

MoW Register Nominations - Documentary heritage of the enslaved people of the Dutch Caribbean and their descendants (1816- 1969).

1. Title / Titre

1.0 Title / Titre

Documentary heritage of the enslaved people of the Dutch Caribbean and their descendants (1816- 1969).

2. Summary / Résumé

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The system of slavery in the Dutch Caribbean lasted for over two centuries, profoundly shaping social structures in ways that still impact upon these societies to this day. Colonial rule in these territories included slavery within its laws, which served to normalise and legalise unequal power relationships via the construction of ethnic and racial divisions that permeated the social, political, and economic relations within these societies. The documentary heritage that is being nominated here consists of archives that are located in Suriname, Curaçao, St. Maarten, and the Netherlands. They comprise mostly slave, manumission and emancipation registers and civil registry documents of freed slaves. Furthermore, they shed light on the state of compensation received by plantation owners after the abolition of slavery in the Dutch Caribbean in 1863. More specifically, the records show the connections between the Dutch, French and British networks in the Caribbean, which formed part of the global network of slavery and slave trade. The documents provide insight into the ways in which slavery and the legal structure behind it shaped the lives of the enslaved people of the Dutch Caribbean as well as their descendants. It is thereby a unique collection of documents that gives us a better understanding of the mechanics behind one of the darkest periods in human history.

3. Nominator contact details / Coordonnées de l'auteur

3.1 Name of nominator / Nom de l'auteur de la proposition

- The National Archives of Curaçao (NAC)
- The National Archives of the Netherlands (NAN)
- The National Archives of Suriname (NAS)
- The National Archeological and Anthropological Memory Management (Curaçao) (NAAM)
- The Government of St. Maarten (GSM)

3.2 Relationship to the nominated material / Relation avec l'élément considéré du patrimoine documentaire

- The National Archives of the Netherlands is the official custodian of the records.
- The National Archives of Suriname is the official custodian of the records.
- The National Archives of Curaçao is the official custodian of the records.
- National Archeological and Anthropological Memory Management (Curaçao) is the owner and custodian of the records.
- The Government of St. Maarten is the official custodian of the records.

3.3 Address / Adresse

The National Archives of Curaçao (NAC):
Maximiliaan Scriwaneck, Director of the National Archives of Curaçao
Scharlooweg 77-79
Willemstad,
Curaçao

The National Archives of Suriname (NAS):
Rita Tjien Fooh - Hardjomohamad, Director of the National Archives of Suriname
Mr. J.Lachmonstraat 174
Paramaribo,
Suriname

The National Archives of the Netherlands (NAN):
Ms. Afelonne J.M. Doek, Director General of the National Archives of the Netherlands
Prins Willem-Alexanderhof 20,
2595 BE The Hague,
The Netherlands

The National Archeological and Anthropological Memory Management (NAAM):
Dimitri Cloose, Director of the National Archeological and Anthropological Memory Management
Johan van Walbeekplein 13
Willemstad,
Curaçao

The Government of St. Maarten (GSM):
Alfonso Blijden, Acting Head Department of Records and Information Management, St Maarten
Clem Labega Square,
Philipsburg,
Sint Maarten

3.4 Telephone / Téléphone

- NAC: + 599 94614866
- NAN: +31703315400
- NAS: + 597 430040 +597 430035
- NAAM: + 599 94621933
- GSM: + 721 553 1613

3.5 Email / Courriel

- NAC: scriwanek@nationalarchives.cw
- NAN: afelonne.doek@nationaalarchief.nl
- NAS: rita.tjienfooh@gmail.com
- NAAM: d.close@naam.cw
- GSM: rolandoblij@yahoo.com

3.6 Co-nominator(s), if any / Co-auteur(s), le cas échéant

See attached file (if any) See 3.1

4. Declaration of Authority / Déclaration sur l'honneur

I certify that I have the authority to nominate the item, or items, described in this document to the Memory of the World Register.
Je certifie sur l'honneur, proposer le patrimoine documentaire décrit dans ce document au Registre international de la Mémoire du monde

Declaration of authority / Déclaration sur l'honneur

Yes

Full name / Nom et prénom

See attachment for a signed copy.

National Archives of Curacao: Maximiliaan Scriwanek, Director of the National Archives of Curacao
National Archives of Suriname: Rita Tjien Foooh- Hardjomohamad - Director of the National Archives of Suriname
National Archives of the Netherlands: Afelonne J.M. Doek, Director General of the National Archives of the Netherlands
The Government of St. Maarten (GSM): Alfonso Blijden, Acting Head- Department of Records and Information Management, St Maarten
National Archeological and Anthropological Memory Management (NAAM): Dimitri Cloose - Director of the National Archeological and Anthropological Memory Management (NAAM)

Date

11/28/2021

5. Legal information / Informations juridiques

5.1 Name of owner / Nom du propriétaire

- National Archives of the Netherlands: The Government of the Netherlands is the owner of the nominated public records. All collections are managed by The National Archives of the Netherlands.
- National Archives of Suriname: The Government of Suriname is the owner of the nominated public records. All collections are managed by the National Archives of Suriname.
- National Archives of Curaçao: The Government of Curaçao is the owner of the nominated public records. All collections are managed by the National Archives of Curaçao.
- National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management: The NAAM Foundation is the owner of the nominated public records. All collections are managed by the National Archeological and Anthropological Memory Management (Curaçao)
- Government of St. Maarten: The Government of St. Maarten is the owner of the nominated public records. All collections are managed by the Department of Records and Information Management, St. Maarten.

5.2 Address / Adresse

National Archives of the Netherlands:
Prins Willem-Alexanderhof 20
2595 BE The Hague,
The Netherlands

National Archives of Suriname:
Mr. J. Lachmonstraat 174
Paramaribo,
Suriname

National Archives of Curaçao:
Scharlooweg 77-79
Willemstad,
Curaçao

National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management:
Johan van Walbeekplein 13
Willemstad,
Curaçao

Government of St. Maarten:
Clem Labega Square,
Philipsburg,
Sint Maarten

5.3 Telephone / Téléphone

National Archives of the Netherlands
Tel.: +31703315400

National Archives of Suriname
Tel.: + 597 430040 +597 430035

National Archives of Curaçao:
Tel.: + 599 94614866

National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management
Tel.: + 599 94621933

Government of St. Maarten:
Tel.: + 721 553 1613

5.4 Email / Adresse électronique

National Archives of the Netherlands

E-mail: afelonne.doek@nationaalarchief.nl

National Archives of Suriname
E-mail: rita.tjienfooh@gmail.com

National Archives of Curaçao:
E-mail: scriwanek@nationalarchives.cw

National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management
E-mail: d.close@naam.cw

Government of St. Maarten:
E-mail: rolandoblij@yahoo.com

5.5 Name and contact details of custodian / Nom et coordonnées du dépositaire

mSame as owners.

5.6 Legal status / Statut juridique

- **National Archives of the Netherlands:** The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands is the owner of the nominated

National Archives of the Netherlands: The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands is the owner of the nominated public records. Collections are managed by the National Archives of the Netherlands. The creators of the records are/were part of the central government of the Netherlands.

- **National Archives of Suriname:** The Government of Suriname is the owner of the nominated public records. Collections are managed by the National Archives of Suriname. The creators of the records were part of the colonial government of the Netherlands.
- **National Archives of Curaçao:** The Government of Curaçao is the owner of the nominated public records. Collections are managed by the National Archives of Curaçao. The creators of the records were part of the colonial government of the Netherlands.
- **National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management:** The NAAM Foundation is the owner of the nominated public records. Collections are managed by the National Archeological and Anthropological Memory Management (Curaçao). The creators of the records are/were private citizens / natural persons.
- **Government of St. Maarten:** The Government of St. Maarten is the owner of the nominated public records. Collections are managed by the Department of Records and Information Management, St. Maarten. The creators of the records were part of the colonial government of the Netherlands and private citizens / natural persons.

5.7 Copyright status / Droits d'auteur

There are no copyright restrictions on any of the nominated documentary heritage.

