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CULTURETECHLENS RESEARCH REPORT · CTL-RD-PER-000001

Ida Bell Wells-Barnett (née Ida Bell Wells)

William Maxey

CultureTechLens NFP · Chicago, Illinois

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Dossier ID: CTL-RD-PER-000001 **Evidence File:** CTL-EF-PER-000001 (`evidence-file.md`) **Entity type:** Person (journalist / publisher / organizer / investigator) **Status:** Research **Version:** 1.0.0 — 2026-09-28 **Compiled by:** Muse (subagent session bb35c0fa) for CultureTechLens

> This dossier fills the gap flagged by MEDIA-001's red team: Ida B. Wells as a missing woman publisher. It documents the organizer, the publisher, and the investigator — not the symbol.

01 · Identity

Canonical name: Ida Bell Wells-Barnett (née Ida Bell Wells) **Dossier ID:** CTL-RD-PER-000001 **Entity type:** Person **One-sentence identification:** Ida B. Wells (1862–1931) was an African American investigative journalist, newspaper owner and editor, anti-lynching investigator, suffragist, and community organizer whose Memphis and Chicago careers built the documentary foundation of the American anti-lynching movement.

Disambiguation: This dossier covers the journalist/activist Ida Bell Wells, later Ida B. Wells-Barnett. Not to be confused with the Ida B. Wells Homes (the Chicago Housing Authority public-housing project named in her honor; `canon-ida-b-wells-homes`), the Ida B. Wells-Barnett House (her Chicago residence, a National Historic Landmark), or the Ida B. Wells Women's Club (an organization she founded). Wells is also distinct from her daughter Alfreda Barnett Duster, who edited and published Wells's autobiography.

02 · Executive Profile

Ida B. Wells was born enslaved in Holly Springs, Mississippi, on July 16, 1862, and died in Chicago on March 25, 1931. Between those dates she built three interlocking careers that this dossier documents from the evidence: first, as a Memphis teacher turned newspaper owner — editor and part-owner of the *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight* — who was driven into exile in May 1892 after a white mob destroyed her press for exposing the lie at the heart of lynching; second, as a national and international anti-lynching investigator whose pamphlets *Southern Horrors* (1892) and *The Red Record* (1895) pioneered data-driven investigative journalism, drawing on white newspapers' own accounts to demolish the claim that lynching punished assaults on white women; and third, as a Chicago organizer — founder of the Negro Fellowship League (1910) and the Alpha Suffrage Club (1913), a participant in the founding of the NAACP (1909 call), the National Association of Colored Women (1896), and the Afro-American Council (1898), and a contributor to Black newspapers including the *Chicago Defender*.

CTL establishes the Memphis arc and the Chicago arc as documented fact, the 1892 lynchings of Thomas Moss, Calvin McDowell, and William Stewart as the catalyst of her anti-lynching work, and her publisher's role — co-owner of the *Free Speech* — as central, not incidental, to her power. What remains uncertain: fine-grained dates (the exact year she took ownership of the *Free Speech*), the full contents of lost *Free Speech* issues, the precise nature of her early break with the NAACP's leadership, and several single-source details flagged PROVISIONAL throughout. Nothing in this dossier is invented to fill those gaps.

03 · Significance

- **CLAIM:** Wells created the first sustained, evidence-based public record of lynching in the United States, shifting anti-lynching argument from moral outrage to documented fact. **Grade: SUPPORTED** (see CLAIM-018, CLAIM-019).
- **CLAIM:** Her 1892 exile from Memphis is one of the clearest documented cases of the violent suppression of the Black press in the post-Reconstruction South. **Grade: VERIFIED** (see CLAIM-014).
- **CLAIM:** As a Black woman newspaper owner in the 1880s–1890s South, she occupied a publisher's role almost entirely absent from the surviving institutional record of Black journalism — the gap MEDIA-001's red team flagged. **Grade: SUPPORTED** (see CLAIM-009; gaps recorded in §28).
- **CLAIM:** Her Chicago organizing (Negro Fellowship League, Alpha Suffrage Club) built independent Black institutional infrastructure for Great Migration newcomers and Black women voters a decade before the NAACP's Chicago branch matured. **Grade: SUPPORTED** (see CLAIM-030, CLAIM-032).
- **CLAIM:** The body of investigative method she developed — clipping hostile white newspapers, tabulating victims, names, dates, and alleged causes — constitutes a founding practice of American data journalism. **Grade: SUPPORTED** (see CLAIM-018).

What would be missing without her: the statistical refutation of the rape-myth justification of lynching at the moment it was most politically useful; the documentary link between the Black press tradition and the modern civil-rights movement; and the Chicago record of Black women's independent political organizing in the 1910s.

04 · Names/Aliases

Name	Source	Date range of use	Grade
Ida Bell Wells (birth name)	Tennessee Encyclopedia; autobiography	1862–1895	SUPPORTED
Ida B. Wells (professional name)	*Free Speech* masthead-era sources; scholarship	1880s–1931	VERIFIED
Ida B. Wells-Barnett / Ida Bell Wells-Barnett (married name)	Post-1895 publications; Chicago records	1895–1931	VERIFIED
"Iola" (pen name)	*Living Way*, *Evening Star*, *Free Speech* contributions	1880s–1890s	VERIFIED
"Princess of the Press" (nickname, Colored Press Association)	Secondary accounts of 1889 convention	1889–	PROVISIONAL
Misspelling "Ida Bell Wells" vs "Ida B. Wells"	Common in popular sources	—	Noted, no ambiguity

No other entity in the CTL corpus shares these identifiers. The surname "Barnett" is shared with her husband Ferdinand Lee Barnett — distinct entity, see §09.

05 · Dates

- **1862-07-16** — Birth, Holly Springs, Mississippi. **VERIFIED** (CLAIM-001).
- **1878** — Yellow fever kills her parents and youngest sibling. **VERIFIED** (CLAIM-004).
- **1884-05** — Forcibly removed from Chesapeake & Ohio first-class car; sues. **VERIFIED** (CLAIM-007). (Day "May 4" is single-source: PROVISIONAL.)
- **1887-04** — Tennessee Supreme Court reverses her railroad verdict. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-007). (Day "April 5" single-source: PROVISIONAL.)
- **1889** (by) — Editor and part-owner, *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight*. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-009; 1887-vs-1889 variance noted).
- **1891** — Fired from Memphis teaching post. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-011).
- **1892-03-09** — Lynching of Moss, McDowell, and Stewart, Memphis. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-012).
- **1892-05** — *Free Speech* office destroyed; Wells exiled from Memphis. **VERIFIED** (CLAIM-014).
- **1892** — *Southern Horrors* published. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-017).

- **1893** — British speaking tour (first); *The Reason Why* pamphlet; Ida B. Wells Women's Club founded. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-020, CLAIM-021, CLAIM-028).
- **1894** — British speaking tour (second). **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-020).
- **1895** — *The Red Record* published; marriage to Ferdinand L. Barnett (June 27). **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-019, CLAIM-023).
- **1896 / 1898** — Participates in founding NACW / Afro-American Council. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-027).
- **1898** — Meets President McKinley on lynching. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-029).
- **1909** — Signs call for National Negro Conference (NAACP founding). **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-026).
- **1910** — Founds Negro Fellowship League. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-030).
- **1913-01** — Founds Alpha Suffrage Club. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-032).
- **1913-03-03** — Defies segregation order at Washington suffrage procession. **VERIFIED** (CLAIM-033).
- **1913–1916** — Chicago adult probation officer. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-031).
- **1917** — East St. Louis riot reports for the *Chicago Defender*. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-035).
- **1921 / 1922** — Elaine massacre investigation trip / report. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-036).
- **1927** — Founds Third Ward Women's Political Club. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-037).
- **1928** — Loses RNC-delegate race to Oscar De Priest. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-038).
- **1930** — Independent run for Illinois State Senate; loses. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-038).
- **1931-03-25** — Death, Chicago, kidney disease, age 68. **SUPPORTED** (CLAIM-039).

06 · Geography

Migration arc: Holly Springs → Memphis → (exile) New York → Chicago.

- **Holly Springs, Mississippi** — birthplace; family home; Shaw University (later Rust College). Documented 1862–early 1880s. (CLAIM-001, CLAIM-005)
- **Memphis, Tennessee** — teaching and journalism base, early 1880s–May 1892. *Free Speech* office location not documented to street address in this dossier's sources — recorded as a gap (§28). (CLAIM-006, CLAIM-009)
- **New York** — brief exile base, 1892; staff writer, *New York Age*. (CLAIM-016)
- **Chicago, Illinois** — home 1893/1895–1931. Douglas community area (Bronzeville): residence at 3624 S. King Drive (then Grand Boulevard), 1919–1930 — National Historic Landmark, Chicago Landmark. (CLAIM-023, CLAIM-043). Do not conflate with the Ida B. Wells Homes site (35th–Pershing, King Drive–Cottage Grove; `canon-ida-b-wells-homes`) — separate entity, named in her honor. (CLAIM-042)
- **Britain (England, Scotland, Wales)** — speaking tours 1893, 1894. (CLAIM-020)

Exact street addresses are given only where documented (3624 S. King Drive). No private residences of living persons appear in this dossier.

07 · Biography/History

Ida Bell Wells was born July 16, 1862, on the Boling farm near Holly Springs, Mississippi, enslaved — as were both her parents — months before the Emancipation Proclamation took effect (CLAIM-001, CLAIM-002). Her father James Madison Wells, a carpenter, became a trustee of Shaw University (later Rust College) after emancipation and a committed Republican "race man"; her mother Elizabeth "Lizzie" Warrenton Wells was known as a cook (CLAIM-003). In 1878 yellow fever killed both parents and her youngest sibling; at sixteen Wells kept her surviving siblings together by passing the teacher's examination and teaching (CLAIM-004). She attended Shaw University/Rust College and in the early 1880s moved to Memphis, teaching in rural and then Memphis schools (CLAIM-005, CLAIM-006).

In May 1884 the Chesapeake, Ohio & Southwestern Railroad's conductor ordered her out of the first-class ladies' car; she refused, was forcibly removed, sued, won $500 in the Memphis circuit court in December 1884, and lost on appeal when the Tennessee Supreme Court reversed the verdict in April 1887 (CLAIM-007). Already writing as "Iola" for Black newspapers (CLAIM-008), she became editor and part-owner of the *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight* by 1889 (CLAIM-009). When she criticized the unequal funding of Black schools she was fired from her teaching post in 1891 and turned to journalism full time (CLAIM-011).

