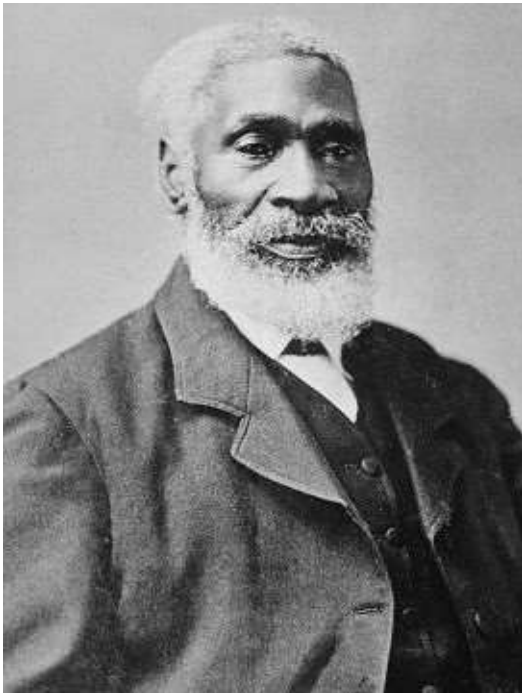


Black History: Owensboro Newspapers Articles

By Jerry Long

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Josiah Henson (1789-1883)



Edward Claybrook (c1836-1896)

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The following list of articles appeared in the newspapers of Owensboro, KY. They are far from being a complete inventory of articles related to local Black History.

1843

“Owensboro Bulletin”

May 12 p3 Ad for sale of Negroes

1852

“Owensboro Gazette”

Apr 24 p4 Ad for sale of Negro woman
Sep 2 p3 Ad for sale of Negroes
Dec 9 p2 Letter about Negroes and church attendance

1862
“Owensboro Monitor”

Sep 3 p3 escaped slave, Yancy, captured at Hartford
Sep 10 p3 ad for escaped slaves; see also Sep 17 p3 (May Stevens)
Nov 12 p3 Negro slave sold for \$815
Dec 3 p2 President’s “Emancipation Proclamation”

1863
“Owensboro Monitor”

Jan 7 p3 sale of slave, Apr 1 p3 [note in the surviving pre-1863 newspapers there were other ads for runaway slaves and notices of the sale of slaves]

1864
“Owensboro Monitor”

Apr 6 p3 many Negroes leave Daviess County and go to Indiana and join US Army
May 18 p3 list of 59 Daviess Countians drafted, including several slaves with just first names
Jun 8 p3 240 Negro soldiers have departed from here

1866
“Owensboro Monitor”

Mar 7 p3 Freedman’s Bureau in Owensboro
Jun 6 p3 Capt. A. W. Lawwill appointed Superintendent of Freedman’s Bureau here

1874
“Owensboro Monitor”

Mar 25p2 act to establish and provide for a colored free school in Owensboro
May 6 p1 Mary Stowers, former slave, locates son, Willis Green, who was sold away 28 years ago

1875
“Owensboro Monitor”

Mar 24p3 plea for funds by pastor of African M. E. Church on Third Street

1875

“Owensboro Examiner”

Mar 26 p5 H. Clay Helm, Black, candidate for city councilman

1876

“Owensboro Examiner”

Jul 21 p5 local Blacks to celebrate anniversary of their freedom
Sep 8 p5 Second Baptist Colored Church is now meeting in a rented house

1877

“Owensboro Examiner”

Apr 6 p5 statistics on Daviess County Blacks

1878

“Owensboro Examiner”

Jul 5, p5 money being raised for colored school; see also Jul 12 p5
Oct 25 p5 new Owensboro colored school completed

1878

“Owensboro Weekly Messenger”

Aug 28 p3 new colored school building

1880

“Owensboro Weekly Messenger & Examiner”

Feb 4 p3 speeches here for free schools for colored students
May 5 p3 Rev. L. Norris new pastor of Second Colored Baptist Church
Sep 8 p3 Importation of Negroes to Indiana

1880

“Owensboro Semi-Weekly Messenger & Examiner”

Jan 30 p3 meeting of Blacks for free colored schools; see also Jun 18 p3, Jun 22 p3
May 4 p3 Second Colored Baptist Church may build new church
Aug 10 p3 colored church to be erected on East 8th Street
Aug 24 p3 meeting of Colored school board; see also Sep 10 p3

1881

“Owensboro Weekly Messenger & Examiner”

Apr 27 p1 A new chapter in the history of the origin of Uncle Tom’s Cabin
May 11 p3 trustees appointed for Owensboro colored schools