See attachments for the signed non-exclusive rights agreements

- National Archives Curaçao: signed
- National Archives Netherlands: signed
- National Archives Suriname: signed
- Government St. Maarten: signed

5.8 Accessibility / Accessibilité

- **National Archives of Curaçao:** The records are under the custody of the National Archives of Curaçao and are kept in the repositories of the organization. The entries with descriptions of the nominated records can be consulted online (Database and Memorix) and in the reading rooms. The original records have been restored and digitized. The digitized records are available online for all researchers.
- **National Archives of the Netherlands:** The records are under the custody of the National Archives of the Netherlands and are kept in the repositories of the organization. The entries with descriptions of the nominated records can be consulted online. The original records have been restored and digitized. The digitized records are available online for all researchers.
- **National Archives of Suriname:** The records are under the custody of the National Archives of Suriname and are kept in the repositories of the organization. The entries with descriptions of the nominated records can be consulted online (Database) and in the reading rooms. The original records are in the process of being restored and digitized. The digitized records are available online for all researchers.
- **National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management:** The collection is currently freely accessible by request to NAAM. Reels are accessible by request to the National Archives. Items may be duplicated and used in any form with just the mention of NAAM or the National Archives as custodian as the case might be. NAAM and the University of Curaçao have initiated a public access platform open-access resource, called the Dutch Caribbean Heritage Collection located in the University of Curaçao Digital Platform Network. Processed batches of the collection are placed on the site in a continuous manner. The disclosed portion of the collection can be accessed here: http://dcdp.uoc.cw/zikinza_collection No restrictions apply.

A complete authorized, but unrubricized version of the collection is available on the site of Archivo Boneiru, of the organization FUHIKUBO. This

collection can be accessed here: <https://tinyurl.com/zikinza-archivo-boneiru>. No restrictions apply.

- **Government of St. Maarten:**
- The registers are under custody and managed by the Department of Records and Information Management and the Office of Civil Registry, both falling under the Ministry of General Affairs and are at the moment not open for public viewing as some of them are in bad physical condition. A digitalizing project is being worked on at the present time.
- https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00461?activeTab=nt&sortering=prs_naam&volgorde=asc

6. Identity and description of the documentary heritage / Identité et description de l'élément du patrimoine documentaire

6.1 Name and identification details / Nom et identification de l'élément proposé

Nominator**Title of Fond****Date****Details**

National Archives of the

Netherlands

Dutch Ministry of the Colonies ("Ministerie van Koloniën")

· Governmental Journals Suriname ("Gouvernements-journalen Suriname")

· Governmental Journals Curaçao ("Gouvernements-journalen Curaçao")

1816-1849

Reference Code: 2.10.01

Reports of the most important matters in the colony of Suriname, e.g. registration of manumissions of enslaved persons.

Inventory Numbers: 3328-3426.

Link: <https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/archief/2.10.01/invnr/%402~2.2~2.2.2~2.2.2.2~2.2.2.2.1~2.2.2.2.1.1~3328-3426?query=2.10.01&search-type=inventory>

Entry and scans available online.

Reports of the most important matters on Curaçao and dependent Dutch Caribbean islands, e.g. manumissions of enslaved persons.

Inventory Numbers: 3723-3737.

Link: <https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/archief/2.10.01/invnr/%402~2.2~2.2.2~2.2.2.2~2.2.2.2.1~2.2.2.2.1.1~3610-3737?query=2.10.01&search-type=inventory>

Entry and scans available online.

National Archives of the Netherlands

Dutch Ministry of the Colonies ("Ministerie van Koloniën")

· Governmental Journals Suriname ("Gouvernements-journalen Suriname")

· Governmental Journals Curaçao ("Gouvernements-journalen Curaçao")

1850-1863

Reference Code: 2.10.02

Reports of the most important matters in the colony of Suriname, e.g. registration of manumissions of enslaved persons.

Inventory Numbers: 6797-6852.

Link: <https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/archief/2.10.02/invnr/%40C.~3.6~3.6.3>

Entry and scans available online.

Reports of the most important matters on Curaçao and dependent Dutch Caribbean islands, e.g. manumissions of enslaved persons.

Inventory Numbers: 6665-6738.

Link: <https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/archief/2.10.02/invnr/%40C.~3.6~3.6.2~div.nrs>

Entry and scans available online.

National Archives of the Netherlands

Court of Audit ("Algemene Rekenkamer")

1863-1868

Reference Code: 2.02.09.08

Emancipation/Compensation Records ("Stukken tot opheffing der slavernij in West-Indië").

Inventory numbers: 223-248

Link: <https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/archief/2.02.09.08/invnr/%40235~223-248?query=2.02.09.08&search-type=inventory>

Entry and scans available online.

National Archives Suriname

Digital Entry Slave Registers Suriname

1830-1863

Digital Entry to the Slave Register Suriname

<https://www.nationaalarchief.sr/collecties/online-slavenregisters>

National Archives Suriname

Slave Registers ("Slavenregisters")

1830-1863

Volume: 43 registers

Digitized: Yes and on microfiches.

Accessibility: indexes and digital entry available online.

National Archives Suriname

Manumission documents

("Stukken betreffende manumissie")

1832-1863

Volume: 15 registers

Consists of:

- General Alphabetical Register of

Manumission and Free Workers,
1 volume.

- Register of the issue of manumission letters, 1832 – 1863, 9 volumes.
- Index of freed slaves (alphabetically by division), 2 volumes.
- Register of freed slaves since the reconquest of the colony of Suriname by the Netherlands, 1816 (mulatten, mestieze, castece, carboeager), 1 volume.
- Alphabetical register of the freed slaves in various districts of Suriname 1863, 1 volume.
- Ledgers of the journal of slave registration, 1859, 1 volume.

Digitized: No. Only on microfiches.

Accessibility: indexes

National Archives Suriname

Emancipation Registers

("Emancipatieregisters")

1863

Volumes: 9 registers.

Description: Emancipation registers from the districts in Suriname

Digitized: Yes

Accessibility: digital copies accessible in the reading room.

National Archives Suriname

Archives of the Administrator of Finance

("Administrateur van Financiën")

1833-1937

Description: Series borderel and states of compensation, 1862.

Volumes: 8 archive boxes.

Digitized: No, only on microfiches.

Accessibility: accessible in the reading room

National Archives Suriname

Suriname after 1828, Commissariat for the Inland Population,

("Suriname na 1828: Commissariaat voor de Inlandse Bevolking.

1828-1845

Reference Code: 1.05.11.06

Volume: 4 meters

Inventory numbers: 1-96

Digitized: Yes

Accessibility: ISAD-G /

Entry and scans available online.

<https://www.nationaalarchief.sr/collecties/archieven-on-line>

National Archives Suriname

The archives of the Comptroller-General of Finance and other accountable officials in Suriname, (1780) 1828-1903 (1911) ("Het archief van de Controleur-Generaal van Financiën en andere comptabele ambtenaren, (1780) 1828- 1903 (1911)")

1780-1911

Reference Code: 1.05.11.07

Inventory numbers: 126-135.

Description: Alphabetical state of all slaves manumitted 1833-1843, register of the letters of manumission granted during the period January 16, 1841 t / m December 31, 1851, alphabetical state of all slaves manumitted, 1844-1855.

Digitized: Yes.

Accessibility: ISAD-G /

Entry and scans available online.

<http://www.nationaalarchief.sr/collecties/archieven-on-line>

National Archives Suriname

The archives of the Commission for the Affairs of the New Orphan, Trusteeship and Unmanaged Estate Chamber and its Successors, (1778) 1828-1876 (1879)

("Het archief van de Commissie tot de Zaken der Nieuwe Wees-, Curatele- en Onbeheerde Boedelkamer en haar Opvolgers, (1778) 1828-1876 (1879)")

1828-1876

Reference Code 1.05.11.13

Inventory Numbers 520, 521, 521A, 522-523, 575, 578.

Descriptions: Slaves, Plantation, Manumission letters belonging to different estates, 19th Century.

Digitized: Yes.

Accessibility: ISAD-G /

Entry and scans available online.

