

NARA BLACK HISTORY BASIC TRAINING

Feb 25 – Sarah Goode

[Sarah E. Goode](#) was born a slave in 1850 and moved to Chicago, Illinois after the American Civil War. An entrepreneur and inventor, she is known as the very first African American woman to receive a United States patent. She is credited with the invention of a new folding cabinet bed. She was inspired by the small housing accommodations of the day in growing cities like Chicago, where Goode owned and operated her own furniture store, and in New York City.



Records:

- ✓ [Patent File for Folding Beds](#), NAID 7560384

Reading:

- ✓ [These Four Black Women Inventors Reimagined the Technology of the Home](#), Smithsonian Magazine
- ✓ What Color is My World? The Lost History of African American Inventors (Candlewick Press), 2012