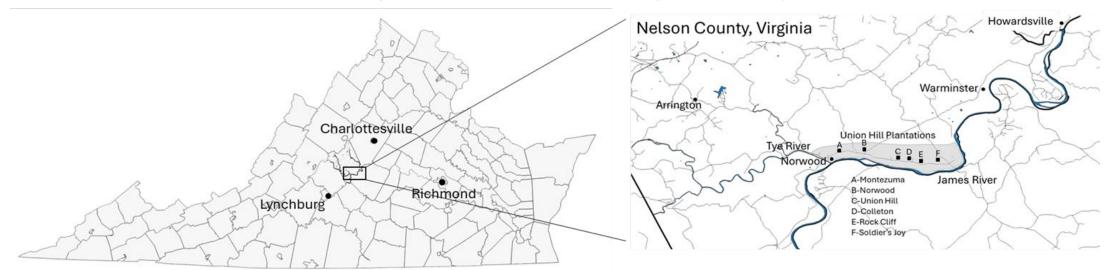
Enslaved Data Preparation

Methodology from Transcription to the final csv file for submission to the Journal of Slavery and Data Preservation

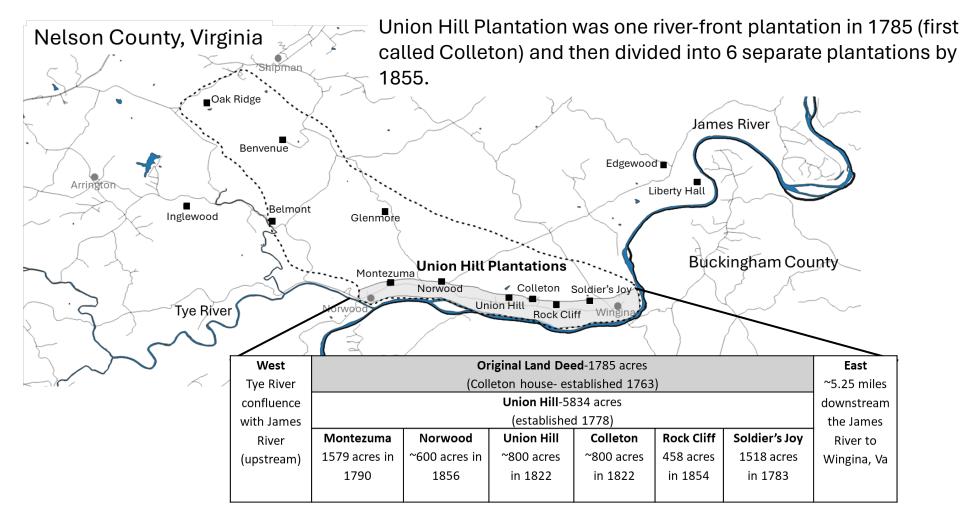
Kathy Cabell Terlesky, Ph.D. March 2024

Union Hill Plantations

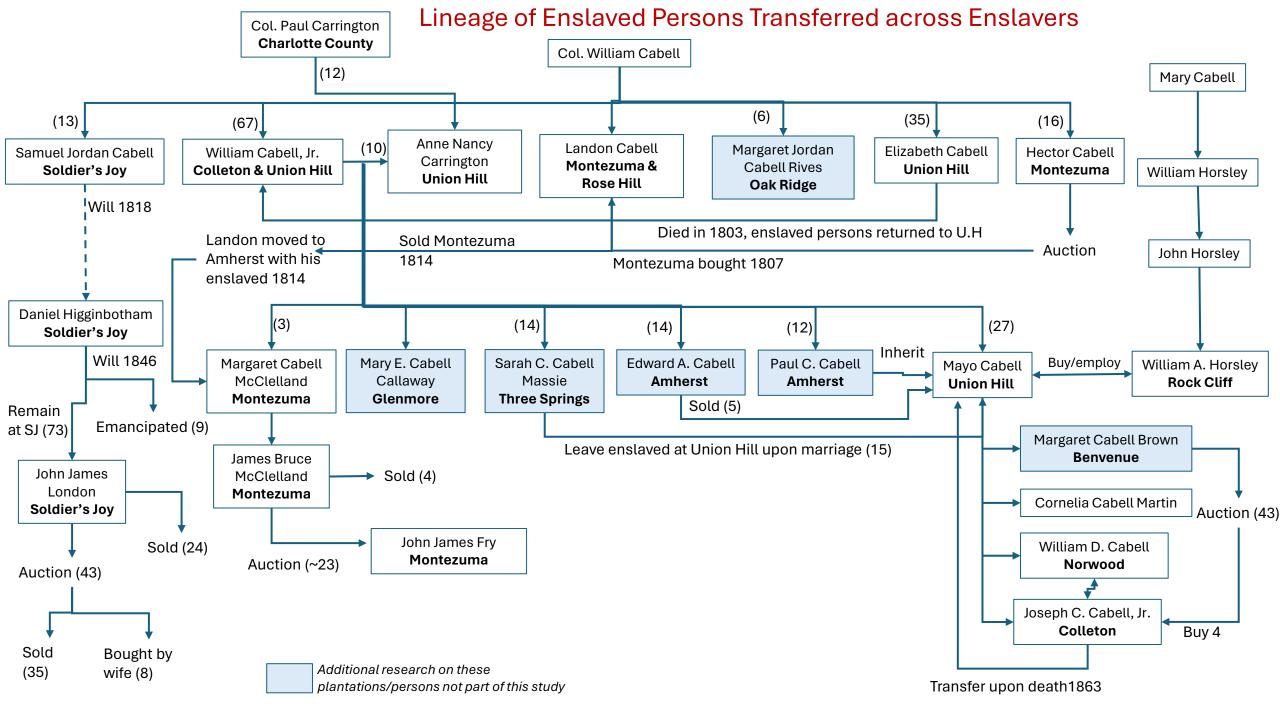
Cabell Family Union Hill Plantations (1769-1865)



Cabell Family Plantations



Original gift of land to Col. William Cabell in 1763 was 1785 of the lowlands near the River. (Gray area on map). Over the next 30 years, Col. William Cabell expanded his land holdings and additional 5700 acres (dotted line approximate boundary on map). He deeded this land to his children that would result in additional plantations in Nelson and Amherst County, Virginia.



Summary of Union Hill Cabell Family Journals

	Plantation(s)	Source Information			# Fyonts	# Englaved
Enslaver Name		Journals	Wills/Probate	Census, Other Rolls	# Events Recorded	# Enslaved Identified
Cabell Family Union Hill Enslavers						
1-William Cabell Sr.	Colleton & Union Hill	1769-1798	1800		139	193
2-Samuel Jordan Cabell	Soldier's Joy		1818		4	7
2-Elizabeth Cabell	Union Hill					