<http://www.nationaalarchief.sr/collecties/archieven-on-line>
National Archives Suriname
Archive of the High Council of the Dutch West Indies 1828-1832.
("Archief van de Hoge Raad der Nederlandsche West-Indische Bezittingen")
1828-1832
Reference code 1.05.08.03
Inventory number 12: Minutes July – December 1832.
Digitized: Yes.
Accessibility: ISAD-G /
Entry and scans available online.
<http://www.nationaalarchief.sr/collecties/archieven-on-line>

National Archives Curaçao
Digital Entry Slave Register Curaçao
1839-1863
Digital Entry to the Slave Registers and Emancipation Registers Curaçao CW-WiNAC-001 Archives Colonial Government, category Labour.
<https://www.nationaalarchief.cw/api/picturae/slavenregister/persons>
National Archives Curaçao
Government archive: records relating to Slavery in the category: Labor. Including Slave Registers 1839-1863.
("Gouvernementsarchief: Stukken betreffende slavernij in de rubriek: Arbeid, inclusief Slavenregisters 1839-1863")
1832-1867
Description: Slavery, Preparation for Abolition, Manumission,(Standard of) Living. In the Slave Registers, the enslaved people were registered on the page, the 'folio', of their owner.
Link with: Genealogy, Slavery, Abolition
Volume: 58 index numbers, ISAD-G description
Digitized: Partially. Index nr. 8 Register of Runaway Slaves is digitized and indexed on MS Excel (1563 records) available on Memorix-Archives Accessible: ICA-"Access to Memory (ICA-Atom), ISAD-G, Memorix-Archives
National Archives Curaçao
Civil Registries Archive - Registers of Birth, - Death, Baptized, and freed Slaves ("Archief van de Burgerlijke Stand - Geboorte, Overlijden, Doopregisters en registers van vrijgemaakte Slaven")
1831-1863
Description: registry of Birth, Death, Baptized, and freed Slaves
Link with: Genealogy, Slavery
Volume: 71 registers, indexed on MS Excel,
ISAD-G description
Digitized: Yes
Accessible: ICA-"Access to Memory (ICA-Atom), ISAD-G, Memorix-Archives.
National Archives Curaçao
Juliana-Brenneker-Collection ("Collectie Juliana-Brenneker"),

1856-1914 (1940)
Description: Plantation Archive "Dokterstuin / Pannekoek". The only decentralized formed and preserved plantation archive.
Link with: Slavery, Abolition, (Standard of) Living after Abolition, Labor mobility vs "Paga Terra".
Volume: 2 linear meters (2 m1)
Digitized: yes
Accessible: ICA-"Access to Memory (ICA-Atom), ISAD-G, Memorix-Archives.
Online available : <https://www.nationaalarchief.cw/api/picturae/archieven/details/CW-WiNAC-CW-WiNAC-217>
National Archives Curaçao /
National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management
12 original audio reels Collection Zikinza ("Kolekshon Zikinza")
1955-1969
Zikinza – oral history with a.o. interviews with people born in slavery.
Format: 7" magnetic tapes, not indexed
Link with: slavery, abolition, effect of slavery in society, music, culture, habits.
Owner: NAAM
Custodian: National Archives
Digitized and made accessible by NAAM. NAAM is custodian of the digitized version.

National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management
Digitized Collection Zikinza ("Kolekshon Zikinza")

1955- 1969

Description: 1410 audio clips of oral history recordings made by Paul Brenneker and Elis Juliana.

Format: audio material in mp3 format, scanned from 12 original audio reels.

Digitized: yes

Accessible in: Dutch Caribbean Digital Platform - http://dcdp.uoc.cw/zikinza_collection (dissemination of the current collection), Boneiru

Archive: <https://tinyurl.com/zikinzacollection>

NAAM is working on a new index for greater accessibility.

Government of St.Maarten

Slave Register ("Slavenregister 1863")

1863

Description: One volume with the names of all the slaves that were freed on St. Maarten when slavery was abolished including their age, sex and children.

Link with: Slavery, Abolition

Digitized: no

Accessible: Because of its fragile nature a digitalization project is being worked on.

Government of St. Maarten

Letters to Various Persons ("Brieven aan Diversen")

September 10, 1847 –April 7,1861 / April 20,

1861 – December 23, 1863

Description: Various correspondences between the government of Sint Maarten and the governments of the various islands pertaining to runaway slaves and also concerning the aftermath of the abolishment of slavery in the English and French territories. (St. Maarten is divided between a French part and Dutch part, creating a unique situation between 1848 and 1863).

Link with: Slavery, Abolition

Digitized: no

Accessible: Because of its fragile nature a digitalization project is being worked on.

6.2 Type of document/ Type de document

Digital / Numérique, Manuscripts / Manuscrits, Music/Audio/Recordings / Musique/Audio/Enregistrements, Papers / Papiers

6.3 Catalogue or registration details / Détails du catalogue ou de l'inscription

See also appendix (6.1 Type of document)

- **National Archives of the Netherlands:** see details column under 6.1
- **National Archives of Suriname:** see details column under 6.1
- **National Archives of Curaçao:** see details column under 6.1
- **National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management:** see details column under 6.1
- **Government of St. Maarten:** see details column under 6.1

6.4 Visual documentation (if available and appropriate) / Documentation visuelle le cas échéant (si disponible et approprié)

National Archives Curaçao:

Video-documentary of the preservation and digitization of the Juliana-Brenneker collection:

(also online on our site) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kT9Kw5UPUCK>).

Online availability of these records: see link:

<https://www.nationaalarchief.cw/api/picturae/archieven/details/CW-WiNAC-CW-WiNAC-217/keywords/2e%20en%203e%20district/withscans/0/start/0/limit/10/flimit/5/order/sortTitle%20asc>

Database Slave registers online: <https://www.nationaalarchief.cw/api/picturae/slavenregister/persons>

(see attachment, digital images of the records)

- CW_NAC_slavenregister_InvNr_58_FolioNR_0785.jpg
- CW_NAC_217_Districtmeesters_Juliana_Brenneker_22_109_1863_0056.jpg
- CW_NAC_005_BS_1_06554.jpg

National Archives of the Netherlands:

Database Slave registers online: <https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00461?>

Database Slave registers online: https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00461?activeTab=nt&sortering=prs_naam&volgorde=asc

(see attachment, digital images of the records)

- NL-HaNA_2.02.09.08_228_0105.jpg (Compensation Record)
- NL-HaNA_2.10.02_6667_0192.jpg (Gouvernemental Journal Curaçao)
- NL-HaNA_2.10.02_6698_0091.jpg (Governmental Journal Suriname)

National Archives of Suriname:

Database Slave registers online: https://www.nationaalarchief.nl/onderzoeken/index/nt00461?activeTab=nt&sortering=prs_naam&volgorde=asc

(see attachment, digital images of the records)

Emancipatie register_InvNr_27_VolgNr_0068.jpg

- Scan_0142.jpg
- Scan_0143.jpg
- Scan_0144.jpg
- Slavenregister_InvNr_38_FolioNr_1660.jpg

Government of St. Maarten:

(see attachment, digital images of the records)

- 001_30 May 1848 1
- 002_30 May 1848 2
- 003_30 May 1848 3
- 004_30 May 1848 4
- 005_28 June 1848 1
- 006_28 June 1848 2
- 007_10 October 1848 1
- 008_10 October 1848 2
- 009_10 October 1848 3
- 010_10 October 1848 4
- 011_10 October 1848 5
- 012_10 October 1848 6
- 013_10 October 1848 7

6.5 History/Provenance / Histoire/Provenance

National Archives of the Netherlands:

The documents from the National Archives of the Netherlands come from two archival creators, the archives of the Dutch Ministry of the Colonies (1814 – 1900) and that of the Court of Audit (1814 – 1919). The historical roots of both institutes can be traced back to the early 19th century.

After the final dissolution of the Dutch West India Company in 1792, and after a French-Batavian period, the Department for the Affairs of Commerce and Colonies was established on 6 April 1814. After a number of name changes, the Department continued as an independent Ministry of the Colonies ("Ministerie van Koloniën") after January 1, 1842. Corresponding to the function of the ministry, the archives of the ministry deal with the organization of the colonial administration in the Dutch East Indies, the Dutch West Indies (Suriname, Curaçao and other islands) and until 1872 the Coast of Guinea (nowadays Ghana). The nominated selection from the archives of the Ministry contains documents that deal with the administrative and official aspects of Dutch slavery. The registration of the manumission of people in Suriname and the Dutch islands in the Caribbean are among other administrative documents, they are an integral part of the correspondence between the colony and the motherland. It gives proof of how the entire ins and outs of the colonies were steeped in slavery.

