

New NCGS Webinar



The North Carolina Genealogical Society presents:

Angela Walton-Raji

Basics of African-Native American Genealogy

LIVE Webinar: 7 September 2022, 7:00 pm ET

Go to: www.ncgenealogy.org

About the Webinar: Many African-American families have a family story of an ancestor who was said to be of Native American ancestry. In most cases, there is little knowledge of how this can be studied. This lecture looks at the types of records in which many “blended families” can be examined. In addition, this session covers the well-known Dawes Roll, Federal Census records, Mississippi Choctaws documents, and the thousands of records for Eastern Cherokees. Also, some useful oral history questions will be presented to assist researchers on how to go beyond, simply, the name of an ancestor who was merely said to be from a Native community to the methods of how to explore this history.



Angela Walton-Raji, a native of Fort Smith, Arkansas, is known nationally for her genealogical and historical research and work in Oklahoma Native-American records, Arkansas Black history, and Civil war history on the western frontier. She documents the history of the Ft. Smith Freedmen’s Bureau Field Office site, the 1866 treaty signing site that abolished slavery in Indian Territory, and the history of Freedmen of the Five Tribes in nearby eastern Oklahoma.

She is a descendant of Choctaw Freedmen, and she is the only professional genealogist in the country devoted to documenting this unique history of African people in bondage outside of Fort Smith, in nearby Indian Territory. Another specialty is her experience documenting United States Colored Troops---Black Union soldiers of the western theatre of the Civil War.

For more than 25 years, Ms. Walton-Raji has spoken at national and statewide conferences. She is the founder of AfriGeneas.com, and she cofounded a genealogy institute, the Midwest African American Genealogy Institute (MAAGI). Ms. Walton-Raji is also the host of a 10-year genealogy podcast, “The African Roots Podcast,” a number of instructional videos, and has served as an expert consultant on video documentaries, as well.

Her book, *“Black Indian Genealogy Research,”* was the first book of its kind focusing on the unique record set reflecting Freedmen found within the Dawes Records from eastern Oklahoma. In that work, she includes several chapters documenting the records that reflect blended families---African and Native American families in many households. Her work, *“Freedmen of the Frontier,”* presents family profiles from Cherokee, Choctaw and Chickasaw Freedmen. Volume 2, released in 2020, reflected families from the Creek and Seminole nations. In the 1990s she was a featured speaker at a number of Smithsonian events, and she was the *only* genealogist in the nation, to present regular genealogy lectures at the National Museum of the American Indian, in both the Washington DC and New York facilities. She was awarded the honor of presenting a special series of genealogy lectures to coincide with the Exhibition *IndiVisible* that officially launched in November 2009, that traveled for several years throughout the nation.

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