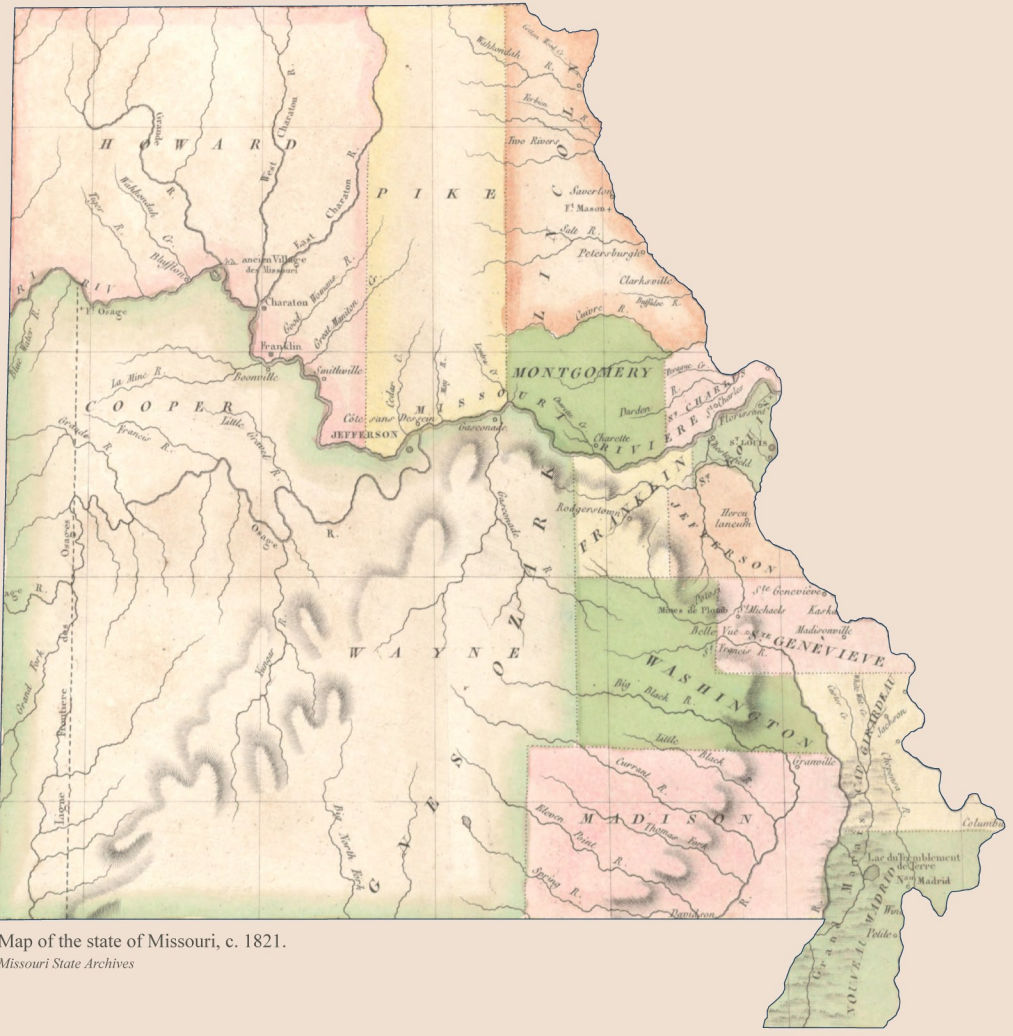


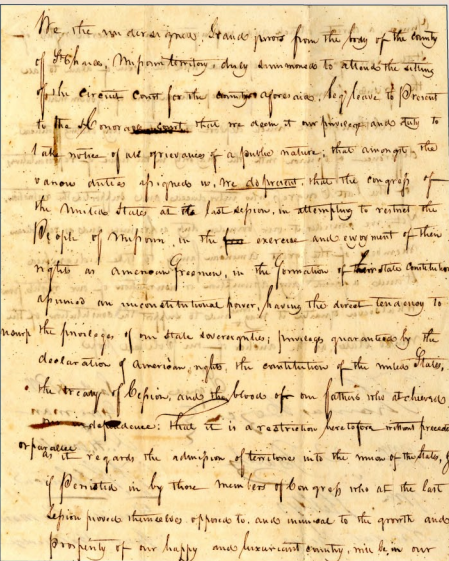
## SLAVERY IN MISSOURI

Slavery in Missouri dates back to the 1720s when slaves were forced to work in lead mines south of St. Louis. While both American Indians and African Americans were enslaved in the 18th century, the state outlawed the enslavement of American Indian people in 1834.

Missouri's request for statehood in 1820 sparked a heated debate over whether slavery would be allowed in new states and territories. Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives Henry Clay of Kentucky helped to bring about a compromise that allowed Missouri to be admitted to the Union as a slave state while allowing Maine to enter as a free state. The Missouri Compromise also prohibited slavery in any remaining portion of the Louisiana Purchase that was located north of 36° 30' latitude, the line that marked Missouri's southern border.

