

A Guide to the Caroline County (Va.) Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth, 1859

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1859

A Collection in the Library of Virginia

Library of Virginia

2024

History

Processed by: LVA Staff

Title Statement

A Guide to the Caroline County (Va.) Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth, 1859

Subtitle: Caroline County (Va.) Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth, 1859

Author: Mary Ann Mason

Publication Statement

Date: © 2024 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MS Word, created by Mary Ann mason, 25 June 2024

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Caroline County (Va.) Circuit Court

Physical Characteristics

1 item.

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Caroline County (Va.) Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth, 1859, 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 transfer of court papers from Caroline County in an undated accession.

Processing Information

The Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth, were originally described as part of the Caroline County (Va.) Free and Enslaved Records, but were removed to the present Caroline County (Va.) Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth record in June 2024.

These records have been processed, scanned, and indexed by L. Neuroth and other LVA staff for the purposes of digitizing them for the digital project Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative.

Encoded by M. Mason, June 2024

Preferred Citation

Caroline County (Va.) Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth, 1859 . Local government records collection, Caroline County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

See also: [Caroline County \(Va.\) Free and Enslaved Records, 1788-1864](#)

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

Additional Caroline County (Va.) court records can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult "[A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm.](#)"

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

Historical Information

Context for Record Type: Sometimes referred to as "Applications to Remain," these records are applications that formerly enslaved individuals submitted to state and local courts for permission to remain in Virginia with their free status. The Virginia General Assembly passed a law stating that all formerly enslaved people freed after 1 May 1806 who remained in Virginia more than twelve months could be put on trial by the state. Individuals who wished to remain in the commonwealth were to petition the state legislature. In 1816, a new Act of Assembly gave the local courts power to grant permission to remain. The documents in these cases will include: the name(s) of the petitioner(s), the circumstances of free status, and a request to remain in the county. Individuals needed to prove that they had in fact been emancipated. Therefore, application packets might also include supporting documents such as the formerly enslaved person's register, a copy of a will or deed of emancipation, or witness statements known as affidavits.

Locality History: Caroline County was named for Caroline of Anspach, wife of King George II. It was formed from Essex, King and Queen, and King William Counties on 1 May 1728, and additional parts of King and Queen County were added in 1742 and in 1763.

Lost Locality Note: Created in 1728. Most loose records and deed books prior to 1836 and will books prior to 1853 were stolen, mutilated, and/or destroyed by Union troops who ransacked the courthouse in May 1864. A near-complete run of order books exists.

Scope and Content

Caroline County (Va.) Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth, 1859, consists of one petition of Cornelius F. Tyree consisting of signatures from residents of Caroline County attesting to Cornelius's good character.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged

- Series I: Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth, 1859, arranged chronologically

Contents List

Series I: Petitions to Remain in the Commonwealth 1859

Extent

1 item

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Arrangement

arranged chronologically

Barcode number 1116115: Free and enslaved records, 1788-1864

Library of Virginia