1881

“Owensboro Semi-Weekly Messenger & Examiner”

Jan 28 p4 report of colored school board; see also Sep 12 p3
Apr 19 p1 A new chapter in the history of the origin of “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”

1882

“Owensboro Weekly Messenger & Examiner”

Mar 15 p3 the Colored Republicans
Aug 30 p3 Blacks threaten to enter their children in the white schools
Sep 6 p3 Blacks bring suit against city of Owensboro over schools; see also Sep 13 p3, Sep 20 p3, Nov 22 p3, Nov 29 p3

1882

“Owensboro Semi-Weekly Messenger”

Jun 23 p4 African Methodist Episcopal Church of Owensboro trying to pay off its debt
Jul 21 p4 colored citizens sign petition for better schools & bring suit against city of Owensboro; see also Aug 29 p4, Sep 1 p4, Sep 8 p4, Sep 19 p4, Oct 17 p4, Nov 24 p4, Nov 28 p4

1883

“Owensboro Weekly Messenger & Examiner”

Mar 14 p3 colored passengers forced to exit white train car
Apr 18 p3 colored suit vs. Owensboro schools, “Claybrook vs. City of Owensboro”; see also May 9 p2, May 16 p3, May 30 p2, Jun 6 p3, Jun 13 p3, Dec 12 p3
Sep 5 p3 Colored fair; see also Oct 10 p3, Oct 24 p3, Oct 31 p3, Nov 7 p3

1883

“Owensboro Semi-Weekly Messenger”

Feb 16 p4 Suit by Blacks against City and Owensboro Public Schools; see also Apr 6 p3, Apr 13 p4 (US Court renders decision in suit), Apr 17 p4, May 11 p4, May 29 p2, Jun 1 p4
Mar 9 p4 Colored passengers on train ordered to use assigned cars
Aug 31 p4 First Colored Fair starts on Oct 18
Oct 19 p4 The Colored Fair opens; see also Oct 23 p4, Oct 26 p4, Nov 2 p4
Nov 2 p4 Suit of the Negroes versus the city of Owensboro; see also Nov 20 p4

1884

“Owensboro Weekly Messenger & Examiner”

Jan 30 p3 Decision in suit of Claybrook vs City of Owensboro; see also Nov 26 p3,

Dec 17 p3
Oct 1 p3 Colored school on Snow Hill torched; see also Dec 17 p3 (new Colored school on Snow Hill to be built)

1884

“Owensboro Semi-Weekly Messenger”

Jan 11 p1 Bethlehem Baptist Church (colored) at Utica has purchased a tract of land on which they plan to build a new church
Jan 29 p4 “School for the Darkies” - decision rendered in suit, Claybrook vs. City of Owensboro, rendered
May 27 p4 Large group of Blacks migrating to Kansas
Jul 15 p4 Richard May taken from jail and lynched by mob; see also 7/8 p.4, 7/11 p.4, 7/18 p.1 & 4 (fears of an outbreak by the Negroes now dispelled), 7/22 p.1 & 4 (Judge Little entreats grand jury to punish members of mob who killed May & Lucas)
Sep 5 p2 Interview of Judge Amos Riley about Uncle Tom – Si Henson; see also entry for Josiah Henson in Black KY Pioneers section on the website, “West-Central Kentucky History & Genealogy”
Dec 12 p4 Discord among the patrons of the colored schools
Dec 16 p4 New colored school on Snow Hill to be built

1885

“Owensboro Tri-Weekly Messenger”

Jan 20 p4 Company of Black soldiers under Gen. J. B. Briggs in the Confederate Army during the Civil War
Feb 12 p4 New colored school on Snow Hill; see also Mar 14 p4
Sep 15 p1 Several Negroes are visited by Klu Kluxing band of local citizens at Utica; see also Sep 17 p4

1887

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Mar 22 p1 Calvin H. L. Taylor, colored, formerly of Ohio County, appointed minister to Liberia
Apr 2 p4 Colored committee criticizes schools; see also Apr 9 p4
Nov 3 p4 Colored school building nearing completion
Dec 1 p4 Colored School building in Lower Ward completed

1887

“Owensboro Weekly Messenger & Examiner”

Aug 4 p3 New colored school; see also Aug 18 p2, Dec 8 p3

1889

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Jul 21 p4 Kennady's Woods lots near Owensboro for sale; see also Jul 28 p2, Aug 14 p1, Aug 16 p4, Aug 18 p1 Blacks not allowed to buy lots
- Jul 23 p1 Story of Martha Cabell locating son in Owensboro, who was sold as a slave in 1849; see also 8/21 p4 (meets son, Thruston Cabell)
- Aug 27 p4 White woman arrested for living with a Negro

