

A Guide to the Bedford County (Va.) Recorded and Unrecorded Deeds, 1751-1925

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History

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Descriptive Summary

Barcode numbers

1183946-1183950

Language

English

Collector

Bedford County (Va.) Circuit Court

Physical Characteristics

2.00 cu. ft. (5 boxes)

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 transfer of court papers from Bedford County.

Preferred Citation

Bedford County (Va.) Recorded and Unrecorded Deeds, 1751-1925. Local Government Records Collection, Bedford County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Deed Books (1754-1902) and Indices to Deeds (1746-1930) for Bedford County can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult [A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm](#) found on the Library of Virginia web site.

Additional Bedford 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](#) found on the Library of Virginia web site.

Additional Bedford County Deeds can be found at the Bedford County Courthouse.

Historical Information

Bedford County was probably named for John Russell, fourth duke of Bedford, who, as secretary for state for the southern department from 1748 to 1751, had general supervision of colonial affairs. It was formed from Lunenburg County in 1753. Parts of Albemarle County and an additional part of Lunenburg County were added in 1755.

Scope and Content

Bedford County (Va.) Recorded and Unrecorded Deeds, 1751-1925, consist of deeds of bargain and sale, deeds of gift, mortgages, deeds of trust, and deeds of emancipation both recorded and unrecorded. Recorded deeds were proved and recorded in deed books. Unrecorded deeds were never proved and recorded in deed books. 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.

Index Terms

Corporate Names:

Bedford County (Va.) Circuit Court.

Subjects:

African Americans -- History.

Land subdivision -- Virginia -- Bedford County.

Slaveholders -- Virginia -- Bedford County.

Slavery -- Virginia -- Bedford County.

Slaves -- Virginia -- Bedford County.

Geographical Names:

Bedford County (Va.) -- History.

Genre and Form Terms:

Deeds -- Virginia -- Bedford County.

Land records -- Virginia -- Bedford County.

Local government records -- Virginia -- Bedford County.

Mortgage deeds -- Virginia -- Bedford County.

Arrangement

Recorded deeds are organized chronologically according to date deeds were recorded in deed books.

Unrecorded deeds are organized chronologically by date deeds were written.