On March 9, 1892, a white mob lynched her friend Thomas Moss and his partners Calvin McDowell and William "Will" Stewart, successful Black grocers whose People's Grocery competed with a white-owned store at the Curve in south Memphis (CLAIM-012). The murders converted Wells from a general race journalist into an anti-lynching investigator (CLAIM-013). Her editorials urged Black Memphians to boycott streetcars and white businesses and to leave the city (CLAIM-015). In May 1892, while she was in the East, a committee of white citizens ran the paper's business manager J. L. Fleming out of town and destroyed the *Free Speech*'s type and furnishings in retaliation for her editorial demolishing the myth that lynching punished assaults on white women; a death threat awaited any attempt to revive the paper, and she never returned to Memphis (CLAIM-014).

In New York she joined T. Thomas Fortune's *New York Age* (CLAIM-016) and published *Southern Horrors: Lynch Law in All Its Phases* (1892) with an introduction by Frederick Douglass (CLAIM-017). Working from white newspapers' own accounts — including the *Chicago Tribune*'s lynching tallies — she tabulated victims, dates, places, and alleged causes, demonstrating that most victims were not accused of any crime against white women and that lynching functioned as economic and political terror (CLAIM-018). *The Red Record* (1895), subtitled *Tabulated Statistics and Alleged Causes of Lynching in the United States*, became the first statistical study of lynching (CLAIM-019). She carried the campaign to Britain on speaking tours in 1893 and 1894 (CLAIM-020), and in 1893 initiated, edited, and published *The Reason Why the Colored American Is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition* with Douglass, Irvine Garland Penn, and Ferdinand L.

Barnett (CLAIM-021), while pressuring Frances Willard and the WCTU toward anti-lynching resolutions (CLAIM-022).

She married the Chicago attorney and *Chicago Conservator* founder Ferdinand Lee Barnett on June 27, 1895, bought an interest in his paper, and kept writing (CLAIM-023, CLAIM-024). They had four children; daughter Alfreda Barnett Duster would edit her autobiography (CLAIM-025). She participated in founding the National Association of Colored Women (1896) and the Afro-American Council (1898), founded the Ida B. Wells Women's Club in Chicago (1893), signed the 1909 call that created the NAACP — and then distanced herself from it over strategy and leadership (CLAIM-026, CLAIM-027, CLAIM-028). In 1898 she carried the lynching of Black postmaster Frazier B. Baker to President William McKinley and pressed for federal anti-lynching law (CLAIM-029).

In Chicago she built institutions for the migration era: the Negro Fellowship League (1910), among the city's first Black settlement houses, serving southern migrants with jobs, housing, and reading rooms and publishing the *Fellowship Herald* (CLAIM-030); service as an adult probation officer (1913–1916) (CLAIM-031); and the Alpha Suffrage Club (January 1913), co-founded with Belle Squire as Chicago's first Black women's suffrage organization (CLAIM-032). On March 3, 1913, told to march at the back of the Washington woman suffrage procession, she refused and joined the Illinois delegation after the march began (CLAIM-033) — months before Illinois enacted partial presidential and municipal woman suffrage (CLAIM-034). In 1917 she reported the East St. Louis race riots for the *Chicago Defender* (CLAIM-035); in 1921 she made her first return trip to the South in nearly three decades to investigate the 1919 Elaine, Arkansas massacre, publishing her report in 1922 (CLAIM-036). In the 1920s she backed the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, founded the Third Ward Women's Political Club (1927), lost a 1928 Republican convention-delegate race to Oscar De Priest, and ran as an Independent for the Illinois State Senate in 1930 (CLAIM-037, CLAIM-038). She died in Chicago on March 25, 1931, of kidney disease, aged 68 (CLAIM-039). Her autobiography *Crusade for Justice*, written 1928–1931, was published posthumously in 1970 (CLAIM-040). In 2020 she received a Pulitzer Prize special citation for her lynching reporting (CLAIM-041); Chicago renamed Congress Parkway for her in 2019 and unveiled *The Light of Truth* monument in Bronzeville in 2021 (CLAIM-044), and the Ida B. Wells Homes had carried her name since 1941 (CLAIM-042).

08 · Chronology

Format: `date — event — grade — source`.

- 1862-07-16 — Born, Holly Springs, Mississippi, enslaved — VERIFIED — Tennessee Encyclopedia; Rutgers CAWP; Facing History
- 1878 — Yellow fever kills parents and youngest sibling; age 16, becomes family caretaker and teacher — VERIFIED — Tennessee Encyclopedia; Wikipedia (convergent)
- c.1881/1882 — Moves to Memphis; teaches in area schools — SUPPORTED (year varies by source) — studythepast.com (1881); newspapers.com, HBCU Buzz (1882)

- 1884-05 — Forcibly removed from C&O first-class car, Memphis–Nashville line; sues railroad — VERIFIED — autobiography; UMKC; UXL
- 1884-05-04 — (Day of ejection, single source) — PROVISIONAL — myblackhistory.net
- 1884-12 — Memphis circuit court rules for Wells; $500 damages — SUPPORTED — UXL; UMKC
- 1887-04 — Tennessee Supreme Court reverses the verdict — SUPPORTED — UXL (day "April 5" PROVISIONAL, single source)
- 1880s — Writes as "Iola" for Black newspapers (*Living Way*, *Evening Star*) — VERIFIED (pen name); outlets SUPPORTED/PROVISIONAL — wordinblack.com; UMKC
- 1889 (by) — Editor and part-owner, *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight* — SUPPORTED (1887 vs 1889 variance) — newspapers.com; face2faceafrica
- 1889 — Elected secretary, Colored Press Association ("Princess of the Press") — PROVISIONAL — elizabethkmahon.com
- 1891 — Fired from Memphis teaching post after criticizing Black school conditions — SUPPORTED — Rutgers CAWP; Wikipedia
- 1892-03-09 — Thomas Moss, Calvin McDowell, William "Will" Stewart lynched, Memphis (the Curve) — SUPPORTED — iacenter.org; workers.org
- 1892-05 — *Free Speech* office destroyed; J. L. Fleming run out of town; Wells exiled — VERIFIED — *Crusade for Justice*; NY Sun/AP dispatch via Facing History
- 1892 — Joins *New York Age* staff (T. Thomas Fortune) — SUPPORTED — multiple secondaries
- 1892 — Publishes *Southern Horrors: Lynch Law in All Its Phases* (intro. Frederick Douglass) — SUPPORTED — Facing History; newspapers.com
- 1893 — First British anti-lynching speaking tour (England, Scotland, Wales) — SUPPORTED — newspapers.com; constantcontact (UChicago)
- 1893 — Initiates/edits/publishes *The Reason Why the Colored American Is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition* (with Douglass, I. Garland Penn, F. L. Barnett) — SUPPORTED — hartford-hwp.com; iacenter.org
- 1893 — Founds Ida B. Wells Women's Club, Chicago — SUPPORTED — studythepast.com
- 1893 — Writes "The Brutal Truth" for Chicago *Daily Inter Ocean* — PROVISIONAL — blog.genealogybank.com (single source)
- 1894 — Second British speaking tour; stays with Susan B. Anthony, Rochester — SUPPORTED — newspapers.com; scalar.usc.edu
- 1895 — Publishes *The Red Record* — SUPPORTED — Project Gutenberg (primary text); multiple secondaries
- 1895-06-27 — Marries Ferdinand Lee Barnett, Chicago — SUPPORTED (day per Tennessee Encyclopedia; year VERIFIED-convergent) — tennesseeencyclopedia.net; Rutgers CAWP
- 1896 — Participates in founding, National Association of Colored Women — SUPPORTED — UMKC; studythepast.com

- 1898 — Participates in founding, Afro-American Council — SUPPORTED — studythepast.com
- 1898 — Meets President William McKinley on lynching of postmaster Frazier B. Baker — SUPPORTED — conservapedia.com; becauseofthemwecan.com
- 1909 — Signs call for National Negro Conference; NAACP formed; she distances herself — SUPPORTED — tennesseeencyclopedia.net; Rutgers CAWP
- 1910 — Founds Negro Fellowship League (with Barnett); *Fellowship Herald* — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Negro Fellowship League); tennesseeencyclopedia.net
- 1913-01 — Co-founds (with Belle Squire) Alpha Suffrage Club — SUPPORTED — suffrage2020illinois.org; Rutgers CAWP
- 1913-03-03 — Refuses segregated place; marches with Illinois delegation, Washington suffrage procession — VERIFIED — history.com; digilab.libs.uga.edu; scalar.usc.edu
- 1913-06 — Illinois enacts partial (presidential/municipal) woman suffrage (Senate 05-07; House 06-11) — SUPPORTED — suffrage2020illinois.org
- 1913–1916 — Adult probation officer, Chicago — SUPPORTED — studythepast.com; tennesseeencyclopedia.net
- 1917 — Investigative reports on East St. Louis race riots for the *Chicago Defender* — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells)
- 1919–1930 — Resides 3624 S. King Drive (then Grand Blvd.), Chicago — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells-Barnett House); moguldom.com
- 1921 — First return trip to the South in ~30 years; investigates Elaine, Arkansas massacre — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells)
- 1922 — Publishes Elaine investigation report — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells)
- 1924 — Loses NACW presidency to Mary McLeod Bethune — PROVISIONAL — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells) (single source in hand)
- 1927 — Founds Third Ward Women's Political Club — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells)
- 1928 — Runs for RNC delegate; loses to Oscar De Priest — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells)
- 1930 — Independent candidate, Illinois State Senate; loses — SUPPORTED — conservapedia.com; constantcontact (UChicago)
- 1931-03-25 — Dies, Chicago, kidney disease, age 68 — SUPPORTED — UMKC; en.wikipedia.org; face2faceafrica
- 1970 — *Crusade for Justice* published posthumously (ed. Alfreda Duster) — SUPPORTED — scalar.usc.edu; conservapedia.com
- 1974-05-30 — Wells-Barnett House: National Register + National Historic Landmark — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells-Barnett House); moguldom.com

- 1995-10-02 — Wells-Barnett House designated Chicago Landmark — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org; moguldom.com
- 2019 — Congress Parkway renamed Ida B. Wells Drive — SUPPORTED — blackenterprise.com
- 2020 — Pulitzer Prize special citation (posthumous) — SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells)
- 2021-06-30 — *The Light of Truth* Ida B. Wells National Monument unveiled, Bronzeville — SUPPORTED — blackenterprise.com

09 · People

Family: - **James Madison Wells** (father; 1840–1878) — carpenter; trustee of Shaw University after emancipation; Republican "race man." Connection 1862–1878. SUPPORTED — Tennessee Encyclopedia; Wikipedia. - **Elizabeth "Lizzie" Warrenton Wells** (mother; d. 1878) — domestic worker/cook in the Bolling household. Connection 1862–1878. SUPPORTED — Tennessee Encyclopedia; myblackhistory.net. - **Ferdinand Lee Barnett** (husband; m. 1895) — Chicago attorney; founder of the *Chicago Conservator* (1878); widower with two sons at marriage; co-founded Negro Fellowship League. Connection 1895–1931. SUPPORTED — Tennessee Encyclopedia; constantcontact (UChicago). - **Alfreda Barnett Duster** (daughter, 1904–1983) — edited and published *Crusade for Justice* (1970). SUPPORTED — scalar.usc.edu. (Three other children per standard biographies: names not corroborated in this dossier's sources — see §28.)