Like the Ministry of the Colonies, the Court of Audit was established as a modern institution after the end of French rule in 1814. Today, the Court of Audit still checks the regularity of Dutch government expenditure. The submitted documents of this body concern the accounting of expenses for the West Indian Colonies and the abolition of slavery during the period 1863-1868. These Compensation Files contain lists of enslaved persons (with name) per plantation and/or per plantation owner, and documentary evidence that confirms the record. Both archives and related documents provide insight into the pitiless business side of Dutch slavery and its further financial settlement after its abolition in 1863.

National Archives of Suriname

The nominated archives were kept in several repositories on various locations (dependences) of the Landsarchiefdienst. Before 2006 the National Archives of Suriname was named the 'Landsarchiefdienst'.

These repositories were scattered around the capital Paramaribo because there was not an adequate archive building available yet. In the past various fires ravaged the wooden buildings in the capital city of Paramaribo, and as a consequence, Suriname has lost important historical documents. In the early 20th century the historical collection predating 1846, was transferred to the Netherlands for the time being, because of the inadequate housing in Suriname. An agreement was signed that although the historical collection (800 meters) would be transferred to The Hague, it would remain the property of Suriname. The Slave registers and Manumission records were not transferred to the Netherlands, as well as the 'Borderel' containing the state of compensation. The Emancipation registers were under the custody of the Civil Registry in Suriname and have been transferred to the National Archives recently.

The archives of the Comptroller-General of Finance and other accountable officials in Suriname (1828-1903), the archives of the Commission for the Affairs of the New Orphan, Trusteeship and Unmanaged Estate Chamber and its Successors (1828-1876), and the archives of the High Council of the Dutch West Indies (1822-1823) were all in the temporary custody of the National Archives

archives of the High Council of the Dutch West Indies (1828-1832) were all in the temporary custody of the National Archives Netherlands for almost a century. From 2010 to 2017 the entire historical collection (800 m) was returned to Suriname. Suriname received both the authentic archives and the digital copies. The 800 meters of archives are accessible through the website of the National Archives of Suriname.

National Archives of Curaçao

Centrally formed Archives were kept in Fort Amsterdam (Government Center), managed by the Colonial Secretary. In 1969 the National Archives (Centraal Historisch Archief) was founded. The historic records till 1939 were transferred to the newly founded National Archives and made available for public viewing. All nominated archives, except for the Juliana-Brenneker-collection, were part of the institutional transfer in 1969. Material state is reasonably well.

The Juliana-Brenneker collection is a decentralized formed plantation archive. It was discovered by the two anthropologists Elis Juliana and Father Brenneker in two wooden boxes in a shack in front of the Plantation Dokterstuijn office at the end of the sixties. The records date back to 1856. The material state is very poor because of the poor storage conditions for more than a century. When discovered, the records were moist and wet. Storage under extreme temperatures in the shack has had a negative influence. Father Brenneker had dried the records in the sun and transferred them afterwards to the Agency for Culture and Education (Bureau voor Cultuur en Opvoeding) where they were stored in an iron file cabinet. This collection was transferred to the National Archives in two phases in 1978 and 1979. They were indexed at the National Archives. Because of the very poor material state – most of them are “onion skin” and brittle – and furthermore there is ink corrosion that breaks the paper at the ink lines, they could not be made available for public viewing. Since 2016 this collection is professionally consolidated and preserved, partially restored and digitized (see: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kT9Kw5UPUcK>). The digitized items are online available since 2021 via the Memorix software on the Curaçao National Archives site. The information value is very high and sheds new light on traditional insights.

The 12 original Audio tapes with oral history were created in the fifties and sixties by Elis Juliana and Paul Brenneker. Since 1974 these tapes have been managed by a foundation (Fundashon Zikinza) with the aim to make them accessible for education and research. In 1975 the Zikinza foundation transferred custodianship of the tapes to the National Archives. In 2010 they transferred ownership to NAAM and asked NAAM to digitize and index these tapes, while the originals stayed at the National Archives for preservation purposes. Although the authenticity value rests with the National Archives, the value for research and public accessibility lies with NAAM. The digitization in 2010 enhanced audio quality, improved accessibility and search ability.

National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management (NAAM)

The collection was made between approximately 1955 and 1969 from oral history done by two self-taught collectors: Dutch priest Paul Brenneker and multifaceted local artist and cultural agent Elis Juliana. It consists of songs, historical anecdotes, stories, descriptions of everyday life in the native language of Papiamentu and the now extinct Guene language. The collection was made specifically for a Foundation that planned on using it for documenting local heritage and using it for promoting cultural education and civic identity. Over the years different aspects of custodianship of the collection have varied, and the collection was concurrently or successively shared by the Zikinza Foundation, the Cultural Affairs Office, the Central Historic Archives, NAAM, the National Archives. In 2010, full official ownership was transferred from the Zikinza Foundation to NAAM. NAAM considered that the controlled environment at the National Archive was conducive to better preservation of the original reels and transferred the reels to the National Archives, which already had been custodian of the reels on three separate occasions. Currently NAAM is owner of the collection and custodian of the digitized material and all supporting documents, while the National Archives is the custodian of the reels.

Government of St. Maarten

The archive was started in colonial times and was housed in the old government building, constructed in 1886, that was located on Front Street until the building was destroyed by fire on August 12, 1974.

Most of the documents that were stored in the old building were lost in the fire. Only a small number of documents and historical books survived the fire. The damaged books and documents were restored and are now housed in the expanded space. Lack of space in the first government library led to materials, files and documents being stored behind the old tourism bureau and these items were saved from the fire.

Due to the fire, the library now mainly houses documents from 1974 onwards, with some notable reports, documents and files dating back to 1819.

The archive houses all documents relating to the government apparatus from the Executive Council, different departments, the cabinet of the Lt. Governor and the Island Council. All of the information in the archive is readily available internally and externally to the persons who wish to access particular types of information, unless the information is withheld in the best interest of the St. Maarten.

The archives of the Island Territory of St. Maarten is somewhat fragmented. This means that it is spread out over several different instances such as: Kadaster (Land Registry), Census Office and General Affairs to name a few.

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Exposition Slavery at Rijksmuseum (Spring 2021), based on the reconstruction of lives of enslaved persons in the Caribbean, Africa and Asia. <https://www.rijksmuseum.nl/nl/pers/persberichten/rijksmuseum-presenteert-tentoonstelling-slavernij>

De Dutch podcast "De plantage van onze voorouders" [The plantation of our ancestors] created by Maartje Duin and Peggy Bouva. <https://www.vpro.nl/programmas/de-plantage-van-onze-voorouders/luister/afleveringen.html> This podcast was based on intensive archival research in the Emancipation records of this nomination. In the eight-part podcast series 'The plantation of our ancestors', Maartje Duin investigates traces of the slavery past in her family history. She discovers that her ancestors were co-owners of the sugar plantation Tout Lui Faut in Suriname in 1863 and seeks contact with the descendants of the enslaved: the Bouva family. Together with Peggy Bouva she reconstructs the story of the plantation. This podcast won two important awards: the Dutch Podcast Award 2020 and "De Tegel" Award for Journalism in the category Audio/Podcast (<https://www.detegel.info/nominaties-2020/>).

Researcher Mark Ponte used the Emancipation 1863 records to identify enslaved persons on an 1860 photograph. The photo shows the Bosch Reitz family, with an enslaved woman on the floor with a white baby on her lap. Also in the photo is an enslaved child with a tray in his hands. When slavery was officially abolished in Suriname in 1863, at least 15 enslaved people stayed with the family <https://voetnoot.org/2020/04/30/twee-slafgemaakte-afro-surinamers-op-koloniaal-familieportret/>

6.7 Referees

Suriname

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7. Assessment against the selection criteria / Evaluation des critères de sélection

7.1 Primary criteria - significance value to the world. Comment on one or more of the following significance criteria / Critères principaux - valeur d'importance mondiale. Commentez sur un ou plusieurs des critères d'importance suivants

Not all the criteria will apply to your documentary heritage. Choose only those criteria that are relevant to your nomination.