1890

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Jan 21 p4 Colored citizens attempting to organize a colored normal school; requests colored teachers; see also Mar 8 p1, Mar 9 p4, Mar 13 p1, Mar 14 p1, Mar 15 p1
- Jul 18 p1 Racial troubles in Owensboro yesterday

1890

“Owensboro Weekly Messenger”

- Mar 27 p1 Opposition to appointment of Negro postmaster at Brandenburg; see also Sep 18 p1, Sep 25 p1

1890

“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

- May 25 p5 “Inquirer” is only Owensboro paper to set aside a column for the colored citizens (ran each Sunday, later in the year the column disappeared)

1891

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Nov 7 p1 Colored Schools overcrowded and in poor condition
- Nov 28 p4 Afro American Association organized here

1891

“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

- Feb 15 p2 “Colored Department” column reappears in the “Inquirer” after an absence of several months

1892

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Apr 16 p4 Colored newspaper, “The Freedman’s Clarion”, to be published here
- Jul 29 p1 B. K. Bruce, noted colored politician, speaks in Owensboro

1893

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Apr 9 p4 White girl of Owensboro tries to marry a Black
Nov 3 p1 Suit against coach law by colored people

1894

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Feb 6 p5 Colored doctor, P.G. Walker, locates in Henderson
Mar 14p1 Meeting of Negro Voters
Aug 5 p1 Colored Baptist Association meets in Owensboro, see also Aug 14 p5

1895

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Feb 26 p1 Local Blacks pay tribute to late Frederick Douglass
Apr 14 p7 General Antonio Maceo, Cuban patriot
Jun 9 p1 Colored people petition for colored teachers

1895

“Owensboro Daily Tribune”

Dec 18 p1 Mob tries to hang a Negro at Rockport, IN

1896

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Oct 20 p4 Gang accused of Ku-Kluxing/white capping in Vanover precinct
Nov 25p5 Harrison Griffith, former slave freed by noted abolitionist Mattie Griffith, visits old home

1897

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Feb 7 p5 Two legal hangings in Daviess County
Jun 1 p5 first graduating class of Western Colored High School
Jun 11 p4 Rev. S. E. Smith local Black political leader
Sep 27 p1 Raymond Bushrod lynched by mob at Hawesville; see also Sep 26 p1, Sep 28 p5

1897

“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

May 30 p1 Colored High School first graduation exercises; see also Jun 1 p1
Jun 8 p1 Colored Republicans Club organized
Jun 18 p1 New colored church – Jones Memorial Methodist Chapel

Sep 27 p1 Raymond Bushrod lynched by mob in Hancock County; see also 9/26 p1,
10/1 p4
Dec 5 p1 Colored Literary Association formed

1898
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Mar 16p3 Fourth Street Colored Baptist Church burns
Apr 22 p8 Albert C. Thomas (Black), graduates medical college

1898
“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

Jan 16 p8 Effort to organize a Colored Federal Labor Union
May 22p8 C. C. Monroe, colored lawyer, files first suit
May 31p1 Colored high school commencement
Jun 19 p8 Colored preacher, Harry Killebrew, 14, preaches here
Jul 10 p1 Fourth Street Colored Baptist Church dedication; see also Jul 11 p2
Sep 19 p1 Black church band arrested for playing music
Sep 19 p1 Dedication of Center Street Colored Baptist Church
Dec 4 p5 Story of former slave, Steve Bowmer, reunited with his wife after 50 years

1899
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Jan 8 p2 Jim Scott, an old slave, 84, of Hancock County dies – story of how his first wife
was sold away and after over 50 years they were reunited
Jun 1 p5 Colored high school graduation
Aug 24p1 Rev. S. E. Smith, colored, questions coach law
Sep 3 p8 Colored schools teacher assignments
Sep 14 p1&2 Suit in Daviess County over discrimination by coach law
Sep 29 p5 Appeal to local Negroes

1899
“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

Mar 16p1 Story of former slave of Evansville, who by mistake married her son
Jun 1 p1 Commencement at colored high school
Sep 12 p2 Colored Voters Club, “Independents”, organized

1900
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Jan 16 p2 S. Jerome Smith (Black) is admitted to local bar
Jan 25 p8 “Whitecaps” beat Black youth near Glenville
Mar 14 p3 New wing for Colored patients to be built at Hospital