William H. Cabell	Union Hill			1803	1	36
2-Hector Cabell	Montezuma		1807		3	28
2-William Cabell Jr.	Colleton & Union Hill	1787-1822	1822		42	147
Anne Nancy Carrington	Union Hill		1837		1	11
3-Sarah Carrington Cabell	Union Hill	1816-1830			7	16
3-Margaret Cabell	Montezuma				1	28
Thomas Stanhope McClelland	Montezuma		1835		8	44
4-James Bruce McClelland	Montezuma			1853-1863	7	22
3-Mayo Cabell	Union Hill		1864		121	145
4-William Daniel Cabell	Norwood	1854-1863		1853-1863	100	59
4-Joseph Carrington Cabell Jr.	Colleton	1855-1861			18	23
William A. Horsley, M.D.	Rock Cliff			1853-1863	1	3
Non Cabell Family Union Hill Enslavers						
Daniel Higginbotham	Soldier's Joy	1832-1839	1843	1850, 1860	22	101
John James London	Soldier's Joy	1846-1851		1857, 1862	33	104
John James Fry	Montezuma	1863 (Wm. D. C)				19

Building the Enslaved Person Database

Number of enslaved persons

Names of enslaved persons

Daily life of between enslavers

Family information

Census Information

- Plantation name
- Enslaver names

Wills of enslaver and spouse

- Names of enslaved upon death of enslaver.
- Distribution of enslaved persons after death of enslaver.

