

Level 1 4.0%	Story probably not true Reason to doubt: a local oral tradition about the Underground Railroad with reason to believe that it is probably not true. Story assumed not true until shown otherwise.
Level 2 65.3%	Story probably true No reason to doubt but little or no evidence so far. Rating for sites and people linked to local stories about involvement with the Underground Railroad that sound reasonable yet lack corroborating evidence. Likely candidates include, for example, adult African-Americans born in northern states and known members of abolitionist churches.
Level 3 22.9%	Good chance the story is true Abolitionist sympathies, abolitionism or African-American background but no direct evidence of Underground Railroad activity. Potential Underground Railroad affiliation backed by oral tradition and/or some evidence of abolitionist activity, e.g., antislavery society membership, signatures on antislavery petitions, antislavery church membership. African-American birth in the South or Canada suggests involvement.
Level 4 4.3%	Story almost certainly true, with considerable indication of involvement Oral traditions related to specific sources or to groups known to be sympathetic to freedom seekers or evidence of direct involvement with the Underground Railroad. High probability of Underground Railroad involvement but lacking direct primary source evidence. Strong written evidence from others coupled with a strong oral tradition make a compelling case for Underground Railroad involvement.
Level 5 3.5%	Story true or almost certainly true, with conclusive evidence of involvement Persons or sites identified through oral histories or written sources corroborated specifically by at least one reliable primary source. Strong primary source evidence of Underground Railroad activity: stories about the Underground Railroad that are supported by a primary source recorded by someone who was actually involved. An obituary written by someone who knew the person may qualify as compelling evidence.

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