

# A Guide to the Henry County (Va.) Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1773-1831

Henry County (Va.) Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1773-1831  
1773-1831

---

A Collection in the Library of Virginia 0007573897  
Library of Virginia  
2015

**Author:** Greg Crawford

## History

**Processed by:** LVA staff

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Henry County (Va.) Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1773-1831

**Subtitle:** Henry County (Va.) Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1773-1831

**Collection:** 0007573897

**Author:** Greg Crawford

## Publication Statement

**Date:** ©2015 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

**Publisher:** Library of Virginia

[Conditions of Use](#)

## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from being created directly into EAD, created by Greg Crawford, 13 April 2015

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Descriptive Summary

**Barcode number**

0007573897

**Language**

English

**Collector**

Henry County (Va.) Circuit Court

**Physical Characteristics**

.15 cu. ft.

**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 Henry County.

**Preferred Citation**

Henry County (Va.) Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1773-1831. Local government records collection, Henry County (Va.) County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

## Adjunct Descriptive Data

## Related Material

Additional Henry County court records can be found at the Library of Virginia.

## Historical Information

Henry County was named for Patrick Henry, who was the first governor of the commonwealth of Virginia. It was formed from Pittsylvania County in 1776. The county court first met on 20 January 1777. Part of Patrick County was added later in 1858. The county seat was previously in Martinsville but has been moved near Collinsville.

Slaves could sue for emancipation if they were descendant(s) of a free female ancestor, typically a Native American (Hening Statutes, volume 2, p.170.)

## Scope and Content

Henry County (Va.) County Judgments (Freedom Suits), 1773-1831, consist of two freedom suits: Hannah~ alias Hannah Fender or Fendley vs. John Marr and a writ of habeas corpus petition filed by Robert Bird.

## Index Terms

**Corporate Names:**

Henry County (Va.) Circuit Court.

**Subjects:**

African Americans -- History -- Virginia -- Henry County.

Slaveholders -- Virginia -- Henry County.

Slavery -- Virginia -- Henry County.

**Geographical Names:**

Henry County (Va.) -- History.

**Genre and Form Terms:**

Civil actions -- Virginia -- Henry County.

Freedom suits -- Virginia -- Henry County.

Judicial records -- Virginia -- Henry County.

Local government records -- Virginia -- Henry County.