Introduction:

The Maryland Historical Trust Library is the State’s principal repository for information relating to Maryland’s architectural, archeological, and cultural heritage. The library holds an extensive collection of books, journals and periodicals, historic structure reports, field and research reports, archeological reports, maps, architectural drawings, oral histories, slides and photographs, and vertical files.

This guide provides a brief overview of some of the resources available at the MHT Library related to African American history and culture in Maryland. This list is by no means exhaustive but a starting point for researchers. Contact the librarian for further assistance and information on other resources.

Visiting the Library:

The library is open to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, researchers should contact the librarian, Lara Westwood, at lara.westwood@maryland.gov or 410-697-9546. Visit our website to learn more about MHT and the library. A Library User Guide is also available for further guidance.

Please note: The MHT Library is currently closed for in-person visits due to the ongoing pandemic. The librarian remains available for research assistance via telephone or email.

Library Catalog:

The online library catalog for the MHT Library can be found online here. The catalog contains records of books, journals, site-specific reports, and historic maps, historic structure reports, preservation plans, and architectural drawings available to researchers.

Resources by Topic:

Archaeology:


**Architectural History and Historic Preservation:**


Hannold, Elizabeth. *An Examination of Two Cabins on the Craufurd Plantation, Prince George’s County, Maryland.* Washington, DC: George Washington University, 1985. *FRR PrGe 28*


McCall, David. *African-American Buildings in Kent County*, n.d. FRR Kent 1


McDaniel, George W. *Log Cabins and Frame Houses: A Brief Sampling of Slave Cabins in St. Mary’s and Calvert Counties, Maryland*, 1974. FRR StMa 4


Short, Kenneth M. *Historic Architecture in Howard County, Maryland: An Introductory Assessment*. Elicott City, MD: Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning, 2013. FRR Howa 12

Sugarloaf Regional Trails. *Inventory of historical sites in western Montgomery and Frederick Counties, Maryland*. [Dickerson, Md.]: [Sugarloaf Regional Trails], 1977. FRR Mary 30


**Civil Rights:**


**Enslavement and Emancipation:**

Ball, Charles, and Thomas Fisher. *Slavery in the United States: a narrative of the life and adventures of Charles Ball, a black man, who lived forty years in Maryland, South Carolina and Georgia, as a slave, under various masters, and was one year in the navy with Commodore Barney, during the late war. Containing an account of the manners and usages of the planters and slaveholders of the South, a description of the condition and treatment of the slaves, with observations upon the state of morals amongst the cotton planters, and the perils and the state of morals amongst the cotton planters, and the perils and sufferings of a fugitive slave, who twice escaped from the cotton country.* New York: Kraus Reprint Co., 1969. *E 444 .B182*


**General History and Historical Figures:**


Leggett, Vincent O. *The Chesapeake Bay through ebony eyes*. Annapolis, MD: Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation, 1999. **F 187 .C5 L44**


Slawson, Robert G. *Prologue to change: African Americans in medicine in the Civil War era*. Frederick, MD: NMCWM Press, 2006. **R 695 .S63**


**Local Community Histories:**


Burke, Margaret R., Ph. D. *Assessment of African American resources in Frederick County*. Baltimore, Md.: 2000. **F 187 .F8 B8**


Diggs, Louis S, and Evangeline A Wheeler. *From the Meadows to the Point: The Histories of the African American Community of Turner Station and What Was the African American Community in Sparrows Point*, 2003. **F 182.3 .T87 D54 2003**

Diggs, Louis S. *Surviving in America: histories of 7 Black communities in Baltimore County, Maryland: Oakland Park Road, Relay, Oella, Halethorpe, Granite, Church Lane, Winands Road*. [Baltimore, Md.?]: Uptown Press, 2002. *F 182.1 .D54*


Floyd, Bianca Patrice. *Black History and Historic Sites in Prince George’s County, Md*, 1983. *FRR PrGe 10*


*In the aftermath of "Glory": black soldiers & sailors from Annapolis, Maryland, 1863-1918*. Annapolis, Md: Maryland State Archives, 1993. *E 512 .I5 M3*


Ridout V, Orlando. Queen Anne’s County Black Communities Research, 1981. FRR QuAn 1


MHT Online Resources:

A Guided Tour of Maryland’s African American Historical Markers
This map tour highlights the roadside markers commemorating subjects important in Maryland’s African American history.

Maryland Archeological Synthesis Project
The Maryland Archeological Synthesis Project is a searchable database that is linked to Maryland Archeological Site Survey files, synopsis reports, and cover sheets generated of excavation projects.

Medusa, Maryland’s Cultural Resource Information System
Maryland Historical Trust's online database of architectural and archeological sites and standing...
Structures includes records for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties in Maryland, determinations of eligibility (DOE) records, and records for properties in the Maryland Historic Preservation Easement program. User tutorials can be found here.

Other Resources Around the State:

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society Montgomery County, Maryland Chapter:  
http://www.aahgsmocomd.org/index.html

Enoch Pratt Free Library, African American Department:  
https://www.prattlibrary.org/locations/central/african-american-department

https://www.prattlibrary.org/research/guides/african-american-genealogy

https://www.prattlibrary.org/research/guides/the-black-panther-party


Maryland Center for History and Culture. Guide to African American Sources. “Guide to African American Sources.”  

Maryland Lynching Memorial Project:  
https://www.mdlynchingmemorial.org

Maryland State Archives, n.d.  

http://slavery.msa.maryland.gov/

Prince George’s African American Museum & Cultural Center:  
https://pgaamcc.org/

https://lewismuseum.org/education/online-resources/

Western Maryland Historical Library. “ Allegany County, Maryland, African American History.”  
Western Maryland Regional Library, March 2020.  