

Fort Monroe National Monument



James Apostles Fields

Born: 1844, Hanover County, Virginia

Died: November 20, 1903, Newport News, Virginia

While enslaved, James Apostles Fields tended lawyers' horses at Hanover Courthouse. There, he witnessed debates over states' rights, secession, slavery and freedom. In 1862, Fields escaped to Union lines and freedom at Fortress Monroe. Later Fields graduated from Howard University Law School, practiced law in Newport News, and served in the Virginia House of Delegates.

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