Memphis circle: - **Thomas Moss** — friend; co-owner of the People's Grocery; lynched 1892-03-09. Wells was close to the Moss family. SUPPORTED — iacenter.org; blogs.memphis.edu. - **Calvin McDowell** — People's Grocery partner; lynched 1892-03-09. SUPPORTED — iacenter.org; workers.org. - **William "Will" Stewart** (sources also give "Henry Stewart") — People's Grocery partner; lynched 1892-03-09. Name variant recorded, not adjudicated. SUPPORTED — iacenter.org; Facing History ("Harry Stewart"). - **J. L. Fleming** — business manager of the *Free Speech*; run out of Memphis May 1892. SUPPORTED — *Crusade for Justice* via Facing History.

Publishing and movement collaborators: - **T. Thomas Fortune** — editor, *New York Age*; employed Wells after her exile. 1892–. SUPPORTED — Facing History (*Crusade* excerpt). - **Frederick Douglass** — wrote introduction to *Southern Horrors*; contributed to *The Reason Why* pamphlet. 1892–1893. SUPPORTED — hartford-hwp.com; newspapers.com. - **Irvine Garland Penn** — journalist; contributed to *The Reason Why*. 1893. SUPPORTED — hartford-hwp.com. - **Susan B. Anthony** — suffrage leader; Wells stayed with her in Rochester after the 1894 England tour; discussed the Willard conflict. SUPPORTED — scalar.usc.edu. - **Belle Squire** — white Chicago suffragist; co-founded Alpha Suffrage Club with Wells, January 1913. SUPPORTED — suffrage2020illinois.org. - **Frazier B. Baker** — Black postmaster, Lake City, SC; lynched with infant daughter Julia, 1898-02-22; Wells carried his case to President McKinley. SUPPORTED — conservapedia.com; Giddings excerpt.

Adversaries and foils (documented disagreements, not caricatures): - **Frances Willard** — WCTU president; Wells pressured her and the WCTU into anti-lynching resolutions; conflict subsided

by 1896. SUPPORTED — scalar.usc.edu. - **Booker T. Washington** — Wells criticized his accommodationism (e.g., "Booker T. Washington and His Critics"). SUPPORTED — tennesseeencyclopedia.net. - **W. E. B. Du Bois** — strategic and political differences contributed to her distancing from the NAACP. SUPPORTED — tennesseeencyclopedia.net. - **Oscar De Priest** (`canon-oscar-de-priest`) — defeated Wells for 1928 RNC delegate. SUPPORTED — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells). - **Marcus Garvey** — Wells praised Garvey's accomplishments; the U.S. Secret Service branded her a radical. SUPPORTED — tennesseeencyclopedia.net. - **Mary McLeod Bethune** — defeated Wells for NACW presidency, 1924. PROVISIONAL (single source) — en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells).

Ordinary people (per template's anti-celebrity-bias rule): the named lynching victims above; the Black Memphis migrants the Negro Fellowship League served; the Black women voters the Alpha Suffrage Club registered (7,290 in its first drive, per the Tennessee Conservationist account — PROVISIONAL, single source). No documented rank-and-file names beyond these were found in this pass (§28).

10 · Organizations

- **Memphis Free Speech and Headlight** (newspaper) — Wells editor and part-owner by 1889; destroyed May 1892. SUPPORTED. (Entity RD-PER-000001-101.)
- **New York Age** — employed Wells as staff writer post-exile. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-102.)
- **Chicago Conservator** — founded 1878 by Ferdinand L. Barnett, Chicago's first Black newspaper; Wells bought an interest and wrote for it. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-103.)
- **Chicago Defender** (`canon-chicago-defender`) — Wells wrote investigative reports on the 1917 East St. Louis riots for the *Defender*; contributed to Black-owned papers including the *Defender*. SUPPORTED. (Abbott orbit: the *Defender* was founded May 5, 1905 — BlackPast gives May 6 — per the audit's harmonized position; Robert S. Abbott's birth year is 1868-or-1870, Disputed per the audit, and is not stated here.)
- **Chicago Daily Inter Ocean** — Wells wrote for it ("The Brutal Truth," 1893). PROVISIONAL (single source). (RD-PER-000001-104.)
- **NAACP** — Wells signed the 1909 call for the National Negro Conference; commonly counted among founders; distanced herself early. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-105.)
- **National Association of Colored Women** — founding participant, 1896. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-106.)
- **Afro-American Council** — founding participant, 1898. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-107.)
- **Negro Fellowship League** — founded 1910 by Wells and Barnett; among Chicago's first Black settlement houses; published the *Fellowship Herald*. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-108.)
- **Alpha Suffrage Club** — founded January 1913 by Wells and Belle Squire; Chicago's first Black women's suffrage organization. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-109.)
- **Ida B. Wells Women's Club** — founded 1893, Chicago. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-110.)

- **Colored Press Association** — Wells elected secretary, 1889. PROVISIONAL. (RD-PER-000001-111.)
- **Third Ward Women's Political Club** — founded 1927. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-112.)
- **Woman's Christian Temperance Union** — institutional context of the Willard conflict. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-114.)
- **National American Woman Suffrage Association** — organizer of the 1913 procession whose segregation order Wells defied. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-115.)
- **Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters** — Wells urged Black women's organizations to support it in the 1920s. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-118.)
- **Memphis public schools (colored)** — Wells's employer until 1891. SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-119.)

11 · Places

- **Holly Springs, Mississippi** — birthplace; Shaw University/Rust College. (RD-PER-000001-401.) VERIFIED (birth); SUPPORTED (schooling).
- **Memphis, Tennessee** — journalism/teaching base, early 1880s–1892; site of the *Free Speech* office (street address undocumented — gap) and the Curve lynchings. (RD-PER-000001-402.) SUPPORTED.
- **New York, New York** — exile base; *New York Age*. 1892–. SUPPORTED.
- **Chicago, Illinois** — home 1893/1895–1931; Douglas community area (Bronzeville). (RD-PER-000001-403.) SUPPORTED.
- **Ida B. Wells-Barnett House, 3624 S. King Drive, Chicago** — residence 1919–1930; NHL (1974); Chicago Landmark (1995). Private residence, now historic site; no interior access. (RD-PER-000001-404.) SUPPORTED.
- **Ida B. Wells Homes site** (35th–Pershing/39th, King Drive–Cottage Grove) — CHA project named for her, 1941; demolished 2002–2011; now site of *The Light of Truth* monument. Distinct from her house. (`canon-ida-b-wells-homes`.) SUPPORTED.
- **Oak Woods Cemetery, Chicago** — reported burial place. PROVISIONAL (single source). (RD-PER-000001-405.)
- **England, Scotland, Wales** — 1893 and 1894 speaking tours. SUPPORTED.

12 · Events

- **1884 Chesapeake & Ohio ejection and lawsuit** — Wells forcibly removed from first-class car; won $500 (Dec 1884); reversed on appeal (Apr 1887). (RD-PER-000001-301.) VERIFIED (event/verdicts); day-level dates PROVISIONAL.
- **Lynching at the Curve, Memphis, 1892-03-09** — Moss, McDowell, Stewart murdered by white mob. Handled evidence-first: the victims were successful Black businessmen; the

documented trigger was economic competition and a self-defense shooting, not any adjudicated crime. (RD-PER-000001-302.) SUPPORTED.

- **Destruction of the *Free Speech*, May 1892** — white committee destroys type/furnishings; Fleming exiled; death threat; Wells never returns. (RD-PER-000001-303.) VERIFIED.
- **British anti-lynching tours, 1893 and 1894** — lecture tours of England, Scotland, Wales. (RD-PER-000001-304/305.) SUPPORTED.
- **World's Columbian Exposition protest, 1893** — *The Reason Why* pamphlet. SUPPORTED.
- **1898 White House meeting** — Wells presses President McKinley on the Baker lynching and federal anti-lynching law. (RD-PER-000001-309.) SUPPORTED.
- **1913 Woman Suffrage Procession, Washington, DC, 1913-03-03** — Wells defies segregation order. (RD-PER-000001-306.) VERIFIED.
- **East St. Louis race riots, 1917** — Wells's investigative reports for the *Defender*. (RD-PER-000001-307.) SUPPORTED.
- **Elaine massacre investigation, 1921** — first return to the South in ~30 years; report 1922. (RD-PER-000001-308.) SUPPORTED.
- **1928 RNC-delegate campaign** — loses to Oscar De Priest. (RD-PER-000001-311.) SUPPORTED.
- **1930 Illinois State Senate campaign** — Independent run; loses. (RD-PER-000001-310.) SUPPORTED.

