

# A Guide to the Northumberland County (Va.) Deeds, circa 1787-1921

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A Collection in the Library of Virginia 1182758-1182759  
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2009

**Author:** Sam Walters

## History

**Processed by:** Library of Virginia staff

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Northumberland County (Va.) Deeds, circa 1787-1921

**Subtitle:** Northumberland County (Va.) Deeds, circa 1787-1921

**Collection:** 1182758-1182759

**Author:** Sam Walters

## Publication Statement

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from being created directly into EAD, created by Sam Walters, 03 February 2009

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Revision Description

**2013-11-21** Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

## Descriptive Summary

### Barcode numbers

1182758-1182759

### Language

English

### Collector

Northumberland County (Va.) Circuit Court

### Physical Characteristics

0.2 cu. ft.

### Location

Library of Virginia

## Repository

The Library of Virginia

# Administrative Information

## Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

## Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

## Acquisition Information

These items came to the Library of Virginia in a transfer of court papers from Northumberland County under the accession number 43283.

## Preferred Citation

Northumberland County (Va.) Deeds, circa 1787-1921. Local government records collection, Northumberland County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

# Adjunct Descriptive Data

## Related Material

Deed Books and Indices to Deeds for Northumberland County can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm."](#)

Additional Northumberland County Land Records can be found on microfilm at The Library of Virginia web site. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm."](#)

# Historical Information

Northumberland County probably was named for the English county. It was formed about 1645 from the district of Chickacoan, the early-seventeenth-century name for the region between the Potomac and the Rappahannock rivers.

# Scope and Content

Northumberland (Va.) Deeds, circa 1787-1921 consist of deeds of bargain and sale, deeds of gift, mortgages, deeds of trust, and deeds of emancipation. On presentation to the court, deeds were proved and recorded. If the deed was not witnessed, the grantor acknowledged the deed in open court. A few of the deeds include plats. Except for a few years early in the eighteenth century, slaves in Virginia were considered personal property and consequently were not usually sold by deed. However, they were often transferred in deeds of gift or were the property listed in mortgages and deeds of trust.

Deeds of bargain and sale are the most commonly recorded deed in which one individual sells property, usually land, but occasionally personal property, to another individual. Such deeds show the names of the grantor and grantee, the residence of both parties, a description of what is being sold, the consideration (or price), the location of the tract of land, the tract's boundaries, and any limitations on the property being sold. The deed was signed by the grantor, and possibly his wife or anyone else having a claim to the property, and by at least two witnesses. Appended to the deed may be a memorandum of livery of seisin, stating that the property has changed hands and that peaceful possession has taken place.

Deeds of gift are often found transferring property, either real or personal, from one individual to another "for love and affection." The degree of kinship, if any, between the grantor and grantee is sometimes stated.

Mortgages and deeds of trust were deeds where one party is indebted to another and transfers or mortgages property to a third party to secure the debt.

The collection may include additional record types that were recorded in deed books such as officials' bonds, fiduciary records, marriage records, road and bridge records, and bills of sale of property including slaves.

# Index Terms

## Corporate Names:

Northumberland County (Va.) Circuit Court

## **Subjects:**

African Americans -- History  
Land subdivision -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Slaveholders -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Slavery -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Slaves -- Virginia -- Northumberland County

## **Geographical Names:**

Northumberland County (Va.) -- History

## **Genre and Form Terms:**

Deeds -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Land records -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Local government records -- Virginia -- Northumberland County  
Mortgage deeds -- Virginia -- Northumberland County

## **Arrangement**

Chronological