

Free Africans of Brazil Dataset

Daryle Williams, University of Maryland

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Overview

The Free Africans of Brazil (FAB) dataset reconstructs the names and key life events of approximately 11,000 Free Africans and their minor children in nineteenth-century Brazilian slave society. Free Africans (also known as *africanos livres*, *emancipados*, or Liberated Africans) were a small subset of the three quarter-million Africans stolen from West, West Central, and southeastern Africa and violently transported to Brazil during the gradual suppression of the transatlantic trade. Free Africans experienced legal, labor, and familial conditions that were unique to their status under these treaties and national laws that curtailed and then outright banned the Brazilian trade. The Free Africans of Brazil dataset draws largely from documentation produced in the particularities of these historical conditions. Nonetheless, the archive of the Free African, and the rich data extracted from it, must also be understood in relation to the whole of the Brazilian empire (1822-1889) and across other nineteenth-century slave societies.

As individuals and in cohorts, Free Africans experienced enslavement in Africa, a transatlantic voyage, rescue or apprehension by Brazilian or British authorities who suspected an illegal entry into Brazilian territory, a summary judgment extending irrevocable emancipation under special authorities established in bilateral compacts, royal decrees, criminal and maritime laws, and judicial powers. Once that formal liberty was adjudicated, Brazilian officials conducted a formal nominal registration. The irony of receiving a certificate of freedom under the seal of Brazilian state was that each Free African was foreign to the body politic, designated to be a ward of state powers pending “re-exportation” to Africa. In an indeterminate period of waiting exit, the newly emancipated Africans faced compulsory apprenticeships supervised by private employers (known as concessionaires), government agencies, and religious orders. Those who died quickly, disappeared, or were kidnapped to be illegally re-enslaved could be erased from official accountings. Given these intentional silences in the sources, the FAB dataset cannot account fully for all *emancipados*.

For the majority of named Free Africans in the dataset, however, multiple registries and other documentation covers years or even decades. Authorities often produce thick

archival registers that reveal the impact that Free Africans, who arrived as youths and survived into adulthood and who arrived as adults and survived into middle age, had on domestic life, public matters, and labor relations in Rio de Janeiro city and province. The archive reveals evidence about smaller numbers who labored under similar arrangements in provincial capitals as well as select locations in the interior. In both the capital and the provinces, Free Africans and their allies were especially engaged in securing the rights of *plena liberdade* (full freedom) promised in anti-trafficking administrative law and in [Decree 1.303](#) (December 28, 1853). The documentation generated in the pursuit of that decree's provisions for a second emancipation is voluminous.

A small minority of Free Africans secured passage out of Brazil to Africa or the British West Indies, but the majority of those who survived more than a few years beyond arrival, especially those acquiring Free African status in their youth, became progressively rooted in Brazilian ways and looked towards Brazilian horizons. Forming intimate relations among themselves, among the enslaved, and among the freed and freeborn, Free Africans moved from being unwanted aliens under surveillance to occupying the semi-autonomous spaces familiar to Brazil's heterogeneous communities of free people of color, especially in Rio de Janeiro. Under [Decree 3.310](#) (September 24, 1864), extending second emancipation to all surviving *emancipados* regardless of the date of arrival or duration of their apprenticeship, Free Africans became permanent residents of the Brazilian empire. At a time of ascendant Brazilian nationalism, some strategically articulated a fealty to the Brazilian emperor and their adopted homeland, and those who became parents defended their children's constitutional protections of birthright citizenship. Alongside these children, the parents were enumerated as free foreigners in the national census of 1872, and any Free African who survived until the Proclamation of the Brazilian Republic became a citizen under the Constitution of 1891.

As early as 1844, Free Africans began to narrate a story of their lives in Brazil. The first drafts of the "Story of the Free Africans" as Brazilian national history date from [1863](#) and [1865](#). The Free Africans of Brazil Dataset intertwines these stories, using digital history tools that center the Africans and their earned place in the uneven destruction of bondage and the rise of black belonging in Brazil.

Unique Identifiers: Cases, Free Africans, Minor Children, Concessionaires

The FAB dataset is built from a tabular *matricula geral* (general census) of Free Africans completed by Brazilian officials in March 1868 and nearly one hundred nominal case registries listing Free Africans and a handful of dependent children taken between 1821

and 1856 upon a formal declaration of freedom issued by a Brazilian, British, or bilateral authority. Due to imprecisions throughout the archival records, the sum of Free Africans tabulated in March 1868 (10,719) exceeds by about 300 the total number of named Free Africans extracted from the nominal registries made over time many years earlier. Nonetheless, the two main record groups used for the FAB dataset come remarkably close in case counts and headcounts. This proximity of counts establishes a stable foundation for a system of nominal identification and unique identifiers that draw from both historical and contemporary protocols.

