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005 Kent County Court for the Trial of Negro Slaves  
140 Court Papers  
200 1749  
210 1788  
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241 0.14 cubic feet, (14 folders)  
261 Legal documents filed for criminal cases involving slaves. Among the records included are informations, summonses and subpoenas, venirees for freeholders, recognizances, depositions and examinations, a record of a trial and conviction (1786), and court costs (1764-1766)

27X Entries on the **informations** include name of Attorney General, name and occupation of slave, county and, at times, hundred of residence, name and occupation of master, date and location of crime, crime with which charged, and signature of Attorney General. Reverse shows date, plaintiff (Dom Rex or the King) and defendant, type of document, crime, names of prosecutor and witnesses, if any. Entries on the **venirees for freeholders** include names of two justices convening the court, name of constable ordered to summon freeholders, names of six freeholders, reason for summons, date and place of special court, name of slave and crime with which charged, directions to give freeholders, notification to summon all officers necessary to hold court (sheriff, constable, coroner), date of venire, and signature of the clerk of the court. Reverse shows names of plaintiff and defendant, type of document, and the names of the constable executing the summonses and of the freeholders summoned. Entries on **summonses and subpoenas** include name of constable to execute writ, name(s) of person(s) summoned, place and date of required appearance, reason for summons, date of summons, and the signature of the clerk of the court. Reverse shows names of plaintiff and defendant, type of document, names of those summoned or subpoenaed, reason, and notation written by constable of his actions.

**Recognizances** generally show date; name, occupation, and hundred of residence of recognizancee; name and position of person taking recognizance; amount of bond; conditions of recognizance; date; and signature of person receiving recognizance. Reverse shows plaintiff and defendant, date of required court appearance. **Depositions and examinations** contain the sworn statements of witnesses or the accused. These are witnessed by a justice and include the signature, or mark, of the deponent. The **record of trial** documents the activity of the court for a particular case from its commencement to the judgment and sentence of the court. Entries on the **court costs** show case, date of trial, charge, an itemized list of all costs and expenses associated with a trial, and total amount of costs.

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WORK STATUS	ARCHIVIST:
___ needs sorting	___ review for identification/ further determination
___ needs unfolding	___ processing
___ needs foldering/reboxing	___ determine origin/purpose
___ other: _____	___ other:
CONDITION:	FILM:
___ totally disorganized	___ for security
___ order not apparent	___ destroy original
___ origin questionable	___ other:
___ other: _____	

330 Chronologically by date of trial.  
331 None.  
332 Handwritten.  
360 Fair/poor; water damage; acid damage; rust damage; light damage; storage damage; dirt damage; brittle.  
390 None.

900 Dockets for the Court for the Trial of Negro and Mulatto Slaves provide  
access to the case papers.

990 7/24/1990

995 September 27, 1990; November 6, 1995

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sle