

John Ware: Maverick Cowboy in Alberta, Canada

John Ware (1845 – 12 September 1905) was an African-American cowboy best remembered for his ability to ride and train horses and for bringing the first cattle to Southern Alberta in 1882, helping to create that province's important ranching industry.

John Ware's saddle, spurs and gun can be seen at Alberta's Dinosaur Park.



Prairie Settlers

Hundreds of African-Americans, fleeing escalating racial violence and the segregation of newly enacted Jim Crow laws, left the United States and settled in the Prairies.

Though few traces of Amber Valley still exist, the forgotten community about 170 km north of Edmonton was once a thriving all-black settlement of homesteaders.

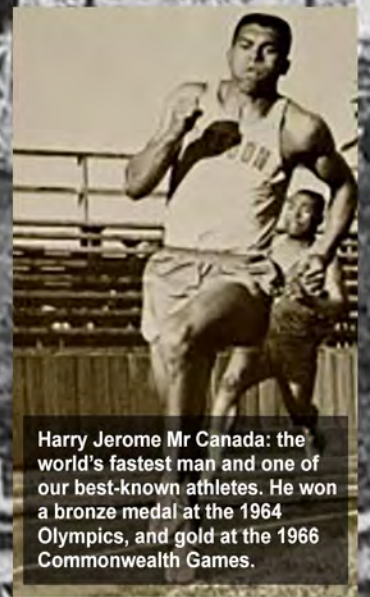
Shiloh People were the original black settlers and are the oldest of the black group settlements in Western Canada. Shiloh contains the only black cemetery in Saskatchewan. In the early 20th century, African American families seeking freedom from discrimination made this small farming community their home.



John Ware's ranch in Millarville, Alta, 1896.



Ware's sons, Arthur and William, who served in WW1 as part of the all-Black No. 2 Construction Battalion.

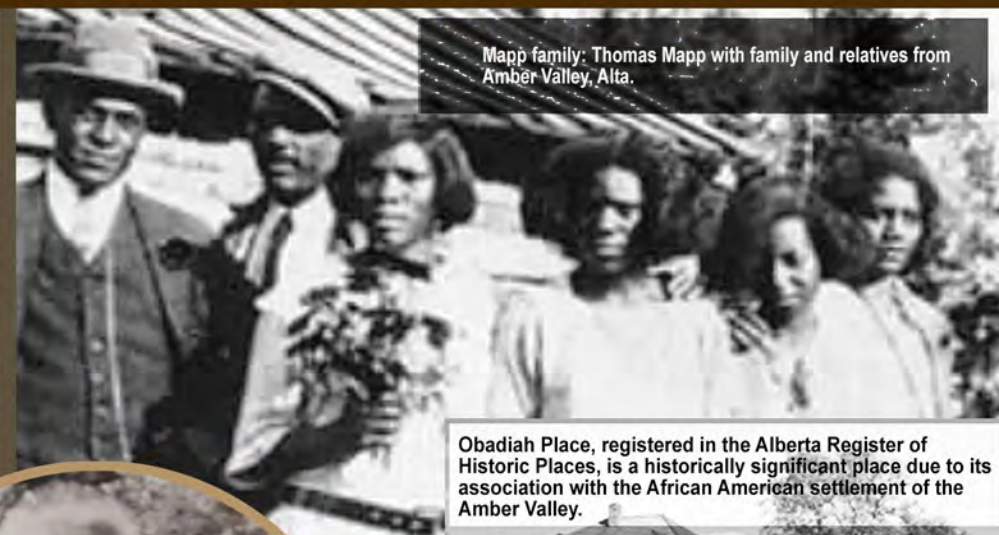


Harry Jerome Mr Canada: the world's fastest man and one of our best-known athletes. He won a bronze medal at the 1964 Olympics, and gold at the 1966 Commonwealth Games.

February is Black History Month

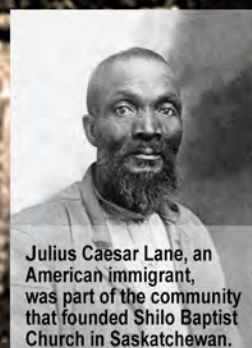


Shilo Baptist Church in Saskatchewan contains the only black cemetery in Saskatchewan. Shiloh People are the original black settlers. They are the oldest of the black group settlements in Western Canada.



Mapp family: Thomas Mapp with family and relatives from Amber Valley, Alta.

Obadiah Place, registered in the Alberta Register of Historic Places, is a historically significant place due to its association with the African American settlement of the Amber Valley.



Julius Caesar Lane, an American immigrant, was part of the community that founded Shilo Baptist Church in Saskatchewan.



Mattie Mayes was born in 1858 in Georgia. She and her husband Joseph raised 13 children. They worked hard to see their children and grandchildren raised in freedom. She was respected in the community and helped as a mid wife if the doctor wasn't able to attend in time. She passed away in 1953.



SECRET ALBERTA THE FORMER LIFE OF AMBER VALLEY



Albertan railway porters and their wives at the Calgary train station

