

1809-1814. Long Island Bills of Sale and Lease

Source: Moss, Richard (1993). Slavery on Long island: A Study in local institutional and early African-American communal life.

1814. Bill of Sale for Harry (Moss, 195)

Know all Men by these Presents that I Abraham Demarest of the Township of Herrington, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, in consideration of the Sum of one Hundred [?] Dollars in hand paid do bargain and sell unto Obadiah Willits of the Township of Oysterbay, in Queens County and State of New York one Negroe Man named Harry aged about twenty five years to him his Heirs Executors Administrators and Assigns for ever, of which said Negroe Man Harry I have put in full possession at the sealing of these Presents. And I will warrant and defend the said Obadiah Willits in the peaceable possession of the said Negroe for me my Heirs and Executors for ever.

Witness this my hand and Seal this 26 Day of July in the year One Thousand eight hundred and fourteen 1814. Sealed and delivered In the presence of Abm Demarest David Rogers Abraham Vanderbilt

1809. Lease Agreement for Peter (Moss, 196)

Know all men by these Presents that I David Sherry of the Town of East Hampton in the County of Suffolk and State of New York for and in consideration of the sum of fifty seven Dollars and ninety cents to me in hand paid by John Smith Esquire of the Town of Brookhaven in the County of Suffolk aforesaid have bargain & sold and delivered and by these presents doth bargain sell and deliver unto the said John Smith for the term one whole year a Servant man named Peter To have and to hold the said servant Peter unto him the said John Smith for the said term of one whole year or until the fourth Day of July in the Year one thousand eight hundred and nine and no longer. During all which term of time the Said servant Peter shall be under the sole direction and at the disposal of the said John Smith with out any [?] or hinderance from me the said Servant peter unto him the said John Smith against the lawful claims of all persons for and during the said term of one Year or until the fourth of July one thousand eight hundred & nine and no longer ____

In witnefs whereof I have hereunto Set my hand & Seal on the fourth day of July one thousand eight hundred and eight
Signed and Sealed in the presence of David Sherry, Jona[than] Dayton, Burnham [?} Sherry