

# RENEWAL OF HOPE?

There is no evidence any of the Fox Cities were involved in the Underground Railroad.

## Before Emancipation

The experiences and opinions of local Blacks are hard to document in Appleton before the Civil War. Free Blacks occasionally visited the area to obtain legal advice, but no evidence of a local Black community is visible in the historical record.



Rev. William P. Newman was a leader in the abolition movement. He founded the First Baptist Church in Appleton in 1847.

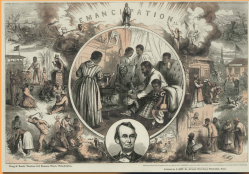
Blacks outside of Appleton were a visible presence in the area. In 1847, Rev. William P. Newman, a Black abolitionist and pastor of the First Baptist Church in Appleton, was one of the few Black ministers in the area. He was a leader in the abolition movement and was active in the Underground Railroad.

Some white residents identified with the expanding anti-slavery movement, but they adopted more limited views of equality and racial advancement. They openly questioned whether free Blacks should receive the same rights as whites.

During the debate over the Negro Suffrage Amendment of 1857, Appletoners proposed changing the constitution to restrict voting to Black men over the age of 21. During the war, Robert Paulding, a young Black student at Lawrence University, challenged the process by voting in the general election. He was arrested and held in custody for several months.

Henry McManis, 227 Union Street, Appleton, has actively supported a national effort in the private family, and also its public duties. Appletoners are urged to support the effort. (City address: 711E CHURCH STREET, APPLETON, WISCONSIN, 54912)

From the 1850s to 1870, local white leaders created a system of segregation in the city of Appleton. They built a separate school for Black children and a separate church for Black people. They also created a separate section of the city for Black people.



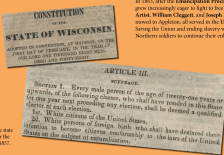
Blacks rarely spoke at town meetings, even when they were invited to do so.

Before the Civil War, Wisconsin's Black population grew to 1,200 people who lived in all corners of the state. Black pioneers like Andrew Jackson helped name the Town of Freedom and Mason Station helped found Chilton, formerly known as Stantonville.

Entrepreneurial opportunities before the war were limited for Blacks who lived in Appleton. Blacks only had access to a small range of jobs, including barbers, musicians, and factory laborers. In 1861, Norman Anderson worked as a barber and Samuel Johnson worked as a tailor for local businesses. The Appleton State Factory employed William Rollins. Black women had even less access to local jobs, typically finding work as domestics.

## Saving the Union, Ending Slavery

In 1861, when the Emancipation Proclamation, Blacks and whites gave up enough to fight in the United States. Hence, Appleton, Wisconsin, and Appleton, Wisconsin, were the first to give up enough to fight in the United States.



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## Reconstruction: Minimal Expansion of Rights

With the Emancipation Proclamation, many white Northerners thought Blacks would be free to participate in the war effort. But how far would the nation's new freedoms reach?

Free whites were willing to support Reconstruction, but only on the condition that Blacks would not receive the same rights as whites. They wanted to see Blacks as a separate group, not as equal citizens. Reconstruction, however, meant that Blacks would have the same rights as whites.

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Lawrence University was the site of many public debates about emancipation and just war between the Blacks. Henry Anderson of the South.

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