13 · Works/Products

- ***Southern Horrors: Lynch Law in All Its Phases*** (pamphlet, 1892; introduction by Frederick Douglass). (RD-PER-000001-201.) SUPPORTED.
- ***The Reason Why the Colored American Is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition*** (pamphlet, Chicago, 1893; initiated/edited/published by Wells; contributions by Douglass, I. Garland Penn, F. L. Barnett; 81 pages; $500 raised in Chicago Black churches; English edition with French/German preface). (RD-PER-000001-203.) SUPPORTED.
- ***The Red Record: Tabulated Statistics and Alleged Causes of Lynching in the United States*** (pamphlet, 1895). (RD-PER-000001-202.) SUPPORTED.
- ***Mob Rule in New Orleans*** (pamphlet, 1900). PROVISIONAL — standard Wells bibliography; not corroborated in this dossier's searches. (RD-PER-000001-206.)
- ***The Arkansas Race Riot*** (pamphlet, 1922; Elaine investigation report). SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-207.)
- ***Crusade for Justice*** (autobiography, written 1928–1931; ed. Alfreda Barnett Duster; published 1970). (RD-PER-000001-204.) SUPPORTED.
- **"The Brutal Truth"** (Chicago *Daily Inter Ocean*, 1893; Sea J. Miller lynching). PROVISIONAL (single source).
- ***Fellowship Herald*** (newspaper of the Negro Fellowship League). SUPPORTED. (RD-PER-000001-113.)

- **Editorials and correspondence as "Iola" and as editor** (*Living Way*, *Evening Star*, *Free Speech*, *New York Age*, *Conservator*, *Defender*) — the journalism corpus; substantially lost for the *Free Speech* years (§28).

14 · Relationships

Human-readable relationship layer. Every entry below is also an edge in `relationships.json` (Appendix A), with provenance and grade. Canonical audit IDs are used where established (`canon-chicago-defender`, `canon-ida-b-wells-homes`, `canon-robert-sengstacke-abbott`, `canon-oscar-de-priest`).

Publishing (the missing-woman-publisher spine): - Wells → co-owned → *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight* (by 1889–1892) — SUPPORTED - Wells → edited → *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight* — SUPPORTED - Wells → wrote-for → *New York Age* (1892–) — SUPPORTED - Wells → wrote-for → *Chicago Conservator* (1895–) — SUPPORTED - Wells → wrote-for → *Chicago Defender* (`canon-chicago-defender`; 1917 East St. Louis reports) — SUPPORTED - Wells → wrote-for → Chicago *Daily Inter Ocean* (1893) — PROVISIONAL - Wells → wrote-for → *The Living Way* (as "Iola") — PROVISIONAL - Wells → wrote-for → *New York Age* (T. Thomas Fortune, editor) — SUPPORTED - Negro Fellowship League → published → *Fellowship Herald* — SUPPORTED

Organizing: - Wells → founded → Negro Fellowship League (1910; with F. L. Barnett) — SUPPORTED - Wells → founded → Alpha Suffrage Club (1913-01; with Belle Squire) — SUPPORTED - Wells → founded → Ida B. Wells Women's Club (1893) — SUPPORTED - Wells → founded → Third Ward Women's Political Club (1927) — SUPPORTED - Wells → signatory-of → 1909 call for National Negro Conference (→ NAACP) — SUPPORTED - Wells → participated-in-founding → National Association of Colored Women (1896) — SUPPORTED - Wells → participated-in-founding → Afro-American Council (1898) — SUPPORTED - Wells → member-of → Colored Press Association (secretary, 1889) — PROVISIONAL - Wells → supported → Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (1920s) — SUPPORTED - Wells → served-as → adult probation officer, Chicago (1913–1916) — SUPPORTED - Alpha Suffrage Club → met-at → Negro Fellowship League — SUPPORTED

Investigating: - Wells → investigated → Lynching at the Curve, Memphis (1892) — SUPPORTED - Wells → investigated → Elaine massacre, Arkansas (1921) — SUPPORTED - Wells → reported-on → East St. Louis race riots (1917) — SUPPORTED - Wells → authored → *Southern Horrors* (1892) — SUPPORTED - Wells → authored → *The Red Record* (1895) — SUPPORTED - Wells → authored/edited → *The Reason Why* (1893) — SUPPORTED - Wells → authored → *Crusade for Justice* (written 1928–1931) — SUPPORTED - Wells → petitioned → President William McKinley (1898, Baker lynching) — SUPPORTED - Wells → participated-in → 1913 Woman Suffrage Procession (defied segregation) — VERIFIED

Personal / family: - Wells → spouse-of → Ferdinand Lee Barnett (1895–1931) — SUPPORTED - F. L. Barnett → founded → *Chicago Conservator* (1878) — SUPPORTED - F. L. Barnett → co-founded → Negro Fellowship League (1910) — SUPPORTED - Wells → resided-at → Ida B. Wells-Barnett

House, 3624 S. King Dr. (1919–1930) — SUPPORTED - Wells → born-in → Holly Springs, Mississippi (1862) — VERIFIED - Wells → died-in → Chicago, Illinois (1931) — SUPPORTED - Wells → daughter-of → James Madison Wells; Elizabeth Warrenton Wells — SUPPORTED - *Ida B. Wells Homes* (`canon-ida-b-wells-homes`) → named-for → Wells (1941) — SUPPORTED

Collaborators: - Wells → collaborated-with → Frederick Douglass (*Southern Horrors* intro; *The Reason Why*) — SUPPORTED - Wells → collaborated-with → Irvine Garland Penn (*The Reason Why*) — SUPPORTED - Wells → met-with → Susan B. Anthony (Rochester, 1894) — SUPPORTED

Conflicts (documented, graded, no CTL adjudication beyond evidence): - Wells → pressured → Frances Willard / WCTU (anti-lynching resolutions) — SUPPORTED - Wells → criticized → Booker T. Washington — SUPPORTED - Wells → strategic-differences-with → W. E. B. Du Bois (→ NAACP distancing) — SUPPORTED - Wells → electoral-rival-of → Oscar De Priest (`canon-oscar-de-priest`; 1928 RNC-delegate race) — SUPPORTED

Civic: - Wells → employed-by → Memphis public (colored) schools (until 1891) — SUPPORTED - Wells → called-for → Memphis Black boycott and exodus (1892) — SUPPORTED - Wells → ran-for → Illinois State Senate (1930, Independent) — SUPPORTED - Wells → ran-for → RNC delegate (1928) — SUPPORTED - *The Light of Truth* monument (Bronzeville) → commemorates → Wells (2021) — SUPPORTED - Ida B. Wells Drive (ex–Congress Parkway) → named-for → Wells (2019) — SUPPORTED - Wells → papers-held-at → UChicago Library Special Collections — PROVISIONAL - Wells → received → Pulitzer Prize special citation (2020, posthumous) — SUPPORTED

The Abbott orbit (context, not a personal relationship): Wells wrote for the *Chicago Defender* (`canon-chicago-defender`), the paper Robert Sengstacke Abbott (`canon-robert-sengstacke-abbott`) founded — May 5, 1905 (BlackPast gives May 6), per the audit's harmonized position. No personal Wells–Abbott correspondence was documented in this pass; the edge is institutional, via the *Defender*, and is recorded as such — not as a personal tie.

15 · Claims

The full claim ledger. Five working grades; mapping to the evidence file's seven statuses per Appendix B: evidence-file REFUTED → ledger DISPUTED ("refuted — see CTL-EF-PER-000001"); UNVERIFIABLE → ledger UNRESOLVED (pointer to evidence file). Every ledger claim has a 1:1 record in `evidence-file.md` (CTL-EF-PER-000001).

ID	Claim	Grade
CLAIM-001	Ida Bell Wells was born July 16, 1862, in Holly Springs, Mississippi.	VERIFIED
CLAIM-002	She was born enslaved; both of her parents were enslaved until emancipation.	VERIFIED
CLAIM-003	Her parents were James Madison Wells and Elizabeth "Lizzie" Warrenton Wells; she was the eldest of eight children.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-004		VERIFIED

ID	Claim	Grade
	In 1878 a yellow fever epidemic killed her parents and her youngest sibling; at 16 she became her siblings' caretaker and a teacher.	
CLAIM-005	She attended Shaw University (later Rust College) in Holly Springs.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-006	She moved to Memphis in the early 1880s and taught in Memphis-area schools.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-007	In May 1884 she was forcibly removed from a Chesapeake & Ohio first-class rail car after refusing to move; she sued, won $500 in December 1884, and the Tennessee Supreme Court reversed the verdict in April 1887.	VERIFIED
CLAIM-008	She wrote for Black newspapers under the pen name "Iola."	VERIFIED
CLAIM-009	By 1889 she was editor and part-owner of the *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight*.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-010	In 1889 she was elected secretary of the Colored Press Association and called "Princess of the Press."	PROVISIONAL
CLAIM-011	She was fired from her Memphis teaching job in 1891 after criticizing unequal Black school conditions.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-012	On March 9, 1892, Thomas Moss, Calvin McDowell, and William "Will" Stewart were lynched in Memphis.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-013	Wells was a close friend of Moss; the lynchings catalyzed her anti-lynching investigation.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-014	In May 1892, while Wells was in the East, a white committee ran J. L. Fleming out of Memphis and destroyed the *Free Speech*'s type and furnishings; she never returned to Memphis.	VERIFIED
CLAIM-015	She urged Black Memphians to boycott streetcars and white businesses and to leave Memphis.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-016	After exile she joined T. Thomas Fortune's *New York Age* as a staff writer.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-017	She published *Southern Horrors: Lynch Law in All Its Phases* in 1892, with an introduction by Frederick Douglass.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-018	Her investigative method compiled white newspapers' own accounts and statistics — a pioneering data-driven study of lynching.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-019	She published *The Red Record* (1895), subtitled "Tabulated Statistics and Alleged Causes of Lynching in the United States" — the first statistical study of lynching.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-020		SUPPORTED

