



Smithsonian

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Registers of Signatures of Depositors
in Branches of the Freedman's Savings
and Trust Company, 1865–1874

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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Museum of African American History and Culture
Title:	Registers of Signatures of Depositors in Branches of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company, 1865–1874
Date:	1865–1874
Identifier:	NMAAHC.FB.M816
Extent:	27 Reels
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection is comprised of digital surrogates previously available on the 27 rolls of microfilm described in the NARA publication M816. These digital surrogates reproduced 55 volumes containing signatures of and personal identification data about depositors in 29 branch offices of the Freedman's Saving and Trust Company, 1865–1874.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Acquired from FamilySearch International in 2015.

Related Materials

See also [Freedmen's Bureau Digital Collection](#)

Preferred Citation

Courtesy of the U. S. National Archives and Records Administration, FamilySearch International, and the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Restrictions

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Historical Note

[The following is reproduced from the original NARA descriptive pamphlet for M816.]

The Company was incorporated by an act of Congress approved March 3, 1865 (13 Stat. 510), as a banking institution established in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, for the benefit of freed slaves. The military savings banks at Norfolk, VA, and Beaufort, SC, were transferred to the Company soon after it was founded. From 1865 through 1870 a total of 33 branches were established, including an office that was opened in New York, NY, in 1866.

In 1874 the Company failed and by the terms of an act of Congress approved June 20, 1874 (18 Stat. 132), the trustees were authorized to select, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, three commissioners to take charge of the effects of the Company and to report on its financial state to the Secretary of the Treasury. The arrangement was altered by an act of Congress approved February 21, 1881 (21 Stat. 327), whereby the Secretary of the Treasury was authorized and directed to appoint the Comptroller of the Currency to administer the affairs of the Company. The Comptroller was made commissioner ex officio and he submitted annual reports to Congress. The final report on the trust company was submitted in 1920.

The information contained in many of the registers is as follow: account number, name of depositor, date of entry, place born, place brought up, residence, age, complexion, name of employer or occupation, wife or husband, children, father, mother, brothers and sisters, remarks, and signature. The early books sometimes also contain the name of the former master or mistress and the name of the plantation. In many entries not all the requested data are given. Copies of death certificates have been pinned to some of the entries. In each case the certificate has been filmed immediately after the page that shows the registration of the person's signature.

The registers are arranged alphabetically by name of State. The entries are arranged alphabetically by name of city where the bank was located, there under chronologically by date when the account was established, and there under numerically by account number. Many numbers are missing, a few are out of numerical order, and in some cases blocks of numbers were not used. Many registers seem to be missing. The volume for Philadelphia, PA, dated January 7, 1870, to June 26, 1874 contains signatures of officers of societies.

Filmed after these introductory remarks is an index that gives the location and the date of organization of the branch. The first part also gives the account numbers and the numbers of the rolls of microfilm on which the registers are filmed. There are no account numbers or registers available for the branches listed in the second part.

The records reproduced in this microfilm publication are part of the records in the National Archives designated as Record Group 101, Records of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

Closely related records in the same record group include indexes to deposit ledgers (42 vols.). The ledgers are arranged alphabetically by name of State, there under by name of city, and there under by name of depositor. As the indexes to the deposit ledgers include the depositor's account number they can serve as a finding aid to the registers of signatures reproduced in this microcopy, which is not indexed. Other related records include loan and real estate ledgers and journals, 1870–1916, arranged roughly in chronological order; inspectors' reports, minutes of meetings of committees and a journal of the board of trustees, 1865–1874; dividend payment records, 1882–1889, arranged alphabetically by name of city and there under by depositor's account number; and letters received by the commissioners of the Company and by the Comptroller of the Currency as ex officio commissioner, 1870–1914. Interspersed among their records are legal papers, canceled checks, payrolls, expense checks, and passbooks.

Other record groups containing related documents are Record Group 105, Records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freeman, and Abandoned Lands, and Record Group 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's–1917.

The records reproduced in this microcopy were prepared for filing by Lockwood Wright, who also wrote these introductory remarks and provided the other editorial material.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

American South
Freedmen's Bureau
Reconstruction, U.S. history, 1865-1877

Slaves -- Emancipation

Container Listing

Series 1: Registers of Branches of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Company

Scope and Contents: This includes indexes to 42 volumes of deposit ledgers. The registers and ledgers are arranged alphabetically by name of State, thereunder by name of city, and thereunder by name of depositor; by name of city where the bank was located, there under chronologically by date when the account was established, and there under numerically by account number.

It is arranged alphabetically by name of city in which the branch was located, gives the date of organization of the branch, account numbers, and numbers of the rolls of microfilm on which the registers are reproduced.