Mar 15 p5 Winnie Wilson, 95, former slave died – information on her life, descendant of “Guinea Negro’s” of Louisiana

May 30 p5 Nine graduate from Western Colored High School

Aug 3 p2 Dr. Willis S. Green of Evansville a former slave in Daviess County; see also obituary 1908: Jul 24 p3

Aug 15 p3 George Shauntee a former slave looks up will of his former owner, John Shauntee, trying to find his age

Dec 18 p1 Three Blacks lynched for murder of a white barber at Rockport, Indiana

Dec 26 p1 Because of recent lynchings at Rockport, Indiana many Blacks are fleeing to Kentucky, long history of racial violence in southern Indiana counties dating from Civil War days; see also Dec 18 p1, Dec 26 p1, 1901: Jan 5 p1, Jan 29 p1

1900

“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

Jan 24 p1 Negro boy is whitecapped

Jan 29 p1 Tom Storms former slave sold away in 1864 returns to Grayson County

May 30 p1 Commencement of colored high school

1901

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Jan 29 p1& 3 Several southern Indiana towns are driving out some Blacks; see also Jan 30 p3 (139 Blacks indicted at Rockport for selling votes), Feb 3 p1, Feb 15 p1

Feb 12 p5 Tom Nelson, 76, Black of Henderson was former body servant to General Forrest during Civil War

Mar 20 p2 Dave McFarland a Black barber chastised by ‘white caps’ for seeing white woman; see also Mar 21 p3

Mar 23 p4 Serena Jackson, 99, former slave of Bob Beauchamp

Apr 11 p8 Annex for colored people to be added to hospital

Apr 16 p1 “Impudent Negro” chased out of Hawesville by mob

May 16 p1 Mack Rowan of Bardstown former slave of Judge John Rowan

Jul 26 p3 Colored fair to be held Aug 29, 30 & 31

Aug 4 p9 Emancipation day celebrated by local Blacks

1901

“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

Jan 29 p1 Twenty negroes convicted of selling their votes at Rockport, IN

Feb 3 p4 “Colored Column” regularly published in the “Owensboro Inquirer’s” Sunday edition

Mar 19 p2 Colored addition to the hospital proposed; see also Apr 18 p2

May 6 p2 Police raid a colored baseball game because they played on the Sabbath; see also May 8 p4, May 9 p2, May 12 p1

May 19 p12 Opening of the Sweeney Street Church

Jun 2 p6 Western High School graduation

Jul 21 p10 First Colored fair to be held here; see also Jul 26 p4, Aug 21 p3, Aug 28 p1, Aug 29 p1, Aug 30 p1, Sep 1 p1, Oct 7 p1, Dec 8 p10

1902

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Jan 15 p2 Addition for colored patients to be built at the city hospital
Feb 9 p10 “Kentucky Site of Uncle Tom’s Cabin”
May 9 p1 James McFarland, Black, brought to jail here after mob forms at Calhoun; see also May 16 p7
Jun 15 p15 Uncle Dan Daly, Black, 99, tells of olden days of Owensboro
Jul 13 p5 Isaiah Moorman, 71, Black, going back to Hawesville, family data
Aug 15 p2 First all Black jury in Owensboro’s police court
Aug 17 p3 First testimony by a Negro in a Kentucky court given here in the trial in which members of the police were accused of the 1872 killing of Nat Davidson of Hawesville
Aug 31 p5 Second annual Colored fair; see also Sep 18 p7, Sep 19 p5, Sep 21 p1
Sep 18 p7 Controversy over whether a student attending an Evansville school is Negro or not and later in Hancock County, KY; see also Nov 15 p2, Nov 20 p5
Oct 25 p7 J. A. Agnew, colored, to open an undertaking establishment

1902

“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

Jan 14 p4 Colored addition to hospital to be erected
Mar 18p1 Colored school to be erected
Aug 14p1 First colored jury in city court
Sep 18 p1 Colored Fair; see also Sep 21 p1
Sep 28 p10 Dr. John A. Agnew locates in Owensboro; see also Nov 16 p10
Oct 5 p10 Group formed to protest 1,500 lynchings
Nov 11 p4 St. Paul’s African Methodist Episcopal Church incorporated; see also Nov 16 p10, Dec 21 p3
Nov 13 p4 Suit over whether Capt. W. D. Crammond’s adopted daughter has Negro blood; see also Nov 14 p5, Nov 20 p3