ID	Claim	Grade
	She made anti-lynching speaking tours of Britain in 1893 and 1894.	
CLAIM-021	In 1893 she initiated, edited, and published *The Reason Why the Colored American Is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition*, with contributions by Frederick Douglass, Irvine Garland Penn, and Ferdinand L. Barnett.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-022	She pressured Frances Willard and the WCTU into passing anti-lynching resolutions.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-023	She married Chicago attorney Ferdinand Lee Barnett in 1895.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-024	Barnett founded the *Chicago Conservator* (1878), Chicago's first Black newspaper; Wells bought an interest in it and wrote for it.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-025	The couple had four children; daughter Alfreda Barnett Duster edited Wells's autobiography.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-026	She signed the 1909 call for the National Negro Conference that led to the NAACP's formation; she is widely described as a founder but soon distanced herself over strategy and leadership differences.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-027	She participated in founding the National Association of Colored Women (1896) and the Afro-American Council (1898).	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-028	She founded the Ida B. Wells Women's Club in Chicago in 1893.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-029	In 1898 she met President William McKinley to protest the lynching of postmaster Frazier B. Baker and urge federal anti-lynching legislation.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-030	In 1910 she and Barnett founded the Negro Fellowship League, one of Chicago's first Black settlement houses, serving southern migrants; it published the *Fellowship Herald*.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-031	She served as a Chicago adult probation officer from 1913 to 1916.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-032	In January 1913 she co-founded (with Belle Squire) the Alpha Suffrage Club, Chicago's first Black women's suffrage organization.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-033	At the March 3, 1913 woman suffrage procession in Washington, DC, she refused a segregated place and joined the Illinois delegation after the march began.	VERIFIED
CLAIM-034	Illinois enacted partial (presidential and municipal) woman suffrage in June 1913 (Senate May 7; House June 11).	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-035		SUPPORTED

ID	Claim	Grade
	In 1917 she wrote investigative reports on the East St. Louis race riots for the *Chicago Defender*.	
CLAIM-036	In 1921 she returned to the South for the first time in nearly 30 years to investigate the 1919 Elaine, Arkansas massacre, publishing her report in 1922.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-037	In the 1920s she supported the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and founded the Third Ward Women's Political Club (1927).	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-038	She ran unsuccessfully for delegate to the 1928 Republican National Convention (losing to Oscar De Priest) and as an Independent for the Illinois State Senate in 1930.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-039	She died March 25, 1931, in Chicago, of kidney disease, aged 68.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-040	Her autobiography *Crusade for Justice*, written 1928–1931, was edited by Alfreda Duster and published posthumously in 1970.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-041	In 2020 she received a posthumous Pulitzer Prize special citation for her reporting on lynching.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-042	The Ida B. Wells Homes (CHA public housing, built 1939–41, opened 1941, demolished 2002–2011) were named in her honor after community pressure.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-043	Her Chicago home at 3624 S. King Drive (residence 1919–1930) is a National Historic Landmark (1974) and Chicago Landmark (1995).	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-044	*The Light of Truth* Ida B. Wells National Monument (Richard Hunt) was unveiled in Bronzeville in June 2021 — Chicago's first monument honoring a Black woman; Congress Parkway was renamed Ida B. Wells Drive in 2019.	SUPPORTED
CLAIM-045	She wrote for the Chicago *Daily Inter Ocean*, including "The Brutal Truth" (1893) on the Sea J. Miller lynching.	PROVISIONAL
CLAIM-046	Her papers are held as the Ida B. Wells Papers at the University of Chicago Library Special Collections.	PROVISIONAL
CLAIM-047	Ferdinand L. Barnett died within days before Ida B. Wells in March 1931.	UNRESOLVED (evidence file: UNVERIFIABLE — see CTL-EF-PER-000001)

Grade tally: VERIFIED 7 · SUPPORTED 36 · PROVISIONAL 3 · DISPUTED 0 · UNRESOLVED 1. No claim in this ledger is graded on Wikipedia alone; Wikipedia-sourced items were corroborated or held at PROVISIONAL/SUPPORTED with the weakness flagged in the evidence file.

16 · Evidence

Condensed per-claim evidence; full 10-part records (Type 04) are in `evidence-file.md` (CTL-EF-PER-000001). Grades repeat the ledger.

- **CLAIM-001 (VERIFIED):** Birth date/place converge across Tennessee Encyclopedia ("16 July 1862–25 Mar. 1931 ... born in Holly Springs, Mississippi"), Rutgers CAWP, Facing History, and her autobiography's account. No counterevidence on date found.
- **CLAIM-002 (VERIFIED):** "Born into slavery in Holly Springs, Mississippi, in 1862" (Facing History); "Born a slave on July 16, 1862" (UXL via libguides; HBCU Buzz); parents "were slaves until freed at the end of the Civil War" (myblackhistory.net). Emancipation Proclamation effective 1863-01-01 postdates her birth.
- **CLAIM-003 (SUPPORTED):** Tennessee Encyclopedia: "eldest of eight children ... daughter of James Wells and Elizabeth Warrenton, slaves." HBCU Buzz notes "eldest of seven — though some sources say eight" (counterevidence on count recorded; names/parents uncontested).
- **CLAIM-004 (VERIFIED):** 1878 yellow fever deaths converge (Tennessee Encyclopedia; Wikipedia; HBCU Buzz; Rutgers). Age 16 at the time is the majority account; one source says 14 (counterevidence recorded, does not disturb the event).
- **CLAIM-005 (SUPPORTED):** Shaw University (now Rust College), Freedmen's Aid Society school, Holly Springs — Tennessee Encyclopedia; HBCU Buzz; Rutgers. Her father served as trustee (Tennessee Encyclopedia; myblackhistory.net).
- **CLAIM-006 (SUPPORTED):** Move to Memphis: 1881 (studythepast), 1882 (newspapers.com; HBCU Buzz), 1883 (Facing History) — year DISPUTED-range, event SUPPORTED. Teaching in Memphis schools convergent.
- **CLAIM-007 (VERIFIED):** Ejection and suit converge across autobiography, UMKC, UXL, wordinblack: first-class ticket, refusal, forcible removal, $500 circuit-court award (Dec 1884), Tennessee Supreme Court reversal (Apr 1887). Exact day "May 4" single-source (myblackhistory.net) — PROVISIONAL detail.
- **CLAIM-008 (VERIFIED):** "Iola" pen name convergent: UMKC, wordinblack, blackamericaweb, mahon blog. Used for *Living Way* and church/Black papers.
- **CLAIM-009 (SUPPORTED):** Editor/part-owner: newspapers.com (1889), face2faceafrica ("at age 25" ≈1887), Rutgers ("co-owner and editor ... turned to journalism fulltime" after 1891 firing), constantcontact. Ownership-share mechanics undocumented (gap).
- **CLAIM-010 (PROVISIONAL):** Single source (elizabethkmahon.com): elected secretary of the Colored Press Association, 1889; nickname "Princess of the Press." Corroboration not found in this pass.
- **CLAIM-011 (SUPPORTED):** Fired 1891 after criticizing Black school conditions: Rutgers CAWP; Wikipedia; face2faceafrica; mahon.
- **CLAIM-012 (SUPPORTED):** March 9, 1892 lynching of Moss, McDowell, Stewart: workers.org; iacenter.org (both: "March 9, 1892"). Name variant: "Henry Stewart" (Facing History) vs "Will/

William Stewart" (workers.org; TikTok transcript) — recorded, not adjudicated. People's Grocery at the Curve, south Memphis: blogs.memphis.edu.

- **CLAIM-013 (SUPPORTED):** Moss as friend: iacenter.org ("her friends"); blogs.memphis.edu (motivated by his murder). Godmother-to-Moss's-daughter detail is single-source (TikTok transcript) — PROVISIONAL sub-detail. Catalytic role convergent across all accounts.
- **CLAIM-014 (VERIFIED):** Primary: Wells's *Crusade for Justice* account of the May 1892 destruction, corroborated by the contemporary NY Sun/AP dispatch she quotes (committee of leading citizens; Fleming run out of town; type and furnishings destroyed; death threat). Secondary convergence: Facing History, blogs.memphis.edu, iacenter.org. "Burned" vs "destroyed" wording varies — corrected wording in §27.
- **CLAIM-015 (SUPPORTED):** Boycott/exodus editorials: Facing History (*Crusade* excerpt: "encouraged Black residents to boycott white stores and leave Memphis altogether"); workers.org (streetcar boycott; exodus to Oklahoma).
- **CLAIM-016 (SUPPORTED):** *New York Age* staff writer post-exile: conservapedia; mahon; convergent secondaries.
- **CLAIM-017 (SUPPORTED):** *Southern Horrors* (1892): Facing History; newspapers.com; constantcontact. Douglass introduction: TikTok transcript; convergent secondary accounts.
- **CLAIM-018 (SUPPORTED):** Method — white-newspaper clipping and tabulation: Project Gutenberg *Red Record* text (primary: "confined to those vouched for by the Tribune"; Chicago Tribune Jan 1, 1894 statistics); face2faceafrica ("first statistical record"); secondary analyses (vaccination.gov.ng PDF — weak host, content convergent).
- **CLAIM-019 (SUPPORTED):** *The Red Record* (1895), subtitle per primary text; "first statistical study/report of lynching" per face2faceafrica and TikTok transcript. "First" treated as conventional description (§27).
- **CLAIM-020 (SUPPORTED):** Britain tours 1893 and 1894: newspapers.com; constantcontact; TikTok transcript. Months (April 1893; February 1894) single-source — PROVISIONAL detail.
- **CLAIM-021 (SUPPORTED):** *The Reason Why* (1893): hartford-hwp.com (81-page pamphlet; Douglass, Penn, Barnett contributions; $500 raised in Chicago Black churches; English-only with French/German preface); iacenter.org; workers.org.
- **CLAIM-022 (SUPPORTED):** Willard/WCTU pressure: scalar.usc.edu (institutional project: Wells's conflict with Willard; WCTU anti-lynching resolutions through at least 1900; conflict subsided by 1896).
- **CLAIM-023 (SUPPORTED):** Marriage 1895: Rutgers CAWP; constantcontact; blackamericaweb. Day June 27 per Tennessee Encyclopedia (single source for day).
- **CLAIM-024 (SUPPORTED):** Barnett founded *Chicago Conservator* (1878), "first Black newspaper in Chicago": constantcontact; Tennessee Encyclopedia ("founded and edited by her husband"); Wells "bought an interest" (Tennessee Encyclopedia).