Journals of enslaver

- List of tithable property
- Hiring out
- Transfers across plantations
- Agriculture work
- Domestic work
- Illnesses
- Family units
- Overseer names

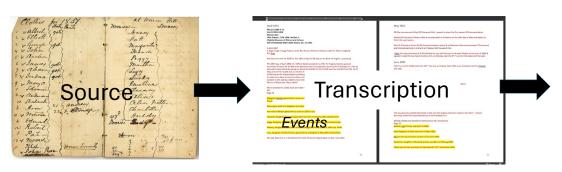
Court Records

- Deeds of trust
- Chancery cases

Registers & Census

- County registers (Birth, death, marriages)
- Census record for person (1870, 1880)
- Death notices for person (after 1865)
- Descendant records

Extracting information on the enslaved persons from Cabell family documents



Enslaved person data

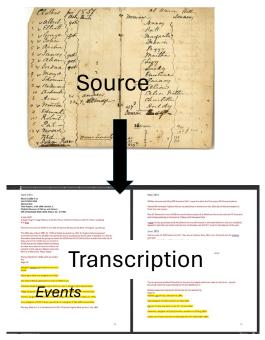
- Names, dates, activities
- Relationships
- Overseers
- Enslavers



Individual and family data publicly available

Journals, Wills, Deeds, Letters

Transcribing methodology



1. Visit Repository

- 1. Wills, Deeds, Probate Court records Nelson County Court house in Lovingston, Va., or Amherst County Court House in Amherst Va. Or on-line through Ancestry.com.
- 2. Personal journals
 - 1. University of Virginia Special Collections Library
 - 2. William & Mary SWEM Special Collections Library
 - 3. Library of Virginia
 - 4. Virginia Museum of History & Culture
- 3. Used camera phone to take photos of artifacts and their call number information.
- 4. Downloaded and compiled photos into one PDF document by source.
- 5. Transcribe document on computer using word processor.
 - 1. Capture source document call number and repository information in document.
 - 2. Capture page numbers or dates on page of each journal.
 - 3. Use [?] when a word or letter cannot be deciphered.
 - 4. Capture abbreviations used by the writers and their full definition.
 - 5. Highlight events with enslaved persons as transcribing.

Assumptions Part 1

Birth year estimation assumptions

- 1. Birth year was estimated based on events to minimize errors in documenting duplicate or unique individuals
- 2. Age provided by enslaver with date
- 3. Woman at least 14 years old at birth of child
- 4. Woman at max 40 years old at birth of child
- 5. At least 13 years old to run away
- 6. "old" is over 60 years
- 7. Highest monetary value of slaves at 25 years old.
- 8. Person with less than half the monetary value of the oldest in a list and not listed as a child was estimated to be over 45 years old
- 9. At least 15 years old to be assigned to an indentured crafts
- At least 10 years old to be documented in list of receiving necessity
- 11. Person designated as "child" was less than 10 years old
- 12. At least 13 years old to travel
- 13. At least 13 years old to be assigned to an overseer

Sex determination assumptions

- 1. Sex or gender reference provided by enslaver
- Sex consistent with biblical name reference
- 3. Sex consistent with English name reference

Assumptions Part 2

Owner Transfer assumptions

- 1. Male enslaver inheriting plantation from father, enslaved persons remained at plantation
- 2. Wife enslaver inheriting enslaved from husband, remained at plantation with wife
- 3. Daughter enslaver inheriting enslaved from father, enslaved remained at plantation with daughter until marriage and evidence of transfer to new location
- 4. Son enslaver inheriting enslaved from father, enslaved transferred with son to residence
- 5. Enslaved transfer sibling to sibling varied depending on proximity of plantations and sibling relationships. These were not always documented

