

# Say, Benjamin, Deed

Benjamin Say Deed

1787



## Title Statement

Say, Benjamin, Deed Benjamin Say Deed, 1787 Ms.2010.044

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## Profile Description

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## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.2010.044

### Unit Date

1787

### Language

The material in the collection is in English.

### Abstract

The collection contains a deed between Benjamin Say and Richard Mason in 1787 for the purchase of 5,000 acres of land located on the west fork of the Monongalia River, situated in Harrison and Monongalia counties, Virginia (now West Virginia).

### Extent

1 Cubic Feet 1 oversize folder

### Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

## Administrative Information

### **Conditions Governing Access**

The collection is open for research.

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### **Source of Acquisition**

The Benjamin Say Deed was purchased by Special Collections in 2010.

### **Processing Information**

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Benjamin Say Deed were commenced and completed in June 2010.

### **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Benjamin Say Deed, Ms2010-044, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

## **Biographical Note**

Benjamin Say, the seller on the deed, was a "physick" or physician based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The purchaser on the deed, Richard Mason, was a merchant who came from the same city. No other information could be found.

## **Historical Note**

Monongalia County, Virginia, where a portion of this deed's land was situated, was founded in 1776. Harrison County, where the 5,000 acres of land were mainly situated, was created from Monongalia County in 1784. It was named for Virginia governor Benjamin Harrison, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and father of future president William Henry Harrison. In 1787, the same year of the deed's creation, the first courthouse was built in Harrison County. During the American Civil War, Harrison and Monongalia counties joined West Virginia, which seceded from Virginia when it seceded from the Union in 1861. West Virginia was admitted to the Union in 1863.

External Sources:

Dilger, Dr. Robert J. "Harrison County History." *Harrison County Economic Development*. WVU Institute for Public Affairs. Web. 24 June 2010.  
<https://web.archive.org/web/20100614213849/www.polsci.wvu.edu/wv/Harrison/harihhistory.html>, accessed May 5, 2023.

Dilger, Dr. Robert J. "Monongalia County History." *Monongalia County Economic Development*. WVU Institute for Public Affairs. Web. 23 June 2010.  
<https://web.archive.org/web/20100616235035/http://www.polsci.wvu.edu/wv/Monongalia/monhistory.html>, accessed May 5, 2023.

## **Scope and Content**

This collection consists of a deed of sale between Benjamin Say and Richard Mason for the sale of 5,000 acres in 1787. The deed describes the land as situated on the west fork of the Monongalia River, straddling the two Virginian (now part of West Virginia) counties of Monongalia and Harrison. The document was drawn up and signed in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It states that on December 13, the full purchase amount of one hundred and twenty five pounds will be paid. Additionally, it names Samuel Hanway as the land's surveyor.

## **Keywords**

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South  
Say, Benjamin, 1755-1813  
Mason, Richard

# Rights Statement for Archival Description

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## Description of Subordinate Components

### **Deed**

**Unit Date** 1787

**oversize** 1 (folder)