



ArchivesSpace

# **Provine (Dorothy) Free Black Research Collection**

## **An inventory of Dorothy Provine Free Black Research Collection at DC Public Library**

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on May 18, 2021.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

[peoples.archive@dc.gov](mailto:peoples.archive@dc.gov)

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	People's Archive, MLK Library
<b>Creator:</b>	Provine, Dorothy S.
<b>Title:</b>	Dorothy Provine Free Black Research Collection
<b>ID:</b>	139
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1686-1997
<b>Physical Description:</b>	11 Cubic Feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	11 Boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

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## Biographical / Historical

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Dorothy Provine served as an archivist in the Civil Archives Division of the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Provine authored an article titled, "The Economic Position of the Free Blacks in Washington, D.C., 1800-1860." She continued her work with the release of the District of Columbia Free Negroes Register, 1821-1861. In her work, Provine compiles the abstracts of entries in the free black registries in D.C. The records cover 1821-1861, which from the early 19th century to just prior to the Civil War. The collection includes research Provine completed in order to finish her publications.

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## Scope and Contents

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The Dorothy Provine Free Black Research Collection contains photocopies of wills, marriage registers, freedom records, manumissions records, research files, writings by Provine, birth records, death records, records of social organizations, genealogy records, and records of black property owners. It should

be noted that while the documents in this collection date from 1686 to 1997, nearly all records in this collection are photocopies of original documents, made predominantly in the 1990s.

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## Arrangement

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Processed without series.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW  
Washington, DC  
[peoples.archive@dc.gov](mailto:peoples.archive@dc.gov)

### Revision Description

Finding aid revised to be more evergreen. 2020-10-21

### Custodial History

The collection was donated to the Library by Dorothy Provine in 1998.

### Processing Information

Basic archival processing procedures were applied to the collection when it was processed.

### Conditions Governing Use

Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the patron's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.

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## Controlled Access Headings

- African Americans
- Genealogy
- Registers of births, etc
- Organizational Records
- Real Property
- Marriage records
- Families
- Legal documents
- Slaves--Emancipation

## Collection Inventory

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Dorothy Provine Petitions under the Act of Apr.16,1862 (2 of 2), 1862	Box 1	Folder 2
PG County Index, undated	Box 1	Folder 3
Arlington County Free Negro Register 1797-1841 Vol. 1, 1986	Box 1	Folder 4
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