1903

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Apr 5 p13 Henry Clay Helm, Black, has barbered here for 30 years
Jun 14 p3 Article on 4th Street colored Baptist Church
Jul 7 p1 Race riot in Evansville; see also Jul 8 p1, Jul 9 p1, Aug 1 p3, Aug 2 p1, Sep 1 p1, Oct 28 p1
Aug 7 p4 Negro exodus to Boxtown in Union County, KY from Indiana
Aug 23 p9 Colored Fair to be Oct 1-3; see also Sep 29 p3, Oct 2 p4, Oct 3 p5
Oct 4 p5 Uncle Dan Daly, about 100, a former slave dies, picture
Nov 8 p3 Biography of Cal Thomas a Black barber

1903
“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

May 31 p12 Western High School graduating exercises
 Jul 7 p1 Race riot in Evansville, IN; see also Jul 5 p12, Jul 6 p7, Jul 8 p1, Jul 9 p1,
 Jul 10 p1, Jul 13 p1, Aug 3 p1
 Aug 2 p5 Emancipation Day celebrated in Owensboro
 Sep 28 p8 Colored Fair; see also Sep 29 p4, Oct 2 p1, Oct 4 p5
 Oct 11 p5 Local hack drivers refuse to work with a Negro
 Oct 21 p1 Negro voters mistakenly identified as white
 Nov 17p8 Night school for colored citizens

1904
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Apr 7 p1 Whitecappers attack a Negro in Christian County
 May 28 p5 Western High School holds commencement exercises
 Jun 26 p3 Dock Flowers, Black, fireman for 21 years
 Aug 2 p1 James Coomes murdered by Roy Green; see also Aug 3 p1, Aug 4 p1&4, Aug 5
 p1, Aug 11 p1, Aug 12 p1, Aug 13 p1, Aug 14 p1, Aug 16 p4, Aug 23 p1&5, Aug
 24 p1, Aug 26 p3 (picture of Green), Aug 30 p4, Sep 1 p1, Sep 2 p1, Sep 3 p1,4&9
 (sentenced to hang), Sep 4 p1&4, Sep 7 p5, Sep 9 p1, Oct 19 p2, Dec 14 p1, Dec
 17 p1
 Aug 7 p5 Colored fair; see also Aug 19 p8

1904
“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

May 29 p10 Western High School graduation exercises
 Jul 3 p10 Separate Negro library at Henderson
 Aug 7 p1 Colored fair; see also Aug 18 p1, Aug 21 p1

1905
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Feb 17 p16 Roy Green hanged for murder of James Coomes
 Feb 19 p5 John Carrico tells of hanging of Richardson in 1853
 Apr 4 p3 Negroes will hold a mass meeting tonight
 Apr 29 p5 Milton Davidson, 80, former slave of Daniel M. Griffith
 May 26 p5 Five graduate from Western High School; see also May 27 p1
 Jul 9 p9 John Henry Chandler, 75, Black, pioneer carpenter, built the first house in Stanley
 Aug30 p2 J. A. Agnew & Company (Black) undertaking incorporated
 Oct 25 p3 Negro voters reported to be illegally registered; see also Oct 26 p5, Oct 29 p1 (racist
 comments), Oct 31p1, Nov 4 p1

1905

“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

- Jan 26 p1 Trouble at Fourth Street Baptist Church; see also Jan 29 p1, Jan 30 p1, Jan 31 p1, Feb 3 p1, Feb 5 p10, Feb 5 p12 (two items), Feb 21 p7
- Mar 20 p5 Race war averted at Rockport, KY
- Apr 2 p12 Black citizens seeking hospital addition for Blacks
- Apr 4 p5 Blacks trying to stop wave of crime; see also Apr 9 p15, Apr 10 p1
- May 23 p5 Ex-Slaves Go to Court to Secure a Division of an Estate”; children of Benedict & Sassa Ann Roberts
- May 26 p14 Western High School graduation
- Aug 15 p1 Racial troubles in Livermore
- Sep 24 p11 Emancipation Day celebrated in Henderson
- Nov 12 p9 Death of Thruston Cabell, who was reunited with mother in 1889, they were separated during slavery days

1906

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Jan 6 p3 J. A. Agnew, Negro undertaker, will erect new building
- Jan 31 p5 Land for Negro [Greenwood] Cemetery purchased on Leitchfield Road
- Jul 13 p2 Glass Factory Addition lots will not be sold to Blacks
- Jul 17 p1 Mob breaks in jail and tries to lynch a Black prisoner
- Jul 17 p2 Plans for colored annex at hospital
- Aug 22 p1 William H. Hunter wealthy Black
- Nov 18 p13 Death of Jim Johnson, 85, guide for John James Audubon; see also Aug 12 p5; “Messenger-Inquirer” 2003: Mar 2 p3E “Remembering ‘Uncle Remus of Owensboro – A Notable Life”

