

FREEDOM COLONIES

NUMBER FIFTEEN

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Freedom Colonies

**INDEPENDENT BLACK TEXANS
IN THE TIME OF JIM CROW**

BY THAD SITTON AND JAMES H. CONRAD

With research assistance and photographs by Richard Orton



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Black people had carved their autonomy from “free spaces,” weak points in a white power structure that whites had not shored up yet, places where whites were not looking, sites that had not yet become important enough to the preservation of privilege that whites cared what Blacks did there.

— DEBORAH J. HOSKINS

Then it dawned upon me with a certain suddenness that I was different from the others; or like, mayhap, in heart and life and longing, but shut out from their world by a vast veil. I had thereafter no desire to tear down that veil, to creep through; I held all beyond it in common contempt, and lived above it in a region of blue sky and great wandering shadows.

— W. E. B. DU BOIS

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