

# In-Archives Handout

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Part of an in-archives exercise at <http://www.teacharchives.org/exercises/runaway-slave-ads>

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## Southern Slavery Station

Runaway slave advertisements in Black Code of the State of Louisiana, circa 1835; Slavery pamphlet collection, PAMP Black-1; Brooklyn Historical Society.

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To be completed as a group. You may want to photograph documents so each person will have a copy for the activity and the later assignment.

1. Read aloud each runaway slave ad.
2. Transcribe each ad, making sure to include all of the information in each ad, and taking note of any words you cannot decipher.
3. Use the transcribed ads to complete the following tasks and answer the following questions:
  - a. List the date the slave in each slave ran away.
    - Is there a common factor regarding the dates the two slaves chose to run away?

- Do these dates fit the profile the authors John Hope Franklin and Loren Schweninger established for southern runaway slaves?
- b. List the characteristics the slave owners used to describe their slaves.
- How closely do these descriptions compare to those offered by Franklin and Schweninger?
  - Are there any aspects of the Louisiana runaways or the ads that you might consider unique to Louisiana?
4. As a group, create an informal profile of the Louisiana runaway slaves using the information you have gathered.

### **Presentation**

At the end of the visit to the archives, your group will introduce your documents and will present a profile of the New York area runaway slaves based on the information you have gathered.