Cases

Most of the original case registries group together a cohort of Africans apprehended from a single slave ship intercepted on the high seas, near the Brazilian coast, or in port between 1821 to 1856. The case registries for these maritime apprehensions most often correspond to a record in the [Slave Voyages](#) database. (The Voyages counts of unnamed “Slaves” and imputed values for age and gender may be at significant variation from the FAB count of *emancipados*, which reflects the record of an in-person nominal headcount.) Most original registries included appendices useful in case identification and disambiguation, including the place and date of original ship apprehension as well as the name(s) of the captor or presiding judge. This type of supplemental information may be referenced in the “Source of data” section of a Voyages record. For FAB dataset, Voyages’ method of case identification and documentation falters when original case registries group together Free Africans rescued from more than one ship, who might be referenced in multiple Voyages’ records with multiple Voyage IDs. Equally problematic is that some registries list a cohort of Liberated African(s) who had been apprehended on land, generally not to be found in Voyages. The Brazilian archives about Free Africans also house nominal registries of groupings by assortment, such as “Diversos apprehendidos” (Various Apprehensions) and “Avulsos” (Uncatalogued) as well as vague locations like “Diversos Pontos” (Various Locales) and “Vindos da Bahia” (Coming from Bahia).

Whether the apprehension was maritime or terrestrial and whether the labeling was precise or loose, Portuguese-language summaries consistently grouped cohorts of Free Africans by the naval terminology of *navio*, or ship, and *carregamento*, or cargo. In the 1868 General Census, there are entries for 62 such *carregamentos*. (A retrospective count made three years earlier using a similar source set listed just 46.) The FAB dataset maintains the historical logic of the *carregamento*, but consolidates the total number of “cargoes” to 55, each identified by a standardized case name, the Voyages ID (if available), and the following identifier:

“FAB-CASE” + THREE-LETTER ABBREVIATION

Examples

FAB-CASE-AFO
Africano Oriental
Voyages ID: 1227

FAB-CASE-AAF
Angelica-Amizade Feliz
Voyages ID: 1421 and 1422

FAB-CASE-DUC
Duqueza-Correção
Variously labeled in sources as “Duqueza de Bragança” or “Casa de Correção,” the latter denoting the intermixture of Africans from the *Duqueza de Bragança* with others sent to Rio’s House of Correction
Voyages ID: 1328

FAB-CASE-MAG
Marambaia-Golfinho
Variously labeled in sources by the names of Brazilian Imperial Navy captor ships *Andorinha*, *Bertioga*, and *Golfinho*, and/or the location of apprehension, the Ilha de Marambaia
Voyages ID: None

Free Africans

Each of the 55 consolidated cases corresponds to one or more nominal case registers that identified the case’s Africans individually, by the Christian or classical given name assigned at emancipation, *nação* (nation), and a matriculation number, also assigned at emancipation. The original grouping or sequencing of names also registered an assigned sex and age cohort (most commonly *rapaz/rapariga* or boy/girl and *preto/preta* or adult male/female).

A historical identification system that followed from these original registries, which was used irregularly by the Superintendent (*Curador*) of Free Africans in the 1830s and 1840s and then systematically in the 1850s and 1860s, was as follows:

NAME + NATION + CASE + MATRICULATION NUMBER

Examples

Hilario + Congo + Cezar + 77
written as “Hilario Congo Cezar 77”
shortened to “Hilario Congo CEZ 77”

Agostinha + Benguela + Marambaia-Andorinha + 1
Agostinha Benguela Marambaia-Andorinha 1
Agostinha Benguela MAA 1

Archangelo + Angola + Mary E. Smith + 459
Archangelo Angola Mary E. Smith 459
Archangelo Angola MES 459

This historical identification system — familiar to Brazilian officials as well as Free Africans in their lifetimes — was the foundational premise of positive identification in the nineteenth century. Although distinguishing physical marks, age, disability or injury, apprenticeships, dates of arrival, residence, aliases, and Portuguese-language ability might be invoked to establish identity at any point in a Free African’s life, the most assured way to establish the positive identification of a Free African *as a Free African* and to disambiguate any given Free African from another person — enslaved, free, or freed — was the combination of the NAME + NATION + CASE + MATRICULATION NUMBER reflected in an original registry and the multivolume registry books (*Livros de Matricula*) systematized by a government order issued July 24, 1854.