1906

“Owensboro Daily Inquirer”

- Feb 20 p1 Greenwood Cemetery Association incorporated, list of shareholders

1907

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Jun 28 p4 Editorial on local Jim Crow laws; see also Aug 3 p4
- Aug 1 p1 Negro Chautauqua at fairgrounds
- Sep 1 p2 Tower for 4th Street Colored Baptist Church completed
- Sep 10 p1 Owner of Negro dive, Bill Hunter, arrested again; see also Sep 17 p2, Sep 19 p2, Sep 24 p2, Oct 2 p1, Oct 12p1, Oct 16 p1, Oct 19 p2, Oct 24 p3; 1925: Dec 20 p2 (“Life of Crime at End in Death of Bill Hunter”)
- Oct 16 p8 Mr. Ford, 90, a former slave, bought by Ford family when he was age 4 still lives with members of that family

1908

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Mar 13 p2 Efforts to drive Blacks out of McLean County
Jun 2p1 A Black taken from jail at Dixon and killed by a mob
Jul 11 p2 Second annual Negro Chautauqua begins July 17; see also Jul 18 p5
Jul 26 p9 Construction to begin on new wing at hospital to include Negro ward
Aug 2 p1 Four Blacks lynched by mob of 300 at Russellville; see also Aug 4 p1, Aug 5 p1, Aug 6 p1, Aug 12 p1

1909

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Jul 16 p1 Negro Chautauqua to open today; see also Jul 18 p1, Jul 21 p3, Jul 23 p2
Aug 13 p3 Henry Sterett, Black, former slave of William Sterett visits in Hancock County
Oct 29 p1 Meeting of Negro voters held at courthouse
Nov 7 p2 Last of family of Negro barbers, Charles Hathaway, information on Owensboro barbers
Dec 22 p1 Owensboro policeman, W. H. Robbins, kills a Negro, Baptist Town referred to; see also Dec 23 p6, Dec 26 p1

1910

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Jun 1 p4 Grave of Negro, Hannah Jackson, is mysteriously disturbed at Greenwood Cemetery

1911

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Apr 21 p1 W. M. Potter, Black, killed by mob at Livermore, KY; see also 4/22 p2, 4/23 p1A, 4/25 p1, 5/13 p1, 6/14 p6, 8/23 p1
May 13 p1 Thirteen McLean County citizens indicted for lynching of Negro, W. M. Potter
Dec 7 p5 Island, McLean County is only KY town that bars Negro race; see also Dec 15 p4

1912

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- May 14 p7 Negro couple married in Daviess County under old law passed after Civil War – for couples living together previous to freedom

1913

“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

- Jul 19 p4 Death of Uncle Atha McFarland, 75, former slave of John H. McFarland
Jul 20 p3A 7th annual Negro Chautauqua

Sep 27 p1 Joe Richardson, Negro, is taken from jail at Leitchfield by a mob & lynched, accused of assaulting a 11-year-old girl, Ree Goff
Oct 25 p2 Newspaper to be published by Negroes

1914
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Oct 28 p2 Drinking fountains to be placed in courthouse yard, two for whites and one for Blacks

1915
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Jan 10 p4A Article on Owensboro Public Library; “colored” branch opened at Western High School
May 9 p3A Aunt Martha Barrett, age 101, oldest inhabitant of Owensboro, former slave and a fortune teller
Jul 25 p2A 9th annual Negro Chautauqua, among speakers, Prof. George W. Carver
Nov 30p2&4 Ellis Buckner, a Black, was taken from jail at Henderson and lynched, charged with attempted rape
Dec 8 p3 Local reports to Mayor by Blacks to censor objectionable scenes in movie, “The Birth of A Nation”

1916
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Mar 30p5 Obituary of a Black; racist wording and comments

1917
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Apr 1 p3B Josh Robinson, at Morganfield, KY, a Confederate veteran, is the only Black to wear the southern cross of honor

1918
“Owensboro Daily Messenger”

