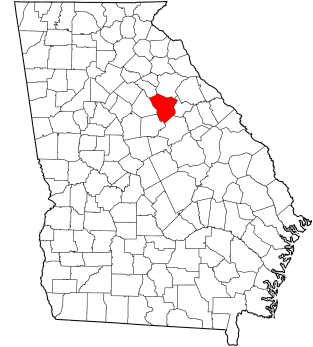


## Albert Terrell

1815-1878

Albert Terrell was born around 1815, most likely in Greene County, Georgia. He and his parents were enslaved by Attorney Thomas Terrell in the 145th Militia District of Greene County. The plantation was 585 acres of land situated in between the Oconee and Apalachee Rivers. This area is now known as Greshamville, Georgia. Albert's parents were most likely born in Louisa County, Virginia in the late 1790s. At least one of them was enslaved by Thomas Terrell's father-in-law, David Shelton, in Louisa County and Goochland County, Virginia.



### Timeline of Albert's Life:

**1815 - Albert Terrell is born enslaved by Thomas Terrell in Greshamville, Georgia.** Many of Albert's family members remain in the Greene County/Morgan County area today.

**1820 - Albert's sister Celia is born.** Her descendants share a lot of DNA with Albert's, and her sons David and Shelton were the first clues that the family was owned by David Shelton Terrell, Thomas Terrell's son. Celia was living in Lee County, Georgia after emancipation.

**1822 - July 17 - Thomas Terrell dies at the age of 61.** His will states that his executors are welcome to sell the plantation to buy a better one or stay where they are, as long as his widow and his five unmarried children stay together, along with their slaves, until the death of the widow. Certain enslaved people were bequeathed to Thomas' children, but the will does not list each one by name. Albert most likely remained under the possession of The Estate of Thomas Terrell until he was sold. All of Thomas' children who were unmarried at that time remained single until death and did not have any children. This includes David Shelton Terrell, the first born son and executor of the estate.

A photograph of a handwritten document, likely a will, written in cursive on lined paper. The text is written in dark ink and is somewhat faded. The visible text reads: "13<sup>th</sup> My wish is that each of my unmarried children do live with the mother untill marriage helping their negroes in common with her & receiving support from thence nothing however herein contained is to prevent each child from acquiring a title to his or her negroes at the times here mentioned. And nothing contained in the foregoing sections shall prevent any of my children from wiling his or her property to any of the family".

13<sup>th</sup> My wish is that each of my unmarried children do live with the mother untill marriage helping their negroes in common with her & receiving support from thence nothing however herein contained is to prevent each child from acquiring a title to his or her negroes at the times here mentioned. And nothing contained in the foregoing sections shall prevent any of my children from wiling his or her property to any of the family

**1822 - November 22 - Albert is one of 72 enslaved people listed by name on the inventory of Thomas Terrell's estate.** He was about 7 years old, and was appraised at \$300 (\$5,915.44 in 2020). Many of his family members are also listed.

395 Inventory and appraisement of the Estate of Thomas Terrell dec'd late of Green County (Deceased)

1	1	Negro man named	Frank dent	50 00
2	1	"	" " Whadrack	500 00
31	1	"	" Boy " Washington	400 00
32	1	"	" " Albert	300 00
33	1	"	" " George	200 00
34	1	"	" " Solomon	125 00
35	1	"	" Child " Charles	150 00
36	1	"	" Boy " Reuben	300 00
37	1	"	" " " Black Felix	150 00
				12275 00

We the subscribers (sworn appraisers) do Certify that the foregoing is a true Inventory and Appraisement of the Estate of Thomas Terrell dec'd late of Green County deceased as shown to us by the Executor of his deceased Given under our hands this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November 1822

John Belthune  
Vincent Sanford  
John Cunningham

I do Certify that the above appraisers were sworn to perform their duty as appraisers according to Law this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November 1822  
A. H. Scott S. P.

Recorded 182  
Thomas Terrell

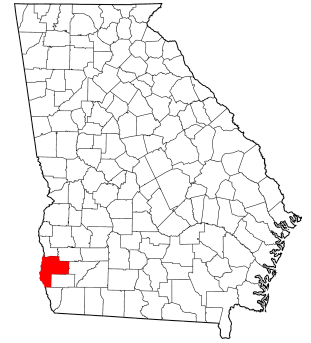
**1828 - September 2 and**

**1834 - March 4 - David Shelton Terrell sells several of his father's slaves at the Greensboro courthouse.** Albert was most likely sold during the 1828 sale, which included 29 other enslaved people. He also may have been sold during the 1834 sale which included about a dozen slaves. Both advertisements made a point to describe the "good character" of the negroes. The sales most likely took place to settle debts, as David was a probate court judge by profession, and not a very good farmer.