Enslaved Name assumptions

- Enslaver documented surname
- 2. Enslaver documented first name. Phonetic spelling variations between enslaver assumed to be the same person (Example, "Brackenridge" and "Breckinridge". And "Clarissa" and "Clericy"
- 3. Enslaved marriages documented with enslaved given and surnames in Freedman Marriage Records 1866-1867
- 4. Surnames extracted from persons tracked to 1870 census

Enslaved location assumptions

- 1. Enslaved person listed as enslaved by a Union Hill enslaver assigned to specific Union Hill plantation. Some persons referenced at locations away from the James River (Amherst), but were included under the Union Hill plantation and enslaver
- 2. Enslaved born after 1775 were designated as born in Nelson County, Virginia
- 3. Union Hill location designations use current county names (Nelson) vs historic (Amherst)
- 4. If an enslaved birth was recorded by enslaver for a location, the same location was used for siblings unless otherwise recorded.

Enslaver assumptions

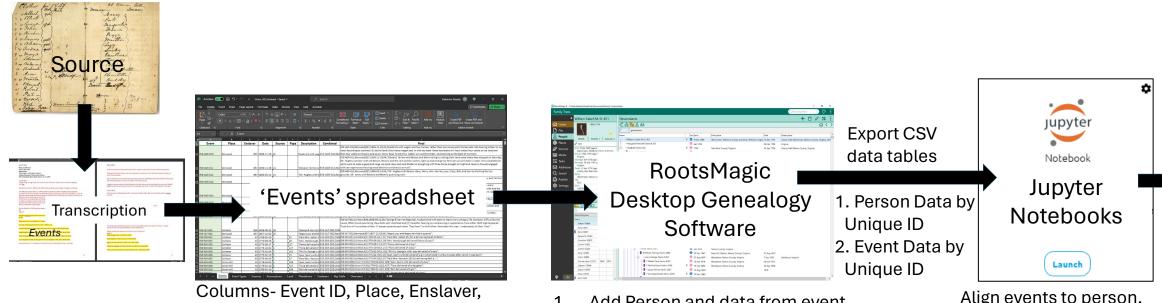
- The EVE-ENS event designation is used to state the enslaver and enslaved after the first event referencing the relationship No specific source is provided for this
 event type as it is extrapolated based on other events for the person.
- 2. Spouses of the enslavers were included in the Enslaver Data set where known

Tool Selection for Managing Data on Enslaved Persons for journal submission

- Needed a genealogy tool that allows capture, maintenance, and visualization of family data.
 - Requirements:
 - Allow addition of additional sources for genealogy data elements
 - Allow adding new types of genealogy events
 - Provide data quality checks (identify and merge duplicates, data clean)
 - Sync with a genealogy on-line site such as Ancestry.com
 - Allow tailored extraction of data elements into a spreadsheet for analytics using python
 - Allow selection of subsets of people for data extraction
- RootsMagic determined to be the best product for this purpose.
 - www.rootsmagic.com

Extracting and Consolidating Data on Enslaved Persons

Method for moving events and names of enslaved persons from original source material such as journals, wills, deeds and newspaper clippings to a CSV file ready for publication in *The Journal of* Slavery and Data Preservation (JDSP)



Date, Source, Page, Description, Final 'Final' field is all data combined with semi colon separator. Added to RootsMagic Event on 'Description' field.

EVE-ALT-002; Norwood; 857; 1857-12-03;36;;"Negro Lucy and Negro Ann had a quarrel":

- Add Person and data from event
- Estimate birth date
- Update with new events
- Add enslaver and spouse data 4.
- Add overseer data
- Add relationships
- Update birth date estimate

Align events to person. Perform data quality checks. Add sources. Add enslaver ID overseer ID associations. Add JDSP unique ID prefix. Perform descriptive analytics. Prepare final csv file.

CSV

JDSP-

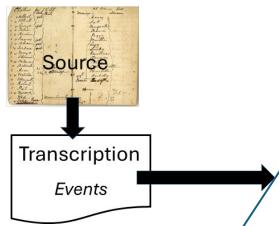
ready

format

Compiling the Events Spreadsheet

1. Create spreadsheet tab of 'Event Types, definitions and abbreviations consistent with the Enslaved controlled vocabulary recommendations. Expand as necessary during transcriptions.

