

A Guide to the Louisa County (Va.) Certificates of Importation, 1792, 1813

Louisa County (Va.) Certificates of Importation, 1792, 1813
1792, 1813

A Collection in the Library of Virginia
Library of Virginia
2026

History

Processed by: C. Freed; M. Mason

Title Statement

A Guide to the Louisa County (Va.) Certificates of Importation, 1792, 1813

Subtitle: Louisa County (Va.) Certificates of Importation, 1792, 1813

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Publication Statement

Date: © 2026 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, 03 February 2026

Language Usage: Description is in English

Descriptive Summary

Language

English

Collector

Louisa County (Va.) Circuit Court.

Physical Characteristics

2 items.

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Louisa County (Va.) Certificates of Importation, 1792, 1813, 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 transfers of court papers from Louisa County under an undated accession

Processing Information

Louisa County (Va.) Certificates of Importation were previously described with the Louisa County (Va.) Free and Enslaved records, but were removed to this record in January 2026 to increase discoverability.

These records have been scanned and indexed by Library of Virginia staff for the purposes of digitizing them for the digital project Virginia Untold: The African American Narrative.

Encoded by M. Mason: January 2026

Preferred Citation

Louisa County (Va.) Certificates of Importation, 1792, 1813. Local government records collection, Louisa County Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

See also: [Louisa County \(Va.\) Free and Enslaved Records](#)

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

Additional Louisa 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.](#)"

Historical Information

Context of Record Type: In 1778, Governor Patrick Henry enacted legislation preventing importation of enslaved people into the commonwealth. Those that did bring their enslaved people were required to register them with the county court and sign a certificate of importation agreeing that they were not bringing enslaved people into the commonwealth with the intent to sell. The enslaved person is sometimes named, but not always, and occasionally information is given as to age, birthdate, and the state from which the individuals were moving. According to Section 3 of the act "every slave imported into this commonwealth contrary to the true intent and meaning of this act, shall upon such importation become free." By this clause, those enslaved people who were brought into Virginia illegally could pursue their freedom in the local courts.

Locality History: Louisa County was formed in 1742 from Hanover County.

Scope and Content

Louisa County (Va.) certificates of Importation, 1792,1813, consists of certificate, 1792, of Benjamin Litchworth (enslaved individuals not named); and certificate, 1813, of Thomas Turner moving from Tennessee to Virginia with Mary, Rachel D. Aggy, Venus

Arrangement

This collection is arranged

- Series I:Certificates of Importation, 1792,1813

Contents List

Series I: Certificates of Importation, 1792,1813

Extent

2 items [use digital images]

Physical Location Library of Virginia

Barcode number 1153190: Free and Enslaved Records. 1770-1865

Library of Virginia