**W**ILL be sold on the first Tuesday in SEPTEMBER next, at the court-house in the town of Greensborough, within the lawful hours of sale, 30 negroes, the property of Thomas Terrell, late of Green county, dec'd. consisting of men, women, boys, girls & children, part for cash & a part on a credit. They are likely and of good character; among them is a good Cook and Weaver, and house servants. The negroes have been mostly raised near Greensborough, in which neighborhood any wanted information can be had. Those that want negroes of good character can't do better.  
july 29  
**DAVID S. TERRELL, Ex'or.**



**1834 - October 17 - Dr. William Terrell buys land in Early County, GA.** William was a physician and United States congressman from Hancock County, GA. He was the first cousin of David Shelton Terrell, and most likely purchased Albert. He owned multiple 2,000-acre plantations throughout Georgia and Alabama after retiring from medicine and politics to focus on “agricultural sciences”. He bought, sold, and enslaved several hundred people and was the only white Terrell to own land in Early County, where Albert was found after emancipation, 211 miles away from his birthplace.



**1835 - Albert marries and becomes a father.** At some point, Albert married a woman named Harriet. According to the 1850 Slave Schedule in Early County, GA, they had a 15 year old daughter. Harriet’s maternal ancestors descended from the Tikar tribe in present-day Cameroon. Her parents were most likely enslaved by James Glenn in Early County.

**1835 - Albert’s relative Sallie is born in Greene County.** Sallie later married John Smith and gave birth to Evelina Smith Stepney, who gave us some of the most valuable information about life on David Shelton Terrell’s plantation. In 1937, Evelina was interviewed by the government about her life as a slave. She stated that the plantation did not sell any crops. All of the cotton was spun into clothing to be worn by the people on the plantation. The slaves did not work on Saturday, and they were allowed to attend church on Sunday with white people (separated in the balcony).

**1850 - August 20 - Albert is enslaved by Captain Joseph Grimsley.** Albert was eventually purchased by Joseph Grimsley. He is enumerated on the 1850 Slave Schedule in Early County, GA, 211 miles away from the Thomas Terrell plantation. This distance is equal to 77 hours of continuous walking. Joseph Grimsley did not have any enslaved people Albert’s age listed with him on the 1830 or 1840 census. This evidence supports that Albert may have been enslaved by Congressman William Terrell in between David Shelton Terrell and Captain Joseph Grimsley.

NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS.	Number of Slaves.			DESCRIPTION.	Number of Slaves from the Plantation.	Number of Slaves from the Neighborhood.	Deaf & dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.
	Male.	Female.	Children.				
1	2	4	5		7	8	
39	1	38	h				39
40	2	32	F				40
41	3	2					41
42	4	13					42
1	5	11	h				
2	6	8	h				
3	7	7	h				
4	8	6	h				
5	9	5	h				
6	10	4	h				

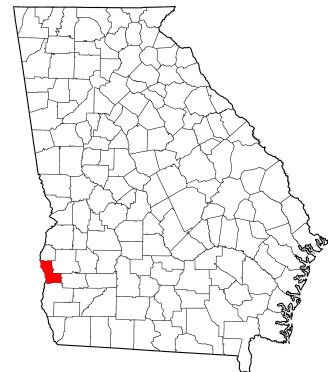
**1860 - May 30 - Joseph Grimsley names Albert in his will.** His son Richard was to assume ownership of Albert, Harriet, and five of their children after Joseph’s death. Four of their other children were to go to Joseph’s other son Jeremiah. Also, four of Joseph’s grandchildren were to each inherit one of Albert and Harriet’s children.

*Item 2nd I give unto my son Richard D Grimsley the following named Negroes, to wit: My Negro man Albert aged about fifty years and his wife Harriet and her infant, also Emily, David and Eliza all the above Negroes being children of the said man Albert and his wife Harriet.*

**1860 - July - Albert is enumerated on a slave schedule for the last time.** Joseph Grimsley had not yet died, so the Terrells were still together on the Grimsley Mill Plantation. The farm was 170 acres near the intersection of the Old River Road and Grimsley Mill Road, one mile east of the Alabama border (Chattahoochee River), and nine miles west of Blakely, the county seat. The census taker made a point to write “all one family” next to the tick marks that represented Joseph’s enslaved population. There were four slave cabins on the land for the Terrells to share.