NAME + NATION + CASE + MATRICULATION NUMBER is also the foundational premise of disambiguation in the FAB dataset. There are 104 Africans named “Maria” in the dataset, but there shall be just one sole Maria with a unique combination of the three other elements of the historical identification. (Compare: Maria Cabinda Duqueza-Correção 152 to Maria Angola Duqueza-Correção 176 to Maria Congo Angelica-Amizade Feliz 176 to Maria Cabinda Jurujuba1848 64 to Maria Mozambique Jurujuba1848 74).

The FAB project also assigns a modern unique identifier to each Maria and all the remaining Africans and dependent children recorded in the nominal case registries,

cross-referenced to various nominal censuses taken between 1860 and 1866. The most extensive of these censuses, completed by Reginaldo Muniz Freire in March 1864, lists the given name, nation, case, and status of 7,339 Free Africans emancipated in Rio, grouped into 33 cases. Although the matriculation numbers were not included in the Freire registry, most can be imputed through the sequential order of Freire's listing, cross-referenced to the original registries and other sources, especially petitions for second emancipation.

Modern unique identifiers for Africans and dependent minors bolster disambiguation, accommodates spelling variants in given name and nation, and alternative name and nation usages found across nominal registries for the same case. Modern unique identifiers accommodate for gaps in the historical record where NAME + NATION + CASE + MATRICULATION NUMBER is incomplete or the original source documentation missing or damaged. Finally, the modern unique identifier serves as the foundation for a stable coding of inter-person relationships among Free Africans, especially parent-child bonds.

The structure of this modern identification system, which accommodates for spelling variants and aliases, is as follows:

"FAB-AFR" + FIVE-DIGIT ID, starting with "00001"

Examples

FAB-AFR-01669
Hilario Congo Cezar 77
Hilario Congo CEZ 77
Hillarrio Congo CEZ 77
Ilario Congo CEZ 77
Elario Congo CEZ 77

FAB-AFR-00527
Maria Rebolo AAF 254
Maria Garcia Rebolo AAF 254

FAB-AFR-03032
Nicomedes Congo DES Unknown

FAB-AFR-10084
Rosalia Oambo SCB 392

Rosaria Benguela SCB 392

FAB-AFR-02490

Unnamed Gege DES Unknown

Dependent Children of Free African Mothers

A small number of dependent children of Free African parents — nursing infants and toddlers — were matriculated independently alongside their mothers. The assignment of a unique ID (historical and contemporary) to these minors (some named, others merely described as *crias*, or younglings) follows the logic established for the mother's unique ID. (There is no known record of a young child being registered alongside his or her father, though surely such bonds existed among the original cohorts of newly emancipated.)

The several hundred unmatriculated minor children of Free African parents referenced throughout the historical archives—in nominal lists, death notices, apprenticeship records, disappearance advertisements, and petitions—ostensibly require no unique identifier in the FAB dataset. Much to the consternation of key figures in the Brazilian government, these children were neither Free African nor freed African (nor unfree African). Tutelage, allegiance, and obligation were indeterminate. If Brazilian birth could be established, these minors were citizens by birthright. Nonetheless, like the large majority of Brazilians prior to the 1872 census, these children did not figure in a national enumeration or civil registry.

The fates of these children remained exceptionally close to that of the registered Free African mother, quite often at the direct insistence of the mother. The Brazilian authorities and British diplomats with whom these mothers interacted also noted with regularity the dependent children of Free African mothers. (With rare exceptions, these officials left unnamed and unknown the fathers of these minors.) As these dependent youths approached adolescence, both mothers and the Brazilian state agitated to find spaces for the children's vocational training, maintaining the physical and documentary proximity of parent and child. When a private concessionaire secured authorization to double as the child's tutor, those spaces could be domestic; children are to be found within the records of the household. When the labor concession was held by a state institution, those spaces could be public. Take for example the Casa de Correção da Corte, an institution literally built by adult Free African labor that also operated the Instituto de Menores Artesãos between 1861 and 1865, formally taking in children of Free African parents consigned to the correction house.