As the indexes to the deposit ledgers include the depositor's account number they can serve as a finding aid to the registers of signatures, which is not indexed. There's an index that gives the location and the date of organization of the branch and the depositor's account numbers. A few are out of numerical order. The volume for Philadelphia, PA, dated January 7, 1870, to June 26, 1874 contains signatures of officers of societies. Many account numbers are missing. Many registers seem to be missing.

Other related records include loan and real estate ledgers and journals, 1870–1916, arranged roughly in chronological order; inspectors' reports, minutes of meetings of committees and a journal of the board of trustees, 1865–1874; dividend payment records, 1882–1889, arranged alphabetically by name of city and there under by depositor's account number; and letters received by the commissioners of the Company and by the Comptroller of the Currency as ex officio commissioner, 1870–1914. Interspersed among their records are legal papers, canceled checks, payrolls, expense checks, and passbooks.

1.1: Alabama

1.1.1: Huntsville

1.1.1.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 1205, Nov. 28, 1865–Apr. 9, 1872](#)

1.1.1.2: [Account Numbers: 1206 – 1698, Apr. 10, 1872–Aug. 21, 1874](#)

1.1.2: Mobile

1.1.2.1: [Account Numbers: 777 – 1567, June 18, 1867–Mar. 28, 1868](#)

1.1.2.2: [Account Numbers: 1568 – 2323, Mar. 28, 1868–May 11, 1869](#)

1.1.2.3: [Account Numbers: 4287 – 9173, Dec. 20, 1870–June 29, 1874](#)

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[Image\(s\)](#)

1.2: Arkansas

1.2.1: Little Rock

1.2.1.1: [Account Numbers: 153 – 1359, Feb. 27, 1871–July 15, 1874](#)

1.3: District of Columbia

1.3.1: Washington

1.3.1.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 1553, Aug. 28, 1865–Apr. 10, 1868](#)

1.3.1.2: [Account Numbers: 3500 – 7191, Jan. 25, 1870–Apr. 29, 1871](#)
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[Image\(s\)](#)

1.3.1.3: [Account Numbers: 7406 – 9315, Apr. 23–Dec. 30, 1871](#)

1.3.1.4: [Account Numbers: 1B – 456, May 24, 1872–June 17, 1874](#)

1.3.1.5: [Account Numbers: 14631 – 16299, Dec. 31, 1872–Aug. 21, 1873](#)

1.3.1.6: [Account Numbers: 16300 – 16303 and 20001 – 21401, Aug. 22, 1873–Jul. 22, 1874](#)

1.4: Florida

1.4.1: Tallahassee

1.4.1.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 1380, Aug. 25, 1866–July 15, 1871](#)

1.5: Georgia

1.5.1: Atlanta

1.5.1.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 2313, Jan. 15, 1870–Mar. 19, 1872](#)

1.5.1.2: [Account Numbers: 2314 – 4517, Mar. 19, 1872–July 2, 1874](#)

1.5.2: Augusta

1.5.2.1: [Account Numbers: 2167 – 6701, Nov. 23, 1870–June 29, 1874](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)

1.5.3: Savannah

1.5.3.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 1137, Jan. 10, 1866–Aug. 5, 1868](#)

1.5.3.2: [Account Numbers: 1298 – 3040, Nov. 16, 1868–Feb. 19, 1870](#)

1.5.3.3: [Account Numbers: 3041 – 4947, Feb. 19–Dec. 17, 1870](#)

1.5.3.4: [Account Numbers: 4948 – 9868, Dec. 17, 1870–Oct. 22, 1872](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)

1.5.3.5: [Account Numbers: 9869 – 14558, Oct. 22, 1872–Sept. 1, 1874](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)

1.5.3.6: [Various Numbers and Dates, No Date](#)

1.6: Kentucky

1.6.1: Lexington

1.6.1.1: [Account Numbers: 217 – 1976, Mar. 21, 1870–July 3, 1874](#)

1.6.2: Louisville

1.6.2.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 1928, Sept. 15, 1865–Jan. 28, 1868](#)

1.6.2.2: [Account Numbers: 5122 – 7333, May 1, 1872–June 29, 1874](#)

1.7: Louisiana

1.7.1: New Orleans

1.7.1.1: [Account Numbers: 5 – 1021, June 18, 1866–Mar. 11, 1869](#)

1.7.1.2: [Account Numbers: 4365 – 8570, Jan. 17, 1872–June 29, 1874](#)

1.7.2: Shreveport

1.7.2.1: [Account Numbers: 149 – 1320, Feb. 11, 1871–June 29, 1874](#)

1.8: Maryland

1.8.1: Baltimore

1.8.1.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 4 and 220 – 1580, May 3, 1866–Nov. 28, 1868](#)

1.8.1.2: [Account Numbers: 1581 – 4389, Nov. 28, 1868–Jan. 19, 1872](#)

