

A WICKED COMMERCE

The US and the Atlantic Slave Trade
Through the Lens of William Earle Williams

Gallery Guide

September 22–December 20, 2022

All photographs are courtesy the artist, except where indicated.

1. Jamestown Island, Virginia, US, 1996

Williams's photograph is a meditation on the significance of the advent of slavery in the US. The year 1619 marks the arrival of enslaved Africans to the United States. English pirates seized a Portuguese slave ship bound for Central America and brought the survivors to Virginia, where they were traded for supplies and enslaved. Seven years later the first ship built in North America for the transport of enslaved Africans set sail from Massachusetts. By 1641 the colonies began to codify slavery into law. In 1662 it became hereditary, and generations of children were born into slavery until the Thirteenth Amendment was passed in 1865.

Picker Art Gallery. Purchase of the Gary M. Hoffer '74 Memorial Photography Collection Fund, 2022.3.3

2. Guinea Street, Bristol, UK, 2017

Located near the Bristol Harbor, Guinea Street is a relic of the city's entanglements with the triangular trade. In Georgian England it was known alternately as the "Africa trade" and the "Guinea trade" after the west, or Guinea, coast of Africa. The street that took its name from it was home to merchants and ship captains who were noted slave traders and one of the city's twenty sugar refineries. So much of Britain's gold came from the region that it minted a gold coin, the "guinea," between 1663 and 1814. Framing the street's marker and the distinctly Georgian windows behind it in his composition, Williams simultaneously references the site where and the era when the trade was at its height.

3. Windows Slave Jail, Port of Spain, Trinidad, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, WI, 2009

In 1800 the population of Port of Spain included more than four thousand enslaved men, women, and children. This jail held slaves before they were distributed to local plantations, and for many it would have been their first experience in the Americas. It was also used for punishment, and historic accounts describe victims chained flat to the floor in airless, windowless cells. This structure was demolished not long after Williams photographed it.

Picker Art Gallery. Purchase of the Gary M. Hoffer '74 Memorial Photography Collection Fund, 2022.3.2

4. *Historical Bristol Harbor and Port, Bristol, UK, 2017*

Bristol's history as a center of slave trading dates to the eleventh century, when it had an active Anglo-Saxon slave market. By 1690 Bristolians were engaged in the transatlantic trade. The city quickly gained prominence after the London-based Royal Africa Company lost its monopoly on British trade in 1698, and within thirty years, it was Britain's premier port for the Atlantic slave trade. Ships departing from Bristol carried approximately 20 percent of the 3.1 million enslaved Africans trafficked by the British.

5. *Historic Port, Liverpool, UK, 2017*

Built in 1765–69, the Canning Graving Docks are the oldest remaining part of Liverpool's port system. Ships would have been repaired and cleaned at this dry dock. Parliament abolished the trade on March 25, 1807, but permits were issued for two more months. England's last slaver, *Kitty's Amelia*, departed from Liverpool on July 27, 1807, bound for the Guinea coast.

6. *Royal Albert Dock, Liverpool, UK, 2017*

In the late eighteenth century Liverpool dominated the British transatlantic slave trade. By the nineteenth century 40 percent of the global trade passed through the city. When it opened in 1846, Albert Dock (renamed Royal Albert Dock in 2018 after being awarded royal status) ushered in a new era in maritime trading. Its fireproof warehouses, hydraulic lifts, and secure docks made it possible for merchants to conduct business in new ways and cut in half the time ships needed to be in port.

7. *Robert Milligan Statue, West India Docks, London, UK, 2017*

Theft of cargo at London's docks cut into the profits of traders, and in 1802 West India Docks, London's first secure dock system, was built to address this. The docks were largely constructed due to the financial and political efforts of Robert Milligan, who owned two plantations in Jamaica, where he enslaved more than five hundred individuals. The docks were so successful that they quickly monopolized London's import of West Indian plantation produce. The statue of Milligan was removed from this site during the Black Lives Matter protests.

8. *Hotel du Vin, Lewins Mead, Sugar Refinery Site, Bristol, UK, 2017*

Until 1820 the river Frome, one of the city's two waterways that supported maritime trade, ran alongside Lewins Mead. When the first sugarhouse was built on this site in 1728, sugar was one of the most highly demanded imports from the West Indies and a commodity that contributed to the city's prosperity. Raw or partially refined cane sugar was brought to Bristol, where it was warehoused and refined before being distributed to the marketplace.

