

A Guide to the Ball Family Papers, 1680-1785

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History

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Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

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12 leaves and 47 p.

Physical Location

Personal papers collection, Acc. 23554.

Repository

Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Presented to the library by Mr. Frank Taylor, Fredericksburg, Virginia, through Mr. George H. S. King, Fredericksburg, 29 June 1950.

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Biographical/Historical Information

Born about 1615, William Ball emigrated to Virginia and became a prosperous landowner in Lancaster County, Virginia. He served as a justice, a colonel of the militia, and as a delegate to the House of Burgesses. He fathered four children, including William Ball (1641-1694). This William Ball had nine children, including William Ball (ca. 1674-1744). He married Hannah Heale (d. ca. 1744), and they had six children, including William Ball (ca. 1700-1741). On 17 February 1723/4, he married his cousin Margaret Ball (ca. 1702-1783), the daughter of his uncle Richard Ball (ca. 1675-1726). They had six children, including William Ball (d. 1760), who had two children, including Dr. William Ball (d. 1785).

Scope and Content Information

Papers, 1680-1785, of the Ball family of Lancaster County, Virginia, consisting of: a) will, dated 5 October 1680, and recorded 10 November 1680, of William Ball (1615-1680) of Lancaster County; b) will, recorded 8 February 1726/7, of Richard Ball (ca. 1675-1726) of Lancaster County; c) inventory, recorded 9 August 1727, of the estate of Richard Ball; d) deed, dated 12 May 1733, for 1/2 acre in Lancaster County, subsequent assignments dated 29 June 1742 and 22 October 1745; e) inventory, dated October 4 1742, of the estate of William Ball Jr. (ca. 1700-1741); f) deed, dated 8 May 1747, for land and slaves from Margaret Ball (ca. 1702-1783) to William Ball (d. 1785), both of Lancaster County.

Also includes: g) Ball family genealogical chart, dated 24 August 1748; h) deed, recorded in general court 27 October 1758, for 50 acres in Lancaster County from Margaret Ball to William Ball; i) letter dated 30 October 1764, from David Boyd to Margaret Ball, concerning property inherited from her husband; j-k) depositions of James Newby (1723-1791) and Richard Ball (b. 1732), concerning the purchase of slaves by John Lee of Essex County, Virginia, from the estate of William Ball; and l) inventory, recorded 19 July 1773, in Lancaster County and 27 July 1773, in Fauquier County, Virginia, of the estate of John Ball (d. 1772).

Also includes: m) legal opinion, dated 15 April 1779, of David Boyd concerning the estate Mary Ball; n-o) legal opinions, dated 22 December 1779, of Edmund Randolph concerning the estate of Mary Ball; p) letter, dated 21 April 1780, from Margaret Ball to William Ball concerning her property; q) deposition, dated 22 September 1782, by Norman Utterback, overseer, concerning crops made on the estate of John Ball.

Also includes: r) will, dated 21 June 1777, and recorded 16 October 1783, of Margaret Ball; s) will, dated 17 June 1785, and recorded 22 July 1785, of William Ball; t) inventory, n.d., of an unidentified estate; u) list, n.d., of slaves of an unidentified estate; v) legal opinion, n.d., concerning a deed between Margaret Ball and William Ball; w) genealogical notes, n.d., on the Ball family; and x) will, n.d., of Margaret Ball.