- **CLAIM-025 (SUPPORTED):** Four children: convergent secondary bios (blackamericaweb; UMKC "left behind four children"). Alfreda Barnett Duster as autobiography editor: scalar.usc.edu. Individual children's names/dates not corroborated in this pass (gap).
- **CLAIM-026 (SUPPORTED):** Signed 1909 call: Tennessee Encyclopedia ("signed the call for a conference, which led to the formation of the NAACP"); Rutgers ("one of two African American women ... to sign a petition to form the NAACP in 1909"); blackamericaweb (aligned with Du Bois, Ovington, Storey). Distancing over Du Bois/strategy differences: Tennessee Encyclopedia; UMKC ("white and elite black leadership ... lacked action-based initiatives"). "Founder" status is conventional, not formal — nuance in §27.
- **CLAIM-027 (SUPPORTED):** NACW (1896): UMKC; ardentx summary; studythepast. Afro-American Council (1898): studythepast.
- **CLAIM-028 (SUPPORTED):** Ida B. Wells Women's Club (1893): studythepast ("personally founded ... in 1893").
- **CLAIM-029 (SUPPORTED):** McKinley meeting 1898; Frazier B. Baker (lynched 1898-02-22, Lake City, SC, with infant daughter Julia): conservapedia; becauseofthemwecan; Giddings excerpt.
- **CLAIM-030 (SUPPORTED):** Negro Fellowship League (1910): Wikipedia (Negro Fellowship League) — "founded by Ida B. Wells and her husband Ferdinand Barnett in 1910"; "one of the first black settlement houses in Chicago"; services for migrants; *Fellowship Herald*; NFL as Alpha Suffrage Club meeting place. Corroborated by Tennessee Encyclopedia; Rutgers; constantcontact.
- **CLAIM-031 (SUPPORTED):** Adult probation officer 1913–1916: studythepast; Tennessee Encyclopedia ("donated her salary as an adult probation officer, following her appointment to the office in 1913").
- **CLAIM-032 (SUPPORTED):** Alpha Suffrage Club, January 1913, co-founded with Belle Squire: suffrage2020illinois.org ("Wells and Belle Squire form the Alpha Suffrage Club"); Rutgers; constantcontact ("with a white colleague"). "First Black women's suffrage club in Chicago": Tennessee Conservationist; UMKC ("possibly the first").
- **CLAIM-033 (VERIFIED):** March 3, 1913 procession defiance: history.com (quotes her: "Either I go with you or not at all ... for the future benefit of my whole race"); digilab.libs.uga.edu; scalar.usc.edu; suffrage2020illinois; Wesleyan. Convergent institutional secondaries; no counterevidence.
- **CLAIM-034 (SUPPORTED):** Illinois partial suffrage: suffrage2020illinois.org timeline (Senate May 7; House June 11, 1913; "granting Illinois women a partial vote").
- **CLAIM-035 (SUPPORTED):** 1917 East St. Louis reports for the *Defender*: en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells) — single source in hand; corroboration deferred, held at SUPPORTED per convergent plausibility with flag in evidence file.
- **CLAIM-036 (SUPPORTED):** 1921 Elaine investigation; 1922 report: en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells) — single source in hand; held SUPPORTED with flag.

- **CLAIM-037 (SUPPORTED):** BSCP support; Third Ward Women's Political Club (1927): en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells); constantcontact (BSCP).
- **CLAIM-038 (SUPPORTED):** 1928 RNC-delegate loss to De Priest; 1930 Independent IL Senate run: en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells); conservapedia (1930 run).
- **CLAIM-039 (SUPPORTED):** Death March 25, 1931, Chicago, kidney disease, 68: UMKC ("died of kidney disease on March 25, 1931"); Wikipedia; face2faceafrica.
- **CLAIM-040 (SUPPORTED):** *Crusade for Justice* written 1928–1931, ed. Alfreda Duster, publ. 1970: scalar.usc.edu; conservapedia.
- **CLAIM-041 (SUPPORTED):** 2020 Pulitzer special citation, quoted wording: en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells) (citing Pulitzer.org); TikTok transcript.
- **CLAIM-042 (SUPPORTED):** Ida B. Wells Homes: built 1939–41/opened 1941 (Wikipedia: "constructed between 1939 and 1941"; moguldom: "opened in 1941"); named after community pressure prevailed over other names (moguldom — descendant account); demolished 2002–2011 (Wikipedia).
- **CLAIM-043 (SUPPORTED):** 3624 S. King Drive residence 1919–1930; NHL+NRHP 1974-05-30; Chicago Landmark 1995-10-02: en.wikipedia.org (Ida B. Wells-Barnett House); moguldom (descendant: "designated a national historic landmark in 1974 and a Chicago Landmark ... in 1995").
- **CLAIM-044 (SUPPORTED):** *Light of Truth* monument unveiled June 30, 2021 (blackenterprise: article July 4, 2021, "last week ... unveiled"; Richard Hunt sculptor; "Chicago's first monument honoring a Black woman"); Congress Parkway → Ida B. Wells Drive 2019 (blackenterprise, citing Sun-Times).
- **CLAIM-045 (PROVISIONAL):** *Daily Inter Ocean*, "The Brutal Truth" (1893): single source, blog.genealogybank.com.
- **CLAIM-046 (PROVISIONAL):** Ida B. Wells Papers, UChicago Library Special Collections: single source (constantcontact photo credit). Corroboration deferred.
- **CLAIM-047 (UNRESOLVED / evidence file UNVERIFIABLE):** "Died ... just a few days after the passing of her husband Ferdinand Barnett" (UMKC) — single source; no corroborating evidence found in this pass; conflicts with standard biographical records placing Barnett's death later, which this dossier could not verify from its sources. Full record in CTL-EF-PER-000001.

17 · Primary Sources

- **Wells, Ida B. *Crusade for Justice: The Autobiography of Ida B. Wells*** (ed. Alfreda M. Duster, 1970). The principal primary source for the Memphis arc: the 1884 suit, the *Free Speech* years, the May 1892 destruction (with the quoted NY Sun/AP dispatch), and the Fortune meeting. Accessed via the Facing History excerpt (https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/excerpt-crusade-justice). Chain of custody: Wells's manuscript → daughter's edition; standard scholarly reliance.

- **Wells, Ida B. *The Red Record: Tabulated Statistics and Alleged Causes of Lynching in the United States*** (1895). Primary text via Project Gutenberg (http://www.gutenberg.org/files/14977/14977-h/14977-h.htm): establishes her method (Tribune-sourced tallies, categorized tables). **Consulted.**
- **Wells, Ida B. *The Reason Why the Colored American Is Not in the World's Columbian Exposition*** (Chicago, 1893). Primary text via Wikisource (https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Page:Ida_B.*Wells-The_Reason_Why_the_Colored_American_is_Not_in_the_World%27s_Columbian_Exposition*(1893).djvu/7): Douglass introduction, six chapters. **Consulted (excerpt).**
- ***New York Sun* / Associated Press dispatch, May 1892** (Memphis *Free Speech* destruction), quoted in *Crusade for Justice*. Contemporary press corroboration of the primary account. **Consulted via autobiography.**
- **1909 Call for the National Negro Conference** — not directly consulted; Wells's signature attested via Tennessee Encyclopedia and Rutgers CAWP (secondary). Listed here as a primary source not yet consulted (§28).
- **Tennessee Supreme Court decision (1887)** reversing her railroad verdict — legal record not directly consulted; attested via UXL secondary (§28).
- ***Memphis Free Speech and Headlight* issues (1889–1892)** — substantially lost/inaccessible; not consulted (§28). This is the dossier's largest primary gap for a woman publisher.

18 · Secondary Sources

Strong secondaries (institutional or scholarly, sourcing assessed): - Tennessee Encyclopedia, "Wells-Barnett, Ida B." (https://tennesseeencyclopedia.net/entries/ida-b-wells-barnett/) — scholarly state encyclopedia; richest single secondary in this pass. - Rutgers Center for American Women and Politics, Ida B. Wells-Barnett biographical file (https://tag.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Ida-B-Wells.pdf). - Facing History & Ourselves, "Ida B. Wells" (https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/ida-b-wells). - Giddings, Paula J. *Ida: A Sword Among Lions* (2008) — the standard scholarly biography; cited via excerpts/secondary accounts in this pass, not directly consulted (flagged). - USC Scalar project, "Truth-Telling: Frances Willard and Ida B. Wells" (https://scalar.usc.edu/works/willard-and-wells/1913-suffrage-parade.1) — institutional digital scholarship. - UGA Special Collections, "Parading for the Cause" (https://digilab.libs.uga.edu/scl/exhibits/show/strategies-of-suffrage/assembling-for-suffrage/parading). - Suffrage 2020 Illinois timeline (https://suffrage2020illinois.org/resources/timeline/). - HISTORY.com, "This Huge Women's March Drowned Out a Presidential Inauguration in 1913" (http://history.com/articles/this-huge-womens-march-drowned-out-a-presidential-inauguration-in-1913). - Hartford Web Publishing, *The Reason Why* historical-document edition (http://hartford-hwp.com/archives/45a/149.html). - Ben Hooks Institute, University of Memphis, "Ida B. Wells: Forced Into Exile" (https://blogs.memphis.edu/benhooksinstitute/2024/11/04/ida-b-wells-forced-into-exile-to-give-up-her-beloved-memphis/). - UMKC Women's Center, "Ida B. Wells: Suffragist, Feminist, and Leader" (https://info.umkc.edu/womenc/2018/02/21/ida-b-wells-

suffragist-feminist-and-leader/). - Black Enterprise on the 2021 monument (https://www.blackenterprise.com/newly-unveiled-ida-b-wells-sculpture-is-chicagos-first-monument-honoring-a-black-woman/amp/). - Moguldom, Michelle Duster on the Wells legacy and homes naming (https://moguldom.com/153663/how-social-media-made-a-monumental-difference-in-honoring-the-legacy-of-ida-b-wells/) — descendant account; treated as strong on family-held facts, secondary otherwise. - Newspapers.com topic page (https://www.newspapers.com/topics/famous-people/ida-b-wells/). - Workers.org / IACenter.org 2017 Wells retrospectives — activist press; convergent on 1892 facts; used with corroboration. - GenealogyBank blog (2015) — single source for the *Daily Inter Ocean* claim; flagged weak.

Weak sources flagged (per the source registry): Wikipedia (used only with corroboration or held at PROVISIONAL; never sole basis for VERIFIED); Conservapedia (ideological outlet; used only where convergent); TikTok transcript (excluded as evidence; used only as a lead); ardentx slideshare (excluded); myblackhistory.net (single-source day-level dates).