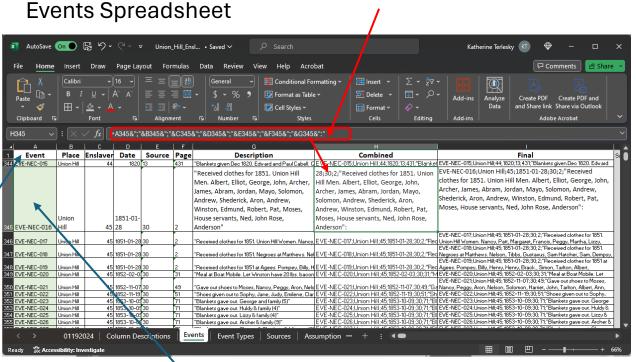




1. Add events to 'Events' spreadsheet using successive event IDs as the Event ID in Column A.

- 1. Column Headers
 - 1. Event
 - 2. Place
 - 3. Enslaver ID (RN from Genealogy software)
 - 4. Date (of event)
 - Source (document)
 - 6. Page (in source)
 - 7. Description (text from source)
 - 8. Combined combine the first 7 cells in row into one column with ";" separator.
 - 9. Final column is a copy of the 'combined' with only the text- not the formula. THIS is the cell pasted into RootsMagic.

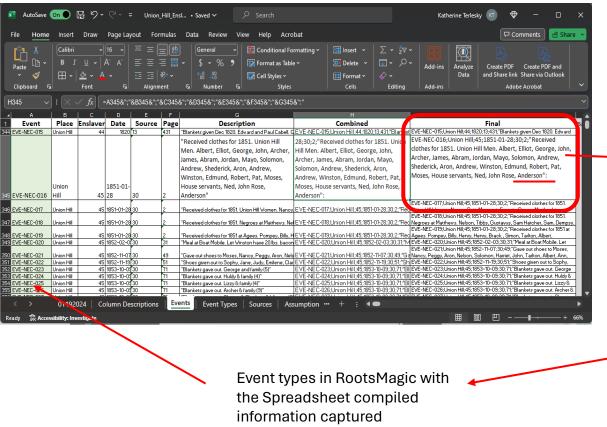
Excel formula to concatenate across the row using a semicolon separator between column values



Color code the event in Column A once it has been entered into RootsMagic to denote completion.

Important: Replace all semi-colons and colons in the original text with periods. The semi-colons and colons are used to facilitate data extraction in python and cannot have this punctuation within the text of a cell in the spreadsheet.

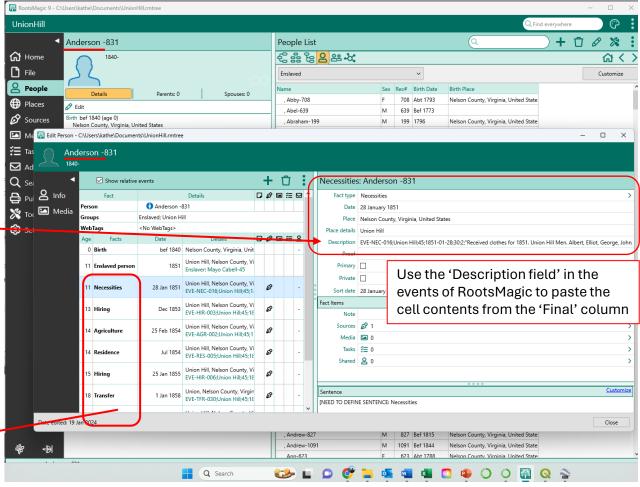
Moving data from the Events Spreadsheet to RootsMagic



RootsMagic Genealogy Software

Manually add people starting with oldest event dates.

Manually add events and the associated data for each person.