Name	Age	Sex	Value
Joseph Grimsley	41	M	200
Pell	17	M	100
Mary	12	F	50
Emaline	11	F	50
Augustus	9	M	50
Theresa	7	F	50
Sourina	5	F	50

**1860 - October 24 - Joseph Grimsley dies at the age of 83.** At this point, it is assumed that Albert was transferred to Richard Grimsley’s plantation in Clay County, GA, along with his wife Harriet, and their children Daniel, Emaline, Lood, Elsie, and Nettie. Richard’s 19 year old son inherited Albert’s son Washington. It is not known that this transfer actually happened, but if it did, they would’ve been several miles north of their former home, separated from the rest of their family, and Richard would’ve been the fifth person to enslave Albert.



**1860 - November 21 - Albert is listed by name on the inventory of Joseph Grimsley’s estate.** Albert was appraised at \$1,000 (\$29,235.87 in 2020), and the Terrell family was 92% of the total estate worth.

Item	Value	Total
1 Negro Man Albert \$1000.00, one old 1500.00		\$2500.00
1 " Boy Isaac 1400.00, 1 Negro Boy Daniel 1200.00		2600.00
" " " Septime 800.00 " " Washington 700.00		1500.00
" " " Augustus		600.00
" " " Woman Harriett & child Arnetta		1000.00
" " " Mary		1300.00
1 " " Emaline & Infant Child no name		15.00.00
1 " " Girl Anon 1000.00 1 Do Alex 1000.00		2000.00
" " " Theresa 600.00, 1 Do Sourina 500.00		1100.00

**1862 - Albert’s wife Harriet gives birth to their 16th child and dies.** Her date of death is not known, but it was before the end of the Civil War. Harriet did not make it to freedom.

**1865 - November 12 - Albert marries 20-year-old Amy Hayes in Early County, GA.** Amy was a daughter of Charles Hutchins, who was enslaved by Anthony Hutchins, neighbor of Joseph Grimsley. The marriage was performed by Dr. Yelvington Thaxton Urquhart, another prominent white person who lived near the Grimsley Mill Plantation. The entire area is now known as the Urquhart district.

Georgia, Early County.

I do hereby Certify, That Albert Terrell  
 and Amy Hayes were duly joined in  
**MATRIMONY**, by me, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of Nov 1865  
J. T. Urquhart J.P.

**1867 - July 10th - Albert signs the Reconstruction Oath Book for Early County as a registered voter.**

No. 286

STATE OF GEORGIA,  
 COUNTY OF Early } PERSONALLY APPEARED before me this 10 day  
 of July 1867, Albert Terrell  
 who states that he resides in the 189 Election Precinct of Early COUNTY,  
 GEORGIA, and who makes oath as follows:  
 "I, Albert Terrell do solemnly swear  
 in the presence of Almighty God, that I am a citizen of the STATE OF GEORGIA; that I have resided in said State for 12 months  
 next preceeding this day, and now reside in the County of Early in said State; that I  
 am 21 years old; that I have not been disfranchised for participation in any rebellion or civil war against the United States, nor for felony  
 committed against the laws of any State or the United States; that I have never been a member of any State Legislature, nor held any  
 executive or judicial office in any State, and afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid or comfort  
 to the enemies thereof; that I have never taken an oath as a member of Congress of the United States, or as an officer of the United States,  
 or as a member of any State Legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States,  
 and afterwards engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or given aid and comfort to the enemies thereof; that I will  
 faithfully support the Constitution and obey the laws of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, encourage others so to do.  
 So help me, God."

The said Albert Terrell further swears  
 that he has not been previously registered under the provisions of "An act supplementary to 'an act to provide for  
 the more efficient government of the rebel States'—passed March 2, 1867—and to facilitate restoration," under this  
 or any other name, in this or any other Election District; and further, that he was born in \_\_\_\_\_  
 and naturalized by \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day  
 of \_\_\_\_\_, 18\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_  
Albert Terrell  
 SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me \_\_\_\_\_  
J. B. Beck  
 Register of the \_\_\_\_\_ Registration District.



