

A Guide to Franklin County Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1808

Franklin County (Va.) Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1808
1808

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History

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Descriptive Summary

Barcode number

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Language

English

Collector

Franklin County (Va.) Circuit Court.

Physical Characteristics

1 folder

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

This item came to the Library of Virginia in shipments of court papers from Franklin County.

Preferred Citation

Franklin County (Va.) Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1808. Local government records collection, Franklin County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Historical Information

John Hook, 1745-1808, was a prominent businessman, landowner, and slaveholder in Bedford and Franklin Counties, Virginia. He also served as sheriff of Franklin County.

Nanny Pegée was a slave of Thomas Jones of North Carolina. Jones moved to Franklin County, Virginia in 1781 bringing Pegée with him. Pegée was sold to John Hook to repay a debt owed him by Jones.

In 1803, Nanny Pegée sued John Hook for her freedom in the County Court of Montgomery County. She wanted financial restitution for damages due to assault and battery and false imprisonment. The jury ruled in Pegée's favor in 1804; however, but the court annulled the verdict and ordered a new trial. In 1807, the District Court of Staunton ordered the trial be removed from the County Court of Montgomery County to the District Court of Franklin County. The chancellor of the Western District of Virginia ordered the clerk of Montgomery County to deposit the Pegée trial papers with the clerk of the District Court of Franklin County. In 1808, the District Court jury ruled in Pegée's favor. Hook immediately appealed to the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia. In 1811, the Supreme Court of Appeals affirmed the verdict of the District Court of Franklin County.

Scope and Content

Franklin County (Va.) Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1808, consists of one freedom suit: Nanny Pegée et cetera versus John Hook and Zachariah Stanley, 1808 Apr. These are the original court papers from the freedom suit of slaves Nanny Pegée and her children against Hook and Stanley alleging charges of trespass assault battery (often abbreviated TAB) and false imprisonment. Included are the papers associated with the original suit from Montgomery County, VA, including Pegée's narratio, pleas, bonds, and copious affidavits and depositions as well as papers associated with the retrials and appeals in various Franklin County courts, the Supreme Court of Appeals in Richmond, and the district court in Staunton.

Index Terms

Persons:

Hook, John, 1745-1808.

Pegée, Nanny

Corporate Names:

Franklin County (Va.) Circuit Court.

Subjects:

African Americans -- Virginia -- Franklin County.

Civil law -- Virginia -- Franklin County.

False imprisonment -- Virginia -- Franklin County.

Slaveholders -- Virginia -- Franklin County.
Slavery -- Virginia -- Franklin County.
Trespass -- Virginia -- Franklin County.

Geographical Names:

Virginia -- History -- 19th century.

Genre and Form Terms:

Civil court records -- Virginia -- Franklin County.
Depositions -- Virginia -- Franklin County.
Local government records -- Virginia -- Franklin County.

Added Entry - Corporate Name:

Franklin County (Va.) District Court.
Montgomery County (Va.) County Court.
Staunton (Va.) District Court
Virginia Supreme Court.
Virginia. Supreme Court of Appeals