

FAUCSC Research Timeline

YEAR	SPHERE *	EVENT	COMMENTS & DETAILS	REFERENCE
1800				
1801				
1802	B	Ohio outlaws slavery		
	F	John Thomas, one of 5 founding Trustees of the African Union Church (of South Coventry) is born		
1803	B	Louisiana Purchase		
1804	B	Lewis and Clark Depart		
1805				
1806				
1807				
1808	B	James Madison elected President		
1809				
1810				
1811				
1812	B	War of 1812 with Britain		
	F	Susan Chester born to George and Eliza.	Susan is buried in AUCSC cemetery	
1813	B	African Union Church is founded in Wilmington becoming the first African-American denomination		
1814				
1815	B	Napoleon defeated at Waterloo		
1816				
1817				
1818				
1819	B	Alabama admitted as slave state, bringing the number of slave states and free states to equal number		
1820				
1821	B	New York gives Free Blacks the right to vote		
1822				
1823				
1824	B	Mexico becomes a republic and outlaws slavery		
1825				
1826	B	Thomas Jefferson dies on July 4th		
1827	B	Slavery becomes illegal in New York		

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1828				
1829	B	Georgia prohibits the education of slaves		
1830	B	Underground Railroad established		
1831	B	Nat Turner, a Baptist slave preacher, leads a revolt in VA killing 57 whites.		
	B	Alabama makes it illegal for Blacks to preach		
1832				
1833				
1834	F	Original deed granted to African Union Church (Coventry Township)	9.15.1834 - deed granted for \$15 from George Chrisman and wife Anne (Coventry Twnshp) to Trustees of African Union Church: John Williams, John Thomas, George Brown, William Hinson (all of Coventry Twnshp), and Joseph Smith (MontCo). Deed was recorded 1837	Photocopy of deed abstract from the files of Mary Busenkell. Chester County Deed Book and page is referenced.
1835	B	Texas declares independence from Mexico		
1836	B	Martin Van Buren elected President		
1837				
1838				
1839				
1840				
1841				
1842				
1843				
1844				
1845	F	Joe Frost (Smith)* - part of the small congregation of the "Union Meeting House on Chestnut Hill, near Coventry Village" died.	Joe was buried in the "colored burying ground on Beech Street near the corner of Penn in Pottstown" - a burying ground he had recently established. He and his wife Faltie had been rescued from a slave trading ship which was illegally importing slaves from Africa. They had three boys and a girl - Sheppard, Harlan, Samuel and Debbie. *Joe and his wife Faltimer, originally used the last name Smith. It is possible he is the Joseph Smith listed on the 1834 deed (listed as <u>Montgomery County</u>).	The biographical sketch of Faltie and Joe Frost originally appeared in the Pottstown Ledger on March 3, 1880. The story was retold in the Pottstown Mercury on October 9, 1972 by W. Edmunds Claussen. Photocopy of Mercury article from the files of Mary Busenkell.
1846	B	War with Mexico		
1847				
1848	B	Zachary Taylor elected President		

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	F	John Hinson released from Chester County Prison	He was released 8/28/1848. His sentence was for Larceny.	From the Chester Co Prison Discharges Record.
1849				
1850	B	California admitted as Free State		
	B	Fugitive Slave Act passed		
	B	Millard Fillmore elected President		
	F	1850 US Census	See 1850 South Coventry Census worksheet tab. This data from the 1850 census lists African American individuals residing in South Coventry in 1850. There were a total of eight African American households recorded in South Coventry and four individual African Americans listed as part of white households. Households are grouped together as indicated by shading.	This document contains data largely taken from the 1850 US Census data compiled by Fred Kelso
1851				
1852	S	\$8 Reward for John Hinson	Two papers carried a notice for an \$8 reward for the capture of John Hinson who escaped from the South Coventry constable while en route to Chester county prison. Note: John Hinson is listed on the 1850 census (South Coventry) as John Henson and lists an arrest for burglary.	Photocopy from CCHS Archives folder - South Coventry, Public Office
	B	Uncle Tom's Cabin published		
1853	B	Franlin Pierce succeeds Millard Fillmore as President (died in office)		
	F	Susan (Chester) Williams died and is buried in AUCSC burial grounds	One of 3 inscribed tombstones in cemetery	
1854	B	Franklin Pierce re-elected		
1855	B	Free Soilers establish a government in Kansas, banning slavery and blacks from Kansas.		
1856	B	James Buchanan elected President		

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1857	B	Dred Scott Supreme Court decision	This was a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that people of African descent brought into the United States and held as slaves (or their descendants, whether or not they were slaves) were not protected by the Constitution and could never be U.S. citizens. The court also held that the U.S. Congress had no authority to prohibit slavery in federal territories and that, because slaves were not citizens, they could not sue in court. Furthermore, the Court ruled that slaves, as chattels or private property, could not be taken away from their owners without due process.	
1858				
1859	B	Oregon admitted as a state		
	B	John Brown's raid on Harper's Ferry, VA		
	F	John Hinson released from Chester County Prison	He was released 4/26/1859. His sentence was for Larceny.	From the Chester Co Prison Discharges Record.
1860	B	Abraham Lincoln elected President		
	B	South secedes		
1861	B	Civil War begins		
	S	Black residents of South Coventry serving in the Civil War	Gilbert S. Hercules and Elias Pennington both served in Company A, 8th Regiment, US Colored Troops	From database compiled by Fred Kelso
1862	B	Slavery abolished in the District of Columbia		
1863				
1864	B	Lincoln re-elected		
	B	Lincoln assassinated (Johnson becomes President)		
	B	Civil War ends		
	F	Emma Johnson born	She is buried in AUCSC cemetery	
1865				
1866				
1867	S	Camp Meeting	8.31.1867 - notice in paper: "A colored Camp Meeting will be held at Coventry village, commencing on Thursday 6th of September, to last over Sunday."	Photocopy from CCHS Archives folder - South Coventry, Camp Meetings
1868	B	Grant elected President		
	B	Southern states readmitted to Union		

