

OH, FREEDOM! A TIMELINE OF SLAVERY TO EMANCIPATION IN NEW YORK STATE

16 SYSTEMATIC SLAVERY IN NY BEGINS WITH THE ARRIVAL OF 11 AFRICAN MEN

17 DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE DECLARES 'ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL' BUT IS SILENT ON THE ISSUE OF SLAVERY

17 PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION APPROVES THE U.S. CONSTITUTION, INCLUDES PROVISIONS PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF SLAVEHOLDERS

26

76

87

17 NY ENACTS LAW FOR GRADUAL END OF SLAVERY BUT SOME CHILDREN TO REMAIN INDENTURED

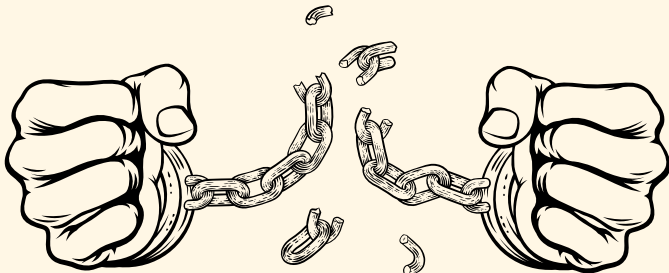
18 NY PASSES LAW TO END SLAVERY IN 1827 COVERS THOSE ENSLAVED PRIOR TO THE 1799 LAW

18 REVISED NY STATE CONSTITUTION RESTRICTS VOTING RIGHTS FOR FREE BLACK MEN

19

21

1 8 2 7



THE 1799 LAW GOES INTO EFFECT, ABOUT 4,600 PEOPLE FREED

2 0 2 7



CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF EMANCIPATION FROM SLAVERY



OH, FREEDOM!
**COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE
EMANCIPATION FROM SLAVERY IN NEW YORK STATE
1827-2027**

The struggle for freedom and justice for people of African descent in New York State has been a long one. Slavery in New York began in 1626 and thrived throughout the colony-state, creating wealth for white-owned shipping interests, businessmen, and farmers. New York was the location of the largest population of enslaved people in the North. The timeline presented here contains just a few of the significant dates of that struggle.

It took two-hundred years for New York to officially end slavery. But even then, many “freed” young people were still forced to be servants to their former masters until 1848.

The ***Oh, Freedom!*** project commemorates the end of slavery in New York. This is an opportunity to educate the public about an important part of our history that has been deliberately omitted. We are committed to sharing New York’s history of enslavement and to celebrating the people of African descent who contributed so much to the development of the State through their labor, skills, and knowledge.

Using cultural programming, educational activities, and other events, we will bring together a wide community of people to remember the struggles of those enslaved in our state while continuing to fight for justice for the African American community and all oppressed peoples.

Oh, Freedom! is jointly sponsored by *Celebrating the African Spirit* and the *Mid-Hudson Antislavery History Project*. Please join us in this endeavor. For more information contact www.celebratingtheafricanspirit.org and www.mhahp.vassarspaces.net.



Thank you to Vassar College's Good Neighbors Partnerships for support on this project.