

# A Guide to the Staunton (Va.) Deeds, 1839-1986

Staunton (Va.) Deeds, circa 1839-1986  
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A Collection in the Library of Virginia 1090251-1090255, 1141314-1141376

Library of Virginia

2008

**Author:** Sam Walters

## History

**Processed by:** Library of Virginia staff

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Staunton (Va.) Deeds, 1839-1986

**Subtitle:** Staunton (Va.) Deeds, circa 1839-1986

**Collection:** 1090251-1090255, 1141314-1141376

**Author:** Sam Walters

## Publication Statement

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**Publisher:** Library of Virginia

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## Profile Description

**Creation:** Machine-readable finding aid derived from being created directly into EAD, created by Sam Walters, 21 February 2008

**Language Usage:** Description is in English

## Revision Description

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

## Descriptive Summary

### Barcode numbers

1090251-1090255, 1141314-1141376

### Language

English

### Collector

Staunton (Va.) Circuit Court

### Physical Characteristics

68 boxes

### Location

State Records Center - Archives Annex, 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 shipments of court papers from the city of Staunton.

## Preferred Citation

Staunton (Va.) Deeds, circa 1839-1986. Local Government Records Collection, Staunton (City) Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

# Adjunct Descriptive Data

## Related Material

Deed Books and Indices to Deeds for Staunton can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm."](#)

Additional Staunton 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."](#)

# Historical Information

The City of Staunton, in Augusta County, was named, according to tradition, for Rebecca Staunton, wife of Sir William Gooch, lieutenant governor of Virginia from 1727 to 1749. Staunton was laid out in 1748 at the site of the Augusta County courthouse and was established as a town in 1761. It was incorporated as a town in 1801 and as a city in 1871.

# Scope and Content

Staunton (Va.) Deeds, circa 1839-1986 consist of deeds of bargain and sale, deeds of gift, mortgages, deeds of trust, and indexes to deeds. On presentation to the court, deeds were proved and recorded. If the deed was not witnessed, the grantor acknowledged the deed in open court. 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.

The collection may include additional record types that were recorded in deed books such as officials' bonds, fiduciary records, marriage records, road and bridge records, and bills of sale of property including slaves.

# Index Terms

## Corporate Names:

Staunton (Va.) Circuit Court

## **Subjects:**

African Americans -- History  
Land subdivision -- Virginia -- Staunton  
Slaveholders -- Virginia -- Staunton  
Slavery -- Virginia -- Staunton  
Slaves -- Virginia -- Staunton

## **Geographical Names:**

Staunton (Va.) -- History

## **Genre and Form Terms:**

Deeds -- Virginia -- Staunton  
Land records -- Virginia -- Staunton  
Local government records -- Virginia -- Staunton  
Mortgage deeds -- Virginia -- Staunton

## **Arrangement**

Chronological