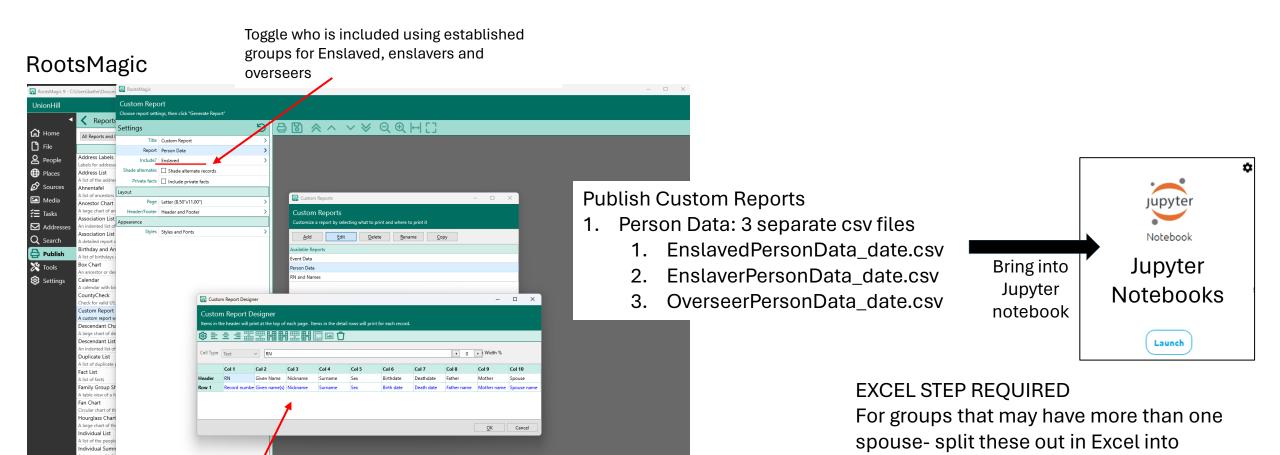


Establish Groups to bin people as "Enslaved', 'Enslaver', 'Overseer', and 'Union Hill'

Data Quality checks in RootsMagic

- Quality checks in RootsMagic
 - Duplicate person check
 - Location spelling
 - Number of family trees
 - Correct Grouping for each person to facilitate reporting- Enslaved, Overseers, Union Hill

Using the 'Custom Report' Feature to extract Person data



separate columns prior to uploading into

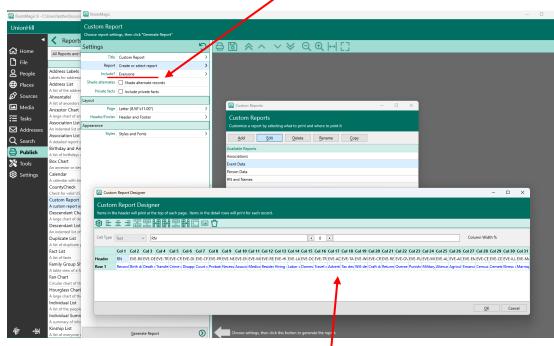
Jupyter notebooks.

Fields pulled from each person for the Person Data
This data is created as each new person is added to RootsMagic

Using the 'Custom Report' Feature to extract events by person attached to their unique RN

RootsMagic

Toggle who is included using established groups for Enslaved, enslavers and overseers



Custom Report - Event Data

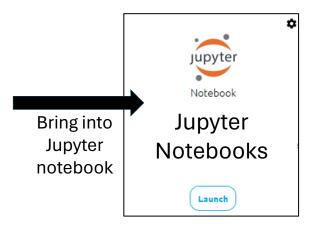
Create Custom Report for Events that grabs the

'Description' field for all events.

Save as text file, then use Text Import Wizard in Excel to bring data into a csv. Going straight from RootsMagic to csv will cause misinterpretation of numbers and dates.

