

1720-1791. Resistance to Slavery on Long Island

1720. Will of Richard Smith of Smithtown (Will of Richard Smith, April 26, 1720)

Source: *A Forgotten People: Discovering The Black Experience In Suffolk County*. Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, 93 North Country Road, Setauket, N.Y. 11733, p. 77.

... Item I give unto my son Richd my young negro boy called Stephen

Item I give unto my son Nathll my negro boy called John

Item I give unto my wife Hannah the use of my two negro men also a young Negro girl as long as she remains my widow

Item my will is that after my wifes death or marriage that the use of the negro girl shall descend to my eldest Daughter Sarah.

Item I give unto my son Richd after ye marriage or decease of my wife my Negro man called Harry

Item My will is that if my mullato Dick continues villanous and stubborn then my overseers shall dispose of him and ye effects to be employed for the use of my wife and children ...

1754. Will of Thomas Moore (EHFL)

Source: *A Forgotten People: Discovering The Black Experience In Suffolk County*. Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, 93 North Country Road, Setauket, N.Y. 11733, p. 77.

... I give to my Beloved wife Hannah ... my Negro woman called Hagar During the Time she shall remain my Widow and my Negro man called Pompie if he behaveth well. but if otherwise then my Executors to sell him & the money to be Disposed of by my Executors for the Good of my Estate att ther Discretion.

1772. Justice Nathaniel Brewster , Bellport , Brookhaven (SUNY)

Source: *New York Gazette and Weekly Mercury*, June 19, 1772. *A Forgotten People: Discovering The Black Experience In Suffolk County*. Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, 93 North Country Road, Setauket, N.Y. 11733, p. 78.

About four o'clock last Monday afternoon Nathaniel Brewster Esq. being in the woods with one of his negroes, attempted to correct him for some misdemeanor, which the negro resented, and wounded his master by giving several such heavy blows on his head with a billet of wood, that he expired the next morning. The negro was tried the next day, and being found guilty of the murder of Mr. Brewster, was to be executed last Friday.

1791. Runaway Advertisement (*Frothingham's Long Island Herald*, 31 May 31, 1791. EHFL)

Source: *A Forgotten People: Discovering The Black Experience In Suffolk County*. Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, 93 North Country Road, Setauket, N.Y. 11733, p. 78.

Ran away from the Subscriber, about three years and a half ago, a Negro man, named Tom, between 90 and 100 years of age, had on when he went away, a snuff coloured great coat, white plush breeches, blue yarn stockings; one leg somewhat shorter than the other; about 4 feet high, Africa born, spoke very broken. Whomever will bring said Negro to his master shall receive SIX PENCE Reward, and no charges paid by

LEMUEL PEIRSON

N.B. All persons are forbid harbouring said Negro at their peril.

Southampton, May 31, 1791.