## **Ontario History**



## **Contributors**

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## Contributors

Afua Cooper holds a Ph.D. in history with specialties in slavery, abolition, and women studies. She is one of Canada's premier experts and chroniclers of the country's Black past. Dr. Cooper has done ground-breaking work in uncovering the hidden history of Black peoples in Canada. Her most recent history publication, The Untold Story of Canadian Slavery and the Burning of Old Montréal cogently explores the life and death of Marie-Joseph Angélique, a Portuguese-born Black slave woman who was hanged in Montréal in 1734 for allegedly setting fire to the city.

Hilary Dawson has a degree in archaeology and mediaeval history from Southampton University, UK. Her hometown, Hull (UK), was also the birthplace of William Wilberforce, the abolitionist, and her first museum job was in Wilberforce House, William Wilberforce's home. Since then, she has worked in a number of museums in the UK and Canada. She currently plays the role of "Mrs. Henderson," the 1858 schoolmistress at Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, Toronto's first free school. She is also a professional genealogist.

Hilary's research into nineteenth century Etobicoke Township (York County, now part of Toronto) uncovered a previously unknown Black presence. She curat-



ed several Black History Month exhibits at Montgomery's Inn museum, and in 2002, the Etobicoke Historical Society presented her with the *Jean Hibbert Award* for her contribution to Etobicoke's history.

She has been Chairman of the Costume Society of Ontario, is currently newsletter editor of the North Toronto Historical Society, a member of the Ontario Black History Society, the Ontario Genealogical Society and the Association of Professional Genealogists.

Hilary is currently working on the biography of Alfred Lafferty, Chatham, Ontario's first Black lawyer.

An early tintype photograph of Catherine Daley dressed in her Sunday-best. Mrs. Daley was from the Amherstberg area. AO F2076-16-3-1, 5430, Alvin D. McCurdy fonds.

Colin McFarquhar has a BA from the University of Toronto, an MA from the University of Windsor, and a Ph.D. from the University of Waterloo. He has taught history courses at the University of Windsor and at the University of Waterloo. He is a researcher for Leclair Historical Research in Toronto.

**Daniel McNeil** is a Lecturer in Black and Minority studies at the University of Hull/Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation. His Ph.D. thesis is entitled, "The Devil made the mulatto: race, religion and respectability in a Black Atlantic, 1931-2005," and analyses the life stories of "Blacks with White mothers" following the erasure of a mulatto category from the U.S. census in 1920.

Bryan Prince works with the Buxton National Historic Site & Museum and has been on the steering committees for many organizations in Ontario and the United States including the African Canadian Heritage Network, Tourism Ontario's Underground Railroad Alliance, the International Underground Railroad Heritage Program as well as joint projects with York University, Toronto and with Millersville University in Pennsylvania. He is the author of a variety of works on the subject including the book *I Came As A Stranger* and the television documentary "A Thousand Miles For Freedom."

Adrienne Shadd is a researcher, writer, curator and editor living in Toronto. She has co-authored several books, including 'We're Rooted Here and They Can't Pull Us Up': Essays in African Canadian Women's History, with Peggy Bristow et al. (University of Toronto, 1994), and The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Toronto!, with Afua Cooper and Karolyn Smardz Frost (Natural Heritage Books, 2002). Adrienne was a historian and consultant on Parks Canada's experiential exhibit, The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Freedom! and she curated ...and still I rise: A History of African Canadian Workers in Ontario, 1900 to present which is traveling across the country. An online version of this exhibit is being launched in early 2007. Adrienne was the researcher-writer for Black Mecca: The Story of Chatham's Black Community which opened in January 2005 at the Heritage Room, WISH Centre, Chatham and she also lent her expertise on 'I'll Use My Freedom Well', a new exhibit in 2006 at the Uncle Tom's Cabin Historic Site in Dresden. Adrienne Shadd holds an M.A. in Sociology from McGill University.

**Karolyn Smardz Frost** is an archaeologist and historian based in Toronto. Her thirty-year career in multicultural program development and anti-racist education has included the establishment of the Archaeological Resource Centre, Toronto's innovative learning facility. She is also Executive Director of the Ontario Historical Society.