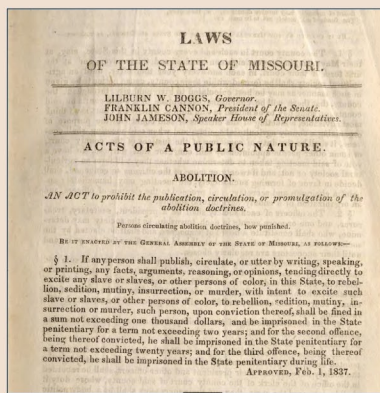


Map of the state of Missouri, c. 1821.  
Missouri State Archives

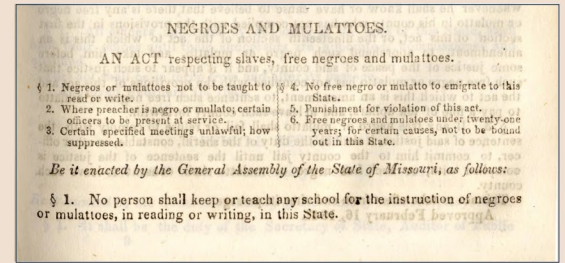


**"We consider it our bounden duty as freemen and as republican members of the great American family to take a dignified stand against any assumption or usurpation of our rights from whatsoever quarter it may come, to support the constitution of the United States . . ."**

Left and below: A petition from citizens of St. Charles to members of Missouri's Territorial congressional delegation arguing that congress does not have the right to discuss the prohibition of slavery, c. 1819.  
Missouri State Archives



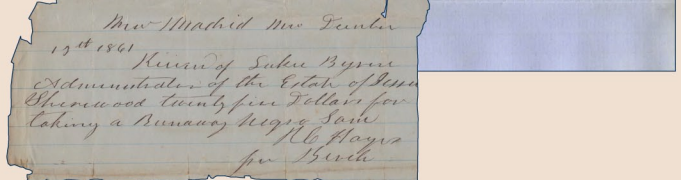
Above and right: Among Missouri's many laws regarding slavery are "An Act to Prohibit Abolition Doctrines," 1837 and "An Act Respecting Slaves," 1847, from the Missouri Legislative Journals.  
Missouri State Archives



SCHEDULE 2 - Slave Inhabitants in Keytesville Township in Chariton County included by law, on the 1st day of October, 1850.

NAME OF SLAVE OWNER	SEX AND AGE			NAME OF SLAVE OWNER	SEX AND AGE		
	M	F	C		M	F	C
John Smith	1	1	1	John Smith	1	1	1
James Brown	1	1	1	James Brown	1	1	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

This 1850 slave census for Keytesville Township in Chariton County includes 19 slaves owned by Missouri Governor and Civil War General Sterling Price.  
Missouri State Archives



The estate of Jesse Sherwood included this invoice for hunting and capturing runaway slaves (above) and an inventory of his slaves (below), New Madrid County Probate Court Case, 1857.  
Missouri State Archives

**SHERIFF'S SALE.**  
**UNDER EXECUTION.**

ON SATURDAY the 9th day of May, 1863, I will offer for sale openly and publicly, by auction to the highest bidder for cash in cash in hand, between the hours of nine o'clock a. m. and five o'clock p. m. of said day, before the Court House door in the town of Columbia, Boone county, Mo., the following slaves to wit:

Matilda aged about 15 years, Catharine about 9 years, Julia Ann 15 " George 25 "  
Also 3 Jennetts, 1 Jack 3 years old, 1 Jack 2 years old, 4 Hares, 1 yearling Colt, 3 milch Cows, 1 yoke of Steers

**ALSO** all the right, title and interest of Elijah E. Christmas, in and to the following slaves to wit: Sam aged about 4 1/2 years, Henny aged about 10 years, Venia 40 " Mary 7 " Top 19 " Fillmore 5 " Susan 18 " Lizzy 3 " Charlotte 16 " Della aged 7 months

Howard aged 12 years.

**ALSO** all the right, title and interest of Felix E. Entwistle in and to the following slaves to wit: Polly aged about 18 years and Sam aged about 7 years.