The FAB dataset assigns unique identifiers to the dependent minor children of Free African mothers, to recognize the intimacy of the parent-child bond, and to conjoined fates of mothers, sons, and daughters. Unique identifiers also permit the disambiguation and de-duplication of the many unnamed children who appear in the historical record.

This unique identification system for dependent children who went without matriculation at the original registry or who were born after original emancipation works in the following manner:

“FAB-AFR” + mother’s FIVE-DIGIT ID + child’s TWO-DIGIT ID starting with “01”

Examples
FAB-AFR-04122-01 Unnamed and unregistered infant of Helena Ujamba FEL 152
FAB-AFR-07975-01 Cypriano, son of Engracia Benguela PDB 169
FAB-AFR-10052-03 Julia, third child of Florianna Cariquimba SCB 294

The preceding schemata of unique identifiers provide the tools to identify the hundreds of Free Africans and minor children whose deaths were registered by the justice ministry, police, and charity hospitals in the 1830s and 1840s as well as the large majority of the thousands who petitioned the Brazilian Imperial Government for various types of recourse, including relief from mistreatment, enjoyment of expanded rights of personal autonomy specified in Decree 1.303, marriage, and the protection of the rights of their children. The interrelated schemata also enable identification of the majority of named Africans appearing in runaway and disappearance advertisements, public notices of emancipation or imprisonment, and a log of interviews with Free Africans maintained by British consul Robert Hesketh between 1849 and 1851. The unique identifiers, finally, facilitate the stable identification of relationships between named and unnamed individuals.

Concessionaires

The significance of inter-person relationships in documenting labor apprenticeships, domestic relations, household formations, disciplinary and punishment regimes, and petitioning strategies warranted the assignment of a unique identifier to each of the 2,475 private, government, religious, or corporate concessionaires encountered to date in the archives. Unlike the identifiers for the Africans, these concessionaire identifiers have no historical corollaries. The Brazilian government produced various nominal lists of active apprenticeships, in 1844-45, 1860, and 1865-66, but there was no retrospective and comprehensive *matricula geral* of concessionaires. The FAB's compilation of all concessionaire names encountered in the archives, each assigned a unique identifier, stands in place of such a registry.

These unique identifiers in this open-ended compilation have been used for the disambiguation and de-duplication of the various public institutions, individuals, and families who secured apprenticeships directly, via transfer, or following the exoneration or abandonment of obligations. These unique identifiers accommodate for the high degree of spelling variation and abbreviations in given names and surnames, idiosyncratic use of family names, and honorific title usage. They solve a problem of positive identity encountered often in the historical documentation about responsibility for labor apprenticeships and related fees.

The project's concessionaire identifier uses the following protocol:

"FAB-CONC" + CONCESSIONAIRE TYPE + FOUR-DIGIT ID starting with "0001"

Examples

FAB-CONC-PRIV-1325

Aureliano de Sousa e Oliveira Coutinho
Aureliano de Souza e Oliveira Coutinho
Visconde de Sepetiba

FAB-CONC-GOV-1019

Casa de Correção da Corte
Casa de Correção, Rio de Janeiro

FAB-CONC-REL-1015

Ordem 3a de São Francisco da Penitência
Ordem Terceira da Penitência

Ordem 3a de S. Francisco da Penitência

FAB-CONC-PRIV-3238
Theodora Amalia Torres
Theodora Amalia Joaquina Torres
Theodora Joaquina Torres

In addition to the solicitation, start and end dates, transfers, and exoneration of apprenticeship obligations, the dataset incorporates supplemental data on concessionaires extracted from an array of civil, criminal, ecclesiastic, military, tax, and civic records as well as almanacs and street directories.

Conclusion

Grounded in the nominal registries made at the time of apprehension and the registry of Free African status and supplemented by nominal registries maintained by the Curador of Free Africans, policing and corrections officials, and Public Establishments, and cross-referenced against data extracted from the thousands of petitions and interviews taken down in the Africans' voices, FAB brings together a rich set of sources and life stories. Alongside extracted and imputed information on African or concessionaire age, gender, ethnonym, residence, childbearing, family relations, health, resistance, and life outcomes, the dataset facilitates statistical analysis and visualizations across a wide range of variables. Perhaps the most meaningful variable concerns each African's legal status in 1865 (i.e., Deceased, Disappeared, Emancipated, Imprisoned, Reexported, or Undetermined), as the Free African regime ended. This status indicator reveals how nearly 11,000 individuals navigated the broken paths of freedom over a forty-year period. In conclusion, this dataset presents significant insights into the life arcs of individuals and to the collective contours of black freedom and bondage in the largest and most enduring slave society of the Americas.

