



University Libraries Special Collections & University Archives

Collection of Legal Documents Concerning Slavery

Collection Summary

Title:	Collection of Legal Documents Concerning Slavery
Call Number:	MS 87-12
Size:	0.5 linear feet
Acquisition:	Purchased from Leslie Hindman Auction, Chicago
Processed by:	LTM, 12-19-1986; JEF, 1-5-1998; MN, 9-28-2009
Restrictions:	None

Literary Rights

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Content Note

This collection of legal documents contains various papers relating to the slave trade in the United States and territories prior to the Civil War. These documents contain wills, deeds of emancipation, registers of freed slaves for census purposes, and property appraisals. They provide some understanding of the slavery issue prior to the Civil War.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1	FF 1	Contains an official complaint issued by John Green against George Donoghue regarding his slave who was not sold for the right price, dated June 24, 1703, from Fredericksburg, Virginia, and a bill of sale for three slaves from William Greenleaf of Boston, Massachusetts to Robert Auchmuty, dated 1720.
Box 1	FF 2	Contains a letter stating a complaint brought by Benjamin Covelyent, dated March 11, 1747, claiming Mumford Stevens' slave and another slave stole three hogs from Covelyant, and a letter stating that Joseph Walsh attended to a slave who belonged to Mr. George who was wounded in the head, dated March 23, 1747.

Box 1	FF 3	Contains a bill of sale from George Criswell of Fauquier County, Virginia to Charles Bursuss for the purchase of one male slave, dated April 30, 1771.
Box 1	FF 4	Contains emancipation deeds of slaves in Southampton County, Virginia, from James Stanton, dated August 13, 1782; Jordan Denson, dated August 27, 1782; Mary Picks, dated September 22, 1782; Jacob Ulrich, dated October 12, 1782; Thomas Prettons, dated November 29, 1782; Elizabeth and Ann Denson, dated December 1, 1782; Thomas Picks, dated February 10, 1785; and Richard Picks, dated February 19, 1785.
Box 1	FF 5	Contains legal documents dealing with the slave trade such as property appraisals, wills, and an emancipation deed, dated 1786-1789.
Box 1	FF 6	Contains legal documents dealing with the slave trade such as property appraisals, wills, and manumissions, dated in the 1790s.
Box 1	FF 7	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as property appraisals, deeds of emancipation, complaints against slaves for criminal offenses, and a document listing names of freed slaves that lived in Fredericksburg, dated 1800-1805, issued from the states of Virginia, Tennessee, and Kentucky.
Box 1	FF 8	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as property appraisals, issues of warrant for slaves of criminal offenses and wills, dated 1806-1807, issued from Virginia.
Box 1	FF 9	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as property appraisals, issues of warrant for slaves for criminal offenses and a document written to the commandant of the 3rd regiment of Orange County, (?) stating that he needed to be aware of a slave rebellion being planned, documents dated 1808-1809.
Box 1	FF 10	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as property appraisals, a list of freed slaves that lived in Fredericksburg, wills, and bills of sale dated 1810-1811 from Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee.
Box 1	FF 11	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as wills, emancipation deeds, and property appraisals, dated 1812-1816, issued from Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, and Tennessee.
Box 1	FF 12	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as wills, arrest warrants, and property appraisals, dated 1817- 1819.
Box 1	FF 13	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as wills, lawsuits, property appraisals, bills of sale, and a sales book, dated 1820-1824, issued from Virginia, Maryland, and Georgia.
Box 1	FF 14	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as property appraisals and emancipation deeds, dated 1825, issued from Virginia, Kentucky, and Missouri.
Box 1	FF 15	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as property appraisals, emancipation deeds, and wills, dated 1826-1827, issued from Maryland and Missouri.
Box 1	FF 16	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as wills, emancipation deeds, and bills of sale, dated 1830-1839, issued from Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee, and Missouri.

Box 1	FF 17	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as bills of sale, emancipation deeds, and property appraisals, dated 1840-1848, issued from Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, and Maryland.
Box 1	FF 18	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as bills of sale, emancipation deeds, and property appraisals, dated 1850-1859, issued mostly from the state of Missouri.
Box 1	FF 19	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as emancipation deeds, registers of free slaves, and notices of sale, dated 1860-1862, issued from the states of Missouri and Virginia.
Box 1	FF 20	Contains documents relating to the slave trade such as emancipation deeds, property appraisals, and bills of sale of unknown dates from Louisiana and Tennessee.

For information, please contact us at:

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