Tous les critères ne s'appliqueront pas à votre patrimoine documentaire. Choisissez uniquement les critères pertinents pour votre candidature.

7.1.1 Historic significance / Signification historique

The nominated documents transcend the personal, national, regional, and international spheres of influence. The archives provide insight into the global dimension of Dutch slavery. The documents have connections with the registered MOW records of the Dutch West India Company (nominated and registered in the international register of the MOW in 2010-2011) as well as the records on the Registry of Slaves of the British Caribbean 1817-1834 (Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom with an Addendum from Bermuda) which were approved in 2011.

The Dutch slave trade, which was originally organised by the controversial and highly profitable public entity called the Dutch West Indian Company (WIC), transformed the islands—especially Curaçao and Sint Eustatius, until the latter was subsequently ravaged by the British in 1781—into important, official trade bases in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Based on the asiento contract between the Dutch Republic and Spain, the Dutch supplied towns in Spanish America, such as, for example, Cartagena (Colombia), Portobello (Panama) and Vera Cruz (Mexico) with enslaved people from Curaçao (Kunst 1981: 125; Postma 2008: 34). The Dutch also traded with British-American colonies, northern Europe, and southern Africa, based on the success of the maritime sector within Curaçao (Rupert 1999). The fact that Curaçao was a slave depot at first also profoundly shaped the nature of slave work. Enslaved persons were used as transit merchandise, while some remained and were put to work on the land: sowing, weeding, harvesting and heaping millet, which at that juncture was an important crop. Other tasks included the cleaning and maintaining of wells to provide water for humans and animals, burning chalk for masonry, and animal husbandry (Jordaan 1999: 478).

This trade network saw hundreds of thousands of enslaved people—mainly from West Africa—being transited through the Dutch Caribbean towards the surrounding European colonies in the Caribbean as well as the coastal regions of South America. From the beginning of the eighteenth century until its decline in 1737, this rapidly expanding transatlantic slave trade resulted in the largest forced migration in history, transporting enslaved people to different parts of the Americas. While the proceeds from this human trafficking have been the subject of contentious discussions in the Netherlands for some time, new studies show that in the eighteenth century, until the Dutch prohibited the slave trade, 5.2 per cent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was based on slavery.^[1]

Under international (particularly British) pressure, a Dutch ban on the slave trade was imposed in 1814. This meant a ban on the transport of enslaved men, women, and children from Africa. In order to find new workers for the plantations, plantation owners and traders constantly pushed the limits of what was permitted. For example, they supplied enslaved people who were already in the Caribbean, used alternative routes, or managed to get around the rules by using false papers. The introduction of the slave registers in Suriname (1826) and on Curaçao (1839) successfully bolstered attempts to counter people smuggling and carrying out other illegal practices with enslaved people. For a long time, it was mostly external influences that determined Dutch policy on slavery. After the United Kingdom abolished slavery in 1834, France also subsequently opted to abolish slavery in 1848. Both of these countries were of course colonial neighbours of the Netherlands in the Caribbean, which gave enslaved people in the surrounding Dutch colonies the courage to continue to fight for a life of freedom.

From as early as 1733, manumissions (the act of freeing enslaved people by their 'owners') were considered invalid unless they were reviewed and sanctioned by the court. Thereafter, practically up to the abolition of slavery in 1863, concerns about the social repercussions of manumission shaped nearly all new legislation. Despite regulations that made it increasingly difficult for enslaved individuals to achieve their freedom, the number of manumissions nevertheless continued to grow in the long term. That trend can be explained, in part, by what is often referred to as chain manumission, that is, the fact that manumitted persons became manumitters themselves—often of members of their own family.

In Suriname and on the Dutch islands in the Caribbean, the Abolition Act came into effect on 1 July 1863. The interests of private individuals who had shares in plantations or other property played a pivotal role in this abolition. For a long time, the aim was to secure the status quo, including the provision of financial compensation for the loss of 'property'. In 1863, slave-owners were compensated, and received a fixed amount for each enslaved man or woman. However, those who were formerly enslaved in Suriname were not yet truly free. As part of the so-called 'state supervision', it was enshrined in law that men and women between the ages of fifteen and sixty were obliged to work for a further ten years for their former 'owner' in return for payment. In this way, the Dutch government hoped to prevent a complete collapse of the plantation economy. Because no massive reduction in the supply of labour was expected in Curaçao, Bonaire, Aruba, Sint Eustatius, Saba and St. Maarten, enslaved people were not placed under state supervision after their liberation. The Abolition Act finally brought about the legal end of the Dutch slavery system in the Caribbean. However, there was no real closure, insofar as the system underlying slavery had become too closely intertwined with the economy and societal structures within both the Netherlands and its colonies. The physical and mental traces of this history can be observed everywhere. They can be found in historic buildings, modern companies that are rooted in slavery, in museum collections, but also in immaterial things, such as ways of thinking, habits and family histories.

This triangular trade and the ensuing Dutch slavery has created an unbreakable bond between the 'motherland' and its overseas territories, which is reflected in all facets of Dutch society. This means that if the Netherlands wants to understand its current position in the world, one must first understand how this situation came about. In this respect, the submitted archives provide insight into the administrative reality that was obfuscated within Dutch slavery. The recognition of these archives by UNESCO will once again emphasise to the Netherlands and the rest of the world that the influence that the West exerts over the rest of the world stems from a process that began hundreds of years ago. Above all, the archives underscore that, in its capacity as a coloniser and facilitator of slavery, the Netherlands bears a continuing responsibility towards its former colonies and their inhabitants.

Political, economic, social and spiritual movements

The insights that the archives offer enable one to gain knowledge of the historical processes that are often directly related to the life one currently leads. Access to the material is therefore important for understanding both the past and the present

currently leads. Access to the material is therefore important for understanding both the past and the present.

After the abolition of slavery, enslaved people did not receive any compensation for the dehumanising labour conditions under which they were forced to work, while the slave-owners in Suriname and on the islands were given 300 guilders and 200 guilders for each enslaved person, respectively, with the exception of Sint Maarten where slave-owners received 100 guilders since the colonial government had regarded the enslaved there as being free people since 1848. This bad starting position continues to affect the descendants of the enslaved. In the compensation files in the Netherlands, one finds references to the Slave Register in Suriname and Curaçao. It clearly states the amount of financial compensation received by slave-owners to free the enslaved people working on their plantations.

Meanwhile, the enslaved suffered incredibly degrading and inhumane treatment upon which an entire global, economic and social system was built. In the Caribbean, the legacy of slavery can be discerned in the rampant poverty within many of the island states. Within this context, the CARICOM Reparation Commission was established in 2013 (constituting chairpersons from the national reparations committees, one of them from Suriname) with "the express objective of establishing the moral, ethical and legal case for the payment of reparations by the governments and relevant institutions of all the colonial powers to the nations and people of the Caribbean community for the crimes against humanity of native genocide, the transatlantic slave trade and a racialised system of chattel slavery" (<https://caricomreparations.org/about-us/>). The Reparation Commission stressed that there was an urgent need to repair the lasting damage of slavery upon Caribbean communities.

The archives are not only of profound importance on a personal level, without a doubt they also represent the historical roots of the Afro-Caribbean community in Suriname as well as those living in the Kingdom of the Netherlands. This makes the archives painful but also incredibly important pieces of evidence in the ongoing struggle of these communities to gain recognition for both the past and its continued repercussions in the present. For instance, descendants of the enslaved who are living in the Netherlands are now demanding formal apologies from the Dutch Government.