Publish Custom Reports

- I. Event Data: 2 separate reports
 - 1. EnslavedEventData_date.csv
 - 2. OverseerEventData date.csv
- 2. List of people at Union Hill
 - 1. UnionHill_date.csv

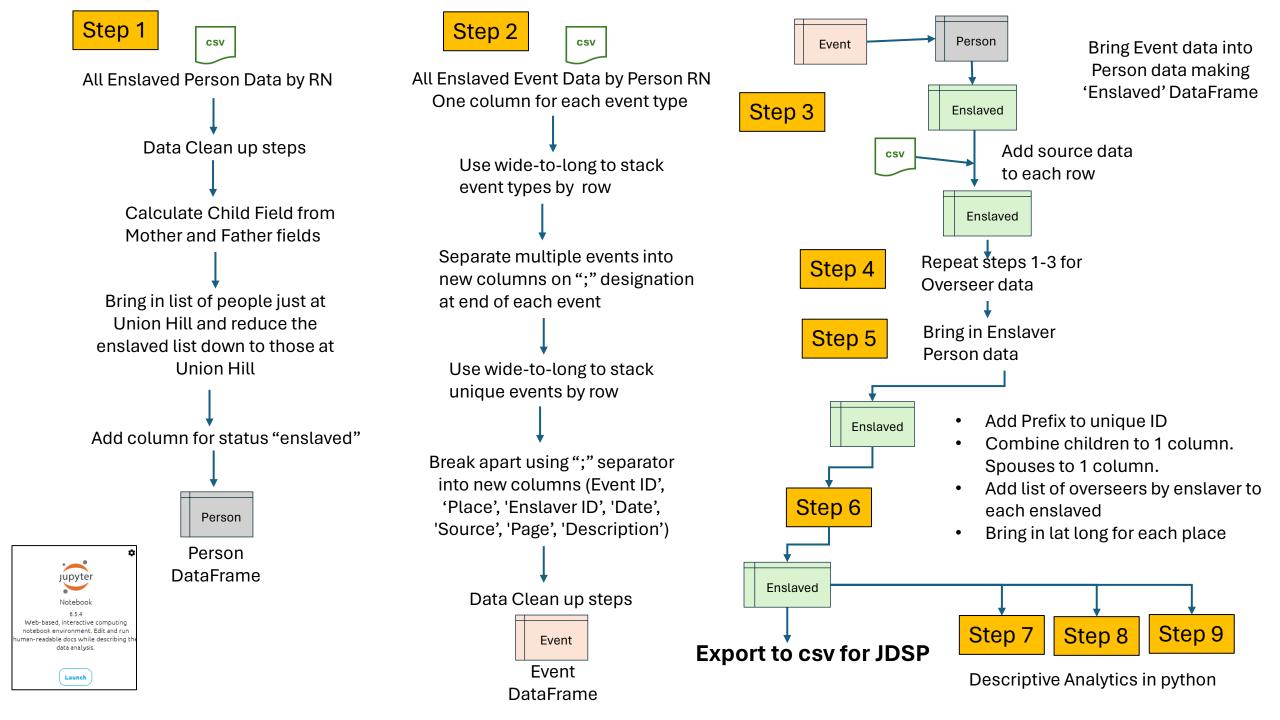


EXCEL STEP REQUIRED

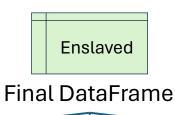
Remove all quotation marks from the csv file before uploading to Jupyter. The quotation marks complicate manipulation in python.

Final Data Prep using Python in Jupyter Notebooks

The next slide shows the work-flow in in python



Descriptive Analytics



Step 7

Quality Checks

- % fields complete
- Review time lapse from birth to last event
- Ensure no events after Enslaver death
- # enslaved persons counted by enslaver compared to census data (1783, 1810, 1820, 1830,1840, 1850, 1860)
- Review people with just one event

Person Data Analytics

people by sex

Step 8

- # people by sex and status (enslaved, enslaver, overseer)
- # enslaved persons by enslaver
- Person flow across plantations
- Given name analytics on Enslaved

Step 9

- Event Data Analytics

 # unique events
- # events by location
- # events by year, decade
- # events per person
- Event types and persons identified through journals