**J. H. WAUGH,**  
April 15, 1863. Sheriff Boone county, Mo.

This 1863 sale bill from Boone County includes several slaves ranging in age from 7 months to 45 years.  
Missouri State Archives

Inventory of the estate of Jesse Sherwood

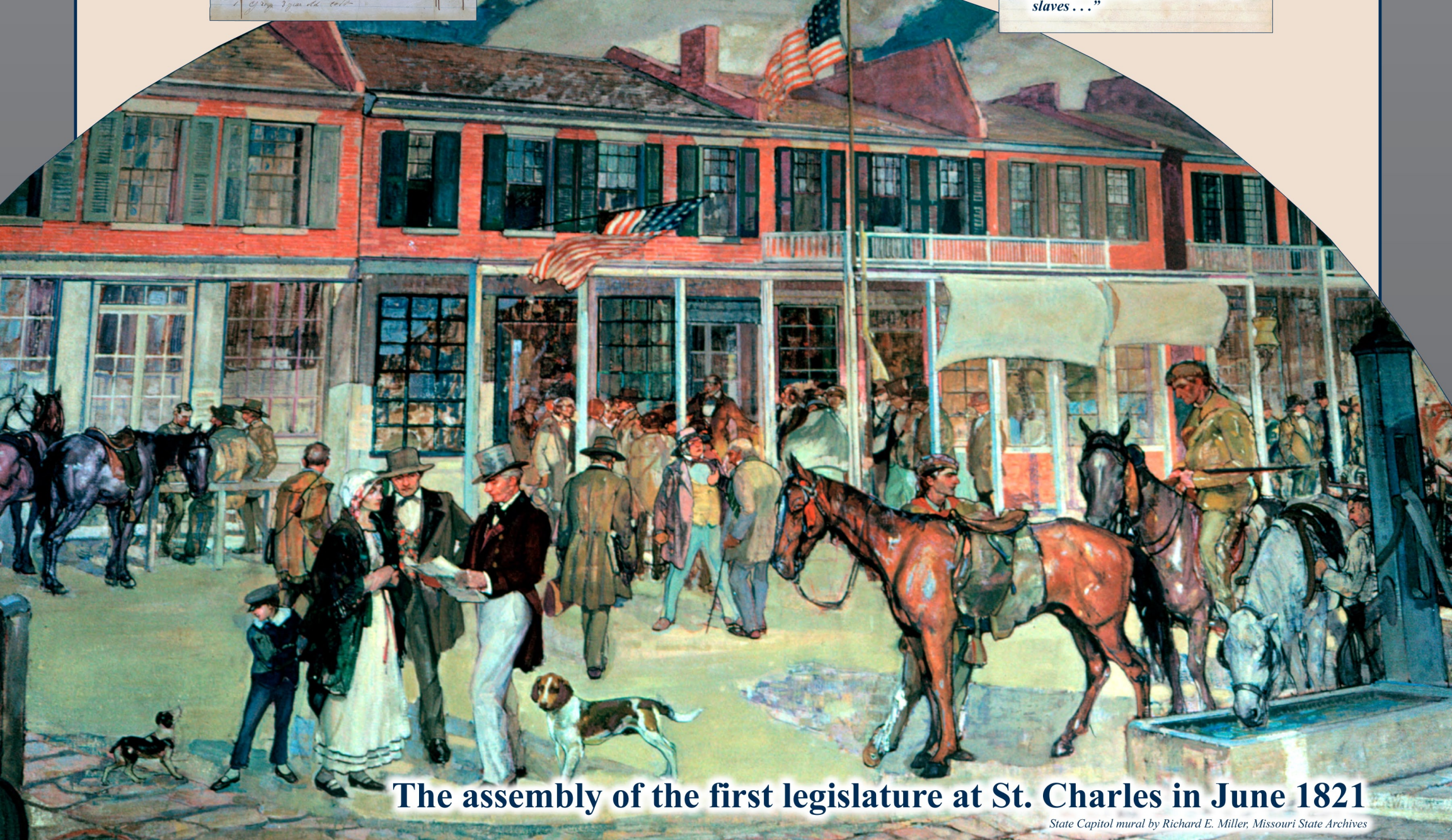
1	Negro Man	John	about 40
1	Negro Man	John	about 35
1	Negro Woman	Mary	about 30
1	Negro Woman	Mary	about 25
1	Negro Woman	Mary	about 20
1	Negro Woman	Mary	about 15
1	Negro Woman	Mary	about 10
1	Negro Woman	Mary	about 5
1	Negro Woman	Mary	about 1

In this letter to Missouri Governor John Cummins Edwards, St. Charles County sheriff Edward Cunningham describes how an African American man named Isaac Dean was arrested for helping slaves escape their masters, October 7, 1845.  
Missouri State Archives

St. Charles, October 10<sup>th</sup> 1845  
Mr. John Cummins  
Gov. of Missouri

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of Oct. 1845 I arrested a negro man named Isaac Dean who was arrested for helping slaves escape their masters. He is a black man about 35 years of age, 5 feet 7 inches high, brown hair, black eyes, and a black beard. He is a native of Virginia and has been in Missouri for some time. He is a very intelligent man and is capable of doing any kind of work. He is now in the custody of the Sheriff of St. Charles County.

**"Isaac Dean was committed to the jail . . . for aiding in the escape of slaves . . ."**



The assembly of the first legislature at St. Charles in June 1821  
State Capitol mural by Richard E. Miller, Missouri State Archives