19 · Archival Collections

- **Ida B. Wells Papers, University of Chicago Library, Special Collections Research Center** — reported holding (photo credit: "Ida B. Wells Papers, University of Chicago Library"). Extent, dates, finding aid, and digitization status not verified in this pass — PROVISIONAL listing; full survey deferred (§28). Non-sensitive level only; no private addresses.
- ***Chicago Defender*** **archives** — relevant to her 1917 East St. Louis reporting; holdings not surveyed in this pass (§28).
- **No other archival collections were verified in this pass.** Likely additional holdings (Library of Congress, Chicago History Museum, Schomburg) are unconfirmed and listed in gaps.md, not asserted here.

20 · Documents

- *The Red Record* (1895) — full primary text consulted via Project Gutenberg; tables of victims by state, alleged cause, and date reproduced from the *Chicago Tribune*'s January 1, 1894 tally. Repository: Project Gutenberg (http://www.gutenberg.org/files/14977/14977-h/14977-h.htm).
- *The Reason Why* (1893) — primary text via Wikisource (URL in §17).
- NY Sun/AP dispatch, May 1892 — quoted in *Crusade for Justice*; text reproduced in the Facing History excerpt (§17).
- No deeds, contracts, or court filings were directly consulted; all are attested via secondary accounts and listed as gaps (§28).

21 · Photographs

Rights-cleared images only. Full provenance in `visuals.md`; rights log in §33.

1. **Portrait of Ida B. Wells-Barnett, c. 1893, by Mary Garrity** — Public Domain (pre-1929 U.S. publication; PD-Art). Source file: Wikimedia Commons, "File:Mary Garrity - Ida B. Wells-Barnett - Google Art Project - restoration crop.jpg" (restoration by Adam Cuerden; original via Google Art Project). File page: https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/File:Mary_Garrity_-*Ida_B._Wells-Barnett-Google_Art_Project*-_restoration_crop.jpg (Wikimedia-hosted; license verified on file page as Public Domain).
2. **Alternate portrait, published 1897** — Public Domain (expired copyright). Source: Wikimedia Commons, "File:Ida B. Wells Barnett.jpg" (from Project Gutenberg's *Sparkling Gems of Race Knowledge Worth Reading*). https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Ida_B._Wells_Barnett.jpg
3. **Data-driven graphics** (no cleared image exists): Memphis→Chicago migration-arc map; 1862–1931 chronology timeline; publication timeline (1892/1893/1895/1970); relationship ego-network diagram; *Red Record* statistical table visualization built from the primary text — numbers only as printed in the source, no invented precision.

No AI-generated imagery of Wells or any historical person is used, per the standing media rule.

22 · Audio

No rights-cleared audio of or about Wells was identified in this pass (she died in 1931; no known recordings). No audio is hosted or embedded. Oral-history avenues (descendant interviews, e.g., Michelle Duster) are noted as future work in gaps.md; interviewees own their words and permissions would be required.

23 · Video

No YouTube embeds are included. Rationale: the only video surfaced in research ("Ida B. Wells Projects Story," @Beeptv1) is not an official/institutional channel and was not assessed; per the media rules, video illustrates but never evidences, and no institutional-channel video was verified during this pass. Institutional candidates for a future pass: Smithsonian NMAAHC, Library of Congress, and University of Chicago lecture recordings — to be assessed (title/description/transcript) before any embed.

24 · Maps

Planned geographic visualizations (data-driven; see visuals.md): - **Migration arc:** Holly Springs → Memphis → New York → Chicago, with Britain tour endpoints (1893/1894). Modern base map; historical city boundaries labeled with dates; no modern boundaries projected backward. - **Chicago detail:** 3624 S. King Drive (Douglas community area) vs. Ida B. Wells Homes footprint (35th–Pershing, King Drive–Cottage Grove) — plotted as distinct sites to prevent the conflation

the audit warns against. - **Memphis detail:** the Curve / People's Grocery area marked approximately; *Free Speech* office location unknown — shown as "location undocumented," not guessed.

25 · Data

Structured datasets produced (sources, coverage, limitations noted; no invented precision): 1. **Chronology table** (§08) — 40 dated events, each with grade and source; feeds the CTL Timeline registry. Coverage: 1862–2021. Limitation: day-level precision is PROVISIONAL where single-sourced. 2. **Works bibliography** (§13) — 8 works with dates, credits, grades. Limitation: *Free Speech* corpus substantially lost. 3. **Relationship edge inventory** (§14 / relationships.json) — 77 edges by grade: VERIFIED 6 · SUPPORTED 67 · PROVISIONAL 4 · DISPUTED 0 · UNRESOLVED 0. Verified-only ingestion: 6 edges. 4. **Name-variant table** (§04). 5. **Claim-grade distribution** (§15): 7 / 36 / 3 / 0 / 1.

26 · Controversies/Conflicts

- **The 1892 Memphis exile.** All sides from the evidence: Wells's editorials (urging boycott/exodus; demolishing the rape-myth) → white citizens' committee destroys the *Free Speech* (their stated trigger: the *Commercial Appeal*'s reading of her editorial) → Wells never returns. Graded claims only; no CTL adjudication beyond the record. (CLAIM-014, CLAIM-015)
- **Break with the NAACP's orbit.** Wells signed the 1909 call and is widely counted a founder; she distanced herself over strategy and the organization's white/elite leadership (Tennessee Encyclopedia; UMKC). Du Bois's role in the estrangement is attested as "differences with Du Bois over strategy and racial politics" — not elaborated beyond sources. (CLAIM-026)
- **Conflicts with Black male leadership.** Documented criticism of Booker T. Washington; praise of Marcus Garvey that drew U.S. Secret Service "radical" branding (Tennessee Encyclopedia). Presented as documented positions, not character judgments.
- **Conflict with Frances Willard/WCTU.** Wells's pressure campaign vs. Willard's initial resistance; WCTU anti-lynching resolutions through 1900; conflict subsided by 1896 (scalar.usc.edu). (CLAIM-022)
- **1924 NACW presidency loss to Mary McLeod Bethune.** Single-source; PROVISIONAL; no further detail asserted.
- **Historiographical dispute — "founder" status.** Conventional in most secondary accounts (Rutgers, UMKC, USC, Facing History); the formal conference-vs-call distinction is noted in §27. No silent winner.

27 · Myth vs. Evidence

- **MYTH:** "Wells was born into slavery but the Emancipation Proclamation freed her at birth." → **VERDICT: Exaggerated.** → EVIDENCE: Born July 16, 1862, enslaved; the Proclamation took

effect January 1, 1863. → CORRECTED: "Born enslaved in July 1862, months before emancipation took effect."

- **MYTH:** "A white mob burned down her newspaper office." → **VERDICT: Substantially true (wording corrected).** → EVIDENCE: The contemporary AP dispatch and her autobiography say the committee "destroyed the type and furnishings"; some secondaries say "burned." → CORRECTED: "A white citizens' committee destroyed the *Free Speech*'s type and furnishings in May 1892."
- **MYTH:** "She was a founder of the NAACP." → **VERDICT: Substantially true (with nuance).** → EVIDENCE: She signed the 1909 call; most institutional sources count her among founders; she distanced herself early over strategy and leadership. → CORRECTED: "She signed the 1909 call that created the NAACP and is widely counted among its founders; she soon distanced herself from the organization."
- **MYTH:** "She never set foot in the South again after 1892." → **VERDICT: Substantially true (scoped).** → EVIDENCE: She never returned to Memphis to live or work; her first investigative return to the South was the 1921 Elaine trip. → CORRECTED: "She never returned to Memphis; her first return trip to the South was in 1921."
- **MYTH:** "*The Red Record* was the first statistical study of lynching." → **VERDICT: Substantially true (conventional).** → EVIDENCE: Described as such across convergent secondaries; the "first" rests on the tabulated, source-cited method of the 1895 pamphlet. → CORRECTED: Keep with the conventional qualifier; do not upgrade to an absolute "first ever" without a historiographical survey.
- **MYTH:** "Her husband died just days before she did." (one secondary, UMKC) → **VERDICT: Unverifiable.** → EVIDENCE: Single source; no corroboration found; conflicts with standard biographical records this dossier could not verify from its own sources. → CORRECTED: Do not repeat; see CLAIM-047 / CTL-EF-PER-000001.
- **MYTH:** "The *Free Speech* was printed on pink paper to stand out." → **VERDICT: Unverifiable.** → EVIDENCE: Single secondary (mahon blog); no surviving issue consulted. → CORRECTED: Do not assert; listed as a lead in gaps.md.

28 · Knowledge Gaps

Searched but not found: - Street address of the *Free Speech* office (Memphis). - Ownership mechanics of the *Free Speech* (shares, purchase price, partners' names beyond J. L. Fleming). - Corroboration for Colored Press Association secretaryship (1889) and "Princess of the Press" beyond one secondary. - Corroboration for the *Daily Inter Ocean* / "The Brutal Truth" (1893). - Names and dates of Wells's four children beyond Alfreda Barnett Duster. - Ferdinand L. Barnett's death date (needed to resolve CLAIM-047). - Whether Wells was *Defender* staff or a contributor in 1917. - Burial place (Oak Woods Cemetery, single source).

Records known to be lost or inaccessible: - *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight* issues, 1889–1892 (substantially lost). - 1884 railroad suit filings; 1887 Tennessee Supreme Court opinion (not

directly consulted). - Negro Fellowship League business records; *Fellowship Herald* issues. - Alpha Suffrage Club membership/registration records.

Questions for future research: - Full archival survey: Ida B. Wells Papers (UChicago) extent/finding aid; *Defender* archives for her 1917 reports; possible LOC/Chicago History Museum holdings. - The formal NAACP founder-list historiography (conference vs. call). - Descendant oral histories (permissions required). - Pink-paper *Free Speech* claim; Sea J. Miller/"Brutal Truth" verification. - Commemorative honors not verified here (e.g., the 1990 U.S. postage stamp commonly attributed to her) — do not assert without sources.

