBELL	ELMAR	41	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
		COTTON	ELIZA	80	F	B	NJ	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND
		DAISY	JOSEPH	16	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
		DUDLEY	JOHN	42	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
		EMAL	HATTIE	29	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
		FORBES	GERTIE	18	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
		GARDNER	THOMAS	80	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	DELAWARE
1900		HARDING	WILLIAM	34	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	BETHEL TWP
1900		HAZELWOOD	ROBERT	63	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON TWP
		HERBIN	ALICE	25	F	B	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
		HURT	FANNY	21	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1900		JOHNSTON	BELLE	27	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
		JONES	CHARLES	31	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND

	1900	KING	GEORGE	16	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FORESTBURGH
	1900	LEWIS	LILLIE	23	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
	1900	LEWIS	WALTON	58	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
1900		LIPISCOMB	MARIA	20	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1900		MACDONALD	RICHARD	30	M	B	IA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1900	OLIVER	JOHN	52	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1900		PETTERSON	DAVID J	40	M	B	NJ	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
	1900	SUNRUG	BOOKER	29	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1900		WALDRON	MARIAH	63	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	BETHEL TWP
1900		WALTERS	HENRIETTA	18	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON TWP
1900		WILLIAMS	ELSA	40	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
1900		WILLIAMS	LIZZIE	39	F	B	MA	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
1900		WILSON	JOSIAH	73	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY

Sullivan County households in the 1910 Census with head of household identified as Black:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location	
	1910	BANKS	JOHN	54	M	B	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
	1910	BATTS	RALPH	35	M	B	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
1910		BRINSON	MARY	20	F	B	PA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1910	BYRD	JULIUS	27	M	B	AL	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1910	COTTON	FINEAS	48	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND
1910		DICKSON	FRANK	40	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
	1910	DUDLEY	JOHN L	52	M	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
	1910	FARDEN	WILLIAM	43	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	BETHEL
1910		FREE	ROBERT H	72	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
	1910	JONES	CHARLES	40	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
	1910	KYLES	DAVID	27	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1910	LEWIS	WALTER	22	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
1910		LOFTON	ELIZA	58	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
	1910	MCBRIDE	ROSE	15	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
	1910	MCCREY	LAVINA	38	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1910	MILLER	MARY	28	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
	1910	OLIVER	AMELIA	20	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON
	1910	OLIVER	JOHN	63	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1910		TREADWELL	MARGERIE	16	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1910	WADE	ALICE	40	F	B	ENGL	NY	SULLIVAN	BETHEL
1910		WILLIAMS	ELSIE	62	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING
	1910	WYCK	LUCY	22	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG

Sullivan County households in the 1910 Census with head of household identified as Mulatto:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location	
1910		CARNEY	BENJAMIN	37	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FREMONT
1910		GARDNER	CLARENCE	36	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	DELAWARE
1910		GARDNER	EMMET	39	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	DELAWARE
1910		HALL	CHARLES G	34	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
1910		HAMLEN	NELSON	24	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FREMONT

Sullivan County households in the 1920 Census with head of household identified as Black:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location	
1920		ALLEYNE	AMY	30	F	B	BARB	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1920	BATTS	RALPH	44	M	B	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
1920		BERGESS	HATTIE	42	F	B	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1920		COTTON	PHINNEAS	66	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	HIGHLAND
1920		DENTLEY	JOHN	60	M	B	RUSS	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
1920		DRURY	ELIZABETH	70	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON

1920	DUDLEY	WILLIAM L	32	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY		
1920	FRANKLIN	WINFRED	26	F	B	BARB	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY		
	GREER	ANNA		53	F	B	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
	1920	HUSSEY	NELLIE		24	F	B	WIND	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
	1920	JACKSON	ALBERT W		68	M	B	WV	NY	SULLIVAN	DELAWARE
1920	KEATOR	EPH		73	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	1920	MORRIS	MOSES		37	M	B	MA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY
	1920	OSTERHOUDT	EMITT		36	M	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND
1920	PENDLTON	WALTER I		41	M	B	FL	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY	
1920	PHYZIER	ROSELMA		15	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG	
1920	SAPHILE	CARTWRIGHT		15	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY	
1920	SHIPPEN	ESSIE		25	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND	
1920	TAYLOR	MARY		68	F	B	TN	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING	
	1920	TURNER	MABEL		34	F	B	MA	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
	1920	TURNER	WILLIAM H		35	M	B	IL	NY	SULLIVAN	FALLSBURG
1920	WHITE	LOUISA		42	F	B	VA	NY	SULLIVAN	LIBERTY	
	1920	WILLIAMS	ELSIE		73	F	B	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	MAMAKATING

Sullivan County households in the 1920 Census with head of household identified as Mulatto:

Year	Surname	Given Name	Age	Sex	Race	B'place	State	County	Location	
	LAWSON	WILFRED	26	M	M	WA	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	
	1920	LEE	MABLE F	17	F	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	FREMONT
1920	ROBINSON	THRESA	50	F	M	NC	NY	SULLIVAN	ROCKLAND	
1920	TYLER	VIRGIL	71	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	DELAWARE	
1920	VANKEUREN	SIDNEY	45	M	M	NY	NY	SULLIVAN	THOMPSON	

1810 Slave-owners in the Town of Thompson: Terwilliger, Goodrich, Baronton, Schoonmaker, and Foot

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ELDRED CEMETERY

Henry L. Davis, 1827-1911

John Davis - Co. I, 26 U.S. Colored Volunteers, 1840-1887

Source URL: <http://tomrue.net/history/1860-1920 - Black and Mulatto residents.txt>