The collection also provides comparative materials on the Dutch and British colonial past, which, in turn, makes it possible to develop new approaches that provide a global understanding of the role that slavery played in European expansion between the sixteenth and nineteenth centuries. This is accomplished, amongst other things, by making the collection related to the Dutch Caribbean visible, through both physical collections and digital access. Knowledge of interlinked histories related to the topics covered by this nomination serves communities, researchers, and other actors across the entire Atlantic region, including the Americas, Africa, and Europe. The importance of our nomination is also evidenced by the academic attention that has been paid to this material. In recent years, numerous articles and (popular) scientific works have been published in which the archives are central or used as a reference point. The media (TV documentaries, podcasts, themed websites) were also able to make grateful use of the sources. This caused greater awareness amongst both descendants of enslaved people and Dutch citizens in general regarding the impact of slavery upon the present day. It may also have played a role in increasing people's willingness to participate in mass protests against systematic racism and racial violence, which began in the United States and in no time spread all over the world, including the Netherlands and its former colonies.

Relations with other countries and communities

The nominated collection is also of importance because these documents are an indispensable link for many people in their ongoing search to trace their past. The registers are the first formal and official documentation of enslaved people in the Dutch Caribbean that registered names, birth, and death information, as well as people's whereabouts.

In this respect, the archives provide insight into the registration process of Afro-Surinamese and Antilleans who lived in slavery under Dutch rule. They are thus of special importance to the descendants of this group of people and their familial connection with roots on the African continent. Today, the descendants of the enslaved people are spread out across the Caribbean, the United States, the Netherlands, Belgium and other European countries. In many cases the slave registers of Suriname and Curaçao are the first, and often the only, direct tangible link to the slavery past of their ancestors. Consequently, this structural registration offers the potential for people to trace the arc of the individual life of the enslaved and their descendants, and, in so doing, to demonstrate that enslavement did not destroy their individuality. The combination of first name, mother, age, and plantation makes it possible to establish connections with other (later) registrations, such as the Civil Register or the registers of ecclesiastical institutions. The records in the Netherlands are interlinked with the records in Suriname and Curaçao and in that sense provide people with the ability to reconnect with families and communities all over the world.

The origins of the Black Lives Matter movement also stem from the inhumane treatment of the enslaved in the past and the ways in which this continues to affect how descendants are treated in communities in Europe, the United States and elsewhere in the world. In 2020 alone, the world witnessed mass protests against systematic racism and racial violence, which began in the United States and in no time spread all over the world. Symbols and monuments commemorating the colonial past were torn down, while activists demanded restitutions for the crimes of slavery and ongoing racial oppression in the world.

The Foundation for Surinamese Genealogy (*Stichting voor Surinaamse genealogie*, <https://www.surinaamsegenealogie.nl/>) publishes the magazine *Wi Rutu* (Our Roots) twice a year. In this magazine, the outcome of recent genealogical research covering the lives of persons in Suriname, Curacao, St. Maarten, the United States, Europe and even the African continent were published. In addition to these publications, documentary films have also been made and/or produced by people from an Afro-Caribbean origin with a view to reconnecting with their African roots. For example, descendants of the enslaved have visited Ghana: the documentary *Katibo Ye Ye - Documentary on Suriname and Ghana*, documents how Clarence Breeveld (Surinamese, living in the Netherlands) visits Ghana to find out more about the system of slavery and his African roots (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6HGoKJ6oco>)

Here is a short version of the documentary: Suriname meets Ghana, Kromanti part 1:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-3Z1KbYUj4>. In part 2, (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kv_T30rqo0Y) a Ghanese citizen visited a maroon village in Suriname where he spoke with the chief in the Kromanti language, which is the same language spoken in some parts of Ghana.

Traditional customs

The Zikinza collection is incredibly valuable for a number of reasons. It was used as the main linguistic corpus in the past to study Guene, an extinct Creole language spoken by Africans who were shipped to Curaçao during the transatlantic slave trade and by their descendants. Studies on the origins of the local creole language Papiamentu are also made possible by virtue of this collection. Songs and typically African oriented Nanzi tales are preserved through this source; the Nanzi tales are a common phenomenon among the African diaspora (America, Caribbean, Europe). However, the Zikinza collection contains more stories than the Kuenta di Nanzi. The Kuenta di Luango, for example, was a genre which also received attention from collectors. These Luango stories referred to enslaved

people who were reputed to be able to fly back to Africa as long as they had not eaten salt. Those who remained behind sang about those who had flown away. These stories are also well-known throughout the Americas. Most Luango stories were sung, in Guene, and

fragments of them form part of the Zikinza collection. This collection also contains names of the local flora and fauna, folk beliefs and customs regarding conception, pregnancy, birth and infancy, dating, courtship and marriage, healing and remedies, ceremonial customs, agriculture, death and funeral arrangements.

[1] Brandon P., and M. van Rossum, *Nederland en de slavernij. Een wereldgeschiedenis*. (Amsterdam: Unieboek Uitgeverij Spectrum, to be published in 2022).

7.1.2 Form and style / *Forme et style*

The form that the emancipation and compensation files take are similar to those often encountered in the archives of government ministries. Fill-in lists, together with supporting documents, were used for the emancipation and compensation files. The Government Journals that have also been nominated continue in different periods.

The slave registers are limited to a relatively short period, and its format (the columns that were filled in) is comparable with the slave registers that were used in the British and French colonies. In addition, no duplicate copies of these important series were made, which is typically the case with the Civil Registry. In this respect, each bundle is unique and utterly irreplaceable.

The audio materials represent the beginning of care for oral historical documentation of the culture of the leeward Dutch Caribbean islands. Both Paul Brenneker and Elis Juliana developed a special approach to overcome the challenges associated with talking about a history of slavery and poverty, about which people often felt ashamed and would rather not discuss. The approach avoided any direct questions and involved sitting for hours talking with the narrator about whatever subject arose, which helped them to build a sense of trust with the narrators.

Their collection also formed the basis for subsequent developments, such as the 'theology of the street', valuing culture of African descent, confirming extensive African continuities in the national culture, and corroborating the existence of oral traditions transmitted from generation to generation. As they were also able to collect stories and songs from elderly narrators and singers who at that time were still alive, the recordings also include numerous versions, of songs in particular. Their attention was not limited to specific topics: all aspects of daily life were addressed. By virtue of its extensive documentation of different topics, it is therefore the first extensive collection of materials of the intangible cultural heritage of the country. Moreover, they did this in a period in which scant attention was paid to this type of material. It took them a long time to obtain government recognition for the serious nature of their research, and, in fact, they had to collect the material largely at their own expense.

7.1.3 Social, community or spiritual significance / *Importance sociale, spirituelle ou communautaire*

The introduction of the plantation system (as part of the wide economic/capitalist system at that juncture), which led to the forced deportation of African people to the Caribbean region, has had a huge impact not only on the lives and lineage of the enslaved and their descendants, but also upon the level of social stratification within the region. While scholars have long held that the situation of the enslaved in Suriname was much worse than those on the islands, studies of excavated bones of enslaved people on the islands show that the transatlantic crossing and subsequent heavy physical labour also had a negative impact on the physical health of the enslaved there.[1]

There is extensive scholarly research, based on the nominated archives, about the effects of the system of slavery (physical, psychological, cultural and economic) and how it has continued to influence the course of people's lives and traditions up to the present day. In order to understand slavery as an institution, and the status of free people of colour within slave society, it is necessary to gain a better insight into the potential for—as well as the rate of incidence of—manumission. Manumission was based on the interplay of psychological, socio-demographic, geographic, economic, chronological, individual, and family factors. On the islands in particular, both the number and percentage of freed persons increased with the passage of time. In Suriname, only one percent of the enslaved were freed annually on average, which was the lowest in the region.[2] On the islands, the free population of colour consisted of the manumitted and their descendants. Some of the manumitted were formerly enslaved people whose freedom had been bought, either by themselves or their families. In particular, skilled enslaved artisans had better opportunities to buy their own freedom. Some young enslaved people (who had inherited their slave status from their mothers) later had their freedom bought by their already freed fathers. This serves as some kind of indication of a certain degree of financial well-being amongst this group. In addition, some masters freed their enslaved as an act of gratitude for the work they had done, and sometimes went so far as to provide for them by giving them a piece of land or another gift. The nature of manumission was closely related to the economics of plantation life. When times were bad, some slave-owners would manumit their enslaved because they lacked the means to feed and house them. This was especially the case for the least productive of the enslaved, such as crippled and older people, who were 'granted their freedom' (i.e. disposed of) generally without any form of support. The masters were not obliged by law to support their manumitted, former enslaved persons, as was the case in the British Caribbean. This meant that manumission did not necessarily provide opportunities and benefits for everyone. After 1863, these groups of former enslaved people often experienced profound difficulties trying to earn a livelihood. As a consequence of these various factors, Curaçao had proportionally more manumitted people than its neighbouring plantation colonies.[3]