The FAB Datasets

As of December 2020, FAB encompasses six datasets, interlinked by uniqueIDs

- **FAB Cases**
 - 55 consolidated cases with uniqueIDs
 - textual summaries, dates, and locations of apprehensions and first nominal case registries
 - source citations
- **FAB African Nominal**
 - nominal listing of 10,513 registered Free Africans and dependent children recognized at original matriculation with uniqueIDs
 - aliases and alternative nations
 - various attributes recorded at original matriculation and subsequent registries, notably labor concessions, and status through 1868
 - source citations
- **FAB Concessionaires Nominal**
 - nominal listing of 2,475 employers with uniqueIDs
 - aliases and honorific titles
- **FAB 1860 Concessionaire-African Nominal**
 - enhanced transcription of a March 1860 nominal registry of 1,301 Africans and 843 private concessionaires, principally residing in Rio de Janeiro
 - concessionaires are 100% positive uniqueID match to **FAB Concessionaires Nominal**
 - Africans about 90% positive uniqueID match to FAB African Nominal, remainder assigned a provisional uniqueID
- **FAB Disappearances**
 - 660 entries of data extracted from Rio de Janeiro newspaper advertisements announcing the flight, disappearance, or kidnapping of a Free African, 1835-1863
 - 76 of the ads are fully transcribed in modernized Portuguese and translated into American English
 - Concessionaires are 100% positive uniqueID match to **FAB Concessionaires Nominal**
 - Africans about 70% positive uniqueID match to **FAB African Nominal**, remainder assigned a provisional uniqueID
- **FAB Children Nominal**
 - 300 minor children of Free African mothers, identified in original case registries and other sources, each assigned a uniqueID supplemental to the mother's uniqueID

Supporting materials

1. African Name Variants

2. African Nation Variants
 3. Transcription of Tabular Summary of Freire Nominal Registry of 1864
 4. Transcription of Tabular Summary of 1868 General Census
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Sources

Nominal Registries

- 1833-1856 nominal registries taken by Brazilian authorities following apprehension and first emancipation
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro record groups: Junta do Commercio, Agricultura, e Navegação (7X), Auditoria Geral da Marinha (OB), Série Justiça (AM), and Prisões (A0); Arquivo Histórico do Itamaraty, Rio de Janeiro, Coleções Especiais: Comissões Mistas; Arquivo Público do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Presidência da Província (PP); Arquivo Público do Estado da Bahia, Governo da Província: Tesouraria; Arquivo Público Estadual Jordão Emerenciano: Tesouraria da Fazenda; The National Archives, Slave Trade Department (FO 84)
- 1830s-1840s Free African death registries
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro record groups: Diversos Códices (NP), Policia da Corte (OE), and Série Justiça (AM)
- 1844-1845 Superintendent of Free Africans' nominal registries of private concessionaires and Public Establishments
 - tabular summary and (incomplete) nominal registries of 1,970 Africans sent to Public Establishments
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro Diversos (OI) 5B-531 "Africanos Livres forão concedidos aos seguintes Estabelecimentos Nacionaes," Antonio Gregorio Cordeiro, Escrivão dos Africanos Livres, November 15, 1844
 - nominal registry of 1,184 private concessionaires with active salary obligations to Rio municipal treasury (2,369 Africans listed solely as numerical totals)
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro Diversos (OI) 5B-531 "Relação nominal das pessoas a que tem sido confiados Africanos livres, quantos, e seu estado de divida em 31 de Dezembro de 1844, desde o segundo semestre do anno financeiro de 1840-41 em que passou a arrecadação de seus salarios a ser feita pela Recebedoria do Municipio da Corte, até o fim do anno financeiro

proximo findo de 1843-44 na forma exigida em Aviso da Secretaria da Justiça de 10 de Setº de 1844," Antonio Gregorio Cordeiro, Escrivão dos Africanos Livres, March 11, 1845