9. *Synagogue Lane, Bridgetown, Barbados, WI, 2008*

Sephardic Jews are first recorded in Barbados in 1628, after they were expelled from the Iberian Peninsula in the fifteenth century during the Inquisition. Generations lived in Brazil for nearly two hundred years before being compelled to emigrate when the Portuguese gained control there. They became important participants in the Caribbean economy, providing capital, business skills, and a traditional knowledge of sugarcane agriculture and sugar processing that the English had not mastered.

10. *Interior Ruins, Kenilworth Estate, Hanover, Jamaica, WI, 2013*

Kenilworth was first recorded in 1757 as Maggoty and Top River Estates, a producer of rum, molasses, and sugar. As many as fifteen hundred Africans were enslaved here at one time. Williams's photograph offers a haunting portrait of the architectural infrastructure that supported the sugar industry. The massive cut-stone wall, arched passageways, and carefully laid out plan were built by enslaved labor and reflect the industry's primacy; it was not unusual for an estate's commercial facilities to be more magnificent than its residence.

11. *Detail, Arnos Vale Waterwheel, Tobago, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, WI, 2009*

Sugar was introduced to Tobago in 1665 by the Dutch. It remained a domestic crop for nearly one hundred years before the first recorded exports by the British in 1763. Sugarcane became the island's primary crop by the end of the century, and this "sweet gold" brought great prosperity. Its associated work population, from management to production, forced and free alike, brought ethnic diversity to the island.

12. *Cocoa Mill Interior Ruins, Speyside, Tobago, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, WI, 2009*

13. *Cocoa Ruins, Speyside, Tobago, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, WI, 2009*

Tobago was ceded to Britain in 1763 under the Treaty of Paris and within a few years planters began to export sugar. Commercially grown cocoa was an island industry beginning at the end of the seventeenth century. In 1828, when an affordable process of extracting butterfat from cocoa beans was developed, cocoa changed from being a treat for high society to one consumed by the masses. By 1830 Trinidad and Tobago was the third largest producer of cocoa in the world, fulfilling 20 percent of the global market's demand, and cocoa soon replaced sugar as the islands' dominant crop. The British phrase "as rich as a Tobago planter" speaks to the vast wealth of a typical plantation owner.

14. *The Ostrich Inn and Pub, Bristol, UK, 2017*

Established around 1745, this quayside inn was frequented by sailors, dockworkers, and ship hands. The pub was built into the Redcliffe hills, which had been mined for sand since the Middle Ages. As trade in sugar expanded, so did the demand for distilled products and commodities for the affluent, such as bottles and glassware. Bristol became a center for glass manufacture and exports, and its sand was used to produce bottles, glazing for pottery, and windows, much of which was sent to the Americas. Caves formed from mining were also used to store goods from the West Indian and African trade.

15. *Trafalgar Square, London, UK, 2017*

In the second half of the seventeenth century, coffee imported from the Near East became fashionable in England, and coffeehouses were popular options for gatherings. Some of London's earliest coffee shops were established in the area around Trafalgar Square, known as Charing Cross in the latter seventeenth century. London's coffeehouses were lively social spaces that tended to be frequented by like-minded individuals. These were places where merchants, traders, financial brokers, and politicians conducted business and discussed the political and social climate of the city.

16. *The Houses of Parliament, London, UK, 2017*

As England's economy became more dependent upon the sugar trade, Parliamentary laws were developed to govern its commerce and the growing African slave trade. In 1788 the question of the abolition of the slave trade began to be considered and debated in Parliament. On March 25, 1807, the Slave Trade Abolition Act was passed by Parliament, making it illegal to trade slaves in British colonies. It did not apply to other countries, and illicit and internal trade continued in the colonies and the US until the end of the Civil War. This picture is populated with people, unusual for Williams, and commemorates the public discourse that led to legislative change.

17. *The Seven Stars Pub, Bristol, UK, 2017*

This pub was frequented by sailors and its landlord, William Thompson, aided Thomas Clarkson, who was a founding member of the Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade. Clarkson's investigation involved traveling to England's port cities to gather evidence on the practice of kidnapping and conscripting men to work on slavers and the inhumane treatment of the enslaved onboard these ships. In 1808 he published *The History of the Rise, Progress, and Accomplishment of the Abolition of the African Slave-Trade by the British Parliament*, which included a rendering by an unknown artist of the slave quarters aboard the slave ship *Brookes*, which abolitionists had been using to build public support against the transatlantic slave trade.