With the increase in the numbers of free people of colour, colourism became a determinant factor for social mobility, which has long been linked with skin colour/tono and other somatic features. This occurred right up into the twentieth century as the philosopher A. Paula writes in his book *The Cry of My Life: Bittersweet Memories of a Life Full of Twists*. [4] In Curaçao, the turbulence of the 1960s resulted in the labour protest and social uprising on 30 May 1969. This was not only a struggle for higher wages, but also had all the elements of a struggle against racial oppression, as the sociologists William Anderson and Russell Dynes concluded in their local-government-commissioned report entitled *The Organizational and Political Transformation of a Social Movement: A Study of the 30th of May Movement in Curaçao*. [5]

As evidenced in Walter Rodney's 1972 book, republished in 2018, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*, the slave trade also caused profound disruptions within entire African societies. The documents reflect the inhumane system that was legalised by the Dutch colonial government in order to exploit other people as part of the capitalist mode of production (plantation economy) over the course of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

The audio collection highlights, for the first time, popular voices in the national heritage. Some of the informants became important in

The audio collection highlights, for the first time, popular voices in the national heritage. Some of the informants became important in the national culture after this research and subsequent related actions by researchers and cultural agents. The documentary heritage of the enslaved people of the Dutch Caribbean is thus of great importance for the memory of the world in terms of learning lessons from the past. The documents consist of the authentic written sources about the ancestors who were part of an inhumane system. Today, by consulting these documents, the descendants of the enslaved people are able to trace their roots back to Africa. Being able to read the names of their ancestors and see documentary evidence of their struggle to survive the system of slavery has influenced how these descendants see themselves.

Leadership, role model, nation building

Tula, the leader of the Curaçao slave-revolt is revered as a champion of human rights and independence. On 17 August 1795, plantation rule on the western part of the island was overturned by enslaved people under the leadership of Tula, Bastian Karpata, Louis

Mercier and Pedro Wacao, with assistance from women and freed people. Their actions towards self-liberation can be seen in the light of other efforts to end chattel enslavement in Saint-Domingue (Haiti) from August 1791 onwards and in the Coro region of Venezuela in May 1795. The August 1795 uprising is the largest in the history of Curaçao in terms of the number of participants, its geographical spread, and the number of days that it lasted. Although the Dutch colonial army eventually defeated the insurgents, the uprising unsettled the island's slave and colonial society by demonstrating what oppressed and enslaved people could attain through cooperative action, and its memory remained a source of fear for local slave-owners. Since the latter half of the twentieth century, the anniversary of the 1795 revolt of the enslaved has gradually become a commemorative event. Actions taken in the twenty-first century include the official rehabilitation of Tula from criminal to hero in 2010, the proclamation of 2013 as a year in honour of Tula (the significance being the 150th anniversary of the abolition of enslavement), the exhibition *Libertat riba papel* [Freedom on Paper] held in 2013, the movie *Tula: The Revolt*, screened in Curaçao in 2014, together with the 2012 book by Jeroen Leinders entitled *Tula: verloren vrijheid* [Tula: Freedom Lost], the documentary *Tula su kosecha* [Tula's Harvest] by Selwyn de Wind (2010), and the naming and opening of the Tula Pier in 2017 as a mooring for cruise ships.

These commemorations of enslavement are imperative for incorporating enslavement and the resistance of the enslaved into the collective memory of the communities. However, they also constitute very important data that help to show how cultural identities, national identities and citizenship are negotiated and renegotiated in the post-enslavement era and in modern societies.

The various forms of enslavement commemoration on the island, which give momentum and prestige to both the memory of enslavement and resistance to enslavement, both general and during the 17 August 1795 revolt, also reinforce the need for evidence-based data. The Zikinzin audio collection in particular is relevant in this respect.

[1] Fricke, F.J., *The Lifeways of Enslaved People in Curaçao, St Eustatius, and St Maarten/St Martin: A Thematic Analysis of Archaeological, Osteological and Oral Historical Data. Used qualitative data and a post-colonial theoretical approach.* (PhD in Classical and Archaeological Studies University of Kent Thesis, 2019),

[2] Fatah-Black, K., *White Lies and Black Markets. Evading Metropolitan Authority in Colonial Suriname 1650-1800.* (Leiden: Brill, 2015).

[3] Oostindie, G.J. *Het paradijs overzee. De 'Nederlandse' Caraïben en Nederland.* (Amsterdam: Bert Bakker, 1997),

[4] A. Paula, *The Cry of My Life: Bitterzoete herinneringen aan een levensweg vol kronkel.* (Curaçao: Curaçaosche Courant, 2005).

[5] Anderson, W. and R. Dynes, *The Organizational and Political Transformation of a Social Movement: A Study of the 30th of May Movement in Curaçao.* Working Paper 39. (Disaster Research Center, Ohio: Ohio State University at Columbus, 1973).

7.2 Comparative criteria. Comment on one or more of the following comparative criteria / Critères comparatifs.

Commentez sur un ou plusieurs des critères comparatifs suivants :

7.2.1 Comparative criteria: Rarity / Critères comparatifs: Rareté

The archive holdings of the documentary heritage of the enslaved people in Suriname, Curaçao, the Netherlands and St. Maarten are authentic and unique. The nominated records are the only original sources remaining that hold information about not only the lives of enslaved people in the region, but also about the way the system of slavery was introduced and maintained as part of a worldwide capitalist mode of production. While each European coloniser has given its own interpretation to the registration of the enslaved and the possibilities for manumission, these nominated pieces document the peculiarities of slavery in the Dutch Atlantic world.

The type of oral history material being presented here has been collected systematically by the above-mentioned collectors Juliana and Brenneker, along with a few additional researchers who started to document this information in the 1970s and 1980s. Several of their

informants in this collection were unable to be interviewed by the other researchers, as they had already passed away. On the other hand, the fact that the other researchers were able to collect information previously recorded by Brenneker and Juliana suggests that this information was communal and formed part of a cultural heritage that was handed down from one generation to the next.

The availability of modern audio equipment made it possible for them to document this information, record and preserve it verbatim and make this data available and accessible to fellow scholars as primary source material. The Documentary Heritage managed by **NAN**: Dutch Ministry of the Colonies, Governmental Journals Suriname: these journals were copies for the Ministry.

Dutch Ministry of the Colonies, Governmental Journals Curaçao: these journals were copies for the Ministry.

Court of Audit: The Emancipation/Compensation Files are interlinked with the Emancipation/Compensation records in the holdings of NAS but are unique in terms of their form.

7.2.2 Integrity, completeness, condition / Intégrité, complétude, état

National Archives of the Netherlands

Emancipation/Compensation Files: complete (as far as we know), fragile due to its form

Governmental Journals of Suriname: complete, in good condition

Governmental Journals of Curaçao: complete, in good condition

National Archives of Suriname and National Archives of Curaçao

The archive holdings are authentic and can therefore be used as primary sources. Although the physical condition of the slave,

manumission and emancipation registers is not good, these primary sources are still accessible to researchers.

Through the use of conservation techniques, Suriname and Curaçao have already begun preserving these documents, while the NAC digitised these collections and made them accessible online in 2020-2021. The database of the Curaçao Slave Registers has been available online since 2020. NAS has already made duplicates in micro format, while the database of the Surinamese Slave Register has been online since 2019.

National Archaeological Anthropological Memory Management / National Archives of Curaçao

The audio collection is complete in terms of its original content. It is a small compilation of the work of the collectors Juliana and Brenneker, but the selections represent key samples of the recorded oral history work done by these researchers. The collection was compiled by Brenneker himself from their extensive work in order to make the material available to the public in a structured manner. Integrity has also been maintained with respect to the original goal of the collection to raise awareness of the popular cultural heritage of Curaçao. The content of the collection is complete, and in its original form.

