The Early Freedmen Communities

This map shows early freedmen communities that were formed in Travis County immediately after the Civil War. Urban areas were convenient for people who worked in the city. Rural communities contained families who were engaged in farming.

Using a copy of this 1891 Austin Map as a base map, 9 of the 12 communities are shown in the shaded areas. The boundaries for these communities are based on documentary evidence available to the AHC. Communities not shown are indicated in the gray box below.

Thomas Kincheonville began farming this area immediately after the Civil War. The area was not only home to freed slaves, but also Mexican and white farmers. According to the article on Kincheonville in The Handbook of Texas, all that remains of Kincheonville are a few streets named after members of his family, including one named for him. Streets with personal names like Elia, Minnie and Blanche, names of very minor places associated with the Union during the Civil War, such as Clarkburg and Galesburg, and the name of one major event at Harper’s Ferry quietly mark the history of this area.