18. *The New Room, Chapel, Bristol, UK, 2017*

Abolitionists such as John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, were subject to mob attacks, particularly those speaking against slavery in England's trading hubs. When Wesley built his chapel in Bristol, he designed the New Room with solid walls on the first floor and a restricted-access pulpit to protect its occupants. His measures were tested when traders disrupted a sermon in 1788. He later recorded the event in his journal: *About the middle of the discourse, while there was on every side attention still as night, a vehement noise arose, none could tell why, and shot like lightning through the whole congregation. The terror and confusion were inexpressible. You might have imagined it was a city taken by storm. The people rushed upon each other with the utmost violence; the benches were broke [sic] in pieces, and nine tenths of the congregation appeared to be struck with the same panic.*

19. *Baptismal Font, St. James's Church, Piccadilly, London, UK, 2017*

In England during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, manumitted Africans recognized that the same legal system that offered protection against slavery once sanctioned it. Many believed they could only be protected if they were baptized and made equal both under law and in the eyes of God. In the Americas missionaries sought to Christianize slaves while owners fought to ensure that this did not change their status as chattel. Williams's photograph is a comment on this and commemorates formerly enslaved abolitionist Ottobah Cugoana (ca. 1757–after 1791), who was baptized at the abolitionist church, St. James's Church, Piccadilly. After this, he became an outspoken abolitionist and his autobiographical book, *Thoughts and Sentiments on the Evil and Wicked Traffic of the Slavery and Commerce of the Human Species* (1787), called for an immediate end to slavery.

Picker Art Gallery. Purchase of the Gary M. Hoffer '74 Memorial Photography Collection Fund, 2022.3.3

20. *Zong Slave Ship Memorial, Black River, Jamaica, WI, 2013*

In 1781 the crew of the slave ship *Zong*, registered out of Liverpool and facing a water shortage on the high seas, threw more than 130 Africans overboard. The ship's owners claimed insurance losses for their enslaved "cargo." This claim became a centerpiece of the abolitionist view that the slave trade and slavery were depraved and heartlessly violent. Noting the lack of spirituality on the monument to the *Zong* victims erected at the site where Africans were prepared for the Black River Slave Market, Williams framed his picture to include a cross cast from the shadow of the monument.

21. *Nell Gwynn House, South Kensington, London, UK, 2017*

While lecturing against slavery in England and Ireland while still a fugitive in the US, Frederick Douglass stayed for a time with abolitionist and parliamentarian George Thompson at his house on this site. After slavery was abolished in the British colonies in 1833, Thompson became active in the effort to end the practice worldwide and traveled throughout the US, attracting the attention of President Andrew Jackson, who denounced him. Thompson's home would have been a place where an international set of like-minded individuals discussed strategies for human rights and the end of slavery. He was a close acquaintance of US abolitionists, including William Lloyd Garrison.

22. *Gerrit Smith Grave Site, Smith Family Plot, Peterboro Baptist Cemetery, New York, US, 2001*

Gerrit Smith (1797–1874) was New York state's wealthiest landowner. He was a gifted orator and committed his finances and properties to the abolitionist cause, donating the equivalent of one billion dollars in today's currency to individuals fighting to end slavery, purchasing freedom for men, women, and children, and donating lands to freed slaves to enable them to become self-sufficient landowners to gain the franchise. He was a delegate to the World Anti-Slavery Convention held at London in June 1840 and presided over by Thomas Clarkson.

23. *Site of Second Presbyterian Church, Utica, New York, US, 2003*

On October 21, 1835, a statewide meeting to establish the New York State Anti-Slavery Society was held at the Second Presbyterian Church, in Utica. Among those in attendance was local businessman and philanthropist Gerrit Smith. Tensions in the city were high and shortly after the proceedings commenced, a band of between three hundred and six hundred citizens opposed to the antislavery movement attempted to disrupt the convention. Appalled by the behavior of the riotous mob, Smith offered his home in nearby Peterboro as a safe site for the group to reconvene. The moment forever changed Smith, who became one of the most powerful abolitionists in the country.

