

Gathering of descendants of the first 85 Blacks to the Northwest

Written by

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On August 11, 2012 at 4 p.m. in Minnehaha Park, descendants will come together to “Embrace and Celebrate” their heritage. Bring your family and a dish to share.

Pictured: "The Fur Coat Crew" from left to right are: Iva Wagner, Armanda Anderson, Minnie Penick, Mattie Anderson, and Sevella Webster.

Around April 1897, 65 Black men and boys and 25 women and girls left Kentucky and arrived in Fergus Falls, MN to engage in farming. It was the largest influx of Blacks the Northwest had ever seen. Some traveled on to Aitkin, Hinkley and Sioux Falls, SD.

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~~http://www.oregonlive.com/story/2012/07/18/first-black-immigrants-125-anniversary/161231700.html~~