

To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the general Assembly of  
Virginia, The petition of William Martin  
respectfully sheweth

That previous to the estab-  
lishment of the Town of Haymarket in the  
County of Prince William and at the time of the  
passage of the law authorizing the removal of  
the District Court formerly held in Dumfries to the  
above mentioned Town he was the proprietor of  
the land which is now the site of said Town  
and also of that upon which the publick  
Buildings were erected for the accommodation  
of the Court and its officers, that your petitioner  
influenced by the prospect of advantage to  
his property in and about Haymarket was  
induced to make a voluntary grant of  
about three acres of land on which the aforesaid  
publick Buildings now stand which will  
appear by his deed of conveyance to the Com-  
missioners appointed by law to erect the  
same, that in consequence of the abolition  
of the District Court the object the attainment  
of which was the inducement to the said grant has  
been totally defeated, your petitioner under a con-  
-viction that the said Court was permanently fixed at  
Haymarket, expended a considerable sum of Money  
on improvements, in the said Town, that he  
made a large addition to a Tavern for the ac-  
-commodation of those whose business brought  
them to the Court and by the late Change this  
property has been rendered of little value to  
him, your Petitioner further sheweth that  
the inconvenience which he suffers from  
having parted with the lot on which the

public buildings stand is greater than the  
mere top of that quantity of land because  
from its peculiar situation it disables  
him from inclosing his adjoining fields  
unless at a considerable additional ex-  
pence, Wherefore your petitioner  
prays your Honourable body either to  
annul the grant before mentioned  
or to make him a reasonable compen-  
-sation for the land and he will ever  
pray &c &c

W<sup>m</sup> Minter

Wm. Skinner's  
Petition  
recd Dec 9. 1811  
& ref. to ~~Chair~~  
Prop. of

(reasonable)  
reported  
Bill drawn

We the Undersigned Commissioners appointed  
by Act of the Assembly of Virg<sup>a</sup> to give an  
a suitable Spot to erect the District  
buildings on composing the District of Prince  
William Fairfax, Loudon & Fausg<sup>t</sup>. as also  
to let Superintend and conduct the erection  
of sd<sup>d</sup> buildings, do certify that we obtained  
a Deed from William Skinner J<sup>r</sup> for  
abd. three acres of land for the above  
purpose, for which we made him no  
compensation ~~given~~ given from under  
our hands this 25<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1811

Wm<sup>d</sup> Edmonds J<sup>r</sup>

Fausg<sup>t</sup> County to wit

William Edmonds appeared before  
me a Justice of the Peace for said County and made oath  
to the above Certificate Given under my hand this 25<sup>th</sup> day  
Nov<sup>r</sup> 1811.

John Edmonds J<sup>r</sup>

Being called upon by Mr. William Skinner to state what compensation was advanced to him by the Commissioners of the Public Buildings at Hay-Market, for the ground upon which the said Buildings stand: ~~we do hereby~~ certify that no pecuniary consideration was given, or agreed to be given by us, who acted as Commissioners appointed by Law to choose the Site upon which they were erected; and that none was required by the said Skinner, who voluntarily gave the ground in consideration of the influence which he supposed that the exertion of a District Court Bench would have, on the value of his Lots, and other property in the Town of Hay-Market, where the said Buildings stand. —

Given under our hands this 20<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1811.

E Brooke.

The above certificate sworn to <sup>by E Brooke</sup> before me, the Subscriber, a Justice of the Peace for the County of P. M. William this 20<sup>th</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup> 1811.

W. J. Washington

This Indenture made the fourth day of September  
in the year one Thousand Eight hundred and one Between  
William Shinker Sen<sup>r</sup> of Prince William County in the state  
of Virginia William Shinker Jun<sup>r</sup> and Harriet his wife  
of Fauquier County and state aforesaid of one part. And  
William Edmonds Jun<sup>r</sup> Israel Lacy and Edmond Brooke  
Survivors commissioners under a Law enacted by the Legislature  
of Virginia entitled "an act appointing commissioners to fix  
the place for holding the Court in the District composed  
of the Counties of Prince William, Fairfax Loudoun and  
Fauquier" of the other part Witnesseth that the said  
William Shinker Sen<sup>r</sup> William Shinker Jun<sup>r</sup> Harriet his  
wife for and in consideration of the sum of Five pounds  
Lawfull money of Virginia to them in hand paid at the  
time of sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt of  
which is hereby acknowledged Have granted Bargained  
and sold and do by these presents grant bargain and sell  
alien enfeoff and confirm to the said William Edmonds Jun<sup>r</sup>  
Israel Lacy and Edmond Brooke commissioners as aforesaid  
and to their heirs and <sup>successors</sup> a certain piece or parcel of land  
situate lying and being in Prince William County adjoining  
the Town of Haymarket being the place designated by commis-  
sioners appointed by <sup>the</sup> aforesaid Law as the most proper situation  
for erecting the buildings for the use of the District Courts  
held for the said District Beginning at a pear tree in an  
Orchard near the said Town and Running thence North  
Twenty Eight Degrees East Twenty seven and an half poles  
Thence North Sixty two degrees west Sixteen poles Thence  
South Twenty Eight Degrees west Twenty Seven and an half  
poles thence South Sixty two degrees East Sixteen poles to the  
Beginning containing Two and an half acres and two perches be-  
the same more or less together with all and singular the Houses  
woods