Mar 16p3 Lists of Blacks to be called into service
Mar 19p1 “White Woman is Married to Negro at Courthouse” is arrested
see also, Mar 20 p7, May 24 p6, Jun 27 p8, Jun 28 p3
May 16 p5 Movie, of “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”, cannot be shown in Kentucky
Jun 1 p2 22nd graduating class at Western Colored High School
Jul 20 p3 Group of Black soldiers given send off
Dec 29 p1B Lawsuit on behalf of a Black is filed charging Muhlenberg County officials with mistreatment

1919
“Owensboro Messenger”

Mar 4 p3 Protest made to commissioners by colored citizens about conditions in the west end
Jun 3 p2 Six awarded diplomas at Western Colored High School
Aug 10p10A 250 Blacks bring suit against Owensboro board of Education seeking the removal of Owensboro Western High School’s principal

1921
“Owensboro Messenger”

Aug 23p1 Offers being made to organize KKK

1922
“Owensboro Messenger”

Jul 30 p5B Negro Chautauqua begins next Saturday
Oct 29 p2A First colored fair at Pleasant Ridge

1922
“Owensboro Inquirer”

May 4 p1 Death of Uncle Ned Irvin, age 118

1923
“Owensboro Messenger”

Jun 24 p1A Klu Klux Klan burns crosses locally; see also Aug 5p1B, Aug 10 p1; Aug 21 p10, Aug 22 p1, Aug 23 p1, Aug 24 p1, Aug 28 p10, Aug 29 p1
Aug 18 p2 KKK in Central City

1923
“Owensboro Inquirer”

Jul 25 p5 Blacks to give a Chautauqua
Aug 21 p1 Klu Klux Klan request for use of the Courthouse lawn turn down

1924
“Owensboro Messenger”

Apr 29 p1 KKK denied use of city parks
Jul 27 p1B Mayor Hickman refuses to lead KKK parade; see also Jul 30 p6, Jul 31 p2

1925
“Owensboro Inquirer”

Dec 20 p1 “Bill Hunter, Former Dive Ruler, is Dead”

1928

“Owensboro Messenger”

Sep 30 p10 “Old *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* Home in Kentucky, is Fast Falling into Ruins” –
at Lancaster, Kentucky

1934

“Owensboro Messenger”

Mar 15 p7 “J. A. Agnew, Well Known Negro Undertaker, Dies”

1934

“Owensboro Inquirer”

Mar 14 p12 Death of John Abner Agnew, undertaker

1936

“Owensboro Messenger”

Aug 15 p1 Rainey Bethea is executed by hanging; see also entry for Rainey Bethea in Black
KY Pioneers section on the website, “West-Central Kentucky History &
Genealogy”

Nov 1 p1B White and Black schools being built

1941

“Owensboro Messenger”

Nov 25 p5 John Basil Taylor, age 101, former slave and native of Hancock County; see also
1943: Jan 19 p3 (John Basil Taylor dies)

1942

“Owensboro Messenger”

Sep 13 p1B “Teachers Tell Happenings of Yester years” - pictures of Owensboro pupils,
teacher recollections, origin of Black schools

1943

“Owensboro Messenger”

Mar 31 p10 Lee and Western schools to have care centers

1948

“Owensboro Messenger”

Oct 26 p3 Mary Harding Home founded in 1910

1950
“Owensboro Messenger”

Jun 18 p1B Days of slavery recalled by Eliza Roberts, 107

1952
“Owensboro Messenger”

Mar 23 p4A Lum Martin, 105, of Muhlenberg County, born a slave
Apr 6 p3A Pleasant Ridge home, built in 1844, may be county’s oldest, by Leslie Shively Smith

1955
“Owensboro Messenger & Inquirer”

May 29p12D William Henry Edwards born into slavery recalls coming of Union Calvary

1960
“Owensboro Messenger & Inquirer”

Oct 6 p14A William Henry Edwards, 103, former slave died

1962
“Owensboro Messenger & Inquirer”

Feb 10 p1 Western High School to be closed
Mar 21 p1B Miss Emma Edwards named as an outstanding teacher of the year, in her 50th year of teaching

1965
“Owensboro Messenger & Inquirer”

Jul 21 p1 “First Negro Files Papers for City Office” – John E. Williams, city commissioner
Oct 5 p2C First Baptist church (colored Baptist)

1966
“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

Jun 8 p4A Court considers idea of cleaning Greenwood Cemetery

1967

“Owensboro Messenger & Inquirer”

- Oct 22 p1C Uncle Tom (Josiah Henson) Lived in Daviess
Dec 24 p1C Greene’s Chapel – the church with one member (Simon Yeiser) – Black church at Yelvington

1970

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Oct 4 p1D Greenwood Cemetery is being cleaned up

