This listing provides primary reference, historic timelines and prespective of the 1881 Atlanta Washerwomen's strike and specifically includes the early career of civil rights icon Dorothy Bolden Thompson, Oseola Mccarty and Amanda Berry Smith. Other honorable mentions such as Matilda Crawford, Sallie Bell, Carrie Jones, Dora Jones, Orphelia Turner and Sarah Collier are lightly mentioned in resources compiled.

Archival materials included may provide historical sites or physical spaces dedicated to the memory of the washerwomen— or areas the women lobbied organized or popularly utilized.

Resources include call numbers, for patrons to easily inquire and obtain resources. Auburn Avenue Research Library maintains non-circulating policies of its collection; however, patrons are able to utilize materials in-house. Suggested search terms and keywords are provided to further guide patron’s research amongst Auburn Avenue Research Library and the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library catalog and digital libraries. The below Boolean Operators (AND, OR, also NOT) are simple words used to maximize search results.

**Forrest R. Evans**  
**Librarian II, Reference and Research**  
[forrest.evans@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:forrest.evans@fultoncountyga.gov)

**Audio/Visual Collection:**

**The maids a documentary**  
Author: Jackson, Muriel  
Pub Date: 1985  
**Call #: VHS 331.48164 MAIDS**
Books (Titles in red are most relevant to research topic):

Before Harlem: an anthology of African American literature from the long nineteenth century
Author: Mance, Ajuan Maria Pub Date: 2016
Auburn Avenue Research Library: 810.8 BEFORE

African American servitude and historical imaginings: retrospective fiction and representation
Author: Jordan, Margaret I. Pub Date: 2004
Auburn Avenue Research Library: 813.54 JORDAN

Amanda Berry Smith: from washerwoman to evangelist
Author: Israel, Adrienne M. Pub Date: 1998
Auburn Avenue Research Library: B SMITH

Unsung heroes: The Black boy of Atlanta; Negroes in domestic service in the United States
Author: Haynes, Elizabeth Ross Pub Date: 1997
Auburn Avenue Research Library: 920.00929 HAYNES

Across the boundaries of race and class: an exploration of work and family among Black female domestic servants
Author: Dill, Bonnie Thornton Pub Date: 1994
Auburn Avenue Research Library: 331.48164 DILL

An autobiography: the story of the Lord's dealings with Mrs. Amanda Smith, the Colored evangelist
Author: Smith, Amanda Pub Date: 1988
Auburn Avenue Research Library: B SMITH
(This source may provide historical and physical sites of Smith, a notable Washerwoman)

Americans and their servants: domestic service in the United States from 1800 to 1920
Author: Sutherland, Daniel E. Pub Date: 1981
Auburn Avenue Research Library: WR 331.4 SUTHERLAND

Seven days a week: women and domestic service in industrializing America
Author: Katzman, David M. Pub Date: 1978
Auburn Avenue Research Library: WR 331.761 KATZMAN
Dorothy Lee Bolden Thompson Collection, 1968-1996
Author: National Domestic Workers Union (U.S.) Pub Date: 1968
Auburn Avenue Archives Division: 96-005
(This source may provide historical and physical sites of Smith, a notable Washerwoman)

An autobiography : the story of the Lord's dealings with Mrs. Amanda Smith, the colored evangelist; containing an account of her life work of faith, and her travels in America, England, Ireland, Scotland, India, and Africa, as an independent missionary
Author: Smith, Amanda Pub Date: 1893
Auburn Avenue Archives Division: B SMITH
(This source may provide historical and physical sites of Smith, a notable Washerwoman)

Electronic Materials and Mixed Medias (sorted by relevance):

Atlanta Washerwomen's Strike
GALILEO ACCESS

Overlooked No More: Dorothy Bolden, Who Started a Movement for Domestic Workers
GALILEO ACCESS

Dorothy Bolden, civil rights activist and visionary labor leader
GALILEO ACCESS

Courage to Dissent : Atlanta and the Long History of the Civil Rights Movement
Author: Brown-Nagin, Tomiko Pub. Year: 2011
GALILEO ACCESS

Washerwomen finally get their page in book of working-class Black history
Author: Philadelphia Tribune Pub. Year: 1996
PROQUEST ACCESS
Suggested AFPLS and AARL Databases:

**African-American Studies Center (Oxford)**
 Provides students, teachers, and scholars with an authoritative and comprehensive source on the lives and events which have shaped African American and African history and culture.