24. *Bloody Bay, Roxborough, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, WI, 2009*

Within a few years after its acquisition, Tobago became a major exporting colony of sugar, rum, indigo, and cotton; this explosive growth was tied to the import of large numbers of enslaved Africans. At one point it was estimated that the number of enslaved people in Tobago was almost twenty times that of the number of whites. This was also a time of general unrest in British colonies, and it became common for slaves to seek freedom through different means of escape, including by riot. On June 2, 1771 a group of eighty enslaved men and women from two adjacent plantations near Bloody Bay seized munitions and encamped on the island's ridge. The skirmish was short-lived, and the rebels were rumored to have escaped the island by water.

25. *Fort Haldane, Port Maria, Jamaica, WI, 2013*

Slave rebellion in the West Indies became increasingly common in the eighteenth century; the largest became known as Tacky's revolt or war (1760–61) and was commanded by Tacky (Akan: Takyi), who was a leader of his former village. During this period, colonial wars resulted in a buildup of African armies familiar with Western munitions and militia tactics that the newly arrived rebels employed after overpowering British soldiers at Fort Haldane and securing arms and gunpowder. The British enlisted descendants of those enslaved during Spanish rule of the island, known as Maroons, for a counterinsurgency. The battle ended with tremendous losses for the rebels, who were either captured or killed, many choosing suicide over being enslaved. Tacky was killed by a Maroon sharpshooter.

26. *The Cage, Sam Sharpe Square, Montego Bay, Jamaica, WI, 2013*

Sam Sharpe (ca. 1780–1832) was baptized into the Baptist faith and served as a lay deacon—which permitted him some freedom of travel between estates. In 1831 he organized what was intended to be a peaceful labor strike in response to a newly enacted British law that reduced the number of days enslaved men and women were given for a Christmas holiday. Word of the action spread and took a violent turn on December 27, 1831, when an armed rebellion broke out. The short-lived insurrection, alternately known as the Sam Sharpe Rebellion and the Baptist Rebellion, mobilized tens of thousands of enslaved men and women. More than five hundred enslaved men and women lost their lives during the insurrection, many after sentencing. Among them was Sharpe, who was hanged. Though unsuccessful in the short term, the uprising contributed to the growing antislavery sentiment, and in 1833 Britain finally banned the practice of slavery in its territories.

27. *Waterwheel, Front View, Tryall Estate, Hanover, Jamaica, WI, 2013*

The Tryall waterwheel and aqueduct were built in 1700 with enslaved labor, and it remains the only working waterwheel from the island's sugar trading past. The estate had 325 slaves when the Sam Sharpe Rebellion broke out on the island and at this estate. Its owner, Robert Allen, was among the fourteen whites killed during the ten-day insurrection.

28. *Interior, Fort Morgan, Battle Site, Mobile Bay, Alabama, US, 2003*

This seacoast fortification, completed in 1834, is located where Mobile Bay meets the Gulf of Mexico. Its exquisite masonry, comprising more than forty million bricks, is a testament to the craftsmen who worked on it, many of whom were enslaved African Americans. Unlike the army, the US Navy has always been racially integrated. Recent studies have shown that nearly eighteen thousand men and eleven women of African descent served in the US Navy during the Civil War. A number of African American sailors were present to fight in the land and sea operations for control of Mobile Bay in August 1864, when the fort fell to Union forces. Four of the twenty-six national medals of honor awarded to African Americans during the Civil War were given to sailors who fought in this battle.

29. *Earthworks, Battle Site, Fort Pillow, Tennessee, US, 1999*

The Fort Pillow Massacre was one of the most horrific crimes against Black troops in the United States. On April 12, 1864, more than fifteen hundred Confederate troops laid siege against the fort. After the Unionists surrendered, approximately three hundred Black men, women, and children were murdered rather than taken prisoner. The event reverberated nationally. For Black troops, “Remember Fort Pillow” became a rallying cry to spur on their fight for freedom.

30. *Slave Cabin, Frogmore Plantation, Ferriday, Louisiana, US, 2014*

After the importation of slaves was banned in 1808, there was a brief decline in the enslaved population in the United States. This changed quickly after the invention of the cotton gin and new techniques for processing sugar led to a boom in the cotton and sugar markets, which corresponded with westward expansion that pushed planters into new territories. Originally a Spanish colony and later a French colony, Louisiana has a history of slavery that differs from that of the East because of its colonial origins. Beginning in the eighteenth century enslaved men and women were imported through New Orleans, beginning with Indigenous peoples and later Africans.