1.8.1.3: [Account Numbers: 4390 – 6768, Jan. 20, 1872–June 23, 1874](#)

1.8.1.4: [Account Numbers: 1 – 6, July 1, 1874](#)

1.9: Mississippi

1.9.1: Columbus

1.9.1.1: [Account Numbers: 9 – 927, Aug. 1, 1870–June 16, 1874](#)

1.9.2: Natchez

1.9.2.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 707, Mar. 29, 1870–June 18, 1874](#)

1.9.3: Vicksburg

1.9.3.1: [Account Numbers: 1157 – 7701, July 28, 1868–Jan. 15, 1873](#)
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[Image\(s\)](#)

1.9.3.2: [Account Numbers: 7702 – 8662, Jan. 15, 1873–June 29, 1874](#)

1.10: Missouri

1.10.1: St. Louis

1.10.1.1: [Account Numbers: 223 – 366, Apr. 6–Oct. 8, 1869](#)

1.11: New York

1.11.1: New York

1.11.1.1: [Account Numbers: 1420 – 3907, Feb. 20, 1871–Jan. 13, 1872](#)
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[Image\(s\)](#)

1.11.1.2: [Account Numbers: 3908 – 6943, Jan. 15, 1872–July 6, 1874](#)
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[Image\(s\)](#)

1.12: North Carolina

1.12.1: New Bern

1.12.1.1: [Account Numbers: 1327 – 2488, Oct. 30, 1869–Dec. 1, 1871](#)

1.12.1.2: [Account Number: 5602, Dec. 1, 1871](#)

1.12.1.3: [Account Numbers: 2489 – 2499, Dec. 4 – 7, 1871](#)

1.12.1.4: [Account Number: 5604, Dec. 6, 1871](#)

1.12.1.5: [Account Numbers: 2500 – 4157, Dec. 7, 1871–July 25, 1874](#)

1.12.2: Raleigh

1.12.2.1: [Account Numbers: 9 – 15, Apr. 9 – 20, 1868](#)

1.12.3: Wilmington

1.12.3.1: [Account Numbers: 1208 – 1343, Sept. 3–Oct. 30, 1869](#)

1.12.3.2: [Account Numbers: 5400 – 7266, Dec. 11, 1872–Aug. 26, 1873](#)

1.13: Pennsylvania

1.13.1: Philadelphia

Notes: The volume contains signatures of officers of societies. After accounts 1 – 74 there are gaps and a few scattered numbers.

1.13.1.1: [Various Account Numbers, Jan. 6, 1870–June 26, 1874](#)

1.14: South Carolina

1.14.1: Beaufort

1.14.1.1: [Account Numbers: 2732 – 4715, June 20, 1868–June 2, 1873](#)
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[Image\(s\)](#)

1.14.1.2: [Account Numbers: 4716 – 5989, May 3, 1872–July 3, 1874](#)

1.14.2: Charleston

1.14.2.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 319, Dec. 19, 1865–Oct. 17, 1866](#)

1.14.2.2: [Account Numbers: 2151 – 3824, Sept. 7, 1868–Dec. 2, 1869](#)
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[Image\(s\)](#)

1.14.2.3: [Account Numbers: 3833 – 6626, Dec. 4, 1869–Feb. 25, 1871](#)
[Image\(s\)](#)

[Image\(s\)](#)

1.14.2.4: Account Numbers: 6627 – 11103, Feb. 25, 1871–July 2, 1872

[Image\(s\)](#)

[Image\(s\)](#)

1.15: Tennessee

1.15.1: Memphis

1.15.1.1: [Account Numbers: 1 – 1160, Dec. 28, 1865–Oct. 5, 1869](#)

1.15.1.2: [Account Numbers: 1161 – 2001, Oct. 5, 1869–Dec. 19, 1870](#)

1.15.1.3: Account Numbers: 2000 – 6298, Dec. 19, 1870–July 1, 1874

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[Image\(s\)](#)

1.15.1.4: [Account Number: 6230, July 1, 1874](#)

1.15.2: Nashville

1.15.2.1: [Account Numbers: 4174 – 6191, Dec. 23, 1871–June 23, 1874](#)

1.16: Virginia

1.16.1: Lynchburg

1.16.1.1: [Account Numbers: 153 – 215, July 8–Aug. 22, 1871](#)

1.16.2: Norfolk

1.16.2.1: [Account Numbers: 3950 – 5424, Dec. 4, 1871–June 29, 1874](#)

1.16.3: Richmond

1.16.3.1: [Account Numbers: 232 – 1582, July 18, 1867–June 20, 1870](#)

1.16.3.2: [Account Numbers: 1591 – 3948, June 21, 1870–Nov. 20, 1871](#)

1.16.3.3: Account Numbers: 4005 – 7691, Dec. 11, 1871–June 29, 1874

[Image\(s\)](#)

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