**African-American Newspapers: The 19th Century**
 This collection of African American newspapers contains a wealth of information about cultural life and history during the 1800s and is rich with first-hand reports of the major events and issues of the day, including the Mexican War, Presidential and Congressional addresses, Congressional abstracts, business and commodity markets, the humanities, world travel and religion.

- Freedom’s Journal New York, New York March 16, 1827 - March 28, 1829
- The Colored American (Weekly Advocate) New York January 7, 1837 - December 25, 1841
- The North Star Rochester, New York December 3, 1847 - April 17, 1851
- Frederick Douglass Papers 1851-1863
- Douglass Monthly January 1859 - August 1863
- Provincial Freeman 1854-1857
- The Christian Recorder 1861 - 1902
- The Liberator January 1, 1831 - January 1, 1866

**GALILEO**
 Georgia Libraries Learning Online) a network of educational databases for all ages.

**ProQuest Historical Black Newspapers**

All [Historical Black Newspapers](#) (search across all newspapers at one time)

- Atlanta Daily World (1931-2003) The Atlanta Daily World had the first black White House correspondent and was the first black daily in the nation in the 20th century.
- The Baltimore Afro-American (1893-1988) was the most widely circulated black newspaper on the Atlantic coast. It was the first black newspaper to have correspondents reporting on World War II, foreign correspondents, and female sports correspondents.
- Chicago Defender (1910-1975) A leading African-American newspaper, with more than two-thirds of its readership outside Chicago.
- Cleveland Call and Post (1934-1991) was founded by Garrett Morgan, inventor of the gas mask and traffic light. Contributors included noted journalists Charles H. Loeb and John Fuster. The newspaper is well known for its support of the Scottsboro trial defendants with letters, clothing, stamps, and donations to the defense fund.
- Los Angeles Sentinel (1934-2005) is the oldest and largest black newspaper in the western United States and the largest African-American owned newspaper in the U.S.
- New York Amsterdam News (1922-1993) This leading Black newspaper of the 20th century reached its peak in the 1940s. The Amsterdam News was a strong advocate for the desegregation of the U.S. military during World War II, and also covered the historically important Harlem Renaissance.
- The Norfolk Journal and Guide (1921-2003) was the only black newspaper to provide on-the-scene, day-to-day coverage of the Scottsboro trial, and was one of the best researched and well written black newspapers of its time.
- The Philadelphia Tribune (1912-2001) the oldest continuously published black newspaper, is dedicated to the needs and concerns of the fourth largest black community in the U.S. During the 1930s the paper
supported the growth of the United Way, rallied against the riots in Chester, PA, and continuously fought against segregation.

- **Pittsburgh Courier (1911-2002)** was one of the most nationally circulated Black newspapers, the Courier reached its peak in the 1930s. A conservative voice in the African-American community, the Courier challenged the misrepresentation of African-Americans in the national media and advocated social reforms to advance the cause of civil rights.

**Journals and Periodicals:**

For access to specific journals, magazines and periodicals, please contact the assigned subject librarian. Contact is provided, see Historical Summary of bibliography.
Suggested Search Terms and Keywords:
-African American AND Labor Unions AND 1881 AND washerwomen strike
-Washerwomen strike AND 1881 AND Georgia AND Fulton County
-Dorothy Bolden AND domestic workers AND advocacy
-Women household employees AND black women AND Atlanta AND washerwomen
-Domestic OR labor unions AND washerwomen AND Atlanta AND African American
-Domestic Workers Union (US) AND Atlanta AND Dorothy Lee Bolden Thompson
- Dorothy Lee Bolden Thompson AND 1881 strike AND Atlanta

How to Use Booleans:

AND
- puppy
- kitten
Both terms

OR
- puppy
- kitten
Either term

NOT
- puppy
- kitten
Just one term

Boolean Operators are simple words to maximize search results.