Government of St. Maarten

The Slave Register is complete and authentic. Its condition is fragile.

7.3 Statement of significance / Déclaration d'importance

The records give insight into the intra-American movements of enslaved persons, from Dutch colonies to British and French Caribbean colonies, and the other way around. This was certainly the decades immediately following the abolition of the slave trade. Comparative studies with similar material (slave registers and compensation files) in the former British and French colonies and the archives of the former colonisers provide a picture of the migration of enslaved people in the nineteenth century.

The descendants of these enslaved individuals—who today are scattered across the Caribbean, the Americas and Europe—are entitled to as much information as possible about their ancestry. It is the task of archival institutions to make this as easy as possible for them, and to point out the existence of these important sources. The nominated records provide evidence of the forced migration of Africans and the formation of an African diaspora in the Americas, the Caribbean and Europe; provide proof of persons who did not participate in legal transactions; reinstate the identity of those who were treated as 'property' during their own lifetime; are of immense global importance for reconciliation and recognition; and form evidence for lessons to be learned for humankind on the issue of valuing human life.

The slave registers and compensation files are especially unique and vulnerable because of their condition and shape. For these reasons, the nominated archives have been made available online as much as possible, as well as being made digitally searchable. The nominated digital entries on the Slave Registers of Suriname and Curaçao are unique and significant because they link Slave and Emancipation registries. Where the enslaved people do not have family names, the Emancipation Records do. Linking these records makes search queries on family names during the period of slavery, possible. Future plans to link other registries to these databases (Civil Registry) opens up even more possibilities for historic demographic research and the impact of slavery in present-day society. It is worth mentioning here that Suriname and Curaçao have already digitised part of their civil registry registers. This has been done in collaboration with the National Archives of the Netherlands and Radboud University (Nijmegen).

The Slave Registers of Suriname and Curaçao in particular form a very complete archive of nineteenth century slavery in the Caribbean. It is precisely during the final period of slavery that the colonial government's concern about the crumbling institution of slavery intensifies. Especially in the last twenty-five years of slavery, this concern led to a complete and extensive registry on slavery. Enslaved people were subject to all kinds of checks and administration through the registering of births, deaths, releases, escape attempts, punishments, sales lists and the import and export of records of people in slavery. This network of registrations was designed to keep people in detention, prevent illegal smuggling of people, and provide a shield to counter the international abolitionist movement's allegations concerning the treatment of enslaved people. As a result, both the extent and the consecutive period of these registrations is utterly unique across the globe. Dutch abolition was relatively late compared to English and French abolition, resulting in a longer consecutive period of registration. Linking these registries together in a database makes them even more unique, opening up opportunities for new research queries in a way that has never been seen before.

The St. Maarten letters are unique due to the fact that the island is divided between a French and a Dutch regime, creating a unique situation between 1848 (abolition in the French part) and 1863 (abolition in the Dutch part).

The Zikinza collection is a unique and authentic recording of oral history that provides a testimony of the impact of slavery in later periods.

These records (with the exception of those from the National Archives of the Netherlands) were nominated and inscribed in the UNESCO MOWLAC regional register in 2017 (27 October 2017). This nominated collection, together with the registered MOW records of the Dutch West India Company (nominated and registered in 2010-2011) and the records of the Registry of Slaves of the British Caribbean 1817-1834 (Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom with an Addendum from Bermuda) which were approved in 2011, provides us with an incredible insight into the social construction of the individuality of people who had no rights and were considered as property.

It is worth mentioning here the French Caribbean's initiative to nominate their Documentary Heritage of Enslaved People in the French colonies (2021). Doing so will afford the necessary protection to the documentary heritage of enslaved people from the former colonies of the British, Dutch, and French colonial empires and make it accessible to world history.

8. Consultation with stakeholders / Consultation des partenaires

8.1 Details of consultation / Consultation des partenaires

We have consulted Surinamese, Dutch-Caribbean, American and Dutch scholars on slavery in the Dutch Caribbean, in addition to Surinamese and Dutch genealogists. They contributed critical thoughts about the selection, and we have adopted most of their amendments. We also discussed the nomination with the National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery and its Legacy (Ninsee) as well as the University of Curaçao. We are delighted by and grateful for their support for our nomination.

9. Risk assessment / Evaluation des risques

9.1 Nature and scope of threats / Evaluation des risques

National Archives Netherlands:

Climatic conditions: This is laid down in the Dutch Archiefbesluit (<https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0007748/2020-01-01>) and Ministerial Regulations (Archiefregeling) (<https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0027041/2014-01-01>). The climate system is part of a building management system and alarms and follow-up are guaranteed 24/7.

Storage: The National Archives of the Netherlands use a collection management system to know what is in house and where it is. In addition limited access (need to be) to the material / storage according to the Dutch Archives Decree and Ministerial Regulations.

Political interference: There is a selection procedure in accordance with the Dutch Archives Act (<https://wetten.overheid.nl/BWBR0007376/2020-01-01>).

Access to and participation in selection by and by citizens must prevent political preferences in archive selection and management.

National Archives Suriname / National Archives Curaçao:

Both NAS and NAC have modern adequate repositories, hurricane proof, climate controlled, protected against fire, flooding, theft, inundation and managed by a professional staff, as set in the norms of the national Archive laws of Suriname and Curaçao.

National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management:

The audio collection is not in any immediate danger. Having been digitized, it is portable and redundant

GSM:

St. Maarten does not have a public archive service as of yet. Nor does it have an Archive law. The registers are under custody and managed in a protected environment by the Department of Records and Information Management and the Office of Civil Registry, both falling under the Ministry of General Affairs.

10. Preservation and access management plan / Plan de preservation et d'accessibilité

10.1 Existing plans or proposed conservation, storage and access strategies / Plans existants ou stratégies de conservation, de stockage et d'accès proposées

National Archives Netherlands: The nominated records of the National Archives of the Netherlands have been prepared for digitization, the so called first line of conservation. After that procedure the records have been digitized. Together with digital entries, and name indexes, these records have been made available online. The original files are consulted as little as possible to keep the physical condition as stable as possible.

National Archives Suriname Due to the fact that the archive holdings are original and dated from the 18th -19th century the physical condition of the documentary heritage is not good. Time, housing and ill- handling of the documents are the reasons that they are deteriorating.

Taken this in consideration, Suriname have already preserved these documents and made duplicates (on microfilm and digital format).

National Archives Curaçao: Except for the Juliana Brenneker papers, the records are in fairly good material condition. The National Archives has duplicated (microfilmed and digitized) the records. The records and audio tapes are preserved in a modern climate controlled repository. Consultation in the digitized reproductions is promoted and prioritized, to make sure the originals are consolidated.

National Archeological and Anthropology Memory Management: The audio collection is not in any immediate danger. Having been digitized, it is portable and redundant.

11. Additional information / Informations complémentaires

11.1 Additional information / Informations complémentaires

Attached we have included Endorsement letters from:

1. Coen van Galen, Foundation Historical Database Suriname ("Stichting Historische Database Suriname")
2. Jerome Egger, Chair of the History Department Faculty of Humanities Anton de Kom University of Suriname
3. Eric Jagdew, Senior Researcher, Faculty of Humanities, Anton de Kom University of Suriname
4. Rose Mary Allen, Chair Culture, Community and History of the University of Curaçao
5. Nolda Romer-Kenepa, ex-Director National Archives Curaçao, ex-president CARBICA, ex-vice president ICA
6. Richenel Ansano, Former Director NAAM, Curaçao
7. Linda Nooitmeer, Chair Ninsee Board, the National Institute for the Study of Dutch Slavery and its Legacy
8. Siegmien Staphorst, Chair of NAKS
9. Hans Meurs, Chairman Foundation for Surinamese Genealogy ("Stichting voor Surinaamse genealogie")
10. Mitchell Esajas, Director The Black Archives, Amsterdam

Submission / Soumission

Submit to UNESCO

Yes

12. Checklist / Liste de contrôle

Summary completed / Résumé terminé (section 2)