woods ways and Commodities to the said tract or parcel of  
land belonging or appertaining I have and to hold  
the aforesaid tract of Land and premises and all & singular  
the appurtenances aforesaid to them the said W<sup>m</sup> Edmonds  
Israel Lacy and Edmond Brooke surviving commissioners as  
aforesaid and to the Survivors and Survivor of them and to their  
successors forever and to the heirs of the <sup>Survivors</sup> of them and  
to such other person or persons who may be legally appointed  
to succeed them as commissioners Trustees or by whatsoever  
name called in perpetuity and free and clear of all incum-  
brances whatsoever heretofore made done or suffered by the  
said William Shinker, William Shinker Jun<sup>r</sup> & Harriet  
his wife. To and for the use intent and purpose of erecting  
thereon a Court house and other public buildings for the  
accommodation of the District Courts which may hereafter  
be held on the said tract or Lott of Land and to and for  
such other uses intents and purposes as the Commonwealth  
of Virginia shall and may at any time hereafter direct  
and appoint. And the said William Shinker, William  
Shinker Jun<sup>r</sup> and Harriet his wife do for themselves and  
their heirs covenant grant and agree to and with the said  
William Edmonds Jun<sup>r</sup> Israel Lacy & Edmond Brooke  
Commissioners as aforesaid and their heirs and <sup>successors</sup> assigns forever  
That they will at all times hereafter when therein required  
make do and Execute any further and other Deeds or Deeds  
for the more sure and perfect conveyance and assurance of  
the said tract of Land and premises as by them the said  
William Edmonds Jun<sup>r</sup> Israel Lacy & Edmond Brooke  
and their heirs and Successors or their Counsel learned  
in the Law shall be devised and required. And Lastly  
the said William Shinker and William Shinker Jun<sup>r</sup>  
do for themselves and of each of them and for their and  
each of their Heirs, by these presents forever warrant and  
Defend the aforesaid tract of Land and premises to them  
the said William Edmonds Jun<sup>r</sup> Israel Lacy & Edmond Brooke  
Commissioners aforesaid and to the Survivors & Survivor of them  
and

and the  
aforesaid  
incumbr  
demands  
shall be  
same to  
William  
his wife  
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Signed  
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W<sup>m</sup> M  
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and their heirs and Successors forever to and for the  
aforesaid uses intents and purposes free and clear of all  
incumbrances and against the right title interest claim and  
demands of all and every person or persons whomsoever or hereafter  
shall legally claim any right title or interest of in or to the  
same or to any part thereof In Witness whereof the said  
William Shinker D<sup>r</sup> William Shinker Jun<sup>r</sup> & Harriet  
his wife have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals  
the Day and year first herein written

Signed Sealed & Delivered  
In presence of  
W<sup>m</sup> Washington as to W<sup>m</sup> Sh<sup>r</sup>  
James Campbell D<sup>r</sup>  
Thacher Washington D<sup>r</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> Shinker D<sup>r</sup> Seal  
W<sup>m</sup> Shinker D<sup>r</sup> Seal  
Harriet Shinker Seal

The Commonwealth of Virginia to the Justices of the County  
of Fauquier Gentlemen Greeting whereas William Shinker  
Jun<sup>r</sup> and Harriet his wife by their certain Deed of feoffment  
Dated the 4<sup>th</sup> Day of September 1801 have sold and conveyed  
unto William Edmonds and others as will appear having  
reference to the Deed the fee simple estate of and in Two  
and one half acres and Two perches of Land situate in the  
County of Prince William and Commonwealth aforesaid and  
whereas the said Harriet Shinker cannot conveniently  
travel to the County Court of Prince William aforesaid  
to make acknowledgement of the same therefore power is  
hereby given unto you or any two of you to receive the acknow-  
-ledgement which the said Harriet Shinker shall be willing  
to make before you of the conveyance aforesaid contained in the  
said deed which is hereto annexed and you are therefore comm-  
-manded that you do call and cause to come before you the  
said Harriet Shinker and examine her privately and apart  
from her said Husband whether she doth the same freely  
and



and voluntarily without the persuasions or threats of her  
said Husband and whether she be willing the same should  
be recorded in the County Court of Prince Williams afo<sup>r</sup>  
and when you have taken her acknowledgement and  
examined her as aforesaid, that you distinctly and  
openly certify the Justices of our said County Court thereof  
under your seals Sending these things writ Witness John  
Williams Clerk of our said Court at the Court house  
thereof this 5<sup>th</sup> Day of September 1801 and in the 26<sup>th</sup>  
year of our Foundation

John Williams

Tauquigier County Va.

In obedience to the within writ we the Subscribers  
have examined the within named Harriet Shinker  
privily and apart from her husband Mr Shinker and do  
hereby certify that she did acknowledge she willingly  
signed and sealed the Deed hereto annexed & consented  
that it may be recorded in the County Court of Prince Wm<sup>s</sup>

Given under our hands and seals this 5<sup>th</sup> Day  
of September 1801

Sam<sup>l</sup> Blackwell Seal

John Blackwell Seal

At a Court held for Prince Williams County the 5<sup>th</sup> Day  
of October 1801

This deed from William Shinker Mr Shinkers  
Jun<sup>r</sup> and Harriet his wife to W<sup>m</sup> Edwards, Inael Lacy  
and Edmond Brooks was acknowledged by the said William  
Shinker Jun<sup>r</sup> and together with the Deedimus for the same  
Examination of the same (returned Executed) were ordered to  
be recorded

A Copy Teste

Teste John Williams Clerk

John Williams Clerk