Here is a detailed informational document about the institution of slavery in New York State, drawing on the provided sources:

**Slavery in New York State**

The institution of slavery was deeply rooted in the history of what became New York State, beginning early in the colonial period under Dutch rule and continuing for many decades after the region came under English control.

**Establishment and Prevalence**

The trafficking of enslaved Africans to the area started as part of the Dutch slave trade. The Dutch West India Company brought the first eleven enslaved Africans to New Amsterdam (present-day New York City) in 1626. The first slave auction in New Amsterdam was held in 1655. Slavery expanded across the North River (Hudson River) into Bergen (today's New Jersey) and was also practiced privately by settlers. When the English took control of the colony in the 1660s, the Dutch West India Company freed all its enslaved people, which formed an early group of free Black individuals in the area. However, the English continued to import enslaved people to New York. By 1703, more than 42% of households in New York City enslaved African people, giving New York City the second-highest proportion of enslaved people among cities in the colonies, after Charleston, South Carolina.

**Life for Enslaved People**

Enslaved people in New York performed a variety of roles. Under the Dutch, they worked as farmers, fur traders, and builders. In New York City and surrounding agricultural areas, they held various skilled and unskilled jobs, including domestic servants, laborers, artisans, and workers in shipping and other trades. Enslaved Africans were also used in farming on Long Island, in the Hudson Valley, and in the Mohawk Valley region.

During the Dutch colonial period, enslaved Africans in New Netherland had some basic rights; families were generally kept together, and they were allowed to join the Dutch Reformed Church, where ministers married them and their children could be baptized. They possessed the right to testify in court, sign legal documents, and initiate civil actions against white individuals. Some were even allowed to earn wages equal to those of white workers for labor performed after their assigned duties.

Under English rule, restrictions increased. White New Yorkers enacted legislation that limited the movements and activities of enslaved people, prohibiting them from trading, traveling, or buying alcohol without permission. Within the homes of their enslavers, enslaved individuals were confined to spaces such as back rooms, cellars, attics, and garrets. These restrictions were part of the control systems used to maintain people in bondage.

**Resistance and Rebellion**

Enslaved New Yorkers did resist their bondage. This resistance took various forms, including everyday acts and outright rebellion. Enslaved men, women, and children found ways to evade surveillance and control in both private and public settings by developing alternative methods of awareness and navigation. Many individuals escaped the homes where they were enslaved. A notable instance of rebellion occurred in 1712 when enslaved New Yorkers killed nine white residents of New York City.

**Anti-Slavery Efforts and Individuals**

Opposition to slavery emerged in New York. The New York Manumission Society was established in 1785 with the goals of working towards the abolition of slavery and providing assistance to free Black people. This society worked to prohibit the international slave trade and achieve abolition. It founded the African Free School in New York City, which was the first formal educational institution for Black individuals in North America and served both free and enslaved children. The school grew to seven locations and its students included notable individuals like James McCune Smith, who obtained a medical degree from the University of Glasgow after being denied entry to New York colleges. From 1800 to 1827, white and Black abolitionists continued to work towards ending slavery and achieving full citizenship in New York. Peter Williams Jr., a prominent Black abolitionist and minister, encouraged Black people to adhere strictly to the laws and show respect for the land to strengthen their prospects for freedom and a better life.

**The American Revolution and Gradual Emancipation**

During the American Revolution, the New York state legislature took a step towards freedom by voting in 1781 to free enslaved people who had served for three years with the rebel forces or who were regularly discharged during the Revolution.

New York, along with other states like New Jersey that had a greater economic interest in enslaved people, passed gradual emancipation laws. These were among the first abolition laws enacted in the "New World". In New York State, an Act for the gradual abolition of slavery was passed in 1799. This law did not grant freedom to any currently living enslaved person. Instead, it declared children born to enslaved mothers after July 4, 1799, to be legally free, but required them to serve an extended period of indentured servitude to the mother's enslaver: until age 28 for males and 25 for females. Enslaved people born before the 1799 law were redefined as indentured servants, meaning they could not be sold, but they still had to perform unpaid labor.

The last enslaved people subject to this indentured servitude obligation under the 1799 law were freed on July 4, 1827, 28 years after the law's effective date. Slavery officially ended in New York in 1827. New York was the second-to-last Northern state to abolish slavery, with New Jersey doing so later. Even after New York's official end to slavery, the 1830 census still listed more than 70 enslaved people in the state. By the 1840 census, no enslaved people appeared in New York. In contrast, New Jersey, which abolished slavery in 1804, still held a dozen Black people as "perpetual apprentices" in 1860. Slavery was not fully prohibited in New Jersey until the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment.

While there has been movement towards recognizing and highlighting this history, such as efforts by Slavers of New York, historic sites like Philipsburg Manor, and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, New York's history of slavery is still relatively unknown to many.