Transcriber Resources

About the Project
In February 2022 the Staten Island Museum will begin an online transcription project in collaboration with the Staten Island Chapter of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, and Frederick Douglass Memorial Park. The project is one aspect of the Access, Collaboration, and Equity in Genealogy Initiative (ACEGen), which will digitize archival records from the collections of the Staten Island Museum and Frederick Douglass Memorial Park that are relevant to genealogical research and make them accessible to the public online. The initiative will focus on collections about communities that have been underrepresented in the historical record.

Transcribers are welcome to join the project at any time, by following these steps:

Step 1: Sign up for a free account with From the Page, the transcription software that hosts the project: https://fromthepage.com/users/sign_up.

Step 2: Watch Instructional Videos:
An Introduction to Our Project: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FhsjyGxGX3A
How to Use from the Page: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cO2j1Xuasbc

Step 3: Go to the Staten Island Museum’s Page on From the Page to find the documents to be transcribed and choose a set of records that interests you from the three available sets: the Frederick Douglass Memorial Park Permanent Record Books, the Dickenson Census Indices, and the Frederick Douglass Memorial Park Ledger Books.
**Step 4:** Start transcribing! Look for the **Transcription Guidelines** underneath the transcription field on each page for answers to questions that come up as you begin. For example, how to record an illegible word: [?].

Step 5: Write notes, observations, comments, or questions in the comment section at the bottom of each page.

With your help, these rich genealogical records will be more accessible to families and researchers than they have ever been before. Thank you for joining us in this important work!