31. *Slave Market Site, Camden, New Jersey, US, 2018*

Stories of slavery in the North have been overlooked. Between the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, nearly eight hundred enslaved individuals were sold at the three Camden ferry landings along the Delaware River. Although the Quaker community later became leaders in the abolitionist movement, they were among the largest group of slaveholders at that time.

32. *Forks of the Road Slave Market, Natchez, Mississippi, US, 2013*

This site, located at an intersection of roads leading to Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia, was the second-busiest slave market in the United States. The market was founded by businessmen Isaac Franklin of Tennessee and John Armfield of Virginia. Armfield operated a slave pen in Virginia, acquiring men, women, and children from the northernmost Southern states, where demand—and therefore the cost—was low. Franklin ran the Natchez market and another in New Orleans. In these Southern markets, demand was high, making the firm’s sale of humans extremely profitable.

33. *Site of St. Louis Hotel Slave Market, New Orleans, Louisiana, US, 2013*

Solomon Northup (ca. 1807 or 1808–after 1861), known for his memoir *Twelve Years a Slave* (1853), was born free in upstate New York around the same year that the United States enacted the Act Prohibiting Importation of Slaves. While the law moved the US closer to abolition, it also increased the demand for domestic slaves and placed men and women of color at risk of being trafficked into slavery. Northup was a noted violinist, and in 1841 he was kidnapped in Washington, DC, by men offering him work as a musician and sold into slavery at this site.

34. *Ferry Landing Site, Marksville, Louisiana, US, 2014*

Solomon Northup regained his freedom on January 4, 1853, in Marksville, Louisiana. In his memoir he writes that upon leaving the town office with his freedom in hand, he “immediately hastened to the landing” to take the first steamer that arrived. This photograph exemplifies Williams’s interest in celebrating moments the enslaved became free. In small, intimate moments such as this event in Northup’s life, he humanizes a complex history and promotes a deeper, more personal understanding of its legacy.

35. *Lake Champlain Canal, Fort Edward, New York, US, 2015*

Solomon Northup spent his early years performing maintenance work on the Champlain Canal and rafting timber. After his release from enslavement, he returned to the North and became an active agent of the Underground Railroad. Sometime in the 1860s, he disappeared along the canal route, never to be heard from again.

36. *Congo Square, New Orleans, Louisiana, US, 2013*

In the first part of the nineteenth century, New Orleans’s enslaved were allowed to gather on Sunday afternoons at Congo Square, then known as Place Publique. It was a site where they commingled, played music, performed, and danced. Out of fear that these gatherings would lead to resistance and revolution, music and dance were forbidden here in 1845. In 1856 it became illegal for people of African descent to play horns or drums anywhere in the city.

37. *African House, Melrose Plantation, Melrose, Louisiana, US, 2014*

African House is a manifestation of the confluence of African, French, and Spanish cultures that is embedded in Louisiana as a result of the triangular trade. The building’s design has architectural motifs drawn from all three cultures that comprise the social and cultural history of the region. The building’s specific use is unknown and the name African House came into use decades after its construction. More important is the evidence it provides of how African architectural and other cultural traditions have made their way into the American vernacular.

38. Bourbon Orleans Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana, US, 2013

This hotel markets its history as a site where Quadroon Balls (formal dances where white men and mixed-race women, known as quadroons, participated) took place during the nineteenth century, a common New Orleans myth. Until recently this myth obscured the true history of free Black women in Louisiana, whose story is more nuanced. The relationships between white men and Black women did exist, but these women were not merely passive participants who entered into arrangements orchestrated by their mothers. Rather, the women chose their partners, and the relationships were not contractual. These women were also landowners, and in some cases, slaveholders.

39. Malvina Russell Tombstone, Peterboro, New York, US, 2008

In the United States the African slave trade was banned in 1808, but illegal trafficking continued and slavery became a self-perpetuating institution. Seventeenth-century law in the US made a child's status that of their mother; for nearly three hundred years, generations of children were born into slavery here until the Thirteenth Amendment was ratified in 1865. Malvina Russell was the youngest child of Samuel and Harriet (Sims) Russell and was manumitted with her family in 1841 by Gerrit Smith. At the time of her death in 1925, she had amassed an estate valued at \$10,000, which she bequeathed to more than thirty people.

