

# TRANSCRIPTION

Thomas Newton Freed Francis Drake, May 23, 1791

Virginia Norfolk Borough

Know all Men by these presents that I Thomas Newton the Younger for divers good Causes me thereunto moving, Do by these presents Manumit and set free my Servant Man Commonly called Frak Drake, And I do further declare the said Negro Man Frank Drake, to be liberated and set free to all intince & and purposes, agreable to the Act of General Assembly\* passed in the Year One thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty two Entitled "An Act to Authorize the Manumission of Slaves." In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal the 23<sup>d</sup> day of May 1791.

Signed Sealed and

Tho<sup>s</sup> Newton 3<sup>d</sup> {Seal}

delivered in presence of

Tho<sup>s</sup> Mathews

Norfolk Borough

At a Hustings Court Held the 23 day of May 1791. Thomas Newton the Younger, Deed of Emancipation of his Slave Francis Drake, was acknowledged by the said Thomas Newton and Ordered to be Recorded

Teste.

ALEX<sup>N</sup> MOSELEY c.n.b

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\* The writer of this document used the long or leading s, a character that looks similar to a backwards "f" but is used as an "s," often as the first of a double s as in assign or address.

Citation: Manumission of Francis Drake, dated 23 May 1791, Norfolk City Deed Book 1, 1784–1791, Local Government Records Collection, Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia.