



National Archives and Records Administration

700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408-0001

Patients and Staff at the Freedmen's Hospital, Washington, DC, in the Federal Censuses, 1870–1940

The Freedmen's Hospital in the District of Columbia was established in 1862. In 1863, Dr. Alexander Augusta, the head of the Freedmen's Hospital in Washington, DC, became the first African American to head a hospital. By 1869, the hospital relocated to the grounds of Howard University where it served as a teaching hospital. In 1975, the Freedmen's Hospital became Howard University Hospital.

Enumerating the Staff and Patients

The Federal census for the District of Columbia includes information about individuals living at institutions. This included the staff and patients at the Freedmen's Hospital. The hospital appears as the Freedmen's Hospital in 1870. In 1880, it appears as the Freedmen's Hospital Grounds. The 1890 census schedule is no longer extant. The hospital is listed as the Freedmen's Hospital in the 1900–1930 census schedules. From 1870 to 1930, census schedules list both the patients and staff of the hospital. The following information will help you locate the enumeration of the Freedmen's Hospital among the records.

___M593, *Ninth Census of the United States, 1870, roll 127*. Subdivision East of 1st Street. Enumeration of Freedmen's Hospital is on pages 12–17.

___T9, *Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, roll 121*. Enumeration District 4. Enumeration of Freedmen's Hospital Grounds is on pages 32–37.

___T623, *Twelfth Census of the United States, 1900, roll 158*. Enumeration District 147. (See Enumeration District 17). Enumeration of Freedmen's Hospital is on pages 1A–3A; stamped pages 175–177.

___T624, *Thirteenth Census of the United States, 1910, roll 155*. Enumeration District 203. Enumeration of Freedmen's Hospital is on pages 1A–1B.

___T625, *Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920, roll 213*. Enumeration District 320. Enumeration of Freedmen's Hospital is on pages 1A–1B.

___T626, *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, roll 298*. Enumeration District 222. Enumeration of Freedmen's Hospital is on pages 1A–2A.

1940 Census. Available online only. ED 1–517, pages 1A–3A.

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