

A Guide to the James Mercer Slave Pass, October 29-30, 1771

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History

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Title Statement

A Guide to the James Mercer Slave Pass, October 29-30, 1771

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Descriptive Summary

Manuscript number

MS 001771OCT30

Language

English

Creators

James Mercer, 1736-1793. Thomas Oliver, fl. 1770-1790. Jonathan Martin, fl. 1771.

Extent

1 item.

Repository

John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Administrative Information

Access

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Gift, 1975.

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James Mercer Slave Pass, Manuscript MS 01771OCT30, John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Library, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Alternative Form

Transcript (TR/00/1771/Oct 30) and microfilm (M-1561) also available.

Biographical/Historical Information

James Mercer was a planter and politician of Fredericksburg, Va. He served in the House of Burgesses, General Assembly, the Virginia constitutional convention of 1776, the committee of safety, and in the Continental Congress. He also served as a judge of the general court and of the court of appeals.

Scope and Content Information

Safe conduct pass for two slaves, "Negro Bobb, coachman & Negro George, postillion", to travel from Fredericksburg, Virginia to Williamsburg "with a coach and six horses". Signed by Mercer's steward, Thomas Oliver. Requests the slaves be afforded hospitality at inns along the way; reverse contains an account of expenses signed by Jonathan Martin.

Index Terms

Persons:

Mercer, James, 1736-1793.

Oliver, Thomas, fl. 1770- 1790.

Martin, Jonathan, fl. 1771.

Subjects:

Slavery--Virginia--History--18th century--Sources.

Travel costs--Virginia--History--18th century--Sources.

Geographical Names:

Fredericksburg (Va.)--History--18th century-- Sources.

