How Can Freedman’s Bank Records Assist Genealogy Research?

The Freedman’s Bank (also known as The Freedman’s Savings and Trust Company) was set up in 1865 to benefit those who were freed from enslavement. Its records may provide connections between family members, connections to locations, and connections to an ancestor’s enslaved life. The records available in HQ are the Bank’s Signature Registers and may include the following details:

- name of depositor and account number
- date of entry
- place born
- place brought up
- residence
- age
- complexion
- names of spouse, children, father, mother, brothers and sisters, as well as other relatives
- name of employer or occupation
- military service details
- remarks
- signature
- name of the former master or mistress and the name of the plantation (in early books)
- Copies of death certificates are sometimes included. If available, they will be located directly after the signature page.

From the main HQ Search page, select Search Freedman’s Bank.

Unless you are searching for a very common name, inputting a first and last name is usually sufficient.

To follow this guide, use the name Frances Dunn.
Click **View Record** next to the person of interest.

Click **View**.

The register page including the record of choice will open.