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1869	F	Petition for Charter filed	12.14.1869 - William Miller, Archie Mitchell and Albert Massey file a petition for charter (State of PA?) stating that they are PA citizens associating for religious purposes under the title of The Union American Church.	Photocopy of deed abstract from the files of Mary Busenkell.
1870	B	15th Amendment ratified giving blacks, but not women the right to vote		
1871				
1872				
1873	F	1873 Witmar's Map reference	Site is listed as Colored Union Meetinghouse on this map	Photocopy of a portion of the map.
	B	42rd Congress has 7 Black members		
1874	F	John Thomas died	One of 3 inscribed tombstones in cemetery	
1875	B	Civil Rights Act passed		
	B	Jim Crow laws enacted in Tennessee		
	B	Federal troops sent to Vicksburg to protect Blacks		
1876	S	Camp Meeting	8.25.1876 - notice in paper: "The A.M.E. Church, will hold a woods' meeting on the old camp ground, Coventryville, Chester County, commencing on Saturday. September 2d, to continue over Sunday. There will be sermons everyday conducted mainly by speakers from a distance."	Photocopy from CCHS Archives folder - South Coventry, Camp Meetings
	S	Camp Meeting	9.5.1876 - Pottstown Ledger: "2,000 Persons at a Woods' Meeting - The Woods' Meeting of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, of this borough, at Coventryville, Chester county. was the most largely attended meeting of the kind ever held in this vicinity, under the auspices of the Pottstown Church....." Article goes on to mention the following: estimate of 2,000-3,000 attendees, four pastors and when they preached (Rev. C.W. Boardley, Rev. Amos Wilson, Rev. Amos Wilson and a local preacher Rev. Moses Fisher), and a collection totaling \$27.	Photocopy from CCHS Archives folder - South Coventry, Camp Meetings
	B	Disputed Election - deal made to withdraw troops from the South		
1877				
1878				

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1879	B	46th Congress has 1 Black member		
1880				
1881	F	Quarterly Meeting	9.8.1881 - notice in paper: "Quaterly Meeting - The Union American Methodist Church of Chestnut Hill, South Coventry township, Rev. Asbury Smith, pastor, will hold their quarterly meeting on Sunday next, Spet. 11th, at the church on Chestnut Hill. Sercices at 10 o'clock a.m. and 7.30 p.m. All are invited.	Photocopy from CCHS Archives folder - South Coventry, Churches (note that this is the only article on the file page for the church)
1882	F	Emma Johnson died and is buried in AUCSC cemetery	One of 3 inscribed tombstones in cemetery	
1883	B	Civil Right Act of 1875 ruled unconstitutional		
1884				
1885				
1886				
1887	B	50th Congress has no black members		
1888				
1889	B	Washington admitted as a state		
1890	B	Battle of Wounded Knee	200 Native American women and children massacred by US troops	
1891				
1892				
1893				
1894				
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1896				
1897				
1898	B	Spanish American War		
1899	B	Southern states pass laws to disenfranchise blacks		
1900	B	Theodore Roosevelt elected Vice President		
1901	S	Chestnut Hill Fire	11.10.1901 - newspaper article references a fire that covered ten miles and burned 2,000 acres - "A forest fire has swept the Chestnut Hills of Northern Chester county." The fire reached the French Creek Valley near the village of Coventryville	Photocopy from CCHS Archives folder - South Coventry, Lands
	B	William McKinley assassinated, Teddy Roosevelt becomes President		
1902				

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1903	B	Wirght Brothers first flight		
1904				
1905				
1906				
1907				
1908	B	Ford introduces Model T		
	B	NAACP founded		
	B	Taft elected President		
1909				
1910				
1911				
1912	B	Wilson elected President		
1913				
1914	B	World War I begins in Europe		
1915				
1916				
1917	B	US enters World War I		
1918	B	World War I ends		
1919	B	19th Amendment - Women gain right to vote		
	B	Treaty of Versailles		
	B	Hitler jailed, begins Mein Kampf		
1920				
1921				
1922				
1923				
1924				
1925				
1926				
1927				
1928				
1929	B	Stock Market crashes, Depression begins		
1930				
1931	B	Unemplyment reaches 25%		
1932	B	FDR elected President		
1933				
1934				
1935				
1936				
1937				
1938				

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1939	B	World War II starts in Europe		
1940				
1941				
1942				
1943				
1944	F	Transcriptions	11.1944 - Ernest Chrisman transcribes the three graves stones referring to the African M.E. Cemetery	Photocopy of handwrittend transcriptions. Original is at the CHCS Archives.

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