

A Guide to the Craig County (Va.) Free and Enslaved Records, undated

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undated

A Collection in the Library of Virginia
Library of Virginia
2010

Author: Sarah Nerney

History

Processed by: S. Nerney

Title Statement

A Guide to the Craig County (Va.) Free and Enslaved Records, undated

Subtitle: Craig County (Va.) Free and Enslaved Records

Author: Sarah Nerney

Publication Statement

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MARC record, created by Sarah Nerney, 14 December 2010

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

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

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Craig County (Va.) Circuit Court.

Physical Characteristics

1 item

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Craig County (Va.) Free and Enslaved Records, undated, are digitized and available through [Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative Digital Collection](#) on the Library of Virginia website. Please use digital images.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

These records came to the Library of Virginia in a transfer of court papers from Craig County (Va.) in 2010 under accession number 44924.

Processing Information

Starting in 2023, Library of Virginia archival staff in partnership with the Virginia Untold Project Manager began efforts to describe records related to free and enslaved Black and Multiracial people in a manner that improved the historical context of the records. In doing so, in some cases material once described within the "Free and Enslaved" record group for a locality may no longer be described within this record. When this has occurred, please see the Processing Information and Related Materials section for records that have been described separately.

The bill of sale was originally described in the Craig County (Va.) Slave Bill of Sale, undated, descriptive record, but was removed to the present Craig County (Va.) Free and Enslaved Records, undated, record to enhance the context between record types in February 2026.

The bill of sale was removed from Craig County (Va.) Chancery Causes, 1853-1942 (bulk 1880-1912) by S. Nerney around 2010. It was processed, scanned, and indexed by S. Nerney and L. Neuroth for the purposes of digitizing it for the digital project Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative.

Encoded by S. Nerney: December 2010; updated by C. Collins: February 2026.

Preferred Citation

Craig County (Va.) Free and Enslaved Records, undated. Local government records collection, Craig County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Records related to free and enslaved people of Craig County (Va.) and other localities are available through the [Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative Digital Collection](#) on the Library of Virginia website.

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

Craig County is one of Virginia's Lost Records Localities. Additional Craig County records may be found in the [Lost Records Localities Digital Collection](#) available on the Library of Virginia website.

Historical Information

Context for Record Types:

Free and Enslaved Records:

The Free and Enslaved Records collection is comprised of miscellaneous records related to the regulation and policing of both enslaved and free Black and Multiracial people in Craig County. The localities/local government authorities were largely responsible for enforcing laws that restricted the movement of enslaved and free Black and Multiracial people and the resulting documentation was often filed in the circuit courts. The ways in which local authorities enacted legal measures against or on behalf of enslaved and free Black and Multiracial people varied from locality to locality; therefore, records were not necessarily standardized or filed and retained in a consistent manner. This collection is topical and a means by which to compile miscellaneous documents related to free and enslaved people that are not established local government record types.

See: the [Virginia Untold Record Types](#) on the Library of Virginia website for additional context concerning Bills of Sale.

Locality History: Craig County was named for Robert Craig, a nineteenth-century Virginia congressman. The county was formed from Botetourt, Roanoke, Giles, and Monroe (now in West Virginia) Counties in 1851, and several subsequent additions were made from Alleghany (1856), Giles (1858), Monroe (1853 and 1856), and Montgomery (1853) Counties. The county seat is New Castle.

Lost Locality Note: The courthouse was vandalized by Union troops in December 1863 and again in June 1864 during the Civil War. Deed Book A and most of the loose papers were destroyed. Pre-Civil War recorded deeds were rerecorded in Deed Books B and C. Volumes that record court orders and wills exist.

Scope and Content

Craig County (Va.) Free and Enslaved Records, undated, consist of a partial bill of sale, undated. In it, Oliver Callaghan of Botetourt County, Virginia, agreed to sell Judy and Alfred, her son, to Andrew Walker of Monroe County, Virginia [now Monroe County, West Virginia], for \$550.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged

- Series I: Free and Enslaved Records, undated, arranged chronologically.

Contents List

Series I: Free and Enslaved Records, undated

Extent

Extent: 1 item

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Arrangement

Arranged chronologically

Barcode number 1205722: Free and Enslaved Records, undated

Library of Virginia