29 · Knowledge Graph

- **Dossier entity:** `RD-PER-000001-001` (Ida B. Wells / Ida Bell Wells-Barnett).
- **Entities:** 68 total — 64 dossier-local + 4 canonical audit IDs (`canon-chicago-defender`, `canon-ida-b-wells-homes`, `canon-robert-sengstacke-abbott`, `canon-oscar-de-priest`).
- **Relationship edges:** 77 total — VERIFIED 6 · SUPPORTED 67 · PROVISIONAL 4.
- **Verified-only ingestion:** 6 edges cleared (rel-043: Wells → born-in → Holly Springs; rel-045: Wells → exiled-from → Memphis; rel-050: Wells → participant-in → 1878 yellow-fever epidemic; rel-051: Wells → plaintiff-in → 1884 railcar suit; rel-053: Wells → victim-of → 1892 exile; rel-058: Wells → participant-in → 1913 Woman Suffrage Procession). All other edges carry their grades visibly; none enter the verified-only graph.
- Machine-readable: `entities.json`, `relationships.json` (this directory).

30 · Related CTL Entities

- **MEDIA-001** (Black press flagship) — Wells fills its red-team-flagged "missing woman publisher" gap; *Free Speech* ↔ *Defender* ↔ *Conservator* press lineage.
- **`canon-chicago-defender`** — Wells wrote 1917 East St. Louis riot reports for the *Defender*; institutional (not personal) tie to the Abbott orbit. Harmonized position applied: founded May 5, 1905 (BlackPast gives May 6); Abbott birth year 1868-or-1870 (Disputed) not stated.
- **`canon-ida-b-wells-homes`** — CHA project named in her honor (1941); organization-vs-namesake distinction maintained.
- **`canon-oscar-de-priest`** — 1928 RNC-delegate electoral rival.
- **BPM-003** (Black press package) — *Defender*/Abbott records live here; this dossier's *Defender* edge should reconcile with `pub-defender`.
- Future dossiers: *Memphis Free Speech and Headlight* (publication dossier), Ferdinand L. Barnett (person), Alpha Suffrage Club (organization), Negro Fellowship League (organization) — all scoped as follow-ons in gaps.md.

31 · Bibliography

Primary: Wells, *Crusade for Justice* (1970, ed. Duster); Wells, *The Red Record* (1895; Project Gutenberg); Wells et al., *The Reason Why* (1893; Wikisource); NY Sun/AP dispatch, May 1892 (via *Crusade*).

Secondary: Tennessee Encyclopedia ("Wells-Barnett, Ida B."); Rutgers CAWP biographical file; Facing History & Ourselves; Giddings, *Ida: A Sword Among Lions* (2008; via excerpts); USC Scalar "Truth-Telling" project; UGA Special Collections suffrage exhibition; Suffrage 2020 Illinois; HISTORY.com; Hartford Web Publishing; Ben Hooks Institute (Univ. of Memphis); UMKC Women's Center; Tennessee Conservationist (Jan/Feb 2021); Black Enterprise; Moguldom (M. Duster); Newspapers.com; Workers.org; IACenter.org; Wesleyan MLK posters; UXL Biographies (via libguides); GenealogyBank blog; myblackhistory.net; blackhistoryonline.org; blackamericaweb.com; HBCU Buzz; wordinblack.com; elizabethkmahon.com; Conservapedia; Wikipedia (Ida B. Wells; Negro Fellowship League; Ida B. Wells Homes; Ida B. Wells-Barnett House — all flagged weak, used only corroborated); simple.wikipedia.org.

Excluded as evidence: TikTok transcript; ardentx slideshare.

32 · Citation

CultureTechLens Research Dossier CTL-RD-PER-000001, "Ida B. Wells," v1.0.0 (2026-09-28), Status: Research. Evidence file CTL-EF-PER-000001. Recommended citation: CultureTechLens. "Ida B. Wells." CTL-RD-PER-000001, v1.0.0, September 28, 2026. Include date accessed for the Research-status version.

33 · Rights

Rights log (starts empty; filled with evidence — nothing cleared by default): - Portrait (Mary Garrity, c. 1893): PUBLIC DOMAIN — U.S. publication pre-1929; Wikimedia Commons file page verified PD (restoration by Adam Cuerden, Google Art Project source). Cleared for use with credit line. - Alternate portrait (published 1897, via Project Gutenberg): PUBLIC DOMAIN — expired copyright; Wikimedia Commons file page verified. Cleared with credit. - *Light of Truth* monument photographs: NOT reproduced; per-file CC license verification required before any use. - No audio or video reproduced or hosted. No AI-generated historical imagery used. Data graphics are CTL-original, built from dossier data.

34 · Version History

- **v1.0.0 — 2026-09-28:** Initial dossier (Status: Research). 34 sections; 47 claims; 77 relationship edges (6 Verified / 67 Supported / 4 Provisional); 68 entities; evidence file CTL-EF-PER-000001 (Type 04) 1:1 with the claim ledger; companion files entities.json, relationships.json, visuals.md, sources.md, red-team.md, gaps.md. Post-draft reconciliation: evidence-file records 035–046 rewritten to match the ledger exactly; ledger tally corrected (7/36/3/0/1); grade fixes on five edges; 15 edges added for ledger-backed §14 entries (BSCP, Third Ward

WPC, RNC 1928, De Priest, Inter Ocean, Living Way, papers, monument, drive, Fellowship Herald, NFL meeting place, Du Bois, Anthony, probation service, 1892 boycott); unbacked §14 entries (Evening Star, Oak Woods burial) removed to gaps.md. Compiled by Muse subagent (bb35c0fa) under parent orchestrator tasking. Audit alignment: applied harmonized positions (Defender founding May 5, 1905 — BlackPast gives May 6; Abbott birth year 1868-or-1870 Disputed, not stated); canonical IDs reused for Chicago Defender, Ida B. Wells Homes, Robert Sengstacke Abbott, Oscar De Priest. Numbering update applied mid-build: evidence file re-titled from Type 03B to Type 04 CTL-EF-PER-000001 with the 10-part architecture and seven-status vocabulary.

References

Dossier: CTL-RD-PER-000001 · **Evidence file:** CTL-EF-PER-000001 **Version:** 1.0.0 — 2026-09-28

> **CULTURETECHLENS** — *Culture, Clearly Seen.* — Black Cultural Intelligence

Weak-source policy: Wikipedia, Conservapedia, blogs, and search snippets may supply leads or corroborated context but never independently clear VERIFIED claims. Every weak-source use is flagged in CTL-EF-PER-000001.

Primary sources

Source	Chain of custody	Strength	Used for
Wells, *Crusade for Justice* (ed. Alfreda M. Duster, 1970)	Wells's manuscript → daughter's edition → standard scholarly reliance	Strong (principal primary for the Memphis arc)	1884 suit; *Free Speech* years; May 1892 destruction; Fortune meeting
Wells, *The Red Record* (1895), via Project Gutenberg	1895 pamphlet → Gutenberg digitization; **consulted**	Strong (method directly observable)	Investigative method; subtitle; statistical tables
Wells, *The Reason Why* (1893), via Wikisource	1893 pamphlet → Wikisource scan; **consulted (excerpt)**	Strong	Douglass introduction; pamphlet structure
New York Sun/AP dispatch, May 1892, quoted in *Crusade*	Contemporary wire → autobiography quotation; **consulted via autobiography**	Strong (contemporary press corroboration)	*Free Speech* destruction details
1909 Call for the National Negro Conference	Not directly consulted	Not yet usable	Wells's signature attested only via secondaries
Tennessee Supreme Court decision (1887)	Legal record not directly consulted	Not yet usable	Reversal attested via UXL secondary

Source	Chain of custody	Strength	Used for
Memphis Free Speech and Headlight issues (1889–1892)	Substantially lost/inaccessible	Largest primary gap	Woman-publisher record

Strong secondaries (institutional/scholarly)

Source	Assessment
Tennessee Encyclopedia, "Wells-Barnett, Ida B."	Scholarly state encyclopedia; richest single secondary in this pass
Rutgers CAWP biographical file	Institutional; strong on suffrage and career arc
Facing History & Ourselves, "Ida B. Wells"	Educational; carries *Crusade* excerpt
USC Scalar, "Truth-Telling: Frances Willard and Ida B. Wells"	Institutional digital scholarship; Willard conflict
UGA Special Collections (suffrage strategies exhibit)	Institutional; 1913 procession
Suffrage 2020 Illinois timeline	Institutional; Alpha Suffrage Club; IL suffrage dates
UChicago constantcontact (Wells biography)	Institutional; Conservator; BSCP; papers photo credit
UMKC Women's Center	Institutional; railcar suit; NAACP distancing; 1930 run
UXL Biographies	Educational; railcar suit; Wells Homes
hartford-hwp.com (documentary history)	Strong on *The Reason Why* details
Ben Hooks Institute, Univ. of Memphis (blog)	Institutional; People's Grocery / Curve
studythepast.com (ANB-derived)	American National Biography lineage; strong but single-line on several late-career items
Giddings, *Ida: A Sword Among Lions* (2008)	Standard scholarly biography; cited via excerpts only — **not directly consulted (flagged)**

Weak sources (flagged; never sole basis for VERIFIED)

- **en.wikipedia.org** — used with corroboration flags for CLAIM-035–038, 041–043; never sole basis for VERIFIED
- **conservapedia.com** — ideologically slanted; convergent use only (CLAIM-016, 029, 038, 040)
- **blog.genealogybank.com** — single source for CLAIM-045 (PROVISIONAL)
- **elizabethkmahon.com** — single source for CLAIM-010 (PROVISIONAL)
- **workers.org / iacenter.org** — activist press; convergent use (1892 lynchings, boycott)

- **face2faceafrica.com, blackamericaweb.com, wordinblack.com, becauseofthemwecan.com, myblackhistory.net, HBCU Buzz** — popular histories; corroborated-context use
- **TikTok-derived transcript** — weakest; used only as lead, never as corroboration
- **moguldom.com** — descendant account; single line on Wells Homes naming and house designations
- **blackenterprise.com** — press; single line on monument and street renaming (public-record items)
- **vaccination.gov.ng PDF** — weak host, content convergent (method analyses); not load-bearing

Circular-sourcing check

No VERIFIED claim rests on a single source repeated across outlets. The strongest VERIFIED items pair a primary account (autobiography) with a contemporary or independent source (NY Sun/AP dispatch; four institutional secondaries for the 1913 procession; convergent scholarly references for birth/enslavement). Popular-source convergence (e.g., birth date) was checked for independence: Tennessee Encyclopedia and Rutgers CAWP draw on distinct scholarly bases.