1979

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Apr 22 p1E Writer, Leslie Smith, chronicles Muhlenberg County Blacks; see also 1992: May 30 p62; 1997: May 18 p2B (Leslie Shively Smith died May 16, 1997)
May 25 p1C “Under the overgrowth – Owensboro Black history hidden in Greenwood Cemetery”
Jun 17 p3C “Uncle Tom’s Cabin: Daviess County site could receive national historic designation”

1980

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Mar 2 p1E Arnold Shultz the best guitar picker in the Western Kentucky coalfields; see also 1994: Feb 25 p1A, May 29 p1C, 2020: Jun 25 p1B
Sep 17 p1C Daviess proclaims day to honor fugitive slave, Josiah Henson
Oct 19 p1C Roy Green hanging in 1905

1981

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Apr 1 p1C Richard Brown files to be Daviess County jailer

1982

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Feb 28 p1A Black leaders lament lack of opportunities – invisible minority
Jul 11 p1A Efforts under way to restore Greenwood Cemetery; see also 1984: Aug 4 p1A, Aug 23 p1C

1984

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- May 10 p1D Desegregation in Owensboro schools

1985

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Sep 2 p1C Milton Stephen Harris, of Owensboro tracks Black history in genealogical journal
see also 1988: Jun 24 p2D (“Author, retired music teacher Harris dies”)
Nov 6 p1A Rev. Richard L. McFarland becomes first Black elected to the Owensboro City
Commission

1986

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Aug 10 p1A The Last Hanging, 3 pages (1A, 10A & 11A)

1988

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Apr 20 p1A Forgotten Greenwood Cemetery; see also 1992: Oct 18 p9C (Volunteers start
clearing Greenwood Cemetery); 1996: Aug 8 p1B (Restoration of Greenwood
Cemetery), Oct 13 p1C; 1997: Aug 12 p1A; 1998: Sep 16 p1C, Sep 20 p1A , Nov
16 p1A (Restoration finished); 2001: Jan 24 p1A, May 22 p1B (County buys
Greenwood Cemetery); 2005: Mar 3 p1C (Greenwood Cemetery is more crowded
than thought), Dec 28 p1B (list of burials at Greenwood Cemetery is being
prepared); 2006: Aug 23 p1B (Book on Greenwood Cemetery burials by Jerry Long
is being published)

1992

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Feb 24 p1C “Schools learned lesson of equality”
Jun 8 p1C “Desegregation in schools ended 80-year fight”
Aug 10 p1 “The Last Hanging”, the hanging of Rainey Bethea in 1936
Sep 7 p1C Former slaves organized Owensboro’s first labor union”
Dec 14 p1C “Former slave lived story of rags to riches”, family of Charles & Judy Jackson

1995

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Aug 21 p1A Rowans gather for 100th family reunion

1996

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Feb 20 p1D “The Road to Civil Rights”
Mar 5 p1D Mary B. Perkins former Hancock County teacher

1997

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Sep 5 p1D “Owensboro native’s photographs chronicled civil rights movement”; see also Sep 7 p1F (“Moneta Sleet, Jr., Owensboro native made more than a living with his photography”); 1988: Mar 17 p6C (“Owensboro natives has state display”); 1998: Dec 13 p6F (“Black history recorded through Sleet’s camera Lens”); 2000 Feb 25 p1A (“Sleet would be so proud: City dedicates marker to 1969 Pulitzer winner”); 2021: Nov 18 p1A (“Owensboro plans to honor native son” – Moneta Sleet)
- Nov 9 p1G Community project results in book about contributions of local African Americans

1998

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Aug 20 p1C “75 years ago, city kept Klan from planting seeds of hate”
- Oct 1 p3E “The Black Middle Class”

2000

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Sep 7 p1C Mattie Griffith Browne, Owensboro native, a noted abolitionist & author, her “Autobiography of a Female A Slave”, still in print; see also 2014: Jul 28 p1C; 2017: Apr 27 p1B “Griffith fanned flames of Civil War”

2014

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Feb 23 p1A “Integration changes Clemmons, City forever”
- Jun 12 p1B Owensboro should remember Dick Wallace”, professional baseball player

2015

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Jun 20 p1A “Troops’ impact no longer forgotten: Memorial honoring Black Civil War soldiers unveiled”

2016

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Jul 9 p1D Tuskegee Airman, Milton T. Harris, to be honored with airport display

2018

“Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer”

- Oct 14 p7C Joseph Perkins, of Owensboro, a leader among the Freedom Riders