- 1860 nominal registry of private concessionaires with active salary obligations, and corresponding nominal registry of Africans, secretly supplied to British diplomats, draw from Brazilian sources
 - The National Archives (TNA), Kew, United Kingdom, FO 128/48 ff. 289-37, "Relação de todos os Africanos livres que até o presente data ainda se acham sob a responsabilidade dos particulares a quem foram confiados. Extrahidos em o mez de Março de 1860," unsigned [Balbino José França Ribeiro], March 1860
- 1861 retrospective, cumulative nominal list of 729 Africans and associated concessionaires for three Bahian cases: Últimação, Relâmpago, and Mary E. Smith
 - ANRJ-AM IJ 6 Pasta 525 "Relação dos 729 Africanos aprendidos em 8 de Setembro e 30 de Outubro de 1851 e 30 [sic] de Janeiro de 1856," April 3, 1861
- 1863-1864 Justice Ministry notices of second emancipations
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro Série Justiça (AM) IJ 6 16 "Africanos Livres: Registro de Avisos a Diversas Autoridades, 1863-1864"
- 1864 nominal registry drawn from the *Livros de Matrícula*, by *carregamento*,
 - 7,339 Free Africans, listing Africans by name, nation, and one of three status categories (i.e., Existente, Falecido, and Emancipado) for 33 cases
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro Juízo Municipal 1ª Vara do Rio de Janeiro (ZU) Maço 646 Nº 5473 "Reginaldo Muniz Freire," "Relação dos africanos livres," March 1864
- 1865 transcriptions from the *Livros de Matrícula*
 - select *carregamentos* emancipated by the Anglo-Brazilian Mixed Commission and municipal judges in Rio de Janeiro, listing Africans by name, nation, matriculation number, and distinguishing marks; concessionaire and date of *ultimo destino* (last known fate)
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro Série Justiça (AM) IJ6 471 for cases: Angelica-Amizade Feliz (incomplete and without cover), Brilhante, Cezar, Continente, Duqueza de Bragança, Ligeira, Novo Destino, Rio da Prata, and various land apprehensions, unsigned and undated (early 1865)
- 1865 nominal registry of private and public concessionaires and Africans, secretly supplied to British diplomats, draw from Brazilian sources
 - The National Archives (TNA), Kew, United Kingdom, FO 84/1244 fs. 68-85, Enclosure Hunt to Russell "List of Private Concessionaires who pay

wages to the Government for the hire of Free Africans," unsigned [Reginaldo Muniz Freire], 10 March 1865

- 1865-66 nominal registries of Africans consigned to Public Establishments and the Holy House of Mercy and its dependencies
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro Diversos (OI) 5B-462 "Relação dos Africanos livres que tem estado ao serviço da Santa Casa da Misericórdia e repartições anexas organizada de conformidade com a requisição do Ministério do Império de 3 de Janrº de 1866" Daniel Maria Colonna, 28 February 1866
- 1868 General Census
 - 62 cases judged in Rio de Janeiro and the provinces
 - Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro, Diversos (OI) 5B-519 "Estado em que se acham a escripturação da matrícula geral dos diversos carregamentos de Africanos livres na Corte, e Províncias do Império" Ten. Pedro Paulino da Fonseca, May 1868

Petitions

Free Africans and concessionaires submitted thousands of petitions, addressed to the emperor or officials in the justice ministry, seeking some form of privilege or recourse. An original petition might include multiple appendices, authored by friends, relatives, and associates of the petitioner, policing and corrections agents, or priests. The majority of these petitions are group loosely grouped in Arquivo Nacional, Rio de Janeiro record groups: Diversos (OI), Série Justice (AM), Série Justiça: Chancelaria (AG), Polícia da Corte (OE), Casa de Correção (AO), and Calabouço (NE). A small handful of petitions and supplemental documentation are also archived at the Museu Imperial and in British consular records now housed at The National Archives-Kew.

Hemeroteca Digital Brasileira, Fundação Biblioteca Nacional

The Brazilian national library's collection of digitized periodicals provide full-text, keyword searchable access to a wealth of information about all aspects of Free African life. Data extracted systematically from these periodicals include lists of original concessionaires for cases [Angelica-Amizade Feliz](#), [Carolina](#), [Leal](#), [Orion](#), Rio Ceará, [Sant'Anna-Fermé](#), as well as a number of smaller land apprehensions including the [Caminho de Minas](#) (folded into Orion). Concessionaire names, honorific titles, and addresses were often cross-referenced against another digitized serial publication on the Hemeroteca Digital Brasileira, the *Almanak Administrativo, Mercantil e Industrial do Rio de Janeiro*, commonly known as the *Almanak Laemmert*. Finally, the Hemeroteca

Digital Brasileira is also the principal source for direct transcriptions and data extracted from advertisements of Free African disappearances (flights, kidnappings, etc.)

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