Picker Art Gallery. Gift of the artist in memory of Malvina Russell and all of those souls buried in Peterboro cemetery who were "born a slave and died free," 2022.4

40. Rock Hall Freedom Village, Barbados, WI, 2008

In 1834 the British ended slavery in Barbados. Rock Hall is the island's first free village, a site where enfranchisement was made possible for the formerly enslaved for the first time. Here they could own land, which also gave them the right to vote.

41. Entrance, Marcus Garvey Birth Site, St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica, WI, 2013

A Black nationalist and proponent of Pan-Africanism, Marcus Garvey Jr. (1887–1940) started a mass movement in the United States that dwarfed the 1960s civil rights movement. In 1914 he founded the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) to uplift those of African descent and unite them under a single national identity, instill racial pride, and build economic self-sufficiency. Women were a significant part of the membership. UNIA's principles particularly resonated with Black soldiers returning to the United States from fighting in World War I who expected equality, but instead experienced as much if not more racism. Garvey was a controversial figure, yet his ideas were unifying and his teachings and ideology influenced Rastafarians, the nation of Islam, and the Black power movement.

42. Statue of Mahatma Gandhi, Port of Spain, Trinidad, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, WI, 2009

After slavery was abolished in 1834 in the British empire, free men and women of African descent refused to work for the low wages offered by plantations. Concerned that a free labor market would negatively affect the sugar industry, Britain devised a system of indentureship. Hundreds of thousands of peasants from its Southeast Asian colonies, victims of colonial trading that destroyed India's domestic industries and land tenure system, were traded to the West Indies to work off their debts. The conditions for these men and women differed little from those who had been enslaved. A typical contract required five years of indentured labor to pay off the contract and another five years of labor to pay for their return to India. Many chose to remain and today, nearly 40 percent of Trinidad's population is of Indian descent.

43. Former Martins Bank Entrance, Liverpool, UK, 2017

Banks were founded on wealth from the slave trade and profited enormously from it. In the 1930s the new corporate headquarters for Martins Bank was built, its ornamentation heralding the sources of the wealth of the bank and city. A doorway carving with a figure of Neptune lording over two African children who hold bags of money illustrates how easily painful histories can be erased. In a little more than 150 years after the Atlantic slave trade was banned for being inhumane and criminal, it became a romanticized allegory intended to spark pride in Liverpool's past.

All photographs are gelatin silver prints, except number thirty-five, an archival inkjet print.

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The US and the Atlantic Slave Trade
Through the Lens of William Earle Williams

PLAE Space Exhibition Guide

All photographs are gelatin silver prints and courtesy of the artist.

1. Grace Wilson's Apple Orchard Site, Cazenovia, New York, US, 2003

The Fugitive Slave Act, part of the Compromise of 1850, enraged northerners who opposed slavery. In opposition to the law, more than two thousand abolitionists convened on August 21–22 at Cazenovia. The meeting began at the First Congregational Church, then moved to an orchard belonging to Grace Wilson, a member of the Cazenovia Ladies Anti-Slavery Society.

2. Peter Smith's Countinghouse and Land Office, Peterboro, New York, US, 2003

Gerrit Smith acquired his father Peter's vast land holdings, from which he generated his great wealth. His estate was a station on the Underground Railroad and he conducted business from his Peterboro office, which included donating parcels of land to freed slaves, bankrolling the activities of abolitionists, and coordinating public antislavery demonstrations.

3. Oswego Harbor, New York, US, 2003

Oswego is a key port city located on Lake Ontario. Oswego County had the second largest number of Underground Railroad stations in the country. For many fugitive slaves, this was their final stop before reaching freedom in Canada.

4. Jermain Loguen Grave Site, Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, New York, US, 2003

Abolitionist Jermain Loguen was enslaved in the South and escaped to Canada. He later returned to the US and attended the Oneida Institute at Utica before settling in Syracuse. Loguen was a stationmaster for the Underground Railroad. On October 1, 1851 fugitive slave William "Jerry" Henry, who had lived in Syracuse for several years, was arrested under the Fugitive Slave Act. Loguen and local abolitionists successfully rescued Henry from prison, and aided his escape to Canada.

5. Stephen Myers Settlement, New York, US, 2003

Black activist Stephen Myers was born into slavery in New York when it was a slave state. He was active in the antislavery movement and a stationmaster on the Underground Railroad. With financial backing from Gerrit Smith he established the Florence Farming Settlement, a community for freedom seekers and free Blacks in Florence, NY. Myers is a member of the National Abolitionist Hall of Fame (Peterboro, NY) induction class of 2022.